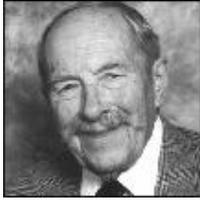

John Battison

BATTISON John Battison, former director of engineering for WOSU-TV, Columbus, died Tuesday, August 28 at his home near Loudonville after a two-month illness, two weeks shy of his 97th birthday. Dr. Battison was a pioneer in the broadcast communications industry, getting in on its ground floor after coming to the U.S. after service as a bomber pilot for the Royal Air Force in [World War II](#). A native of England, he earned a degree in theoretical physics. A self-taught pilot, he first served as a flight instructor for the RAF, and later flew missions in the Spitfire fighter and Whitley and Lancaster bombers. He came to the U.S. in 1945, first working as a research engineer at KMBC in Kansas City, with his career taking him to many spots in the U.S., as well as to the Middle East and Africa. His last full time position was as Director of Engineering at WOSU in Columbus, where he served from 1979-1985. In recognition of his professional achievements, which included over 1,000 published articles on broadcasting issues, he was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Society of Broadcast Engineers, with the organization later renaming the award the "John Battison Lifetime Achievement Award." On retirement, he moved to the Loudonville area in 1988 with his wife of 41 years, Sara, and immersed himself in community activities, serving as president of the [Rotary Club](#), four-terms as Chamber of Commerce president, and as a board member of the Mohican Juvenile Corrections Center advisory committee. He also has served for more than two decades as a priest in the Anglican Church, commuting weekly for services at Christ Church Anglican in Columbus as a member of its clergy team. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, September 8 at the church, 43 W. Fourth Ave., Columbus. In addition to his wife, he is survived by four children, Penny, Christopher (Sara), Mark (Linda) and Victoria (Dan). He has four granddaughters, Kathryn Sharon (Patrick), Fiona Gubelmann Weed (Alex), Alexandra McBride (Matthew) and Beth Battison; and one great-grandson, Colin Sharon. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Ashland Salvation Army; Hospice of North Central Ohio; or Helping Hand of Loudonville

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