



Morris Leroy Spearman

Morris Leroy Spearman, 93, a Fellow of the Virginia Academy of Science, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2015. For several decades, he has enthusiastically and tirelessly served the Academy as Chair and Program Chair of the Academy's Aeronautics and Aerospace Sciences Section. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Auburn University in 1943, and then began a career with NASA at Langley Field, Virginia in 1944. His career with NASA spanned 63 years. Through his research on airfoils, surface flow, and materials and his management of windtunnel facility projects, he became a national leader. LeRoy mentored countless graduate students and manage their projects. He was Chief Scientist for Military and Foreign Technology, where he served as a military advisor to the Central Intelligence Agency. He also served as a mentor for the New Horizons Regional Education Center and the Virginia Governor's School Program. For several years he instructed, guided, and encourage those students who were looking toward a career in engineering. He also promoted interest in math and science as a guest teacher in local schools. Leroy wrote and published over 300 technical papers and presentations in the field of aeronautics. He was recognized as an authority in the fields of aerodynamics, stability and control, aircraft, spacecraft, and missile performance. He was an Emeritus Lifetime Member and Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the Air Force Association, the Auburn University Alumni Engineering Council.