

The Electronics Packaging community mourns the loss of Dr. Nasser Grayeli



Our dear friend and colleague Dr. Nasser Grayeli passed away after a nearly 10-month battle against brain cancer on January 7, 2019. Nasser had an amazing 33-year career at Intel, beginning in December 1983. During this time, he made many remarkable contributions to Assembly and Packaging technology while helping shape the field and influencing the careers of countless engineers.

Nasser led the development of many of Intel's breakthrough technologies, including 6 inch wafer gold bumping and 90/70 micron Tape Automated Bonding that enabled the thinnest packages for Intel products. He was a major driving force behind the industry transition from ceramic area array packages to the more advanced, cost effective, and performance optimized organic flip-chip substrates. He also championed the removal of hazardous materials from packaging materials, making Intel the first company to eliminate lead and halogens from all of its products. Nasser led Intel's Assembly, Packaging and Test Technology Development organization for nearly a decade, establishing a highly innovative and knowledge-driven organization that ensured the development of diverse packaging technologies.

Throughout his career, Nasser was actively engaged with academia and industry forums for the advancement of Assembly, Packaging, Board, and Test technology development. He was Chairman of the Board of Directors of the International Electronic Manufacturing Initiative (INEMI), an influential member of the SRC Technical Advisory Board, and a member of SEMATECH Assembly and Packaging. Nasser received many industry-wide recognitions, including the highest award of the IEEE Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology (CPMT) society "for contributions to the advancement of microelectronic packaging technology, manufacturing, and semiconductor ecosystems" in 2015.

While he will be remembered as a giant in the industry, the more enduring legacy he leaves behind is his personality and the lasting positive impact he has had on many generations in our community. Nasser was a deeply empathetic, kind, and caring individual who cared about people. He was a leader who, with his unique personality, brought out the best in everyone, encouraged diverse groups to collaborate effectively, and inspired innovation. Nasser will be remembered as a great leader and will be missed by the many whose lives he influenced.