



Dr. Allen B. DuMont *2CSC* 1901-1965 - An American scientist and inventor, Allen Balcom born in Brooklyn NY, educated at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Troy NY. DuMont founded the first television network to be licensed & manufactured the first commercially practical television set to the public a few months before RCA.

Allen at the age of 10 was stricken with polio and quarantined at the family's Eastern Parkway apartment for nearly a year. His father brought home books and magazines for the young DuMont to enjoy while bedridden. At that time Allen developed an interest in science, specifically wireless radio and taught himself Morse code. His father purchased a crystal radio receiver which Allen assembled, rebuilt several times,

he improved the set each time and later built a transmitter, while his father obtained the landlord's permission to erect a 30 foot high transceiving antenna on the roof.

While recuperating from polio, DuMont was advised to swim to regain the used of his legs. In 1914, the family moved to Montclair, New Jersey, where there was a an indoor year around pool available at the YMCA. DuMont graduated from Montclair High School in 1919. DuMont's ham radio call was found in a 1925 Call Book (2CSC) in Montclair New Jersey. He had just received his degree in 1924 from Rensselaer Institute.

After graduation he joined Westinghouse Lamp Company as an engineer at a time when 500 tubes a day were being produced. Later DuMont became supervisor and initiated technical improvements that increased production to 5,000 tubes per hour. In 1928 he worked closely with Dr. Lee deForest on expanding radio, but left later to explore television.

Our subject had honorary doctorates; Rensselaer and Brooklyn Polytechnic Institutes. Recipient, American Television Society 1943; Marconi Memorial Medal for Achievement 1945; several trophies for accuracy in navigation and calculations in power boat racing.

DuMont expired in Montclair, 16 Nov 1965. Your author enjoyed network station in Pittsburgh WDTV - Captain Video and Roscoe Karns in Rocky King Detective also Bishop Folton J. Sheen & Boxing from St. Nicholas Arena! Priceless!

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