

# Robert E. Vansant\*, FCSI

*"In recognition of your distinguished, outstanding and dedicated service, and for your many inspiring and broad contributions for the advancement of the Institute you are advanced to Fellowship on this 10th day of June, 1970."  
Chicago, Illinois*



ROBERT E. VANSANT received a BS degree in civil engineering from the University of Missouri School of Mines in 1951, and a J.D. Degree from the University of Missouri, Kansas City in 1966. He was a registered engineer and had been admitted to the Missouri Bar.

After a year at McDonnell Aircraft Company, Vansant took a position as junior engineer at Black & Veatch in Kansas City, where he remained until his death in 1985. After getting his J.D., he became a staff attorney and specifications manager in the civil sanitary division, eventually becoming a General Partner in the firm.

He joined CSI in 1959 as a charter member of the Kansas City Chapter. He served his chapter and the Institute in numerous capacities. Before being elected Institute Vice President in 1969 he had served the Institute as a member of the Technical Program Committee. He was a featured speaker at the Institute's annual convention in Denver in 1968. In 1973 he was elected to a second term as Institute Vice President. He was elected to serve as Institute President in 1974.

Vansant was chairman of ACEC's Contract Documents Committee for several years. During his term as chairman, he and Glen Abplanalp, his counterpart with the National

Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), joined forces and were instrumental in the formation of the Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee (EJCDC) to establish uniform construction documents for engineers. Vansant also worked with the AWWA to set standards for welded tanks, bottled tanks and tank Painting. He served as chairman of AWWA's Standards Council.

After its founding, Vansant represented CSI at meetings of the EJCDC. One of his more important achievements in this capacity was enlisting the participation of the AIA in developing the "Uniform Location of Subject Matter." This document is a testament to his ability to bring differing disciplines together to work toward a common goal.

Vansant was the author of numerous articles on the legal aspects of construction topics. For over ten years he authored a monthly column in "Concepts in Wood Design." He was also a regular contributor to the *AWPA Reporter*, the *Construction Specifier*, *Water and Wastes Engineering*, and *Consulting Engineer*.

Vansant passed away 2 November 1985. He was posthumously made an Honorary Member of the Institute at the annual convention in 1986. *[This award was changed to Distinguished Member in 2007.]*

## **CSI Membership**

Kansas City Chapter, 1959 -- 1985

## **Institute Offices, Committees**

President, 1974

Vice-President, 1970 - 1973

## **Awards**

Institute President's Plaque

Certificate of Appreciation

Distinguished Membership, 1986