

# Our Opinion

**BARBARA  
A. CHARZUK**

*Editorial  
Page Editor*

*337-4000;  
ext 222*

## A man of science, invention and service

John F. Dove will be missed. He was a scientist for the Air Force, an inventor, and an entrepreneur. He was also friend and advocate for his adopted home town.

Mr. Dove died Tuesday at the age of 79. The North Carolina native arrived in Rome 49 years ago when the federal government hired him to do research at what is now known as Rome Lab. Achievement, recognition and friendships soon followed. He retired after 28 years as a program manager and senior engineer.

The Columbia University graduate studied at Syracuse University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dove held six patents, dozens of awards and formed his own electronics company in 1982. He was the inventor of the technology used in compact discs.

Dove served community agencies ranging from



**John F. Dove  
1924-2004**

Jervis Library to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to the Rome Community Foundation.

Edward Ratazzi, executive director of the Rome Industrial Development Corp., knew him professionally and personally. "We worked together. I was always impressed with his leading-edge thinking," said Ratazzi, who participated for years with Dove in the Adult Bible Class at First Presbyterian Church. "John was the kind of guy that laughed very easily, yet was a man of deep and intricate thinking. He was a gem of a guy."

Funeral services will be held Monday at First Presbyterian Church. Calling hours at the Prince-Boyd & Hyatt Home for Funerals are Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m.