

HALL OF HONOR CLASS OF 2020



JAMES A. WILLIAMS

James A. Williams graduated from Coleman High School in 1950. In 1950, he enrolled in Texas Tech University and also joined the U.S. Naval Reserve. In 3-1/2 years, he received an Engineering Degree from Texas Tech, and a Commission as an Ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He was then ordered to active duty with the Navy and was stationed in Yokosuka, Japan. After working in the private sector for a short time, he accepted a job with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. Mr. Williams was instrumental in many Army Corp of Engineer projects, notably with Bergstrom Air Force Base, President Johnson's "Texas White House", oversight of EPA Waste Water Treatment Grants Program in five states, and the Civil Works and Military Construction Program. Mr. Williams was the Office Engineer tasked with rebuilding one of the vacuum chambers for the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston and assigned to manage the construction contract to construct an Assembly Hanger for the Cobra Gunship needed in Vietnam. During the Cold War, he was trained as a Nuclear Transportation Officer and taught Radiological Monitoring to personnel. He was trained as the District Representative to deal with chemical and biological agents should the need arise. In 1986, he was assigned as Project Manager for President Reagan's "Star Wars" project at White Sands Missile Range. In 1990, he joined the Department of Energy and managed construction associated with the Superconducting Super Collider in Waxahachie, TX. Mr. Williams has been a Registered Professional Engineer for 50 years.