



Carlton Evans Beal
1914-1994
Inducted 1997

Carlton E. Beal was born September 3, 1914 in Los Angeles, California to Carl H. and Helen Elizabeth Evans Beal. His father was a geologist and Vice-President of Marland Oil Company in charge of exploration in California and is credited with discovering some of California's greatest oil fields.

Carlton graduated from Stanford University in 1936 with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. He earned his Master's degree in petroleum engineering from M.I.T. in 1938. After graduation from M.I.T., Beal went to work for Tidewater Associated Oil Company and was headed to Alaska for summer work onboard the ship, *S.S. Baranof* where he met Keleen Haubner. They married in May 1938 in Seattle, Washington and eventually moved to Los Angeles. In 1941, Beal was hired as an evaluation engineer for Richfield Company who placed him on loan during WW II to the Petroleum Administration for War.

After the war, Beal became an assistant professor of Petroleum Engineering at the University of Southern California. During the mid 1940's while working as a consultant on crude oil viscosity and solubility behaviors of California oil fields, he authored several papers which were published in university fundamentals of reservoir engineering text books and manuals. It was there that Beal began hearing about a student, Allen "Moose" Trobaugh, who seemed to know as much about drilling for oil as most instructors knew. It would be the beginning of a successful business partnership.

By 1951, Beal had made several visits to Midland, Texas, a booming city in the heart of the Spraberry trend in the Permian Basin. Beal moved his growing family to Midland in 1954 and recruited Trobaugh for his new oil company. This alliance eventually created Beal, Trobaugh and Associates (BTA), which became one of the Southwest's largest family-held independent oil and gas drilling partnerships. Their alliance was a good match with Beal handling the geology and Moose handling drilling and field operations. The company drilled over 1500 wells and investors quickly recognized their successful track record of low risk drilling operations – a result of strong basic geology and geological analysis. Although Trobaugh left BTA in 1965, the two continued to participate in drilling operations until Moose's death in 1984.

Beal was a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, American Petroleum Institute, American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the Independent Petroleum

Association of America, Western Geophysical Association and the Permian Basin
Petroleum Association.