



Thomas R. Craddick
1943-Present
Inducted 2013

Thomas R. Craddick was born September 19, 1943 in Beloit, Wisconsin. Craddick came to Midland when his family moved to the community in 1951 – and he has been here ever since.

He received his Bachelors and Masters degrees in Business Administration from Texas Tech University. In 1968, at the age of 25, Craddick (R-TX, 82nd House District) first sought election to represent Midland in the Texas House of Representatives. He won that race and has been the voters' choice in every State Representative election in the 44 years since that time.

Craddick made state history when he became the first Republican Speaker of the Texas House for the first time in more than 130 years and served as Speaker for 6 years. With 23 terms in the House of Representatives, Craddick is a tireless proponent for Midland, the Permian Basin, and the Texas oil and gas industry.

He has strategically served on multiple legislative committees monitoring and addressing oil and gas industry matters. He also has promoted tax incentives for enhanced oil production, to produce high cost and unconventional natural gas resources, and to promote oil and gas production where excess produced water threatens economic production of oil and gas reserves. Craddick's contributions to the growth of Texas oil and gas comes in part from his experience as a participant in the industry as an investor.

Because of his leadership, he has received the "Top Hand Award" from the Permian Basin Petroleum Association, the "Hats Off Award" from the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association among various civic awards from the Boy Scouts of America, Rotary International and others.