



John J. Redfern, Jr. 1987

John J. Redfern Jr. is honored for his aggressive development in the exploration and royalty business and for his civic leadership.

John was born in New Jersey in 1912 (he later referred to himself as a “native Texan from New Jersey”). After graduating from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as an engineer, he decided that the oil business looked interesting so he moved first to Oklahoma to learn about the business, and then to Midland.

John first traded in royalties or served as a broker for larger oil deals, then formed a partnership with Harvey Herd. He later developed his own firms, Redfern Oil and Redfern Development and merged them with Flag Oil to form Flag-Redfern Oil. He later organized Pennant Oils Limited (Canada), merging it into Pennant-Puma Oils, Ltd.

John worked hard, not only for himself, but for his community and his industry. He testified before Congress on behalf of the oil industry, served on the hospital board for over two decades, was “Outstanding Young Man in Midland,” the holder of an honorary doctorate from a and a Trustee of Rensselaer University, and held numerous other positions of responsibility and service.

John J. Redfern Jr. died in 1986 while on a business trip.