



Allen K. "Moose" Trobaugh 1997

In 1954, the consulting firm of Beal, Trobaugh and Associates (BTA) was formed. A one room office located in the basement of Midland's Crawford Hotel served as the company's first office for a partnership that spanned nearly twenty years.

Carlton Evans Beal was born in Los Angeles, California in 1914. The son of a geologist and discoverer of the Kettleman Hills field in California, Carlton was born into the oil business. He received his master's degree in petroleum engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in June of 1937. As WWII broke out, Carlton was employed by Richfield Oil Company. Because his job was considered part of an essential industry by the government, he was put on loan by his employer and became a member of the Engineering Committee for the Petroleum Association for War under the Interior Department for the western states. After spending four years handling data on oil reserves, Carlton decided to operate as an independent consultant, drilling his own wells.

Allen K. "Moose" Trobaugh was born in October, 1919 in Springfield Georgia. His college education began at Clemson College in 1937. WWII interrupted his plans and he joined the U.S. Army Air Corps. He was awarded several honors during WWII including the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Silver Star. Following the war, Moose continued his education at the University of Southern California, receiving his degree in 1948 in petroleum engineering.

It was during this time that Carlton Beal and Allen K. "Moose" Trobaugh met. "Moose" was an "A" student of Carlton Beal's at the University of Southern California after the war. Beal recruited Trobaugh for his new oil company. He needed a "bright young man" who was "not afraid to work". The alliance between them eventually spawned the successful oil company of BTA, formed in 1964. Their partnership was perfect for each other: Carlton handled the land and geology and Moose did the drilling and field operations. Nearly 1500 wells have been drilled by BTA. Its loyal investors recognize that their successful track record of low risk drilling operations is due to the strength of their basic geology and geological analysis. Although Trobaugh left BTA in 1965, the two men participated in drilling operations until Trobaugh's death in 1984. Carlton Beal continued to successfully steer BTA until his death in 1994. Both Carlton Beal and Moose Trobaugh lived lives of achievement in the petroleum industry and were especially involved in the interests of Midland and its youth.