



Robert L. Parker was born in 1923 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He graduated from the University of Texas in 1944 with a petroleum engineering degree. After serving as an Army quartermaster officer in Germany during WW II, he purchased Parker Drilling from his father in 1954. He had successfully created a niche for his company in the deep drilling market by the mid 1960's, setting a world depth record with a 28,500 foot well in Pecos County. Parker's company also pioneered helicopter-transportable rigs, patenting the Heli-Hoist, TBA and AT-2000E Series of rigs. Parker Drilling pioneered arctic drilling and later developed environmentally sensitive rigs. His was also the first western company to be extended a contract to work in the Soviet Union in 1991.