



George T. Abell
1900 – 1975
Inducted 1972

Originally from Kansas, George T. Abell graduated from what is now Colorado State University with degrees in both civil and mechanical engineering. He went to work for a company that tried to find oil in the Rockies. When that search failed, they came to West Texas in 1923, sending Abell to map large portions of land in the region. In 1927 he became an independent oil operator. During the 1930s he built a reputation as a successful “wildcatter” with his participation in the discovery and development of many productive oil fields. In 1939 he married Gladys Hanger, daughter of a pioneer Fort Worth family. George and Gladys were both very active in civic, community and cultural activities here in Midland. He even originated the idea for this museum!