



**Herbert B. Fuqua**  
**1895 - 1988**  
**Inducted 1973**

Herbert Fuqua was born in Oklahoma at a time when it was still known as “Indian Territory.” In 1919, he graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in geology. After serving in the U.S. Army during World War I, he worked for a while as an independent oil operator and geologist before signing on with Gulf Oil Co. in 1922 as a geologist in their Wichita Falls office. He spent time in the Permian Basin working on Gulf’s geological studies of the area and from that took a dominant role in encouraging the company’s leasing and drilling activities in the 1920s and ‘30s. In 1949, Fuqua resigned from Gulf and moved to Fort Worth to become chairman and CEO of Texas Pacific Coal and Oil Co. At the same time, he became a director of the Fort Worth National Bank and then Chairman of the Board. After Texas Pacific’s assets were sold in 1963, Fuqua turned his full attention to banking. Under his leadership, FWNB would become firmly established as a leader in petroleum lending. Fuqua managed, financed, or inspired more than 15 field discoveries and 23 major extensions in the Permian Basin.

