



**George P. Mitchell**  
**1919 - 2013**  
**Inducted 2019**

George P. Mitchell was born in Galveston in 1919. He graduated first in his class with a petroleum engineering degree with an emphasis in geology from Texas A&M University in 1940. After a short time with Amoco, he was commissioned a lieutenant in the Army Corps of Engineers. Afterward, Mitchell joined a newly formed wildcatting company, Oil Drilling Inc., first as a consulting geologist and engineer and later as a partner. He was named president in 1959 and under his leadership the company evolved into one of the nation's largest independent oil and gas producers. Over his career, Mitchell participated in over 10,000 wells including 1,000 wildcats and found more than 200 oil and 350 gas discoveries. His crowning accomplishment was pioneering drilling and completion technologies that helped create the shale gas revolution. He enabled the first viable production of gas in the Barnett Shale employing the first successful application of hydraulic fracturing. His unconventional thinking and unwavering determination changed the energy future for the United States. Mitchell served as a member of the National Petroleum Council and three terms as president of the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association. He was a director of the Gas Research Institute and a member of the World Resources Institute Council.