



Eugene Holman
1895 - 1962
Inducted 1969

Born to a livery stable owner and boardinghouse operator, Eugene Holman grew up in Monahans, Texas. He graduated from what is now Hardin-Simmons University, earning a graduate degree. Following graduation, he went to work for the U.S. Geological Survey for several months before enlisting in the Army and serving in World War I. After the war, he returned to the USGS. One day he flew over an area in Texas and noticed a two-mile-wide variation in the vegetation. Suspecting the presence of a salt dome, he quickly leased the entire area. His hunch produced a substantial oil yield later in his career. In 1919, Holman took a job with Humble Oil & Refining Co. and was assigned to northern Texas. Soon he was promoted to superintendent of the Louisiana-Arkansas division. Because of his success as a problem solver, he was later offered a position as president and director of two Venezuelan affiliates of Jersey Standard. In 1940 he was named director of Jersey Standard itself.