



Vaughn C. Maley
1903 - 1998
Inducted 1993

Vaughn Carlton Maley was born in the Karnes County community of Salt Branch. He earned a degree in geology from the University of Texas in 1926 and began his 44-year career with Humble Oil Company the very next year. His first assignment was as field geologist in West Texas. For the next six years he made detailed surface maps of more than thirteen Texas counties. In 1933, he was promoted to Division Subsurface Geologist and in 1935 moved to Midland and became Assistant Division Geologist. During World War II, he was assigned to collect and develop figures for actual and potential oil production in West Texas. This data-gathering and analysis experience served Vaughn well when he made a major move in 1956 to Standard Oil of New Jersey. His new job put him in charge of operations in Central and South America. He also traveled to Iraq, Iran and throughout Europe. Maley retired in 1964. Known in the Permian Basin as the “gentleman of the oil patch,” Vaughn Maley either discovered or contributed to the discovery of millions of barrels of oil in the region and around the globe.