



**Wm. A. "Tex" Moncrief, Jr.**  
**1920 - 2022**  
**Inducted 1999**

Tex Moncrief was born in Little Rock, Arkansas but grew up in Fort Worth, Texas. At age 10 he witnessed the Lathrop No. 1 well coming in and told his mother, "I want to be an oilman." After graduating from the University of Texas with a degree in petroleum engineering in 1942 and serving in World War II, Tex returned home to work with his father, William "Monty" Moncrief. Monty had seen major success as an independent in the oil business and founded Moncrief Oil. Tex became his father's trusted partner and by the late 1940s was making deals on his own. Tex struck his own incredible find in Wyoming's Madden Field, a "long-life field." Moncrief Oil played a significant role in the development of the Conroe, Hastings, Cayuga, and Rodessa fields. In 1973, Tex and his father bid the highest price for natural gas acreage in the Permian Basin on leases in Winkler County. When the Arab oil embargo was imposed later that year, the price of natural gas shot up. He made perhaps the biggest find of his life in January 2010 with the offshore field "Davy Jones," which holds up to 6 trillion cubic feet of gas. Moncrief has run his company strictly adhering to rules originally held by his father, to operate only through sole proprietorships and never go public.