

L.D. "Buddy" Sipes, Jr.
1935 - 2026
Inducted 2019

L.D. "Buddy" Sipes, Jr. was born in Big Spring and received his B.S. in Petroleum Engineering, graduating with honors from Texas Tech in 1957. He went to work for Core Laboratories, Inc. receiving engineering and consulting assignments in Dallas, Midland and Paris, France.

From 1958 to 1960 and again from 1961 to 1962, he served as a U.S. Army First Lieutenant. After completing his commission, Core Laboratory moved him to Midland to establish a consulting office. Two years later, Sipes joined a local petroleum consulting firm, which he and his associates purchased and renamed Sipes, Williamson & Associates, Inc. In 1980, Sipes formed Chisos Operating, Inc., an independent oil and gas firm. In 1990, he founded Diversified Remediation, Inc., an environmental cleanup company headquartered in Houston.

As a widely respected petroleum engineer, especially in the areas of reservoirs and evaluating reserves, he has had a major impact on the industry. He has co-authored several published papers, including *Rock Properties of the Permian Basin Formations and the Reeves Field*, both part of the Oil and Gas Fields in West Texas Symposium in 1966. *Characteristics of a San Andres Reservoir* (1965) and *Determination of Gas in Place for a Delaware Basin Ellenburger Field* (1969) provided baseline data and calculations that have been referenced in numerous works through the early 1980's and early 1990's.

Sipes's work has helped establish definitions and accepted standards for reservoir engineering. They were also used by the Texas Water Development Board (1972) and the U.S. Department of Energy (1995) in planning efforts and policy decisions. He has played a critical role in shaping the development of the industry from the perspective of the course of development and by establishing globally recognized standards used throughout the industry.

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