

THE CORPS OF CADETS HALL OF HONOR

Texas A&M Inducts 5 into Corps of Cadets Hall of Honor

TEXAS A&M CORPS OF CADETS

Hall of Honor exists to recognize and showcase the success and achievements of former cadets who exemplify the Texas Aggie spirit, and to highlight the role the Corps of Cadets played in contributing to that success through leadership training. The Hall of Honor inducted five outstanding Texas Aggies on October 2, 2004. Bronze plaques with their etched portraits and biographies were added to those on the north wall of the Sam Houston Sanders Corps of Cadets Center exhibit hall.



MAJ. GEN. DIONEL E. AVILÉS '53

Maj. Gen. Dionel E. Avilés '53 is a scholar and humanitarian who has enhanced the state, the nation, and the world through his lifelong dedication to engineering, the military and civic duty. He earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering, then went on to earn master's and doctoral degrees in that discipline, all from Texas A&M. His engineering career has spanned both military and civilian life, working nationally and internationally in airfield pavement and runway design, as well as structural design, development of weapon systems support equipment, foundations for structures, and offshore structures. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the Army War College and retired from the Army Reserve in 1993 with the rank of Major General. In 1981, Avilés founded Avilés Engineering Corp. and has been a key player in projects such as Houston's Minute Maid Park, Reliant Stadium, Bush Intercontinental Airport and the Metro Transit Authority. His success as an engineering consultant is easily rivaled by his service to society and to Texas A&M University. He was appointed to The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents in 1997, becoming its vice chairman in 2001. In 2003, he was accorded the title of Vice Chairman Emeritus. His other affiliations with the university include The Association of Former Students Century Club, University Associates Program, the Presidential Board of Visitors for the Corps of Cadets, and the Corps Development Council, where he serves as vice chairman. His generosity extends far beyond his personal service to the university. He has underwritten a 12th Man Foundation Scholarship, donated a Sul Ross Scholarship, a Presidential Endowed Scholarship, and has established an endowment for the military collection at the Cushing Memorial Library. Avilés' public service has been recognized with numerous awards, including Distinguished Alumnus of Texas A&M, Distinguished Civil Engineering Graduate of Texas A&M University, Engineer of the Year in Houston, Engineer of the Year in the State of Texas, and The Silver Order of the de Fluery Medal from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, just to name a few. Avilés also has been active in the Houston Hispanic Architects and Engineers, Multiple Sclerosis Society, United Way of Texas, Texas Growth Fund, and the Institute of Hispanic Culture of Houston. He continues his service to America through a Presidential appointment to the United States Air Force Academy Board of Visitors, and membership on the President's Commission on the United States Postal Service.



JOHN H. LINDSEY '44

A man devoted to keeping the Aggie Spirit alive, John Lindsey '44 has been a driving force in the continued development of Texas A&M. A member of the Class of 1944, he left A&M in 1943 to serve as an Army officer in Italy and the Pacific during World War II, then returned to the university to complete his bachelor's degree in economics in 1947. He went on to form the Lindsey Insurance Agency with his father in 1954. Lindsey has a long history of service to Texas A&M, acting as President of The Association of Former Students in 1964, and as a member of The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents from 1993 to 1999. He has also provided support to the university in countless other ways, serving as a member of the board of the George Bush Presidential Library Foundation and the Board of Trustees of the George Bush Presidential Library, as well as the 12th Man Foundation, the Texas A&M Research Foundation, and Chairman of the Texas A&M University Press. It has been said that Lindsey stays awake nights thinking about things to do for Texas A&M University. He has been an integral part of the growth of the university, serving as chairman of the *Capturing the Spirit* campaign in the 1990's, and as the Chairman Emeritus for the *One Spirit One Vision* campaign. He and his wife, Sara, were founding members of the university's President's Endowed Scholarship Program and they have also established faculty chairs and other scholarships. The Texas A&M University Press building, as well as a wing in the Stark Galleries, bears John Lindsey's name. He was named a Distinguished Alumnus of Texas A&M in 1978, and was the first recipient of the 12th Man Award. In addition to his ceaseless efforts for his alma matter, Lindsey is also a champion of the arts, education, community and military. A friend and colleague of Lindsey's writes, "He has served in practically every capacity imaginable and has distinguished himself in innumerable ways. Lindsey is the kind of individual that has always supported the Corps of Cadets. He has been there when needed and responded with his work, his wisdom and his wealth."



GEORGE P. MITCHELL '40

A man of extraordinary foresight and charity, George P. Mitchell '40 earned a bachelor's degree in petroleum engineering. While at Texas A&M, he was a tennis team captain, lettering in 1938, 1939 and 1940, and was a cadet major and battalion commander. He served his country in World War II, then founded the Mitchell Energy & Development Corp., one of the largest independent oil and gas producers in the nation. Mitchell is recognized as one of the leading real estate developers in Texas. He is credited with being a major force in the revitalization of Galveston, and is the founder of The Woodlands, a suburb of Houston. Mitchell has generously contributed to Texas A&M's 12th Man Foundation, and the College of Science, with his most recent gift enabling Texas A&M to join the Giant Magellan Telescope Consortium. Mitchell has funded the George P. and Cynthia W. Mitchell Institute for Fundamental Physics at Texas A&M, as well as the George P. Mitchell Tennis Center. His loyalty to Texas A&M is also evident in his gift of 135 acres on Pelican Island, the site of the Mitchell Campus of Moody College, named after his father. He is the founder of the Houston Advanced Research Center, located at The Woodlands Research Forest, hosting 10 member universities, including Texas A&M. Texas A&M has bestowed numerous honors upon Mitchell, including Distinguished Alumnus of Texas A&M, the Texas A&M Aggie of the Year, Texas A&M Distinguished Alumnus, and the Texas A&M Geosciences and Earth Resources Advisory Council medal for distinguished achievement. His success in the corporate sector and his community spirit, have garnered numerous accolades, including induction into the Texas Business Hall of Fame, selection as *The Galveston Daily News'* Citizen of the Year, recipient of the Boy Scouts of America Hornaday Award for Environmental Achievement, the National Preservation Honor Award, the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation, Prevent Blindness' Texas People of Vision Award, and the Railroad Commission of Texas' Pioneer Award. A friend of Mitchell writes, "Mitchell has been an exemplary individual who has best exemplified the characteristics of soldier, statesman, and knightly gentleman that the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets tries so vehemently to instill in its cadets. Mitchell is the epitome of what the Corps tries to mold young cadets into, and deserves to be recognized as such."



MAJ. GEN. GEORGE F. MOORE '08

An integral part of the history of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets, George F. Moore '08 consistently went beyond the call of duty in serving Texas A&M, his state, and his country. Maj. Gen. Moore graduated in 1908 with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. During his time at Texas A&M, he lettered in football and was a member of Company B Coastal Artillery, the Ross Volunteer Company, and the "T" Association. After graduation, he was commissioned into the United States Army. He later served as Texas A&M's Commandant of Cadets and Professor of Military Science and Tactics. Moore led the largest peacetime growth of the Corps in its history, including construction of the twelve-dormitory complex, with dining hall, now known as "The Quadrangle." At Final Review in 1940, the Corps of Cadets boasted an excess of 6,000 members. In 1940, Moore was ordered to the Island of Corregidor in Manila Bay, where he commanded the harbor defenses, taking with him a number of Aggie officers. At the start of World War II, Philippine military installations were among the first to come under attack by Japanese forces. While Corregidor was under siege, Moore and his hand-picked Aggies took time to observe Aggie Muster on April 21, becoming the inspiration for today's worldwide Muster program. Despite their heroics, the island fell three weeks later and all were taken prisoner. In 1946, Moore was recognized by the Texas A&M Board of Directors as the first former student to attain the rank of general officer. The Corps of Cadets also honors his name through presentation of the annual George F. Moore Award to the most outstanding cadet unit in the Corps. It is obvious that Maj. Gen. Moore helped to set the high standards by which the Corps of Cadets operates, and which a member of the Corps should strive to meet. His valiant service in the military was noted when Gen. Douglas MacArthur said, "Texas A. and M. is writing its own history in the blood of its graduates...no name stands out more brilliantly than the heroic defender of Corregidor, General George F. Moore."



ERLE A. NYE '59

Erle A. Nye '59 embodies the leadership ethic and public spirit the Corps seeks to develop in all its cadets. Receiving a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Texas A&M University in 1959, he has risen to the chairmanship of TXU Corp., a global energy company. Recognized throughout the world for his brilliant business strategies in the public utilities sector and telecommunications industry, Nye has overseen successful mergers of several major gas, electric and telecommunications companies. Known as the "Father of Deregulation Legislation in Texas," he played a key role in passage of the 1999 bill that would provide a free market in the utilities industry statewide, causing the energy industry to be more competitive and more innovative in serving its customers. Throughout his corporate success, he has remained true to his Aggie roots, participating in such organizations as The Association of Former Students, the 12th Man Foundation, the Texas A&M Foundation Advisory Committee, the College of Engineering Development Council, the Corps Development Council, the Corps of Cadets Association, the Texas Aggie Band Association, and the Chancellor's Century Council of Advisors. However, Nye's most significant leadership contribution has been his service as Vice Chairman and Chairman of The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents. A nomination letter for the Corps Hall of Honor states, "Mr. Nye has given back to Texas A&M in more ways than can be expected of any man. He has served on boards and committees that have helped shape the present and future of Texas A&M in recent times, and the university is better off for it." His support of higher education also goes beyond Texas A&M. He has served on various boards and committees at Southern Methodist University, the University of Texas at Dallas, and the Baylor College of Dentistry. Mr. Nye has shared the benefits of his superior leadership skills with his community, serving on the boards of the Dallas Citizens Council, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, the State Fair of Texas, Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, and North Texas Public Broadcasting. He's also received a host of major awards from organizations as diverse as the Texas Association of Business, the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, the Boy Scouts of America, the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, and the American Jewish Committee. Nye has combined his leadership talents with a passion for principled public service in a way that uniquely exemplifies our Corps of Cadets' values in action.

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“These are our finest.
This is what the Corps
experience can do—for
the individual, for Texas,
and for America. The
Corps Hall of Honor
says to our cadets, if you
follow these examples,
you will achieve your life
goals and you will lead
others to achieve
theirs—and you will do
it with character, honor,
and integrity.”

—Lt. Gen. John Van Alstyne '66
Commandant
Texas A&M Corps of Cadets