MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF THE SCHOOL OF CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

I am very sad to report that Dr. Bob Hughes, head of our School from 1983 to 2000, passed away Saturday, July 16.

Services will be held at Strode in Stillwater at 10 am on Friday, July 29. You will be able to find more information here:

The family plans to have the services live streamed for those who aren't available to attend.

In his memory, we have put together this brief special edition newsletter to recognize his contributions to the development of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Thanks to Dr. Samir Ahmed for finding this photo.
As noted in his obituary, his passion was the concrete canoe team. Here are photos of two of the teams:

2000 Concrete Canoe Team

2002 Concrete Canoe Team
Here's a copy of an old faculty listing:

Dr. Robert K. Hughes, P.E.

Professor
School of Civil & Environmental Engineering
Oklahoma State University
207 Engineering South
Stillwater, OK 74078-5033
Phone: (405) 744-7436
Fax: (405) 744-7554
E-mail: rhughes@okstate.edu

Dr. Hughes's major areas of interest include Contracts and Specifications, Contract and Environmental Law: Planning and Scheduling; Disputes Avoidance & Resolution; and Transportation Quality Control/Quality Assurance. He joined OSU in May 1983 when he retired from the U.S. Army in the rank of Colonel after 25 years of military service. He served as Head of the School of Civil & Environmental Engineering from May 1983 till September 2000. Bob Hughes received his B.S. from The Citadel in 1968; his M.S. from OSU in 1963; and his Ph.D. from OSU, in 1973, all in civil engineering.

In the area of contract management, he served as the District Engineer of the Wilmington District in North Carolina; as Area Engineer in Sonestrom, Greenland; and as Assistant Director of Military Construction in the Office, Chief of Engineers, in Washington, D.C. In research and development he served 3 years as Deputy Director of the Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, Mississippi. He also served several tours as a combat engineer including two with the 101st Airborne Division - one in Vietnam and one at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He also served as a military attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Djakarta, Indonesia.

Professor Hughes is actively involved as an arbitrator with the American Arbitration Association and on disputes resolution panels for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. He is past president of the Oklahoma Section of ASCE and past state president of the Oklahoma Society of Professional Engineers. He holds several committee assignments at NSPE. His latest publications include articles on Engineering Ethics, Alternate Disputes Resolution, Infrastructure, Quality Assurance Specifications for Bituminous Concrete Pavement Construction, Tracking Labor Costs, and Measuring and Reporting Work Progress.

On a personal note, Bob and I shared two other similarities in addition to my current job. We were both graduates of The Citadel, he in 1958 and me in 1984. It’s strange that a small military college in South Carolina has provided 25% of the CIVE School Heads to date. Like Bob, I was an active duty officer in the Army Corps of Engineers, but I only served eleven years and only made it to Captain. His military career was much more distinguished.

I would also like to thank Bob and Glenna for establishing the Robert & Glenna Hughes Scholarship Fund to support our students now and into the future. You may contact me if you’d like to make a contribution.

With my deepest sympathies,

Norb Delatte P.E., Ph.D., F.ACI, F.ASCE
M.R. Lohmann Endowed Professor of Engineering and Head
School of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Oklahoma State University
240 Engineering North
Stillwater, OK 74078
Phone: 405-744-9298
Email: norb.delatte@okstate.edu

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