



In Memory of Karl N. Reid, Jr., 1934-2021



Dr. Karl N. Reid, Jr.

Dr. Karl N. Reid, Jr., professor emeritus of mechanical and aerospace engineering (MAE) and former dean of the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology (CEAT) at OSU, died at 86 at home in Stillwater, OK, on April 14, 2021.

Karl joined the MAE faculty in 1964, served as Head of MAE from 1976-1986, and served as dean of CEAT from 1986-2011.

Karl Reid was an exceptional leader with an exceptional vision—one that he passionately believed in and tirelessly worked to achieve. Against all odds, he built, not one, but two premier research laboratories. The first was located on the Stillwater campus and the second on the Tulsa campus. He took personal pride in the details of each—the isolated slab of the *Helmrich Research Center*, the unique interstitial space design of the *Advanced Technology Research Center*.

Karl's enthusiasm for hard work and attention to detail was legendary. You had to get to the office pretty early to get Karl's parking spot! He founded, nurtured and guided the longest running NSF-IUCRC, *The Web Handling Research Center*, in the history of the NSF program; and over a career in academia that spanned more than five decades, his passion for mentoring students never flagged.

When Karl stepped down after serving 25 years as Dean, he didn't retire. Rather, he stepped back to the MAE faculty and the things he loved best: scholarship, instruction and service. These ideals are enshrined on the OSU academic logo as the land grant mission of the university. Karl Reid personified the lamp at the center of the logo. His enthusiasm for research excellence, respect for scholarly and professional achievements, and commitment to teaching and mentoring burned brightly to the end.

