

Pioneer Award Candidate: J. Fred Hambright, CPL (1928-2018)

AAPL Membership: 1957 to 2018

CPL: 1981 to 2018

AAPL Executive Member: Secretary 1990-1991

Years Active as a Landman: 1952 to 2018

J. Fred Hambright was born November 4, 1928 in Roby, Texas, raised on a cotton farm which is still owned by the family. He was a proud graduate of Texas A&M University where he received a degree in petroleum engineering. He was also a member of the A&M Corps of Cadets, as well as the Ross Volunteer Company honor guard. After graduation, he served as a Lieutenant in the United States Air Force and later held posts in England and Germany. After his discharge from the service, he moved to Plainville, Kansas, where he worked for his uncle, Fielding Patrick Hambright, as an Oil & Gas Landman. Sometime thereafter he started J. Fred Hambright, Inc, an oil and gas lease brokerage.

J. Fred Hambright, Inc. has been the most active lessee in the State of Kansas for the past 60 years. Employing hundreds if not thousands of Landmen during those years. If you were to set foot in any courthouse in Kansas, pick any tract, chances are J. Fred Hambright, Inc. leased it at some point.

Fred, as he was known, gave many people their first work as a Landman. If you polled the landman of Kansas, you would find nearly all of them started by working for Fred. It has been said that Fred made more professionals than any graduate program. Fred always kept his client's interest at the forefront and never suffered fools.

If anyone is deserving of the honor of being a true Pioneer in the industry it is J. Fred Hambright. He elevated the stature of Landmen and the profession. If you ask anyone who knew him, they will speak of his impeccable character and professionalism.