Ladies and gentlemen,

Today, we celebrate the remarkable achievements of an individual who has dedicated their entire life to the landman profession. This person's unwavering commitment, passion, and talent have left an indelible mark on their field, and it is with great pleasure that I have been given the honor of introducing them to you today.

This honoree was born and raised in Colorado Springs They attended Cheyenne Mountain schools until the 9th grade, when they were granted an academic scholarship to Fountain Valley School in Colorado Springs. Our Hall of Fame Honoree has always been a great athlete, but their primary sport in high school was tennis. They were the runner up at #1 Singles at the 1976 Colorado State High School Tennis Championships, narrowly missing out upsetting the three time winner. Our landman received a tennis scholarship to Rice University, where they graduated in 1983 with a degree in business and a geology minor,

Their work history in the Petroleum Industry started shortly after college in 1984 as an independent Landman in TX, returning to Colorado in 1985. Their first company job was with Stephen Smith, who put drilling deals together all over the Rockies. When Stephen decided to move to Palisade to start one of the first winery’s in western Colorado in the late 1980’s, they continued working with Smith’s geologists putting deals together in the Williston and DJ Basins, as well as doing lots of independent landman work. This stage of independent work lasted about 15 years, until 2002, when they took a job with the fledgling Bill Barrett Corporation, becoming one of the first employees in the Land Dept.

They managed the land on every important BBC project for the next three years, until Ultra Petroleum wooed them away in 2005 to become their land manager for their huge gas field in the Pinedale Anticline. They also kicked off Ultra’s large entrance into Pennsylvania’s Marcellus Play. Our Hall of Fame Honoree was snatched up by Axia Energy to manage their Land Dept in 2010, where they put together and sold a number of high profile Rockies projects. For the last 7 years, our Honoree has been the partner-sole landman-VP of Operations in a private-equity backed non-op in the Powder River Basin: K2T2, which was formed by 3 former Bill Barrett Corp Geologists and our Honoree.

Over their many years as a landman, our Honoree has mentored many, many young landmen, who can look back at the start of their career and say “I was taught by one of the best!” A few of them, in a weak moment, have asked “Why is he so tough on me?”

He has been a wonderful husband to his wife, Katie, to whom he has been married for 36 years, and they have two adult children, Graylan and Kyle. Both reside in the Denver area. He is very loved and appreciated by his family!

Our honoree has a myriad of hobbies. He has been an avid fly fisherman for 60 years, testing his skills in Cuba, Belize, Mexico, Panama, Alaska, Brazil, and all over the Rocky Mountains and the Southern US, with more trips to come. He had a trip planned for 2024 to fish in the Red Sea off the coast of Yemen, until some Houthi Rebels recently started firing missiles at tankers in his fishing spot.

Tennis, a sport he played since childhood, has been a craft he continues to hone, playing 2-3 times a week. He is an avid golfer, playing often in Colorado and Superstition Mountain, AZ. His current 4-person oil company, K2T2, holds their weekly management meetings at various golf courses scattered around the metro area. Beyond his professional achievements, our honoree is a role model and mentor to many. He has generously shared his knowledge, wisdom, and expertise with aspiring athletes and nurtured the next generation of landmen. His willingness to give back and invest in others is a testament to his character and desire to see their field thrive.

Work ethic is as much a part of his soul as breathing. A perfectionist, he also spent countless hours coaching his kids in softball and baseball for over four years, learning to coach the two sports he had never played. He would arrive at work 4-4:30 am so he could leave at 2:30pm to start his coaching duties. His daughter’s team won a middle school city championship and his son won a league championship.

Additionally, he ran an informal “all sports day” on Saturdays for his kids and the neighbor’s kids. They could pick three sports they all wanted to play and spend hours until they were all played. This is one of his children’s most prized memories of their father.

Along with another coach, they established a not-for-profit program called “Coach for Colorado," connecting potential employers with recent college athlete graduates. Part of the internship or employment agreement included coaching in intercity schools in Denver.

Throughout their journey, our honoree has faced numerous challenges and obstacles. However, their resilience, determination, and unwavering belief in their vision have allowed them to overcome every hurdle that came their way. Their ability to persevere in the face of adversity is a true testament to their strength of character. Showing up and being present emulates loyalty and commitment to his family, work, and the community.

This afternoon, as we honor this exceptional individual, let us reflect on their impact on their field and the legacy they have created. Their lifetime of achievements inspires us all, reminding us of the power of passion, dedication, and hard work.
In conclusion, it is with great pride and admiration that I stand before you all to introduce this extraordinary individual. Their contributions to their landman field have been remarkable, and their influence will continue to be felt for generations. Please join me in celebrating and applauding the Landman Hall of Fame recipient, Tab McGinely, for their outstanding lifetime achievements.