

IN MEMORIAM

EARNEST F. GLOYNA

Earnest Frederick Gloyna, who served as Dean of the College of Engineering (now the Cockrell School of Engineering) from 1970 to 1987, passed away on January 9, 2019, at the age of ninety-seven. Dean Gloyna transformed the College of Engineering from a good engineering school to one of national and international prominence for both its education and research. His vision was to build excellent facilities and hire superb faculty, knowing that these two ingredients would attract the necessary third: top-notch students. That vision became reality thanks to his shrewd leadership and excellent management skills.

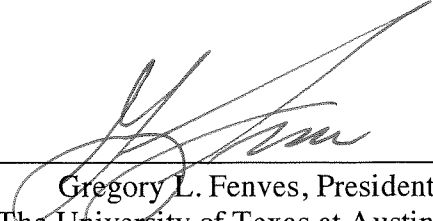
Born in the small town of Vernon, Texas, on June 30, 1921, to a farming family, Earnest earned a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Texas Tech University in 1942, just as the U.S. was entering the Second World War. Having been in ROTC (Reserve Officers' Training Corps), Earnest was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army upon graduation. Through various campaigns in the 820th Engineering Battalion, he rose to the rank of major and participated in the D-Day invasion at Omaha Beach. He remained proud of his military accomplishments while always wary of the devastating effects of war.

Shortly after the War ended, Earnest married Agnes Lehman whom he had known since childhood. They were married for sixty-one years until Agnes' death, and they had two children. He worked in industry briefly before enrolling in the master's degree program in civil engineering at The University of Texas. After graduating in 1949, he was appointed to the faculty of engineering at UT, but took a leave of absence to obtain a doctorate in sanitary engineering (now environmental engineering) and water resources at The Johns Hopkins University. When he

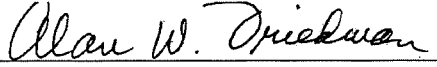
completed that degree in 1953, he returned to UT as an Assistant Professor. His entire professional career thereafter was at The University of Texas. He stepped down as Dean at the age of seventy and proceeded to have a highly productive research career for the next ten years, primarily investigating the possible use of supercritical water oxidation as a treatment process for highly recalcitrant organic compounds present in industrial wastes. His early work was on a far simpler technology for treating municipal and industrial wastewaters—oxidation ponds—and his writings in that area were translated into many languages and used all over the world for several decades. He consulted widely on the treatment of industrial waste and taught graduate classes on that subject for many years.

Earnest's professional accomplishments led to awards and achievements that are too numerous to list. The most important ones included his being named to the National Academy of Engineering in 1970, chairing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Science Advisory Board from 1981 to 1983, and serving as President of the (national) Water Pollution Control Federation (now the Water Environment Federation) in 1983-84. He was a founding member of what is now known as the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors. He was honored by professional organizations throughout the world, both in highly developed and developing countries.

Above all, Earnest Gloyna was a strong leader with exemplary ethics and professionalism. He demanded a lot from all who worked in the College of Engineering, but no more than he demanded of himself. His relentless pursuit of greatness for professional engineering, the College of Engineering at UT Austin, and the entire University of Texas allowed that vision to be realized during and following his tenure as Dean. Few faculty members have impacted the Forty Acres like Earnest F. Gloyna.



Gregory L. Fenves, President
The University of Texas at Austin



Alan W. Friedman, Secretary
The General Faculty

This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professors Desmond F. Lawler (Chair), Davis L. Ford, Gary A. Pope, and C. Michael Walton.