

In Memoriam:

Dennis Hoffman 1942-2022

By Christian Hansen, Reliability Society VP of Meetings and Conferences and Past President



The IEEE Reliability Society lost a distinguished member and beloved friend on August 30, 2022. Dennis Hoffman was an active member of the society and a key figure in the reliability engineering community for over fifty years. He joined the Reliability Society AdCom (Administrative Committee) in 1994 and served as the RS President for five terms (2001-2002, 2011-2013). In addition, he served in numerous other RS executive positions, including Vice-President for Membership and Vice-President for Meetings and Conferences. His contributions to the society were numerous. As President he led the society through tough financial times and helped build new initiatives in conferences and publications that secured a sustainable and financially stable future for the society as it exists today. He was the founding steering committee chair of the International Conference on Prognostics and Health Management (ICPHM), now one of the society's flagship conferences. On the membership side, he recruited numerous members and active volunteers to the society and many of them still serve in society leadership positions. Those of us who were fortunate to be mentored by Dennis knew how much he loved the society and how passionate he was about retaining and building leadership for the society. Many of us miss his calm demeanor and gentle smile that always made our meetings enjoyable and something to look forward to.

In the reliability engineering community, Dennis enjoyed a successful career with leadership roles at Texas Instruments, Raytheon and Lockheed Martin. He generously shared his leadership and technical experience and led many workshops and technical presentations including his full-day workshop on Concurrent Engineering at the Annual Reliability and Maintainability Symposium (RAMS).

During our meetings' social gatherings, we especially enjoyed when he was accompanied by his wife Judy with whom he was married since 1964. We loved hearing stories about their four sons, his many cousins, and how they both enjoyed restoring their family farm in Oklahoma. He would frequently bring pecans from their farm to share with their RS friends.

Dennis was a native of Oklahoma and a proud alum of Oklahoma State University. In recognition of his lifelong commitment to education, the Hoffman family has established an endowed scholarship at OSU in his memory. The family welcomes donations to the scholarship which can be made by check mailed to PO Box 1749 - Stillwater, Oklahoma 74076-1749 or online at <https://secure.osugiving.com/s/giving>. Please note your donation is in memory of Dennis R. Hoffman.

References:

Obituary for Dennis Reid Hoffman, Perry Daily Journal, September 2, 2022
<https://www.pdjnews.com/obituaries/dennis-reid-hoffman>

Tribute Book for Dennis Reid Hoffman
<https://resthaven-sunset.secure.tributecenteronline.com/obituaries/Dennis--Reid--Hoffman?obId=25758893>

Steven Li, Jeffrey Voas, William Tonti, Eric Wong. Private correspondence.