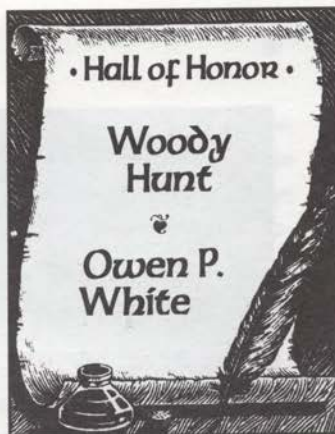


• Hall of Honor •
2000

Woody Hunt

By Diana Natalicio,
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of Texas at El Paso

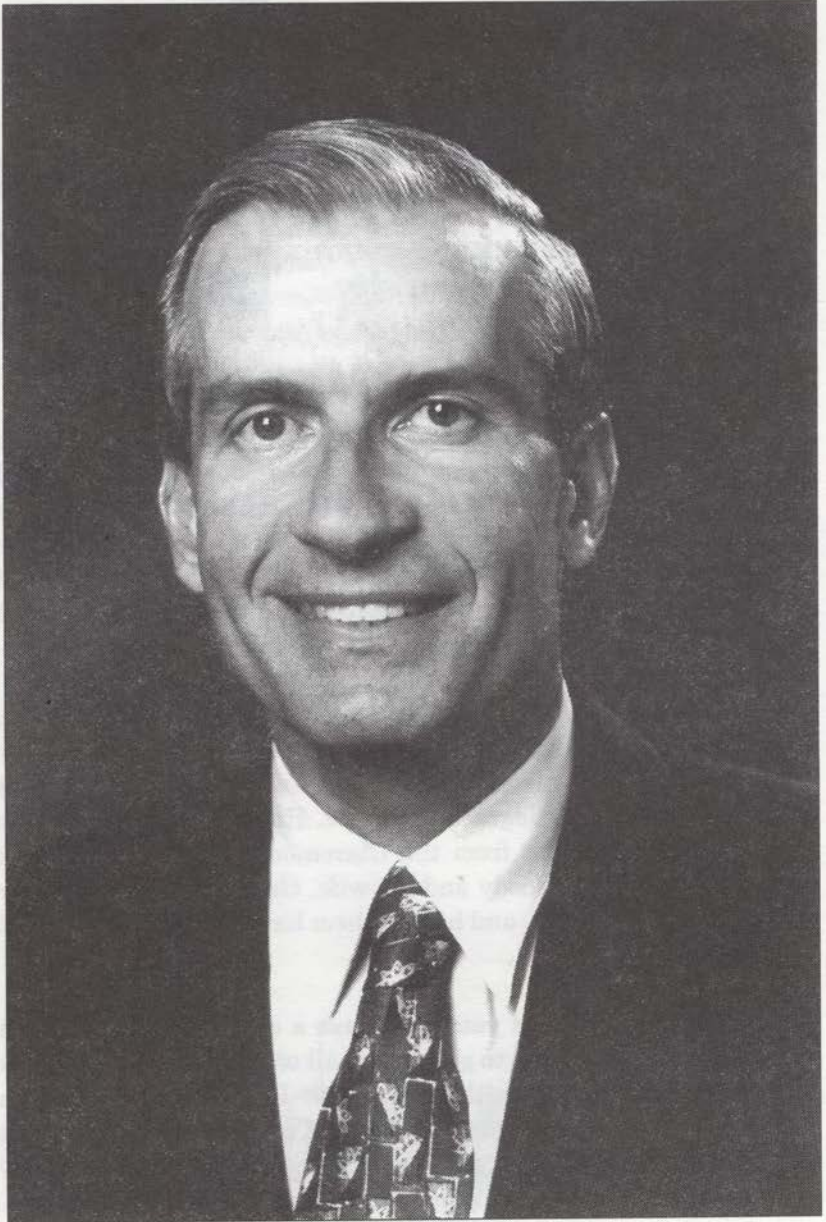


I am deeply honored to have been invited to introduce Woody Hunt to you this evening. He is an extraordinarily talented individual who understands that we all have a responsibility to contribute to the human and economic development of our society, re-investing the opportunities and benefits that each of us has been privileged to receive. Woody's generous commitment of time, financial resources, and expertise to a variety of community, regional, and state issues serves as a model for all of us.

A life-long resident of El Paso, Woody graduated from Ysleta High School and attended the University of Texas at El Paso before transferring to the University of Texas at Austin, where he received his B.B.A. and M.B.A. degrees in finance. He also earned a master's degree in management from the Claremont Graduate School in California in 1989. Woody and his wife, Gayle, have raised their five children in El Paso, and both of them have a deep commitment to this region.

Woody has said that you must have a clear vision—you need to know where you want to go, so that all of the decisions that you make will be consistent with your vision. I recall that Yogi Berra once said something similar—"You've got to be careful if you don't know where you're going, 'cause you might not get there." Woody always knows where he is going, and exactly how to get there.

As chairman and chief executive officer of the Hunt Building Corporation, Woody has used imagination, hard work, and dedication to build a successful company that has become the nation's largest builder of military housing. In addition, Woody generously shares his business and management skills with the state and



Woody Hunt

Photo courtesy of the Hunt Building Corporation

local boards of Chase Bank of Texas. He has also served on the Board of Visitors of the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center and of the University of Texas at Austin's McDonald Observatory, and is the past chairman of the Board of the Paso del Norte Health Foundation. He is a member of the Governor's Business Council, the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce Foundation, and the YWCA of El Paso Foundation.

Woody has worked hard to understand the assets and challenges presented by this community. He does his homework. He has carefully analyzed what needs to be done to strengthen El Paso in those areas vital to our future, especially in the area of education. He understands that the educational attainment of all El Pasoans must improve if we are to be competitive in the 21st century. He is not content merely to understand; he provides the vision and leadership required to act on that understanding.

Last year, Woody played a key role in establishing the El Paso Leadership and Research Council. As the first chair of this group of El Paso chief executive officers, he provided direction for their work in addressing the key issues in the development of El Paso's future. Woody was named the 1999 El Pasoan of the Year by El Paso Inc., and a year ago he received the *Gran Paseño* Award, the highest honor that the University of Texas at El Paso bestows upon friends of the university. His commitment to higher education runs deep. He has served on the Development Board of the University at El Paso and is a former member of the Claremont Graduate School Board of Visitors. The Cimarron Foundation, which he and Gayle established in 1987, has supported a variety of programs and initiatives at the University of Texas at El Paso.

Woody has always conducted his business and civic endeavors quietly, but his low-profile days appear to be over. With service on numerous local, regional, and state boards and commissions, he is now recognized across the state of Texas.

Woody's appointment by Governor George W. Bush to the University of Texas Board of Regents in 1999 gave El Paso representation on that body for the first time in forty-two years. This appointment enables him to share his knowledge and analytical skills with his fellow board members, to the benefit of the taxpayers of the state of Texas and future generations of Texans.

Woody serves on three committees of the Board of Regents: academic affairs, business affairs, and minority and women's issues. Known as a very quick study by the staff and his fellow