

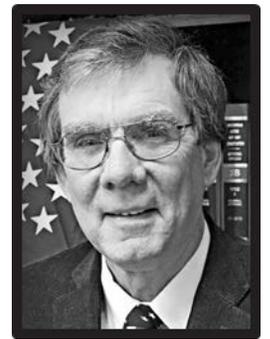
S P I R I T of SouthArk P R E S I D E N T ' S A W A R D

Joffre Long

Joffre Long has been a part of the story of South Arkansas Community College since its beginning more than 25 years ago.

He was a member of the nine-person committee formed to facilitate the merger of Oil Belt Technical College and Southern Arkansas University-El Dorado Branch into the new community college, which required the agreement of Oil Belt, SAU and the citizens of Union County.

This committee was appointed by then-Gov. Bill Clinton as the inaugural trustees of SouthArk. For the next 14 years Long continued to serve as a trustee, with six as board chair (1997- 2003). During his tenure the board oversaw the building of the Library, Computer Technology Building and Center for Workforce Development.



A business owner and civic leader in El Dorado for more than 50 years, Long is a 1963 graduate of El Dorado High School and an SAU-EB alumnus. He was a committee member and industrial advisor at Oil Belt. He also has been a member of the El Dorado Civitans for 35 years, including a tenure as club president; and a member of the Union County Industrial Board. He also is a deacon at West Side Baptist Church.

Long also was a longtime member of the El Dorado Economic Development Board, serving as vice-chair for eight years (2008-'16). The EEDB was formed to administer funds collected from a city economic-development tax. With the approval of the El Dorado City Council, Long was re-appointed twice. The results of the EEDB's administration include the El Dorado Conference Center,

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He and his wife Patricia have three children—Dwayne Long, Teresa Botner and Reuben Long—as well as four granddaughters.