

1988

Donald L. Bauer

Class of 1958

Donald Bauer was the U.S. Department of Energy's principal deputy assistant secretary for fossil energy. In this position, he held responsibility for the country's research and development programs in coal, oil and unconventional gas and oil shale, as well as the Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and the Nation's Clean Coal Technology Program.

Soon after graduation, he served two years in the U.S. Army as a missile test engineer then resumed his government career as a civilian. For the next 15 years, Bauer held a range of positions with the Department of the Army, including chief of the missile division of the Ballistic Missile Defense Systems Command; project manager with the Advanced Ballistic Missile Defense Agency; and project engineer with the Army Rocket and Guided Missile Agency.

In 1976, Bauer joined the Fossil Energy staff of the U.S. Department of Energy to manage the procurement of major coal conversion facilities. He also served as chief of program support and later as acting deputy program director for project management. He also directed research programs of preparing, cleaning and burning coal and discovering methods of unlocking natural gas supplies.

President Ronald Reagan recognized Bauer twice for accomplishments in the management of government programs - in 1987, with the rank of Distinguished Executive, and in 1983, Meritorious Executive in the Senior Executive Service. In addition, Bauer received the Department of Energy's Meritorious Service Award and the department's highest honor, the Secretary's Award in 1985 and 1987, respectively.

Bauer joined the Science Applications International Corp. (SAIC) in 1989 and worked for more than 15 years on issues related to energy, security, environmental management and technology evaluation. After retiring from SAIC in 2005, he worked as a consultant to contractors supporting the Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory.

He passed away Dec. 3, 2010.

