



Sid Gilbreath's relationship with the Industrial Engineering Department at Tech began in 1968 when he joined the department as Associate Professor. He became chairman in 1970 and spearheaded the College's efforts in curricular development which led to the first IE accreditation in 1976. He also initiated the first Industrial Engineering graduate program leading to a master's degree. He was co-founder of the Tennessee Tech :Link of the Order of the Engineer. During his 23 years of service to the department and the university, he managed numerous research projects, advising more than 1,000 undergraduate and graduate students in completing over 300 productivity improvement projects in over 40 firms throughout the State of Tennessee.

As an invited speaker, Sid has presented papers and talks at more than 100 conferences, continuing education programs, and technical society meetings throughout the United States. He has spoken to IIE chapters in 20+ states.

Upon his retirement from academe in 1994, the department initiated an endowment that bears his name. This endowment has provided scholarships to 24 IE students, as well as provided support for faculty/departmental development.

Sid's accomplishments are not limited to academe. He served in the US Navy for four years. His industrial experience includes a stint a General Manager of Westmoreland Coal Company (Virginia) and civil engineer with TVA. A sampling of the many companies for whom he has consulted includes Abbott Laboratories, Hospital Corporation of America, Correctional Enterprises of Tennessee, Rubbermaid, Inc., First American Bank, National Institute for Standards and Technology, Nissan, and Marquette University. His many honors and awards include: Life Fellow Award of the Institute of Production Engineers, the Fellow Award of the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) and he is a member of Tau Beta Pi, Alpha Pi Mu and Phi Kappa Phi. He has been awarded the Fred C. Crane Distinguished Service Award (IIE), and the Outstanding Engineering Alumnus Award from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He is a member of several Who's Who listing, in the United States and abroad.

Sid and his wife Pat live in Cookeville. They have three children and four grandchildren.