

## **Gerald Abels**

**1927 - 2007**



Mr. Abels grew up in the petroleum industry. His first job was with his father's company, Western Pipe and Supply in El Dorado, Kansas. He worked as an independent during the 1950s into the early 1970s, drilling in various locations. In 1979, Mr. Abels became the Land Manager for Murfin Drilling Company, a position he held for almost thirty years. He was an active member of the Wichita Association of Petroleum Landmen and served on the Board of the National Association of Petroleum Landmen as a representative of the area.

Mr. Abels was an athlete and excelled in football and track in high school. He graduated from the University of Texas where he was a member of the freshman football team. Jerry was called out of college twice to serve in the Korean War and was also stationed in Japan where he served in Military Government. One of his duties was to teach the Japanese how to play football. Jerry was a lifelong member of the Hebrew Congregation where he served on the board of directors in many capacities over the years. He was an avid supporter of WSU basketball.

**Gerald's father is Dave Abels, who is also in the Oil & Gas Legacy Gallery.**