



## **Gordon Rankin Biography**

Troy “Gordon” Rankin was born and raised in south Texas where he lives part of his life on the family farm where they raised crops and cattle. He attended Rice Institute (now Rice University) on a football scholarship, but was injured his first year so then paid his way through his remaining years of college. He graduated with a degree in Physical Education in 1955 and entered the Marine Corp as a Second Lieutenant with his college ROTC training.

After two years in the Marine Corp, he was looking for a career opportunity and through a mutual friend, met Mr. Wayne Broyles who owned several companies in the cathodic protection business. He went to work for Mr. Broyles in 1957 installing cathodic protection systems in Texas and surrounding states.

He developed a wonderful relationship with Mr. Broyles, but after two years of constant travel, living in a travel trailer, and having two children, he decided to resign his position. However, Mr. Broyles had other ideas and offered Gordon a position with Farwest Corrosion Control Company in Seattle, WA and Los Angeles, CA.

Farwest was small and not doing well, so as the new Vice President, Gordon’s job was to run the company and make it a success. If he succeeded, Mr. Broyles promised Gordon would be given 20% of the company and a future opportunity to buy the remaining 80%.

He continued to run Farwest, making it more successful through the early years. In 1969, he purchased and ran Corrosion Control Products Company (CCP), who sold pipeline related materials to the oil and gas industry.

Gordon’s NACE career started in the early 1970’s, where he served on the Los Angeles Section Board and in 1972, he served as Chairman of the Board. In 1974, he again serves as the Board Chairman.

He purchased the remaining 80% of Farwest in 1973 and becomes its President. In 1977, he moved Farwest from Carson, CA to Gardena, CA as the company was growing and needed more space. In 1985, he opened a Bakersfield, CA location, which still exists today. He also sold Corrosion Control Products to Farwest to form one entity.

Gordon continued to work in NACE serving and promoting the organization. In 1984 he received the NACE Los Angeles Section’s “Certificate of Merit” for his work and effort in the section. His love for the industry, his company and NACE led him to run for election in NACE and in 1986 was elected as Vice President of NACE national and would then serve a one-year term as President in 1987. He greatly enjoyed his work as President and traveled extensively to promote and serve NACE around the world.

Farwest continued to grow under his leadership and in 2004, Farwest was awarded NACE’s Distinguished Organization Award in recognition of outstanding and sustained contributions to the field of corrosion science and education.

In 2006, Farwest celebrated its 50-year anniversary at the NACE annual conference in San Diego, CA and Gordon was there to celebrate this milestone with customers, colleagues, and friends. He then continued to be a major influence at Farwest and in NACE until his retirement in 2012, which he moved back to his home state of Texas.

His love of Farwest, its people, and the corrosion industry never retired, however, and his thoughts were never far from the company and the industry he served faithfully for over 55 years. Gordon passed away in April 2024. His character, leadership, and personality in the industry will be long remembered.