



Mechanical Engineering
Academy of Distinguished Alumni

Donald L. Evans

Charter Member

BSME, The University of Texas at Austin, 1969
MBA, The University of Texas at Austin, 1973

Chairman & CEO (1985 - 2001)

Tom Brown Inc.

Secretary of Commerce (2001 - 2005)

United States of America

Donald L. Evans was appointed as the 34th Secretary of Commerce by President George W. Bush in 2001. He was a strong advocate for the free-enterprise system, free and fair trade agreements, and responsible corporate stewardship. To encourage job creation, Evans worked closely with President Bush to reduce taxes, open markets for American goods and services, and promote a level playing field abroad. A trusted friend and advisor for more than three decades, Evans worked on President Bush's successful Texas gubernatorial campaigns in 1994 and 1998, and served as chairman of the 2000 Bush-Cheney Presidential Campaign. Currently, Evans serves as the Chairman of the George W. Bush Foundation.

Born in Houston, Texas in 1946, Evans attended The University of Texas at Austin, receiving a BS degree in mechanical engineering in 1969 and an MBA in 1973. During school breaks, he worked in a Texas steel mill. In 1975, Evans moved to Midland, Texas from Houston and began his career as a "roughneck," working on oil rigs for Tom Brown, Inc., a large independent energy company. Ten years later, he took the helm of the company as CEO,

continuing in that position until being tapped by the President to lead the Commerce Department.

In 1995, Evans was appointed to The University of Texas Board of Regents; he was elected chairman in February 1997 and served two consecutive terms. He was named a University of Texas Distinguished Alumnus and inducted into The University of Texas McCombs School of Business Hall of Fame in 2002.

Evans serves as chairman of Energy Future Holdings, formerly known as TXU Energy. He is a senior partner at Quintana Capital Group, senior advisor at Energy Capital Partners, member of the advisory board of the Energy Institute at The University of Texas at Austin, and serves on the Board of Governors at Midland Memorial Hospital. In addition, he serves as vice chair of the Board of Visitors at MD Anderson. Evans has remained active in his hometown community of Midland, Texas where he resides with his wife, Susan Marinis Evans. His passions in life are his faith, family, and friends. They have two daughters, one son, and five grandchildren.