

# Engineer of Distinction

## Tennessee Technological University



*John A. "Jack" Gordon*

B.S. Civil Engineering,  
Purdue University, 1964

M.S. Environmental Engineering,  
Purdue University, 1966

Ph.D. Environmental Engineering,  
Purdue University, 1970

**Professor Emeritus, Retired**



John A. Gordon was born in New York City and raised on farms in central Indiana. He graduated from Walnut Grove High School in 1959 and attended Purdue University where he earned the BSCE and MSCE degrees in Civil Engineering. He then became a Commissioned Officer in the U. S. Public Health Service in Montgomery, AL, and provided guidance for three nuclear power plants located in AL, NC, and FL. Following honorable discharge from active duty, he returned to Purdue and was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy in Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Dr. Gordon then began four and a half years with the Tennessee Valley Authority in Chattanooga as Supervisor, Special Projects Staff, with research responsibilities relating to reservoir water quality management. As a Tennessee Registered Professional Engineer, in 1974, he started a new career as a professor, researcher, and consultant at Tennessee Technological University. He taught courses, advised students and led them in research and thesis projects leading to their University degrees. Many publications and two book chapters reported his research results. He retired as Professor Emeritus from TTU in December 2000. While at TTU, Dr. Gordon was awarded many honors for his teaching and research in the water resources and environmental engineering fields. He was selected as a Distinguished Visiting Professor of Civil Engineering at the U. S. Air Force Academy and taught there during 1994 and 1995. Jack has supported the TN Section of the American Water Resources Association for over 25 years.

Dr. Gordon and his wife Sandra have been married for 45 years. They have two adult sons, John and Steve. John has BSCE and MSCE degrees from TTU in Civil and Environmental Engineering. John and his wife, Renee, have two sons. Steve attended TTU in the Biology program and has three daughters. Jack and Sandy reside in Cookeville, Tennessee, but spend much of their retirement time in Salida, CO.

Jack and Sandy are long time members of the TTU President's Club Eagle Society and enjoy frequent visits to the campus for visiting, sports, and social events.