

2006 Technologist of Distinction



Paul Edward Trussell

B.S. Industrial Technology, TTU, 1967

President/Owner
Trussell Brothers Construction Co.

Citation

Trussell left Tennessee Tech in 1967 after earning his industrial technology degree with a wife, child, a job at General Motors as a design engineer, and a legacy from his father—a passion for hard work and cars. He later went to work for a company that contracted work for General Motors, Ford and Chrysler.

Trussell followed his entrepreneurial spirit and began his own company before moving from Ohio to South Carolina. There, he established Trussell Brothers Construction Co., a city, county and state contract construction company in Columbia. He oversees dozens of crewmen, including his two sons, Anthony and Michael, and he would love to work in the field more himself, but bids and orders take up most of his time, along with visits to every job site.

With contracts for small job bids at \$15,000 and large job bids that soar as high as \$7 million, the company's success has allowed him to follow his true passion—cars and racing.

His '32 Ford Roadster, a show car valued around \$500,000 that travels around the world but has never hit the road, won the Oakland Roadster show and finished first runner-up for the prestigious Ritler Award at the Detroit AutoRama.

He became partners with "Fast Eddie" Hoover, a drag racer in the Pro Modified series, and their teamwork has made them champions in the International Hot Rod Association and the National Hot Rod Association. The sponsor and driver have won six major events and are driven by the pursuit of the NHRA World Championship.

Trussell and his wife, Peggy, live in Columbia, South Carolina. His three brothers and his sister all attended TTU. Brother-in-law Jimmy Smith as well as brothers James Ronald Trussell and Billy F. Trussell all hold Tech degrees.



2006 Technologist of Distinction Paul Trussell is congratulated by Dean Glen Johnson