

One of Our Own -- Our Very Best

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On February 23, 2008, the Sachse Chamber of Commerce held an Annual Awards Banquet, "Set Sail with the Sachse Chamber", at Southfork Ranch in Parker, Texas. The Sachse Historical Society supported the event as a Gold Sponsor, and filled a table to enjoy the festivities. Awards were given to various businesses in Sachse, and entertainment was served with a superb meal, all in cruise-ship style.

One of our own – our very best, Joe J. Stone, was honored with a ***Lifetime Achievement Award***. Joe was born in Sachse, Texas, attended Sachse School (which was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1937 and closed 1942) until grade 7 and then attended Garland High School.

Joe has an impeccable record of service to his country and to this community. He served his country honorably as a member of the **United States Navy Reserve** from 1944 to 1976. He served on active duty during World War Two and the Korean Conflict, and was called back to active duty during the Bay of Pigs Invasion in Cuba in 1962. He published the ***Sachse Sentinel*** newspaper from 1977 to 1987. He was a **United States Postal carrier** from 1958 until 1986 in Sachse. He was the **Fire Chief of the Sachse Volunteer Fire Department** from 1968 until 1987, and was instrumental in the training and equipping of the men. While Fire Chief, he **founded Sachse's first public library**. He approached the City Council for approval on September 13, 1966 for permission to put up shelves in the fire department. He contacted Dallas County which donated books and paid the part time salary of the first librarian. He wrote to publishing companies to have books donated and contacted local individuals to donate books. During the '70's, Joe served as the **Civil Defense Director** for the city of Sachse and drew up the first civil defense plans for the city. Prior to 1973, houses in the city of Sachse didn't have house numbers. Joe was appointed by the city council to **set up the first house numbering system in Sachse**. He has been president of the **Sachse Cemetery Foundation** for the past 8 years. His faithful efforts on behalf of the cemetery are always underpinned with compassion for the citizens of Sachse whom he serves.

A charter member of the **Sachse Historical Society**, Joe has held the office of Treasurer since the Society's inception in 1989. He works tirelessly on behalf of the Historical Society, not only as treasurer, but on countless projects. We are so proud, and we at the Sachse Historical Society cannot thank him enough. Congratulations, Joe!