

## Greg Elliott



Mr. Gregory D. Elliott is President and Founder of Workstrings International, LLC. Workstrings International was acquired by Superior Energy Services (NYSE-SPN) in 2001, though he continues to manage his company.

Elliott received his Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering from LSU in December 1981. He worked for Chevron Corporation in January 1982 as a Drilling Engineer in the Gulf of Mexico and the Deep Gas Tuscaloosa trend of South Louisiana. In 1986, he transferred to Chevron overseas headquarters located in San Ramon, California. He served as a Well Test Engineer, frequently traveling to Africa, Europe and Asia before joining Chevron's International Drilling team in 1989 where he planned and drilled wells in Africa, Europe, Asia, Former Soviet Union and South America through 1996.

In 1997, he founded Workstrings International, a premium drill pipe oilfield rental tool company headquartered in Lafayette, La. His company was the first to create and develop, on a large scale, a certain market

sector in the oil industry that had not existed in the past. Now Workstrings has become a global leader in providing highly engineered special purpose rental tubular goods for the worldwide oil and gas industries well construction. They currently have 39 offices located in six of the seven continents of the world with 400 employees.

Elliott is a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), the American Association of Drilling Engineers (AADE), and the LSU Alumni Association. Also, he is a member of various sporting and wildlife conservation organizations.

He is married to the former Melissa (Missy) Evans, a 1991 Graduate of LA Tech University in Health Information Management. Greg and Missy enjoy

traveling the world and are avid hunters. Together, they founded a Safari Club International (SCI) chapter in 2015, LA Acadiana SCI chapter. This nonprofit organization promotes hunter advocacy, wildlife science based conservation, public and youth education, and local humanitarian initiatives.

The Elliotts reside in Beaver Creek, La., located in Northwest Evangeline Parish, just a few miles from Pine Prairie, their childhood hometown. The Elliotts own and manage several thousand acres of land in the Beaver Creek area. On this property they sponsor hunting and fishing trips for Wounded War Heroes (WWH) annually.

# Reflections of Greg Elliott

As I reflect on my childhood, education, and career, I am honored and humbled to be inducted into the LSU College of Engineering Hall of Distinction. I gratefully accept this distinction on behalf of all of the positive influences that I benefited from in growing up in a loving family and in a highly supportive community in a rural area of Central Louisiana.

The nearest town to my childhood home was the village of Pine Prairie, which boasted a population of about 600 people. I feel blessed to have grown up in such a surrounding where no one put limits on another's future, where everyone knows everyone, where hard work is highly respected, and where there is a keen sense of self-reliance and an equal sense of responsibility to help those in need.

Growing up in a small, working-class town, I felt a high degree of accountability for my actions and an ingrained obligation to give back to my community.

Although my parents, the late Bessie and Jesse Elliott, did not attend college, they were very supportive of their three children achieving a college education. My father's career was primarily in the local upstream oil and gas industry. He spent a large portion of his career, after World War II, working in the Easton, La. oilfield located just south of Pine Prairie. This oilfield is one of the oldest in the state, with the first production established around 1904, and it still produces today. My brother spent his career in well construction and retired from Shell Deepwater Gulf of Mexico after 32 years of service. My sister graduated from LSU and spent her 38-

year career as a teacher in the Louisiana public education system. My niece, Summer Vidrine Sanford, graduated from LSU in PETE in 2003.

When deciding on a degree program, a big influence in choosing LSU petroleum engineering, was my father's cousin, Dr. Walter Whitehead. He was a petroleum engineering professor at LSU. Dr. Whitehead was from Forest Hill, La., another small town near Pine Prairie. He and my father were close, and Dr. Whitehead promoted LSU's PETE department. He suggested that I consider becoming a petroleum engineer, and I elected to do so. After graduating from high school in 1976, I attended LSU Alexandria, taking engineering pre-requisites. I transferred to the LSU Baton Rouge campus in 1979.

LSU was an easy choice for me due to the Tiger athletic program and the University's colorful history dating back to the Huey Long days. Also, in the late 1970s, it was one of the top universities in the world in the field of petroleum engineering. Today, LSU continues to be a top petroleum engineering university which makes me proud of my alma mater. I have very fond memories of working in the LSU IADC Petroleum Industry Blowout Prevention and Well Control Training Center and attending the various PETE classes. Work included training industry drilling employees in "well control" through the use of simulators, as well as working at the LSU well site now named the LSU PERTT Lab.

At this site, we worked under the direction of Mr. Jim Segura with frequent visits and guidance from

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the PETE Department's professors. We did many types of work, including carpentry, ditch digging, and oilfield plumbing. We mainly used the "on-the-job" training method. During this period, the new well control subsea well facility was constructed by student employees under Mr. Jim's direction.

My wife's family, also from the Pine Prairie area, has a long history in the petroleum industry. Her father, Mr. Kenneth Evans, was a 1950 LSU PETE graduate. He spent his career working in the Gulf Coast, North Sea, and South America. Many others from our families worked in the petroleum industry, and some worked together in the Easton oilfield.

I graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from LSU PETE in December 1981. I worked for Chevron

Corporation from January 1982 until January 1997, in various domestic and international assignments as a drilling and well test engineer. While working for Chevron Overseas, I lived in San Ramon, California and traveled to Europe, Africa, Asia, South America, and the former Soviet Union for various petroleum well construction related business.

I founded Workstrings International, LLC, in 1997 because I saw a need to add more advanced engineering design capabilities to support traditional well construction rental tools. Workstrings has become a global leader in providing highly engineered, special purpose rental tubulars for the worldwide oil and gas industry. Workstrings employs petroleum and mechanical engineers to support our rental tubulars associated with global

well construction. Workstrings celebrated our 20th year of business this past January. I continue to manage Workstrings, with 36 global offices located on six of the seven continents of the world.

I am proud to be part of the storied legacy of LSU engineering alumni and to play a small role in reinventing the US petroleum industry and returning it to a leadership position in technology and productive capacity. I am also proud to continue the legacy of my father and countless others whose contributions toward the advancement of the petroleum industry have helped to lift millions of people out of poverty and improve the quality of life for the world's population.

In conclusion, I would like to sincerely thank the

LSU College of Engineering, the LSU Petroleum Engineering Department, and the LSU College of Engineering Hall of Distinction's Board of Election. I will continue to support LSU, the College of Engineering, and the Petroleum Engineering Department, and I hope to serve as a positive mentor to all engineering students.

