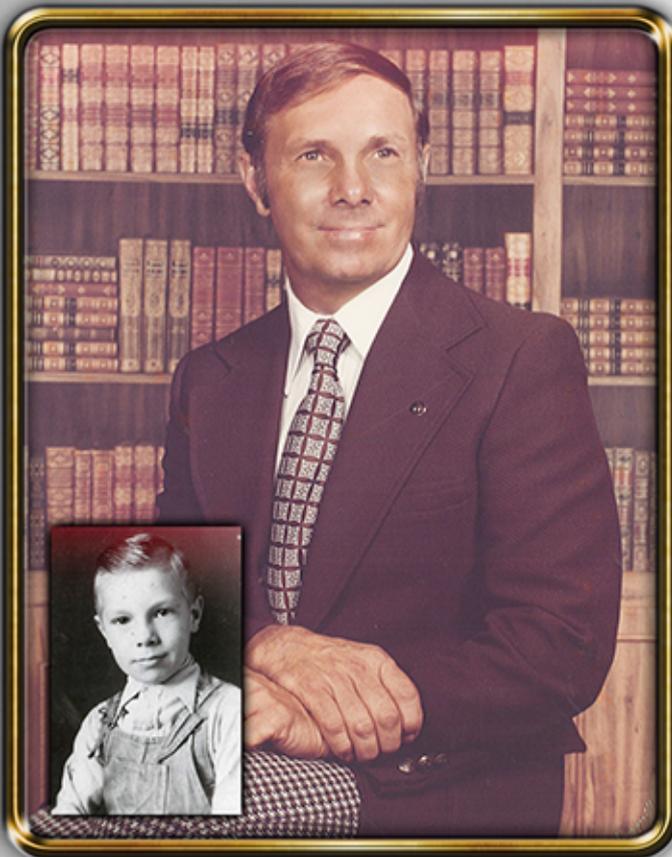


# SHERMAN CENTRAL SCHOOL

## Wall of Fame

### LESTER L. "LES" POST

Inducted 2013



Born February 3, 1929 during the Depression, his education began in a one-room school with two outhouses in Colt Station, Pennsylvania. Les began attending Sherman Central School in the 8th grade. Several of his teachers, including Coach Brosius, Principal Allart, and Mr. Butler believed he had potential and encouraged him to succeed. Les joined the Air Force where he led the class in aircraft electrical, mechanical and electronic studies.

After the military, Mr. Post worked for Lockheed Missile Division where he attained secret clearance. Included in that work was testing missiles for accuracy over water in Hawaii. Other highlights of his career included work with the Naval Weapons Annex in Charleston, S.C. to correct and calibrate electronic systems and to verify capability of nuclear warhead missiles on the George Washington Nuclear Submarine, which were loaded with nuclear Polaris missiles. At that time, the U.S. wanted to exhibit to the Russians our superior military power. The night we launched the George Washington, Captain Cox said, "With your help history is made."

During the Cuban Missile Crisis, Mr. Post was on a ship loaded with electronic surveillance equipment. Khrushchev said the missiles he'd sent to Cuba had only defensive capabilities, but the U.S. equipment determined them to be offensive. President Kennedy ordered the removal of the missiles and World War III was averted.

Les was part of the Gemini crew at Cape Kennedy where they developed the procedure used to dock two spacecraft while in space. On July 20, 1969 astronauts Armstrong and Aldrin in Apollo 11 landed on the moon. Collins orbited the moon in the Gemini command ship until docking with Apollo 11 to return to earth. Mr. Post's name is included on the Gemini Monument in Space View Park, Titusville, Florida for his involvement, dedicated work, and contribution to the team that made the program a success.

Mr. Post retired from Lockheed and served as President of the Jeff Davis County Exchange Club from 1985-86 and President of the Farm Bureau for 10 years. He also sat on the Board of Directors at AgSouth Farm Credit for 19 years.

Les said, "I always seem to be in the right place at the right time. When I encounter a challenge, I can't back down".