

Laufman Lecture Hall

Paul was raised in the Longview school system – where he attended both R.A. Long High School and LCC. He focused on math and science and participated in athletics, including as a High School All-District Baseball selectee.

Upon receiving his Associates Degree in Engineering from LCC, he attended Washington State University (WSU), receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1961. With subsequent study in the Master of Science in Systems Management Program at the University of Southern California, he entered a career in Rocket Propulsion with major aerospace enterprises, including Hercules, Lockheed, and Aerojet-General Corporations.

As a Development Engineer, Mr. Laufman produced a number of patent disclosures. An early participant in U.S. space programs, he was a Project Engineer and Executive in the development of propulsion systems for major defense and manned space systems, including the Apollo Moon Landing and the Space Shuttle Programs.

In 1995, Mr. Laufman co-founded United Paradyne Corporation, which became the exclusive propellants and pressurants contractor for all space missions containing government assets, including the Space Shuttle, and for many commercial satellite launches worldwide.

Other honors received by Mr. Laufman have included:

- 2013-14 Lower Columbia College Alumni of the Year;
- Chairman, Lower Columbia College Foundation Building Healthy Futures Campaign;
- Washington State University 2010 Mechanical Engineering Hall of Fame recipient, Mechanical Engineering Commencement Keynote Speaker, and Distinguished Alumnus Lecturer at the College of Engineering and Architecture;
- SW Washington All-Century Sports Council's Lifetime Achievement Award;
- Induction into the R. A Long HS Hall of Fame; and
- Invitee to the 2003 dedication of the Smithsonian Institution's new Air and Space Museum in Chantilly, VA, he was privileged to discover his name engraved on its Wall of Honor.

Paul retired as Chairman/CEO of United Paradyne Corporation in 2004 and currently serves on its Board of Directors. He is married to the former Marlene Worley of Kelso and they reside in Grass Valley, CA. They have three children, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Paul credits this community's exceptional educational experience as foundational in obtaining his WSU degree and for success in those endeavors for which he has been recognized.

