

IN MEMORY OF MR. CHARLES HENRY HARTMAN (192~~2~~³ - 2001)

CHARLES HENRY HARTMAN WAS BORN IN TULSA, OKLAHOMA ON JUNE 10th, 1923. HIS FIRST AND ONLY GIRLFRIEND WAS VIRGINIA LOUISE SHOUSE (JENNIE LOU) WHO HE MET IN HIGH SCHOOL HE WAS 17 AND SHE WAS 15. THREE YEARS LATER WHILE CHARLES WAS IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AIRFORCE THEY GOT MARRIED. THEY HAD TWO SONS CHARLES RICHARD OF EL PASO, TEXAS AND ROGER OF SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA. CHARLES AND JENNIE LOU WERE HAPPILY MARRIED FOR 57 ½ YEARS. OUT OF THIS MARRIAGE CAME TWO SONS, THEY HAVE FOUR GRAND CHILDREN AND ONE GREAT GRANDSON.

CHARLES JOINED THE AIR FORCE IN 1942 AND WAS DISCHARGED IN 1947. HE WAS A B-24 PILOT IN THE PACIFIC THEATER AND FLEW MORE THAN FORTY MISSIONS. HE PILOTED THE FIRST RCONNAISSANCE FLIGHT OVER NAGASAKI, JAPAN FOLLOWING THE DROPPING OF THE BOMB

AFTER MANY YEARS IN THE MENS CLOTHING BUSINESS, WHERE HE MANAGED AND OPERATED STORES IN PASADENIA AND CLEAR LAKE CITY, CHARLES OBTAINED HIS REAL ESTATE LICENSE AND BECAME A COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE BROKER WHICH HE TRULY ENJOYED. ON RETIRING HE BECAME DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SPACE CENTER ROTARY CLUB.

SIXTEEN YEARS AGO, WHEN MR. OWEN MORRIS CONCEIVED OF THE IDEA OF HONORING SOMEONE WHO HAD MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE EXPLORATION OF OUTER SPACE HE SPOKE TO CHARLES HARTMAN.. MR. HARTMAN TOOK THAT IDEA, ASSEMBLED A TEAM AND CREATED THE PRESTIGIOUS ANNUAL ROTARY NATIONAL AWARD FOR SPACE ACHIEVEMENT (RNASA). HE SERVED AS THE ORIGINAL CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SPEARHEADED THE EFFORT TO SELECT STEUBEN COMPANY TO DESIGN THE NATIONAL SPACE TROPHY (WHICH IS PRESENTLY ON DISPLAY AT SPACE CENTER HOUSTON). HE ALSO LED THE EFFORT TO DEVELOP THE NOMINATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA FOR THE RNASA RECIPIENT.. MR. HARTMAN WOULD NOT ACCEPT WHAT OTHERS CALL "PRACTICLE LIMITATIONS TO THE POSSIBLE". TO HIM ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING WORTHWHILE WAS POSSIBLE. MR. HARTMAN WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE RNASA COMMITTEE AND CONTINUED AS THE DRIVING FORCE FOR TWELVE YEARS MAKING CERTAIN THAT THE PROGRAM WAS WELL ESTABLISHED BEFORE HE RETIRED.

FOR RNASA