

J. Jan Collmer

Brief Business Biography

Jan Collmer recently sold his company, High Voltage Power Systems, Inc. (HVPSI) formerly, Collmer Semiconductor, Inc., a high tech company in Dallas and now is mostly retired. Prior to starting his own company in 1979, Jan was President of Varo, Inc. in Garland, Texas.

Jan is a native of Dallas, Texas. He graduated from Jesuit High School and received an Associate's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Arlington State College in 1954 and his BS in Mathematics/Physics at the University of Texas at Arlington in 1963. Later, he worked toward an MBA at Southern Methodist University from '65-'68.

He was awarded the distinguished alumnus award at both Jesuit and UTA in 1989 and was inducted into the UTA Military Hall of Honor at UTA.

Jan was once again appointed to the Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Board in November of 2004 for a two year term and was chairman of the finance and audit committee. He served earlier on the board of DFW International Airport from 1986-1990 and from 1994-1998. He was appointed once more to the DFW Board again in November 2004 and he was elected to the Chairmanship of DFW in March of 2006. He left the DFW Board in February of 2008.

His many other civic activities include numerous board appointments, including a term as Chairman of the Greater Dallas Chamber in 1988-1990. He was also Chairman of the Chamber Aviation Committee from 1983 till 1988.

He recently retired as a trustee at University of Dallas and the Texas Academy of Math and Science board at University of North Texas the Jesuit College Preparatory School Foundation. He is a retired member of the board of directors at Southwest Securities after more than 10 years of service.

Along with Jan's successful business and civic career, flying has remained his first love. He began his flight training in 1954 in Pensacola, Florida and was awarded his U.S. Navy pilot's wings at NAS Corpus Christi in January of 1956. He flew Navy fighter jets for ten years, both active and reserve, until he retired with the rank of Lt. Commander in 1966.

Since then, Jan has become an accomplished airshow pilot and has flown hundreds of airshows from coast to coast over the last 30 years, including the only airshow performance over DFW Airport since it opened 34 years ago (for the dedication of the seventh runway at DFW On October 1, 1996).

He was also the first pilot to perform aerobatics over Dallas Love Field in over 50 years in September 1994. He currently flies a red, white and Blue EXTRA 300L sponsored by Fina, Inc. His 1991 S-2B Fina Pitts biplane is on display in the Frontiers of Flight Museum.

Due to his great interest in aviation history, Jan is President of the Board of Directors and a founder, along with Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison and Businessman Bill Cooper, of the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Love Field. He is also a long time board member of the History of Aviation Collection at UTD, an affiliate of the museum.

Jan also served from 1997-2003 as a Commissioner on the Texas Aerospace Commission appointed by then Governor George W. Bush. In that role he initiated and helped fund a very successful Aviation Centennial Celebration in the Bullock Museum in Austin at the opening of the 2003 Legislature.

Jan has a wife of over 50 years, Suzanne, and three adult daughters and two grandsons (future pilots we hope).