



Life Time Achievement Award

DURGA D. AGARWAL

There are few people who gave a second thought to the projects they did in their DCE days ; but not Durga D Agrawal .He patented the product developed ; and went on to build an industrial empire around it [<http://www.pipingtech.com>]

The success of enterprise eventually provided him with opportunities to give back to the community by contributing his personal leadership and financial resources to support educational, charitable, and community organizations. He has been a National Society of Professional Engineers (N.S.P.E.) and the Texas Society of Professional Engineers (T.S.P.E.) where he has been an associate member since 1975. He was nominated for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award. Additionally, he received the University of Houston's Cullen College of Engineering Distinguished Engineering Alumnus Award in 1998, and has served as a member of the University of Houston advisory board for industrial engineering. He established an endowed scholarship in the UH Industrial Engineering Department, and has been involved in fundraising for Rice University. In March 2005, the Government Procurement Connections (GPC) presented him with the Texas Trailblazer Award, and the following year the Asian Chamber of Commerce of Houston named him the Entrepreneur of the Year. One of his most significant awards was his selection in 2001 as the U.S. Small Business Person of the Year for the State of Texas

President Bush developed a keen interest in India, which he visited in 2006, in part because of his interaction with the Indian American business and professional communities with whom he first became acquainted during his years as governor of Texas. He invited Agrawal to the White House several times during his administration for visits that included Diwali celebrations, the Asian American Pacific Islanders Commission, and, in July 2005, a state dinner with the prime minister of India, Manmohan Singh

In 2006, Agrawal's success in business and PT&P's role in international trade attracted the attention of the Secretary of Commerce and the U.S. Trade Representative who nominated Durga for an appointment to one of the sixteen advisory committees of the Department of Commerce/U.S. Trade Representative's Office

Agrawal's sense of civic responsibility is part of his religious and cultural heritage and the couple have found time to be involved in very significant and purposeful community projects such as Houston's India House. He served as president of the organization for several years, and other India House members, united in an initial fund drive that resulted in grants