



J. Michael Party

Area 5 Director

Owner/ President, Beryl Oil and Gas, LP

Mike started his career with Cities Services working as a geophysicist. He joined Wagner & Brown in 1981 serving as Exploration Manager for nine years before joining Reliance Energy in November 2009. Mike served as vice president of Exploration for Reliance Energy until Reliance Energy's main assets were sold to Concho Resources in October, 2016. Mike founded Beryl Oil and Gas, LP following Reliance's sale to Concho.

Mike earned his bachelor's degree in geology and geophysics in 1978 from the University of Missouri-Rolla (now Missouri S&T) and was awarded an honorary professional degree in 1994.

Mike is an active member of local, national, and international geological societies. Most notably, he has served as president of AAPG 2019-2020, president of the Southwest Section of the AAPG, Secretary of AAPG, president of the Division of Professional Affairs within the AAPG, and is currently serving as past president of AAPG. He also served as president of the West Texas Geological Society and the Permian Basin Section of SEPM. Mike was awarded the Outstanding Young Alumni from the University of Missouri-Rolla and honorary life membership from both the West Texas Geological Society and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

Mike and his wife Cathie live in Midland, TX and have three children, a daughter Lauren and two sons Michael and Rob, as well as two grandchildren.