



Frank Phillips
1873 - 1950
Inducted 1991

Frank Phillips and his brother L. E. began drilling for oil in 1905 near Bartlesville, Oklahoma. This venture ultimately resulted in a string of more than 80 producing wells and led to the formation of the Phillips Petroleum Company. Within ten years Phillips Petroleum had expanded to produce not just oil but also natural gas. This spurred the construction of natural gas liquid extraction plants in West Texas, which helped make Phillips the world's largest producer of natural gas liquids by the late 1920s. They drilled three record-depth wells in Texas (two of them in the Permian Basin) and one in the North Sea. Frank was an aviation enthusiast who supported early test flights and developed Phillips Petroleum Company's high-octane aviation gasoline program during World War II. In recognition of his interest in Native American welfare during the company's drilling activities on Osage Indian lands, Frank became the only white man ever named an official chief of the Osage tribe.

