This year’s George Warren Fuller Award went to a gentleman whose engineering career has witnessed both sides of our industry’s regulatory fence. He’s a workaholic who’s served in many capacities with the Section, including that of Chair. His enduring approach toward volunteerism has led a succession of conference planning committee chairs to call on him year after year for opinions, ideas and archival information. Our awardee’s dedication to the Alabama/Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association is certainly not limited to conference time in that he can be found any day of the year on the phone or computer, relating his thoughts of new enhancements for the Section.

He is seen by his peers as a man of sound management style and professional honesty. This trait was well earned at an early age. I was told that while owner of his own small business, our Fuller Awardee, making his point with an errant employee, broke his own hand … later at the doctor’s office, he reported that material fell on his mangled digits (insurance, you know?).

He is equally comfortable in either of our Section’s two states, having received his Bachelors Engineering Degree in one and Masters in the other. Joining AWWA 31 years ago, he received the association’s Ambassador Award 22 years later.

His wife of 29 years refers to him as a “vehicular evangelist” whose driving style will motivate the most ardent agnostic. She also added other interesting tidbits:

- He likes a martini slightly dryer than a rusty bumper.
- He hits one golf club particularly well … in fact, he uses that same club for every shot, including the putt!
- If he misplaces something, he immediately considers it stolen or most probably walked off with by his son.
- Ask to SEE the football tickets before you ride to Auburn with him!
- He stays slim & trim by substituting many meals with his work.

Having served as his church’s parking usher every 1st Sunday of the month for the past twenty five years, our awardee retired from the Alabama Department of Environmental Quality after 28-½ years and now runs his own consulting firm. He and his wife Peggy reside in Montgomery, Alabama and have one son, Shep, with a career in accountancy.