## **Charles Stenholm**

Born in Stamford, Texas. Grew up on a farm in Ericksdahl, a Swedish Community nine miles east of Stamford. Graduated from Stamford High School in 1957 where he was active in sports and FFA. Graduated from Tarleton State University in 1959 where he played football and basketball for the Plowboys and was a member of ROTC and FFA. Attended Texas Tech, earning a B.S. and M.S. in agriculture education. Upon graduation, taught vocational agriculture at Avoca High School and began farming with his father on the family farm. Became Executive Vice President of Rolling Plains



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Cotton Growers in 1965. Became General Manager of Stamford Electric Cooperative in 1969. Resigned in 1977 to devote full time to farming.

Elected to Congress in 1978. Served the 32-county 17th District for 13 terms. On House Agriculture Committee, serving as ranking Democrat last eight years in office. Earned a reputation for building bi-partisan alliances on agriculture, energy, budget, rural healthcare, and Social Security. Received Honorary Doctor of Laws Degrees from Abilene Christian University, Hardin Simmons University, and McMurry University. From 2005 to 2016 he served as Senior Policy Advisor for OFW Law in Washington, D.C.

Currently serves on the boards of The Concord Coalition and The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget.

He and his wife of 59 years, Cindy, have 3 children: Chris, Cary, and Courtney; and 4 grandchildren: Cole, Chase, Cameron, and Chandler. Today teaches a class on agriculture and energy policy at Tarleton State University. Home is now Granbury, Texas, where he and Cindy are enjoying semi-retirement, playing a lot of bridge and golf and enjoying the grandchildren. Members of Bethel Lutheran Church of Ericksdahl and Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Granbury.