Dr. William “Bill” R. Wessels

Dr. Wessels earned a BS in engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1970, an MBA in decision sciences from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa in 1975, and a PhD in systems engineering from the University of Alabama in Huntsville in 1996. Dr. Wessels became a registered professional mechanical engineer in 1982 (Pennsylvania), and earned the ASQ reliability engineering certification in 1996.

During his nine years working at the University of Alabama Huntsville (UAH) campus, Dr. Wessels cofounded the Reliability and Failure Analysis Laboratory. While a professor at UAH, he taught ISE 321 (Engineering Economy), ISE 601 (Probability and Statistics for Engineers), and ISE 638 (Engineering Reliability), among other classes. On the "Rate My Professors" website, Dr. Wessels can still be seen as having some of the most outstanding student recommendations of any professor in his department.

In the year 2000, Dr. Wessels was elected Professional of the Year by the Huntsville chapter of the Society of Reliability Engineers (SRE).

Dr. Wessels served in many officer positions over the years for the Huntsville SRE chapter; worthy of special mention is his service as President during the 2003-2005 term.

Dr. Wessels gave many, many presentations to our chapter, some on very short notice to fill in for someone who had cancelled out. His talks were always intelligent, humorous, and full of experience and insight.

Dr. Wessels has written two textbooks. He authored the textbook "Practical Reliability Engineering & Analysis for System Design and Life Cycle Sustainment" (2010), and co-authored "Affordable Reliability Engineering: Life-Cycle Cost Analysis for Sustainability & Logistical Support" (2015) with Daniel Sillivant.