

THE GARY PETERSEN COLLECTION

IMPORTANT UNITED STATES STAMPS

Introduction

BY CHARLES W. DEATON

THIS IS A THREE-GENERATION COLLECTION that was begun in the mid-1930s by Gary Petersen's grandfather, Alexander Petersen, a rural mail carrier in Hereford, Texas, located in Deaf Smith County in the Texas Panhandle. When Alexander started the collection, his 100-mile daily route was the longest rural mail route in the United States. As a young boy, Gary often accompanied his grandfather on Saturday mornings and listened to stories about the U.S. mail and stamps.

Alexander's collection was passed down to his son, Richard, who continued to build the collection. He earned a merit badge for stamp collecting while becoming Deaf Smith County's first Eagle Scout. Finally, sometime around 1960, the collection was passed down to Gary, who went on to build it into one of the most important United States stamp collections ever assembled.

A resident of Houston, Texas, Gary Petersen helped create and is a co-founder and managing partner of EnCap Investments, one of the largest private equity firms in the world for the upstream and midstream sectors of the U.S. oil and gas industry. The firm, with more than \$30 billion of assets under management, is considered the gold standard in the energy private equity space. Prior to forming EnCap in 1988, Gary worked at Republic National Bank of Dallas, specializing in energy finance.

Before entering the business world, he served from 1970 to 1972 in the U.S. Army as an Armor Officer at Ft. Knox, Kentucky, and later in Washington, D.C., as a First Lieutenant in the Finance Corps attached to the Army Security Agency.

Gary currently serves on the boards of several EnCap portfolio companies and is a member of the board of Plains All American, GP. He is a member of the Independent Petroleum Association of America, the Houston Producers' Forum and the Petroleum Club of Houston. Gary is chairman of the Energy Advisory Council of the Dallas Federal Reserve Bank and sits on the Houston branch's board of directors.

Both Gary and his life partner Elizabeth are deeply involved with many of the large charitable institutions in Houston. He is a member and past chairman of Chapelwood United Methodist Church, past chairman of Memorial Hermann Healthcare System Foundation Board, past chairman of the

Council on Alcohol & Drugs in Houston and the Museum of Natural Science. In addition to supporting these organizations, Gary and Elizabeth have contributed to the Legacy Foundation, Navy SEAL Foundation, Hope and Healing Center, and other worthy causes. Gary has been honored with Houston's "Man of Distinction" award, presented in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the community.

Gary is a minority owner and limited partner of the NFL team, Houston Texans, and the MLB team, Houston Astros. He was vice chairman of Super Bowl LI, played in Houston.

Gary has four children—K.C., Christopher, and boy/girl twins, Meyer and Margaux—and three precious grandchildren. Contemplating the sale of his beloved stamp collection, Gary confesses it feels like he is letting go of one of his children, but he takes comfort in knowing that his stamps will bring joy to fellow collectors.



Gary Petersen

It has been my great pleasure to help Gary build this collection. Our paths first crossed 25 or so years ago, and I quickly realized he had a true passion for United States stamps that I have seen matched only a very few times in my career as a stamp dealer. We gradually developed a mutual understanding and respect that led him to choose me to find the rare stamps he still needed.

Over the years, as the blank spaces in his album became fewer and the stamps harder to find, the search became a passion for both of us. When major collections were dispersed, either privately or through auction, we both eagerly looked through the catalogs or dealer offerings to see what treasures could be added to Gary's marvelous collection.

There are 69 stamps in this collection of which fewer than 100 copies are known. There are 20 stamps of which a dozen or fewer copies are known. There are five stamps of which five or fewer copies are known, including the 3¢ B Grill (Scott 82), and the dollar-value State Department and Newspaper Special Printings. All of the major errors and inverted center stamps are here, including the three 1869 Pictorial Inverts, the 1901 Pan-American Inverts in singles and fabulous blocks of four of the 1¢ and 4¢, and the famous 1918 24¢ Inverted Jenny.

We wish the Siegel firm's clients success in their pursuit of the spectacular stamps in this auction.