

## *2021 Ammunition Hall of Fame Inductee*

### **DOUGLAS A. BORGESON**



Mr. Douglas Arthur Borgeson was born on December 14, 1949, in Grafton, North Dakota and was raised in Adams, North Dakota. He graduated from the University of North Dakota with a B.A in business. Mr. Borgeson was proud to have served our country in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War era. He furthered his service to our country as a 30-year civilian employee of the Rock Island Arsenal, working as a Procuring Contracting Officer with the Acquisition Contracting Command – Rock Island. After his retirement, he established BEM Lighthouse, a consulting business.

Mr. Borgeson had a tremendous business acumen and an infectious entrepreneurial spirit. He is credited with implementing business best practices between commercial industry and the Army Organic Base through the form of Public-Private Partnerships and Armament Retooling Manufacturing Support (ARMS) Agreements. His ability to generate revenue greatly benefited the Army with improved Readiness through freeing scarce Army Sustainment funds that could be reallocated to higher Army mission requirements.

In many instances, by 2003 (less than 10 years after the inception of the ARMS Program) the Army was able to reduce and/or eliminate the Total Costs of Army Ownership of several Ammunition centric Government-Owned, Contractor-Operated (GOCO) installations under the command of Armament Munitions and Chemical Command (AMCCOM), Industrial Operations Command (IOC), Operations Support Command (OSC) and now the Joint Munitions Command (JMC). Through the establishment of the ARMS Program, the Army has invested \$294.2M and obtained \$756.1M in actual benefits. That represents a 9.5% annual return on assets since the program was established in 1993 to the last validation study in 2019. In 2019, the ARMS Program realized a return on assets of 28%.

Mr. Borgeson had a true innovative spirit that transformed business practices from the traditional ridged Government contracting practices to new best practices. He left an indelible mark on the Ammunition Organic Industrial Base. The legacy and success of the ARMS Program continues because of his courage, commitment and wisdom that were exhibited by Mr. Borgeson and his colleague partners, Mr. Roger Biehl and Mr. Thomas McGhee.

Unfortunately, Mr. Borgeson passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by his loving family on January 12, 2016, following an extended illness and courageous battle with cancer. Mr. Borgeson is posthumously inducted into the Ammunition Hall of Fame in 2021.