

Dr. Dewey Hodges's Spirit of St. Louis Medal Acceptance

Dr. Hodges gave this brief but moving acceptance when he received the Spirit of St. Louis Medal from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

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It is a great honor to be here and to receive this prestigious award. When I first saw the names of others who had received it in prior years, I was amazed and wondered if perhaps there may have been some mistake that led to my being selected. I extend my heartfelt thanks to those who prepared the nomination package and to the ASME awards committee.



We academics owe much gratitude to our extraordinarily talented graduate students and colleagues, not just for the many hours of technical discussions, but also for that unmistakable synergy that comes from fruitful collaboration.



I could not have been chosen for this award without having stood on the shoulders of a good many giants. I gratefully acknowledge Divine Providence for His having placed me in their proximity over the last 45 years and having given me the privilege of learning from all of them. Finally, I would like to gratefully acknowledge the encouragement of my family – especially my loving wife Margaret, who has put up with me for over 44 years. In addition to being the sunshine of my life, she is the

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mother of our five sons and the grandmother of our 26 grandchildren.