AUTO SAFETY ADVOCATE John "Jack" Simmons Trees (ACAS 1966) 1932-2016

Jack Trees died June 4, 2016, at the age of 84.

He was born in Evanston, Illinois, grew up in Glencoe and was a 1954 graduate of DePauw University. Trees served as a first lieutenant in the Strategic Air Command of the United States Air Force from 1954 to 1957.

Trees next took a position at Allstate Insurance Company, the organization that would become his home. He retired from the company as a group vice president.

Trees became deeply involved in automobile safety, an interest that would lead him to government service. From 1972-1990, Trees was the director of the Highway Loss Data Institute in Washington. President Jimmy Carter appointed him to the National Highway Safety Advisory Commission in 1978. He also served on the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (1987-1990) and Advocates for Auto and Highway Safety (1989-1990).

Trees also volunteered within his community, serving as a member of Illinois's Lake Bluff Board of Appeals from 1971-1978 and the Lake Bluff School Board from 1964-1971.

He is survived by his wife of more than 60 years, Dianne; children, Julie (J.D.) Watumull, Michael Trees, and Nancy Vogt; his sister, Joanne (Phillip) Davis; his grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.