



DR. ROBERT A. ALOST

NDR Hall of Fame Induction: 2 March 1996
NSU Hall of Fame, the Long Purple Line: 2005

Dr. Alost is a native of New Orleans, LA. He commissioned as an Artillery officer in 1957 following graduation from Northwestern State College with a Bachelor of Science degree and completion of Northwestern's ROTC program. He entered active duty in 1958 following an educational delay during which he obtained a Master of Science degree from Northwestern. He served two years on active duty in the Artillery, advancing to the rank of captain.

Upon completion of his military service, Dr. Alost began his career as an educator. He taught mathematics at Alexandria Junior High School, Central High School of Baton Rouge, and Istrouma Junior High School, where he also coached football, basketball, and track.

In 1963, he received his Doctorate in Education from Louisiana State University and returned to Northwestern as a faculty member in the Department of Health and Physical Education. He became the Department Head in 1968 and served in that position until his appointment as the Dean, College of Education, in 1975.

Dr. Alost cofounded the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts, which was the first school of its type nationwide for gifted and talented high school students. In 1982, he was selected its first director.

In 1986, Dr. Alost became President of Northwestern State University and over a 10-year period led the university to an unprecedented period of growth, laying the foundation for future progress in all areas. He retired from Northwestern in 1996.

Dr. Alost held leadership positions in many professional and civic organizations including President of Phi Epsilon Kappa, President of the Louisiana Association for Colleges of Teacher Education, President of the Natchitoches Lions Club, and President of the Natchitoches Chamber of Commerce. He has three sons, Michael, Stan, and Wes.