Billy G. Turner (MSPH 1961):
The ESE Awards Committee is pleased to announce that Billy G. Turner is the recipient of the 2003 Environmental Sciences and Engineering Distinguished Alumnus Award. This award was established in 1995 to recognize former students for their outstanding professional achievements and to provide role models for currently enrolled and future students of ESE. The award provides an open forum for these distinguished alumni to be recognized and to share their expertise and experiences with various university constituents.

Previous recipients of this award are Margaret E. “Peggy” Layne (MSEE 1984), Walter R. Lynn MSEE 1954), David N. McNelis (PhD 1974), Patrick Mulholland (PhD 1979), Ray T. Ogelsby (PhD, 1963), Robert J. Shimp (PhD 1984), Terry Rolan (MSPH 1974) and K. Hosney Mancy (PhD 1963).

Since 1989, Billy G. Turner has served as President of the Columbus (GA) Water Works, which serves more than 60,000 customers. Under Turner’s leadership, major community improvements were made, including an eleven-mile Riverwalk, several park areas and a nationally recognized advanced demonstration of wet weather treatment technology. Turner has held a variety of leadership positions in numerous professional organizations. He served as president of the Water Environment Federation (WEF) from 1996-1997, and contributed years of committee and board service with the American Water Works Association (AWWA). Turner was named honorary member of the AWWA in 1998. Indicative of Turner's committed involvement in his community, he was chosen by United Way Special Selection Committee to carry the Olympic Torch in Columbus, Georgia on the 77th Day of the run from Greece to Atlanta for the 1996 Olympic Games.