

DOBBS CORPORATION, INC.

During the 1960s, a little girl tagged along with her dad as he went about his business. She rode along on sales calls, went to the shop with him, and hung back listening to him talk with customers, farmers, and potential distributors. She grew up watching a hard-working, dedicated family man start a business from the ground up. She watched him personally see to it that every customer was satisfied. Today, Debbie, that little girl, is now owner-operator of the company her father L. R. Dobbs founded those many years ago. Debbie holds the memory of her father and her mother Doris Dobbs close to her every day that she enters the offices at Dobbs Corporation, Inc.



Above: L. R. and Doris Dobbs.

Right: L. R. Dobbs, Doris Dobbs, and Debbie Green.

The company was started by L. R. Dobbs in 1960 when as a farmer in the Muleshoe, Texas, area; he sought a solution to his irrigation problems. Irrigating out of tail-water pits and other surface water sources was problematic because most pumping equipment pulled mud and sludge from the bottom of bodies of water. The foreign matter in irrigation water plugged pumps and caused equipment malfunctions. He set out to correct the problem and invented the Dobbs Floating Pump. Since 1960, pumping surface water has been the business of the Dobbs family. The early days were filled with hard work and sacrifice; Dobbs traveled all over the country selling his floating pumps and looking for dealers to distribute them. All the while, Doris worked along side him, keeping the home, working at the business, and

keeping the books. Sales were accomplished the old fashioned way; personal calls and traveling many miles on roads all over the country built the business before the Internet.

L. R. and Doris both have passed away, but their legacy lives on. Dobbs Floating Pumps are sold all over the United States and in other countries. The Dobbs family is amazed that the little company founded over fifty years ago in the Texas Panhandle has grown into the successful company of today. They are still hands-on family operators; they want to ensure that their customers receive the same level of service as they did from L. R. throughout his lifetime. Because she appreciates her parents' legacy, Debbie raised her children in the business and they continue to work with her today. Debbie and her children, Tiffany and Lance all started at the bottom with the most menial of jobs, worked their way up, and have achieved college degrees. In addition to family members, their key employees are long-term and experienced, which ensures continuity in quality control. Other employees have been West Texas A&M students through the years; many Texas Panhandle professional residents with college degrees got their early employment experience working part-time at Dobbs Corporation.



Today, Dobbs Corporation still primarily manufactures and sells floating surface water pumps. Although the marketing has been modernized, in many ways the company remains the same as it did in the early days. Every pump is still hand-built in their facility west of Canyon, Texas. Every pump is

individually machined in-house and hand tested under actual load conditions for function and quality before delivery. Each pump is custom built for each customer's specific application. That specificity is the baseline for how voltage, amperage, gallons per minute, and PSI are monitored. Dobbs Floating Pumps are built to meet and exceed each customer's desired expectations. A record is on file for every customer and every pump ever built by the Dobbs in the fifty year plus history of the company. There are many instances of pumps from the 1960s still being in service today.

The centrifugal pumps range from five horsepower to seventy-five horsepower and are available in single phase or three phase power. Capacity ranges from 300 gallons per minute to 2,300 gallons per minute. They sell replacement parts, discharge hose, control panels, water resistant SO Cable, mooring systems, and self-cleaning screens. Additionally, Dobbs manufactures their own custom Styrofoam flotation devices specifically designed for their pumps. UV resistant plastic floats are available also.

The Dobbs product line has evolved from the first humble floating surface water pump designed for farm irrigation and dewatering. The Dobbs family, through ingenuity and a knack for invention now offers floating aerators/evaporators and fountains. Dobbs Pumps and other products are now used by feedlots, hog farms, dairies, waste water treatment facilities, and golf courses. Sand and gravel companies use them in quarry operations and large mines use them in dewatering processes.

The limitless uses of their floating pumps has enabled them to prevent or minimize damages in floods from torrential rains, rivers, hurricanes, and other instances of rising water. Entire fields of crops, homes, and neighborhoods have been saved by Dobbs Floating Pumps.

The Dobbs family appreciates the heritage they received from L. R. and Doris. Their model of hard work, integrity, and quality customer service has brought years of word of mouth and repeat business. The most treasured principle handed down by L. R. and Doris is that family is always first and operating a family business is a priceless privilege. Debbie the "tag along girl" believes the best way to honor her parents is to continue the legacy with the same dedication and integrity as her parents did on that journey from a farm in Muleshoe, Texas, to the successful Dobbs Corporation of today.



Clockwise, starting from the top:

A close-up of a pump.

An industrial pump.

An agricultural pump.

