



**Human
Factors
and
Ergonomics
Society**

FELLOW PROFILE

Name: John B. Shafer

**Degrees, certifications,
etc.:** BSEE
MS & PhD Exp. Psych.
CHFP

Current status: Retired

Biography (How you got involved in the field, your major career activities and milestones):

When I began working at IBM-Owego in the late 50s Corwin Bennet (HFES Fellow) introduced me to Human Factors Engineering. Over the decades I have contributed to Human System Interfaces for submarines, surface vehicles, aircraft, and space as well as IBM commercial systems. They were all enjoyable technical challenges and each one taught me something new. This breath of experience provided me with the opportunity to work with Al Chapanis in developing a series of seminars introducing HF to Systems Engineers.

Employment History (List top 5 positions):

IBM – Owego HF Engineer 1958 – 1991
Senior HF consultant 1992 - Present

What were your significant contributions to the field?

EiD Editor for 6 years
Introducing literally thousands of systems engineers to Human Factors.

Did you receive any notable awards or recognition during your career?

IBM Outstanding Contribution Award for upgrading corporate wide the IBM Usability capability.

Which articles in the journal *Human Factors* would you say were the most influential to you and your research or practice?

1- Articles that gave support to Mil-Std 1472 guidelines.
2- Articles that described various forms of Task Analysis (Functional Flows, Mission Analysis, Error Analysis, Link Analysis, Time lines, Operational Sequence Diagrams, Workload Analysis)

What advice would you give someone considering HF/E as a profession?

Never let your work quality suffer as a result of an unrealistic schedule. Quality remains when schedules are long forgotten.

