Forrest Robert Hanvey, Jr. was born in San Diego, California in 1933. He attended the Army Navy Academy in Carlsbad, California and then went on to study at Caltech. After winning a place at the U.S. Naval Academy he finished his undergraduate studies there, standing first in his class. Following his graduation, he obtained a master’s degree in aerospace engineering at MIT.

Mr. Hanvey flew a missile backward toward land at Cape Canaveral to prove his work on inertial guidance systems, terrifying the safety officer. He received special commendation for his groundbreaking work in inertial guidance systems which was instrumental in proving, through testing, the stellar-aided inertial guidance concept employed in the U.S. Navy first line of defense.

Later he became a Vice President both at Western Union and Citicorp.

Retiring to Southern Maryland, he wanted to become a “retired country gentleman” and raise Paulownia trees, but was persuaded to become a teacher, designing and teaching Computer Assisted Design courses.

Mr. Hanvey has been a school board chair, a National Education Association local president and the Calvert County Teacher of the Year.

He has four children and seven grandchildren. Following his first wife’s death, he remarried and now lives in Northern Virginia.

He continues to be an avid reader and learner, especially in the fields of science.