

# *Irvine Leonard*

**(Awarded Posthumously)**



Irvine, a Tallahassee native, graduated from Leon High School. After his service in the U.S. Army, he enrolled in the Plumbers and Pipefitters Apprenticeship program where he received his journeyman license. After 15 years of working on construction projects, he became the Business Manager of the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local #592.

While serving as the Business Manager, he was an active board member on the Big Bend Jobs Education Council (BBJEC) Board (the predecessor to Career Source) overseeing all WIA and Welfare to Work Program activities for Gadsden, Leon, and Wakulla Counties.

After two years of retirement, Irvine became a construction/trades instructor at TCC's Division of Workforce Development where he taught for 10 years, becoming the lead instructor for the TCC Welding Program. Irvine was instrumental in the growth of the welding program, helping to make it what it is today. He inspired and mentored his students, preparing them for the world of work and creating opportunities that were life-changing.