Mr. Walter Woodrow "Woody" Brooking Jr. served as a volunteer firefighter with Arlington and Henrico Counties from 1961 to 1968. Mr. Brooking was a professional firefighter for Henrico County from 1968 to 1973 serving in suppression, inspections and investigations. He was with the Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office from 1973 to 1998 and served as the Associate Director of the Virginia Fire Prevention Clinic from 1973 to 1987. Woody also served on the committees to establish the Statewide Fire Prevention Code and Certification Processes for both fire inspectors and investigators. Woody also served on the following committees: Virginia Fire Safety Education, Toxic Substance Advisory Council, Space Heater Safety Coalition, Virginia Explosives Code and Federal Explosives Taggat Committee.

Woody was involved and conducted the Virginia Investigation of the "Omega" sprinklers heads, which lead to the nationwide recall by the CPSC. Woody has held memberships with the Virginia Fire Prevention Association, Virginia State Fire Chief's Association, Virginia Fire Service Instructor's Association, BOCA, VBCOA, International Society of Explosives Engineers, and International Electrical Inspectors Association.

Mr. Brooking was awarded “Life Membership” in May, 2001 for his dedication and service to the VFPA and the Commonwealths Fire Service and Code Enforcement Communities.

Woody is now 76 (as of 10/2017). While he is not able to get around to well, he certainly misses all of the Brothers and Sisters of the fire service!