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Ervin G. Otvos served as the head of the Geology section at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory from 1970 until 2006. Although retired, Dr. Otvos, now Professor Emeritus, continues to teach the marine geology portion of Coastal Processes I every year to a new group of Coastal Sciences graduate students and to publish in the field of marine geology. Having spent much of his professional life researching the geological development and migration of the northern Gulf of Mexico barrier islands and delta relics, he has witnessed the impact of hurricanes and tropical storms on these islands, as well as human changes on these features and resulting effects on the mainland coast and the Mississippi Sound.