Wayne Van Leer Jones died in Houston, Texas, on June 29, 1996, shortly after he celebrated his 94th birthday. Wayne was born on June 18, 1902, in Chicago, Illinois, and attended the public schools there. In 1923 he graduated cum laude from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, with an A.B. degree in physics. While at Northwestern, he joined Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) fraternity; was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, honorary scholastic fraternity; and was an associate member of Sigma Xi, honorary scientific fraternity.

After graduation from Northwestern, Wayne was employed by Mission Oil Company. He resigned from his position as chief auditor in December 1928 to go into business with his father under the firm name of F. E. Jones and Son, which did not survive the depression. He later worked for Tidewater Oil Company, serving as chief geologist for the Mid-Continent Division. In 1953 he became exploration vice president for Union Sulphur and Oil Corporation (later Union Texas Natural Gas Corporation and Union Texas Petroleum) and advanced to senior vice president in 1959, a position he held until his retirement in 1963.

Wayne belonged to numerous professional organizations, including the Houston Geological Society and AAPG. Between 1945 and when he retired in 1963, he served on several committees and commissions besides writing numerous articles published in the *AAPG Bulletin* and by the Bureau of Economic Geology, Austin, Texas. His son, Wayne V. Jones II, who preceded him in death, was also a member of the Houston Geological Society and AAPG.

While attending Northwestern University, Wayne met Elizabeth Rieke and they were married in Chicago on January 14, 1926. Their son, Wayne V. Jones II, was born in 1932. They moved to Houston in 1934. In January 1996 they celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. Wayne and Elizabeth were patrons of the arts in Houston over the years and supported, among other things, the Houston Opera, Symphony, Art Museum, Natural History Museum, Alley Theatre, and Jones Hall.

In 1965, Wayne was named Northwestern's alumni Regent for Texas, and in 1975, his status was changed to that of Life Regent. His service to Northwestern was further recognized in 1968 when he received an Alumni Service Award, one of the highest honors the University awards to alumni for university service. He and his wife, Elizabeth, and son, Wayne II, were also members of the John Evans Club, the University's highest philanthropic organization, and the Library Council of Northwestern University. On April 17, 1996, he became the first recipient of the SAE Illinois Psi Omega Wall of Fame Award.

Wayne was a widely known expert and writer in the field of genealogy. He was also a member of the genealogical societies of Illinois, New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Texas, the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, and the Society of Genealogist (London, England). In addition, he was a member of the national and Texas societies of the Sons of the American Revolution. Wayne had just finished writing the third of eight genealogy books he had planned to write about his ancestors.