



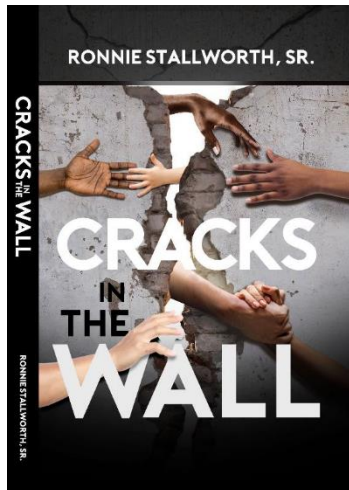
Ronnie Stallworth Sr. is Senior Director of Strategy & Business Development for Hargrove Engineers & Constructors and author of the book *Cracks in the Wall*. He has over 38 years of experience in multiple industries, including chemicals, petrochemicals, oil & gas, and refining.

Ronnie is passionate about building strong and lasting relationships. His perseverance and drive for continuous improvement enabled him to progress from a non-degreed plant operator, to roles with greater responsibility leading engineering, technical services, global product marketing, general management, and VP of Integrated Supply Chain for Honeywell, a Fortune 100 company.

Ronnie primarily has a servant leadership style, with a strong passion for community service. He currently holds key roles on numerous committees and Boards, including President of the University of South Alabama National Alumni Association, Board of Directors for ACCEL Academy, and Board of Directors for the Mobile Museum of Art.

Born in Alabama and a homeless teen during a portion of his high school years, Ronnie has traveled to and/or worked in over 70 different countries. He holds a BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of South Alabama and an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He established the Ronnie Stallworth Chemical Engineering Scholarship endowment and seeded other scholarships at the University of South Alabama.

Ronnie has two sons and three grandchildren.



In life, we all face certain barriers to success. These barriers are walls that stand between us and our next level of growth. His father taught him that, if we look hard enough, we will see that there are always cracks (weak points) in the wall. The goal is to persist in finding those cracks in the wall and pressing our way through them.

We can't accept the notion that a wall has no cracks. Nor can we make excuses or blame others for the walls. We must make every effort to breach them.

Ronnie has carried this advice in his heart for his entire life. Throughout his journey, he learned more about these walls, and the people on either side of them.

On one side of the wall, there are *Hidden Gems*. Underprivileged, disadvantaged individuals, facing tough situations with tenacity and perseverance but obscured by their circumstances or the preconceived stigma surrounding it.

On the other side of the wall, there are *Gem Seekers*, successful individuals that are blessed with the ability to dig deeper and seek out the potential that lies beyond the surface of these Hidden Gems' perceived lack of aptitude, in part, due to their impoverished circumstances.

The walls can appear overwhelming with oppressive forces. But thank goodness these walls are not insurmountable; there are always cracks in the wall.

This is an uplifting, motivational and inspirational book by a Hidden Gem who was raised by an elderly father in the South and became a Gem Seeker.

Ronnie overcame extreme poverty, illiteracy until the age of 13, and homelessness his senior year of high school, to achieve success as an engineer, vice president of a Fortune 100 company and philanthropist.

The lessons in this book are cross-racial, cross-generational, and are relevant to both ends of the socio-economic spectrum with its simple, powerful message:

We must reach through the Cracks in the Walls that divide us!