



Historical Achievements

Valley of the Giants—

Ronald J. Versic, Ph.D

Submitted by George Pierce

Amongst the “giant redwood trees” of industry in this region is another kind of “forest;” it’s vast, vibrant, and tenacious. These are the companies that really make the economic infrastructure work: they create the most new jobs; they give birth to the best new technologies; and they are the nexus of the undaunting American dream. Some people would call these companies “small businesses,” but there is absolutely nothing “small” about being in business.

One such company, which has set sail upon the marketplace for almost 20 years, is the Ronald T. Dodge Company (RTDC) in Centerville, Ohio. At her helm is Dr. Ronald J. Versic, Ph.D.; founder, president and technical expert. As Ron has stated before, the Ronald T. Dodge Company is quite a secret in the Dayton area because most of our customers are out-of-state and international.

Ron has exemplified the true entrepreneur; from the ground up, he has built a specialized market in value-added chemical products. RTDC’s micro-encapsulation products enter most American households in the form of pharmaceuticals, personal care products, adhesives, printing industry, fragrance, advertising, or sporting goods. They also conduct research and development for hundreds of other customers in encapsulation applications.

Ron has received six U.S. patents in the area of microencapsulation. As one would expect, he con-

tinues to improve the state of the art, and more patents are sure to be in his future.

Ron was born in 1942, in Dayton. He graduated from the University of Dayton with a bachelor’s in physics. He went on to John Hopkins University for his master’s degree, and earned a doctorate in materials engineering from Ohio State University in 1969. His accomplishments in service and professional organizations are lengthy and estimable.

One group linked particularly close to Ron is the Inventors Council of Dayton. It was co-founded by Ron, Bob Perchak, and Conrad Phillippi in 1982. Ron was its president during the early years. He dedicated tremendous energy to helping early stage entrepreneurs and inventors find their way into the business process. What he set in motion has laid the foundation for America’s largest group of organized inventors. The Inventors Council now operates nine chapters in four states, and the membership has grown to over 2,300. It is a tribute to Ron that the Inventors Council helps people get started into business, and, to-date, over 160 companies have been initiated from within this group.

Ron has been a member of the Engineers Club since 1979. His inclusion into the “Valley of the Giants” is well-deserved for he has been—and continues to be—a benefactor to community and faith, employees and customers, profession, and students of all ages.

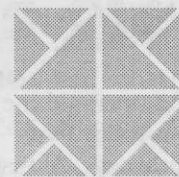


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