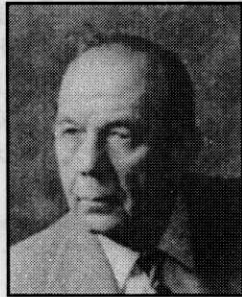



**HISTORICAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

# Valley of the Giants— Harry F. Gaeke (1923 - 1997)

Harry F. Gaeke was an active member of the Dayton Engineers Club for 38 years, and passed away recently on October 2.

A Dayton native, Harry attended St. Anthony and Chaminade-Julienne schools, and graduated from the University of Dayton with a degree in Civil Engineering (he was also a recipient of the Harry F. Fink Award in Engineering). He taught Hydraulic Engineering classes at U.D., and worked for the Dayton Water Department for several years before joining the Charles Shook Inc. company in 1950.



*Harry F. Gaeke  
1923-1997*

Harry was a WWII Air Force veteran, having flown 24 bombing missions in the Pacific area, and attaining the rank of Captain. He continued to hold his pilot's license and fly private planes.

In 1961, along with three others, he purchased the Shook company, becoming Chief Executive Officer in 1966, and Chairman of the Board in 1986. Largely under his direction, the company was responsible for accomplishing many outstanding construction projects, mainly in the field of hydraulics, such as the Lake Mississinewa Dam near Wabash, Indiana and the hydraulic dam and Grissom

AF Base at Peru, Indiana, plus work on many city water and wastewater plants. The company constructed many plant additions for companies such as General Motors, Armco, Dayton Convention Center, International Airport, and for Kettering, Samaritan and Middletown hospitals.

Harry was a former president of Associate General Contractors of Ohio, a founding member of Ascension Catholic Parish in Kettering, member of the Board of Zoning Appeals, Toastmasters Club, International, Dayton Flying Club, Air Force Memorial Foundation and the Caterpillar Club.

He is survived by two sons, Rev. Thomas M. of Dayton, and Dr. Richard F. of Middletown, and by two brothers, two sisters and three grandsons.

One of Harry F. Gaeke's goals was to insure that his company ownership was retained by its key employees. His strategic planning included financial provisions for the company to maintain its present workload and continue future growth in his absence.

It is engineers like Harry Gaeke that have made this Miami Valley what it is today—the Valley of the Giants!

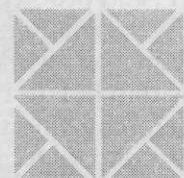
If you would like to make a donation in Harry's name to The Engineers Club of Dayton Foundation, please call. We will list all contributors in the future.

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