



## VALLEY OF THE GIANTS



**ROBERT W. HULLER**

Robert W. Huller was born in 1916, in Cincinnati, where his father worked as blacksmith for Bode-Finn, Inc. After the sixth grade, he chose to enter a Vocational Jr. High School, where he learned basic shop mechanics and design. He left school at 16, and joined his father in the plant of Bode-Finn, where he had worked part time, while in vocational school.

Bode-Finn, Inc. manufactured custom truck bodies for a variety of customers, and

young Huller worked in every phase of such production, including design, and at age 18, was both designer and purchasing agent. Then, the Company decided to concentrate on representing several major product firms, and Bob became manager of sales in Tennessee and Kentucky. Bob left Bode-Finn in 1938, and joined Dayton's Superior Auto, Inc., as a designer of various new truck bodies for the refrigerated food industry, utility trucks for Dayton Power & Light Co., and for miscellaneous industries. The Company also, did extensive general automotive repair. Bob fondly remembers discussing automotive repairs with Orville Wright, and promptly supervised the work required on Orville's car.

During World War II, Superior Auto built a large number of very special Air Force truck bodies and trailers, including derricks for drilling holes and setting poles, as well as the so-called "cherry pickers" with compressors, beams and baskets designed for the ultimate in safety, for use in construction of power and telephone lines.

Bob had married his Cincinnati girl friend, Margaret, in 1938, when he moved into the Dayton Area, and he gives her much credit for the encouragement and assistance given him over the years. He decided to sell Superior Auto, which he did, in 1984, and to devote retirement to the enjoyment of life with

Margaret in traveling, upgrading their lovely home at 2110 W. Alexandersville-Bellbrook Rd., and pursuing their hobbies in photography, video, etc., as well as to enjoy their memberships in various organizations, including the Society of Automotive Engineers (since 1948) and the Engineers Club (since 1975). Bob is also a member of the Club's recently-formed "Barn Gang", before which, he made an excellent presentation on October 5th, this year.

Like many of the outstanding successful entrepreneurs of our great Miami Valley, Robert Huller has proved, again, that a dedicated person can, without extensive formal education, but with vision, ambition, dedication, good judgement and proper effort, accomplish unbelievable goals of value to one's self, family and community. He has rightfully earned a place for his name among the others listed in our VALLEY OF THE GIANTS!

### NOTE:

In last month's VALLEY OF THE GIANTS honoring Alan Watton, an error was made in the first sentence. Alan joined the Club in 1944 - not 1994! He becomes a 50-year Member in 1994!