

## VALLEY OF THE GIANTS

"When I want to understand what is happening today or try to decide what will happen tomorrow, I LOOK BACK."

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

## GENE FOLKERTH PRESIDENT

Gene Folkerth Associates

This distinguished business leader has made a vital and unique contribution to the development of the Miami Valley as a leading region in high technology. He has integrated the disciplines of engineering management, engineering consultant services, and technical personnel selection and acquisition into a business concept that optimizes the high technology process.

Gene Folkerth holds a degree in Industrial Management from Miami University. He is also a graduate of the Dale Carnegie program in Salesmanship. He is a member of the Dayton Association of Personnel Consultants, Ohio Association of Personnel Consultants, member PRO/NET (Nationwide Network Personnel Consultants), and the American Defense Preparedness Association.

He was a co-founder of Continental Consultants Incorporated (CCI), a leading engineering service company in the Dayton area. This highly respected organization provided contract engineering services in product design, tool and machine design, and manufacturing engineering process. Client base included General Electric, NCR, Mead, KitchenAid, Monsanto Mound Labs, NASA, Navy, General Motors, Cooper Industries, and Union Carbide Nuclear. The significance of this work is reflected in over 15 patents which were issued in machine tool design, automotive, and petroleum equipment. In addition, CCI published numerous technical papers in engineering professional iournals.

This type of broad and fundamental experience over the past thirty-four years created the need to develop a process which could identify highly experienced personnel in a timely manner and properly match their unique skills to cutting edge technology activities. The capability to achieve this objective was one of the key elements in the success of CCI in the engineering profession. In 1988 Gene sold CCI to the largest technical service firm in the United States, CDI Corporation.

Gene has now concentrated his efforts exclusively on the technical personnel search and acquisition process which is vital to the creation and expansion of the high technology activities in the Dayton area. His efforts provide a primary contribution to the broad technology initiative which were so precisely detailed in the recently completed CHALLENGE 95 (C95) planning study. The identified C95 high technology programs cannot be accomplished unless the properly trained personnel are available in a matched time sequence to the initiation of the work. Gene is one of the very few individuals in this area who has the background training, experience, motivation, and an organization to provide these required personnel. He is, in fact, slightly ahead of the C95 effort since he can at this writing find and procure the required personnel in the areas of engineering management, technical personnel, and trained supporting personnel. This is a significant benefit to the C95 efforts since the matter of staffing a major new initiative is not a matter of major concern. The Miami Valley can quickly move forward in the high technology area because of the leadership and experience of Gene Folkerth.

Gene is a quiet and dedicated leader to the economic development of this area. He has a constant long-term view of technical development programs and a fully qualified personnel process which brings these technical objectives to successful completion. His contributions to technical achievements in Dayton are well documented through the years. He without question stands with the other recognized leaders in this community.