



HISTORICAL ACHIEVEMENTS

VALLEY OF THE GIANTS



RICHARD W. KIMMEL

Richard W. Kimmel is an honored 50-Year Member of the Engineers Club, having joined in 1942, and having continued actively in the Club since graduation with a Mechanical Engineering Degree from Purdue University.

Born in Utica, New York in 1920, his parents moved back to Dayton in 1922. He attended Harman Avenue grade school, and graduated from Oakwood High School in 1938.

Dick had enlisted in the U.S. Navy, and upon graduation from Purdue, was sent to the Naval Academy Post Graduate School, where he enrolled in a course in Naval Architecture. Upon completion of this course, he spent the

next two years in the South Pacific with an amphibious repair base, with specific duties in handling and maintaining towable dry docks.

Following WWII, Dick returned to Dayton, but decided against joining his father's business, Ready Mixed Corporation, and elected to accept a position as a Design and Sales Engineer with Refrigeration Equipment Company of Dayton, for he had a special interest in both design and construction, particularly in the air conditioning field. With his employer and close friend, Myron J. (Bud) Witt, they designed, sold and installed many major air conditioning systems, and in such places as most of General Motors Plants, Crowel-Collier plant (Springfield), and the Biltmore Hotel. It was during his association with Refrigeration Equipment that he met Dick Budde, of Budde Sheet Metal Company. Kimmel purchased the business of Budde's father-in-law, the Silver Electric Company.

For the next eight years, Silver Electric designed and installed electrical systems in recreational facilities, schools, stores and many commercial buildings, following which, Mr. Kimmel decided to close his electrical contracting business in 1961, and to devote his full time to designing complete mechanical and electrical systems to be used in the construction of new and improved construction.

As his new business began to grow, he saw the need for expansion, so, together with a long-time friend, Fred C. Meyer, they formed a partnership known as "Kimmel-Meyer and Associates" to work with Architects in the design of mechanical and electrical systems for new and re-mod-

eled buildings. This partnership continued until October, 1992, when Kimmel retired after 30 years of this fine partnership. Some of the notable projects that were designed included L. M. Berry & Company Office Buildings throughout the Country; library, dormitories and classroom facilities at Cedarville College; remodeling of several buildings at the University of Dayton; remodeling at Inland Manufacturing Division; swimming pools in Dayton, Kettering and Moraine.

Dick Kimmel has worked with most of the major architectural firms throughout the Miami Valley during the period from 1961 through 1992.

Kimmel has been a long-time member of the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Engineers, a 30-year member of Dayton Rotary Club (President, in late 40's), long-time member of Masonic Lodge and 30-year member of Dayton Country Club. Since retirement, Dick has been enjoying his Club associations, (including his participation in the Engineers Club's Barn Gang), and in traveling about the country.

Dick's wife, Dama, passed away in 1990. He has one son, Richard, Jr., one daughter, Jenet K. Lutz, plus three grandsons.

We welcome Richard W. Kimmel's name to the roster of those we like to see remembered in our VALLEY of the GIANTS!

