



## Valley of the Giants

Gerald H. Leland 1923 – 1997



erald H. Leland
passed away recently
(on December 10,
1997), in Sun City West,
Arizona. He was the son of
George H. Leland, founder
and former chief executive
officer of both Leland
Electric and Ledex
Corporations. Gerald had
been the CEO of Ledex for
25 years, prior to his retirement in 1984.

Gerald was educated in

Dayton public schools, plus the Universities of Ohio and Dayton. He was a veteran of World War II, serving as a B-17 bomber pilot in Europe, and flying 37 missions without injury to himself or to any of his fellow crew members.

Upon returning to Dayton in 1948, and with industry endeavoring to revive its pre-war activities, Gerald accepted an offer by his father to join him and brother Harold in the G. H. Leland Corp. (which later became Ledex Inc.). Ledex

manufactures of electro-mechanical devices, as well as rotary solenoids, for major industries throughout the world. Gerald was named CEO in 1958, in which capacity he served until his retirement in 1984 (two years after Ledex was acquired by the British company, Lucas Industries).

Gerald continued his interest as a pilot, and flew his Beech aircrafts for many years. He was active with the National Aviation Hall of Fame, a member of the board of First Federal Savings (1966 – 79), and a member of the Engineers Club of Dayton, 1949 – 97 (brother Harold is a 50-year member).

Gerald H. Leland will long be remembered as a man of integrity, committed to developing high-quality, wellengineered products, and to creating a workplace where one could work safely, with pride, confidence, and mutual respect.

He is survived by his wife Helen, son Jeff, daughter Pam, brother Harold, sisters Ocie, Virginia and Margaret, and by four grandchildren and a great grandson.

As with his father, George Leland, the name of Gerald H. Leland is hereby entered with pride—on the roll of our treasured Valley of the Giants!

For 12 years the Dayton Engineer has published Valley of the Giants, describing 80 of the Dayton area's outstanding engineers and scientists who have been associated with the Engineers Club. In order that newer Club members have the opportunity to read about the "Giants," our library now has a book containing each of their stories. Listings are alphabetical and are followed by the date the column appeared in The Engineer. (see p. 5 for listings) Valley of the Giants will continue to be published monthly, and we will put the additions in the library. We also plan to consolidate the fascinating I Was There series.



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