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Herbert W. Vanden Brul
ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARD

—
2018

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SAUNDERS
College of BUSINESS



Herbert W. Vanden Brul Entrepreneurial Award Recipient



John "Dutch" Summers

CEO, Jasco/Graywood Companies

John "Dutch" Summers epitomizes the entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to community that built and sustains Greater Rochester. As a young man, Dutch was the third employee in a small tool and die business started by his father. That company over the years grew to include more than 50 businesses in 13 states and 9 countries. Some, having reached such personal and financial success, might opt to relax and enjoy the fruits of their labor -not Dutch Summers!

He continues to be actively involved in the business, while sharing his financial success, considerable business knowledge, and wide ranging interests with a variety of community and philanthropic projects.

Much of the motivation for his community engagement can be summed up by the simple quote - attributed to Michelangelo - which is prominently displayed on his desk.

"I am still learning," it reads- a philosophy that Dutch applies to his daily life and community activities.

Over the past few years, much of his philanthropy has been focused on education. His interest in improving the educational outcomes of our schools, colleges and universities remains a priority. When talking about our community young people, he says, "I am not only interested in having students graduate, I want to have them become good citizens."

Recipients of his philanthropy must be willing to measure their results, show their effectiveness, be willing to implement best operational practices and demonstrate accountability. He wants to have an impact!

HERBERT W. VANDEN BRUL



Following his military service and earning a juris doctor degree from St. John's School of Law, Rochester native Herbert W. Vanden Brul returned to his hometown in 1951 to begin his new career practicing law.

An entrepreneurial visionary in Rochester, Mr. Vanden Brul co-founded several business ventures in the region. One of his most successful, RF Communications, Inc., has since become a division of Harris Corporation. Another, the Culver Management Corporation, acquired nearly one million square feet of local industrial space to become the home of many small start-up companies who have improved the local economic climate.

Until his death in 2003, Mr. Vanden Brul continued to pursue his business interests. He served on the boards of Ormec Systems, Inc., and the Genesee Valley Trust Company, Inc., and was active in the cultural and educational life of the Rochester community. Mr. Vanden Brul and his wife Joan, who passed away in 2007, had a long association with RIT and were active members of the Nathaniel Rochester Society. Their two sons attended RIT.

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Herbert W. Vanden Brul Entrepreneurial Award was created in 1984 through an endowment fund established by Mr. Vanden Brul in conjunction with RIT's Saunders College of Business. The award is presented annually to an individual or business that has improved the economic life of greater Rochester or whose innovative management skills have changed the course of an existing business. The award recipient is selected by a committee of area civic and business leaders and RIT faculty. Saunders College is excited that the Herbert W. Vanden Brul Award symbolizes the links that join RIT and the Rochester Business community.