THE POWER OF GIVING

Celebrating the Rowan Gift
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DECEMBER 13, 2012

WELCOME

Dr. Ali Houshmand

President

VIDEO TRIBUTE TO
HENRY M. ROWAN

GREETINGS

Linda Rohrer

Chairman, Rowan University Board of Trustees
Trusted, William G. Rohrer Charitable Foundation

“What Would You Do With $100 Million?”

Dr. Philip Tumminia

Former Executive Vice President, University Advancement
and Former Executive Director, Rowan University Foundation

THE HENRY M. ROWAN LEGACY

Virginia Rowan Smith

Member, Rowan University Board of Trustees

UNVEILING OF
HENRY M. ROWAN SCULPTURE

Savitz Hall Patio

RECEPTION
He started building a new type of industrial furnace in his basement and backyard. He went on to found a multinational company that dominates its market.

Henry Rowan started his business in Pennsylvania in 1953 and moved it to New Jersey in 1955. Driven by commitment to quality and integrity, he determined to do things better, faster and more efficiently and economically than established companies—some for which he once worked and all that would become his rivals. When he became CEO, chief engineer and half-owner of Inductotherm, he was just shy of 31. He defied his competitors’ assumptions and exceeded his customers’ requirements. He pushed conventional technological boundaries and pushed himself not to accept limits imposed by others.

Today, Rancocas, N.J.-based Inductotherm Corp. is the worldwide leader in induction technology, building induction systems for virtually all metals. The firm has built more than 28,000 melting and pouring systems installed in 123 countries, which account for about half of the induction melting installations in use in the world today. Manufacturers choose Inductotherm furnaces to melt metal for products such as agricultural machinery, pots and pans, airplane parts, golf clubs and fine jewelry. The small business that Henry Rowan started has grown into a giant, with 21 manufacturing facilities, an additional 43 sales and service locations and 33 representatives around the world in 47 countries.
From the beginning, Inductotherm has been synonymous with innovation, efficiency and exceptional customer service.
When he enlisted in the Army Air Corps and trained as a World War II bomber pilot, Henry Rowan didn’t know his skill as an airman would give him a great advantage as a businessman. In the competitive industrial market, he built a strong reputation for customer service with the ability to quickly reach clients in the U.S. and beyond.
When Henry and the late Betty Rowan announced in 1992 that they were establishing a $100 million endowment at then-Glassboro State College, the world noticed. No individual, no family, no company, no foundation had ever committed such a large sum to a public institution of higher education.

The Rowans wanted to make a difference and they believed they could best do that at the small southern New Jersey school with a long history of educating teachers and a good reputation in many other fields. With its worldwide headquarters in Burlington County, Inductotherm drew its local employee base from New Jersey and Henry Rowan wanted to invest in the people and place that had made so much possible for his business. The couple had just one vital request about how a portion of their gift should be used: to create a game-changing College of Engineering.

The school did that, and in the 20 years since the Rowan gift it has done much more: it became a university with research status, earned prestigious accreditations and national rankings, opened the South Jersey Technology Park, partnered on the $300 million Rowan Boulevard redevelopment project and opened Cooper Medical School of Rowan University. The University plans to create a College of Biomedical Sciences in Camden in collaboration with Rutgers-Camden and in 2013 will integrate the School of Osteopathic Medicine (Stratford).

Approaching its 90th anniversary, Rowan University is a model of academic leadership and public service—and a testament to the extraordinary vision and generosity of the Rowans, which have inspired others to invest millions more in private giving to the institution.
The July 6, 1992, announcement of the Rowan gift surprised the jubilant campus community and national philanthropy circles, making headlines around the world.
Henry Rowan was an avid participant in developing the design of the building that would bear his name and the engineering school that would attract some of the country’s brightest faculty and students.
Not one for public attention, Mr. Rowan has made it a point to meet students on campus, especially those in the engineering program and those who benefited from scholarships he established.
Mr. Rowan's visits to campus have included the celebration of university status in 1997, at which he stood in as the period punctuating the R. in R.U.
**Born in 1923 in Ridgewood,** Henry Rowan was a novice entrepreneur at the age of nine who learned accounting principles and the economies of scale with egg-laying hens. His mother taught her children about the world through concerts and art museums (which young Henry found boring) and about history and science (which fascinated him).

As a young man, he began a dual degree program at Williams College and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, then enlisted in the Army Air Corps during World War II. In 1944 he earned his aviator’s wings and a commission as second lieutenant. Qualified to pilot the B-17 Flying Fortress in 1945, he was grateful for the end of the war but disappointed to have missed the challenge of combat flying.

Henry returned to MIT to earn a degree in electrical engineering, which he used as he began to develop Inductotherm and its innovative technologies. Married and raising their family, Henry and Betty Rowan lived in Rancocas, near the Inductotherm facility in Burlington County, and became devoted supporters of education and community, especially local Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

His drive to test himself and excel against the competition applied to the few leisure interests he pursued, including racing Star Class sailboats. By 1992, he had won the Lake George Star Class trophy 24 times and that spring competed in the Olympic trials at the age of 68.

In July 1992, Henry Rowan announced he had taken on a new challenge, one “like nothing I'd known before.” His historic pledge kept him eagerly working at the age most would contentedly retire and it has provided truly countless opportunities for the thousands—and eventually millions—of people touched by the Rowans’ generosity through their extraordinary investment in exceptional public higher education.
Practical, competitive and focused, Mr. Rowan has built a legacy for his family and the University community that has been inspired by his example.
Make a difference.
Make this world a little better because you lived in it.

Rowan University