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LEGACY OF ACHIEVEMENT: HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE JACK RENTSCHLER

Information

Year of Induction	1997
Date of Birth	28 April 1931
Category	Professional
Home Town	Brazil IN

Media Image



When it was time for college, Jack selected Indiana State University (ISU) in Terre Haute, IN. During college, he met Joyce Lavelly, whom he married on Dec. 26, 1953, while on leave from the Army. During his years in the service, Jack Rentschler attended the first Atomic Shell Explosion at Frenchman's Flat in the Nevada desert. After the Army, he returned to ISU where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1955.

In 1973, Jack Rentschler was presented with a rare opportunity. An Amoco truck stop, on the north end of Sioux Falls, along I-90 became available for lease. It was then Jack changed the course of his life. He left a comfortable, secure and promising career with Amoco Oil to purchase what became Rentschler's Truck Plaza. At that time, the nation was engaged in a recession with no end in sight and an Arab oil embargo, which left fuel in short supply. Jack saw something there and overcame the obstacles the price of fuel placed in his way during the 21 years he operated the truck plaza before selling it in 1994.

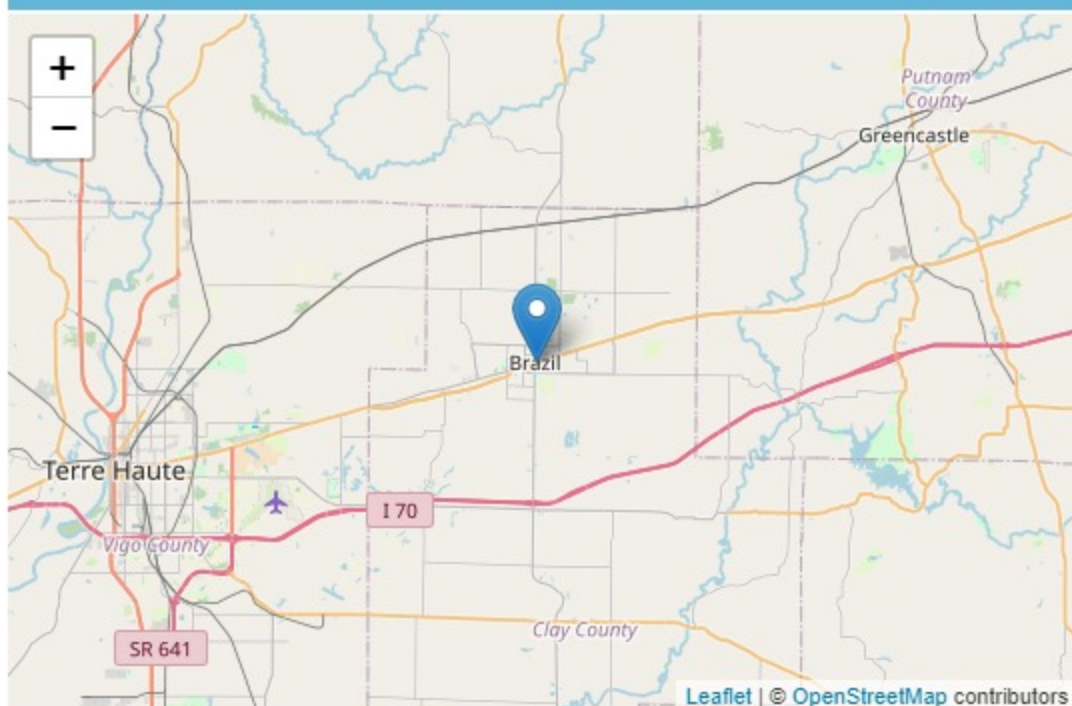
Locally, Rentschler served on numerous boards including: Prince of Peace Health Care Center Advisory Board, Children's Care Hospital and School Board Member, University of Sioux Falls Trustee, Northwest Bank Advisory Board Member, Sioux Empire Fair, Sioux Empire Farm Show Chairman, Minnehaha County Republican Party, Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce president and board member and Sioux Falls Regional Airport Authority Chairman.

In serving South Dakota, Jack was a member of the SD Board of Regents, Norwest German Farmer Mutual Insurance Co., SD Hall of Fame Past president and board member, and Greater South Dakota Assoc. (SD State Chamber of Commerce) president.

Nationally Rentschler was chairman and board member of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board of Des Moines, appointed to White House Conference on Small Business by President Reagan, US Chamber of Commerce board member and chaired the Accreditation Committee and served on the Food and Agriculture Committee, and chairman of the National Assoc. of Truck Stop Operators.

In addition to the organizations he served, Rentschler was presented with many awards including the 1981 Sioux Falls Businessperson of the Year (1st recipient), the 1989 Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce Agribusiness Person of the Year and the Outstanding Achiever Award. Jack Rentschler was best known as a businessman. In recognition of his achievements in 1983 on the 10th anniversary of the Rentschler's Truck Plaza, Gov. William Janklow named Sept. 8, 9, and 10 Jack Rentschler Days in South Dakota. It was a 3-day event that paid homage to a man who for 10 years had provided communities service.

Home Town



Tags

Professional

Legacies of Achievement

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