

pilot and founder of The Heritage Group who died on November 28, 2018 at the age of 94. He was a pillar of the Indianapolis community and an outstanding patriot, businessman, family man, friend, trusted advisor and mentor to many, including myself. Fred was known for his ingenuity and hard work which he displayed throughout his tremendous life. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for Fred's significant contributions to our City of Indianapolis, the State of Indiana, and our United States of America.

A life-long Hoosier, Fred was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1924 to John and Ruth Fehsenfeld. He was a graduate of Shortridge High School, where he and his three brothers loved sports and music. He went to Purdue University at the age of 17 and majored in mechanical engineering. It was there where Fred had his first flying experience with the Purdue Glider Club. At the age of 18, in the middle of World War II, Fred enlisted in the US Army Air Corps and at the age of 20 he was assigned to the 354th Pioneer Mustang Fighter Group in France, a famous group of P51 Mustangs and P47 Thunderbolts. A true patriot, Fred courageously flew 89 missions in Europe during World War II and was awarded the Air Medal with three Silver Clusters and a Silver Star. Fred led his squadron on the last official flight in the European Theater of Operations, barrel rolling over an Austrian prisoner of war camp to let his fellow pilots know the war in Europe was over. Ever dedicated to our country, he later served in the Indiana Air National Guard.

Fred later earned his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering at Purdue University. In 1946 he married his college sweetheart Mildred (Midge) Cornelius and throughout their life together had seven children. Fred began his career at Rock Island Refining as a process engineer. A few years later, his father John asked him to join the family business, Crystal Flash Petroleum, a company that employed 100 people and operated gas stations and sold home heating oil. An extremely hard worker and creative problem solver, Fred quickly grew the family business and entered into the asphalt industry. Dedicated to success, he taught himself how to manufacture asphalt by conducting research at the public library. In 1960, he built an asphalt facility, which is still in operation today. With his passion for business and an entrepreneurial spirit, Fred transformed Crystal Flash Petroleum into the Heritage Group, which today employs 6,500 people worldwide. With operations in North America, Europe, and China, the Heritage Group grew to include interests in Environmental and Remediation, Specialty Chemicals and Fuel Products, as well as Construction and Materials. Fred, who earned the reputation as an extraordinary boss, was dedicated to prioritizing the well-being of his employees and treated them as partners. Known as an incredible relationship builder, he was able to draw remarkably talented people to the company and regarded them as members of the extended Fehsenfeld family.

Fred's commitment to improving the American economy was equaled by his desire to tackle challenges with national implications. This passion led him to develop the concept of Critical Commerce Corridors, which separate car and truck lanes on interstate highways. The corridors will save lives while reducing pollution and congestion. The concept of Critical Commerce Corridors was included in the

Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act which was signed into law on December 4, 2015. Due to his efforts, Indiana's Governor Eric Holcomb recognized Fred in 2017 for his many contributions to the State of Indiana, naming Interstate 865 the "Fred M. Fehsenfeld, Sr. Highway."

In his personal life, Fred was a committed member of his community, a member of Junto for over fifty years, a former Chairman of the Asphalt Institute and a loyal supporter of his alma mater, Purdue University. With gifts to Purdue, he established the Purdue Energy Fund, the Fehsenfeld Family Head of Environmental and Ecological Engineering and expanded the Division of Environmental and Ecological Engineering. He also received an honorary doctorate in Civil Engineering from Purdue University. In addition, Fred was the recipient of many Sagamoses of the Wabash from several Indiana governors, the highest honor the governor of Indiana can bestow upon a citizen.

Fred was preceded in death by his first wife, Mildred (Midge) and two of his children, Jan (John) Dillow and Mike (Robin) Fehsenfeld all of whom are greatly missed. On behalf of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I extend my deepest condolences to Fred's wife, Barbara, his brother, Mac Fehsenfeld, his additional five children, Jo (Nick) Rutigliano, Fred (Suzie) Fehsenfeld Jr., Jim (Becky) Fehsenfeld, Frank (Judy) Fehsenfeld, Judee Fehsenfeld as well as his twenty grandchildren and twenty-four great grandchildren.

THE MAJESTIC METRO— HOUSTON'S HISTORICAL HUB

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, after speaking on the House floor more than 2,000 times since joining Congress some fourteen years ago, I can promise you the majority of the many hours spent in this chamber were focused on history. This comes as no surprise. You could say I am a history buff of sorts. Heck, everyone knows it. My walls at home in Texas and here in Washington have been filled with memories from the past. Texas history in particular is what I love most.

Well, Mr. Speaker, today I want to talk about a little piece of Houston, Texas history that many Houstonians may not know about, the Majestic Metro. The Majestic Metro is the last remaining in-tact theater in Houston built before 1930. It is safe to say that parking garages have taken the place of many former historical theaters. But, not for the Majestic Metro. It still stands strong in the vibrant heart of downtown Houston.

Originally owned by sisters Stella and Lillian Scanlan, and opened April 15, 1926 under its maiden name, the Ritz, the primary role of this theater was to entertain the masses. Its grand opening showcase was the Buck Jones feature, "The Fighting Buckaroo." What better way to start off its tenure than with a country-western film. But, there is one unique aspect about this movie and others during its time, there was no sound, except for that of the live music in the background. That's right, no fancy high tech sound systems, just a pipe

organ. So, the only thing movie-goers were hearing was the chuckles, snuffles, and gasps of their neighbors with the organ in the background. With tickets ranging from 5 cents and 15 cents during the beginning of the Ritz, many Houstonians found their way to Preston Street in downtown Houston for a night out.

The history of the Ritz is so rich because of the many stories its walls can tell. From different owners and styles such as silent country-western films to Spanish films, the Ritz became the Cine Ritz during the 1940's. Decades later, in the 60's and 70's, the name that Houston now knows, the Majestic Metro, was born. The Majestic Metro at this time saw a transition from the old fashion silent country-western and Spanish films to exploitation and kung fu films, then to more mature films, a little too explicit for the RECORD I'm afraid.

Well Mr. Speaker, times were tough, and the theater came to a close. However, like every good feature film, or at least the ones I like, there was light at the end of the tunnel for this Houston landmark. Local businessman, Gary Warwick, and history buff like me, had a vision for this unique piece of the past.

Instead of allowing the theater to be demolished or showing those old westerns the theater had once known, Gary turned this historical landmark into a place where history would continue living. Today, the Majestic Metro captures the beauty of the past by maintaining many stylistic features of the original architecture.

The Majestic Metro wasn't Gary's only historical contribution to Houston. He was also a pivotal player in the project to restore the Market Square Clock in Houston's Market Square, just a few feet from the Majestic Metro. The Market Square Clock which is a part of the Louis and Annie Friedman Clock Tower is on the corners of Travis and Congress in downtown. For Gary's efforts in the restoration project, he was able to be the first person to hand wind the clock upon its completion in the restoration.

Mr. Speaker, this is exactly why I love history. The Majestic Metro saw the best of times and the worst of times, but it has withstood time as one of Houston's most authentic historical landmarks. The walls of the Majestic Metro have quite a few stories to tell, and thanks to Houstonian Gary Warwick, they can continue to share their history and beauty for years to come.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING LUKE ROMANG

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Luke Romang. Luke is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Luke has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Luke has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Luke