2007 Dean’s Dinner and Alumni Awards Presentation

Vincent T. Aveni
Founder
Realty One, Inc

The late Vincent T. Aveni was the founder and CEO of Realty One, Inc., in greater Cleveland. He built Realty One into one of the largest residential brokerage firms in the Midwest and the ninth largest in the United States through internal growth and the acquisition and consolidation of more than 50 real estate companies.

In 1990, Aveni semi-retired and served as chairman emeritus of Realty One until October 1997, when he sold Realty One to Insignia Financial, a New York Stock Exchange company. He also headed the First Realty Property Management Company, managing three quarters of a billion dollars in property.

Aveni served as president of the Cleveland Area Board of Realtors and the Ohio Association of Realtors. He was a lifetime member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Realtors and received its highest level of recognition, the Distinguished Service Award. He also was a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers and the National Association of Home Builders.

Aveni was involved in numerous community organizations, including the Singing Angels, Better Business Bureau, Family Service Association of Greater Cleveland, Golden Age Centers, and the YMCA. He also served on the Board of the Cleveland Orchestra and chaired the National Leadership Board of the Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Center.

A 1947 graduate of The Ohio State University, Aveni was a member of The Ohio State University Foundation Board and the Fisher College of Business Campaign Committee. He is survived by his wife, Pat, and his three children and seven grandchildren.