Roger Milliken

NEWH Icon of Industry 2008
NEWH VISION
THE Network of the Hospitality Industry

NEWH MISSION
NEWH is the premier networking resource for the hospitality industry, providing scholarships, education, leadership development, recognition of excellence, and business development opportunities.

IN BRIEF
Founded in 1984, NEWH is an international non-profit organization, with 18 chapters and many regional areas. NEWH brings together professionals from all facets of the hospitality industry providing opportunities for education, professional development and networking. The organization offers unique opportunities including an international membership directory, Career Network, magazine and sponsorship of leading industry expositions and conferences. To date, NEWH has given in excess of $1,890,000.00 USD in scholarships to young people wishing to pursue careers in the hospitality industry.
**icon**

Variant(s): also ikon \ï-kän\  
Function: noun  
Etymology: Latin, from Greek eikōn, from eikenai to resemble  
Date: 1572  
1: a usually pictorial representation : image  
2[Late Greek eikōn, from Greek] : a conventional religious image typically painted on a small wooden panel and used in the devotions of Eastern Christians  
3: an object of uncritical devotion : idol  
4: emblem, symbol <the house became an icon of 1960’s residential architecture — Paul Goldberger>  
5 a: a sign (as a word or graphic symbol) whose form suggests its meaning b: a graphic symbol on a computer display screen that usually suggests the type of object represented or the purpose of an available function  
— icon•ic \ï-kä-nik\ adjective  
— icon•i•cal•ly \-ni-klē\ adverb
From one Icon to another...

Congratulations!

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Please join NEWH in honoring Roger Milliken as the 2008 Icon of the Industry.

Mr. Milliken has been a true leader in his dedication to quality, excellence and integrity. His passion for environmental stewardship has been inspirational. And, his support of our industry through scholarship and education has been unwavering. NEWH has long counted on Milliken as our partner in the pursuit of our mission and we are truly honored to welcome Roger Milliken as our fourth recipient of the Icon of the Industry Award.

NEWH launched the Icon of the Industry Award four years ago, to celebrate leaders in manufacturing in the Hospitality Industry. Leaders of Icon status have had significant impact on our industry through their innovation, they have dedicated themselves and their companies to their community and the industry through outreach and education and they are established, with thirty years or more in our industry.

We stand in a long line of prestigious names to have honored Roger Milliken but we are one of the few that can truly say we honor our friend.

Anita L. Degen, IIDA
NEWH President

Degen & Degen architecture and interior design

Passion, quality, innovation, education, stewardship, excellence, recognition... ICON.

Roger Milliken’s journey illuminates a trail emblazoned with these hallmarks of leadership.

A strong supporter of education, Roger Milliken has translated his belief in lifelong learning into strong educational initiatives within Milliken & Company. Roger Milliken has supported education in our industry through his generous support as a corporate partner to NEWH since 1994. In addition, Milliken University, located on the Milliken corporate campus, has generously hosted the NEWH Executive Committee for the past five years. This has greatly benefitted the strategic plan and vision of NEWH and for that we are truly thankful.

When a student receives a scholarship from NEWH, whether the ICON scholarship or a chapter scholarship – that student is receiving more than monetary assistance, he or she is placed on that trail forged by people like Roger Milliken. I would encourage them to follow that path and look to the experience and accomplishments of Roger Milliken to guide them in their future career.

Chris Wasmer
NEWH Inc., V.P. Education

Wasmer Contract Group
In tribute to a true friend of NEWH and the environment.

Milliken
an innovator in industry,
a practitioner of philanthropy,
an icon of planet earth.
Leadership development, quality improvement, and industry innovation are the trademarks Roger Milliken has stamped into American business during his lifetime of service to the company founded by his grandfather, Seth Milliken. This company has grown into the largest privately-held textile and chemical manufacturer in the world, boasting the world’s largest textile research facility. In 2004 and again in 2006, 2007, and 2008 Milliken was named to FORTUNE’s 100 Best Companies to Work For in the magazine’s annual listing. Additionally, Milliken has been named one of the 17 Safest Companies in America by Occupational Hazards Magazine. His company recycles more than 99% of its waste, incredibly sending less than 1% to landfills. Operating his company with the same integrity he lives his life resulted in Milliken being named one of the “World’s Most Ethical Companies” in 2007 and 2008 by Ethisphere Magazine.

Roger Milliken became President of the company on the death of his father, Gerrish, in 1947, and served in that capacity until 1983. That year, he became Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Milliken & Company and named Dr. Thomas J. Malone as President and Chief Operating Officer. In 2002 Dr. Malone retired and Dr. Ashley Allen succeeded him as President and COO. In January of 2006 Dr. Allen was named President and CEO, the first CEO outside of the Milliken family. Dr. Joe Salley succeeded Dr. Allen as COO. Upon Dr. Allen’s retirement in 2008, Dr. Salley was named CEO. Roger Milliken continues as Chairman.

Headquartered in Spartanburg, South Carolina, the 143-year-old company includes approximately 45 U.S. manufacturing facilities extending to 7 countries worldwide. Its diverse businesses provide more than 19,000 different textile and chemical products ranging from industrial, apparel, and automotive fabrics to specialty chemicals and floor coverings which are manufactured for customers across the globe.

Mr. Milliken emphasized that “this is not the end of a journey, it’s just a beginning,” and announced new goals for excellence within the company. From 1991 until 1992, he was President of the Foundation for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. In 1997 the South Carolina Quality Forum inaugurated its first “Roger Milliken Medal of Quality” award in his name, dedicated to his immense contribution to the promotion of quality principles in South Carolina and the entire Nation.

An apostle for innovation within the textile industry, Roger Milliken contributed to the emergence, then widespread adoption of, bar coding, rapid response standards, supplier recognition and many other practices now standard throughout the industry.

A graduate of Groton School and Yale University, Mr. Milliken has served on numerous public and private Boards of Directors, including Mercantile Stores Company, Inc., W. R. Grace & Company, Citicorp, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, and Arthur D. Little, Inc. He also has served as a director of the American Textile Manufacturers Institute and the American Quality Foundation. He has been Chairman of the Crafted With Pride in the U. S. A. Council, Inc., since 1984, and Chairman of the Greenville/Spartanburg Airport Commission from its inception in 1959.

Roger Milliken is equally passionate about the environment and “respect for our earth,” as evidenced by...
the 600-acre manicured greenspace, which serves as the walking trails, arboretum, and corporate grounds of Milliken headquarters. The attention to horticultural detail is a hallmark of each of the Milliken locations throughout the world. His commitment to environmental excellence and zero waste generation led to Milliken being named one of only 21 “Environmental Champions” in the nation, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and McGraw Hill publishing. He is the founder of the Noble Tree Foundation in Spartanburg, dedicated to appreciation of trees through education and the planting of noble trees.

Milliken’s personal passion for horticultural excellence has not gone unnoticed. He is the recipient of the 1997 Katherine H. Sweeney Award given by the American Horticultural Association, and received the Garden Club of America’s Frances K. Hutchinson Award in 2000. He was presented The Frederick Law Olmsted Award, by the National Arbor Day Foundation on May 1, 2004, and in October of 2006 the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) conferred Honorary Membership upon him – one of only 111 individuals so honored since its founding in 1899.

In 1989 he received the Silver Medal Award of the Northern Textile Association and in 1990 he was named Textile World magazine’s Leader of the Year. In 1995, Milliken & Company was named Textile World’s Model Mill for the miraculous six-month rebuild of its LaGrange, Georgia, carpet plant that was completely destroyed by fire.

Mr. Milliken was bestowed the State’s highest civilian honor, the “Order of the Palmetto” by South Carolina Governor Carroll Campbell in 1994, and in 1996 he was named “Georgia Manufacturer of the Year.” This was followed by designation as South Carolina Manufacturer of the Year in 1998.

He was inducted into the South Carolina Hall of Fame in 1993 and received the “Freedoms Foundation Pamplin Distinguished Award for Leadership” the same year. He was named “Citizen of the Carolinas” by the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce; “Businessman of the Year – 1981” by the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce; and he was among the first of seven Laureates elected to the South Carolina Business Hall of Fame. That year he also received the National Brotherhood Award given by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He was named an honorary member of the American Institute of Architects in 1992.

A strong supporter of education, Mr. Milliken received the Distinguished Service Award and Trusteeship presented by the Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities in 1994. Mr. Milliken has received twelve (13) honorary doctorates from distinguished universities and colleges. The Institute of Textile Technology (ITT) named him Chairman Emeritus in 1997 following his service as Chairman of ITT for 49 years. In 1999 the South Carolina Governor’s School for Math and Science bestowed upon him the distinguished Charles A. Townes Award for his commitment to excellence in education.

The American Textile Manufacturing Institute honored Mr. Milliken in 1986 with its “Samuel Slater Distinguished Service Award,” and he was the first recipient of The Textile & Needle Trades Division of ASQC Quality Award in 1991. In 1999 The Northern Textile Association presented him with its “Lifetime Achievement Award” and Textile World Magazine named him “Leader of the Century” that same year.

In February of 2000 Milliken associates surprised him with a Steuben Crystal piece of art, especially commissioned to recognize his first sixty years of service to Milliken & Company. In April of 2000 he was inducted as a Laureate to the Junior Achievement National Business Hall of Fame, joining 195 other esteemed business honorees inducted since 1975. In 2001, he was the inaugural inductee into the newly formed American Textile Hall of Fame at the American Textile History Museum in Lowell, Massachusetts. In 2003 he received the Juran Medal of Quality, presented by the American Society of Quality. He was also named the inaugural recipient of the 1st Drummond Award for Statesmanship in South Carolina in 2003.

Milliken remains Chairman of the Greenville Spartanburg International Airport, a position he has retained since its inception over 50 years ago. In 2004 Roger Milliken Field was dedicated in honor of his leadership and influence in making it one of the most beautifully landscaped airports in the nation. It remains the only airport with a runway-side garden, sculpture, and fountain area.

In 2006, the Greenville Chamber of Commerce presented him with the Buck Mickel Leadership Award for his positive influence in shaping the Upstate of South Carolina.

Roger Milliken was born October 24, 1915 and was married to the late Justine Van Rensselaer Hooper. He has five children, Jan Milliken Russell, Nancy Milliken Smirnoff, Roger, David, and Weston.

EDUCATION:
1933-Groton School
1937-B.A. Yale University

HONORARY DEGREES:
1951-Doctor of Textile Industry, Clemson University
1967-Doctor of Laws, Wofford College
1978-Doctor of Laws, Rose Hulman Institute of Technology
1980-Doctor of Laws, Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science
1980-Doctor of Humane Letters, Converse College
1985-Doctor of Laws, Brenau College
1989-Doctor of Laws, The Citadel
1991-Doctor of Business Administration, University of South Carolina at Spartanburg
1992-Doctor of Laws, LaGrange College
1996-Phi Beta Kappa, Wofford College
1998-Doctor of Laws, Furman University
2001-Doctor of Humanities, Presbyterian College

CAREER:
1939-Joined Deering Milliken Inc.
1947-President of Deering Milliken Inc.
1983-Chairman-CEO, Milliken & Company
2006-Chairman

PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES:
Director of Milliken & Company – 1941
Director of South Carolina Manufacturers Alliance
Chairman of Greenville/Spartanburg Airport Commission – 1959
Chairman of Crafted with Pride in the U. S. A. Council, Inc. — 1984
Member of The Business Council, Washington, DC
Member of Palmetto Business Forum
Member of Ludwig von Mises Institute’s Entrepreneurs Council – 1995
Delegate to eight Republican National Conventions from SC 1956/1984
Former Director of Mercantile Stores Company, Inc. — 1939-1998
Former Director of W. R. Grace & Company – 1953-1995
Former Director of Citicorp – 1947-1987
Former Director of Westinghouse Electric Corporation – 1962-1986
Former Director of Arthur D. Little, Inc.
Former Director of American Textile Manufacturers Institute, Inc.
Director - Institute of Textile Technology - 1944-1997
Chairman - Institute of Technology - 1948-1997, Chairman Emeritus – 1997
Trustee of Wofford College
Trustee of Spartanburg Day School
Trustee of South Carolina Foundation of Independent Colleges
Advisory Board – Brookgreen Gardens – 1987
Advisory Board – Institute for Political Economy – 1985
Former President – Foundation for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award (11/19/91 – 11/19/92)
ATMI’s Samuel Slater Distinguished Service Award – 1986
Textile World’s 1986 and 1990 Leader of the Year
S. C. Governor’s Award, Order of the Palmetto – 1994
Warren Featherbone Foundation, 1996 Georgia Manufacturer of the Year
First Recipient of the Roger Milliken Medal of Quality awarded by the S. C. Quality Forum (April, 1997)
Northern Textile Association Lifetime Achievement Award – 1999
Textile World’s “Best of the Best” Leader of the Century – 1999
Junior Achievement National Business Hall of Fame – 2000
Spartanburg Methodist College’s Distinguished Service Award - 2001
American Textile Hall of Fame – 2001
Juran Medal of Quality – 2003
John Drummond Award for Statesmanship Erskine College – 2003
The Frederick Law Olmsted Award, by the National Arbor Day Foundation-2004
Roger Milliken Field named in 2004 in honor of service to Greenville/Spartanburg International Airport Commission as Chairman since its inception
The Buck Mickel Leadership Award by the Greenville Chamber of Commerce – 2006
The 2006 SNA Environmental Leadership Award, by the Southern Nursery Association – 2006
Honorary Member, American Society of Landscape Architects, October, 2000

Congratulations on being named an Icon of Industry!

The level of success Milliken & Company has achieved over the last 120 years is truly impressive, and I know success like that only happens when a company has great leadership.

Milliken & Company has benefited greatly from your wisdom and support, and the resulting achievements will have a lasting impact in South Carolina.

For your decades of hard work and commitment, you have my thanks and admiration.

Best wishes,
Governor Mark Sanford
The Hospitality Design Group warmly congratulates Roger Milliken on the NEWH Icon of Industry Award 2008. We salute his industry leadership, and commitment to innovation and sustainable practices.
Most of my childhood and young adult life was spent in one of Florida’s most popular coastal vacation destinations, where tourists outnumber seashells and allow a burgeoning hospitality industry to thrive. My father has always been equal parts businessman and artist, having launched his own company to create unique tile designs. Thus, my passion for hospitality design can be traced back to my youth, when I was immersed in a seasonal resort economy and lived with an inventive designer.

It was during high school that I began paying attention to my affinity for art, which, until that time, had been incubating beneath the radar of my consciousness. With the help and encouragement of my family and friends, I discovered my knack for creative expression and grew eager to nurture my talents and explore ways to parlay them into a career. Of equal importance was my discovery of SCAD, where I knew that my abilities and opportunities would multiply. I can say with confidence that matriculating to SCAD has been the greatest investment I could have made in my future as an aspiring hospitality designer.

To help allay the cost of this investment, I worked a few part-time jobs during school. Most recently, I worked as a banquet server at a Kessler 4-diamond hotel, The Mansion on Forsyth Park. That sort of “in the trenches” experience provided me with crucial insights regarding the design of hospitality properties for functional efficiency. In fact, it is hard to imagine designing a hotel without having seen a property through the lens of a back of the house employee.

My professors at SCAD have been instrumental in helping me to connect the proverbial dots in my career orientation, revealing to me the bright future I am able to pursue in hospitality design. It is exciting to hear from them that I am making meaningful contributions to the advancement of an already progressive and reputable program. I am also moved and profoundly appreciative that my professors have rallied behind me and are extending themselves to help me find ways to continue financing my education at SCAD.

I feel so grateful to be a part of the supportive and inspired community of SCAD, and am always looking for ways to give back to those who have helped me flourish over the past three years. I can often be found meeting with my classmates, department chairs, and deans, promoting a constructive dialogue to find ways to make the SCAD experience even better - especially within the School of Building Arts. As a member of the United Student Forum acting as a liaison among students, faculty, and staff, I have been able to listen to my classmates and reflect their powerful collective voice. Serving in this position has challenged me to listen attentively, speak diplomatically, and develop a sense of professionalism that will certainly translate well to any career.

While I am excited to explore new avenues upon graduation, I intensely want to build a career in the field of hospitality design. Looking ahead ten years, one tangible goal is to be featured in an article in Boutique Design magazine, no longer as an aspiring design student, but as a successful cutting-edge interior designer. I dream that my contributions to hotel design will make my name as recognizable as that of Philippe Starck or David Rockwell. Most of all, I look forward to nurturing the talent of other aspiring students, helping them to move closer to achieving their goals and dreams.

This scholarship is vital to my finishing my degree at the Savannah College of Art and Design due to the decrease in the amount of financial assistance I was offered. While I am actively researching options for the funding of my final year, thus far I have not found an adequate solution. If my application for the Icons of Industry Scholarship Grant is not accepted, it is likely I will have to interrupt my schooling in order to work for a year and save money to finance the completion of my BFA degree. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

This past winter I was granted the honor and privilege of working with one of the most cutting-edge design firms in the industry, Rockwell Group. This internship offered me priceless work and life experience. Beyond the ability to add a prestigious name to my resume, that experience conveyed to me the importance of practical application, enhanced my confidence as a designer, and brought about a new sense of independence and self-awareness.
Venturing beyond academics and joining a real world design firm challenged me to think and act in different ways. In this setting it was imperative that I respond quickly, evaluate feasibility more rigorously, and communicate innovative ideas in a professional manner. By working with a diverse group of new faces who were quick to generate innovative and often divergent ideas that sometimes conflict, I was pushed out of my comfort zone and required to see things from new perspectives.

Throughout my internship, the complexity of my engagements increased along with the level of responsibility I was afforded. In short order, I began making meaningful contributions to the team as I observed my sketches being used in client presentations. I was exhilarated by my own progression through this process and finished my internship feeling more confident in my work as a designer.

New Yorkers leave no room for hesitation whether it is rush hour in the subway or pitching a design to a client. Extemporaneous thinking was just as important in my job as it was navigating the hustle and bustle of an unfamiliar city. In the end, I left New York feeling more independent and self-assured, ready to tackle new and exciting challenges wherever they may lead me.

ACCEPTANCE

Members of NEWH, future colleagues, and the brightest minds in design:

Thank you for the opportunity to be here. It is a humbling experience to be recognized on the same morning that you are recognizing the remarkable accomplishments and lifelong contributions of Mr. Roger Milliken. Thank you NEWH for your generosity. It is with honor and pride that I accept the Icons of Industry Scholarship award.

Thank you for recognizing my passions and abilities. It is inspiring to be in the presence of so many remarkably talented individuals and in the company of such a prestigious Icon. I can just feel the buzz of creative energy in the room. Mr. Milliken not only represents the design community, but has become an important and enduring symbol in the evolution of an expansive industry. His personal philosophy has been the catalyst underlying the evolution of interior design from a profession that specifies materials and finishes to a profession that produces leaders and innovators that create and control the experience of being in a space.

Thank you for enabling me to finish my studies at the Savannah College of Art and Design. As you may or may not know, it is a period of transition and growth for the Interior Design department at SCAD. While it’s already recognized as one of the top programs in the nation, they are also striving to define interior design and interior designers as innovators and leaders in the evolution of our built environment. I feel fortunate to be a part of that, both as a student and as a participant in this competition.

Thank you for this unforgettable opportunity, and thank you to Mr. Roger Milliken for his life’s work and inspiration. I am looking forward to returning to SCAD next quarter, inspired by this experience and your support, and even more excited about graduating and becoming an active collaborator and leader as a professional interior designer.

Remember moving into that new house or apartment. No furniture in sight, just the expansive sea of fuzzy fibrous carpet. What is it about newly laid carpet that makes you want to dive in, roll around, and squish it between your toes? That experience is an emotional connection for me and, I suspect, for many of you. It’s probably why I’m an interior designer. Like the memory of new carpet, the work of Roger Milliken is a catalyst for experiential wonder. This human-centric delight is at the heart of interior design and the soul of interior design is the user and the user’s experience, inclusively connecting people to their environment. From the organization and character of a space down to the

Look for our runner-up presentation at the Platinum Circle Awards event in Las Vegas on May 2009

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ROGER MILLIKEN
You are very deserving of the
NEWH ICON OF INDUSTRY Award

Congratulations from
Best Western International
To the bravery and courage to leave ‘safe-mode’ and think outside the box, you’ve created new possibilities that have bettered our world.

Karen Struck / Michael Russell Principals

“Congratulations to my first employer and to an excellent leader and teacher.”
- Best wishes from H. David Murray and The Meridien Companies.

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Congratulations and best wishes to

ROGER MILLIKEN

Thank you for your dedication and generosity to our industry and your inspirational leadership in sustainable practices.

DESIGN POOLE

15 E. Melbourne Ave.
Melbourne, FL 32901
ph: 321.725.0710
www.designpoole.net
Congratulations, Roger. Your leadership is an example to us all. Your friends at PMI
Roger Milliken, a present day legend…

I was indeed blessed to have had the opportunity of working with Milliken & Company, the rewards of which I reaped during and even after leaving them. The excellence in world-class training, work ethics and global outlook that his company inculcates in us is invaluable and I am honored to be able to graciously offer my thanks to Mr. Roger Milliken on behalf of my family.

May Almighty God shower him and his dear ones with His choicest blessings always.

P S Seshadri Iyer
Director
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GPO Box 50523
Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Seshadri@naboodainteriors.com
We thank you for your dedication and generosity to our industry and your devotion to mankind.
Send Mr. Milliken your personal message
Mr. Roger Milliken
201 Lukken Industrial Drive West
LaGrange, GA 30240
The Executive Committee of NEWH wishes to thank you, Roger Milliken, for your many years of unwavering support of NEWH and its mission of scholarship, education and networking.

Your support has directly benefitted so many by providing scholarships of all kinds to countless students in all aspects of hospitality industry through sponsorship of NEWH chapter events, leadership forums and so many other networking opportunities for design and hospitality professionals around the world through your support and encouragement for the NEWH Inc. Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

By helping one student, one professional or even one board member you helped the entire industry.

Thank you, NEWH, Inc Executive Committee

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