

Submitted by The Lutgert Companies

MAY 28, 2010

Naples, FL – Raymond L. Lutgert, business leader and philanthropist, passed away early in the morning of Friday, May 28, 2010, at the age of 90.

A Chicago native, born September 26, 1919, Mr. Lutgert had construction in his blood. He worked in his father's building materials yard but soon turned to building single-family homes and later shopping centers and development subdivisions.

In 1952, Mr. Lutgert subdivided the old World War I Ashburn Flying Field, a pilot training facility and Chicago's first airport, creating the community of Scottsdale, named for Lutgert's son, Scott. He visited Naples in the 1960s, and his ability to envision how something could evolve would change the landscape and make him an important part of Naples' history.

In 1965, he sold his Chicago interests and purchased 760 acres of swamp and scrubland north of Naples – known today as Park Shore. Park Shore was the first Planned Unit Development in the state of Florida and served as a model for subsequent developments.

Today, Mr. Lutgert's legacy includes 17 luxury high-rises on Park Shore Beach, a collection of high-rises at Bonita Bay, a mountaintop golf course community in North Carolina called Linville Ridge, Estuary at Grey Oaks, The Village on Venetian Bay, The Promenade at Bonita Bay, Neapolitan Way, Crossroads Market and Mercato in North Naples.

In 1984, at the age of 65, Lutgert began building something new – sculptures. He took a sculpting course at Appalachian State University in North Carolina and studied with sculptor Wayne Trapp. Through the years, he created a few hundred pieces and won numerous awards for his work. Many of Lutgert's pieces are found around Naples and grace the courtyards of The Lutgert Companies' shopping centers and condominiums as well as works at Edison State College, The von Liebig Art Center and Florida Gulf Coast University.

Philanthropy was also an important part of Mr. Lutgert's life and legacy. Leading by example, he instilled in his family the philosophy of giving back to the community, stating that "Our family, whether it be art, development, charity or other endeavors, has always, attempted to create a better community."

Mr. Lutgert has been a major supporter of various community projects including the Boys and Girls Club of Collier County, YMCA, Education Foundation of Collier County, Florida Gulf Coast University, Naples Children & Education Foundation, United Way, Naplescape, Golisano Children's Museum of Naples, and Naples Community Hospital

among others.

Mr. Lutgert, himself a cancer survivor, lost both parents to the disease, and felt that The “Raymond L. Lutgert Cancer Center,” which opened in 2002, was an appropriate way for him to return something that would benefit the citizens of a community that has been so good to his family.

His motto “The more you can give and share of your talents, whatever they may be, to make this a better community than it even is now, please, please do it,” he always said. “Do it to help others in the future.”

He was honored by Junior Achievement as a business Leadership Hall of Fame laureate in 1993, by Florida Gulf Coast University with Honorary Doctorate degree in 2005, and by the Edison College Foundation receiving the LIFE Award in 2007.

Mr. Lutgert is survived by his wife, Beverly Heilig Lutgert; his sons Scott F. Lutgert (Simone) and Larry Lutgert; his grandchildren Kurt Lutgert, Kim Confer (Bill), Kristin Cartwright (Dayle), Erik Lutgert, Kate Thompson (Owing Mills, MD), Jennifer Lutgert (Chicago, IL), Heather Dockweiler (Jamie), Rodney Weiss (San Francisco, CA) and Lana Gomez (Los Angeles, CA) and ten great grand children.

Arrangements have been made for a private family ceremony. In lieu of flowers the family has asked that you please send a donation to Naples Community Hospital, Florida Gulf Coast University, the Golisano Children’s Museum of Naples or the charity of your choice in his honor.

The Lutgert Companies is acknowledged as Southwest Florida’s pre-eminent real estate development company. The Lutgert Companies is privately held, and has additional holdings in Lutgert Insurance, Premier Properties of Southwest Florida Inc., REALTORS®, Lutgert Title LLC, and Premier E-Commerce. The company is currently developing properties at Bonita Bay, Estuary at Grey Oaks, and Linville Ridge, North Carolina. The company also owns shopping centers and office buildings throughout Southwest Florida. The Lutgert Companies has been a member of the Southwest Florida business community for fifty years, and has over 300 employees and 215 sales associates.