

News Release

TeamDCA
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Rudie Wilhelm Warehouse Company Celebrates CEO's 91st Birthday 3rd Generation Portland Business Leader Actively Involved in Continued Success

Danville, CA (March 7, 2005) — Rudie Wilhelm Warehouse Company, celebrates CEO Rudie Wilhelm's 91st birthday this month. Much decorated by the US Government and recognized for his contribution to industry, Mr. Wilhelm is a third-generation Portland business leader: His paternal grandparents had established Wilhelm's Brewery in the late 1870s. Though founded by his father in 1910, as a hauling company, today, Rudie Wilhelm Warehouse Company provides a full spectrum of warehousing and distribution services from Milwaukie, Oregon, where it operates nearly 600,000 square feet of public warehouse space. (A separate company, Wilhelm Trucking Co. of Portland, is operated by Rudie's brother, Robert Wilhelm Sr.).

Born March 18, 1914, in Portland, Oregon, Rudie Wilhelm shipped aboard the "William Taft" as a cadet and spent a summer visiting Japan, China and the Philippines. After high school graduation he traveled 14 months in Europe and Asia. He attended Reed College for four years, serving as Student Body President and traveling to Japan and China for the first Japan American Student Conference in 1934. The following year, 1935, he served as chairman of the second conference, which was held at Reed. After graduation, he worked for the Department of Commerce in Washington D.C. until 1940, when he returned to Portland to work in the family business.

He enlisted in the Army in September 1942, was commissioned into the Army Air Corps, served in Northern Africa and Europe, rose to the rank of Major, and won a Bronze Star. He was in Munich, Germany, when the war ended.

Just months out of the service, he was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives from Multnomah County, Oregon. At age 32 he was one of the youngest members of the House that convened in January of 1947. He was reelected and named chairman of the State and Federal Affairs Committee, and also named to the Ways and Means Committee. During these years, he introduced Oregon's first Fair Employment Practice measure (1949). He headed what was known as the "Little Hoover" committee, which initiated a massive reorganization of the state's administrative departments. He sponsored legislation that moved Vanport College into downtown Portland (the Wilhelm-Logan Bill, 1949), and led efforts to turn it into the degree-granting Portland State College (1955). Mr. Wilhelm was elected Speaker of the House in 1953. He was elected to the Senate in 1955, and stepped down to return to the family business in 1957.

Currently CEO of Rudie Wilhelm Warehouse Company, which was founded by his father in 1910 as a hauling company. He is a third-generation business leader in Portland -- his paternal grandparents had established Wilhelm's Brewery in the late 1870s. Today, Rudie Wilhelm Warehouse Company provides warehousing and distribution services from Milwaukie, Oregon, where it operates nearly 600,000 square feet of public warehouse space. A separate company, Wilhelm Trucking Co. of Portland, is operated by Rudie's brother, Robert Wilhelm Sr.

Other service includes serving as President for the Portland City Club, Portland Chamber of Commerce, Associated Oregon Industries, Reed College Alumni Association, Japanese Garden Society and Waverley Country Club. Boards of Directors: American Warehousemen's Association, Oregon Historical Society, First Interstate Bank of Oregon, Oregon Symphony. Trustee: Reed College. Chairman, Advisory Council: Oregon Health Sciences University. Lifetime Achievement: In 1977, Portland State University honored Mr. Wilhelm with a Distinguished Service award, which reads in part: "What is remarkable is the range of roles he has assumed and diligently performed; he is the Complete Citizen."

Mr. Wilhelm also is a recipient of the Order of the Rising Sun from the Emperor of Japan, for his devotion to the U.S.-Japan relationship.

"Rudie still comes in to the office four days a week and he's still actively involved in the affairs of the company," said Mark Hendricks, Director of Business Development at Rudie Wilhelm Warehouse Company. "We all appreciate his consistent optimism."

About TeamDCA:

For nearly 20 years, Distribution Centers of America (DCA) has been recognized for service excellence throughout its national network of member companies, together comprising more than 12 million square feet of warehouse space. Individually owned and operated, each member of TeamDCA is a leader in its regional market, providing value-added warehousing and third party logistics services responsive to the needs of global companies and *committed to customer success in that region.*

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