

The Henry C. Ulen File...

...historical anecdotes, incidents, and attributes of Henry C. Ulen, founder of Ulen Country Club and the Town of Ulen, presented by the Henry C. Ulen Foundation.



Mr. Ulen and Editor Al Wynkoop

Al Wynkoop, editor of *The Lebanon Reporter* from 1956 until 1971, was a personal friend of "Uncle Henry," as he was affectionately known, and wrote the following comments upon Mr. Ulen's death in 1963:

"Henry Ulen wanted no adulation. To him, a 'yes man' was a nothing man. His was not a typical rags-to-riches story, for he never knew dire want, only a series of challenges which he met head-on and mastered. Thus, his life was lifted above the mundane as he wrote new chapters in what is known far and wide as the Ulen saga.

He was proud but never boasted that he had won eminence in international business affairs, that he was privileged to rub elbows with high officials in many foreign lands, and that he had the opportunity to help make living conditions better for millions of men and women through public works through the world.

Henry Ulen was one of those rare individuals who wore the mantle of success with deep humility. He never lost the common touch. He never forgot a friend, and all he knew were glad to call him friend.

He was known far and wide as the Hoosier party-giver. He liked nothing better than to surround himself with convivial friends and play the gracious host for one simple reason — he liked people.

What did he mean to his beloved Lebanon and the county of his birth? Only a few knew that for every dollar he spent for tangible things like the country club and the residential area, he matched with dollars to individuals and organizations for their chosen careers and programs. Some to this day, are unaware of the source of their windfall. He had an uncanny knack of singling out those who needed a lift, and his belief in his fellow men never wavered.

You never dared to call him a great man or a philanthropist. He was a self-styled common man whose luck was better than others." (These comments were reprinted in both the 50th and 75th Ulen anniversary books.)



Mr. Ulen's Hats—Shown above is one of Mr. Ulen's custom-made top hats which he would wear on a regular basis as part of his business attire in the 20's and 30's. This hat and two others are now owned by Ulen member and professional magician Marc Lehmann. He became the owner of the hats after he received a call from a local thrift shop, asking if he would want them. The custom made hats had been donated to the thrift shop by Mr. Ulen's second wife Eloise following Mr. Ulen's death in 1963. Inner hat linings reveal that the hats came from London, Paris, and New York City with Mr. Ulen's initials inside the top lining. Hat materials include silk and seal skin. Lehmann does not use them in his magic act for fear of damaging their condition.



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