

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Remembering Raymond B. Luhnnow Jr., Former Burns & McDonnell President**

KANSAS CITY, Missouri — Raymond “Ray” B. Luhnnow Jr., the second president of Burns & McDonnell, [died June 6](#) at the age of 97.

Luhnnow had an illustrious career at [Burns & McDonnell](#), joining the firm in 1946 after serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was instrumental in developing a significant presence for the firm on the East Coast during the 1960s and leading the firm after it was purchased by Armco Steel in the 1970s. He retired in 1982, after 36 years with the firm, serving the last eight years as president.

“Ray successfully led Burns & McDonnell through challenging years under Armco Steel, diversified the firm’s services and doubled the number of employees from 650 to 1,300,” says Ray Kowalik, chairman and CEO of Burns & McDonnell. “A man of high integrity, his optimism and versatility as an engineer, businessman and leader have left a lasting impression on Burns & McDonnell and who we are today.”

Luhnnow graduated from the University of Illinois with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1944 and received a Master of Business Administration from the University of Missouri in 1964.

From 1943-1946, he served in the United States Naval Reserve as an Engineering Officer (Lieutenant Junior Grade) in the Pacific aboard the USS Sanborn and USS Chestnut, operating their steam and diesel plants during World War II.

Luhnnow joined Burns & McDonnell on Aug. 1, 1946. Robert (Bob) H. McDonnell, the first president of Burns & McDonnell and son of co-founder Robert E. McDonnell, personally hired and recruited him. His areas of specialty as a design engineer were in waterworks, power plants, sewage plants, airports and industrial facilities.

In 1964, Luhnnow was made a partner. He established the New York office of Burns & McDonnell in 1966. In 1971, he was made administrative vice president and, in 1973, was elected executive vice president. He was selected as president the following year.

In 2008, Luhnnow was recognized with the Burns & McDonnell Clinton S. Burns Award — one of the highest honors the firm bestows upon an employee — for his significant contributions to technical excellence and leadership.

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About Burns & McDonnell

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