

The Ottawa University Alumni Association
Presents the 2005
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

To
Michael R. Brown
Class of 1965



Field of Accomplishment: Business

When Michael R. Brown graduated from Ottawa University in 1962, he embarked on a business career which would eventually take him to the helm of a prestigious aerospace corporation.

Brown rose to become Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Litton Industries, Inc. Headquartered in Woodland Hills, CA, Litton is a leading supplier of military electronics and information systems. A long-time supplier to defense programs, during Brown's tenure Litton was the largest builder of surface combat ships in the United States, building both the Aegis cruisers and destroyers for the U.S. Navy. Litton's contributions also include

the F-15, F-16 and Tornado.

When the defense market began to go flat in the late 1990s, Brown led the company in a new direction, expanding its commercial markets particularly in regard to information technology in both commercial marine and aircraft markets. The company certified a software algorithm designed to solve the Global Positioning Systems integrity problem, as well as an on-board oxygen generating system that promises low cost and high performance and is compatible with the majority of new and existing aircraft.

In late 2000, Northrop Grumman announced plans to acquire Litton Industries for a reported \$3.8 billion in cash. At that time, the company reported sales of \$5.6 billion and net income of \$218 million for the 2000 fiscal year ending on July 31, and had more than 40,000 employees in four major business units. When Mike Brown announced his intention to retire following the acquisition, Kent Kresa, Northrop Grumman's chairman, president and chief executive officer said, "I have enjoyed working with Mike over the past several years, and have always admired his ability to successfully respond to the changing demands of our industry. We wish him well in his retirement."

Even in retirement, Brown continues his contributions to his profession, serving on the Executive Committee of the Aerospace Industries Association.

Brown was a three-sport standout at OU during his collegiate career, lettering in basketball, football and track, and was an NAIA All-American in football. He was inducted into the Braves Hall of Fame in 1994 and has remained a strong supporter of OU since he graduated.

In 2002, Brown helped create a new \$330,000 endowed scholarship – The Michael R. Brown Athletic Scholarship – at OU. The fund was anchored by a personal gift from Mike, and includes a grant from the Litton Industries Foundation. Junior athletes who are active participants in intercollegiate sports and who have achieved “academic distinction” in the classroom will be eligible for the Litton/Brown scholarship. The award may be renewed for the student’s senior year provided their academic and athletic performance meets the scholarship criteria.

Brown is quoted as saying “Ottawa University gave me a sense of community and teamwork that has enabled me to develop many of the skills that I use in my professional and personal life every day.”

To honor his accomplishments in business, his contributions to the aerospace industry, and his continuing devotion to Ottawa University, Michael R. Brown is awarded the OUAA’s prestigious Outstanding Achievement Award.

Outstanding Achievement Award

This new award, established in 2005, is designed to recognize those who have made their mark and made a difference in their chosen field of endeavor. Recipients will, over time, constitute OU’s “hall of fame” and their life stories will help demonstrate what one can do with an OU education. The OUAA Board notes that the large number of awards being presented this first year should not be interpreted as diluting the importance of the recognition. With over 18,000 living alumni, the Board wanted this inaugural class to help demonstrate the scope and intent of the award. The number of awards given annually is expected to decrease in coming years.