

Ruckel Properties History

“By 1955 standards it was a typical Monday morning in the Twin Cities. Clear skies, warm, calm and quiet. A few folks pattered about and occasionally a car would pass by just to stir things up. It was the day Ruckel Properties hung out its shingle. And nobody paid much attention to the event.”

Walt Ruckel

Ruckel Properties, Inc. opened its doors for business in the summer of 1955, armed with the dream and the commitment to provide the Niceville-Valparaiso twin cities with communities and neighborhoods that would be unequalled in Northwest Florida. Today, over 60 years later, the area abounds with the fruits realization of those dreams.

Residential communities such as Rocky Bayou, Fairway Woods, Swift Creek and Parkview Place are testaments to the high quality and preservation of nature that makes a Ruckel Properties community a place where neighbors enjoy living for generations.

Walt Ruckel, founder, owner, and driving force behind this outstanding real estate development firm, had a simple philosophy that held him in good stead over the years...never do anything, which is not of the highest quality possible, and never misrepresent anything to a customer.

Walt said he learned that philosophy as a boy at the knee of his grandfather, James E. Plew, who was one of the founders of Niceville/Valparaiso and who donated the original land for Eglin Air Force Base.

Walt involved his family in the business as his father and mother had involved him. His daughter Marion Ruckel Skalicky is currently serving as President and CEO.