

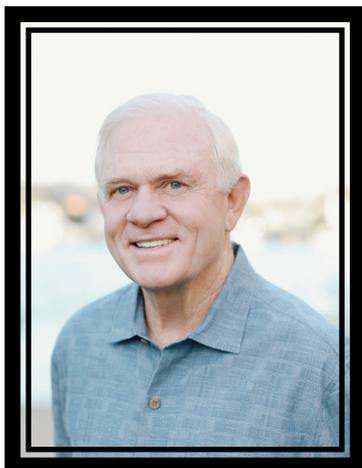
Allan Block

Always Better Wall of Fame



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Rick Muth
ORCO Block
Stanton, CA

It is with great pleasure that we induct Rich Muth of ORCO Block and Hard-scapes to the 2018 Wall of Fame for Allan Block. The name ORCO stands for Orange County and that is where they have been selling block in Southern California since 1946 when Rick's father, Pete Muth, started the company with Pete's father, brother-in-law and an outside business partner.

At the time, they were only producing 4-inch high units and mostly by hand. ORCO Block did not stay small long and by 1952 they built a second plant. Rick started working at ORCO Block in 1975 as an assistant office manager. He is the current president and oversees the rapid growth of ORCO Block that now operates 7 plant locations throughout Southern California. Their services are not just the 4-inch block anymore either. They have a mortar bagging plant, full line of architectural block that includes Burnishing and Shot Blast machines, state of the art concrete paver plant that is dedicated to supply pavers all over the western United States and, of course, segmental retaining walls that include Allan Block.

When you talk to Rick you are struck by how humble he is. When you ask him what has led to ORCO's success he will laugh and say things like, "You would like to think we tend to make more good decisions than bad." Obviously, that is true. However, he went on to emphasize the fact that reputation is everything. "You need to attend to the basics that make a company successful. You have to work hard to earn your customers respect, provide quality service and a superior product and you always need to reinvest in the company." One example of how Rick and ORCO Block have positioned themselves in the market is by hosting an annual market forecasting event every year. They bring in Carlton University to provide market analysis of the United States, California and then of the Inland Empire where they focus their efforts. Engineers, contractors, developers, property managers and many more come to be part of this event. This has been going on for over 22 years.

As we mentioned, Rick has made countless good decisions, but he did share one bad. He admitted that segmental retaining walls was something he didn't think ORCO Block needed to consider. If you think of it, CMUs had been used all over Southern California for retaining walls so what was the point of bringing in another product. However, he recognized the opportunity and in 1999 he became an Allan Block Producing Partner. He went with Allan Block because the company reminded him of his own. Willing to work for the customer and provide superior service as you reinvest in the company. We couldn't agree more.



In addition to his dedication to his family, his company, and his hobbies, Rick has been a strong advocate for the industry through decades of work to make the National Concrete Masonry Association a success. Rick's father, Pete, was one of the early pioneers to step up and contribute to the start up association to get things rolling and Rick has carried on this commitment through his time as the leader of ORCO. ORCO is the type of company that has built the United States into the great country that it is and the kind of country that will help us prosper in the decades to come.

Today, Rick's daughters are part of the company which is now 3rd generation. It was their idea to change the company name from ORCO Block to ORCO Block and Hardscapes. This shows how far they have come and there is still more work to do. However, with Rick's infectious attitude and work ethic we know we will work together and get it done. If you are lucky enough to get to know Rick, you will see he has a knack for lifting



spirits at the right time with an endless library of jokes. Just be careful once you get him on a roll it is sometimes hard to stop him.



From the entire family at Allan Block, we want to thank you for your friendship as well as your leadership and commitment to make Allan Block successful. It is with your guidance and the dedication of your team that makes Allan Block – “Always Better”.