



No: 122 Clarence (C.L.) Werner
September 2009

C.L. Werner started on the road to trucking history in 1956 with one red Ford F800 truck (shown in the drawing). Today the company he founded, Omaha-based Werner Enterprises, is among the five largest truckload carriers in the United States with coverage extended worldwide. It was the first truckload carrier to be authorized by the Federal Highway Administration to implement paperless logs. The trucking legend is seen on his Harley along with the Black Angus cattle he raises on his Colorado ranch. His wife, Rachel, and their dog, Otori, are hitching a ride. Up in the sky is Werner's "Air Force" consisting of a Beechcraft Bonanza and a Cessna 182. He is a pilot. Animals shown in the picture represent the honoree's support of the Henry Doorly Zoo, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Pheasants Forever, the Humane Society and Ducks Unlimited.

Werner's civic generosity also has made a major impact in the Omaha area -most notably his contributions to Creighton University for the Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution and the University of Nebraska Medical Center Werner Neurodevelopmental Research Laboratories, as indicated in the buildings shown. Via video, Gov. Dave Heineman saluted C.L. as a person with the same entrepreneurial spirit as Nebraska's early settlers. U.S. Sen. Ben Nelson sent a letter observing that as a previous "Face," the senator could now be considered Werner's barroom buddy as well as hunting buddy. Salutes from roasters included: "You've been so good to our state in supplying employment, leadership and philanthropy. We're truly grateful that you stopped your truck in Omaha. "