



**On Top of the World®**  
**Communities, Inc.**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Clearwater, FLA.** – Community leader, builder, husband, father and uncle, Sidney Colen passed away at 11pm on October 29, 2009 at Mease Countryside Hospital surrounded by his family. He was 90 years old. Mr. Colen was a part of the Clearwater and St. Petersburg communities since 1947 when he relocated from Toledo, Ohio as a young man. He was born on March 27, 1919 in Erie, Pennsylvania and graduated from Scott High School in Toledo.

Mr. Colen's original intent was to move on to South America, but he met Ina Gotler and decided to make St. Petersburg home. Sidney and Ina married on March 28, 1948 and had three children; Leslee R. Colen, Merna S. Brein and Kenneth D. Colen.

Mr. Colen started building homes in north St. Petersburg in 1947. In 1952 he began his first community known as Leslee Heights. In 1955, Mr. Colen undertook the development of an entire city, which he named Kenneth City.

But it was in 1957, that he conceived a home-ownership approach that would revolutionize the housing industry around the country and would become known as the condominium.

Mr. Colen designed and developed Clearview Oaks, the nation's first condominium community, in St. Petersburg, Fla. He expanded that concept in the late 1960s with the first all-inclusive, active-adult

community . . . . On Top of the World . . . . in Clearwater, where he would build nearly 5,000 condominium homes. By 1975, he found 12,972 acres near Ocala, Fla., called Circle Square Ranch, which he purchased from Norris Cattle Company and where he began the creation in 1982 of another, larger On Top of the World as his ultimate statement on active-adult living.

Today, On Top of the World Communities is one of the nation's *100 best active-adult communities*, according to *Where to Retire* magazine. This community in Ocala, Fla. is presently home to approximately 10,000 residents and will continue to build for many generations to come.

Perhaps one of Mr. Colen's proudest accomplishments was the creation of Sholom Park in Ocala. The park was created to protect and maintain its natural inhabitants as a place of natural beauty so visitors may attain a true feeling of calm, reflection, serenity, contentment, harmony, joy and inner peace.