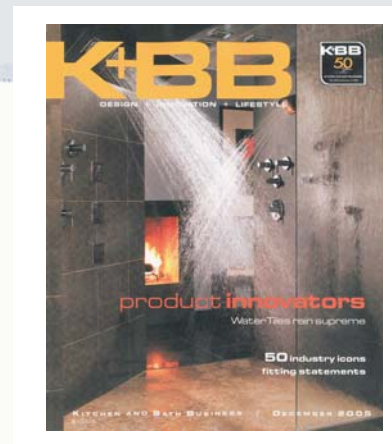


# 50



## taking a look at the **Profession**

Those of us in the kitchen and bath industry sometimes like to think of ourselves as an insular group. The reality, though, is far from it. Influences come from everywhere—people, products, associations, TV, etc. This being said, throughout the year, we asked you, our readers, to send in your nominations for whom or what you think has impacted the business over the last 50 years (in honor of our 50 years of industry coverage). We read through them all. Some, like one sent in for designer Linda Welch by her colleague, were quite personal: “Linda was a mentor to me several years back, and I will never forget what she has done for me.” Others pointed out the accomplishments of educators, such as Jon Daniel Davey, an architecture professor at Southern Illinois University, who developed an architecture program for kids that has even been conducted at the Smithsonian Institute. And still others, like Alex Siow, VP of marketing for Zephyr Ventilation, were nominated for their tireless efforts to promote products they truly believe in. With help from our advisory board, we narrowed the list down to 50. It is by no means exhaustive. But it does, we think, represent a good deal of what has made this a great industry. So, turn the page for a look at 50 years of the profession.



By walking TV viewers through many a job site, **Bob Villa** gave home renovation a friendly face and mobilized a new crop of d-i-y-ers.



The **Color Marketing Group** has influenced our color choices in everything from clothes to cabinets. Remember avocado and harvest gold?



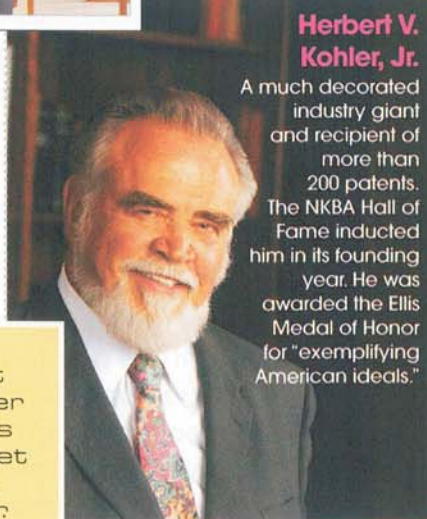
**Architectural Digest** opened our eyes to truly high-end design here and abroad, giving us something to dream about.



The **Kitchen and Bath Industry Show** started the curve in 1972 and has stayed ahead of it all of these years.

Founders **Bernard Marcus** and **Arthur Blank** brought big-box remodeling ideas to the small-time homeowner-turned-designer.

The leading source of information and education for the industry, the **National Kitchen & Bath Association** has been helping kitchen and bath pros succeed since 1963.

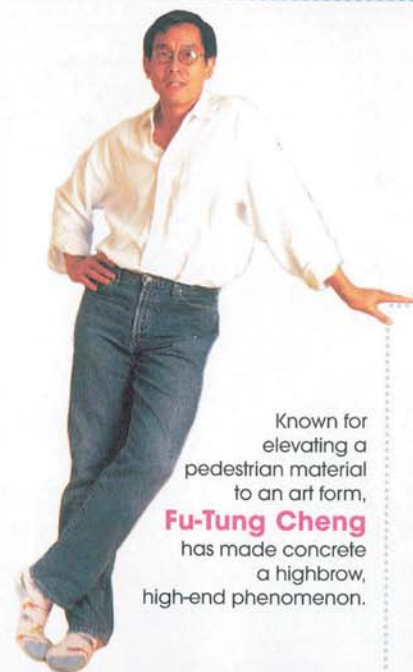


**Herbert V. Kohler, Jr.**  
A much decorated industry giant and recipient of more than 200 patents. The NKBA Hall of Fame inducted him in its founding year. He was awarded the Ellis Medal of Honor for "exemplifying American ideals."

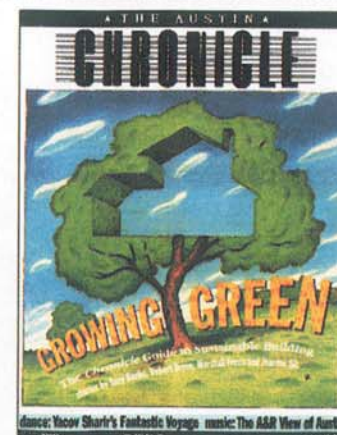
**Mick De Giulio**  
Sub-Zero product consultant. Designer of one of SieMatic's most popular cabinet lines. Test kitchen designer. Educator. Patent holder.

Formica founders **Daniel J. O'Connor** and **Herbert A. Faber** engineered and patented laminated plastic for use as electrical insulation. Who would have guessed that it would later become one of the most popular residential surfacing options in history?

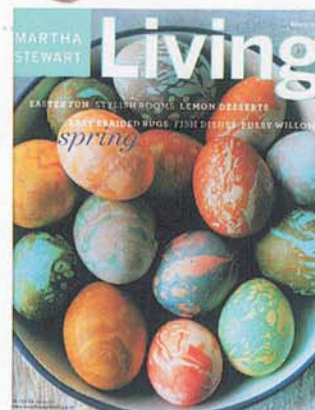
**Mike and Tom Lazear**  
Credited with developing the first PC CAD software, these two fundamentally changed the way design is done.



Known for elevating a pedestrian material to an art form, **Fu-Tung Cheng** has made concrete a highbrow, high-end phenomenon.



**Laurence Doxsey** made being green easier by helping to start, in the early '90s, the Austin Green Builder Program, one of the country's first and most comprehensive sustainable design programs. He is also credited with writing the *Sustainable Building Sourcebook*, a guide to green building products.



**Martha, Martha, Martha.** Diva Stewart inspired us to decorate our homes, bake perfect desserts and generally aspire to a loffier, more stylish standard of everyday living.



and **Ken Lowe**: People are watching...Enough said.



**Philippe Starck**  
From funky housewares to sleek interior designs, this creative guru adds cachet to whatever he touches.



A fixture for years, the **Plumbing Manufacturers Institute** is flush with information for its members. The institute functions as a sounding board, a source for industry and market information and a coordinating and decision-making body for dealing with industry issues.



Thanks to **William Ohs**, classic and traditional cabinetry has never looked so elegant yet acted so modern.

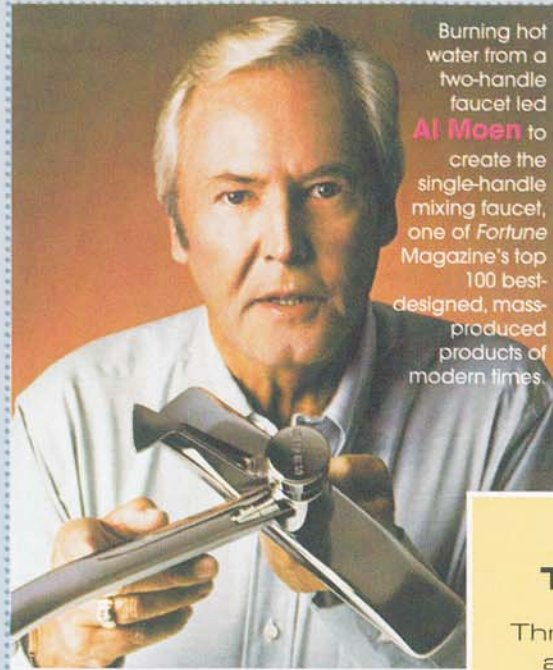


**Ken Rohl** helped make pullout kitchen faucets a classic by selling them from the trunk of his car. Today, his name is synonymous with classic style and quality.

Since 1956, **Raymond Enkeboll's** red oak, hard maple and cherry moldings have been setting (and decorating) the finishing touches bar.

**Buying Groups** have enabled the smaller guys to compete with the bigger chains. Independents purchase product at quantity discount pricing without making huge inventory commitments. This means larger gross profit margins without raising prices...something we can all be thankful for.

SEN · BKBG · FORTE



Burning hot water from a two-handle faucet led **Al Moen** to create the single-handle mixing faucet, one of *Fortune* Magazine's top 100 best-designed, mass-produced products of modern times.

## 20 20 TECHNOLOGIES

### Jean Mignault

His 20-20 vision for the future of design led to the creation of 20-20 Technologies, a global software company that has made drafting kitchens and baths (and other rooms) easier for thousands of designers. And to think, he started as a cabinet manufacturer...



Although **Julius Blum** started out making horseshoe studs, his smooth operating cabinet hardware has made life in the kitchen more convenient, organized and quieter. Poor horses, lucky us.

### World Vision/ The Storehouse

Through donated kitchen and bath products, it transforms not only the kitchens and baths of those in need, but also their lives.



Popcorn figured in **Dr. Percy Spencer's** experiments with microwave technology, which began around 1946. The first commercial units hit the market a year later and have since revolutionized the way we cook.

## BROAN

Founder **Henry Broan's** 1932 invention, the Motordor Fan, showed us that there were more efficient ways to vent a kitchen than simply cracking open a window.



When **Fred Carl, Jr.'s** wife wanted a commercial-style range for their new home, he designed one, founding Viking Range Corp. in the process. Today's amateur (and professional) chefs salute him.



## THERMADOR

presents a new, large  
Built-in electric oven

**William E. Cranston**, founder of the firm that introduced us to the built-in oven 50 years ago, probably had no idea Thermador would be the appliance powerhouse that it is today.



In a wheelchair for most of his life, architect **Ron Mace** founded the Center for Universal Design in Raleigh, NC, coined the term, "Universal Design," and pushed for a world accessible to all.

Since 1932, **Carl J. Wagner** has kept a finger on the pulse of American leisure, taking Marvel Industries from early undercounter iceboxes to today's luxury wine and beverage coolers.



**Roderick Shade** was among the first black Americans to build a national reputation as a designer. He also founded the Harlem United Show House, the first African-American interior design showcase in the world.

**Milton and Larry Gralla** founded *Kitchen Business* in 1955, and if that's not enough (we think it is), the brothers helped build a community among kitchen and bath professionals that has only gotten stronger.



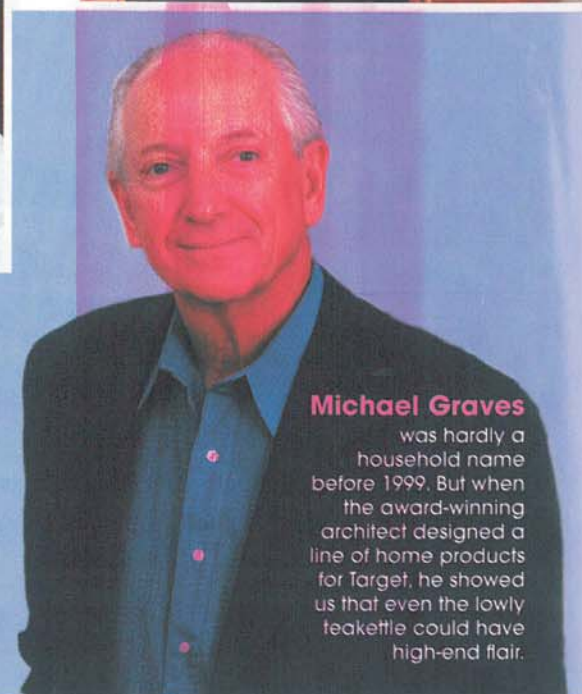
Founded in 1975 with the consolidation of the American Institute of Decorators (AID) and the National Society of Interior Designers (NSID), the **American Society of Interior Designers** has educated, encouraged and engaged more than 20,000 practicing designers.



Introduced by **DuPont inventors** in 1971 at the NAHB show in Houston, Corian solid surfacing was initially a commercial bath product—until kitchen and bath pros discovered its endless possibilities. More than 30 years later, the material continues to be tops among designers and homeowners alike.

Alsons Corporation, Aquo Glass Corp., BrassCraft, Delta, **Alex Manoogian**, Masco founder, KraftMaid, Merillat, Peerless Conglomerate builder, Faucet, Quality Cabinets, Alsons Corporation

**Johnny Grey** has made the "unfitted" kitchen a fit for countless homeowners here and in his native England. Using unusual woods, soft corners and counters of varying heights, he has redefined what an eclectic kitchen can look like.



**Michael Graves** was hardly a household name before 1999. But when the award-winning architect designed a line of home products for Target, he showed us that even the lowly teakettle could have high-end flair.



From fostering unity to developing standards, the **Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association** has given the cabinet industry a voice that is 50-years strong.



### The Whole World Knows Our Name

If **Roy Jacuzzi** hadn't introduced the world to the first fully integrated whirlpool bath in 1968, we might still be thinking that life couldn't get more relaxing than a tub full of suds.



**Friedrich Grohe's** legacy includes such über-fittings as the single-hole centerset lav and the pullout spray kitchen faucet. Danke.

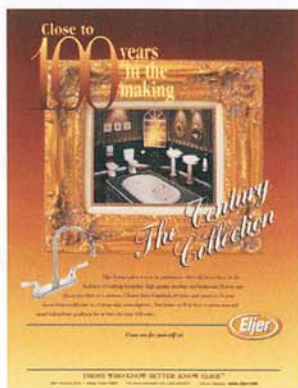


From laminate countertops and cabinets to walls and floors, Wilsonart International founder **Ralph Wilson, Sr.** made it possible for consumers to line their lives (or at least their homes) with laminate by pioneering technology that allowed for vertical and horizontal applications of the material.

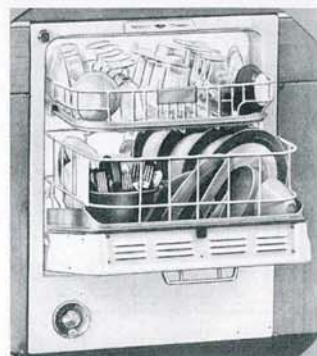
With two cornerstone design books and many manuals to her credit, **Ellen Cheever, CMKBD**, is the champion of industry education.



Former opera singer, **Florence Perchuk** has brought style and grace from the stage to the k & b, becoming the first woman awarded CKD status in New York by the NKBA.



**Raymond Elmer Crane** and **Oscar Jerome Backus** founded Eljer, which forever banned wooden tanks from the w.c. when the company produced the first vitreous china cistern.



**Josephine Cochran's** revolutionary invention eliminated dishpan hands. She paved the way for manufacturers to make this a common household appliance.



With advances being made every day, **The National Association of Plastic Fabricators (NAPF)**, was established in 1955 to keep members apprised of industry changes. M.E. Soderstrom, of Northway Products, was elected president and charged with growing the group.



**Ruth and Orville Merrill** proved that teamwork is key.

They built their eponymous cabinet company into an empire that's still going strong.

In scoring several firsts in the refrigeration industry, Sub-Zero founder **Westye Bakke** built a company whose products are the high-tech must-haves of any contemporary luxury kitchen.



**James W. Krengel, CMKBD**, father of the first family of design, has been shaping kitchen and bath ideas and opinions since the 1970s.

**Hank Darlington's** association positions and his numerous books and seminars have made him a pioneer of kitchen and bath sales and business management education.

