

- BRIAN HILL '65 -

BRIAN HILL was born and raised in southern Idaho. He graduated from the University of Idaho in 1965 majoring in chemistry. He married Gayle Kraemer after graduation and they had two children. Based on his education at the University of Idaho, he continued his education at Montana State University and received a Ph.D. in chemistry in 1969.

After graduating from MSU, Hill accepted an offer from the 3M Company and joined the Inorganic and Physics Laboratory of 3M Central Research Laboratory and remained there for four years working on new technologies of potential interest to other 3M divisions. For the remainder of his 35-year career, he moved through a variety of technical management positions in a variety of technologies including nuclear medical products (radioactive diagnostic drugs), traffic control materials (highly retro-reflective film) and energy control products (window film covering to control the light and heat both entering or exiting a window). His final technical responsibility was as global technical director for the Commercial Office Supply Division. This included responsibility for research, new product development and maintaining the quality of all the division's products sold to the commercial market, including Scotch Tape and Post-it Notes. Envisioning and introducing new products combining Scotch Tape and Post-it technologies products such as Post-it Tape Flags and Post-it Easel Pads were introduced. Environmental issues were addressed by using friendly recycled colored paper and water-based adhesives, which made the product recyclable. During his career at 3M, Hill participated in the 3M Director's Round Table and was a member of the Steering Committee in 1990.

As part of the Directors Round Table, Hill was able to take business short courses at Wharton and Darden Business Schools. His interest changed to focus on managing new business opportunities. As a last assignment, Hill was the business manager for Light Management Ventures, a startup

business opportunity. The main product was a thin film with nearly 500 layers of film in the thickness of a piece of paper that had 99.9% visible light reflectivity. After identifying special uses needing this high reflectivity, Hill as a team member received 3M's Golden Step Award in recognition for Vikuiti Enhanced Reflective Film with more than \$1 million in profitable sales in the first year.

Hill has remained deeply involved with the University of Idaho and served on the University of Idaho Alumni Board of Directors from 2000 to 2006, (vice president 2003-2004 and president 2004-2005) and the College of Science Advisory Board from 2006 to 2012. In addition, from 2005 to 2019 Hill visited schools, attended college fair days and met with students, recruiting them as potential students for the University of Idaho. He established a team of fellow alumni to help recruitment efforts in the Portland, Oregon metro area.

Based on the positive impact of his opportunity to do research for two full years as an undergraduate, Hill and his wife Gayle established the Brian and Gayle Hill Undergraduate Research Fellowship in 2007. To date, 81 fellowships have been awarded. The Hills are pleased with the positive effect this opportunity has given fellowship recipients to further their education.

As a result of his deep and meaningful involvement with the University of Idaho, Hill received the Jim Lyle Award in 2008, the College of Science Dean's Award in 2011 and the College of Science Academy of Distinguished Alumni Award in 2016.