



**Contact:** Cynthia Hamann  
Vice President Brand Awareness  
**Phone:** 800.724.9282  
**Email:** [chamann@reliantcu.com](mailto:chamann@reliantcu.com)

## For Immediate Release

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### RELIANT COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION MOURNS THE PASSING OF FOUNDER



SODUS, NY — It's with great sadness that we announce the passing of Donald K. Rhine, the founding CEO of WCTA Federal Credit Union, now known as Reliant Community Federal Credit Union. Mr. Rhine passed away on Saturday, April 14, 2018 surrounded by his loving family.

Mr. Rhine organized and chartered WCTA Federal Credit Union in 1970, along with a small group of dedicated volunteers. When announcing to the WCTA Executive Board the receipt of the original charter approval, he was quoted as saying "Much has to be done – however, I'm certain that we're capable of doing it!" For the next 24 years he proceeded to do just that, growing the credit union to 18,000 members, 3 branches, and over \$100 Million in assets before his retirement in 1994. Mr. Rhine continued to serve the credit union as an active member of the Board of Directors until 2000.

"We are deeply saddened by the passing of our founder, Donald K. Rhine. Our credit union family has lost a visionary leader and a special person" said Pamela P. Heald, current President and CEO of Reliant. "Without his drive, vision and leadership, our credit union wouldn't be the successful organization we are today. We are forever grateful for him. He was so proud of "his" credit union."

Throughout the years, the way Reliant serves and helps members has evolved, yet the core values and the "people helping people" philosophy of the credit union remains the same.

"We have not only lost a respected voice and founder of the credit union family, we have lost a true friend who will be greatly missed. Don was a great mentor for me and many others whether in the classroom



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setting as a science teacher or as Reliant's founding CEO." said Jane E. Slack, Chairperson of the Reliant Board of Directors. "On behalf of our Board of Directors, we mourn his passing, celebrate his life and extend our deepest sympathies to his family."

Mr. Rhine is survived by Dorothy, his loving wife of 63 years, along with his 9 children, 42 grandchildren, and 30 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Mr. Rhine's eighty-five years will be held on Saturday, April 21 at 11 AM at the Fairhope Avenue Baptist Church, 8717 Fairhope Avenue, Fairhope, AL, followed by a reception in the church fellowship hall.

#### **About Reliant Community Credit Union**

Reliant Community Credit Union, which began locally in 1970, is a \$433 million credit union serving more than 40,000 members. Eligibility is available to all who live, work, worship, attend school, or volunteer in Monroe, Ontario, and Wayne counties. Reliant currently has branches in Brockport, Canandaigua, Geneva, Henrietta, Irondequoit, Macedon, Newark, Sodus, and Webster. A full-service financial institution, Reliant offers a complete range of financial products and services, including mortgages. For information regarding membership or employment, contact the credit union at 800-724-9282 or visit [reliantcu.com](http://reliantcu.com).

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