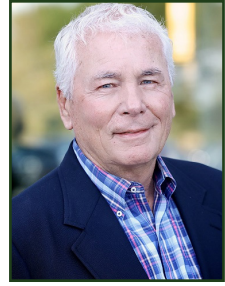


# Robert “Tip” Enebak

**CONSTRUCTION COMPANY OWNER, PHILANTHROPIST**

*FSSH CLASS OF 1959*



Robert “Tip” Enebak wanted to be a football coach. Despite battling polio as a child, he played football at FSSH and attended the University of North Dakota on a football scholarship. After college, he taught economics and coached football in Great Falls, Montana. That job was interrupted by a call to come home to take over his family’s struggling construction company. Under Tip’s leadership, the business began to thrive. Enebak Construction Company is now 118 years old and going strong.

Enebak Construction Company expanded under Tip’s leadership into a multimillion dollar earth-moving and construction business with projects including The Minnesota Zoo, Mall of America, multiple housing developments, interstate highways, county roads, and city streets, city and county landfills, and golf courses in five states. Today, Tip is acting as “company coach” to the fourth generation of Enebaks.

Tradition Companies is a family of nine integrated companies that grew from the business Tip took over from his father. It is the umbrella for two land development companies, five financial services companies, and five homebuilding companies, all in Minnesota. Tip is the chairman of the board of directors of Tradition’s Big T Foundation which supports charities focused on children, veterans, affordable housing, and more. Charities receive much more than a check; they get a relationship as Tradition becomes a part of what they’re doing. Tip coaches charities on the benefits of working together, sharing needs, and collaborating on projects. “Two plus two equals six” is Tip’s motto for stretching resources and reusing dollars by creating trust, collaboration, and synergy among charitable groups.

Tip’s humble generosity arises from his belief that it’s only right to give back. He remains heavily involved in the charities Tradition supports, and, though he has turned over ownership of Enebak Construction Company to his children, he still often goes to the office and runs some jobs. He wants no credit for the philanthropic efforts which he quietly performs, but credits his employees and vendors claiming WE did this. “It’s the people who are doing the work. I guess I’m the head coach.”