

Read F. Wakefield

A 1964 graduate of Vermilion High School and lifelong resident of Vermilion, Mr. Wakefield earned a B.A. in economics from Denison University and an M.B.A. in marketing and finance from Northwestern University. He is an Eagle Scout and U.S. Army veteran. His 23 years of industry experience include marketing and product management positions with ITT Indoor Lighting and business development, finance, marketing and strategic business unit start up positions with Ciba Corning Diagnostics Corp. He established a mergers and acquisitions and strategic planning consulting firm and earned professional designations of Certified Business Intermediary and Certified Business Counselor.

Mr. Wakefield is the retired Director of The Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at Ashland University. He taught courses in the entrepreneurship major and additionally served as Director, Treasurer and President of the Entrepreneurship Education Consortium, Inc., a consortium of 11 northeast Ohio universities that provides entrepreneurship programs for university students.

Passionate about the power of education to solve problems and improve our world, he was a 24-year Board Member of Vermilion Local School District Board of Education and served as Board President for 6 of those years. He previously served as Member and Board President of Firelands College Advisory Board. He continues to serve as an active Director of Entrepreneurial Engagement Ohio, Inc., providing entrepreneurial educational opportunities to middle and high school students and as Treasurer of the Vermilion School Levy Committee.

Mr. Wakefield and his wife, Lynda, have 3 daughters, Alison Marconi, Sara Stepp and Amy Wakefield, and 3 granddaughters.