



Golden Landmarks Association
Preserving Our Past, Protecting Our Future

Living Landmark Award 2009

Chuck Baroch

Chuck was born in Edgewater, Colorado. His grandparents and father had homesteaded in the Strasburg area in the early 1900's. When Chuck was young, his family moved often, and he lived in Telluride and Morrison, Colorado and also in Texas, Arizona, California, Utah and Nevada. He graduated from Boulder City, Nevada High School, and then spent four years at the Colorado School of Mines, earning a degree in metallurgy in 1954. He went on to earn his Master and PhD degrees in metallurgy and chemical engineering at Iowa State University. While at Iowa State, he met and married his wife of 52 years, Carol. They have four children, five grandchildren and one great-grandson.

After graduate school Chuck spent two years as an officer in the Army Corps of Engineers in Virginia and Maryland. Following his military career, he worked for 4 years in mining, followed by 28 years in the electric power generation business, and then 13 years in the environmental industry. He started his career as a senior research engineer and held many positions including that of vice president of a major corporation, president of an international joint venture, and vice president, president and chairman of the board of small businesses. Early in his adult life, he became involved in church, political party and other community activities, becoming active in several chambers of commerce, the Akron Ohio Regional Development Board, and the Medina County School and Workshop for Mentally Retarded and Developmentally Disabled Citizens.

The Barochs moved to Golden in 1990, when Chuck took a position with Hazen Research. He immediately became involved in city politics, and was appointed to GURA and the Citizen Budget Advisory Committee. In 1993, he was appointed executive director of the Golden Civic Foundation, a position he still holds. In 1995, he was elected to the Golden City Council and served as a councilor for six years, and then as mayor for another six years. As mayor, Chuck was active in the Rocky Flats studies, the Jefferson Economic Council, the metro mayor's caucus and other similar organizations. He continues to work on behalf of our community as a member of sustainability organizations for both the city and CSM, and is on the committee for Golden's 150th Year Celebration. He has also been a driving force behind procuring a monument in memory of the victims of the White Ash Mine Accident, and continues to do volunteer work for the Golden Chamber of Commerce and the Golden Police Department. He has long been an advocate of enhancing our culture and preserving our history through historical societies and museums. Through Chuck's work with city government and other civic organizations, he has been active in supporting all of the historical and cultural organizations in Golden.