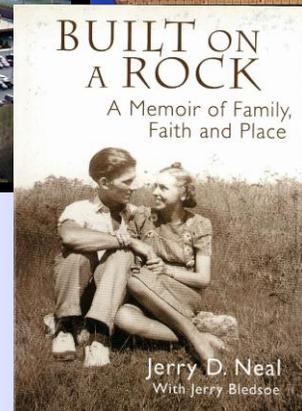
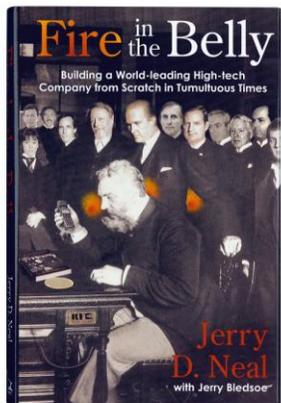
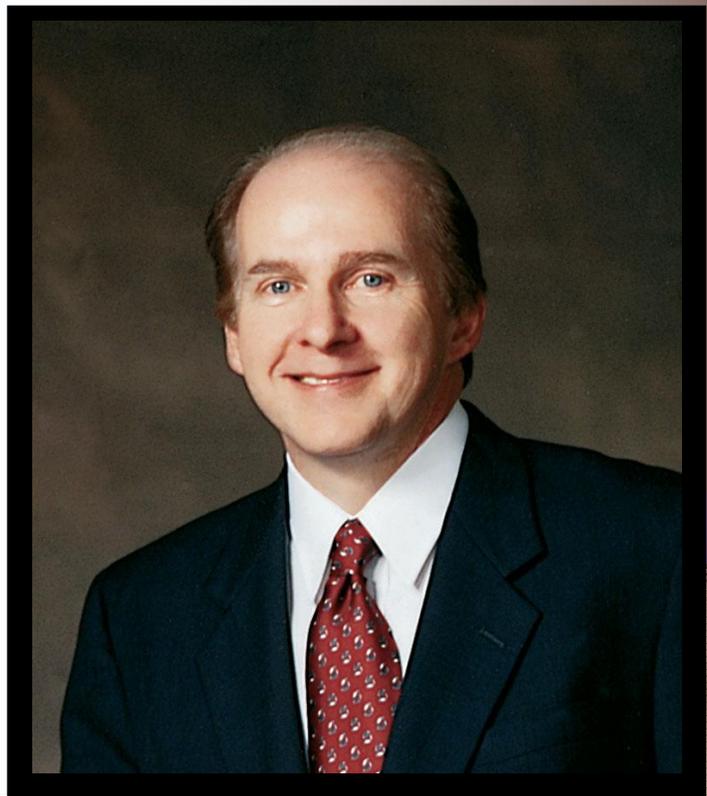


Jerry D. Neal

Entrepreneur
Technologist
Speaker
Author
Educator
Philanthropist



LINBROOK HALL



**VICTORY
JUNCTION
GANG®**

Founded for kids in honor of Adam Petty



Jerry D. Neal – In Summary

- ❖ Born and reared in rural, central North Carolina
- ❖ Had a keen interest in electronics, particularly communications, even as a young boy
- ❖ Recreated many of Guglielmo Marconi's experiments and as a young boy built and operated his own radio station
- ❖ Became an amateur radio operator (WA4CWB) after earning his amateur radio license at age 14
- ❖ Attended Gaston Technical Institute, a division of North Carolina State University, receiving an Associate Degree in Electrical Engineering
- ❖ Later was awarded a Doctor of Business Management by Southern Wesleyan University
- ❖ Employed by Hewlett-Packard for 10 years
- ❖ Invented and patented an electronic device for research and monitoring moisture content in soil
- ❖ Retired from Hewlett-Packard and formed a company named Watertech to produce his patented electronic device
- ❖ Sold controlling interest in Watertech to Hancor Inc. in Finley, Ohio
- ❖ Following a disappointing period with Hancor, Neal temporarily abandoned his ambition of being an entrepreneur and became employed by Analog Devices where he met his future partners, Bill Pratt and Powell Seymour
- ❖ In 1991 Neal was asked by Pratt and Seymour to join them in an entrepreneurial venture to form RF Micro Devices
- ❖ RF Micro Devices (RFMD) became one of the most successful entrepreneurial ventures in the world in a short time, having grown from a zero dollar value to a market value of \$16 Billion within 10 years.
- ❖ RFMD was listed on Nasdaq as a publicly traded company within 6 years of starting the company
- ❖ RFMD's products are in approximately 50% of all cell phones world-wide
- ❖ Neal's primary function at RFMD has been in the areas of strategic development, procuring the initial capital, marketing, establishing the image of the company in the marketplace through both advertising and public speaking and developing strategies for the company's continued growth
- ❖ The Neals endowed the Neal Fellowship at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital with a \$1+ Million donation
- ❖ Neal served on the Professional Advisory Board at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

- ❖ Neal served on the Board of Directors for the Victory Junction Gang Camp
- ❖ The Neals built Linbrook Hall for the purpose of hosting charitable events to benefit primarily the children's charities that they support
- ❖ In 2008 the Neals hosted a benefit at Linbrook Hall for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital which included entertainment by country legend Charlie Daniels
- ❖ An author of two books collaborated with famous author Jerry Bledsoe; *Fire in the Belly – Building a World-leading High-tech Company from Scratch in Tumultuous Times* and *Built on a Rock – A Memoir of Family, Faith and Place*
- ❖ Other interests include the collection and restoration of antique and rare John Deere tractors with a John Deere Vintage Tractor Museum which is open to the public
- ❖ Hobbies include an amateur machine shop operation
- ❖ Neal has served on the Board of Directors for semiconductor companies, Jazz Semiconductor and Peregrine Semiconductor, Tower Semiconductor.
- ❖ Neal has served on the Board of Visitors for the Babcock School of Business for Wake Forest University
- ❖ Neal is currently Co-Chairman of Akoustis Technologies, a semiconductor company located in Charlotte, NC which holds unique 5G and 6G technology.
- ❖ Neal also owns his own hydroelectric plant, Neal Hydro, located in Franklinville, NC
- ❖ Furthering his interests in historic preservation, Neal is currently restoring a national park service designated hoisery mill in downtown Asheboro, NC
- ❖ Neal currently is building his own Yagi Antenna for his personal HAM Radio Station

From Successful to Significant – Jerry D. Neal

“We never started RF Micro Devices (RFMD) to make money. We wanted to have fun,” says Jerry D. Neal, company co-founder and Executive Vice President of Marketing and Strategic Development as well as an expert in the wireless communications industry. RFMD manufactures critical components that enable wireless devices to transmit and receive signals; half of the cell phones made in the world contain power amplifiers made by RF Micro Devices.

“We never started RF Micro Devices (RFMD) to make money. We wanted to have fun,”
Jerry D. Neal



**RFMD Co-Founders Bill Pratt,
Powell Seymour & Jerry Neal**

In his book co-authored with world famous author Jerry Bledsoe, *Fire in the Belly: Building a World-leading High-tech Company from Scratch in Tumultuous Times*, Neal chronicles the rise of RFMD, starting from zero dollars in 1991 to a market value of \$16 billion less than a decade later. Neal’s success was not always one of glory. Many times he was faced with major difficulties, especially after the failure of an earlier entrepreneurial technology venture.

Once success arrived, Jerry and his wife Linda saw this as an opportunity to honor the influences of faith, family and their rural Randolph County, North Carolina roots rather than a ticket to lavish, opulent living. They did, however, build one of the largest homes in the southeast, Linbrook Hall, even though they still reside in their modest farmhouse on the estate property.

The house ranks among the largest private homes in the Southeastern United States.

Some two hundred people worked two years to build the house. Workers used more than two hundred tons of steel and more than six million pounds of concrete in the construction.

Designed in the Early Classical Revival style employed in many ante-bellum mansions in the U.S. South, the house's 14 fluted columns feature Scamozzi capitals, a style named for the 16th-century Italian architect Vincenzo Scamozzi. The columns are thirty-two feet tall and four feet in diameter. Visitors enter via a pair of massive mahogany front doors; each door is four inches thick and weighs 800 pounds.

With 15-foot-tall ceilings throughout most of its interior, Linbrook Hall stands as high as a typical six-story commercial structure. Its central rotunda rises more than 60 feet from the floor in the entrance hall.

The house, furnished with antiques and art from around the world, commands the top of a hill within view of America's oldest mountain range, the Uwharries, standing sentinel in a clearing amidst 450 wooded acres.



“We had a strong desire to help out and to be involved with causes that would further the funding and research for the care of chronically sick children,” Neal said. “I had learned that, large homes were used as tools. It wasn’t a place to live. It was a place to get business done and to influence other people. And I began to think about Linbrook Hall as a tool.”

All of that is impressive, architecturally speaking.

But what makes Linbrook Hall even more inspiring, even "larger" than its statistics, is the reason that Jerry and Linda Neal conceived, planned and built the magnificent home: It was envisioned as a place where lots of people would come together for special events, learn about good causes, and, perhaps, be moved to open their pocketbooks; in short, a house for giving.

Neal and Bledsoe also collaborated on another book, *"Built on a Rock: A Memoir of Family, Faith and Place."* The memoir tells of Neal's roots in Randolph County, the ups and downs of his life and career before RF Micro Devices, and finally the conception and construction of Linbrook Hall in the rural Randolph community where Neal's family had lived for generations. His grandmother attended nearby Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting, where he learned Quaker values. He remembers long walks with his great-grandfather during which the old farmer passed on a love for place and for the land on which he lived and worked.

Neal said a reader of the book about his business might get the idea that his entrepreneurial life has been easy. The memoir, he said, tells the rest of the story — that everything does not always work the first time: "Sometimes persistence works — and timing." But Neal said he wanted to say more than that — that faith and values can help pave the way for life's successes — and sustain one through life's failures.

Another important notion, Neal said: Those who sometimes just make ends meet, as well as those who make fortunes, can share their blessings: "It's the message of utilizing your good fortune to help make the world a better place, even if it's in a small way."

The Neals took an in-depth three-day tour of St. Jude Children's Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee (www.stjude.org), a charity Linda Neal had given to in past years. Upon leaving, the Neals knew they had discovered a cause they wanted to support. Not only did Neal become a director on the hospital's Professional Advisory Board, he and Linda established a one million dollar endowment for research in the Infectious Disease Department. This funds ongoing research to cure chronically ill children. In addition, Neal is a member of the Board of Directors for Victory Junction Gang Camp, a year-round medical camp where children with chronic or life-threatening illnesses can play and camp in a park-like setting. The Victory Junction Gang Camp, built in memory of Adam Petty, son of Pattie and Kyle Petty and grandson of NASCAR icon Richard Petty, has gained national attention for its compassionate yet fun-oriented approach for normalizing camp experiences for children whose lives are often anything but normal (www.victoryjunction.org).

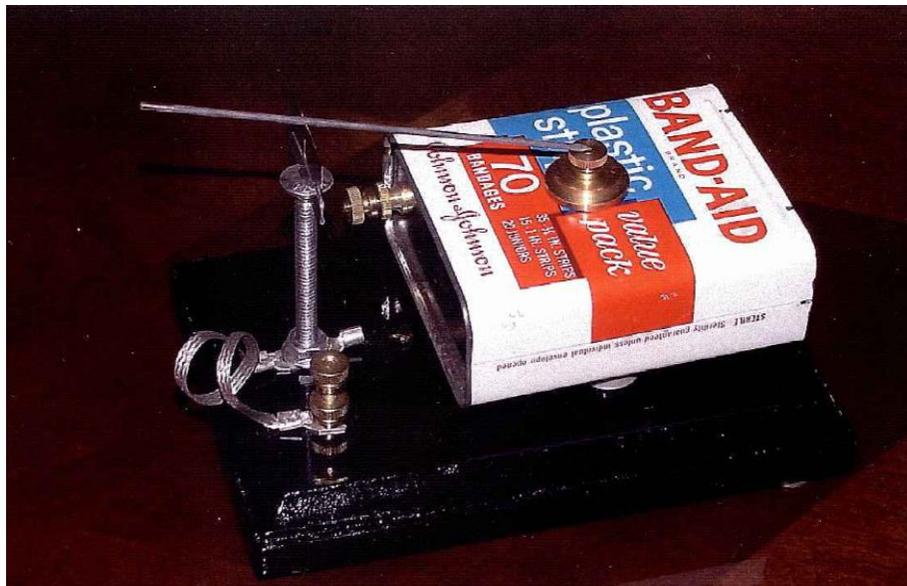


“We had a strong desire to help out and to be involved with causes that would further the funding and research for the care of chronically sick children,” Neal said. “I had learned that in the South, large homes were used as tools. It wasn’t a place to live. It was a place to get business done and to influence other people. And I began to think about Linbrook Hall as a tool.”

Linbrook Hall, which was named in honor of Neal’s wife, Linda Stewart Neal, and a little brook that winds in front of the home, was finished in 2004.

Tucked away in an upstairs room of the house is a small museum that devotes a section to drawings and pictures of Linbrook Hall in its various stages of construction. There are also sections devoted to the Neals’ favorite charities – and one to honors that he has received.

The museum also contains artifacts from his path to business and financial success: a replica of a telephone Neal built when he was a boy, a device that combined a Band-Aid box, a pencil lead, a razor blade and a dry cell battery; a portable radio like his first six-transistor Motorola; a collection of early cell phones, large, unwieldy devices, the horse-and-buggy versions of today’s sleek palm-sized phones.



Replica of an early telephone microphone made by Jerry Neal at the age of 10

There is family history here, too, including references to President Herbert Hoover. Jerry Neal and the thirty-first president share a common ancestor, a man named Andreas Huber who walked with his family from Pennsylvania to Maryland and then, in about 1763, to the

Uwharrie River, with a wife and 12 children. Huber changed his name to Hoover upon entering the American Colonies. Huber (Hoover) established a gristmill about a mile from the site of Linbrook Hall after his arrival.

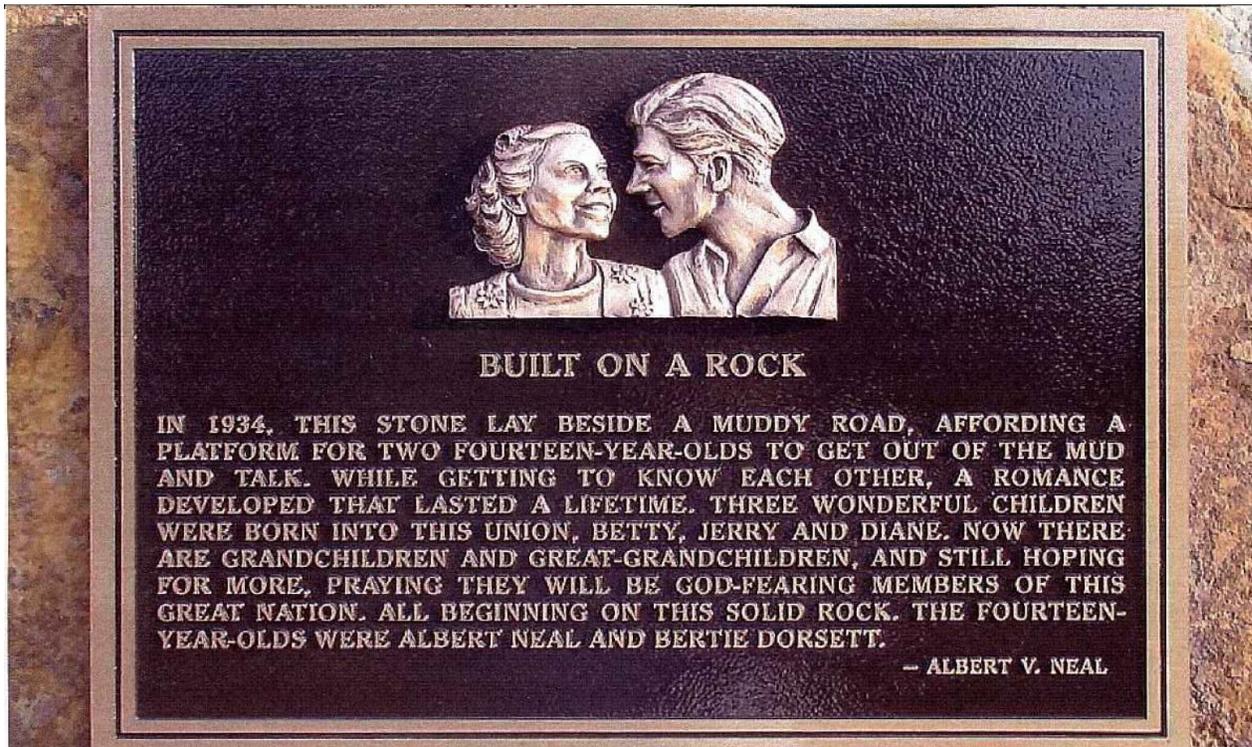
And there is the homage to Neal's father, Albert, and his World War II service days, as well as drawings for a 1952 patent the elder Neal received for a woodworking machine, a machine still in production in 2008.

Behind Linbrook Hall, on the edge of a garden, stands a monument – a large rock turned on end, on a rock base. It bears a bronze plaque, with a molded image of Neal's parents, Albert and Bertie, gazing into each other's eyes. The likenesses were captured from a photograph taken when they were nineteen years old.



The rock where Jerry Neal's parents met at 14 years of age

Three months before he died in 2001, Albert Neal wrote the words that are inscribed on the plaque:



Built on a Rock

The rock once lay beside a muddy Randolph County country road. Albert and Bertie met at that rock. Decades after those rendezvous, Albert Neal stopped to ask what had ever happened to the rock that stood near the house he'd lived in as a teen. The man who lived in the house said the rock had been moved years earlier to cover an old well that had gone dry. He showed Albert where it was. A few hours later, the man died.

That spur-of-the-moment inquiry by Albert Neal made it possible for Jerry Neal to rescue that rock years later and give it a place of prominence at Linbrook Hall, a tribute to his parents. Neal said he was grown before he realized that every child did not have loving parents who imparted bedrock values.

The rock stands in perfect alignment with the front and back entrances to Linbrook Hall and to a marble medallion in the floor of the rotunda that marks the center of the house. The placement would have pleased his father, a man who appreciated symmetry, Neal said.

Outdoor amenities now include a skeet-shooting range and 10 miles of nature trails that lead to the Uwharrie River.

Neal has restored his grandparents' farm the way it was in the 1930s and 1940s, forming a rural life historical exhibit that includes the Neals' nearby tractor and industrial museum devoted to John Deere machines and antique industrial equipment. Neal began collecting John Deere tractors nearly 15 years ago to celebrate his agricultural heritage and his love of machinery. The collection has grown to more than 26 tractors restored to "like new" condition, with many of them being extremely rare. The oldest tractor in the collection is a 1930 Model D, which had the longest production run in the history of John Deere production at approximately 30 years. (www.nealsjohndeertractors.com)



NEAL VINTAGE JOHN DEERE TRACTOR MUSEUM

Eventually, Neal said he and his wife would like to give Linbrook Hall to charity.

The first fund-raising event held at Linbrook Hall, a concert with rhythm and blues legend Percy Sledge, brought in \$50,000 for the Victory Junction Gang Camp. Another event in association with Kathryn Crosby, the widow of the late Bing Crosby, generated money for the blind. A gathering to raise money for St. Jude Children’s Hospital took place in fall of 2008. The featured entertainer was country singer and fiddler Charlie Daniels, another major supporter of the research hospital.



Pictured left to right: Rosa Sledge, Linda Neal, Jerry Neal, Percy Sledge

Randolph County writer Jerry Bledsoe characterizes Linbrook Hall — and its purpose — as one of the most significant things ever to touch Randolph County. “It’s just an incredible thing to have here in Randolph County,” he said. “Really great things are going to happen in this house. It’s going to bring great things to Randolph County.”

Rock Solid

While Neal's family's agricultural and manufacturing backgrounds did not pave the way professionally for Neal's phenomenal success with RFMD, his parents' support of his uncanny and consuming fascination with radios, wires and recreating experiments by Alexander Graham Bell and another man raised on a farm, Italian inventor Guglielmo Marconi, did matter to Neal's success. Marconi pioneered work vital for developing the modern radio, and ultimately RFMD. One of Marconi's greatest contributions came from how his wireless telegraph installed on the ill-fated *Titanic* saved over 700 lives. Marconi's work captivated Neal from an early age.



Italian Inventor Guglielmo Marconi

Form No. 1-100-17.11.11. Sent date *14 April*

The Marconi International Marine Communication Company, Ltd.
WATERGATE HOUSE, YORK BUILDINGS, ADELPHI, LONDON, W.C.

No. *311 Celtic* OFFICE *14 April* 19 *19*

Prefix *POS* Code _____ Words _____

Office of Origin *Titanic*

Service Instructions: _____

COPY.

CHARGES TO PAY.		
Marconi Charge ...		
Other Line Charge...		
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Total		
Office sent to	Time sent	By whom sent
<i>JKF</i>	<i>11:30</i> m.	<i>J</i>

READ THE CONDITIONS PRINTED ON THE BACK OF THE FORM.

To: *CAF*

<i>1915</i>	<i>require</i>	<i>assistance</i>	<i>position</i>	<i>41-46°</i>
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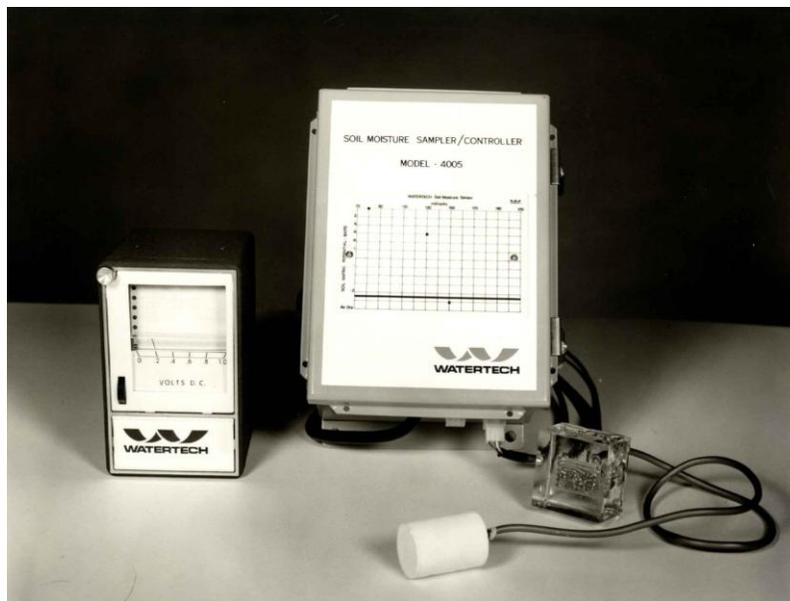
PLEASE ASK FOR OFFICIAL RECEIPT.
Code Address registered only with Cable Companies are not available for messages through British Post Office Stations.

Cablegram Book, Printed, etc., London, E.

Actual communication for help from the ill-fated Titanic

Experimenting with wires, components and radio frequency led Neal to create his own radio station. Despite being completely mesmerized by communication technology, young Jerry D. Neal became more reticent around peers and plagued with an overwhelming shyness, difficult to imagine when meeting the gregarious speaker and compassionate, successful businessman today.

Neal earned an associate's degree in electrical engineering at North Carolina State University and was hired by Hewlett-Packard. Neal was later awarded a Doctor of Business Management by Southern Wesleyan University. He resigned from Hewlett-Packard to begin his own company, a venture that made electronically-oriented water sensors for soil testing. Bought and eventually shut down by a larger corporation, Neal's first try into creating a business ended in disappointment.



Jerry D. Neal's patented electronic device for monitoring moisture content in the soil

“It's important for all human beings to look for experiences in overcoming situations. In my case, I started over several times but kept working at it and kept learning from my mistakes,” says Neal.

After his entrepreneurial disappointment, Neal accepted a new position in 1981 with Analog Devices, a perfect fit for his electronic background.

A Burning Desire

Fellow Analog colleagues Bill Pratt and Powell Seymour approached Neal about joining their partnership to form a new company. Pratt and Seymour had been victims of downsizing

at Analog, but their vision reached farther. They developed an idea to create semiconductor chips for the cell phone business, an industry that was to explode and RFMD along with it. Their success reached levels the partners could not have anticipated, despite a difficult and uphill start.



RFMD Wafer Fabrication Clean Room

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From Telecommunication Technology to Communicator

Neal’s humble background and business success in a challenging technological field combined with his gift of engaging audiences both large and small, both technically-oriented and philanthropically motivated, make him an appreciated speaker in a wide variety of venues. His technical expertise and likeable storytelling method of delivery enralls audiences.

As RFMD has grown and expanded; requests for Neal to speak about the company’s journey have been numerous. Diverse speaking engagements have varied from private, corporate dinners to large-scale university settings. Along the way, Neal’s special brand of humor coupled with his vast technological expertise has garnered highly appreciative reviews.

He has served as the keynote speaker for investor and industry conferences as well as events and graduation ceremonies for universities. Neal has also been the subject of magazine and newspaper articles chronicling his journey and his interests.

The future excites Neal. He anticipates expanding his speaking engagements, eager to introduce more audiences to the phenomenal story behind RFMD’s success, to his rich family heritage that has anchored and inspired philanthropic giving and a myriad of other topics that Neal has honed.

Jerry D. Neal’s life, as his father’s before him, is one of symmetry and balance. With great success has come a great desire to share. Neal has taken success and turned it into significance. A captivating speaker, his stories and discourse move audiences to desire the same.

Author:

Fire in the Belly – Building a World-leading High-tech Company from Scratch in Tumultuous Times - chronicles the rise of RFMD, starting from zero dollars in 1991 to a market value of \$16 billion less than a decade later.

Built on a Rock – A Memoir of Family, Faith and Place - The memoir tells of Neal's roots in Randolph County, the ups and downs of his life and career before RF Micro Devices, and finally the conception and construction of Linbrook Hall in the rural Randolph community where Neal's family had lived for generations.

Civic & Philanthropy:

Neal has a high regard for the verse in the Bible, Luke 12:48; "For whom much is given, of him much will be required..." He and his wife, Linda, have tried to live by this and believe their success has a corresponding requirement for service and utilization of that success for those less fortunate.