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2007 Top 40 Under 40 Honorees

Birmingham Business Journal



Rob Henger

Date of birth: November 2, 1967

Title: CEO

Company: Henger Rast Mortgage Corp. Type of company: Residential mortgage banking firm

Education: BA - Gettysburgh, Pa. 1990

City of residence: Homewood

Family: Wife: Tiffany, daughter: Sophia, son: Nick

First job: IT Systems Recruiter in NYC 1990

Reason for choosing profession: Mortgage Banking is the best job in the world. We get paid to help families call sticks and bricks "home!"

Turning point/defining moment in your career: Wachovia buying SouthTrust Bank was the seventh merger and acquisition in my career. I decided it would be the last when I bought Rast Mortgage in 2005

Tools/factors that helped you achieve early success: Worked 80 hours per week.

Ultimate career goal: Covert HRMC to an ESOP in 10 years and let staff own and guide the future of the company.

Guiding business principle: Most every problem can be resolved and in most cases turned into an opportunity, with focus, energy, and good old fashion hard work.

Yardstick of success: Not sure - I better figure that one out. I've always been a task oriented "just get it done" kind of guy. I better figure out where I want to go.

Best way to keep competitive edge: Turning every challenge into a learning experience. My offices have been filled with many dents in the sheetrock from me banging my head up against the wall. Each dent makes me a smarter and more competitive business person.

Characteristics that a good leader must have: Humility, internal drive, competitive spirit, and servants mentality.

Mentors: Jay Ottinger - Pinnacle Bank

Best advice you've received: Income and business opportunities come and go. Define a comfortable lifestyle for your family and save every penny you can.

Worst advice you've received: I'm sure there have been times when someone has given me bad advice, but I cannot remember.

Most important lesson learned: Never quit.

First choice for a new career: Attorney

Hobbies: Motorcycles, water skiing and snow skiing.

Favorite books: Rich Dad Poor Dad

Favorite movie: Jerry McGwire

Favorite restaurant: Mexico Lindo

Favorite vacation spot: Smith Lake

Civic organization involvement: Kiwanis, Ronald McDonald House, OLS Catholic Church, Multiple Sclerosis, Tocqueville Society.