



Dave Liniger
Class of 1963

Dave Liniger, Marion High School Class of 1963, is the visionary leader and co-founder of RE/MAX, a global real estate franchise based in Denver, Colo.

When he and his wife, Gail, created the RE/MAX business model in 1973, it revolutionized the real estate industry. The model, which combines a maximum commission concept with world-class support services, continues to attract experienced, top-producing agents who lead the industry in individual sales and professional education. In 2013, RE/MAX had nearly 90,000 agents in more than 85 countries.

Reflecting his effect on the industry, in 2011 Liniger earned Inman News' People's Choice Award for Most Influential Real Estate Leader – garnering the largest vote total in the history of the online survey. That came just a year after he was named one of the 50 Most Powerful People in Real Estate by Bloomberg Business Week. He has also been featured in Entrepreneur, Forbes, Fortune, Inc., Success, and other leading publications and media outlets across the globe.

He has earned the Warren Bennis Award for Leadership Excellence from the Global Institute for Leadership Development and has been inducted into the International Franchise Hall of Fame, the Council of Real Estate Brokerage Managers Hall of Leaders and the Real Estate Buyer's Agent Council Hall of Fame and has earned the Council of Residential Specialists Special Achievement Award.

Liniger is well respected internationally for his vast knowledge of the real estate industry and influence on housing policy. At the height of the recent recession, he pushed for governmental housing reform policies that would help speed the recovery in the housing sector; many of his recommendations were adopted.

He has also made a massive impact on various charities, with RE/MAX having raised more than \$120 million for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, Susan G. Komen for the Cure and other charities, and he has given millions of dollars for breast cancer research. Since 1997, he has also helped hundreds of charities raise more than \$60 million by permitting them to use his privately owned golf course, The Sanctuary, for fundraisers.

That golf course's setting, 222 hilly acres near Sedalia, Colo., is also a protected habitat for many native Colorado animal species, including elk and deer, black bears, golden eagles, foxes, and coyotes, and is home to dozens of wildflower varieties and native grasses. Liniger's love of nature is also manifested in the Denver-area conservation center The Wildlife Experience, of which he was a co-founder. The 14-acre facility is dedicated to fostering appreciation and understanding of wildlife, its conservation and the many forms of wildlife art.

He is also a pilot and race car driver. He has competed as a NASCAR driver and team owner, and he also has competed in the Grand-Am Series Rolex 24-hour race at Daytona International Speedway. He was one of a three-pilot crew who attempted to launch the Team RE/MAX stratospheric helium balloon expedition in the late 1990s, and he is a multi-engine, instrument-rated commercial pilot.

Liniger became interested in real estate while stationed with the U.S. Air Force in Phoenix, Ariz., buying and selling properties there to supplement his income. He also served in Vietnam with the Air Force.

He currently resides in Colorado with his wife, Gail.