**A insect on the ground

Description automatically generated**

**Micro**Giants

**EduMentor Contributors**

**A person standing in front of a curtain

Description automatically generatedGroup Leader RonBurgess**

Ron started his business career in college as the manager of a fashion shop while in Business School. Following graduation his mentors offered him a partnership in a new store. After three years he bought out his partners and opened 6 more stores over 8 years and a leather manufacturing business with partners. Ten years later he was recruited by a national retail consulting firm as regional manager for three states. He eventually became Director of the Management Services Division where he developed business analytical and software products with his team.

He opened his own consulting firm in 1989 and later started RedFusion Media with son Jon, and wife Molly. Ron continues to serve on boards of a couple of long-term clients.

Ron credits his serial successes to his first mentors; one his father’s age and the other his grandfather’s age and growing up in a family dependent on his father’s success in a small independent practice, and the strength faith brings. He has a strong belief that God made us and enterprise free.

**DavidMaupin**

Dave a navy veteran, is a very successful financial planner. As a former navy navigator, he has helped hundreds of clients and young people navigate the modern world of finance, investing and life planning tools.

His many non-profit activities include working with students to enter the business world, building schools in Africa, and local civic and chamber activity.

**JohnMills**

John immigrated from New Zealand to the US in the 1980’s to escape the socialist leaning government. He sought opportunity in this country, and shortly following his arrival created an electronics sales and engineering business working with some of America’s largest manufacturers of computer chips, technology and military entities.  He has a natural technical curiosity and business savvy that drove him to solve technical production problems and provide hard to design parts for his customers.

Moving from the Midwest to Southern California in the 90’s he invested his earnings in converting an old industrial building into smaller offices with full technical capabilities for small companies and startups. His “services” often include mentorship as well as office space.

**JohnHaythe**

John has worked with hundreds of retail and small businesses. He is an expert in the area of inventory optimization and merchandise planning. He developed the training program for the country’s largest retail consulting firm responsible for over 120 field consultants and traveled extensively working with some of the best specialty stores. He continues to work with new entrepreneurs and is an inspiration to achievement and success.



**DeborahSmith**

Debbie has decades of experience in matching skills with real business needs. In her current position as Administrator of Chaffee College-Intech Center, she coordinates training and career objectives for students. Debbie is engaged in the workforce development of the region and has deep insights into what kind of skills are required for employment and small business startups in the trades.

**RayAnderson**

Ray has consulted on workforce development and management for thirty years. With a focus in manufacturing, he works to align front line workers with leadership. Ray has a seminar series called Good Hearted Leadership, that brings workers and owners together with a goal of improving efficiency and team work.

He is passionate about helping young entrepreneurs buy existing companies from retiring boomers.

**EdLasak**

Ed is a CPA with long time management operations experience. He was COO for the Press Enterprise in Riverside and oversaw its high visibility sale to a very large Texas Publisher. He is currently an expert in Exit strategies for business owners, a step he says, “starts on the day the business is founded”. He has been involved in a number of Inland Empire regional economic development oriented and civic groups.

As a business consultant Ed has an unusual perspective as a CPA with actual management operations experience.