

BRANIFF TRAIL KANSAS CITY PLAQUE HAS BEEN PLACED - Braniff Airways Foundation is happy to announce that the Braniff Trail Historical Plaque for Kansas City was placed on July 24 , 2018. The new plaque marks the site of Braniff's headquarters building located at 1715 Baltimore Avenue in downtown Kansas City.

Situated next to the famed Trans World Airlines Headquarters Building, the Baltimore Headquarters was carefully restored to its original beauty by Mpress Printing, which is the current tenant that lovingly oversees this historic facility that served as Braniff's Kansas City headquarters and reservations center. Both the historic TWA Building and the Braniff Building comprise a unique historical district in the Baltimore Avenue area of the downtown area.

The new 12"x12" stainless steel plaque featuring black laser engraving was shipped to Mpress, LLC, on July 14, 2018, for placement on a highly visible part of the building for all visitors to enjoy. Braniff Trail plaques are constructed to last infinitely and feature strong 1/4 inch thick stainless steel construction with long-life weather-safe laser engraving. The plaques are highly durable and elegant, which enables them to be placed virtually anywhere and in any design setting.

On July 14, 2017, Braniff Airways Foundation Founder and Chairman Ben Cass contacted Mpress Printing to explain the unique Braniff Trail Historical Plaque Project and to inquire about the possibility of placing a plaque at the 1715 Baltimore Avenue building, which had occupied the building since 2001. MPress was very receptive to the idea of the plaque and the company's Founder, Ralph Myers, had fond memories of Braniff's faithful Convair 340 twin-engine airliners that were a fixture at Kansas City Municipal Airport for nearly two decades. In honor of Mr. Myers' memories, the Baltimore Avenue plaque proudly displays the artwork of a Braniff Airways Convair 340.

Mr. Myers and his family undertook the daunting task of completely restoring the historic Braniff building from the ground up. Once completed, the beautiful structure would also house his families commercial printing company. The company was founded in 2001 by Dana and Ralph Myers, along with their 25 year old son, Byron Myers. Mr. Myers came from a background of banking and printing, while Mrs. Myers came from a teaching and volunteer background and Byron had just graduated from college.

The company was started at the time when new technology was coming to the printing industry, which allowed for all-new technology equipment and the hiring of a new staff with the necessary skills to operate the hardware. With the finest Heidelberg equipment and a hand picked staff, doors were open for business on May 28, 2001.

Located in the Crossroads District of Kansas City, Mpress fully rehabilitated Braniff's former headquarters building. Next door were the former headquarters building of TWA. The entire area held the heritage of the Film District and was home to national distributors of films for theatres throughout the local county. By 2018, Mpress has grown to 20 employees, with digital, offset and large format capabilities. The company serves those clients that seek and appreciate the best value in their printing and understand quality and service.

Braniff International enjoyed a long relationship with the Kansas City area, having first served the US heartland city beginning on February 15, 1931. A single daily round trip flight was offered between Chicago, Illinois, and Wichita Falls, Texas, via intermediate

stops at Kansas City, Wichita, Kansas and Oklahoma City. Four months later, on June 15, 1931, service was added at St. Louis to Kansas City, Tulsa and Chicago.

Through the years, Kansas City became an important hub airport for Braniff International. On June 1, 1979, service was expanded to several new cities and Kansas City became a large hub second to Braniff's premier hub at Dallas/Ft. Worth Regional Airport. During the same month, a new regional headquarters and reservations office was opened at Kansas City international Airport.

Braniff Airways Foundation

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