



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION

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VIA E-mail: wsj.ltrs@wsj.com

"To perpetuate his memory and his contributions to the United States."
-U.S. Public Law 106-79

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To the Editor:

The saga of memorializing President Dwight David Eisenhower ("If You Like Ike, Start Over With His Memorial..." by Sam Roche, August 4, 2014) reads like an Ayn Rand novel: a brilliant architect; an ideological agenda, a billionaire who'll stop at nothing; an assortment of sycophants.

Exposed by *Washingtonian Magazine*, the organization for which Roche serves as spokesperson is funded by billionaire and classical zealot, Richard H. Driehaus. This group believes that the Eisenhower Memorial Commissioners should have looked eastward -- to Europe, and the classical designs of Greece and Rome -- to capture the essence of a man from the American Midwest who was born in the 19th century, a giant of the 20th, being memorialized in the 21st.

Deep pockets and squeaky wheels spewing misinformation and half-truths are the hallmark of their obstructionist agenda. That's what you get when your billionaire patron can afford an army of lobbyists, spin doctors and "newsmaker" events.

The Driehaus group fears great ideas. Frank Gehry has proposed a brilliant design to honor a quintessentially modern man. Yet, like Maya Lin and her Vietnam Memorial, he has been vilified by those who simply don't agree with, or dislike, him.

Despite Roche's claim that the Eisenhower Memorial Commission did not give interviews he quotes Chairman Siciliano's statement to the *New York Times* -- a story for which I was interviewed and quoted.

Sincerely,

Carl W. Reddel, Brig. Gen., USAF (Ret.)