JOHN D. BECKETT was born and grew up in Elyria, Ohio, the oldest of three children. He graduated from M.I.T. in 1960 with a bachelor of science degree in economics and mechanical engineering. Following graduation he worked as an engineer in the aerospace industry.

Beckett joined his father in a small family-owned manufacturing business in 1963, becoming president in 1965 upon the death of his father. He is now chairman of the R.W. Beckett Corporation, and has helped guide the business to worldwide leadership in the manufacture and sales of engineered components for residential and commercial heating. The company, with its affiliates, currently has sales of nearly $100 million, with 600 employees.

Beckett has long been active in both church and community-related activities. He helped found Intercessors for America, a national prayer organization, in 1973 and continues to serve as its board chairman. He is a founding board member of The King’s College in New York City and is also a director of Graphic Packaging International, an NYSE-listed manufacturing company. Beckett is also a cofounder of Advent Industries, a manufacturing company that provides job training for those who are hard to employ.

In 1999, the Christian Broadcasting Network named him “Christian Businessman of the Year.” Beckett received an honorary doctor of laws degree from Spring Arbor University in 2002, and was named manufacturing “Entrepreneur of the Year” by Ernst & Young in 2003.

His first book, Loving Monday: Succeeding in Business Without Selling Your Soul, was published in 1998 by InterVarsity Press. The book is Beckett’s account of how he has sought to practically integrate his faith and his work. It is currently available in ten languages.

Beckett resides in Elyria, Ohio, with his wife, Wendy, to whom he has been married since 1961. They are the parents of six children and ten grandchildren.