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Energy Conversion founder will live on

EDITORIAL

When someone dies at age 79, it isn't always a shock, but that certainly was the case in the death last week of Iris Ovshinsky of Bloomfield Hills.

She and her husband, Stan, were partners in founding and inspiring the development of Energy Conversion Devices Inc.

Based in Rochester Hills, it has become a leading company in the development and manufacture of literal space-age products such as solar panels and, more broadly, the harnessing of hydrogen for daily use.

To list all that the company does would fill this space, even with smaller type, and she played a full role in all of it since the couple founded it 46 years ago.

Make no mistake, Iris Ovshinsky was not retired from the enterprise.

But she and her husband hired wisely, as in the case of former GM Chairman Robert Stempel, himself an engineer. And ECD, as it's known, with Stan Ovshinsky still very much involved, will carry on full speed ahead.

You'd do yourself a favor and honor her memory by checking out www.ovonic.com, the company's Web site.