This year's award winners have carved out their place among a group that represents the highest quality in the industry. REMODELING is pleased to present the Big 50 Class of 2001.

JOSEPH F. SCHULER JR.
JIM CORY
NINA PATEL
SENIOR EDITORS

Allan and Joanie Browne

Extended Home Living Services
Wheeling, Ill.

Home modification
20 years in business
2000 volume: $4.1 million
Staff: 17 office, 0 field

PHOTO: JOE RUSH

If there's one trend that will without a doubt affect the remodeling industry substantially, it's the aging of the baby boomers. So it stands to logic that a remodeler on the forefront of that move will have a great deal of impact on the industry. Allan Browne is one such remodeler.

His company received a two year, $850,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health to research and develop an assessment of home modification projects that can be used nationwide. The system, called Comprehensive Assessment and Solution Process for Aging Residents, begins with a questionnaire filled out by a remodeler, which is sent to a company like Browne's and evaluated. The remodeler would then be sent a detailed set of plans to complete the remodel.

Browne's knowledge of the industry has been hard earned. "It took me nine years to feel comfortable with what I know," he says.