

## Revealing the Secret Ingredient

Years ago, in his book *Success through a Positive Mental Attitude*, business writer Napoleon Hill told about a successful cosmetics manufacturer – probably Charles Revson, the founder of the Revlon cosmetic company – who decided he would retire at the age of 65.

Each year thereafter, his friends and former business associates gave him a birthday party and tried to find out the secret of his success; in other words, the “secret” for his special cosmetics formula. But year after year, he refused, good-naturedly, to reveal his secret.

“Maybe I will tell you next year,” he would say.

This went on for 10 years until the businessman celebrated his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. As usual, his associates begged him to share the secret formula with them so they could continue the business after his death. Finally, he yielded to their insistence.

“In addition to the things which I use which are commonly known,” he said, “there is one secret ingredient that I package with every bottle.”

By this time, everyone at the party was listening with rapt attention.

“What is it?” an anxious friend inquired. “Please don’t keep us in suspense any longer.”

Revson replied: “I never told a woman that my product would make her beautiful, but I always gave her hope.”

“Hope,” he added, “is the magic ingredient.”

Well, hope *is* the magic ingredient – whether in life or in death, in good times or times of sorrow. The magic ingredient is the assurance that regardless of how challenging today is – and we in Life Care and Century Park face challenges galore – God is in charge.

As the Apostle Paul said in Romans 8:28: “All things work to the good for those who love Him.”

That is hope.

– Beecher Hunter

