

RESUME

3/14/11

Name: James Ahern
Born: Cleveland, OH 4/24/47
Spouse: Christine Marie Ferron – married 1972
Children: 3 adult children
Education: BSCE - University of Dayton - 1969
MSCE - University of Dayton - 1972

Affiliations:

- Ohio Contractors Association
- American Society of Civil Engineers
President Dayton Section 1977
- West Virginia Contractors Association
President 1988
- American Road & Transportation Builders Association -President
Contractors Division 2002
- OSHA Advisory Committee on Construction Safety & Health

Major Career Accomplishments

- 18 year career with Danis Industries Corp.'s Highway Construction Group
- 19 years majority owner of Ahern & Associates, Inc.
- Responsible for delivery of over \$500 million of heavy highway construction projects - safely, on time and on budget.
- Simultaneous construction at airports in Charleston, WV - Dayton, OH – Orlando, FL – Scranton, PA and Washington D.C.
- 1999 Design Build Institute of America Award Winner – Highway Project Under \$15M category
- Testimony to the United States House of Representatives, Surface Transportation Committee on the current status of highway and infrastructure needs
- OSHA committee chairman responsible for re-write of Subpart N - Cranes, Derricks, Hoists, Elevators, and Conveyors

BIOGRAPHY

Jim Ahern was born and raised in Cleveland, OH and is still waiting for the Tribe to win a World Series. During high school Jim had a strong sense that contracting would be his future career. In 1965 Ahern enrolled in the Civil Engineering curriculum at the University of Dayton. During the ensuing summers Jim worked for a bridge builder in the Cleveland area. These summer experiences solidified his desire to continue his career in the construction industry. Ahern received his bachelor's degree in 1969. Just prior to graduation an opportunity developed to attend graduate school at the University of Dayton and after a brief stint in the Army [#2 in the first lottery] Ahern was awarded a Master of Civil Engineering degree in 1972. After graduation Ahern went to work for the Highway Construction Group of Danis Industries Corp. located in Dayton, OH. For the next 7 years Ahern's job responsibilities went from foreman to superintendent to project manager to operations manager. At each level Ahern was responsible for the quality and cost of construction on earthmoving, bridge construction utility installation, concrete paving projects including all aspects of the scopes of work mentioned above.

In 1979 Danis purchased the G.E. Ray Construction Company in Charleston, West Virginia. Ahern and his family moved to the Mountain State and assumed the responsibilities for general management of a regional office. During this period of time it became obvious to Ahern that not only technical expertise was necessary to be a successful contractor but also the ability to manage people was crucial in leading an organization. Ahern's responsibilities grew and ultimately he became simultaneously responsible for Danis offices in Orlando, Washington D.C., Scranton, Charleston and Dayton. In 1991, along with fellow UD graduate L. P. DeRoo [BCE '79] Ahern formed Ahern & Associates, Inc.

Ahern & Associates, Inc. was a heavy highway contractor specializing in bridge construction. Geographically Ahern & Associates, Inc. operated on both sides of the Ohio River performing highway, bridge and coal-field related construction work in Ohio and West Virginia. [To a much lesser extent Ahern & Associates, Inc. performed work in PA, MD and VA] The majority of Ahern & Associates, Inc.'s project managers were graduate civil engineers. This team brought technical problem solving to your typical highway construction project and enabled the company to pursue high-risk projects that were not appealing to the more traditional contractor. During the approximately 20 years Ahern & Associates, Inc. was in business the highway construction market has been offered many opportunities for a creative problem solving company. Jim attributes the success of his company to not only the experiences he learned while working for Danis but more importantly to the hard work and dedication of all the employees of the firm.

Ahern is a registered professional engineer. He is past president of the West Virginia Contractors Association, Chairman of the American Road and Transportation Builders Association's contractor division and has had the privilege of testifying before Congress on highway construction funding related issues.

Ahern is married to UD graduate Christine Ferron [1969] and they have three children. Jim cannot really say that he has any hobbies. However over the last 35 years being involved in the activities of his children has certainly taken up any spare time. All three have been very active swimmers participating on the college level. Two of his three children have pursued engineering curriculums, one in civil in the other mechanical.

Jim states that it is hard to believe that over 40 years have passed since he graduated from the University of Dayton. On a daily basis Ahern applies the basic engineering principles that he learned while in college to insure continued success for his heavy and highway construction company

In 2010 Ahern & Associates, Inc. was acquired by the Kokosing Construction Company Incorporated of Columbus, OH. Jim has no management or financial ties to Kokosing. However, Jim continues to be involved in a minimal number of pre-acquisition issues. These issues will be entirely resolved in 2011.