

John Atwood

Business



John Atwood graduated from Collinwood High School in 1952. He began his college career at Ohio State University and later transferred to Kent State where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration.

He served eight years in the United States Army. There, he earned the rank of Captain in the Artillery. While in the military, he also served as a Court Marshall Trial Officer and a Battalion Motor Officer.

Atwood began his business career as a salesman for Addressograph-Multigraph Corporation. In 1960, he founded his first business, the Ohio Addressing Machine Company, and served as president until 1972. In 1971, he invested his hard earned money and purchased his first car wash in Mentor. From 1973 until 1996 his business prowess resulted in the ownership of nine additional locations in the Greater Cleveland area. Collinwood residents are most familiar with Atwood's Aquasonic Auto Wash, located at East 200th St. and Lakeland Boulevard from 1985 to 1996. Atwood started the Ohio Car Wash Association and served as president for two terms. He was also active in the International Car Wash Association.

Atwood made an indelible mark in community service for the City of Euclid. He served as a member of the Chamber of Commerce, vice-president of the Euclid Exchange Club, charter trustee of the Euclid Gateway Foundation, and was executive Vice President of the Euclid Edcore Loan Program. Atwood served on the committee for the reorganization of Euclid Schools and was co-chairman of the Euclid School Bond Issue Committee. All of this business and community service did not go unnoticed. Atwood was named Euclid's Commercial Retail Man of the Year in 1978, and later was appointed Commissioner of the Euclid Planning & Zoning Board, a body that controlled all of the city's development.

Entrepreneurs and small business owners are considered the "backbone" of the American economy. It takes a special business person to have the self confidence and expertise to risk their hard earned money and begin their own business. It is even more notable to then be so successful that they are able to expand that business multiple times. That is a true business accomplishment. To be recognized as a leader, not only in the business field but also in the community makes Atwood both an astute business person and also a person who gives back to the area.

John is married to Betty Matyazic. The Atwood's have four children and 11 grandchildren. They lived in Euclid for 45 years, mostly on Lloyd Road, before moving to Quail Hollow in Concord, Ohio six years ago. Now they divide their time, spending six months in Concord, Ohio and six months at their home in Miromar Lakes, Florida. The Atwood's helped to found the Cleveland Club of Southwest Florida ten years ago and are still active members. A natural leader, Atwood can't resist a call for community service and presently serves as treasurer and Vice President of the Board of Directors of his Condo Association. As a lifetime resident of the Cleveland area, John keeps in touch with many Collinwood Railroaders.

