

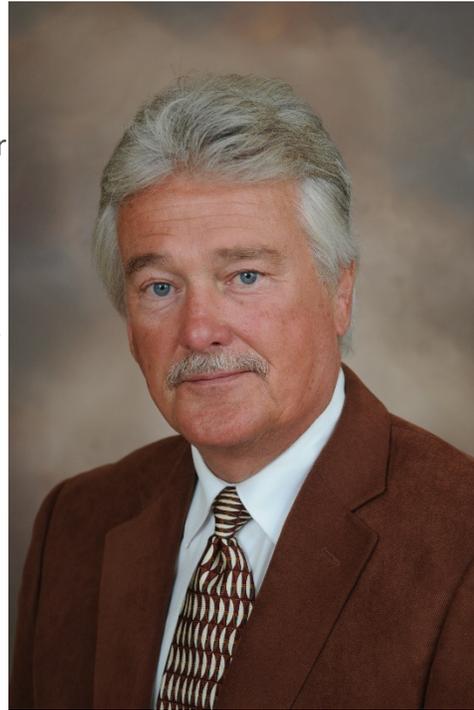
# IDEA Hall of Fame 2016

## Keith Johanneson

Keith Johanneson is a leader in the supermarket retail industry and is currently President/CEO, majority owner of the Johanneson Group of Companies.

The Johanneson Companies owns and operates full service supermarkets, convenience stores, liquor stores and hardware stores. In addition, Johanneson Companies operates a number of Pace Development entities that design, build, and operate retail shopping centers, offices, and warehouse facilities.

Keith Johanneson and his family have been serving communities within the retail grocery industry for over 75 years. He began his career as a clerk working at his family's neighborhood supermarket. Following college at Bemidji State University, the University of Minnesota and Oxford University, Keith worked as a Market Research Analyst for Supervalu, Inc. based in Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN. Shortly thereafter, Keith replaced his father as President of Johanneson's, Inc. where he continues to serve today.



As with many entrepreneurs, his passion for retail was kindled while working as a clerk in his family store in Bemidji, MN. Early in his career he built a solid analytical foundation for retail and wholesale business with Supervalu, Inc. Returning to his true passion, Keith assumed responsibility for the Johanneson's growing retail operations and ventured into new retail-wholesale businesses for the company.

Johanneson has been nominated for and received many local, state, regional, and national industry awards including the Thomas K. Zaucha Entrepreneurial Excellence Award presented by Kraft Foods, Inc. at the 2011 National Grocers Association's Convention in Las Vegas, NV. The annual award recognizes a retailer who exemplifies foresight, creative entrepreneurship, and persistence amidst the present economic conditions challenging the grocery industry.

Other awards have included the Spirit of America Award and the Scandinavian-American Hall of Fame at Norsk Hostfest. His present position as president and CEO has allowed him to

develop a corporate culture of leadership in his organization and strong community involvement in the communities that their company serves. The Johanneson's Companies provide support and leadership for multiple events including "Ride for the Troops," an annual event held in Bemidji, and "Stuff a Truck" a company-wide program supporting local food shelf programs.

Keith has served on numerous boards, which include his service for thirty years as a Director of Security Bank USA, Fairway Foods, Supervalu Retail Advisory Group, Concordia Language Villages National Advisory Board, the Minnesota Grocers Board, and has worked on numerous councils throughout his career in the supermarket industry. Recently, Keith was honored to join Concordia College Board of Regents. In addition, Keith served as the Founding President of the Joint Economic Development Commission, which is now known as Greater Bemidji.

Keith is a true visionary, and seems to have the ability to see around the corner looking to the future in the many communities he serves.

Keith and his wife Maria reside in Bemidji and have four grown children and six grandchildren.