



MR. JOHN Q. HAMMONS
Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
John Q. Hammons Hotels & Resorts, LLC

For 49 years, Mr. John Q. Hammons has been a leading innovator in the lodging industry. He is well known for his shrewd market analysis and for creating signature-style full-service hotels featuring atrium lobbies, expansive meeting and convention space, large guest rooms, podium check-in stations and complete business traveler amenities. Over the years, Mr. Hammons has developed 184 hotel properties in 40 states.

A Missouri native, Mr. Hammons grew up during the Great Depression near Joplin. He earned his degree from Southwest Missouri State University (SMSU) in nearby Springfield and began his professional career as a junior high school teacher in Cassville. Widely known as an advocate of education, Mr. Hammons holds honorary doctorate degrees from SMSU, Drury University and Northwood University.

Following his service in the U.S. military, Mr. Hammons recognized that G.I.s returning from World War II would need quality housing in which to raise their families. He began building the first suburban housing in Springfield in the late 1940s and established a number of real estate ventures, including housing tracts, apartment complexes and shopping centers.

Mr. Hammons entered the hotel industry in 1958 and joined with Roy E. Winegardner to purchase the first 10 Holiday Inn franchises from founder Kemmons Wilson. Winegardner & Hammons Incorporated (WHI) of Cincinnati, Ohio, a hotel development company, was formed in 1961. By the late 1960s, WHI had constructed nearly three dozen Holiday Inn hotels. Mr. Hammons formed John Q. Hammons Hotels in 1969.

Today, John Q. Hammons Hotels & Resorts, LLC operates properties nationwide under the following brands: Embassy Suites Hotel, Renaissance, Marriott, Radisson, Residence Inn, Homewood Suites, Holiday Inn and Hampton Inn & Suites. The company owns or manages 72 hotels in 24 states and is considered to be the leading independent manager of hotel meeting space in the country, with more than 1.8 million square feet of meeting and convention space under management.

Throughout his 49 years in the hotel industry, Mr. Hammons has been honored with countless awards for his achievements not only as an hotelier, but also as a philanthropist. He will be honored at the Sixth Annual Americas Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS) on January 22–24, 2007, in Los Angeles. Mr. Hammons will receive the prestigious ALIS Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his commendable accomplishments in the lodging industry, as well as outstanding commitment, leadership and service to the community.

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In October 2006, the InterContinental Hotels Group owners' association honored Mr. Hammons with the prestigious Kemmons Wilson Service Award for a lifetime of outstanding achievement.

The November 2003 issue of *HOTELS* magazine featured Mr. Hammons as "Corporate Hotelier of the World," an annual award that recognizes excellence in establishment and maintenance of high-quality service and standards, demonstration of management skills, volunteer efforts to support industry committees and local charities, as well as support of educational endeavors.

Additionally, in March 2002, the Hilton Hotels Corporation presented Mr. Hammons with the Connie Award (named after founder Conrad N. Hilton), which is usually bestowed internally within the Hilton organization. Recognizing him as one of the most committed developers of the Embassy Suites Hotel brand, Hilton Hotels selected Mr. Hammons for his dedication and loyalty to the Hilton organization, as well as his impressive philanthropic efforts in Springfield.

Hilton Hotels also recognized Mr. Hammons in March 2004 as the 2003 Embassy Suites Hotel Developer of the Year for developing properties that enhance the brand's image. To be considered, all hotels in Mr. Hammons' Hilton Family portfolio had to be rated high quality and in good status.

Mr. Hammons and former business partner, Roy E. Winegardner, were presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award during ceremonies at the 15th Annual Industry Investment Conference at the Century Plaza Hotel and Tower in Los Angeles the fall of 2000. The award was sponsored by the University of California in Los Angeles Extension.

In October 2003, *USA TODAY*'s Newspapers in Education Program honored Mr. Hammons with an appreciation award for his ongoing commitment to Springfield-area school students. Since 1993, he has dedicated a portion of funds to provide more than 706,600 copies of *USA TODAY* to more than 5,464 schools and 682 teachers, to inspire student education of current events.

Mr. Hammons and his wife, Juanita, live in Springfield, Mo., and are active in the community. Overall, Mr. Hammons has donated more than \$100 million to the city of Springfield and other organizations in the last 50 years. Some of his most notable philanthropic efforts include: the funding of the Hammons Heart Institute and Hammons Life Line helicopter for St. John's Regional Health Center in Springfield; the Hammons Student Center, Hammons Fountains and Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts at Missouri State University; and the Hammons School of Architecture at Drury University, and Hammons Field, a 10,000-seat Double-A Minor League baseball stadium, which is home to the St. Louis Cardinals' Double-A Minor League team, the Springfield Cardinals. He most recently donated \$25 million to Missouri State University to build the JQH Arena.

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