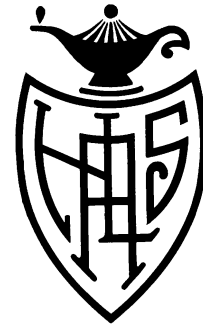


*DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI - 2015*

**JOHN M. MORRISON  
CLASS OF 1955**



John M. Morrison was born and raised in Albert Lea, oldest of three sons of M.T. and June Morrison. His brothers are Michael and Toby.

John attended Abbott Elementary School. He was Student Council president in seventh and ninth grade. Throughout high school John was very active in drama. He was a Masquer and Thespian his sophomore, junior, and senior year, acting in over five plays. He was appointed to the Homecoming Court representing dramatics. Other groups John participated in were Junior Classical League, Visual Aids Club, AhLaHaSa, Tiger Yearbook, Tiger's Roar, Band, Football, Prom Committee Chairman, Student Council, and Rotary Representative. He was Senior Class President. He graduated from ALHS in 1955.

John graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1958, where he studied pre-law. At the U he was president of the all-university congress, president of the Young Republican Club, and he was head of Inter-Fraternity Council. He completed a Bachelor of Science degree in business law at LaSalle University in Chicago.

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One of his early volunteer activities was to serve as one of the three top men in the campaign of Hubert Humphrey for Vice President. John served as Humphrey's national campaign manager.

Currently John is Chairman of the Board and largest shareholder of *MidwestOne* Financial Group, a \$3 billion banking organization out of Iowa City, IA. He is the founder and former Chairman/CEO and sole owner of Central Bankshares, Inc., the parent company of Central Bank, a Minneapolis-based banking organization, which was merged with *MidwestOne* in early 2015. He is the owner and Chairman of Central Bank Group, Inc. and Central Financial Services, a bank consulting firm. Over the years he has purchased well over 100 banks throughout the United States.

John has also purchased several successful and/or troubled manufacturing companies in various industries across the United States. Among these were a fastener company with locations in California and Oregon, an optical and mine safety manufacturing company in Massachusetts, an airplane manufacturing company in Texas, a computer cash register company in Minneapolis, a precision instrument company in Canada, and several other companies. He has been the largest shareholder, chairman, or lead Director of six publicly held companies.

John was the lead Director and Chairman of the Compensation Committee of Fingerhut Corporation, a publicly held credit card and catalog company with over 10,000 employees.

During the mid-1990's John was selected to serve as a member of the Board of Governors of the University of Minnesota Academic Health Center and Chairman of Finance at the University of Minnesota Health System where he was in charge of a successful merger of the University of Minnesota Hospital into the Fairview Health Services system, which owned 10 hospitals and 40 clinics in Minnesota and employed over 20,000 employees.

In 2001, the Minnesota Attorney General's Office appointed John as Assistant Attorney General for the State of Minnesota to become Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Allina Health Systems, a 16 hospital, 50 clinic health care system with 22,000 employees, to lead the effort in reorganizing Allina Health System.

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John received the prestigious University of Minnesota Regents Award in 2001. The Regents Award is presented only every few years to individuals who have contributed to the building and development of the University of Minnesota through exceptionally valuable and meritorious service.

In 2007, John received the University of Minnesota's Most Outstanding Achievement Award, which is the highest award given to alumni who have attained distinction in their profession, public service and who have demonstrated outstanding achievement and leadership on a community, state, and national level.

John is presently the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University of St. Thomas and Chairman of its Executive Committee. He received an honorary Doctorate of Law degree and gave the Commencement address to the graduating class of 1999.

In October 2012, John served as co-chair of a St. Thomas capital campaign, which raised over \$515 million dollars during the five-year campaign. He was a founding member of the Board of Governors of the University of St. Thomas School of Law and established the John M. Morrison Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of St. Thomas, along with Morrison Hall, a 112-apartment residence hall equipped to house 350 students at the university.

In 2000, John established a scholarship program for graduating seniors of Albert Lea High School and also to underprivileged teens from the Minneapolis metro area which allowed them to attend a college of their choice.

Over the years the Morrison Foundation has donated tens of millions of dollars for buildings and dormitories at the University of St. Thomas, the Minneapolis Heart Hospital, United Hospital, Cretin Durham Hall High School, the University of St. Catherine, Naples Community Hospital Foundation, and the Basilica of St. Mary.

John is a member of the World Presidents Organization and the Chief Executives Organization, both of which are worldwide organizations of CEOs.

John has been married to Susan Schmid Morrison since 1960. They have four children and 12 grandchildren.

John said he's likely never to completely retire, but he does love to travel for business and pleasure. He also enjoys skiing, hunting, boating, and flying.