

CANS 2023 HONOURARY LIFE MEMBER



Earl Casey

Casey Concrete Limited

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Earl Casey is a man of many talents, but his greatest contribution has been to the construction industry. His company, Casey Concrete Limited, has been serving the industry for over 75 years and has grown to become a strong group of companies. Earl is the second generation of his family business and has successfully transitioned the business to his three sons who are continuing with the family tradition. Earl's accomplishments within the construction industry are worthy of recognition and honour.

Earl first began working for his father at the age of 13 in Amherst, Nova Scotia. He drove vehicles and equipment around town, making deliveries and other jobs for his father's small start-up company. Earl learned the ropes of the business from his father and, in 1969, was asked to move to Truro to set up another ready-mix plant and become the vice president of the company. In 1985, Earl purchased a ready-mix plant under construction in Hardwood Lands (East Hants), and then Rapid Concrete Limited in Trenton, in 1986. After the passing of E. L. Casey in 1988, Earl took over as president and changed the name of the company to Casey Concrete Limited, to reflect the true focus of the company - all things concrete.

With Amherst being on the New Brunswick border, Casey Concrete had always worked in that province. In 1995, the New Brunswick expansion formally started with the purchase of a ready-mix plant in Cap-Pelé, and in 2000, Builder's Ready-Mix, in Moncton. In 2004, a ready-mix plant in Antigonish was built in anticipation of future highway expansions. The HRM market was entered in 2005, by way of a partnership with the Gentile family on their ready-mix concrete operation. Earl understood that off-site construction was a future area of growth

in construction and supported an expansion of precast concrete through the joint venture with CamCon Precast, and the opening of a new manufacturing facility in East Hants, to form Eastern Structural Precast in 2015. This precast division was recently consolidated under Casey Concrete.

Earl's success is not limited to the construction industry. He also owned and operated several other businesses over his career that were not directly related to concrete but were all administered out of the Casey Group head office. These businesses include NAPA Auto Parts franchises, Amherst Auto and Cumberland Auto; Truro Sanitation Limited; PBS Waste Services; Scotia Hyundai; and Lynds Industrial. Earl's entrepreneurial spirit and business expertise have enabled him to succeed in various sectors, making him one of the most respected businessmen in Nova Scotia.

Earl has always been very active in his community. He has served on several boards of directors including Truro Industrial Commission; Colchester Regional Hospital Foundation; Truro YMCA; CORDA (Colchester Regional Development Agency); NOBL (Northern Opportunities for Business Limited.); Construction Association of Nova Scotia; and is twice the past president of the Atlantic Provinces Ready Mix Concrete Association (Concrete Atlantic). Earl has been recognized in the past for his business achievements. In 2000, the Truro and District Chamber of Commerce selected him as their Businessperson of the Year. In 2007, The Casey Group was selected as The Amherst and Area Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year.

Earl has been a leader within his companies throughout his career. He has earned the respect of employees that have followed him through expansion and diversification. Even closer than his long-term employees are Earl's three sons. All three have worked for the companies throughout their lives, during summers and then full-time after university. Earl has instilled in each of them his philosophies of work, leadership, and community, as he prepared his sons for the eventual takeover and ownership of the family businesses. Earl worked openly and closely with his sons to establish a succession plan that allowed him to transition the family business confidently.

Earl is married to Eleanor Casey (Morrison) of Amherst, and they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2020. They spend their time between Truro, Cape Breton, and Florida. In a true reflection of his legacy, one of Earl's five grandchildren is already working during the summers in the business.

Earl Casey's contribution to the construction industry is unparalleled and he is an inspiration to everyone in his community and the construction industry.

