



IAAS Walks of Life 1998
Rip Reilly

Rip (Raymond) Reilly is universally acknowledged as the "guiding force," since 1958 - of an event that annually draws enough people to fill Jacobs Field two-and-a-half times over: Cleveland's beloved St. Patrick's Day Parade. Though he officially stepped down as Executive Director of the parade in 1968, Reilly continues to be sought out for his expertise, encyclopedic knowledge and political savvy in coordinating this logistical and diplomatic nightmare.

Today the parade includes 125 separate marching units. The grandson of Irish immigrants from Co. Monaghan, Reilly worked his way through John Carroll University as a tree trimmer before joining the national accounting firm of Ernst & Young. There he was editorial manager in communication services for 24 years until he retired in 1992.

Irish American Archives Society
P.O. Box 91756
Cleveland, OH 44101-3756
info@irisharchives.org