



IAAS Walks of Life 2001
Kevin O'Donnell

Kevin O'Donnell, managing director of his consulting firm, O'Donnell & Associates, has merged business and social service skills for more than half a century. Furthermore, he and his wife, the former Ellen Blydenburgh, have a merged family of eight children and 17 grandchildren.

Following WWII military service as a Navy lieutenant, he earned a bachelor's degree from Kenyan College and a master's from Harvard Business School. Honorary doctorates have since been conferred on

him by Kenyan as well as Korea's Pusan National University and Ohio Wesleyan University. From 1947 until 1966 he was employed in management positions by several Cleveland industrial firms.

From 1966 until 1972 he was with the Peace Corps, first as its director in Seoul, Korea, then in Washington, D.C. as, consecutively, director of finance and administration and deputy director. His final year he headed the corps as associate director for international affairs. In 1972 he joined SIFCO Industries, Inc. as executive vice president, advancing through corporate leadership positions until he chaired the executive committee from 1990 until 1994.

From the mid-70s to the mid-90s, O'Donnell served some 27 business, industrial, educational and social service organizations as an officer, director or trustee. For example, he has chaired St. Mary of the Woods College trustees, the Cuyahoga County Board of Mental Retardation, the Cleveland Council on World Affairs and the Cuyahoga County Board of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services. Additionally, he was president of the First Friday Club of Cleveland and Guest House, Lake Orion, Michigan. Fifteen such organizations continue today to receive his attention, among them the Washington Institute of Foreign Affairs, Cleveland Catholic Diocese Finance Council, Central Park Media, Inc. of New York City, and Doyle Pacific Industries, Ltd., Hong Kong.

Honors received by Kevin O'Donnell have included the Order of Civil Merit, from the president of the Republic of Korea; the 1990 Business Statesmanship Award from the Harvard Business School Club of Cleveland, and the 1992 Bronze Key Award from the National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependency

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