



IAAS Walks of Life 2005
Michael O'Malley

Michael O'Malley was born in County Mayo, in a small fishing village off the West Coast of Ireland and was educated at St. Mary's School in Dooega, Achill Sound. He left home at the age of 14 to serve an apprenticeship as a bricklayer in London, England. At the age of 18, Mike came to Cleveland, where he became the youngest bricklayer ever to be accepted as a journeyman into Bricklayer's Local No. 5.

Mike has been married to his wife, Maureen, for 42 years and during that time they have enjoyed rearing their three children. They are now enjoying their four grandchildren while still working to maintain their successful construction business.

Mike is proud of his many business accomplishments and the several awards he has won.

Especially valued is his Exceptional Craftsmanship in Masonry Award from The Builder Exchange. His accomplishments include the new St. Colette's Church in Brunswick; the Marion Village cluster homes located at St. Mary's Church grounds in Berea as well as a new chapel adjoining that church and a new library addition to the school; and the Oasis in the inner city, a spiritual weekend retreat mission. One of his greatest joys has been in assisting his daughter in building the Harp, a successful Irish-theme restaurant off the West Shoreway near Cleveland's downtown.

Mike has been active as a volunteer at Lakewood's St. James Church, St. Augustine Academy, and at Berea's St. Mary Church. He also is a board member for the Little Sisters of the Poor and for the past 20 years has helped organize a reverse raffle to benefit their work. He maintains his greatest satisfaction in life has been his "family, friends and grandchildren."

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