

## LARRY RUVO (Class of 1964)

Larry Ruvo's family moved to Las Vegas from New York when Larry was 6 years old. His parents Lou and Angie owned and managed the Venetian Restaurant in Las Vegas for 43 years. After graduating from LVHS in 1964, Larry went on to work for the Sahara and Frontier hotels.

Larry Ruvo has been in the wholesale liquor and wine business for over 40 years. He has directed Southern Wine & Spirits of Nevada as Senior Managing Director since 1969. Under his guidance, Southern Wine & Spirits has become Nevada's largest wholesale liquor, wine and beer importer and distributor.

Larry is well known in the Las Vegas community for his ongoing support of charitable organizations, many of which are associated with education and children. For his efforts, he was presented the Altruistic Award by the Meadows School, a pre-K through 12 private school that he helped to establish. As a trustee for the UNLV Foundation, Larry helps to raise money for scholarships in hotel management at the William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. UNLVino, another of Larry's endeavors and one of the biggest wine tasting events in Nevada, donates all its proceeds to scholarship funds for College of Hotel Administration students.

Larry Ruvo is also a founding member of the Young Presidents' Organization (Y.P.O.) Nevada Chapter, a former member of the World Presidents' Organization, Bailli of the Chaine des Rotisseurs in Las Vegas, and a member of the Bluecoats in Nevada (an organization established to help families of firemen and police officers killed in the line of duty). He serves as a Board Member of the Nevada Ballet Dance Theatre and a Board Member of the American Gaming Association (AGA). He is a founding member of the Nevada Tourism Alliance as well as the Council for a Better Nevada. He is a supporter of numerous philanthropic endeavors in Nevada as well as nationally and internationally.

In 1994, after the loss of his father, Lou Ruvo, to Alzheimer's disease, Larry made it his mission to make a positive change and hopefully cure the devastating diseases of Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Huntington's and A.L.S. Ruvo worked towards establishing a cognitive disease center, which resulted in his funding of The Lou Ruvo Brain Institute <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Larry\_Ruvo - cite\_note-3">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Larry\_Ruvo - cite\_note-3</a> The institute is unique in its bold mission: to establish the international gold standard in the treatment of patients with dementia and Alzheimer's and in supporting their caregivers. The founding of Keep

Memory Alive and now its partnership with the esteemed Cleveland Clinic will forever change medical history in Nevada and around the world. The hundred-plus million dollar building designed by internationally renowned architect Frank Gehry is home to the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health. The Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health has become the world's epicenter for research of these horrific diseases and has hosted numerous international symposiums and seminars, prepared numerous white papers and is making great strides toward finding cures for these brain diseases.

Larry has been the recipient of numerous honors. On several occasions, he has been honored by the United States Congress. In November 1998, he was knighted into the Order of Saint John Knights of Malta. He was recognized as Man of the Year by MDA and received the 1999 Community Leadership Award from the Points of Light Foundation. In addition, he received Man of the Year awards from the University of Nevada Las Vegas, the Food & Beverage Directors Association, and numerous other charitable organizations. Larry received the UNLV President's Medal and is listed as one of the most Influential Businessmen of Southern Nevada for the years 2004 and 2009 and was also included as one of the Vegas Dozen in 2005. Larry was inducted into the 2005 Gaming Hall of Fame and honored by the Public Education Foundation with the Education Hero Award for 2005. In July 2006, President George W. Bush appointed Larry to serve as a member of the prestigious Advisory Committee to the Arts at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. He was presented the Governor's Philanthropist of the Year Award. In 2007, the Las Vegas Review Journal named Larry Ruvo "Most Favorite Male in Las Vegas." In 2008, Larry was asked to serve as the Nevada Co-Chair for the George W. Bush Presidential Center and continues to work on this historic project. In 2009, he was named Distinguished Nevadan by UNLV and was honored with the Woodrow Wilson Award in 2009. Larry was also asked to join the Board of Trustees of the esteemed Cleveland Clinic in 2009. In May 2010 Larry received the Angel Awards 2010 Humanitarian of the Year from In Business.

Larry is married to Camille and has three daughters - Nicole, Lauren and Brianna.