



## **WILLIAM S. BOYD (Class of 1949)**

Bill Boyd has lived in Las Vegas since 1941. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Nevada, Reno and a law degree from the University of Utah. He practiced law in Las Vegas for 15 years. He served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955.

He and his father, Sam, opened the Eldorado Casino in Henderson in 1962. In 1961 Bill and his father were partners in the Union Plaza Hotel and Casino in downtown Las Vegas. In 1973, Bill and Sam co-founded Boyd Gaming Corporation and opened the California Hotel and Casino in 1975. At that time, Bill left the practice of law and began his full-time career in the gaming industry. After his father passed away in 1993, Bill succeeded him as Chief Executive Officer of Boyd Gaming and led the company's initial expansion across the United States. He is currently Executive Chairman of the Boyd Gaming Corporation and takes a leading role in shaping the company's strategic direction and vision.

Bill has been an active philanthropist and civic leader for decades. He was on the Board of Directors of the Las Vegas Downtown Progress Association, is past president of the Better Business Bureau and the Nevada Resort Association, and is President Emeritus of the National Council on Responsible Gaming. He also served on the Board of Directors of Nevada State Bank for 20 years and founded the Bank of Nevada and currently serves on the Board of Directors of their parent company Western Alliance Bancorporation.

Boyd has been involved with many civic and charitable organizations. Bill Boyd, his company Boyd Gaming, and the Boyd Foundation have been major donors to numerous non-profit organizations, including the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the Boys and Girls Club, Boys Town of Nevada, National Judicial College, St. Rose de Lima Hospital, the United Way, D.A.R.E., Nevada Blood Services and the Smith Center for the Performing Arts. In 1997 Bill provided the initial \$5 million for the creation of the William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV, which is named in his honor in recognition of the \$30 million he contributed to the school's funding. In addition, Bill has sponsored the annual Las Vegas High School Wildcat Reunion since 2000.

Bill is the father of three children, all of whom are involved in the family business.

These biographies are based on research and could contain discrepancies.  
If there are any excerpts you feel should be changed please feel free to contact [dave@lvhsaa.com](mailto:dave@lvhsaa.com).

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