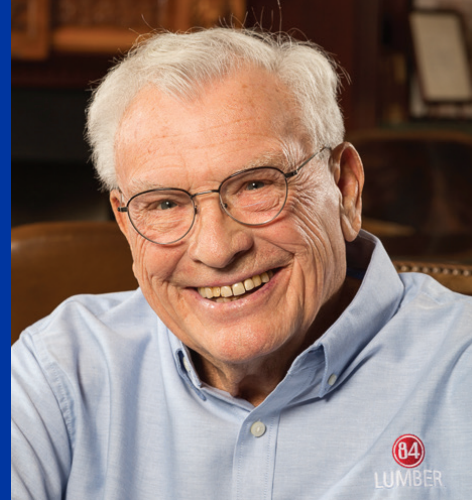


## JOE HARDY

Founder



Joseph A. Hardy III is a true American success story, rising from a college student selling home-grown vegetables door-to-door to building what today is the largest privately owned building materials supplier.

After graduating from the University of Pittsburgh with an Engineering degree, Joe joined the family's Hardy & Hayes jewelry company. Yet, at the age of 31, and with the burning desire to build his own business his own way, Joe left Hardy & Hayes. At the suggestion of a friend, Joe looked into the building materials supply business and opened Green Hills Lumber.

A few years later, Joe pooled his resources with his two younger brothers and a friend to purchase a tract of land in the rural town of Eighty Four, Pennsylvania. There, in 1956, he opened a 'cash and carry' lumber yard focused on professional home builders in the tri-state region of Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia. Joe liked the sound of the name of the small Washington County town and decided to name his new business 84 Lumber Company.

Under Hardy's leadership and tireless work ethic, 84 Lumber expanded and became the largest privately owned building materials supplier in the country, with stores in 30 states and employing more than 5,000 associates.

Hardy's rapid ascent in the business world garnered attention and accolades. In 1985 he was named by the Forbes 400 as one of the wealthiest people in the world, and was subsequently named in following years, as well. He was elected by Venture Magazine as Entrepreneur of the Year in 1987. Hardy also earned an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Washington & Jefferson College for his outstanding achievements. The University of Pittsburgh elected him to the board of trustees in 1989.

In addition to 84 Lumber Company, Joe founded Nemaquin Woodlands Resort, one of North America's premier resort destinations. The lavish AAA Four Diamond and Forbes Travel Guide 4 Star resort features three hotels, including the AAA five diamond Falling Rock boutique hotel and clubhouse, the Forbes Travel Guide Five Star-AAA Five Diamond Lautrec restaurant, the internationally acclaimed Woodlands Spa, 36 holes of golf on the Links Course and the Pete Dye designed Mystic Rock, a sporting clays Shooting Academy, Equestrian Center, Jeep® off-road driving course, and 14 additional on-site restaurants and lounges among a multitude of amenities.

Even after Hardy handed over control of 84 Lumber and Nemaquin Woodlands Resort to his daughter Maggie Hardy Magerko, in 1992, his vision continues to inspire both businesses.

A full-time resident of Fayette County, Hardy's business experience and desire to help Fayette County create a better business and economic base to create more jobs and a better tax base, prompted him to run for a seat as a Fayette County Commissioner in 2003. Hardy was elected and served his term as Vice Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County from 2004 to 2007.

