

Service Spring CEO dies at 56

Mike McAlear, CEO of Service Spring, died on May 15 at age 56 after a 1-1/2-year battle with colorectal cancer.

McAlear started working for the family business in 1978 and wrote the first software to streamline engineering and order-writing functions. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration in information systems in 1982 and a MBA in finance in 1990. He became president in 1994 and CEO in 2005, succeeding his father, Pat McAlear. Mike's grandfather, Clarence Veigel, started the company in 1962.

"We have lost a true leader and visionary," said Kevin Michelson, COO. "Mike's philosophy was to treat all customers, regardless of size, as if they were the most important. Mike also promoted and provided an environment of being the 'employer of choice' for all employees."



McAlear

Service Spring remains under the sole ownership of the McAlear family with Matthew McAlear now as CEO. Matthew has served the company as emerging technology director, director of expansion, and as vice president.

"My dad's passion for life and Service Spring was inspirational," he said. "I'll follow in my father's legacy of being a company that cares for its employees, customers, and community."

Active in his community, McAlear served on several boards, such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters, YMCA, Red Cross, Lourdes College, Owens Community College, the local school board, Cedar Creek Church, the hospital board, and others. He was also a trained peace officer, auxiliary deputy, and reserve deputy. In 2016, he was named as the International Door Association Humanitarian of the Year.

He is survived by his wife, Gloria; his four children, Kevin, Michelle, Matthew, and Brian; and his parents, Pat and Marilyn McAlear. ■

Al Mitchell, leading industry engineer and inventor, dies

Al Mitchell, former director of research for Wayne Dalton, died of congestive heart failure on April 28 in Lancaster, Calif., at age 74. He held more than 75 patents, many involving garage doors as well as weed-eaters and lawn mowers.

He retired in 2009 from Wayne Dalton's plant in Pensacola, Fla., after 22 years in the garage door industry. He held two Bachelor of Science degrees, one in polymer chemistry and one in engineering design. He served as the chair of the DASMA Commercial & Residential Garage Door Technical Committee from 2001 to 2006.

A widely respected industry engineer, he contributed several articles for Door + Access Systems magazine and presented several seminars at the industry's annual Expo. In DASMA, he led industry efforts in windload and hurricane analysis and was a key participant in a DASMA delegation that met with the Consumer Product Safety Commission in 2000.



Mitchell

"I worked closely with Al for 15 years," said Willis Mullet, longtime chairman and CEO of Wayne Dalton. "He was a very accomplished mechanical engineer who made many contributions to Wayne Dalton, particularly in the process of developing Foamcore. Al always had a very positive attitude and could find humor in almost any situation. I can truly say I never heard a negative comment about Al."

"Al Mitchell was one of the pioneers who helped to shape and focus the work of DASMA," said John Addington, executive director of DASMA. "He knew the importance of our technical work and strongly supported it."

"Al was an influential friend and colleague," added John Scates, engineering consultant and industry veteran. "He had a gentle way of persuasion, always backed by intellectual debate, being an effective advocate for his employer and a teacher of the younger engineers."

While in college in 1966 and 1967, Mitchell played defensive end on a practice team for the Los Angeles Rams, but was unable to displace any of the "Fearsome Foursome." A man of many talents, he was also an accomplished musician (tuba) and a member of Sports Car Club of America from 1977 to 2012. He raced at Texas World Speedway and participated in road races and precision racing against the clock.

He is survived by eight daughters: Christy Riggle of Austin, Cheri Johnson of Lancaster, Calif., Sharon Widner of Pasadena, Lisa Mitchell of Springfield, Mo., Cindy Mitchell of Columbia, Mo., Holly Mitchell of Bolivar, Mo., Elizabeth Mitchell of Springfield, Mo., Amy Gagel of Paragould, Ark., and one son, Richard Mitchell of Houston. He had 18 grandchildren. ■

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Entrematic adds commercial national sales manager

In May, Entrematic announced that Dan Houtcooper had joined the company as commercial national sales manager for the company's western region.

Prior to coming to Entrematic, Houtcooper was a sales manager for Cookson Door Sales of Arizona in Tempe. Earlier in his career, he worked at On Track Garage Door Services in Mesa, Ariz., and Clopay Building Products, where he was named account manager of the year.

Houtcooper is a member of the Construction Specifiers Institute and the Garage Door Association of Arizona. A native of Miramar, Fla., Houtcooper is a 1983 graduate of Broward College. ■



Houtcooper



Hummel

Raynor hires residential product manager

In May, Raynor announced that Stacey Hummel had been hired as residential product manager. Hummel will be responsible for defining product strategy and new product development, pricing, and product promotion.

Hummel comes to Raynor with several years of product management experience and a bachelor's degree in business administration from LIM College in New York. ■

Guardian adds to management team

In May, Guardian Access & Door Hardware announced that Gerardo Guzman had been appointed engineering manager, a newly created position.

Guzman brings more than 20 years of engineering experience directing operations and project planning, 15 years of that time in garage door opener product design and manufacturing engineering with Chamberlain. Guzman will work out of Guardian's headquarters in Southern California. ■



Guzman

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