



G.J. Hart Biography
Executive Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President
California Pizza Kitchen

G.J. Hart is Executive Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President of California Pizza Kitchen, where he oversees the casual dining chain's more than 250 restaurants.

Hart, a highly respected industry leader, has a proven track record of growing casual dining concepts. Prior to California Pizza Kitchen, he was CEO of Texas Roadhouse, which owns, operates and franchises more than 350 restaurants. During his ten years at Texas Roadhouse, he led the company through an unprecedented period of growth, increasing revenues from \$63 million to more than \$1 billion. Under his direction, Texas Roadhouse grew unit count, revenue, and profitability every year he was at the company. Hart's leadership skills, strategic vision, and ability to create an employee-focused culture are often cited as the pillars for Texas Roadhouse's successful expansion.

His achievements have been recognized by leading media publications and industry organizations, including *IR Magazine* as one of its top CEOs (2011) and the Kentucky Restaurant Association as the Restaurateur of the Year (2010).

Hart is an active member of numerous community and philanthropic organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, United Way and the American Red Cross. Hart is also an active member of the Young Presidents Organization.

Hart's advisory board memberships include: Bellarmine University- Trustee, Advisory Board at James Madison University Business School, Kosair Children's Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees Old National Bank – Louisville Region, Louisville Metro Police foundation, Thornton Oil, and University of Louisville's College of Business and Public Administration.

Prior to joining Texas Roadhouse in 2000, Hart was President of AI Copeland Investments (ACI), an organization comprised of food processing plants, restaurant concepts, hotels, gaming and entertainment venues. As President, he grew the restaurant division, spearheaded the acquisition of the Improv Comedy Club, and increased the annual earnings sevenfold and revenue by 100 percent.

Hart's continued his track record for increasing revenue in his previous positions as President of New Zealand Lamb Company and President of Trifoods International. Hart began his career at Shenandoah Valley Poultry Company, where he climbed from trainee to general manager and minority owner of the company in just eight years.

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