



"I'm just as enthusiastic about our city now as I was the first time I saw it."

## Melvin "Pete" Mark, Jr.

CHAIRMAN, MELVIN MARK COMPANIES

The first time Pete Mark saw Portland he was on his honeymoon. As he tells the story, he knew almost instantly that this was going to be the place where he would raise his family and build his career.

Melvin Mark's first Portland project was the purchase of the historic Loyalty Building in 1945. Under Pete's leadership, the company has grown to become the region's largest independently-owned commercial real estate firm. Portland's skyline is dotted with Class A Melvin Mark projects guided by Pete Mark. They include Crown Plaza, Columbia Square, and Robert Duncan Plaza. The company's commitment to preserving historic landmark buildings has also become a hallmark of their diverse portfolio.

The area's growth and prosperity has been directly impacted by the active involvement of Pete Mark and the members of Melvin Mark Companies. This attitude of corporate responsibility comes from the top. He is past president of Portland Metropolitan BOMA. He served on the Board of the Portland Oregon Visitors Association. He is past president of the Association for Portland Progress and was the founding president of Pioneer Courthouse Square. A true patron of the arts, Pete has served as a director of the Oregon Symphony, Portland Civic Theater and from 1991 to the present has served in a number of different roles instrumental to the success of the Portland Art Museum, including chairman and campaign co-chair. Pete's business achievements, his leadership and community involvement garnered him Portland's First Citizen Award in 1989 and the distinction of being the first inductee into the Oregon Commercial Real Estate Hall of Fame in 1996.

When Pete Mark started out, he wasn't thinking about the next century. But he did see a city with great potential. He knew Portland's greatness would come from a common purpose and a conviction to conserve our quality of life, even at the sacrifice of self-interest. For more than 60 years Pete Mark's prediction of our future success is founded in his early vision of what Portland and this region would become. When a community works together, there is nothing that can't be accomplished.



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