



John R. Lawson, II

Executive Chairman
W.M. Jordan Company

Executive Chairman John Lawson focuses on advancing corporate innovation and fostering W. M. Jordan Company's unique corporate culture. John's secrets for success are simple: Surround yourself with the best people. Invest in their development. Strive for continual improvement in every aspect of your business and personal life. Treat everyone with dignity and respect. Give generously. Never stop learning.

A native of Newport News, John began his career with W. M. Jordan Company as a field engineer in 1975 after graduating from Virginia Tech with a bachelor's degree in geophysics. He developed a deep understanding of all aspects of the construction business through his roles as an estimator, project engineer, superintendent, and project manager prior to taking the helm as president and CEO in 1986.

Under his leadership, W. M. Jordan Company became one of the largest construction managers in Virginia, with annual revenues of \$500 million dollars and a ranking in *Engineering News Record's* [Top 400 Contractors](#) in the United States for the past 35 years.

Many community organizations rely on John for guidance and support. His influence and leadership help these organizations provide the most impact for the people they serve. He serves on a number of local boards including [TowneBank](#), [Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters](#), the [Hampton Roads Community Foundation](#), [The Mariners' Museum](#), and the [Myers-Lawson School of Construction](#) at Virginia Tech. His accomplishments include past Rector of the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors, past chair of the Fort Monroe Authority, and chair of Christopher Newport University's capital campaign.