



Although best known as the founder of Domino's Pizza and former owner of the Detroit Tigers baseball franchise, **Thomas S. Monaghan** is currently devoting his attention full time to non-profit endeavors, specifically in his role as chancellor of Ave Maria University, which is located just outside of Naples, FL. In addition to his role as chancellor of Ave Maria University, he also serves on multiple boards.

Monaghan was born in Ann Arbor, MI in 1937. His father died four years later, ushering in a childhood spent largely in an orphanage and a succession of foster homes. After graduating from Ann Arbor's St. Thomas High School in 1955, and enrolling at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, MI, Monaghan enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1956. Honorably discharged three years later, he returned to Ann Arbor, where he enrolled at the University of Michigan.

While still a student, Monaghan founded the pizza chain that would soon become Domino's Pizza. He and his brother, James, borrowed \$900 to buy a small pizza store called DomiNick's in Ypsilanti. He later bought his brother's share of the business, and opened additional stores in Ann Arbor and Mt. Pleasant, MI. Soon after opening his third store, he changed their name to Domino's Pizza with the now universally recognized logo with three dots - originally one for each store. Domino's was the first pizza chain to focus exclusively on delivery.

By 1998, Domino's had 6,250 stores, and ranked as the world's largest pizza delivery chain, pioneering a number of industry innovations inspired by Monaghan. Among other industry innovations, he is credited with developing dough trays, the corrugated pizza box, insulated bags to transport pizzas, the pizza screen, a conveyor oven ...

## Thomas Monaghan

### Speech Topics

- ☐ Sports
- ☐ Religion / Faith
- ☐ Motivation
- ☐ Management
- ☐ Leadership
- ☐ Entrepreneur