



MINNESOTA GROCERS ASSOCIATION

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Grocers Recognize Jim Almsted

St. Paul – Jim Almsted, Owner of Almsted Enterprises was honored by the Minnesota Grocers Association with its 2009 Outstanding Grocer Award. This award is presented annually to a grocer who has successfully grown a company and is respected by industry peers. Additionally, the recipient must demonstrate contributions to the industry in the areas of government affairs, involvement in the MGA and community service. The award was presented on July 26, 2009 at the MGA Annual Convention in Brainerd, Minnesota which was attended by over 375 of Almsted's peers.

Since age sixteen Almsted has been involved in the grocery business – starting as a grocery bagger at Red Owl. He worked as a produce manager at the original Cub Foods store in Fridley. Over the years he continued to rise in the industry working for SUPERVALU as a buyer, field representative, product and sales manager. Almsted eventually returned to Red Owl as vice president of marketing for a 45-store group. He purchased his first store twenty years ago, Almsted's Supervalu in St. Louis Park, which he still owns and operates. Almsted Enterprises also owns Almsted's Crystal Supervalu and partial ownership in a Cub Foods in Plymouth.

Almsted's Enterprises support a wide variety of causes within the communities they serve. He has a true passion for the industry and has been an exceptional supporter of the MGA. Almsted has sat on the board of the Minnesota Grocers Association for more than a decade. He acts as spokesperson for independent grocers with a variety of industry groups.

Almsted has an entrepreneurial spirit and a never-give-up attitude that exemplifies what it means to be an independent grocer. He leads by example, demands just as much out of himself as he does of others and is respected by his peers. All of these traits and accomplishments exemplify why Almsted is the 2009 MGA Outstanding Grocer.

Jim and his wife, Sharee, live in Plymouth; they have two grown sons, Dave and Jeff.

The Minnesota Grocers Association is a state trade association representing the food retail industry since 1897. With over 200 retail members operating nearly 1,200 stores statewide, as well as 120 manufacturers and distributors, the MGA is truly the voice of the industry. Our member companies employ over 85,000 union and non-union Minnesotans. Focusing on the importance of the consumers, careers and communities, we actively advance the common interests of all those engaged in any aspect of the retail food industry as a leader and advocate in government affairs.

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