

## **Carl Gustafson Bio**

Carl graduated in 1974 from Princeton University with a degree in Religion and History. As an undergraduate, he also attended Princeton Theological Seminary for two years of graduate level ministerial training.

Following college graduation, Carl pastored an Inter-denominational church in Trenton New Jersey for 19 years. In addition to serving as the senior pastor, he was a frequent speaker at college campuses and conferences in the Northeast, as well as speaking and teaching opportunities in India and Ireland.

In 1992, Carl re-located to San Antonio Texas to assist in directing the family business called Ace Mart Restaurant Supply. During the past 25 years, Ace Mart has grown from 4 stores to 15 large super stores located in San Antonio, Austin, Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth and Plano. In 2018, Ace Mart opened a 215,000 square foot distribution center with 54 loading docks in Schertz to support the growing business. The company also owns and operates ADI, an ice machine and microwave distributor in a six state area. Three years ago, the company launched an import business of specialty products for the foodservice industry.

Ace Mart is owned by Carl, his brother Paul and sister Norma, all three of whom are still active in day to day operations. It's a source of pride to also note that 5 of the Gustafson's children, representing the third generation, are actively participating in the business.

Ace Mart Restaurant Supply has been recognized nationally as one of the top 15 foodservice equipment and supply dealers in the US. With 400 full time employees, annual revenue for 2018 was \$130 million.

Outside of business, Carl & his wife Christine enjoy traveling, working out, and spending time with their two teenage sons and three grandchildren.