

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Emmitt J. McHenry

PERSON

McHenry, Emmitt J., 1943-

Alternative Names: Emmitt J. McHenry;

Life Dates: July 12, 1943-

Place of Birth: Forrest City, Arkansas, USA

Residence: Great Falls, Virginia

Occupations: Telecommunications Entrepreneur; Telecommunications Chief Executive

Biographical Note

Emmitt J. McHenry is founder, chairman, and CEO of Enterprise Magazine's 10th ranked African American-owned business, NetCom Solutions International, Inc. He was born in Forrest City, Arkansas, on July 12, 1943, the grandson of a minister. Growing up in Tulsa, Oklahoma, McHenry attended Stewart Elementary School, Carver Middle School and Booker T. Washington High School. After graduating in 1962, he went on to receive his B.S. in communications from the University of Denver in 1966. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he attained the rank of lieutenant. McHenry would go on to Northwestern University, where in 1979 he earned his M.S. degree in communications. Here, he would also complete the qualifying examinations for a doctorate. McHenry held various management positions with IBM, Connecticut General, Union Mutual and AllState Insurance Company. He served on several insurance industry committees and was a founding member of the American Productivity Management Association. He then founded Network Solutions, Inc. the internet domain services provider, and in 1995, he founded NetCom Solutions International, a telecommunications, engineering, consulting, and technical services company. The company has received awards for excellent service from IBM, NASA and Lucent Technologies with revenues of \$260 million and over 200 employees in Chantilly, Virginia and Oklahoma City.

Today, McHenry serves as chairman of VisuTel, a broadband telecommunications company. McHenry is on the executive committee of the Council on Competitiveness, the board of directors for NetCom Solutions International, Ltd. (UK), and chairs the governance committee for the Phelps Stokes Fund. He is on the advisory board of DECIS Technology and is former chairman of the board of LearnCity, Inc. McHenry has also served on the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, the State of Virginia Economic Development Authority and the board of directors for James Martin

Government Intelligence. He has also chaired the board of directors of NeCom Solutions South Africa.

McHenry's business engagements have taken him to Africa, Europe and Asia.

Related Entries

Booker T. Washington High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Stewart Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

George Washington Carver Middle School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

IBM [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1978 to 1986]

Connecticut General [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1980 to 1982]

Union Mutual [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 199208 to 199907]

Allstate Insurance Company [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 199511 to ?]

Network Solutions, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Founder

Visutel, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Chairman

Netcom Solutions International [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1995 to ?]

Founder