



Chick-fil-A, Inc.  
5200 Buffington Road/ Atlanta, GA 30349

THE CATHY FAMILY  
THE STORY BEHIND THE FAMILY-OWNED CHAIN RESTAURANT

**BIOGRAPHY**

In 1946, Truett and Ben Cathy opened a small diner in Hapeville, Ga., called Dwarf Grill. Two years after the young brothers began their endeavor, Ben tragically passed away in a plane crash. Despite his devastation, Truett was determined to keep up the business that they started together.

While working at Dwarf Grill, later renamed Dwarf House, Truett had an innovative idea to start a restaurant chain that would serve boneless chicken breast sandwiches. Twenty one years after opening his first restaurant, he founded one of the most successful family-owned restaurant chains in America.

Managing a company, especially a company with annual sales of more than \$2 billion, requires many helping hands. According to Truett, the Christian-based and family-owned company, has grown to become the second-largest fast-food chain in the country as a result of the commitment and dedication of the entire Cathy family.

Truett, who is now 85 years old, has passed the family business down to his two sons, Dan and Don ("Bubba"). In 2001, Dan took over as the president of Chick-fil-A, Inc., and Bubba was appointed president of Dwarf House, Inc. as well as senior vice president of Chick-fil-A, Inc.

Two of his 12 grandchildren have also become involved in the business. His grandson, Andrew Cathy, opened a restaurant in St. Petersburg, Florida and another grandson, Mark Cathy, opened a restaurant in San Marcos, California.

The Cathy family feels passionately about giving back to the community through various programs, scholarships and events. In 1984, Truett and his wife, Jeanette, founded WinShape Foundation, an organization that inspires kids and teens to succeed. Their daughter, Trudy, and her husband, John White, III, have become directors of a camp that was created by the organization.

Although he has received a great deal of help from his devoted family, Truett Cathy, Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Chick-fil-A, holds a key role in the family-owned business. In addition to his devotion to Chick-fil-A and the WinShape Foundation, he has written five books and started another restaurant chain called Truett's Grill. He has also received numerous awards and honors for his highly successful restaurant chain, a company that shows no sign of slowing down.