

Stevan D. Porter 1954-2008



Stevan D. Porter was a dynamic leader as president of the Intercontinental Hotels Group (IHG), the Americas, from 2002 to 2008. A 32- year veteran of hospitality and related industry, Stevan joined IHG in 2001 as chief operating officer, the Americas. In this role, he had strategic and tactical responsibility for all company-owned and managed properties throughout North and South America. Stevan quickly advanced to president, the Americas, of IHG in 2002.

As president, Stevan was responsible for the management, growth and profitability of the company's largest operating region, spanning the United States, Canada, Mexico, Central and South America and the Caribbean. He was responsible for a portfolio of more than 3,000 hotels and resorts under the InterContinental, Crowne Plaza, Hotel Indigo, Holiday Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Staybridge Suites and Candlewood Suites hotel brands.

Stevan held additional duties as the global leader of franchise strategy and executive director of Intercontinental Hotels Group PLC. In his role as global leader of franchise strategy, Stevan was responsible for the development and deployment of best practices in franchising for the benefit of IHG's global business. Under his leadership, IHG acquired its sixth brand, Candlewood Suites, in 2004. In less than two years after becoming a part of the IHG system, this underperforming brand experienced double-digit growth. This strategic hotel addition increased the IHG management portfolio by more than 40 percent in the Americas. IHG's seventh brand, Hotel Indigo, was also launched under Stevan's leadership in 2004. Hotel Indigo, the industry's first branded boutique hotel in the lifestyle segment, delivers a refreshing inclusive hotel experience in response to prevailing consumer trends.

Stevan began his career in the hospitality industry in 1976 with Stouffer Hotels. Prior to joining IHG, Stevan served with Hilton Hotels Corporation starting in 1990. He held roles of increasing responsibility, including Senior and Executive Vice President of Operations, where he was responsible for overseeing the management of nearly 350 hotels and more than 40,000 employees.

Stevan served as an industry expert at various conferences across the nation including Cornell University and as Executive-in-Residence at the University of Tennessee. He was on the Board of Directors for the International Association of Holiday Inns (IAHI) and was a member

and past chairman of the Business Advisory Council for the Richard T. Farmer School of Business at Miami University. He was past chairman of the American Hotel & Lodging Association Government Affairs Committee. In 2006, he was named chairman of the Discover America Partnership, an effort led by some of America's foremost business leaders to strengthen America's image around the globe. He was also named vice chairman of the Travel Business Roundtable, whose mission it is to educate elected officials about the important economic and social contributions of the travel and tourism industry. Stevan was also active with UNICEF, the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, the United Way, the Center for Elimination of Violence in the Family and a supporter of Phi Kappa Tau Foundation (his college fraternity at Miami University), and other philanthropic endeavors.

In 2005, Stevan was presented with the U.S. Fund for UNICEF Corporate Responsibility Award, which honors the company that has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to philanthropic activity benefiting children. In 2004, he received the B'nai B'rith Community Service Award. In 2003, he received the prestigious Oglethorpe Sword on behalf of the British American Business Group in recognition of his actions to promote the growth of business between the United Kingdom and the State of Georgia.

More About Stevan

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| Birth Place | Columbus, Ohio |
| Education | Graduate of Miami University and received his Master of Business Administration from Xavier University. |
| Devoted Family Man | Married to Francey since 1976. Children are Steve Jr. and Charlie. |
| First Job | Selling soft drinks at Ohio State football games, at age 14. <i>"I worked in C-deck -- the student section -- and it was a highly-sought-after location. We worked until we had reached our quota, then we could stop and watch the rest of the game. The students brought their flasks with them, so I usually had reached my sales quota well in advance of halftime. It taught me how to sell and the importance of finding your customer base. I also learned that work is fun and that there are an awful lot of really nice people in the world."</i> |
| Little Known Fact | Met his wife when they were both in a choral group in college. He had the opportunity to work with some of the greats--the Cincinnati Symphony, Robert Shaw, James Levine, Aaron Copland, and Eric Kunzel. |
| Favorite Book | First You Have to Row A Little Boat: Reflections on Life and Living, by Richard Bode. <i>"It's this man's life story ... about how the competence and central skills he learned as a sailor taught him relevant lessons in life."</i> |
| Favorite Movie | Manhattan Murder Mystery |
| Favorite Quotes | <i>"We cannot become what we need to be by remaining what we are." - Max DePree</i> <i>"The best leaders take their followers to places they've never been before - and, more important, places they never imagined." - (in the words of Tom Peters)</i> |
| Personal Likes and Interests | Lover of music, seeker of travel, avid cook, casual jogger, big swimmer, and in his own words "a miserable golfer". |
| Quotable" Stevan D. Porter | <i>"The thing I like best is making a big difference in people's lives," he said. "The accountability of leaders is to create leaders at every level of the organization. That means making decisions selflessly and empowering people to act."</i> <i>"If we can create an environment in which people have comfort and confidence in their own thinking, they will make the correct choices most of the time. And even though they may not bat a thousand, they will learn and have fun."</i> <i>"I think we need more humanity in business, so I look for interesting, unusual stories--like those from Dr.</i> |

Seuss--that relate to what we're doing. I tell stories all the time...I love to be in front of people."

"I still cook, and I have many specialties--they tend to flex by season. I do a mean standing rib roast with all the trimmings, and I love to prepare Thanksgiving dinner--I compete with my mother-in-law over who has the best gravy. I also love to fix stuff on the grill--my beer-can chicken is popular year-round. In the kitchen--well, if I ever cooked all the recipes I've torn out of magazines, I'd be doing nothing but cooking and eating for the rest of my life!"