

# Olan Mills II recognized with School Photographers of America 2022 Chairman's Award

*SPOA's 2022 Chairman's Award Recipient  
- Olan Mills II*

GREENSBORO, NC, UNITED STATES, June 23, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Greensboro, NC - The national trade association for school photography and yearbooks, [School Photographers of America \(SPOA\)](#) recognized Olan Mills II with the first Chairman's Award of Innovation at the International Conference on School Photography & Yearbooks. The SPOA Chairman's Award of Innovation recognizes an inventor or an innovator who has revolutionized the school photography and yearbook industry.



SPOA's 2022 Chairman's Award - Olan Mills II

The son of founder Olan Mills, Olan Mills II went to work for the family business after graduating from Princeton University in 1952. With his younger brother, Charles, they assumed complete

control of the business in 1972. At that time, the \$20 million company was poised for growth. In the ensuing years, the company began an impressive national expansion and embraced technological innovation that grew the company 20x in 20 years.

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*David Crandall*

Accepting on behalf of Mills was [Gene Harrell](#), Advanced Photographic Solutions, Cleveland, TN. The award was presented the award Friday, June 10, at during the association's awards banquet and celebration at the

Westin Galleria, Houston, Texas.

“Olan Mills II is truly a worthwhile recipient of the first Chairman's Award of Innovation,” said

David Crandall, executive director, SPOA. "Olan Mills pioneered many of the marketing practices, like marking photos with a copyright logo and telemarketing, that are taken for granted today. He also spearheaded much of the technology still in use today."

#### ABOUT SPOA

School Photographers of America (SPOA) was formed in 2020 on behalf of school portrait studios to advocate for and to protect their copyrights, as well as establish and govern healthy standards and best practices for the school photography industry. This will ensure school photography remains a rich tradition in schools across North America.

To learn more about SPOA, visit [www.schoolphotographersofamerica.com](http://www.schoolphotographersofamerica.com) or email David Crandall at [DavidC@schoolphotographersofamerica.com](mailto:DavidC@schoolphotographersofamerica.com).

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