

Jim and Jo-Ann Armstrong Biography

Mr. Armstrong is former chief executive officer and chairman of the board of JDA Software Group, Inc., (now Blue Yonder) which he founded in Canada in 1978. Headquartered in Scottsdale, AZ., JDA provided enterprise software solutions to the worldwide supply chain market, enabling planning, optimization, and execution of merchandising, and supply chain processes. Mr. Armstrong served as Chief Executive Officer of JDA Software in Canada from 1978 to 1987, in the U.S. during the periods of 1985 to 1997, and 1999 to 2003, and as Chairman of the Board from 1985 to 2012.

From 2008 through 2019, Mr. Armstrong served as managing partner of Canal Partners, a successful Scottsdale based early-stage venture capital firm.

Today, Mr. Armstrong serves as director and president of JDA Investments (US), Inc., based in Phoenix, AZ, where he is responsible for all aspects of the company, including identification of potential investments, due diligence, financial analysis, and final investment decision-making. In addition, he has served on a wide range of boards of companies including Omnalink, NetTime Solutions, WebPt, Allbound and the Canadian retailer Mark's Work Warehouse.

Mr. Armstrong is involved with a number of charitable endeavors. He is president and chairman of the Kiita Foundation and chairman of the Rancho Feliz Charitable Foundation. He has received numerous awards and honors including Arizona Software Association Business Leader of the Year, Ernst and Young Master Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Ernst and Young Spirit of Philanthropy Award, Ed Denison Business Leader of the Year Award, National Society of Fundraising Executives Spirit of Philanthropy Award and Arizona Technology Council's Lifetime Achievement Award. Mr. Armstrong is the author of "Going Down the Road", a memoir.

Jo-Ann Armstrong, in addition to raising four children, was instrumental in the development of JDA Software in its' early years. She has served, through the family's foundation, in a variety of philanthropic endeavors, including board Secretary of a Salvation Army advisory board, a board member of ASU's ACES program, and has received many awards, such as the Paradise Valley Volunteer of the Year, ASU's Outstanding Community Partner for her work with the Service Learning Program (ACES), and the 2002 Sally Award from the Salvation Army. She was also a member of ASU's Women and Philanthropy. She currently serves on the board of the Kiita Foundation.

Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong grew up in the mining town of Elliot Lake, Ontario, Canada.

