Dennis J. Picard Chairman Emeritus Retired Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Raytheon Company

Biography



Dennis J. Picard is a retired chairman and chief executive officer of Raytheon Company. He became chairman and CEO in 1991, having previously served as president since 1989, when he was also elected a member of the board of directors. He retired as CEO in 1998 and as chairman of the board in 1999.

Mr. Picard was born in 1932 in Rhode Island, and graduated in 1950 from LaSalle Academy in Providence. Following service in the U.S. Air Force in the era of the Korean conflict and study at the RCA Institute in New York City, he joined Raytheon in 1955.

While working at a progression of electronics assignments within the company, he also attended Northeastern University, graduating cum laude in 1962 with degrees in electrical engineering and management.

A succession of engineering and management assignments led to his being elected a company vice president in 1976 and deputy general manager of Raytheon's Equipment Division in 1982. At that time the division was responsible for the design and production of shipboard and large phased array radars for intelligence gathering and attack warning, and for fire control systems, ballistic missile guidance electronics and military communications systems. In 1983, Mr. Picard was named general manager of the Missile Systems Division. He was elected a senior vice president of Raytheon in 1985. Upon his retirement from Raytheon he was honored by the board of directors with the title of Chairman Emeritus.

During his career, he was involved in many organizations. He is a past director of State Street Boston Corporation, a member of the National Academy of Engineering, past president and an Honorary Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and a Life Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, having been cited by IEEE for his "leadership in the development and implementation of large phased array radars." He is a registered professional engineer and holds honorary doctorates from Northeastern University, Merrimack College and Bentley College. Mr. Picard is a trustee of Northeastern University and a trustee emeritus of Bentley College; a past director of the Discovery Museums, Acton, Mass.; a past member of the Advisory Committee of the American Red Cross and the Advisory Committee of the Armed Services YMCA of the United States; and a past member of the Business Council. He is a former member of the Defense Policy Advisory Committee on Trade (DPACT), the President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee (NSTAC), and the President's Export Council.

In 1991, he was inducted into the U.S. Army's order of Saint Barbara, and in 1996, he received the National Security Industrial Association's Environmental Achievement Award.

In 1997, Mr. Picard was honored by the Navy League of the United States with the Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Award "for outstanding contributions to the United States' Maritime Strength" and by the Intrepid Museum Foundation with the Intrepid Salute Award for his "support of the men and women of America's armed forces." The same year, he received the John R. Alison Award from the U.S. Air Force Association, and the Association of the U.S. Army awarded him its John W. Dixon medal. He was also named "New Englander of the Year" by the New England Council, and received the Ralph Lowell Distinguished Citizen Award from the Boston Minuteman Council, Boy Scouts of America.

In 1998, he received the Industrial Leadership Award from the National Defense Industrial Association, and was the recipient of the Semper Fidelis Award of the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation. The Navy League-New York Council also awarded him its Rear Admiral John J. Bergen Leadership Medal for Industry.