

Joie Chitwood

President, Indianapolis Motor Speedway



Joie Chitwood III joined the staff of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway as senior vice president, business affairs in October 2002. In December 2004, he was promoted to president and COO of IMS and now oversees daily operations for the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Before joining the IMS executive staff, Chitwood was vice president and general manager of Raceway Associates which oversaw construction of the 1-1/2 mile Chicagoland Speedway in Joliet. During his tenure at Chicagoland, Chitwood also served on the board of directors of several Joliet-area economic development organizations.

Chitwood was born into cars, speed, and thrills. Chitwood's grandfather first popularized "*The Chitwood Thrill Show*" in the 1940's and it ran through 1998. The show included a variety of dangerous stunts involving cars and motorcycles. Joie III participated for nearly 20 years in stunts including rollover crashes and car jumps. In 1993, Joie III decided it was time to leave the family business. Quitting the show was the most difficult jump of Chitwood's life.

Chitwood turned in his racing helmet for text books. He earned his MBA in business administration at the University of South Florida, which included a summer studying history at the prestigious Queens College at Cambridge, England

Joie Chitwood's life story is fascinating as it follows highs, lows, hard work, and persistence.

