TED TURNER'S BIOGRAPHY

R.E. (Ted) Turner
Vice Chairman and Senior Advisor

R.E. (Ted) Turner is Vice Chairman and Senior Advisor of AOL Time Warner.

In his role as Vice Chairman and Senior Advisor, Mr. Turner works closely with AOL Time Warner senior management across all of the company's operations.

Previously, Mr. Turner became Vice Chairman of Time Warner in October 1996, with the merger of Time Warner Inc. and Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. He was also a member of the Time Warner Board of Directors. Mr. Turner oversaw Time Warner’s Cable Networks division, which included the assets of Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. (TBS, Inc.), as well as Home Box Office, Cinemax, and Time Warner’s interests in Comedy Central and Court TV. He also oversaw New Line Cinema and the company’s professional sports teams—the Atlanta Braves, Atlanta Hawks and Atlanta Thrashers.

Renowned as an innovator and visionary, Ted Turner pioneered the world’s first live, in-depth, round-the-clock, all-news television network with the launch of CNN on June 1, 1980. Its many successful brand extensions include a second all-news service, Headline News, which began operation in 1982. CNN International, launched in 1985, is distributed in more than 210 countries and territories worldwide. CNNfn was launched in 1995, with 14 hours of original programming focusing on market news, personal finance, consumer issues and global business developments; today, it is a 24-hour service. In 1996, Mr. Turner debuted CNN/SI, combining the resources of CNN and Sports Illustrated to create the 24-hour sports news network.

In January 1994, TBS, Inc. merged with New Line Cinema, the leading independent producer and distributor of motion pictures. Later that year, the company launched the 24-hour commercial-free network Turner Classic Movies, featuring the films of the combined Turner and Warner Bros. libraries. Mr. Turner debuted Cartoon Network in 1992 to showcase the company’s vast library of cartoons and original productions, after acquiring the rights, library and production facilities of Hanna-Barbera Cartoons in 1991. TNT launched in 1988, following TBS, Inc.'s acquisition of the MGM library of film and television properties in 1986. And in 1985, Mr. Turner originated the Goodwill Games as a quadrennial, multi-sport, international, world-class competition.

Previously, in 1977, TBS, Inc. acquired the National Basketball Association’s Atlanta Hawks. In 1976, six years after entering the television business with the purchase of an Atlanta independent UHF television station, Mr. Turner diversified the company by purchasing Major League Baseball’s Atlanta Braves. Also in 1976, Ted Turner originated the “Superstation” concept, transmitting the station’s signal to cable systems nationwide via satellite.

Mr. Turner began his business career as an account executive at Turner Advertising Company (now Turner Broadcasting System, Inc.), and in 1963 became President and Chief Operating Officer, a position he held until the company’s merger with Time Warner in 1996. He graduated from Brown University, where he was Vice President of the Debating Union and Commodore of the Yacht Club.

Currently, Mr. Turner is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Cable Television Association, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Change, the Greater Yellowstone Coalition, the International Founders Council of the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian and the Business Council for the United Nations. He is President of the Turner Foundation, the Turner family’s private grant-making organization, which
focuses on population and the environment; and Chairman of the United Nations Foundation, a charitable organization Mr. Turner founded to support United Nations causes. An active environmentalist, Mr. Turner has received numerous civic and industry awards and honors, including being named Time magazine’s 1991 Man of the Year.