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An historic moment in the in-plant housing industry was when Kevin T. Clayton, left, CEO & president, Clayton Homes, received his James R. Price / *Automated Builder* Achievement in Housing Award from Don O. Carlson, *AB* editor & publisher, center. Jim Clayton, founder Clayton Homes, winner of the 2004 Award, looked on. It was an industry 'first' when both father and son had won the lifetime achievement award symbolized by the engraved silver trophy.

Kevin T. Clayton, President & CEO, Clayton Homes, Elected Winner of the 2008 James R. Price / *Automated Builder* Achievement in Housing Award

KNOXVILLE, TN—Kevin T. Clayton, president & CEO of Clayton Homes, Maryville, TN, was elected winner of the 2008, 35th Annual James R. Price / *Automated Builder* Achievement in Housing Award. The presentation was made at the Clayton Management Conference in Knoxville, TN in October. Each year for 35 years this award has been given to an individual in recognition of his or her lifetime positive contributions to the nation's housing industry. The award is chosen by the majority vote of *Automated Builder's* 11-member Editorial Review Board. Nominations can be made by any member of this industry for any member in the industry related to in-plant, engineered structures. Each year the symbol of the award is an appropriately engraved plaque on a silver trophy presented to the winner which he retains.

In an unusual circumstance, which is perhaps 'the first and only,' the award was presented to Kevin Clayton by his father, Jim Clayton, founder of Clayton Homes, who won the award four years previously in 2004. Don O. Carlson, editor and publisher, *Automated Builder* Magazine, looked on as Jim Clayton unveiled the silver trophy for his son. Today, Clayton Homes stands as an important monument in the industry of in-plant engineered housing. The company is the largest producer of shelter in the United States and according to Carlson is probably the biggest producer of shelter in the world.

Clayton Homes operates 39 factories, several thousand retail outfits, has Vanderbilt mortgage company which is valued in excess of \$13 billion, employs 10,000 people and a few years ago was purchased by Warren Buffet's Berkshire Hathaway Company.

In the past three years Clayton Homes has acquired 21 manufacturing operations ranging from coast to coast and border to border.

Just last year in a shareholder letter Warren Buffet stated, "The driving force behind this company's success today is Kevin Clayton. Kevin knows the business forward and backward, is a rational decision maker and a joy to work with."

At the ripe old age of seven years, Kevin began his housing industry career by helping to refurbish manufactured homes after school for 75¢ per hour. He worked after school and every summer to learn all that he could about the business always appreciating the culture and tactics of other highly successful companies.

Kevin worked at Royal Industries and later Prudential Bache on Wall Street as a junior analyst. He is a graduate of James Madison University and has an MBA from the University of Tennessee.

At Clayton, under the guidance of Jim Clayton, his father, Kevin worked in and led each of the company's five separate business groups before eventually transitioning to become the CEO in 1999 where he serves today. At present, Kevin leads the most experienced and dynamic management team in the housing industry. Astonishingly the value of Clayton Homes exceeds the total of all other companies in this industry combined.

Kevin has been named 'Industry Person of the Year' for three years running by MHI which, according to Kevin, he considers to be a direct reflection of the people he is honored to work with every day.

Just last year Clayton Homes ranked as one of the 25 best manufacturing companies to work for by *Selling Power* magazine. In that list Clayton Homes outranked giant firms like IBM, Georgia Pacific, International Paper and A.O. Smith plus several others.

Kevin currently serves as a board member and secretary of the Manufactured Housing Institute, a board member of Ruby Tuesday Restaurants and Clayton Bank Corp., as well as serves as Chairman of the Knoxville-based Jobs Now program.

Kevin recently was voted as the Outstanding Philanthropist by the Association of Fund Raising Professionals in 2006. In 2007 he was named Business Hall of Fame Laureate.

Kevin's current philanthropic efforts are focused on wealth creation by home ownership and education following Bill Gates initiatives to improve schools.

Kevin is a commercial-rated jet pilot and enjoys flying a variety of aircraft—a skill that serves both his business needs and his adventurous nature. He and his wife, Chelly, have one child, Ella, who turned five years earlier this year. Carlson stated that, "Kevin Clayton has joined the ranks of the true giant contributors to the forward progress of the in-plant engineered housing and commercial building industry. Our heartiest congratulations to him and his father and mentor Jim Clayton."

In his acceptance remarks, Kevin Clayton pointed out, "My father turned out to be a marvelous teacher."