

## News Release

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Contact:

Lori Stewart Coletti  
Elaine Construction  
617-332-8400

**Elaine Construction Wins 2009 Massachusetts Family Business of the Year Award**  
*Company Receives Marshall Paisner Award from Northeastern University Center for Family Business*

Boston, MA - The Northeastern University Center for Family Business honored Elaine Construction Company with a *2009 Massachusetts Family Business of the Year Award*. The award recognizes the Wexler family's business achievements and leadership success across three generations at the Newton-based company. Research by the Center for Family Business reveals that fewer than 12% of family businesses survive to be led by a third generation.

"We are honored to win the Family Business Award, and we celebrate this recognition with the extended Elaine family, including our tremendous staff, clients and subcontractors," stated Lisa Wexler, president and third generation leader at Elaine. The award honors the vision shown by my grandparents Leo and Elaine Wexler, and subsequently by my dad and mentor Ken Wexler."

The Massachusetts Family Business Awards were created to recognize the achievements of the top family-owned companies in Massachusetts for their excellence in business, innovation, and contributions to the community. During ceremonies hosted by Northeastern University on April 29, Elaine Construction was presented with the 2009 *Marshall Paisner Award*, given by the Northeastern Center for Family Business for companies competing in the category of 50 or fewer employees. Awards were also given in two other categories, the Paul Karofsky Award to a business with over 250 employees and the Ed Tarlow Award to a business with 50 to 250 employees. Nominations were reviewed and judged by an independent jury.

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Elaine Construction Company

1037 Chestnut Street | Newton Upper Falls | MA | 02464 | Main: 617.332.8400 | Fax: 617.332.1627 | [www.elaine.com](http://www.elaine.com)

The company was founded in 1947 by Leo A. Wexler, grandfather of Elaine's current CEO, Lisa Wexler. After Leo's untimely death in 1961, the company was managed for a time by Bill Kopans, the company's in-house counsel, who later married Leo's widow Elaine Wexler. Shortly after Leo's son Ken Wexler, graduated from college in 1965, he assumed a leadership role. Ken was president for over four decades, and continues today as a full-time company principal and Chairman of the Board.

Ken's daughter Lisa Wexler became vice president in 1992 and president in 2007. Just as Ken experienced a generation before, Lisa grew up working at the firm, gaining valuable experience by performing every job in the company - from field laborer to accounts receivable clerk. Lisa is the third generation to run the company. Ken's mother, Elaine Wexler Kopans, remained active in the business until her death in 2001. Ken's two brothers, Don, and Bob, worked in the business through the 1980's; Don continues to manage the northern New England business to this day.

The Massachusetts Family Business Awards program was established in 2007 in a partnership between Northeastern University's Center for Family Business and The Family Firm Institute New England Chapter. The award program promotes and highlights some of the great achievements of Massachusetts-based, family-owned businesses and entrepreneurs.

**About Elaine:** Elaine Construction is a Newton-based construction management firm providing award-winning preconstruction, general contracting and construction management services. Now in its seventh decade of building, Elaine is known for working in close collaboration with clients in the finance, university, healthcare, technology, and commercial real estate sectors. For more information on the company and its people, visit [www.Elaine.com](http://www.Elaine.com).

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