

June 23, 2015

Sages Over 70 Selection Committee  
Des Moines Magazine  
100 4th Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Selection Committee Members:

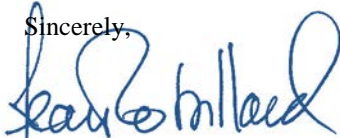
It is with great enthusiasm that I support the nomination of Mr. John Pappajohn for *Des Moines Magazine's* "Sages Over 70" award. Mr. Pappajohn emigrated from Greece as an infant and went on to become one of America's most influential entrepreneurs and philanthropists, with a particular passion for bettering the Des Moines and greater Iowa communities. A superb example of Mr. Pappajohn's civic commitment and his vision for improving the quality of life for all Iowans is his extraordinary support to create downtown Des Moines' magnificent John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park, to which he donated dozens of works of modern and contemporary sculpture for exhibition in a specially designed and engaging green space.

Through the venture capital firm he created, Mr. Pappajohn has been involved in financing more than 100 business start-ups and has served on the board for more than 40 public companies. With civic and educational needs at the forefront of his business endeavors, Mr. Pappajohn spearheaded the efforts that resulted in the nationally acclaimed entrepreneurship centers at institutions of higher learning throughout the state. These innovative centers have enabled thousands of young Iowans to realize their dreams of starting their own businesses. To this day, Mr. Pappajohn continues to help visionary entrepreneurs pursue creative solutions to the most pressing social problems in the fields of medicine, economic development, human rights, and environmental sustainability.

As one of the nation's leading philanthropists, Mr. Pappajohn's giving has focused on medicine and health care, including generous gifts to the University of Iowa's academic medical center in the form of the Pappajohn Pavilion at UI Hospitals and Clinics and the John and Mary Pappajohn Clinical Cancer Center. In 2014, the university celebrated the opening of the John and Mary Pappajohn Biomedical Discovery Building, a new state-of-the-art research facility providing a world-class setting where scientists from across the University collaborate to explore high-risk/high-yield scientific questions in the life sciences. Wall Street analysts often credit Pappajohn for having a "golden touch" when it comes to anticipating breakthroughs and trends in medical research.

Throughout his life, Mr. Pappajohn has embodied the role of social entrepreneur and has given generously of his time, his talent, and his treasure in helping people around the world help themselves. He continues to be a role model and inspiration to countless young entrepreneurs and is a superb example of an individual who has contributed greatly to giving back to the state he loves. I hope you will agree he is a most deserving recipient of the distinguished "Sages Over 70" honor and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jean E. Robillard, MD  
Vice President for Medical Affairs