

Charles G. Koch 1935 -



Charles Koch was born on November 1, 1935 in Wichita, Kansas. When he was ready to go to college, Charles enrolled at Massachusetts Institute of Technology [MIT] in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to study engineering. His father had also attended MIT, and had earned his B. S. degree there in chemical engineering. Charles' major was general engineering and he graduated with a B. S. degree in general engineering in 1957. He remained at MIT, and did his graduate work on mechanical and nuclear engineering. He earned his M. S. degree in that engineering field in 1958. He then decided to remain for another year, and his focus that year was on chemical engineering, the major of his father. In 1959, Charles earned his M. S. degree in chemical engineering from MIT.

Following graduation, Charles went to work as a consultant for Arthur D. Little, a large consulting firm. After only two years at Arthur D. Little, his father summoned him home to help him manage the medium sized oil company, Rock Island Oil and Refining that his father then owned and managed. The father threatened his son that if he did not return home, he would sell the firm. Charles apparently got the message, and went to work for his father's firm. From 1961 to

1963, he served as a vice president of Koch Engineering, the engineering arm of his father's company. He was promoted to president of Koch Engineering in 1963, and served in that capacity until 1971. But before the end of his presidency of Koch Engineering, in 1966, his father appointed him to the presidency of the entire company. In the following year, in 1967, his father passed away, and Charles became the chairman and chief executive officer [CEO] of the firm, which was then renamed Koch Industries, a name the firm holds until today.

Over the next three decades transformed it into Koch Industries, a diversified petroleum products and trading company that, with an estimated \$40 billion in annual revenues, is the second-largest privately held company in the United States. Koch companies include Flint Hills Refineries, which processed 600,000 barrels per day of crude oil in 2003; and Koch Ventures/Genesis, which invested nearly \$185 million in technology-based startups between 1997 and 2003. Koch is known for his "Market-Based Management" (MBM) style of leadership, in which employees are encouraged to act as conservative politicians and think tanks, having founded the prominent libertarian think tank Cato Institute.

Mr. Koch is still Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Koch Industries, Inc., one of the largest privately held companies in America. Under his leadership, Koch Industries has been transformed into a dynamic and diverse group of companies engaged in trading, investment and operations worldwide. Mr. Koch has received a number of academic, business and community honors and awards.

SOURCE: <https://www.referenceforbusiness.com/biography/F-L/Koch-Charles-1935.html>

https://www.newnetherlandinstitute.org/history-and-heritage/dutch_americans/charles-g-koch/