

**Finding Aid for the Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr.  
Collection, 1906-1986**



RG 75/2

University Archives & Special Collections

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## **Descriptive Summary**

<b>Title:</b>	Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr. Collection, 1906-1986
<b>Accession No.:</b>	MSS 2005.23
<b>Creator:</b>	Compiled by the DeBartolo family and the Edward J. DeBartolo Corporation
<b>Extent:</b>	3 boxes, 2.4 cubic feet
<b>Abstract:</b>	This collection was compiled by the family and corporation of Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr. to commemorate highlights of his life and career through 1986.

## **Administrative Information**

<b>Provenance:</b>	Unknown
<b>Preferred Citation:</b>	Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr. Collection, 1906-1986, MSS 2005.23, Archives & Special Collections, William F. Maag, Jr. Library, Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio.
<b>Restrictions:</b>	None
<b>Processing Information:</b>	Processed by Amy J. Kyte, May 2005

## **Historical Background**

Born and raised in Youngstown, Ohio, Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr. (1909-1994) rose to national prominence as a real estate developer. By accurately predicting America's love affair with the shopping mall, he accrued a large capital base allowing broad diversification within the company. DeBartolo holdings included malls, hotels, horse-racing tracks, and two professional sports teams.

DeBartolo's early years were difficult. His father, Anthony Paonessa, died of pneumonia two months before his birth. His mother married Michael DeBartolo in 1911; the young DeBartolo was strongly influenced by his stepfather who was engaged in the Youngstown construction industry. Combined with a degree in civil engineering from the University of Notre Dame and military service in the Army Corps of Engineers during World War II, he returned home fully prepared to participate in the post-war economic boom.

Often accused of being a workaholic, DeBartolo managed to devote time to his family and community. His marriage in 1943 to Marie Patricia Montani produced two children, Marie Denise and Edward, Jr. Both children assumed leadership positions in the DeBartolo Corporation as adults. Although his philanthropy was felt across the country, Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley were frequent beneficiaries of his largesse.

### **Scope and Content**

This small collection was compiled by the DeBartolo family and the Edward J. DeBartolo Corporation. It includes photographs, newspaper clippings, and corporate publications. The dates run from 1906 to 1986 with the greatest concentration in the 1970s and 1980s.

The collection was organized to highlight the positive events and accomplishments of DeBartolo's life and career. It does not contain detailed information.

### **Series Description**

Series I:	Scrapbook
Series II:	Newspaper clippings
Series III:	Greeting card
Series IV:	Photograph
Series V:	Publications

### **Related Materials**

None

### **Index Terms**

Edward J. DeBartolo Corporation  
Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr.  
Professional Sports Management  
Real Estate Development  
Shopping Mall Development

### **BOX 1**

#### **SERIES I: SCRAPBOOK**

Edward J. DeBartolo: A Proud Heritage, 1906-1983

### **BOX 2**

#### **SERIES II: NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS**

##### **Folder    Content**

- 1 The Pittsburgh Press Sunday, 9 Oct 1983 "Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr."
- 2 Newspaper clippings, 1954-1986

### **BOX 3**

#### **SERIES III: GREETING CARD**

**Folder    Content**

- 1    Christmas card – The Edward J. DeBartolo Corporation, ca.1985

#### **SERIES IV: PHOTOGRAPH**

**Folder    Content**

- 1    Photograph of DeBartolo Hall, Youngstown State University, n.d.

#### **SERIES V: PUBLICATIONS**

**Folder    Content**

- 1    DeBartolo On Location: The Newsletter of the Edward J. DeBartolo Corporation. 1981 Spring, 1982 May, 1982 Sep, 1982 Dec, 1984 May
- 2    Prospectus – The Edward J. DeBartolo Corporation, n.d.
- 3    Company pocket folder – The Edward J. DeBartolo Corporation, n.d.