



## Biography

### DOUG MAZZA

Doug Mazza, President and Chief Operating Officer of Joni and Friends, has overseen an era of tremendous growth since coming to the organization 10 years ago.

He has taken the vision of Joni Eareckson Tada and helped make Joni and Friends the authoritative voice on Christian outreach to the world's 660 million people with disabilities and their families.

Having ministered to his severely disabled son, Ryan, for more than 30 years, Mazza brings a warm and personal perspective to every program at Joni and Friends.

He also brings award-winning skills in corporate leadership. His distinguished career in the automotive industry began in 1982 on the team that introduced Mitsubishi Motor Sales of America's new line of automobiles in the U.S.

Later as senior American executive for American Suzuki Motor Corporation, he wrote the marketing plan that successfully launched Suzuki automobiles in this country. Under his leadership, the Suzuki Samurai was named one of the top 10 marketed products in the United States and became the subject of a Harvard case study.

Mazza later joined Hyundai Motor America as its top American executive, serving five years as Chief Operating Officer.

He has been the recipient of a national award from Women Against Violence in the Media for his public stance against sexism and for family values.

Long a dedicated volunteer with a variety of non-profit organizations, he and his wife, Lorraine, made a life-changing decision when he left industry to answer a calling to full-time Christian ministry in 1999 with Joni and Friends. In 2004, when the ministry estimated that it had quadrupled the number of people it was reaching under his leadership, he was promoted from Executive Vice President to President.

Mazza is originally from Bergen County, New Jersey, near New York City. An Otterbein College graduate, he and his wife currently live in Woodland Hills, Calif., and attend Calvary Community Church in Westlake Village, Calif. They have five grown sons.