



David Beattie – Lumber Person of the Year

David Beattie, the 2024 Lumber Person of the Year, has built a distinguished career in the lumber industry, drawing inspiration from a family legacy rooted in hard work and dedication. His father, Dave Beattie, a 2012 recipient of the same prestigious award, played a pivotal role in David's entry into the industry. In 2002, while working on a margin desk at an online brokerage firm, David found himself dissatisfied with his career path. A conversation with his father led to an opportunity as a Product Specialist at Parksite, marking the beginning of a career that has spanned over two decades.

David's professional journey has taken him through key roles at several leading companies, including Parksite (2002-2008), BB&S (2008-2009), WOLF Home Products (2010-2017), BlueLinX (2017-2024), and Coastal Forest Products (2024-Present). His diverse experiences have shaped him into a highly respected figure in the industry, with a focus on sales, management, and customer relationships.

Throughout his career, David has been deeply involved in the New England lumber community, serving in various capacities within the Rhode Island Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association (RILBMDA). Notably, he chaired the organization's Golf Tournament, where he oversaw a historic hole-in-one event. Despite the insurance challenges that followed, David's persistence ensured the winner received his \$10,000 prize—an experience that highlighted his problem-solving skills and dedication to the association.

A graduate of the University of Rhode Island with a degree in Finance (1998), David has also contributed to the growth and development of the RILBMDA, serving as an Associate Director (2021-2023) and Golf Chairman (2022-2023). His leadership and commitment to the industry have earned him the respect of colleagues and peers alike.

David's work ethic and principles are rooted in the values his father instilled in him. As a young man, he was taught that success in the lumber industry required passion and commitment—something he's carried with him throughout his career. David has often reflected on the advice his father gave him: "You are either going to love this business or hate it, there really isn't any middle ground." For David, it's been the former, and he has found a career he is deeply passionate about.

Outside of work, David is a devoted family man, married to Jessica Beattie since 2015. Together, they have two children, Caleb (8) and Riley (6), whom they support through sporting events and gymnastics competitions. The family resides in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, where David enjoys spending time with his loved ones, as well as golfing and fishing in his leisure time.

David's journey in the lumber industry is a testament to the power of mentorship, hard work, and perseverance. Looking ahead, he plans to continue his career at Coastal Forest Products, where he hopes to remain for the long term, further cementing his legacy in the industry he has come to love.