

William F. Friel

After high school in Indiana and service in the US Navy submarine support service, William graduated from Indiana University with a degree in BioBotany and Chemistry. Started at Jos. E. Seagram Louisville, Ky. in 1962 and remained with the company for 21.5 years. Starting as a small plant chemist was made a research asst. after 8 months. Later promoted to production supervisor and then made By Products manager at a rural plant. Became the Kentucky Area Bacteriologist for two years and then Asst. Distiller. Oversaw the production of Bourbon, Light Whiskey, Grain Spirits, Vodka, and Gin. Promoted to Human Resources Manager for two years, and then Kentucky Area Purchasing Manager, serving 5 company facilities.

Left Seagram in 1983 to assume position of Plant Manager and Master Distiller at the Glenmore Distillery Yellowstone plant. Managed the plant and all production until the Company was sold in 1987.

Accepted a position of General Manager of Jaquins Distillery in Auburndale, Florida where alcoholic beverages were made from citrus residues of tropical citrus fruits. Left Jaquins in 1990 when it too was sold to Florida Distillers. Accepted a position at Barton Brands in Bardstown, Ky. As Master Distiller and Distillery Manager. At Bartons managed operations for the production of multiple bourbon recipes, rye whiskey, and some neutral spirits. Retired from Bartons in Feb. of 2000.

While at Seagram I served as an in company consultant reporting to the plant manager on several occasions. These were quality, human resources, and efficiency assignments.

While at Glenmore, again served as an in Company consultant and was sent to Mexico to resolve a tequila quality problem. The Tequila company was the Orendain Distillery in the Guadalajara area.

Working at Barton Brands I again was a company consultant and was sent to Albany, Ga. To the company owned Viking Distillery, which made Vodka, and Bourbon Whiskey. A quality and yield problem had to be resolved. I returned to Viking a second time to resolve a management problem.

After retiring I registered as a consultant for the distilling industry.

In 2008 I designed and prepared a business plan for a San Antonio, Texas distillery. The facility was not built due to the economy and a decision by the family of the primary financier.

In 2010, I designed and prepared a complete construction layout, production plan, and assisted in the acquiring of all federal, state, and local operating licenses and permits for the A.D. Laws Whiskey House in Denver, Colo. This company now has products in the market and makes Bourbon, Rye, and Rum.

In 2015 I consulted with Willet Distillery in Bardstown, Ky. to help resolve a distillation problem.

Also in 2015 and continuing, have been consulting with JB Thompson on the handling, processing and preparing for market a volume of 40 yr. old products.

