



Paul Fleming
Co-Founder

Paul Fleming, Co-Founder of *Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar* along with Bill Allen, is one of the industry's most creative concept developers. Pursuing his interest in testing fresh ideas and initiating culinary trends, Fleming teamed with Allen to found *Fleming's*, the premier destination for food and wine lovers, in 1998. Based on their mutual vision to create a contemporary and stylish steakhouse dining experience, *Fleming's* has flourished under their direction.

"*Fleming's* interior design and floor plans, combined with our well-trained and gracious staff, creates an atmosphere that is both inviting and comfortable," Fleming commented when explaining the success of their restaurants. "We serve excellent food, from Prime beef to carefully sourced seafood and more. At the same time, we price our menu and wine lists that draw customers back again and again. "

Associated with other critically acclaimed restaurants, Paul developed P.F. Chang's China Bistro and Pei Wei Asian Diner. P.F. Chang's grew rapidly during its first five years and went public in 1998. Around the same time he developed the successful Z'Tejas Grills, and continues to run seven Grills in Texas, Arizona, Nevada and Colorado.

"I like the excitement of the changing needs of customers and the changing trends that effect us all," says Fleming. Searching out franchises for investment in the 1980's, he found the restaurant business particularly appealing. Ruth's Chris Steakhouse in New Orleans impressed Fleming and eventually, he obtained the development rights in California, Arizona, and Hawaii. Opening his first restaurant in Beverly Hills in 1984, Fleming operated Ruth's Chris Steakhouses for 12 years.

A businessman with a degree in Criminal Justice, Fleming spent nine years in the oil and gas leasing industry before pursuing his passion for restaurant concept development.