

18

09

CAPITAL

JIM RYAN *Partner*

Jim Ryan is an investor and advisor to growth businesses through his own venture capital fund as well as partnering with other venture and private equity firms. Jim currently serves on the Board of Trustees of DePaul University (and previously served as its Chair), and is a former Co-Chair of the Business Advisory Council for the Farmer School of Business at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Jim is also involved with a number of philanthropic projects focused on creating access to quality education, social support, work experience and job training for students from underserved communities.

Jim spent his career at W.W. Grainger, a Fortune 500 industrial supply company with operations in the Americas, Europe and Asia. In 2017 Jim retired as W.W. Grainger's Chairman of the Board, a role he held since 2009. In addition, he served as Grainger's CEO from 2008 through 2016. Jim's other senior roles at Grainger included serving as President, Chief Operating Officer, Group President of the US, and EVP of Marketing, Sales and Service. Notably, during his tenure he oversaw Grainger's e-commerce business grow from start-up to over \$6B in revenue.

Jim graduated from Miami University in 1980 with a bachelor's degree in business. He also earned a master's degree, with distinction, in business administration with a concentration in marketing from DePaul University in Chicago. In 1999, he was awarded the Distinguished MBA Alumni Award by DePaul University, and the Illinois Institute of Technology recognized him as the 2006 Outstanding Leader in Industry.

