

# A Midlife Change of Heart

*People* magazine did a most encouraging article sometime back on Tom Monaghan, the man who invented Domino's Pizza in 1960. He owned the Detroit Tigers from 1983 to 1992, and he also owns the Domino's Farms Office Park, located in Ann Arbor Charter Township, Michigan, which he first started building during 1984.

Monaghan is a Catholic, and announced his retirement in 1998 after 38 years with Domino's Pizza, Inc. He sold 93 percent of the company to Bain Capital, Inc. for about \$1 billion and ceased being involved in day-to-day operations of the company. A champion of the pro-life movement and other Catholic teachings "to combat the nation's moral crisis," Monaghan has spent hundreds of millions of dollars promoting them.



Here is what *People* magazine said:

Each day in his briefcase, Monaghan keeps two spiral notebooks, the kind that school children use. One is red like the devil ... for material things. The other is blue like heaven ... for spiritual things. Until recently, entries that would have belonged in the red book played the larger role in Monaghan's life. After all, he ran the second largest pizza chain in the nation next to Pizza Hut.

These days, the only notation scribbled in the red-cover notebook had to do with a dream house he was building near Ann Arbor. He spends most of his time in the blue book. He had a midlife change of heart.

The article shares how he is investing his whole life in serving God. It said he spent time one summer overseeing construction of a church in Honduras.

"We have 5,000 pizza outlets," he explained. "My goal now is 5,000 churches. I've always felt the most important thing for me is getting to heaven. When I die, I don't think St. Peter is going to ask me how many pizzas I sold."

What do you think God is going to ask you and me?

Do we have the kind of missionary spirit to do the things God has called us to do?

If not, let's pray that the Holy Spirit will show us the opportunities before us to serve our Lord and convict us of our responsibilities.

*Only fear the Lord and serve Him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things He has done for you (1 Samuel 12:24 ESV).*

– Beecher Hunter