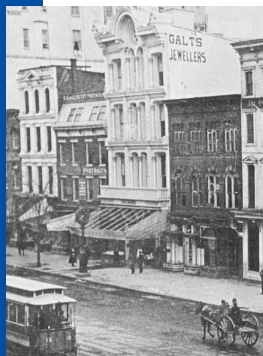


# America's Oldest Jeweler

In August 1801, James Galt, a watchmaker and silversmith, began his career in Alexandria, Virginia, which was then a part of Washington. It was just a stone's throw from what would become the nation's most vibrant corridor of celebrated buildings and political figures. One year later, in May 1802, the District of Columbia was incorporated and the rest, as they say, is history!



In 1824 James Monroe moved into the recently completed White House. About the same time, James Galt moved his business into the very core of the Washington commercial district. James Galt passed on in 1847, and his business was continued by his sons, Matthew and William Galt, who

proudly upheld the traditions of its founder.

In 1868, Galt & Bro. moved to 1107 Pennsylvania Avenue where the business thrived for 66 years. During this period, the telephone was patented, the phonograph was invented, General Custer lost at Little Big Horn, and work continued on the Washington Monument. Matthew and William Galt retired in 1891 and the company continued under the tutelage of Norman Galt, son of Matthew. •

## Mrs. Woodrow Wilson – owner of Galt

Upon the death of Norman Galt in 1908, his widow assumed ownership of the business under the management of Henry Berghimer. Eight years later, after a widely publicized romance, Mrs. Galt married the widowed President Woodrow Wilson. In

1934, under the direction of William Wright, the employees entered into a purchase agreement with Mrs. Woodrow Wilson and guided the business forward. •

## Struggles through the depression

The company managed its way through the great depression and moved to 607 Thirteenth St.

Mr. Wright died in 1940 and was succeeded by Lena M. Black, the first female registered jeweler with the American Gem Society, thus adding another distinction to Galt's already notable reputation. Ms. Black married Armand Bayardi, a celebrated jewelry designer and manufacturer, who joined Galt & Bro. in 1948 as Chairman and General Manager. •

## Jeweler to presidents and dignitaries continues the tradition

Upon Armand Bayardi's death in 1976, Edward Hall was charged with the responsibility of managing the company and was elected president in 1992. Mr. Hall, associated with the firm since 1952, has expertly guided dignitaries, including presidents, heads of state, and international leaders in their purchases of important jewelry, gifts and extraordinarily rare gemstones. •

## People from all over the country, even the globe, visit Galt

Over the years, Galt Jewelers has attracted visitors from every state in the union – and an impressive list of countries around the world. It was not unusual for people to drive considerable distances to Washington in quest of a special piece of fine jewelry from the nation's oldest jeweler. And, an engagement ring from Galt had a special aura surrounding it – an image that was as significant as the diamonds themselves. •

## A celebration of change and excellence

Wilkerson & Associates, the nation's premier jewelry promotional firm, was chosen by Galt for their fine reputation in the interest of protecting Galt's 200 years of integrity and dignity.

The list of Galt's notable customers is so vast, it would be impossible to mention them all. However, a partial list would



include the names of Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, Andrew Johnson, Ulysses S. Grant, Sam Houston, Theodore Roosevelt and General George Patton. Suffice it to say, national and international figures share a role in the history of this exceptional gem of a jeweler in the nation's capital. •

Galt Bros. ledgers 1861-1865

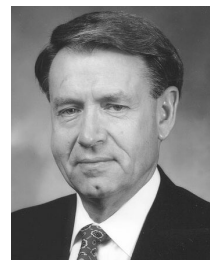


Ed Hall, President of Galt

## In the final analysis all we leave behind is our reputation and the thoughts of others

Ed Hall's tenure with Galt Jewelers successfully steered this historic business through the administrations of Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush, and a small piece of George W. Bush's administration. Galt Jewelers will go down in history as one of the nation's most prominent jewelers. Elegance of design, sophistication, integrity, credibility and careful attention to every detail are perhaps the most prominent aspects of its legacy as a jeweler. But upon reflection, Galt Jewelers will remain an integral part of our national heritage – not only because of the spectacular works of art created – but for the lives touched with special meaning by the brand known as Galt.

We at Wilkerson & Associates are proud of our accomplishments in assisting America's Oldest Jeweler. We are delighted to have participated in helping facilitate Ed Hall's retirement from Galt with such distinction. It is indeed an honor to share the stage, even for a brief time, with Ed Hall and Galt Jewelers, a man and a company steeped in history, tradition and excellence. •



*Bobby Wilkerson*  
Bobby Wilkerson



Galt delivery van in 1902