

# Biggest Donors to 527 Groups

About a dozen billionaires are among the individuals who have given the most money to 527 groups for the 2004 election. Fourteen are on the Forbes list of richest Americans. Sixteen of the top donors to the 527 groups are

Democrats and eight are Republicans. Eight out of every \$10 given to a 527 group by an individual was at least \$250,000. Figures for donations to 527 groups are based upon the latest data available at deadline.

NAME	AGE	PARTY AFFILIATION	STATE	DONATION TO 527 GROUPS, 2003-04		FEDERAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS (NOT 527 GROUPS) SINCE 1990	FORBES 400 RICHEST AMERICANS LIST RANKING/NET WORTH	BACKGROUND
George Soros	74	D	NY	\$23,250,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$715,400	24 / \$7.2 billion	Hedge fund founder who has given nearly \$5 billion to promote democracy in more than 50 countries. Funded U.S. efforts to reform campaign finance laws, decriminalize marijuana and change criminal justice system.
Peter B. Lewis	71	D	OH	\$19,170,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$392,750	152 / \$1.6 billion	Chairman of insurer Progressive Corp. Once called one of the country's 10 most generous philanthropists. Bankrolled marijuana petition drives on statewide ballot initiatives.
Stephen L. Bing	39	D	CA	\$13,100,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$9,482,000	389 / \$750 million*	Heir to family New York real estate fortune, Hollywood producer. Major supporter of Sen. John Edwards, giving \$900,000 to his 527 group.
Herb (and Marion) Sandler	73 (74)	D	CA	\$5,964,078	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$583,300	337 / \$920 million	Founded Golden West Financial. Active with philanthropic and political causes.
Linda Pritzker	51	D	MT	\$5,750,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$13,000	165 / \$1.5 billion	One of 11 heirs divvying up the Pritzker empire, owner of Hyatt hotels and other businesses. Co-founder of EWAM, a Buddhist enclave in St. Ignatius, Mont. \$3.9 million of 527 donation made through Sustainable World Corp.
Dawn (and Roland) Arnall	45 (65)	R	CA	\$5,000,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$2,021,250	106 / \$2.0 billion	Co-chairman of Ameriquest Capital. A Bush "Ranger" (\$250,000 or more) who hosted a fundraiser for the president's campaign. Gave \$10,000 for House Democrats in 2003.
Alexander G. Spanos	81	R	CA	\$5,000,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$1,300,977	260 / \$1.1 billion	California real estate development mogul and San Diego Chargers (NFL) owner. A "Pioneer" fundraiser (\$100,000 or more for Bush in 2000 and "Ranger" this election). Also gave to Bush recount, legal defense and inaugural funds.
T. Boone Pickens Jr.	76	R	TX	\$4,022,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$358,760	389 / \$750 million	Famed 1980s corporate raider, the former head of Mesa Petroleum runs BP Capital investment fund, which has performed well in the Bush administration.
A. Jerrold Perenchio	74	R	CA	\$4,000,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$1,213,250	72 / \$2.7 billion	CEO and chairman of Univision, the Spanish language broadcaster, and president of Chartwell Partners, a real estate holding company. Donor to both parties and personal friends with President Bush and his father. Achieved "Pioneer" fundraising status for Bush campaign this election.
Harold C. Simmons	73	R	TX	\$3,800,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$303,609	106 / \$2 billion	Corporate raider of the 1980s and early '90s, this Texas investor owns sugar, chemical and waste companies. Wants to build nuclear waste site in Texas. Previously fined by the FEC in 1993 for exceeding donation limits.
John McHale (and Christine Mattsson)	48 (47)	D	TX	\$3,000,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$12,500	no listing	He is the co-founder and chairman of TippingPoint Technologies Inc., a computer security systems company, and a former NetSpeed executive.
Andrew S. (and Deb) Rappaport	47 (46)	D	CA	\$2,685,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$336,000	no listing	A partner with August Capital, supports groups that register Hispanics and under-30 voters.
Bob J. (and Doyle) Perry	72 (62)	R	TX	\$2,490,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$630,000	no listing	Houston homebuilder and founder of Perry Homes, ranked as the nation's 42nd largest home builder.
John (Jay) A. Harris IV	76	D	PA	\$2,312,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$310,400	no listing	Heir to the Standard Oil fortune and philanthropist, interested in population control and environmental issues.
Fred Eychaner	60	D	IL	\$2,150,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$7,792,550	no listing	Media entrepreneur who is sole owner of Newsweb Corp. Philanthropic interests include AIDS, the arts, and Northwestern University's Medill Innocence Project, which works to free wrongly convicted death row inmates.
Carl H. Lindner Jr.	85	R	OH	\$2,020,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$3,873,000	124 / \$1.8 billion*	"Ranger" status fundraiser for Bush campaign this election, the chief executive of American Financial Group is also majority owner of the Cincinnati Reds, and former chairman of Chiquita Bananas.
Agnes Varis	74	D	NY	\$2,001,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$1,254,994	no listing	Founder and president of Agvar Chemicals and Aegis Pharmaceuticals, a generic drug production and supply companies. Also, vice chair of the Generic Pharmaceutical Association.
Richard M. DeVos Sr.	78	R	MI	\$2,000,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$339,566	60 / \$3 billion	Amway co-founder, owner of the Orlando Magic, former finance chairman of the Republican National Committee. His foundation is listed by National Journal as one of the top 10 funders of conservative causes.
Jay VanAndel	80	R	MI	\$2,000,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$351,100	65 / \$2.9 billion	Amway co-founder and trustee of Heritage Foundation. Active with the founding and funding a medical research institute.
Phillip T. "Terry" (and Susan) Ragon	55 (54)	D	MA	\$2,000,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$375	no listing	Founder and CEO of Cambridge-based company InterSystems, which develops database technology used by health care companies and other industries.
Alida R. Messinger	55	D	NY	\$1,658,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$880,600	no listing	Standard Oil heir, sister of Sen. John D. Rockefeller IV (D-W.Va.) and trustee of the Rockefeller Family Fund. Interested in environmental and conservation issues.
Lewis B. (and Dorothy) Cullman	85 (86)	D	NY	\$1,650,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$339,210	no listing	Very active philanthropist, he made his fortune through leveraged buyouts. He has given away more than \$223 million to cultural, educational and scientific charities in the New York area and plans on donating another \$100 million before his death.
Alice Walton	55	R	TX	\$1,600,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$439,900	4 / \$18 billion	Walmart heir considered to be the richest U.S. woman and the wealthiest Texan. Active with the Walton Family Foundation and the breeding and raising of quarter horses.
Robert D. Glaser	42	D	WA	\$1,195,000	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$270,250	no listing	RealNetworks founder and chief executive who attended a retreat at George Soros's Southampton home that launched America Coming Together.
John R. Hunting	73	D	MI	\$1,057,500	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	\$351,298	no listing	Grandson of one of the founders of furniture manufacturer Steelcase. Head of the Beldon Fund, which focuses on environmental advocacy.

SOURCE: Graphics reporting by Alice Crites and James V. Grimaldi, with data gathered by the Center for Public Integrity from the Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Election Commission.

\*With family