

James E. Kelley



Prior to World War II, James Kelley was accepted into the government's Civilian Pilot Training Program and earned his private pilot's license. After the war, Kelley hoped to make flying a living. He and business partner, Les Myers, borrowed \$30,000 to start a fixed base air service.

Three years later, the six plane operation grew to include 23 planes. In 1952, Kelley bought his first automobile agency. One year later, he opened Fort Wayne Leasing. By 1990, Kelley and son Tom had acquired nine automobile agencies across the country.