

Suzanne Allford Wade

Suzanne Wade's retail career spans over 40 years. While she started as a salesclerk during her high school and college days, her career culminated with senior executive positions at both Wal-Mart and H-E-B. Suzanne officially began her retail career teaching Fashion Merchandising in Oklahoma with the goal of owning her own retail store. She was recruited to corporate training opportunities, first at TG&Y Stores, and later to Wal-Mart where she launched the Walton Institute of Retailing. Suzanne spent 11 years at Wal-Mart serving as Senior Vice President of Human Resources and Senior Vice President of Membership, Marketing and Administration for Sam's Club.

Suzanne joined H-E-B in 1997 and held leadership positions in Sales and Advertising, H-E-B Own Brand and Human Resources. However, for most of her H-E-B career, she led the Company's largest operating division as President of San Antonio Food/Drug Stores, encompassing over 200 stores and 55,000+ H-E-B Partners.

Suzanne has an MBA from the University of Oklahoma and a BS in Business Administration from Oklahoma State University. She completed the Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program in 2000. She has served on numerous Retail Advisory Boards and community initiatives during her retail career. She is the past chair of the United Way Women's Leadership Council and Founding Chair of Teach for America San Antonio as well as serving on the National Girl Scouts USA Board. She currently serves on the San Antonio Area Foundation Board and chairs The Young Women's Leadership Academy Advisory Board, a Blue Ribbon All-Girls School within San Antonio ISD. Earlier this year she joined the Board of Directors for NuStar Energy.

Suzanne is married with two stepdaughters and four incredible grandchildren. She and her husband, Dick Wade, enjoy traveling, fly fishing and debating college football!