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Conway Businessman, Carl Wendell Flemister Jr., Dies In Mexico

By Mark Friedman
3/20/2012 3:49:45 PM

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Carl Wendell Flemister Jr., the owner and CEO of Vacation Tour & Travel Inc. of Conway, died Monday. He was 50.

A Mexican website, enfoqueradio.com.mx, reported that Flemister suffered a heart attack after nearly drowning in the ocean.

Flemister reportedly was being pulled out to sea and had fought the waves to make his way back to shore, the website said. He collapsed in the sand and hotel workers rushed to help. He later died at a hospital, the website said.

On Tuesday, a company spokesperson confirmed Flemister's death.

"Mr. Flemister was a brilliant businessman and will be missed by all who knew him," Connie Kirby said in a statement. "His family respectfully asks for privacy at this time."

Funeral arrangements have not yet been made but the details will be released when complete, Kirby said.

The Arkansas Secretary of State's Office shows Flemister incorporated the company in 2006.

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In 2011, [Vacation Tour](#) announced it was planning on building a \$3 million, [24,000-SF headquarters](#) in Conway and would add 100-125 positions, bringing the total to about 250.

"We are thrilled with Conway and the surrounding community as we continue our successful journey together," Flemister said in 2011.

The company offers travel to destinations including South Carolina, Missouri, Florida, Nevada, Wisconsin and Tennessee. It also offers cruises with Carnival Cruise Lines.

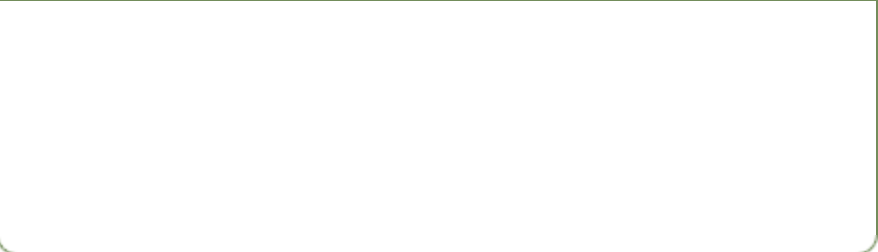
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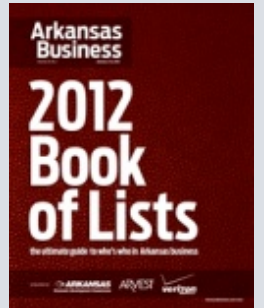
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