

# Checking out?

The survival of Fishers-based Marsh Supermarkets LLC is in doubt following its May 11 Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing. The company hopes to find buyers for its remaining 44 stores.



Ermal Marsh

**1931:** Ermal Marsh opens his first grocery, in Muncie.

**1959:** Ermal Marsh dies in plane crash near Logansport. His brother Estel succeeds him.

**1953:** Marsh, now with 16 stores, goes public.



AP photo

**2001:** Marsh buys eight-store O'Malia's Food Markets chain.



David Marsh

**2002:** Don's son David Marsh appointed president.

**2003:** Marsh buys three-store Mr. D's Fresh Food markets chain.

**2005:** Marsh launches Chicago expansion by opening Naperville store.

**February 2006:** David Marsh leaves company.

**July 2006:** Marsh pulls plug on Chicago expansion, closes Naperville store.

**Sept. 20, 2006:** David Marsh sues grocery chain, alleging it shortchanged him \$102,000 on his \$2.1 million severance package.

**Sept. 27, 2006:** Under financial strain, Marsh, now with 116 groceries and 154 convenience stores, acquired by Florida-based Sun Capital Partners for \$88 million in cash and assumption of \$237 million in debt. Sun dismisses Don Marsh.

**Nov. 29, 2006:** Marsh Supermarkets countersues David Marsh, saying he used company "as his personal checkbook."

**August 2007:** David Marsh settles lawsuit, with terms not disclosed.

**March 25, 2009:** Marsh Supermarkets sues Don Marsh, saying he used millions in company money to travel the globe and maintain vacation homes.

**April 2009:** Sun combines Village Pantry and other convenience stores it owns into North Carolina-based VPS Convenience Store Group.

**June 2009:** Don Marsh countersues company, denying he misspent funds and alleging he is owed more than \$1.6 million in back pay.

**January 2013:** In latest retrenchment, Marsh closes two stores, reducing total to 91.



AP photo

**February 2013:** Jury orders Don Marsh to repay \$2.2 million in improper expenses.

**July 2013:** Judge rules Don Marsh can keep \$2.2 million in severance, blunting earlier verdict.

**January 2014:** Marsh closes eight stores, reducing total to 78.

**May 2014:** Marsh opens on west side of downtown, the chain's first new location since 2004.

**June 2015:** Sun sells VPS Convenience Store Group.

**June 2016:** Marsh signs Supervalu as primary supplier, a move it says will lower prices.

**January 2017:** Lawsuits, liens begin piling up against company.

**March 24, 2017:** Sun sells control of Marsh to Delaware-based JT Grocery Consulting LLC.

**April 2017:** Marsh sells pharmacy business to CVS Health for \$38 million.

**May 9, 2017:** After succession of store closings, Marsh says it will shut down within 60 days if buyer for remaining 44 stores isn't found.

**May 11, 2017:** Marsh files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

1930s

1960s

1990s

1950s

1970s

2000s

2010s



NBCIR

Ermal Marsh photo courtesy of Ball State University; Marsh advertisement courtesy of Marsh Supermarkets

Source: IBI research