Pete Susemihl, a Colorado Springs attorney and Colorado College graduate, ignored critics and naysayers to lead the effort to build the World Arena over a six-year span. He chaired a group of hundreds of committed and motivated individuals that raised some \$57 million (the largest fundraiser effort in city history) to construct the multi-purpose arena and home of the Colorado College Tigers of the WCHA, a program that ranks annually in the NCAA Division I top then on the ice and in home attendance.

As Chairman of the Colorado Springs World Arena, Susemihl was a leader in making the elegant facility a reality in 1998. He is the fifth winner of the William Thayer Tutt Sportsman Award named for the legendary, visionary sportsman and civic giant who helped transform the city into a world-class center for national and international events.

He was named the city's Business Citizen of the Year in 1997, and a special meeting room at the World Arena has been named in his honor.