

OFHS



WALL OF FAME
Inducted May 1999



JAMES RIFENBERGH

James Rifenbergh graduated from OFHS in 1949, Washington H.S. at that time. James was Vice-President of the Senior Class and Student Body President. After high school, he attended college at the University of Wisconsin earning his B.S. in Electrical Engineering. He earned a Master's degree from the University of Chicago in Business Administration. He also served four years in the U.S. Air Force, seeing duty during the Korean War. James is married with two daughters and four grandchildren.

James' work has taken him many directions. While in college at Madison, he worked for Carl C. Crane, Inc., an engineering consulting firm. Following this, he worked for Inland Steel Company, Inc. of Chicago for five years as an electrical engineer in charge of new mill start ups and several other managerial positions. From there, James worked for Poole Bros. Company, Inc., a \$50,000,000 printing conglomerate for five years holding a variety of positions with a subsidiary company. Finally, he arrived at Brown Printing Company in Waseca, Minnesota. He worked with Brown for twenty-eight years, retiring in 1995 as Chairman Emeritus II. Under his tenure with Brown, the company grew from a \$5,000,000 business to one worth \$440,000,000.

Although retired, James is currently chairman of the board and CEO for Sunrich, Inc. of Hope, MN, an Agri-Ingredients company. James is currently a director of the Kilmer Educational Fund; director of State Technology, Ltd, in Toronto, Canada; director of the Waseca Area Foundation; VP of Northridge Properties; VP of Giambanco, Inc., and VP of Rice Lake Land Co. Previously, James has been an officer in AIEE (Chicago section); director with First National Bank of Waseca; director with Waseca United Way Fund; and a member of several professional organizations.