

OFHS



WALL OF FAME
Inducted 1997
Charter Member



RALPH LEMORANDE

Ralph Lemorande was born August 2, 1922 in Oconto Falls. He graduated from OFHS in 1941. His education at St. Norbert College, DePere, was interrupted by four years of service during WWII. During the war, he spent a year at Queens College, New York, receiving the basic course in engineering. He served with the 100th Infantry Division in Europe. After returning from the service, he continued his education at St. Norbert College receiving a bachelor's degree in 1948.

Ralph worked for the U.S. Post Office, was president of the Beam Chemical Company, and past owner/president of Lemorande Beer Distributors. He also worked for American Family Insurance. Ralph was president/owner of Falls Chemical Products, a detergent manufacturer.

Ralph's loyalty was always in Oconto Falls. He made a promise while in college to work to make Oconto Falls a place where people want to live and work. The services he took great pride in were the volunteer fire department (26 years), alderman (12), Mayor (4), Chair of the Housing Authority, and a director and chair of Community Memorial Hospital. The Chamber of Commerce (as president) and Industrial Development Committee (as chair for 30 years) also benefitted from his service. He served on the ad hoc committee for the Oconto Falls Public Schools. He was Chair of the Bicentennial Foundation and was involved in the acquisition of funds for the new Oconto Falls Community Library. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Norwest Bank.

Ralph received many awards for his years of community service. Some of these are: Distinguished Achievement Award from the Jaycees, Ralph Lemorande Road in the Industrial Park, the Distinguished Achievement Award in Public Service from St. Norbert College in 1994, and the Rural Urban Civic Leader Recognition Award also in 1994. One of Ralph Lemorande's favorite quotations comes from Abraham Lincoln: "I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him." This quotation embodies Ralph's relationship with Oconto Falls.