

Distinguished Achievement Citation

James J. Nance

Class of 1923

James Nance has had an illustrious career as banker, industrialist, and business executive.

After serving in top management positions with Frigidaire, Hotpoint, Packard/Studebaker and Ford, he became, in 1960, head of Cleveland's Central National Bank and went on from there to assume leadership of the First Union Real Estate Investment Trust.

As founder-chairman of The Cleveland State University, he helped to make that institution a major urban university within the central business district in Cleveland. His role in this endeavor has been recognized in the naming of the James J. Nance College of Business administration at C.S.U.

Among Mr. Nance's other major contributions to his state and his profession have been founding and heading the Ohio Research and Development foundation, a group of researchers, educators, and industrialists formed to stimulate student interest in the hard sciences; and drafting the Ohio Economic Development Plan, a blueprint for the State's industrial and economic expansion of the 1960's.

Mr. Nance holds several honorary degrees and has been recipient of many awards for service and leadership, among them the Horatio Alger Award in 1951 and the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce's Gold Medal Public Service award in 1969.

A member of Ohio Wesleyan's Class of 1923, Mr. Nance has served his Alma Mater significantly as President of the Alumni Association in the early 1940s and as Trustee from 1943 to 1963.

His late wife was Laura Battelle, also of the Ohio Wesleyan University Class of 1923.

June 21, 1980

