

**Horace D. Taft Alumni Medal  
and  
Citation of Merit  
1972 Recipient**



**John C. Esty, Jr.  
Headmaster 1963-1972  
1928-2015**

Headmaster of Taft from 1963 to 1972, you served during a decade of tension and accelerating change. A mathematician by profession, baritone by avocation, bicyclist by inclination, you have administered our school with clarity and force and given articulate and intellectual leadership to the field of secondary education. In your own way you have demonstrated your deeply held convictions about the meaning of family, friends, and school, and with style and imagination encouraged the growth and renewal of our school community. While sheltering and preserving the best of our traditional values, you opened Taft to innovation and experiment. Your social consciousness, your unfailing good humor, and your sensitivity to the intricacies of human relations have enlightened and enlivened a generation of Taft boys and eighty-eight girls. With a vision focused by reality, you have indeed endowed us and our school with an unsuspected grace.