

**Horace D. Taft Alumni Medal
and
Citation of Merit
1977 Recipient**



**Orin Lehman '38
1920-2008**

Quietly and without fanfare, you have served your fellow man for more than thirty-five years with a quality of caring and a capacity for achievement. Yourself seriously wounded on a volunteer mission in World War II, you became a member of President Eisenhower's committee for the handicapped, and later, prompted by your social conscience and growing talents, you served your home state of New York in ways that demonstrate the range of your interests: serving on the commission for public higher education, the commission against discrimination, and now as commissioner of parks and recreation. As a participant in the Montgomery Freedom March in the early days of the civil rights movement, you once more put yourself in the vanguard of a battle—this time against racism. Your concern for the less fortunate extended overseas in work for the United Nations, and in one instance culminated in a proposal to use volunteers in foreign lands—an early version of the Peace Corps. At Taft, you have been a generous friend and wise trustee. Exemplifying well the motto of our school, your life stands as a model to those who have great obligations because they have had great opportunities. Today, Taft honors both you and itself in presenting to you the Alumni Citation of Merit.