

**Horace D. Taft Alumni Medal
and
Citation of Merit
1983 Recipient**



**Horace Dwight Taft '43
1925-1983**

Scientist, humanist and idealist, Horace Dwight Taft was a modest, generous and open-minded man. By force of character and keenness of intellect, he enlarged human understanding in the field of physics, attended to the welfare of a generation of students, and provided steady and visionary leadership for his school and his university. A distinguished student of Enrico Fermi, Horace pioneered the application of computer analysis to physics and made a major contribution to the knowledge of elementary particles and fields. As master of Davenport and later dean of the college, he served Yale in a period of institutional stress and earned the respect of the entire community for his prescient wisdom. As chairman of the Taft School board of trustees, Horace guided the school through the formulation of its master plan for the 1980's, identifying the needs for major facilities and increased endowment which are now being realized. As an outstanding student, as a loyal alumnus and parent, and as a vigorous leader of trustees, Horace Taft displayed a steady devotion to the mission of his school. A worthy heir to his family's ideal of service, he upheld his school's motto in every area of his life. Today, in grateful celebration of that life, his school honors him with the highest expression of its esteem: the Alumni Citation of Merit.