At the time of his Alumni Achievement Award in 1977, William Edwards was chairman of the board and chief executive officer of INTERCO Inc., of St. Louis, Mo. The company was a major maker of footwear, apparel and furniture.

He joined INTERCO in 1969 as vice president for finance. He became chairman in 1976 and chief executive the following year. Prior to his career with INTERCO, Edwards had worked with the National Can Corporation, the E.W. Bliss Company and UMC Industries.

He passed away in June 1981.