

James F. Merriman

Class of 1938



After his Grove City College graduation, James Merriman served his country in the Pacific theater with the U.S. Navy. Putting his business education to work upon returning, he moved to Kansas City as a sales representative for Scott Paper Company. In a few years, Merriman moved to Philadelphia to join the Campbell's Soup Company as its market research director, overseeing product development, sales and advertising.

Following 38 years with Campbell's, Merriman retired from business, but not service. He was elected treasurer of Radnor Township in the Philadelphia suburbs, and guided the political and social atmosphere of his community for 13 years.

A Republican committeeman, he became chairman of the "New Look Republicans." He was elected chairman of the Radnor Republican Party in 1967 and served for six years, remaining a committeeman until 1981. Merriman also served for a time on the Delaware County board of supervisors. Merriman initiated the Fourth of July fireworks in Radnor Township in 1970. He also is a past manager of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the Revolution and was president of the Society of the Sons of St. George Foundation from 1994 to 1998.

Merriman was an active coordinator of the College's Philadelphia Alumni Chapter, served as president of the Alumni Council from 1962 to 1965, and was instrumental in founding the Alumni Achievement Awards in 1964. He served a term on the College's Board of Trustees and was a major proponent of publishing an alumni directory, a publication which proved to be a valuable asset.

He passed away March 26, 2006.