

Robert W. Wickerham

Class of 1966



Following his Grove City graduation, Robert Wickerham worked in the training program in the Open Hearth Labor Gang at Jones & Laughlin Steel Company in Pittsburgh.

Shortly after, Wickerham, who had joined the Army Reserves in April 1966, was called to active duty to train as a combat medic. He completed his service and retired with the rank of captain in 1972.

Wickerham worked for J&L as both a sales representative and a product manager before leaving to work for a family-owned business in Pittsburgh. In 1972, he started his own company, Allegheny Steel Distributors. The company quickly grew to a multi-million dollar business with facilities in both Pittsburgh and Youngstown, Ohio.

In the mid-1990s, he founded a second business in Louisville, Ky., called Precision Metal Processors. He later sold the company to multi-billion-dollar steel distributor Reliance Steel and Aluminum. He led the company for the following three-and-a-half years before retirement in October 2002.

After full retirement, Wickerham used the remaining liquidated interest in the company to start his third company, Youngstown Steel Storage, which he sold five years after its founding.