

1976

Robert P. Neely

Class of 1934

While a student, Robert Neely worked part time for the George J. Howe Co., the Grove City, Pa., coffee distributor. Forty-three years later, in 1975, he retired as president of one of the top 10 coffee and candy wholesale distributorships in the country. Neely began as a bookkeeper and progressed to salesman, purchasing agent, secretary, treasurer, executive vice president in 1962 and president in 1971. Prior to his retirement, he was a director of the National Candy Wholesaler's Association.

Not only was Neely a success in his business career, but also he was known locally for his extensive involvement in civic, religious and College activities. He was a member and past president of the Grove City Chamber of Commerce, Grove City Industrial Development Council and the Grove City Community Chest. He assisted in the founding of the Mercer County Industrial Development Corporation and was a director of the Industrial Information Institute of Youngstown, Ohio. He was a member of the advisory board of the First Seneca Bank & Trust Co., Grove City.

In 1958, he was elected moderator of the Butler Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church of North America and in 1965 was moderator of Shenango Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. He served on the Councils of the Shenango Presbytery and the PA-West Virginia Synod. He was a member of the Grove City College Board of Trustees from 1963 until 1979. He was active with the Alumni Council for many years, served as a College trustee from 1960-1979, and served two terms as director of annual giving.

He passed away.

