

Duane W. Acklie

Duane W. Acklie, of Lincoln, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family on Saturday, September 17, 2016. Born December 14, 1931, he was raised as the only child of William and Irene Acklie in Madison County, Nebraska, Duane never forgot his farm boy roots. He attended Madison County schools and Norfolk Junior College, graduating in 1955 from the University of Nebraska College of Law. He went on to serve active duty as an Army Officer in Counter Intelligence from 1955 to 1957. Engaged in private practice of law from 1957 to 1972 as a motor carrier lawyer in Lincoln, and member of the Association, he left law for the business of trucking and banking and served as Chairman of Crete Carrier Corporation, Bank First and related enterprises.



Duane served 20 years as Nebraska Republican National Committeeman and was active at local, national and state levels from 1960 to 2010.

His numerous privately owned businesses and philanthropic ventures included: Acklie Charitable Foundation, Bank First, Norfolk, Crete Carrier Corp., Shaffer Trucking, Hunt Transportation, Electronic Contracting Company, Farm & Home Insurance Agency, and First National Bank Northeast.

He served on the boards of American Trucking Associations where he was elected Chairman, Behlen Manufacturing Co. (Advisory Board), Union Bank and Trust Company, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Truckload Carriers Association, Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry and served as a board member and chair of the USO World Board of Governors. His many professional memberships and other boards included Chief Executives Organization, Nebraska Bankers Association, Nebraska State Bar Association, World Presidents Organization (Nebraska and Southwest Florida Chapters), Nebraska Trucking Association, Rotary Club No. 14, and The Round Table.

His previous boards and appointments included Nebraska State Highway Commission, Commissioner - Nebraska Department of Roads, Nebraska Economic Development Commission, Student Loan Marketing Association (Sallie Mae), Chairman/Board member - U.S. Department of State, Public Delegate - U.S. Mission to the United Nations Senior Advisor, Nebraska Game and Parks Foundation, Nebraska Medical Center, University of Nebraska Foundation, Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph, Ameritas Life Insurance Corp., Advisory Board - Duncan Aviation, Inc. and FirstTier Financial, Inc.

Duane traveled through life and around the world with his beloved wife of 62 years, Phyllis. They raised three daughters, Dodie, Laura, and Holly, and enjoyed four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Family includes loving wife Phyllis, Laura and Jeff Schumacher, Holly and Tonn Ostergard; Hiro and Yuko Nakajima. Grandchildren Halley and Chad Kruse; Winston and Amanda Ostergard; Drew Schumacher, Grant Schumacher. Great Grandchildren Avery Ostergard and William Ostergard. Sister-in-law Bette Melcher, nephew Chad and Candy Melcher, nephew Mark and Tracy Melcher, and niece Amy Caskey. Memorials to the Wyuka Historical Foundation for Preservation and Care of our beautiful Wyuka Park and Cemetery.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Phyllis and the family.