



William H. Hunt

1909-1997

William H. “Bill” Hunt was characterized by his peers in the forest products industry as the ultimate “Master” of the very complicated skills involved in building products marketing. He knew well the intricate process of determining product need, design and specifications, costs, profit potential, advertising and sales promotion, and – the ultimate challenge of getting the finished product to the consumer – the process of national and international distribution. And he had an uncanny ability to surround himself with skilled men and women with the enthusiasm to recognize his vision and meet his high goals. He had the rare ability to educate and inspire top people with his own enthusiasm and high achievements. This ability took him to positions of great responsibility in the forest products industry.

Mr. Hunt was born in Madison, Wisconsin, in 1909. He was a child of the great depression and early in life learned the necessities and rewards of hard work and dedication that shaped his personality and his careers. From a sales position with a small plywood and veneer company in Algoma, Wisconsin, Mr. Hunt moved to U.S. Plywood Corporation and quickly rose to sales vice president and director of that company. In 1957 he became vice president of Georgia-Pacific Corporation, became executive vice president in 1963, president in 1970 and vice-chairman of the board of directors in 1972. He then became founding chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Louisiana-Pacific Corporation in 1972 and retired from that company in 1974 to pursue other personal and business interests.

Mr. Hunt was a prime mover in so many endeavors and has received so many honors that it is difficult to document his accomplishments in a few words. His contributions to his industry and his community were many and have been well documented. Mr. Hunt was an inspirational leader in associations that have shaped the plywood, lumber and home-building industry. He has been on the boards of schools at every level, hospitals, youth, art and charitable organizations, economic development groups and political campaigns. As one would expect, his list of awards is testimony to this man who has done so much for so many.