ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Mel Lewis

A graduate of YVCC and Central Washington University, Mel Lewis serves as vice president and has been instrumental in the growth of the YVCC Foundation as well as a stalwart volunteer within the community and beyond. He is president of Terrill, Lewis & Wilke Insurance Agency.

"He is always nominating other people to receive special recognition, always encouraging friends as they serve in special projects, always giving direct private praise to those who help others. His service is truly magnified by his impact on other 'servers,'" said Marvin Sundquist, YVCC Foundation President, and Paul Strater, YVCC Foundation executive director.

Mel has held presidential offices and been extremely active in Yakima Rotary, Monday Morning Quarterback Club, Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of Washington, and Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce.

He has served as chair or board member of Yakima Speech and Hearing Center, Capri, Yakima County Development Association, Utility Task Force, YMCA, Yakima Valley Bank, United Way (division chair), Industrial Indemnity Insurance Group, and School Energy Bond campaign.

Organizations in which Mel holds membership include Elks, Yakima Valley Federation of Contractors, Footprinters, Yakima Estate Planning Council, Professional Insurance Agents Association, and Great American and United Pacific Agents Advisory council.

Mel was named Insurance Boss of the Year in 1968, 1972 and 1979.

This Award was first conferred in 1982 on Catherine May Bedell. Other recipients are J. Alex (Lex) Maxwell, Sid Morrison, James Roger Sorenson, Ph.D., Justice Robert F. Brachtenbach, E. Frederick Velikanje, Bill E. Barnett, Ph.D., Bill Lee and Gene Shields.