

DISTINGUISHED  
ALUMNUS  
OF THE YEAR

ROBERT CARD

Recent under secretary for the U.S. Department of Energy, Mr. Robert G. Card is this year's recipient of YVCC's 2004 Distinguished Alumnus Award. The U.S. Department of Energy provides funding for 14 national laboratories plus university and commercial research engagements in the physical sciences, and as under secretary, Mr. Card was responsible for operations in energy, science, and environment, with an annual budget of \$14 billion. Mr. Card left the DOE in April to head his own firm, The Card Group, which does energy, environmental, and technology consulting.

Robert Card attended West Valley schools, and then YVCC during the 1971-72 academic year. "At YVCC, Bob started thinking more seriously about engineering," according to his father, Brad Card, of Yakima. "His early experience at YVCC played a large part in his later career," Mr. Card said. "All of our children attended YVCC. I appreciated the quality of the instruction they received; the instructors seemed more interested in teaching than research."



Robert Card continued his academic career at the University of Washington, where he earned a BS in Civil Engineering. He received an MS in Environmental Engineering from Stanford University and completed the Program for Management Development at Harvard Business School.

After completing his education and prior to his DOE assignment, Mr. Card served as group executive for the engineering firm, CH2M Hill, Environmental Companies, and was responsible for the energy and environmental business, which was the firm's largest business line. He managed the design and construction of an award-winning heavy oil production project in Alberta, Canada. Mr. Card later served as a board director and senior vice president at CH2M HILL. The \$2 billion-per-year company is one of the world's largest science, engineering, construction, and operations firms.

Mr. Card also served as president and CEO of Kaiser-Hill. In that role he was responsible for the \$7 billion cleanup and closure of the DOE's Rocky Flats nuclear weapons manufacturing site near Denver, Colorado. Mr. Card restructured site operations and the closure strategy to significantly improve safety, environmental compliance, and security while expediting the planned closure schedule from 2065 to 2006 and cutting the cost from \$37 billion to \$7 billion.

It may seem like billion-dollar budgets and Washington, D.C. are a long way from Yakima, but just ask Robert Card. YVCC could be your first step!