

# Jack Lehman



Jack Lehman grew up in Berne, Indiana, and after graduation from Bluffton College, he took a job in Chicago at an oil company. After military service from 1953 to 1955, Lehman earned his Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from Indiana University. In 1956, Fort Wayne National Bank hired Lehman as a trainee in the trust department.

To formalize the trust department's philosophies and policies, Lehman researched other bank trust department policies and practice. According to Tom Quirk, who worked with Lehman, "Jack created a solid investment policy that generated long-term customer rewards."

Lehman worked in the trust department for 16 years, using his dedication to relationship building, vision and expertise to help the trust department grow from one of the smallest in

the city to one of the leading trust departments in the city. One of the relationships the trust department created was with Betty Mitchell, the daughter of Dr. Calvin English. Dr. English was an original Lincoln National Life Insurance shareholder and its first medical director.

In 1972, Lehman was Vice President and Trust Officer at Fort Wayne National Bank, then became Vice President within the bank's commercial banking operations. In 1985, Lehman was named President of Fort Wayne National Bank, and in January 1992, he accepted the position of Chairman and CEO, a position he held until he retired in 1997.

In addition to helping his bank and its employees grow and be successful, Lehman has also been very active in the Fort Wayne community. Lehman began his support of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic when it was experiencing budget challenges, and he served on its board of directors for a number of years. He was its president for several years, and with his guidance, the Freimann String Quartet was formed and \$1 million was added to an endowment fund.

A crowning jewel in Lehman's community service work was his lead role in the expansion of the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum and the development of the Memorial Stadium ballpark, including leadership of a successful \$6 million fund-raising effort.

Lehman was also active in the efforts that restored the Allen County Courthouse, developed the Courthouse Green in downtown Fort Wayne, and led the effort to raise the \$5 million that renovated the lobby and first two floors of the hotel adjoining the Embassy Theatre.