

1980 PAC Winner

Frank H. Wheaton Jr.

As its chief executive officer, Mr. Wheaton has been instrumental in the growth of Wheaton Industries, which now comprises ten divisions and is the largest family-owned glass and plastic container manufacturing facility in the United States.

Joining the firm, then T.C. Wheaton Co., in 1932, Mr. Wheaton began as a laborer and rose rapidly to become assistant to the president. In the five years following this 1934 appointment, he served as project manager for the complete rebuild of the Wheaton plant and offices.

Over the years, the Wheaton operation has made many contributions to the glass industry, pioneering and developing techniques, applications, and machinery for producing glass and plastic containers.

Mr. Wheaton has always worked for the best interest of the glass industry, and has been considered a "maverick" for contesting interference by the government, OSHA, and antipollution groups. A project dear to Mr. Wheaton's heart was realized with the construction of the historic Wheaton Village, a re-creation of a typical early American glassmaking community, whose purpose is to preserve the old skills of the glassmaking industry.