

## **JOHN HOWARD HOVDE (PHS 1945)**

Howard Hovde's high school accomplishments were so numerous that listing them in the 1945 Portage High School yearbook overwhelmed classmates pictured near him. Still, he was admired by the boys for his athletic ability, adored by the girls for his dancing and singing talents, and respected by the adult community and his peers for his leadership and social skills. Mr. Hovde was a star halfback on an undefeated Portage High School football team and was the leading conference scorer as a guard on the Portage High School basketball team. During his days at PHS, Mr. Hovde was also a member of the golf team, band, choir, swing band and boys quartet in addition to serving as class officer. As a senior, he received the PHS Good Citizenship Award. Following high school, Mr. Hovde served in the United States Navy and attended Baylor University where he was team captain and starting guard for the basketball team that eventually lost to Bradley in the national semi-finals at Madison Square Garden. Mr. Hovde went on to attend Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Columbia University, and became a Baptist minister, counselor, teacher, coach and missionary. Mr. Hovde served for 18 years as Director and is now Executive Director Emeritus of the Laity Lodge Retreat Center in Texas.