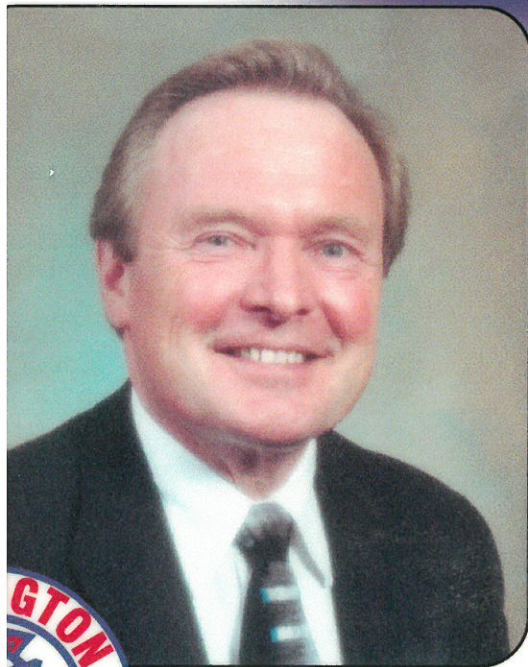


Mr. Charles Ashford

Inducted into the *Hall of Fame* in 2005



Charles Ashford became the third Director of Choral Activities at WHS in 1968. The number of students participating in vocal music grew from 200 to 600 during his tenure. In their first year of State Large Group Competition, all four select ensembles received Superior I ratings. Mr. Ashford initiated WHS participation in the All-State Music Festival. His students set a record for attaining the most qualifiers for the competition with 25 of 29 auditioning students selected. During Mr. Ashford's years at WHS, choirs attained international recognition. Performances included: The Salzburg Music Festival; Cologne Cathedral; Innsbruck Golden Roof Festival; Kaiser Wilhelm Cathedral Berlin; The White House; Cathedral Sts. Peter & Paul Philadelphia; Montreal's Notre Dame Cathedral; and the MENC's 24 State Convention.

In 1973-74 Mr. Ashford conducted and sang with the Los Angeles/Roger Wagner Master Chorale. He simultaneously taught at UCLA and pursued his Ed D. He was selected as UCLA's ombudsman to the Rand Corporation's "Think Tank." He also received a Distinguished Scholar award from UCLA for his

teaching and academic achievements.

Upon leaving WHS Mr. Ashford continued to be a popular guest director and adjudicator at Festivals and Contests. He directed the Chancel Choir at First Presbyterian Church in CR and founded both the Midwest Chorale and The All-Iowa Youth Chorale. Presently he is an avid "enjoyer of the arts...able to listen and simply enjoy..."

