

high standards: respect for the past, hope for the future, and honor to the wide range of informed opinion.

William Howarth

### ROBERT HOWARD WETZEL

Robert Howard Wetzel, stockbroker and prominent Worcester community leader, was born in Buffalo, New York, the son of Howard and Catherine Wetzel. He died suddenly, at the age of fifty-two, on the Fourth of July 1989 at his summer home on Cape Cod.

Wetzel took the degree of bachelor of arts from Hobart College in 1959. In 1962 he joined the Worcester brokerage firm of Kinsley and Adams. He later became associated with Shearson Lehman Hutton in Worcester, becoming the firm's senior vice-president. He was also president of A. E. Thompson, Inc., in Worcester before the company merged with General Medical Corp. of Richmond in 1976. He served on the latter firm's board of directors for a number of years thereafter.

Bob Wetzel was the consummate volunteer, community leader, and trustee. As his eulogist, Rev. Barbara Merritt, said, 'The Worcester community entrusted him with our endowments, our wealth, our portfolios, large and small, and knew that we had entrusted them to a man who would do everything in his power to take our talents and resources and return them to us with all possible interest and growth.' For thirteen years he served Clark University as a member of its Board of Trustees. He was also a trustee of the Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology, Worcester Hahnemann Hospital, and Bancroft School. He was a director and past president as well of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation. His deep involvement in Worcester's philan-

thropic affairs led him naturally to be elected, in October 1988, to membership in the American Antiquarian Society, for just such public-spirited local citizens as he have been mainstays of the Society over its nearly two centuries of existence. An active involvement in the Society's affairs, however, was not to be, for his sudden and premature death occurred less than a year later. His wife, Joy E. (Ellsworth) Wetzel, and four children, Mark, Gary, Todd, and Laura, survive him.

John B. Hench

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