

GEORGE V. GRUNE

Class of 1947

Inducted 1996

George V. Grune, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Reader's Digest for over a decade, is one of America's foremost business leaders.

A 1947 graduate of White Plains High School, where he excelled in football, Mr. Grune graduated from Duke University, served as a Captain in the Marine Corps during the Korean War and attended University of Florida Law School.

Mr. Grune has been associated with the *Reader's Digest* for 36 years. He joined *Reader's Digest* in advertising sales in 1960 and rose rapidly through the ranks of the company in key U.S. and international advertising and marketing positions. He was named publisher of the magazine and was elected to the Board of Directors in 1977. In 1984 he became Chairman and CEO, positions he held until 1995.

Mr. Grune is currently chairman of two charitable foundations -- the DeWitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund and the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund. Mr. Grune is on the board of directors of Avon Products, Chemical Banking Corporation, CPC International, and Federated Department Stores. He serves as chairman of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and is a member of the board of trustees of Central Park Conservancy, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the New York Zoological Society and Outward Bound USA.

Mr. Grune is also a member of the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center board of managers and is managing director of the Metropolitan Opera Association. He is vice chairman of The Conference Board.

In 1990 Mr. Grune received an honorary doctorate in human letters from Rollins College and was inducted into the Westchester All-County Sports Hall of Fame for his outstanding football accomplishments.