

OTTAWA HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME

2015



MICHAEL BALINT

Class of 1946



Mike Balint left OTHS early to serve his country, joining the U.S. Navy during WWII. While being assessed for aptitude by the Navy, his test scores were promising enough that the Navy sent him to a program utilizing Northwestern University engineering course material as part of the program. His service ended in 1948, whereupon he enrolled at the University of Illinois. He graduated as a Diamond I scholar with a degree in accounting and was elected to the honorary and professional societies of Alpha Beta Psi, Beta Gamma Sigma, and Alpha Kappa Psi. Upon graduation he joined a "Big Eight" accounting firm which through a series of major combinations became known as Deloitte and Touche. The firm is now referred to as Deloitte and is currently the largest consulting firm with world-wide operations. Mike Balint was licensed as a Certified Public Accountant in a number of states, was admitted to the Partnership and at various times carried out assignments in Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Europe, and ultimately in the firm's Executive Office in New York. He retired from the Executive Office in 1991; however the Board of Directors requested he remain to conclude services on important firm matters. He retired again in 1994 but continued to consult with the firm for several years thereafter.