## **Curtis T. Lambert**



Curtis T. Lambert was born at Broaddus Hill, Philippi, West Virginia, in Barbour County. Surprisingly, he has not made "his mark" as a farmer. Instead, he is a banker, and as cashier of the First National Bank, he assisted dozens of families and hundreds of youngsters who were in agriculture. In fact, it's fair to say that many, if not most, of them would not have been farming had he not got his assistance in providing funding, interpreting tax laws, and gently urging more appropriate bookkeeping systems.

Mr. Lambert was an especial friend to 4-H and FHA groups. Through his efforts, his band regularly contributed \$2,500 to these programs (\$50,000 in all) and, as

chairman of the State Bankers Association for 4-H fund raising, he, in 30 years, raised an aspiring \$250,000 for the 4-H Foundation. It has been estimated, probably conservatively, that over 20,000 4-H young people were benefitted by this effort alone.

Curtis Lambert's career was one based on optimism, enthusiasm, and a deep and abiding love for his fellowman, and a great desire to advance his native State through the development of its people. He was eminently successful in pursuing this goal.

Over the years, he received hundreds of awards and citations and belonged to and actively participated in literally dozens of civic organizations. He received the National Partner in 4-H Award, the highest award given by 4-H. In 1971, when he received it, there were only seven others in the nation, and he was the only West Virginian. He also received the National Association of County 4-H Club Agents Friend Award in 1963. This, too, is the highest award given by the organization. He was a 4-H All Star, Chairman for more than 20 years of the Barbour County Farming for Better Living Council, consistent supporter of the FFA Ham, Bacon, and Egg show at the county, regional, and State levels, and chairman of the West Virginia University College of Agriculture and Forestry Visiting Committee for seven years and a member for 20 years. He based his career on services to rural West Virginians, and it's hard to imagine he could have done more.