

### **GLORIA KIRKING (PHS 1967)**

Gloria Kirking was an energetic businesswoman who gave endless hours to various business and civic endeavors. She was a tireless promoter for the City of Portage and an enthusiastic fundraiser for many community projects. In addition to owning her own successful title insurance business for 25 years, Ms. Kirking was a board member, committee chairperson and president of the Portage Area Chamber of Commerce. She was the first woman member of the Portage Rotary Club and eventually became the first woman president of the organization as well. She was a board member and president of the Wisconsin Arts Board and Portage Country Club. She also served on the boards of the Portage Area Downtown Development Committee, Portage Area Economic Development Committee and many other organizations. She was instrumental in the concept and construction of the Phoenix building in downtown Portage. Ms. Kirking was proud to have been chosen as a Wisconsin delegate to the 1992 Republican Party National Convention in Houston. Ms. Kirking was awarded the Portage Area Chamber of Commerce Person of the Year award in 1995. Gloria Kirking passed away in 2005.