

## **RICHARD JAMES**

Dick is a native of Nebraska and holds degrees in journalism from the University of Nebraska and the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.

He began a journalism career working for United Press International in Chicago, and then as a police and crime reporter for Chicago newspapers. From there, he jumped to the Wall Street Journal where he worked for more than two decades as a reporter, writer and editor in Chicago, St. Louis, New York and San Francisco.

While based in San Francisco, he traveled frequently throughout Alaska to report on the construction of the Alaska oil pipeline. His investigative stories disclosing defects on the pipeline prompted Congressional hearings and corrective action. He has also covered numerous other interesting assignments; the eruption of Mount St. Helens when he flew in search and rescue helicopters and reporting on the collapse of the Hyatt Hotel Skywalk in Kansas City. He has also covered science and medicine stories, winning a Medical Journalism Award from the American Medical Association. He also has written page-one WSJ features about photographer Ansel Adams, the life of a Chicago skid-row alcoholic, and a gold prospector with whom Dick traveled one summer. Several of his stories have been included in a book entitled "*The Best of the Wall Street Journal*" published by Dow Jones.

Dick left the Journal in the early 1980s and worked as a free lance writer in San Francisco, writing for Forbes Magazine, Time-Life Books, and as a speech writer for corporate executives at Bank of America, Levi Strauss, Hewlett Packard and others.

Dick has lived in Orinda with his wife, Darlene, since 1973, except for a two-year stint in Princeton, NJ. They have three adult children. Today, he is active in various activities at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church. He enjoys traveling, hiking and photography.