



## **Myers Industries and University of Akron Students**

*Steve Myers*

When Myers Industries first went public in 1971, it was a small company, barely at the minimal size at which an underwriter would consider taking a company public, with total sales of just over twenty million dollars.

The company had been founded in 1933 by three brothers, the oldest of whom had retired in the mid-1960s, and the youngest—deciding to pursue another career—had sold his ownership back to the company and left at the end of 1970. He was the only one to have had a college education and graduated from the College of Business Administration at The University of Akron.

The company continued to grow, and employment increased. Somewhere along the line, probably in the mid to late 1970s, an employee approached the personnel office to ask if the company would consider paying for a course the employee wished to take at night school at The University of Akron. The employee argued that the subject of the course was relevant to their job and would not only help them in their job, but in doing so, would benefit the company. The idea made sense. The request was granted. As time passed others made similar requests, and so the practice evolved.