



Neal Shaw Blaisdell, 1902-1975, served as Mayor of Honolulu, Hawaii 1954-1968 while Hawaii became the 50th State in 1959. He was the first-born to William Wallace Blaisdell II and Maliaka Alaneo (Merseberg) Blaisdell in Honolulu. He graduated from Bucknell University, where was captain of the football team. He had a brief career as a professional baseball pitcher. He became a coach and athletic director in Honolulu before he was elected Mayor. While mayor the Wilson Tunnel in Kalihi Valley and the Hawaii International Center were constructed. After his death the Center was renamed the Neal S. Blaisdell Center.