

The Seventies, A Decade of Turbulence and Change.

For Stout's, it was a time of growth and solidarity.

An unyielding commitment to company and community... innovative thinking... alternative perspectives and truth in business were, and are, the very soul of Stout's.

Harry could be found at his desk, from early morning till late night, always working towards "something better". He, along with the Ewing township police traffic department, implemented safety meetings and driver training classes on a regular basis. He introduced first aid training to his drivers. Harry was one of the first to install two-way radios in his vehicles, as well as his personal car and home.

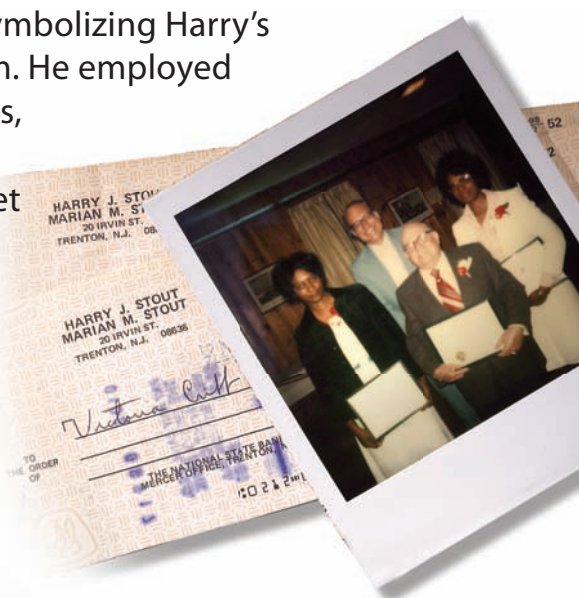
The company motto, "Precious Cargo" punctuated his commitment to his company and community. Drivers received safety awards, attendance rewards and endless "at-a-boys" symbolizing Harry's appreciation for them. He employed neighbors and friends, provided for their families' needs and set up a babysitting center on the company grounds to assist mothers who wanted to work. As a result of his selfless spirit, many employees remained with Stout's until retirement.

Vicki Cribb, a 30+ year employee, remembers Harry as always treating his drivers like family. It is this connection between employer and employee that drives Stout's standards to unprecedented levels, then and now.

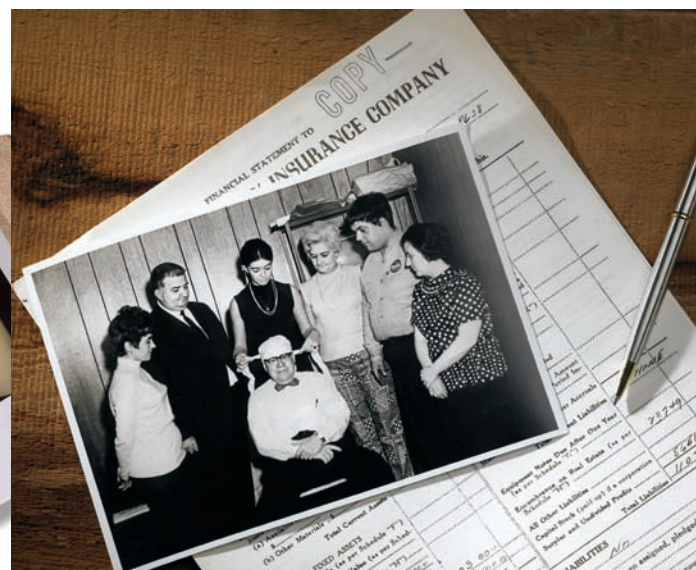
Now employing both children, Peggy and Harry Jr., Harry and Marian surged forward, tackling the new

challenges that faced the school bus industry; such as, occupant restraints, Handicapped Children Act of 1975, racial integration, and mass transit competition. Harry Jr. absorbed his father's drive and entrepreneurial spirit at an early age, working three jobs; a sanitation worker, school bus driver and part-time bartender. He clocked more working hours,

Below: Harry Stout (standing left) was advised by his insurance company to release long-time employee Charlie Sorter (sitting) due to his age. Unwilling to comply, Harry contracted another insurance company to write a policy just for Charlie.



Above: Vicki Cribb who is still employed with Stout's is shown (left) with past employees being photographed with their safety awards.



while being a student, then some full-time adult workers. His wife Dena repeated history, as she too drove for Stout's with her first son Tim, riding along. Even before their marriage Dena was actively involved in the business, typing routes on her electric typewriter. It wasn't until their second child was due that she decided to become a stay-at-home mom, yet even then her support, as Marian's, was relentless.

Stout's thrived on the support and grew ever stonger.

...Stay tuned as we explore the 80's in Volume 3, due out in October.