

1982 Recipients of Distinguished Service Medals

HARGROVE "SKIPPER" BOWLES '41 is known everywhere by his enthusiasm for, and dedication to, his alma mater.

From the day he entered the University as a freshman from Monroe, he has rarely been out of touch with it, nor has he slackened his efforts in support of it. The fact that all four of his children also are alumni of this University is further testimony of his interest and influence.

An investment banker in Greensboro, Skipper Bowles began his career in Chapel Hill as a self-help student who also was engaged in a variety of extra-curricular activities. He was President of his sophomore class, a four-year member of the Honor Council, a member of the freshman tennis squad, worked on the humor magazine, was a dining hall waiter, a clothing store clerk, and a personal entrepreneur in several part-time enterprises. He also formed his own 13-piece student orchestra, and, in his own words, "managed to post a half-way respectable academic record."

With graduation just around the corner, he decided he wanted to enter the insurance field, and he left Chapel Hill for that purpose. However, World War II intervened and he entered the Army.

Following the war, his rise in business was rapid, as was his ascendancy in public affairs. He served six years in the N.C. Senate and also in the House of Representatives. He also was Chairman of the State Board of Conservation and Development, and Democratic nominee for Governor in a closely-contested race.

But throughout his business and public careers, he never forgot The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He served on the Board of Directors of the General Alumni Association from 1965 to 1968, and in 1972 was named to the original reconstituted Board of Trustees of the University. He subsequently was elected Chairman of that body, a position he held when he retired from the Board in 1980. He continues to serve as a member of the University's Board of Visitors. His service to the University also has included the Presidency of the Citizens Advisory Council of the Center for Alcohol Studies here.

His most recent achievement has been as Chairman of the successful fund-raising campaign to raise \$30 million for construction of the Student Activities Center, which will include a 22,000-seat basketball arena and numerous other facilities.

In recognition of his many contributions to this University and its Alumni Association, we proudly present to him the Distinguished Service Medal.