James Harold Lineberger '26

Harold Lineberger is known for the diversity of interests in his life. Covering one wall of office is a sketch of the South Fork River and the Woodlawn Factory and mill village, built by grandfather in 1845. The sketch represents the beginning of the Lineberger textile industry. Belmont and Harold Lineberger's strong interest in history, family, and North Carolina. Their interests have found focus in the University at Chapel Hill, where eleven members of the Lineberger family have graduated between 1921 and 1968.

Harold Lineberger was a Phi Beta Kappa student at Carolina. He was a member of the Order of the Golden Fleece and Gimghouls. He laughs when recalling that his fellow students named him "Heinie" for two reasons — his short haircut and his German-sounding name. Lineberger completed his formal education at Harvard University where he received a master's degree in business administration.

He put the business training to work in Belmont, taking a leadership role in the family's growing and innovative textile businesses. He is president of Acme Spinning Company and chairman of several other textile corporations involved with cotton yarns.

Colleges and universities have recognized him with honorary degrees. He has taken an active role in the life of Belmont Abbey College and in 1950 served as president of Carolina's General Alumni Association. He is a member or former member of the boards of numerous colleges, businesses and business associations.

Harold Lineberger was a founder of the Business Foundation of North Carolina and served as its president from 1963 to 1967. Through the years and his association with the School of Business Administration at Chapel Hill, Mr. Lineberger and Roy Holsten '50, former associate of the school, have worked to further their common interests in business education in North Carolina. About his friend, Holsten says, "Harold Lineberger is a warm and sensitive man with quiet modesty who holds loyalty and affection for the University. He has used his assets in a generous way because he is among those who believe that those who have been fortunate should give back into our state and University what they and others less fortunate have taken out."

The Lineberger family has helped establish the Medical Foundation thirty years ago, and commitment to health care and research has continued. The Lineberger Foundation, with Harold Lineberger as president, provided generous support key to the plan to build the Lineberger Cancer Research Center. In March the Lineberger Foundation established a fund at the University which will be used to extend excellence in research, teaching and public service by creating professorships in cancer research and the humanities.

Harold Lineberger has said of his philanthropic activities: "When you have made some accumulation you would like to disperse part of it where you can see what happens to it. Education, the best way you can put it to use in that way. The University is the first place I think of"