NANCY HOWARD SITTERSON (g. '41) has been a part of the University as a student, faculty wife, and as official hostess for the Chancellor.

In addition to these, she has been a homemaker and mother for a daughter and two sons, all of whom are alumni of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She, herself, is the daughter of an alumnus and had four brothers who also were students at the first state university.

From Kinston High School, where a casual acquaintance was Joseph Carlyle Sitterson, she went to Converse College in South Carolina where she earned an A.B. degree.

In graduate school at Chapel Hill her acquaintance with Lyle Sitterson was renewed and blossomed into a romance, culminating in their marriage in 1944. At the time, she had returned to her hometown of Kinston to serve as a caseworker with the Lenoir County Welfare Department. Her husband was on leave from the University, working in Washington, D.C. with the War Production Board.

The Sittersons returned to Chapel Hill at the end of World War II and Nancy settled comfortably into the role of faculty spouse and mother.

Through the years she has been a mainstay for her husband as he progressed through the academic and administrative levels of the University. His administrative skills, coupled with his rapport with faculty and alumni alike caused him to be tapped in 1966 to serve in the institution’s highest post.

Throughout her husband’s career, Nancy Sitterson has given freely of her time and talents both as a gracious hostess for the University, and for numerous other worthy endeavors of town, gown and church.

In recognition of these contributions, but especially her unsung role as First Lady of the University from 1966 to 1972, the General Alumni Association is proud to present her with its Distinguished Service Medal.