

## Robert Chester Eubanks '61 (A.B.)

For nearly 200 years, whenever the University has come upon rough waters, strong leaders have always emerged to guide it to even greater heights. Certainly Bob Eubanks has earned a place for himself in this grand and inspiring tradition.

Appointed to the Board of Trustees in 1983, the Greensboro and Chapel Hill investment counselor has been elected chairman for the last two years, the first to serve back-to-back terms as Trustee chairman since the early 1970s.

“With a new Chancellor coming in and with all the other changes that had taken place, we felt it was important to have some continuity in the leadership of the University,” says Elizabeth S. “Pepper” Dowd of Charlotte, a long-time friend and fellow Board member. “We needed Bob’s experience, his leadership, and his in-depth knowledge of the University. He was the right man at the right time for the job.”

Bob has been a devoted son of the University since graduating with a degree in history in 1961. “The University has given so much to me, I always felt it was important to give something back,” he told *The Chapel Hill Newspaper*. Before his appointment to the Board of Trustees, he served four years on the Board of Visitors. He is a long-time member of the Educational Foundation Executive Committee and a Past-President of the Foundation. He is active with the University’s Arts and Sciences Foundation and the Business Foundation. He also serves as an effective member of the Alumni Center Campaign Steering Committee.

The first in his family to attend college, Bob came to Chapel Hill on a track scholarship out of Durham High School, where he was an all-state broad jumper. He pledged the Alpha Tau Omega social fraternity, waiting on tables there for spending money.

Old friend, fraternity brother and former State Senator Tony Rand recalls: “You knew even then this young man was going places. He was much more mature than most of us at that age. He had set high goals for himself and had disciplined himself to achieve them.

“What I remember most is the intramural team we played on together. He was so competitive, so intense, and he hated to lose. He wasn’t the best athlete, but he was the type of guy you always wanted on your side.”

Bob was clearly and singularly on the side of his alma mater when it fell to him as Trustee Chairman to chair the search committee for a new Chancellor. After carefully selecting a strong, hard-working committee, he guided what many faculty, students, and alumni observed to be the University’s most far-reaching search. Thanks to his vision, an unprecedented external assessment of the University’s strengths and challenges served as a guidepost for the committee.

An activist Trustee Chairman, Bob has unabashedly championed Carolina, taking particular care to be available and always helpful to Carolina students, faculty, staff and alumni. Bob’s enthusiasm for Carolina is infectious. He’s one former track star who continues to run hard, to achieve worthwhile goals, and to advance his University toward new heights.