

Sibyl Goerch Powe '47

Like her father, Carl Goerch, before her, Sibyl Goerch Powe is a humorous storyteller, and she thinks and talks about what she loves.

Sibyl came to the University from Raleigh, earned her journalism degree in 1947, and married Edward Knox Powe, a law student. They lived happily for several years in a house she loved on Hooper Lane ("Bill and Ida Friday built on our lot," she laughs).

At the other end of Hooper Lane Louis Graves lived, and Sibyl went to work as his only reporter at the *Chapel Hill Weekly* in the late '40s. It was there that she developed her well known organizational and writing skills. "It was just Louis and me at the *Weekly*," she says. He constantly admonished me to "find a better word."

Sibyl laughs in telling about the other jobs of those Chapel Hill years before she and E.K. moved to Durham. She survived helping Prof. Edger Knight write the ninth volume in his series on education. At the Institute of Government, she was hired to assemble a book. She did. Backwards.

Organizations and causes important to her hometown of Durham and North Carolina depend on Sibyl Powe's advice and loving support. She has been the executive director of Hospice of N.C., and she serves on the boards of the Children's Home Society, the N.C. Art Society, the Morehead Selection Committee, and many others.

To the University, from her student days until now, Sibyl Powe has been like a friend who comes to help out once a week.

When J. Carlyle Sitterson became Chancellor in 1966, he asked Sibyl Powe to serve with a small band of trusted alumni he was forming to advise him through those times of campus unrest. That group evolved into the Tar Heel 100, and then, in 1974, the Board of Visitors. For 19 years, with three chancellors, Sibyl Powe has graciously given her consistent support to the administrations of this University.

Sibyl works with the Admissions Office and the Alumni Association to develop ideas for recruiting top students to Carolina. From afternoon receptions in her living room for prospective students during the '70s to her work with the Advisory Committee on Admissions today, Sibyl Powe believes in recruiting the best students North Carolina offers to Chapel Hill. She studies competitive tactics at other universities to learn how to work with alumni, students, and parents on recruitment. She has helped organize the Alumni Association's Tar Heel Network where her ideas about recruitment will be put to work.

GAA Past President David Grigg and Sibyl Powe served together on the Alumni Association's Board of Directors where she has been a director and a vice-president. About Sibyl, David says:

She is the person you give a job to when you need it done right and right now. Sibyl is enthusiastic, serious, and lots of fun all at the same time. She is an extremely busy person who never says she is busy; she is always available for her University.