

## **William Thomas (Tom) Bost, Jr. '35**

Those who know Tom Bost best say that the key to his great accomplishments on behalf of this University is his love of sports. His father started that love, bringing him to Chapel Hill as a boy to attend ball games. He grew up with heroes like Monk McDonald, Ray Farris (Sr.), and George Barclay. It is his instinct for competition that motivated Tom Bost's early career as a sports writer, and later gave him ideas for fund raising for the University. He has always been a scorekeeper—of basketball, football, and the batting averages of the classes ahead in their annual giving to the University.

For twenty-six years he was Director of Alumni Annual Giving (now Carolina Annual Giving). He retired as Director in 1978, but continues his work there on a part-time basis.

A journalism major at Chapel Hill, Tom Bost was sports editor of the *Daily Tar Heel* during his student days. After working as an assistant in the UNC News Bureau, he became director of the News Bureau at Wake Forest where he was named Sports Publicist of the Year among colleges and universities of comparable size throughout the nation.

Tom Bost was President of the Chapel Hill Rotary Club in 1977-1978, and he has been an active member for thirty years. He first became active in the Rotary organization when he joined while at Wake Forest in 1947. He has served in leadership positions on numerous university and civic boards and associations continuously throughout his career and semi-retirement.

At a retirement dinner in Tom Bost's honor, Chancellor Ferebee Taylor described him as one of those individuals who "would do anything for this University." This characteristic of his inspired the Bell Tower Society, created by the Alumni Association, and became the criterion for membership. Tom Bost is a charter member.