

WILLIAM CLYDE FRIDAY

Today we honor a man who, more than any other individual, has made The University of North Carolina what it is today. Thirteenth president of The University, William Clyde Friday was appointed at age 36 and served this institution for three decades. His was not the longest tenure as president (David Lowry Swain served two years longer), nor was he the youngest person when appointed (Joseph Caldwell holds that distinction). He is not even a native North Carolinian, having been born in Virginia. But this trivia signifies nothing. Bill Friday's lifetime of devotion to North Carolina and its great University is and will doubtless remain matchless, even when considered in the distinguished company of Kemp Plummer Battle, Edward Kidder Graham, Harry Woodburn Chase, and Frank Porter Graham.

There is little that need be recounted here of Bill Friday's career. He is full of honors for past accomplishments, yet he continues to serve. In recent months his extraordinary life of service has been further distinguished by his serving as chairman of the national commission studying the Fulbright program, and on which he has this month reported both to the White House and the United States Senate. On September 29 at a White House ceremony he received from the President of the United States the truly exceptional honor of the National Humanities Medal. Here in North Carolina and across the nation his wisdom and counsel are sought on every hand. His friends and admirers are legion. His face and voice are probably the most instantly recognizable of any public figure in North Carolina. Of all the distinguished alumni of the University of North Carolina at Chapel, he surely is at the top. How fitting it is that we honor him as an alumnus at the same time the nation honors him for his devoted service as a citizen. And so, it is with the greatest pleasure that we confer upon William Clyde Friday today this Distinguished Alumnus Award. *For Bill, this award be especially pleasing because now he finally catches up with Ida. She got hers two years ago!*

[Sentence in italics to be read from podium but not printed in official citation.]

MARY ELIZABETH JUNCK

Mary Elizabeth Junck is president of Times Mirror Eastern Newspapers. Her career in journalism spans 25 years, beginning in 1972 at the *Charlotte Observer*. She subsequently held posts at the *Miami Herald*, the Knight-Ridder corporate staff, the St. Paul *Pioneer Press*, and the *Baltimore Sun*. Her efforts at maintaining high standards in the industry have been remarkable, and she continues to be a leader in the field.

Mary Junck was the first woman to be named chief executive of the *Baltimore Sun* since its founding in 1837. She is one of a very small sisterhood of women in major leadership positions in the newspaper industry, yet she has insisted on making ample room in a busy life for her family. Her colleagues were surprised and impressed when Mary took a leave of absence from the *Pioneer Press* to spend more time with her four-year old daughter. "You can reach me in the sandbox," she told her staff. Within two months she was asked to take on the Baltimore position, but she insisted on an eight-month delay. Corporate America is accustomed to such delays due to business considerations; Mary Junck has shown that a child can be just as important.

Mary Junck received her B.A. from Valparaiso University and her M.A. in Journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a member of the Board of Visitors of our School of Journalism and Mass Communication and a member of the Society of Professional Journalists. On this, the centennial observance of the first enrollment of women in the University of North Carolina, her alma mater is pleased to add to Mary Junck's honors this Distinguished Alumna Award.

HUGH MACRAE MORTON

Hugh MacRae Morton, Class of 1943, once had a toy poodle named Duchess. "Duchess," he would say, "would you rather go to hell or go to Duke?" Duckenss would immediately flop over and play dead.

Hugh Morton loves Carolina. Among the honors we have conferred on him previously are the Order of the Golden Fleece, the Order of the Grail, the Davie Award, and the Distinguished Service Medal of the General Alumni Association. [Hugh MacRae Morton: Class of 1943, Order of the Golden Fleece, Order of the Grail, Distinguished Service Medalist of the General Alumni Association, winner of the Davie Award. These honors this University has previously conferred on Hugh Morton.] Editor of the 1943 Yackety Yack would have been among his accomplishments but for the intervention of World War II. He served with distinction as a news reel photographer and was wounded at Luzon. Since the age of 13, Hugh Morton has never been far away from a camera. His photographs have been published in every major news outlet. It has been said that he has photographed every square inch of his beloved Grandfather Mountain. Of all that he has done, his is most proud of the high drama, excitement, and beauty that he has captured on film.

It is impossible to adequately encapsulate Hugh Morton's richly varied life or to catalogue his many awards in the few words allowed here. He founded Wilmington's Azalea Festival and brought the battleship North Carolina to the Cape Fear. He helped raise more money for the Kennedy Library than any state other than Massachusetts. He developed Grandfather Mountain into one of the nation's most famed resorts in ways that have preserved its natural beauty for generations to come. He introduced hang gliding to our mountains and filmed a documentary on the sport for the Smithsonian Institution. His acid rain film is internationally acclaimed and his leadership of the Year of the Mountains has been a major contribution to that region. He served in Governor Hodges' administration, sought the his party's nomination for governor in the 1971 primary, and led the successful effort to amend the State Constitution to allow governors to serve two successive terms.

Throughout his long and busy life, Hugh Morton has held dear to his heart the time he spent in Chapel Hill as a student. He has given selflessly of his time, talent, and treasure to advance his alma mater and his native state. Irving S. Cobb once said "all North Carolina needs is a press agent." Hugh Morton was the first and is still the best. Now, *having given no credit to Mildred the Bear or the Mile-High Swinging Bridge*, it is with grateful appreciation that this University bestows upon Hugh MacRae Morton this Distinguished Alumnus Award.

[The version read from the podium omitted the material in brackets near the beginning and included the material in italics.]

WILLIAM STEVENS POWELL

The history of North Carolina has been chronicled by perhaps the most distinguished line of scholars produced by any single state in the American Union: Samuel Ashe, R.D.W. Connor, Albert Ray Newsome, Hugh Talmadge Lefler, Christopher Crittenden, and the man we honor today, William Stevens Powell. In the words of one of his colleagues, himself an internationally distinguished historian, “Bill Powell[, as he is universally known, is without qualification the premier historian of North Carolina of our time—indeed, probably of all time. In his published work, in his teaching, and in his endless outreach activities, he has] given the subject prominence in the broader context of our country as a whole: so that to be spoken of as ‘Mr. North Carolina History,’ as he often is, is now a mark of nationwide distinction and not one of narrow provincialism.”

Bill Powell earned all three of his degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After military service in World War II and one very cold winter at Yale he settled into his life’s work in North Carolina. For sixteen years he was Curator of the North Carolina Collection, the nation’s most extensive collection of materials devoted to the history and literary output of one state. In 1973 he followed Hugh Talmadge Lefler as professor of North Carolina history in this University, a position he held with considerable distinction until his retirement in 1986. Retirement for Bill Powell has been evident only by the formal title professor emeritus. He continues his life-long habit of cultivating ceaselessly his one and only intellectual love affair: the history and culture of North Carolina.

The total mass of Bill Powell’s scholarly work is prodigious. *North Carolina Through Four Centuries* and *First State University: A Pictorial History of the University of North Carolina* are probably his most widely-read books, but three massive works sum up a lifetime of digging into details. The *North Carolina Gazetteer*, an exhaustive description of places, is now in its fifth edition. The six-volume *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography* is an encyclopedic treatment of every deceased North Carolinian of note. *It has been said the being assured of an entry in the DNCB is, in the current vernacular, “to die for.”* Bill is now working on the final piece of the trilogy, the *North Carolina Handbook*, which will comprehensively treat noteworthy events and things related to our state. For a lifetime of total devotion to his native State and his alma mater, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is pleased to confer upon William Stevens Powell this Distinguished Alumnus Award.

[The bracketed portion near the beginning was omitted from the version read from the podium, and the sentence in italics near the end was added.]

GEORGE CASHEL STONEY

Throughout his professional career, George Cashel Stoney's work has influenced generations of documentary filmmakers as well as the broader public. His influence has shaped the form of the genre and contributed to the artistic wealth of this nation. His greater contributions, however, are to be found in the lives saved and enriched by the content and style of his films and in the way they have helped people to participate in public life through the media.

George Stoney is Goddard Professor of Cinema at the Tish School of the Arts of New York University. He received his B.A. in English and Journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1937 and went on to do graduate work at New York University, Balliol College of Oxford University, and the University of London. Of his many award-winning documentary films, "All My Babies" perhaps best exemplifies George Stoney's commitment to promoting social justice through media. Commissioned as an instructional film in midwifery by the George Health Department, its scope and emotional intensity lifted it into the realm of art. When the film was selected for showing at the Edinburgh International Film Festival its sponsors were both impressed and surprised. The film is still shown in medical schools.

Some say that the world is moving into the "communication century." If that be true, no more fitting guide can be found than George Stoney and no collection of media production can be a more representative example of the possibilities of effective and responsible communication. It is therefore with considerable pride that this University bestows on George Cashel Stoney its Distinguished Alumnus Award.