

HARLAN EDWARD BOYLES

Three years ago Harlan E. Boyles was elected to his fifth four-year term as Treasurer of the State of North Carolina. His popularity with the voters is a direct reflection of his performance as custodian of the people's money. As the state budget has increased from \$3 billion to nearly \$17 billion during his tenure, he now invests daily about \$14 million in public funds and oversees a portfolio that is now the nation's 17th largest. He has cited two particular achievements as Treasurer for which he is especially proud: the maintaining throughout his term of the Triple-A credit rating for the state and the rapid adoption of modern technological services throughout his department.

A native of Lincoln County, Harlan Boyles graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1951 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and began his career as tax auditor at the North Carolina Department of Revenue. In 1960 he became Deputy State Treasurer, a position he held for 16 years. As Treasurer, he now serves as a member of the Council of State and as ex-officio chair of the Local Government Commission, the Tax Review Board, the State Banking Commission, and the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System. He is past president and former executive director of the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers. In 1987 he received the Distinguished Public Service Award of the North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry and, last year, the North Carolina Taxpayer Friend-of-the-Year Award presented by the North Carolina Taxpayers United.

In his book entitled Keeper of the Public Purse, Harlan Boyles warns of the dangers of a government that serves a narrow constituency through the influence of narrow, special-interest groups. He concludes, "We must instead return the power to the people and conduct the people's business in the open in a way that benefits all citizens fairly. We must never lose sight of the fact that the public purse is what it purports to be. It belongs to the people, not the office-holders who have been entrusted with its safekeeping."

As the people's diligent and wise steward, Harlan Boyles has joined the company of the State's most distinguished public servants, and we proudly honor that career of service with this Distinguished Alumnus Award.

DOROTHY SATTES RIDINGS

As Publisher and President of the Bradenton Herald in Bradenton, Florida, since 1988, Dorothy Ridings has overseen the publication of a daily newspaper while becoming a community, statewide, and national leader.

A native of West Virginia, her career in journalism began as a feature writer and political reporter for the Charlotte Observer, after which she enrolled in this University for her Master of Arts degree in Journalism, completing it in 1968. While in Charlotte she founded a chapter of Theta Sigma Phi, the woman's journalism society, and introduced another chapter on this campus while a student here. After leaving Chapel Hill, she joined the staff of a start-up publication called Kentucky Business Ledger in Louisville, one of the first statewide business journals in the country. She was News Editor for three years and then Editor for three more.

Dorothy Ridings' passion for politics found an outlet in the League of Women Voters. She served two terms as President of the League and coordinated the televised debates during the presidential campaign of 1984. Earlier, her work with the League included serving as Vice Chair and then Chair of the League of Women Voters Education Fund as she organized activities in welfare reform, fair housing, and equal educational opportunities. Political action and journalism quickly became enmeshed in her career.

James Batten, President of Knight-Rider Incorporated, and owner of the newspaper she publishes, has said of her work: "We emphasize meeting the needs of the people we are in the business to serve. We have a moral obligation to do that. [Dorothy Ridings] understands that coming in the door. Business success, public service and journalistic success are all tied together." Indeed, from its very beginning, the many strands of her diverse career have been woven together with remarkable success, and we take singular pleasure in acknowledging that achievement by the presentation of this Distinguished Alumna Award.

ROBERTS EDGAR TIMBERLAKE

Painter, designer, businessman, industrialist, environmentalist, and public servant, Bob Timberlake defies all the conventional categories of career identity. A man who does not define himself narrowly, he has made it his practice to do many things well.

Reared in Lexington, North Carolina, he graduated from this University in 1959. Not until the age of 32, after a visit with the American painter Andrew Wyeth, did he commit himself to a career as a realist painter. Exhibitions of his work have appeared all over the world, including the Hammer Galleries in New York, The Corcoran Gallery in Washington, D.C., The Frye Museum in Seattle, Washington, and the Isetan Gallery in Tokyo, where the exhibition drew crowds of 10,000 visitors a week. His works have been masterfully reproduced in The Bob Timberlake Collection (1977) and The World of Bob Timberlake (1979). Bob Timberlake the painter soon offered his services to Keep America Beautiful (becoming its official artist) and to the local affiliate, Keep North Carolina Beautiful. Here painter and environmentalist combined, as he also became an active fund-raiser on behalf of the program.

He has painted designs for the United States Christmas Stamp in 1980, stamps for the 200th year of statehood for both North and South Carolina, and the 1993 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Bicentennial Stamp. In the 1990s he designed a comprehensive furniture-line marketed as "Bob Timberlake Collection," a collection that has since been expanded to include more than 2000 items. In 1994 he received the Academy of Achievement Award presented by the Accessories Resource Team for beauty and design in the home furnishings industry.

Among his other honors include the North Carolina Public Servant of the Year Award (1979), Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center's Shingleton Award (1989), and the Albert Schweitzer Medal for Artistry (1989). To this list, we are proud to add our own recognition of Bob Timberlake's achievements with the presentation of this Distinguished Alumnus Award.