Frank Hawkins Kenan is an extraordinarily successful businessman and an equally extraordinary public servant. He received his bachelor's degree from this University in the midst of the Depression, but starting with small capital, created a business enterprise that has burgeoned into a constellation of thriving enterprises.

The Kenan family from the beginning has shown affection and concern for the University of North Carolina. One of Frank Kenan's ancestors was a Trustee at its founding almost 200 years ago; two major structures here appropriately bear the Kenan name, and every department of this Institution has in some way benefited from the nurturing gifts of the Kenan family.

Frank Kenan, in the family tradition, has freely given of his time, organizational talent, and resources to this University. Recently, he has been instrumental in establishing the William Rand Kenan, Jr. Fund here, to be housed in a new building, the William Rand Kenan Center of North Carolina; the Fund will support studies in the School of Business Administration and the building will provide facilities for many University-related activities.

Numerous honors have come to Mr. Kenan, several from this University; these reflect only dimly his steadfast love for his Alma Mater. Last year the Board of Governors presented him the University Award. It is fitting that this University should bestow on him this high honor as well.