



## BERL BERNHARD "SPIRIT OF '51 AWARD"

Berl, in life you have proven to be a gifted Quarterback. Your extraordinary talents have scored winning touchdowns on many a turf.

An all-star basketball player in high school, you went on to Dartmouth not only to win recognition in every field of endeavor, but to capture the respect of your classmates through leadership and intellectual achievement. Your enthusiasm endeared you to your brothers at Sigma Nu and Casque and Gauntlet. Your ability to "get things done" propelled you to the vice presidency of both the Sophomore and Junior Class, presidency of the Undergraduate Council and membership in Paleaopitus. Your fine mind earned you a Phi Beta Kappa Key, and you became a Rufus Choate Scholar.

As if all this were but the first down, you moved forward to Yale University Law School where you earned your Doctor of Laws in 1954. From here, your keen eye for righteousness and human justice led you to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights where your outstanding service culminated in your appointment as Staff Director.

Gaining ground with each successive year, you were given the Flemming Award in 1960 as one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men in the Federal Government. The Junior Chamber of Commerce, with an appropriate expansion of sphere, named you one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men in the United States in 1962. The White House in 1967 announced your appointment to the Board of Higher Education of the District of Columbia and as Trustee of the new Federal College. Nor did your capacity for leadership escape the notice of Senator Edmund Muskie who asked you to be his 1972 Presidential Campaign Manager. Perhaps, however, to those of us who share your heritage, your most meaningful distinction was your appointment by Dartmouth in 1974 to its Board of Trustees.

You are not the only Bernhard to have left your mark on the Hanover plain. Your son, Peter, retraced many of your same steps, graduating from Dartmouth in the class of 1977.

Today you are a senior partner of the prestigious Washington law firm Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard, and McPherson. Your articles have been published in such volumes as the *St. Louis Review*, *George Washington Law Review*, *North Carolina Law Review* and *Georgetown Law Journal*.

Your excellence spans a broad horizon. You are now calling signals for the introduction of Spring football through your ownership of the United States Football League franchise in Washington, D.C. As sure-footed at sea as on land, you sailed your boat, *Invictus*, in the 1981 Bermuda race, placing first in class and second in fleet.

Berl, quarterbacking is your bent. Excellence is your standard. Winning is your style: all with grace, dignity and a sense of empathy for your fellow man. This is the essence of "the Spirit of '51". Your classmates are proud to salute you with "the Spirit of '51" Award.