



RUSSELL CONWELL DILKS "SPIRIT OF '51 AWARD"

Russ, the Class of '51 salutes you. Few have been as dedicated through the years to their classmates as you, and no one has done more to bind us together. It has been a selfless service extended generously that gave our class backbone from the early years following graduation right into the future.

You are a doer and achiever, and you started young. A native of Philadelphia, you graduated number one in your class from one of that area's finest schools, Abington High School. Upon reaching Dartmouth your talents and energy were applied even more productively. You distinguished yourself in your English major, earned several debating awards, worked as Managing Editor of *The Dartmouth*, studied senior year as one of the select Senior Fellows, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa. This prepared you well for the future, imbued you with a love for your College and developed a high order of loyalty to your class.

Your legal career shows the same dedication and achievement, having been involved with teaching law at the University of Pennsylvania, publishing professional research papers, and being admitted to the Bar for trial courts at the county level right up to the Supreme Court of the United States. You have practiced law as an attorney for Philadelphia's largest law firm, and now in New York you are one of Western Electric's key lawyers.

Your capacity for dedicated effort is not confined to Dartmouth activities. Your lifelong association with the Boy Scouts of America has been noted by achievement, responsibility, and recognition. Following your days of scouting when you attained Eagle Scout, you have served, and continue to serve, in numerous capacities from scoutmaster to the Councils of Philadelphia, Valley Forge, and Manhattan, and to the highest regional organization of BSA.

Your Dartmouth activities as an alumnus have been noteworthy, constantly working on some project or organization. You have served in leadership roles for the Philadelphia alumni and Class Secretaries Association, been a member of the Alumni Council, and are a regular fund raiser whether for capital gifts campaigns or annual fund drives. It is your devotion to the work of our class that we want to recognize in particular.

Right out of college, those who attended will recall with pleasure the unique reception you held for classmates among the mummies of the Egyptian Room in the Philadelphia Museum. Then in 1961 you were elected to the class office of Secretary where you served for a record three terms, and in large part were responsible for pulling together our class into a meaningful organization. During those 15 years you traveled throughout all parts of the nation, contacting classmates individually or in small groups wherever you went, and then reporting these events to the class which in combination did a great deal to build the spirit of '51 and bind the class more closely together. For your efforts the College awarded you the Class Secretary of the Year in 1972.

Russ, your Class of '51 recognizes you for your extraordinary loyalty, dedication, and achievements over the 37 years since matriculation in 1947. Therefore, it is with pride that we honor your accomplishments by presenting you with the "Spirit of '51 Award."