Remembering Jay M. Starr of ENHP’s First Family

Jay M. Starr, the inaugural chair of the College of Education, Nursing and Health Profession’s (ENHP) Board of Visitors from 2010 through 2012, passed away on December 6, 2015. Jay had lifelong and personal ties to the University of Hartford and to ENHP: he was present at the groundbreaking of Hillyer Hall, the campus’ first building, while his father, Irving Starr, served as ENHP’s founding dean from 1957 until 1982.

Ralph O. Mueller, dean of the College of ENHP, reflected, “Jay contributed in many ways to our college’s collective well-being: most visible was his very active engagement in, and subsequent leadership of, our Board of Visitors. Much less visible was his emotional commitment to the well-being of the entire ENHP community. Both will be much missed. Jay’s leadership and commitment to the University of Hartford and to ENHP were a gift. It was a pleasure and honor to work alongside him to grow the Board and our college.”

With fondness, admiration, and gratitude, we remember Jay and his enduring words to us when commencing his service on ENHP’s Board:

“Most of them [founding administrators] have passed on, but their legacy – the evolution of the University from precarious infancy to well-established institutional adulthood – is alive and well. It is that legacy, the imperative of continuing achievement and the will to meet today’s challenges in the service of a vision of the future that perhaps invests our Board of Visitors with meaning.”

“ENHP is providing a powerful context for ever-evolving professional education. The Institute [for Translational Research] and its three centers give the college a dynamic structure from which to build its future, while the past looks on proudly.”

Read the full text of Jay M. Starr’s comments, “What I remember and why I’m here.”