

The Class of 1964 Outstanding Leadership Award

True leaders know that in giving to others they receive far more than their share of any rewards. Their humility leaves its enduring mark on all that they do. And so it is fitting that you, Ronald Byard Schram, should be the first recipient of “The Class of 1964 Outstanding Leadership Award.” You have set the bar high for all who will follow and that is as it should be, for exceptional leadership requires that each of us must reach for the highest rung on the ladder of life’s accomplishments.

Your willingness to recognize the contributions of others to insure the ultimate success of your goals proves your worth as both a leader and a man. You have learned from your mistakes and failures and that has made you a better leader. Yet you have never shrunk from the responsibilities that come with the leadership role. In the end, it can be said that you “get things done” and that is what ultimately matters.

As an undergraduate leader you were that steadying influence wherever you became involved and the handwriting was on the wall that you would do many things worth doing in your life ahead. A successful career as an attorney, a devoted alumnus who served eleven years as a Trustee and then seven years as Chair of the Rockefeller Board of Visitors, marked your service to the College you love. But most importantly, in your half century of dedication to improving student life, you always worked to make things better for all those who came to Dartmouth. You have served your classmates faithfully helping to guide us, pushing us to give more and always leading by your example.

Now, in your most recent role as Class President Extraordinaire, you have led us in establishing a great legacy for our class to help train all who follow to become great leaders in their own right. Under your leadership the Class of 1964 has enjoyed one of the most successful Class Connections Programs in Dartmouth history and the enduring relationships we have established with the Class of 2014 will continue as the model for all future Class Connections. We will always cherish the books you brought to completion that helped us all bond more deeply as you urged us to share our life experiences.

You are one who stands out because you possess those rare qualities to which we all aspire. You are, indeed, “in a class by yourself.” You have always had the courage of your convictions, great strength of character, and the strong belief in doing things right in order to make a difference in this world, and you have made a difference. You have shown us how to lead and how to succeed and for that we honor you. Your dedication and commitment, determination and sincerity, loyalty, devotion and friendship have all combined in a spirit of true giving for the common good. And your amazing love and devotion to Carol and your wonderful family stands as that brightest beacon of all that marks you as someone whose example we all hope to follow.

Ronald Byard Schram, we, your fellow classmates of the great class of 1964, thank you for your dedicated and inspiring service and we are proud to honor you as the first recipient of the “Class of 1964 Outstanding Leadership Award.”

Given this 8th day of June, 2014
on the occasion of our 50th Reunion.

Presented on behalf of all our classmates in the great Class of 1964