

## **CONCORD UNIVERSITY** DOCTOR OF HUMANITIES, HONORIS CAUSA

Lawrence Dale Dickens, you devoted your professional life to a career in higher education, excelling every step of the way. As you enriched the educational paths of countless students, you have also served your neighbor through meaningful community involvement.

You excelled as a student at Marsh Fork High School, graduating from the Raleigh County, West Virginia school as the salutatorian of your class. After graduation, you honorably served your country in the United States Navy for four years.

Following your military service, you received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Ohio University in 1958, completing the program in three years. Your distinguished 34-year career in higher education started at Salem College. As Director of Admissions, you revamped the school's recruiting techniques, growing enrollment.

In 1972, you become Concord's first Director of Admissions. Your contributions and tireless work in building the program and expanding the reach of recruitment resulted in renewed vitality in enrollment. For 22 years you spent countless hours working with potential students, finding especially rewarding assisting those individuals who represented the first generation in their family to attend college. For your dedicated service, you were recognized by the Association of West Virginia Registrars and Admissions Officers.

You retired from Concord as Director of Admissions, Emeritus. Entering the workforce again, you were employed by the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, often visiting high schools on the institution's behalf.

Along with your exemplary service to Concord in the areas of recruitment and admissions, your dedication has extended to Mountain Lion athletics. For more than 25 years you filmed both home and away games for the football team. Your contributions were honored when you were inducted into Concord's athletic Hall of Fame.

As a Princeton, West Virginia resident, you and your wife of nearly 60 years, Jean Dickens, are actively involved in your community, your church, and activities at Concord. Your family also includes two sons, two granddaughters, and a great-grandson.

For your untiring professional contributions to higher education, your devotion to Concord, and your ongoing and compassionate service to your community, Concord University confers upon you, Lawrence Dale Dickens, the degree of Doctor of Humanities, honoris causa.

**CONFERRED ON DECEMBER 9, 2017** 

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