



James M. “Jim” Wilkes ’59

Has been elected to membership in the

Beta Phi Hall of Honor Class of 2013

In 1955, Jim Wilkes came to the University of Arizona from Lone Pine, California on a baseball scholarship, but a severe knee injury ended his baseball days as well as the possibility of obtaining a regular army commission. Jim joined Beta Phi and held several offices in Sigma Chi. He was Junior Class President and Vice President of the Student Body. He was in Sophos, Chain Gang and Blue Key. He was active in military science and belonged to Scabbard and Blade. He received the PMST award at graduation. Jim was involved in the Sigma Chi Workshop for several years and received the Order of Constantine. He received MBA and JD degrees as well. Jim was a member of Alpha Kappa Psi and President of the Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity.

Jim served the University of Arizona on the Alumni Board and served as President of the Tucson Chapter. He received the Louis Slonaker award for service to the University of Arizona. For many years Jim has been the scorekeeper for the Wildcat basketball team.

In the legal community, Jim served on the Young Lawyers and Pima County Bar Association Boards of Directors while serving on several state and county bar committees. He has also been a Judge Pro Tem. He was selected as Boss of the Year by the Legal Secretaries Association. Jim has been a board member on CODAC and active in the United Way. He is still active in his legal practice and teaches Constitutional Law at Brown Mackie College.

Jim’s true passion is the youth of Tucson. He coached Little League for many years, YMCA basketball and soccer. He served as District Chairman for the Saguaro Council of Boy Scouts. Jim is also involved in the Pima County Bar Literacy for the youth Program, teaching young kids to read. Jim has also been a Bishop in the Mormon Church and with his family, spent many years ringing bells for the Salvation Army. As a family, they spent many of their Christmas days cooking and serving at the Salvation Army Christmas dinner. Glenda and Jim have six children and 19 grandchildren.

Of his Sigma Chi experience Brother Wilkes says, “Beta Phi is a special memory and place for all of us. The friends we have made for life have a deep effect on the way we respect and value other people. The importance of serving others is a lesson learned at Beta Phi and I truly hope I have properly put these lessons to use in my life. I have and always will seek true friendship.”