



Richard "Dick" Pesqueira '59

Has been elected to membership in the

Beta Phi Hall of Honor

Class of 2009

Brother Dick Pesqueira, Beta Phi 1959, dedicated both his professional and personal career to helping others, particularly the Hispanic community of the Southwest. Since he received his degree in Secondary Education in 1959 and his Masters degree in Education in 1961 from the University of Arizona, he has spent a large portion of his time helping to empower all students, but particularly the underrepresented, in their transition from secondary school to college.

As an undergraduate, Brother Pesqueira demonstrated leadership in many ways; as Cadet Colonel of the U.S. Army Brigade, as an officer of Bobcats, as Business Manager of the UA Desert Annual, as a scholarship recipient on the UA Baseball Team, as President of the Interfraternity Pledge Council, and most importantly as a leader within the Beta Phi Chapter. Dick (better known to his brothers as Pesky) was Pledge Class President, Annotator and Consul during his four years. He was recognized as the Sigma Chi Western Province Balfour Award Winner in his senior year.

Brother Pesqueira attributes his two degrees from the University of Arizona as the vehicle for him to complete his Ph. D. at UCLA in 1969. Prior to that, he served as a 2nd lieutenant, 1st lieutenant and then a Captain in the U.S. Army receiving several awards including the Outstanding Company Commander at Fort Ord and the Paratrooper/Airborne medal. Dick attributes his leadership preparation to his undergraduate years and then time as a Sigma Chi alumnus where he served as a faculty member of the Sigma Chi Leadership Training Board for seven years and remains a Life Loyal Sig.

Following his U.S. Army experience Brother Pesqueira pursued a 20 year career in University Administration as Dean or Vice President at UCLA, Stockton State College in New Jersey, New Mexico State University and as President of the University of Southern Colorado. His second twenty year career was as Executive Director of The College Board Western Regional Office which oversees twelve Western states. He retired in 2000 and serves as an Educational Consultant to several universities, including the University of California at Berkeley.

Pesky has received many awards for his leadership and contributions including the University of Arizona Alumni Association Centennial Achievement Award recognizing 100 alumni who have been leaders in their respective professions.

Dick says "I came to Beta Phi as a freshman, a younger brother of a Sigma Chi who had shown much growth as a young man four years earlier, and I tried to follow Bob as a good brother and leader within the chapter house. I was able to refine whatever leadership skills that had surfaced at Tucson High School and Beta Phi was the place for me to 'dig in', to serve, to contribute, and to show my potential - so to speak. This led to other opportunities on campus over the four years. As a Life Loyal Sig and former Balfour Award Western Province Winner I can say that the undergraduate years made all the difference in my life, both professionally and personally!"