Distinguished Alumni Award
Honoring
Stewart Wright Caughman ’70
June 6, 2015

In his application to Davidson, Wright Caughman credited his father for teaching him valuable life lessons. He wrote, “My father’s life has shown me that a man cannot live for himself but must use his abilities for the betterment of his community and for service to his fellow man.” Wright took those words to heart and set on a path to make a deep impact in his community.

At Davidson, Wright majored in English, spent his junior year abroad in France and was Phi Beta Kappa. When asked on his silver reunion survey what he valued most about his Davidson experience, Wright wrote, “Humor, community, intellectual challenge, and exploration without threat.” He went on to write that Martin Freshman Chemistry made him “swear off of Premed until well after Davidson.” In fact, Wright went to the University of South Carolina and received a Masters of Arts in Teaching for English. He began his career by teaching high school English in his hometown of Columbia, SC. where he met his future wife, Alison, who was a math teacher there.

Wright’s intellectual curiosity spurred him to take some Premed courses which eventually led him to the Medical University of South Carolina where he received his M.D.

Wright joined the Emory School of Medicine faculty in 1990 after completing his residency in Dermatology at Harvard Medical School and seven years in biomedical research at the National Institutes of Health. At Emory, he was given positions of increasing responsibility from director of the Emory Clinic to executive associate dean for clinical affairs in the School of Medicine to vice president for clinical and academic integration in the Woodruff Health Sciences Center.

In June 2010, Wright was named Emory University’s executive vice president for health affairs, CEO of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center, and Chairman of the board for Emory Healthcare. In his role, he helps Emory to live out its mission “to serve humanity by improving health through integration of education, discovery, and health care.”

Wright and Alison are the proud parents of three wonderful children and three grandchildren, with two more expected this summer.

High school senior Wright Caughman hoped to live a life that would use his abilities for the betterment of his community and for service to his fellow man. The distinguished alumni award recognizes his achievement of that goal.

Wright, for your commitment to live your life with integrity, intellectual curiosity, and for the betterment of community, for your loyalty in supporting Davidson with your time and talent and resources, and for your leadership in inspiring others to serve, we honor you, Stewart Wright Caughman, with the Distinguished Alumni Award on the occasion of the 45th Reunion of the Class of 1970, this 6th day of June, 2015.