



Phil Reese with his family: Daphne, Phil, daughter Natalie and her beaux, Ian Campbell at the Turman Awards dinner at Emory University held last March. [Below is the invitation for the J. Pollard Turman Service Award presented to one alumnus each year (Emory has 100,000 living alumni.)]

“I got into MALS because I was at a new pivot point in my life and education has always been the fulcrum around which I made major changes in direction, e.g., undergraduate school before entering the military; JD/MBA before entering the business world; MALS as I entered retirement and moving from success toward something I hope will be significant for me and others. It certainly worked to expand my undergraduate BA in history....sort of a "retread" of the broader humanities studies that is in a traditional liberal arts undergraduate program. I met many new friends in an environment where folks can respectfully trade ideas and have their minds opened further. My thesis will be *The American Myth in Warfare and the Soldier in Vietnam*.

Today I work on a whole host of new opportunities. I have not left the business world completely behind. Instead I have invested in young people and helped them start up some businesses of which I own a piece and sit on their boards. One is a trading business in New York, another is a development in Costa Rica and the other is a hedge fund in Japan. All of them are doing well and growing. I now chair the Law School at Emory University, sit on Emory's business school board and am a member of the cabinet which is raising \$1.6 Billion for the university. In Delaware I chaired Cornerstone West, a developer of affordable housing and am leading a fund raiser to further their ambitions to help others. I sit on a number of other for profit and not for profit boards, enjoy my kids and family and sail my boat TAYAC from which I am writing this e-mail. (I will be taking up to Long Island Sound this summer). Ocean sailing is a new endeavor for me and I have been doing it since entering the MALS program. I guess MALS is about possibilities wherever you are in life and I have enjoyed it immensely.”

The 2008 Turman Alumni Service Award Recipient

Philip Syng Reese 66C 76MBA 76L

One attribute about Emory University that has stuck with Phil Reese, he has said, is its "ethic of service." Throughout his more than 45-year relationship with his alma mater, Reese has proven that ethic is present in everything he does.



Reese's selfless donation of his time and efforts is not limited to Emory—but it's a good place to start. A resident of Wilmington, Delaware, geography has not broken Reese's ties to Emory. He presently chairs the Law School Council, co-chairs the School of Law's campaign cabinet and is a member of the Goizueta Business School's campaign cabinet and advisory board. But Reese's involvement with Emory dates back much further.

Following his discharge from the U.S. Army in 1972, Reese, a 1966 graduate of Emory College, returned to his alma mater as a graduate student, and began to make his mark. As a student, Reese helped start Emory's JD/MBA program and in 1976 was its first graduate. As a young alumnus, he was a member of the Atlanta Chapter of Emory Alumni and even served time as its president. Reese would eventually serve on the Emory Alumni Board, perhaps the highest level of alumni engagement with the University.

His contributions across the Emory enterprise have included mentorship, fundraising, facilitation, advising leadership, and much more. For instance, in October 2006, Reese and his wife, Daphne, opened their home for an EAA event featuring President and Mrs. Wagner; it was their first alumni visit to Delaware, and Reese's efforts continued a growing tradition of alumni hosts for signature EAA activity.

Reese's service, however, is not limited to Emory. He has been a tax attorney and business leader in banking, energy and investment management serving in senior management positions in three Fortune 500 companies, one of which he helped start. He serves on many boards of for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, many of which he has chaired, and has been a successful investor and developer. He was senior warden of Old Swedes and Trinity Episcopal Churches in Wilmington. In his former life, he was a competitive athlete, but now enjoys history, reading, sailing and collecting cars.

In the spring of 2009 Reese will complete a master's degree in liberal studies at the University of Delaware. Without a doubt, Phil Reese is, as J. Polard Turman would say, a "bell cow."