

Trust-“ee” Fan Bill Robbins Won’t Miss a Game



Bill Robbins takes his support of Davis & Elkins to heart. A 1956 graduate and a current member of the Board of Trustees, Robbins resides in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, a winding 365-mile drive from Elkins. Yet, during basketball season, Robbins manages to get back here for every home game.

“Elkins is a place you don’t soon forget,” he says. “We just have a great college, and it’s better today than it ever was.”

A trustee since 1994, Robbins is actively involved in the life of the College. He attends as many athletic events as possible, including away games when he can. In addition, he has provided a means for helping student athletes more directly by establishing the William S. Robbins and Deborah Madden Scholarship fund. Designed to allow deserving student athletes from Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, to attend D&E, the scholarship lets Robbins not only support the athletic programs he so enjoys, but also lets him share his love of D&E with other people from his home county.

“I think a liberal arts education is very important today. Not everyone is in the ‘tech’ world,” says Robbins. “No matter what profession you choose, a liberal arts education is an all-round education that is helpful in every aspect. For me, [coming to Davis & Elkins] was probably the best decision I’ve ever made in my life.”

Robbins serves on the College’s Student Life Committee and has also contributed significantly to the spiritual life of D&E. He supported the renovation of the College chapel in honor of his parents, Walter S. Robbins and Elisabeth Robbins, for whom the chapel is named. He also has made a significant pledge to the revitalization of the Benedum Student Center as part of the College’s current Centennial Campaign.

Robbins is president of Robbins Door and Sash Company in Wilkes-Barre and, as of this year, an official urban-camo-clad member of the D&E “Camo” Crew, which awarded Robbins his official uniform during the February 18 basketball game against Glenville State. During the between-game ceremony, Robbins, fellow trust-“ee” fan Joyce Allen and President Tom Mann were recognized as exceptionally loyal fans at D&E games. A fitting tribute for someone like Robbins, who cheers on his school so naturally.

“When I step on our campus, I can feel its heart beat,” he says. “I really can. I just love it. I’m proud to be a part of it, and I always will be.”