

Marshall "Marty" Humphrey '51

Has been elected to membership in the

Beta Phi Hall of Honor Class of 2008

Born in Phoenix, Brother "Marty" Humphrey graduated from the University of Arizona in 1951. Brother Humphrey had a distinguished career serving the people of Arizona in both the public and private sectors for over thirty-five years.

Upon graduation, Marty married his sweetheart Carolyn who is also a U of A graduate. He then took over his family's farming operation in Chandler, Arizona. Brother Humphrey was soon, however, drawn into politics as a result of his work with the Chandler Chapter of the Arizona Farm Bureau.

Unanimously elected by his fellow Senators to be President of the State Senate from 1966-1968, Marty was a member of the Arizona House of Representatives from 1958-1964 and also served as Majority Whip from 1963-1964. As the first Republican Senate President in almost fifty years and the youngest man to serve in this position, Brother Humphrey led the "Gung-ho Twenty-Eighth Legislature" that overhauled many of the Arizona institutions that had become antiquated.

With a broad based focus to improve the State of Arizona, Marty oversaw revisions to the school finance system, the state tax structure, the reorganization of many State agencies and helped to pass Arizona's first environmental laws. Maybe even more impressive is the fact that Marty helped to complete this effort in only sixty-three days. There has not been a shorter or more effective legislative session since Brother Humphrey's leadership.

His contributions were not limited to legislative pursuits as Marty was a respected member of the agricultural community as well. Active in the Chandler Farm Bureau, President of the Serape Cotton Oil Company and Vice President of the Chandler Ginning Company, Marty served on numerous boards of directors.

He was also chairman of the Arizona Power Authority for twelve years and during that time he ardently supported the development of additional low-cost power to serve Arizona's residents. Brother Humphrey provided the outline strategy for the Central Arizona Project and worked with the Gila River Indian Community to develop the Montezuma Pump Storage Project.

Marty gave generously to our community and as a result of his broad and impactful efforts; Brother Humphrey was the recipient of numerous awards and recognition. He is one of the few recipients of the National Association of Vocational Achievement Award, has been named a Chandler Citizen of History, and had such a profound impact in all aspects of youth education that Chandler's School district rewrote their bylaws and as a result Marty lived to see a local elementary school named in his honor.

Arizona and all of its citizens benefitted from the life and dedication of Brother Marshall Humphrey. The Beta Phi Chapter of Sigma Chi is honored to consider him a brother and proud to induct him into the Beta Phi Hall of Honor.