



Robert W. Wilson '58

*Has been elected to membership in the*

*Beta Phi Hall of Honor*  
*Class of 2008*

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Brother Wilson first came to the U of A on a baseball scholarship in 1955 from his home in Southern California. He was on the U of A varsity baseball team coached by Hall of Honor Sig Frank Sancet and was fortunate to have many of his Sigma Chi brothers playing with him those teams. Bob and his teammates played in the College World Series in 1955, 1956, 1958 and in 1959.

After leaving the U of A, Bob began a career in professional baseball in the Cleveland Indians organization. At the end of his professional baseball playing career, Bob switched careers and went into the automotive industry in California and then the trucking industry when he and his wife Peggy Jo settled in Billings, Montana.

In Billings, Bob continued his passion for baseball. He joined the Billings Mustang Booster Club in 1971. He became a stockholder, general manager, and ultimately, the president of the Mustangs in 1974, a minor league team in the Pioneer League. Under Bob's leadership the Mustangs became a model minor league franchise.

In 2000, in recognition of his 30+ years of service to baseball, the championship trophy of the Pioneer League awarded to the league title team was re-named The Wilson Trophy in Bob's honor. He earned the respect and admiration of his peers across the nation. In 1993, Bob was inducted into the Mustangs Hall of Fame. Bob received national recognition at the 2003 Baseball Winter Meetings in New Orleans, LA, when Minor League Baseball named him the "King Of Baseball". This award is given annually to one person in recognition of a lifetime of service to baseball. During his tenure, the Mustangs had success on the field winning 10 Pioneer League championships. Also as a football official for many years, Bob was inducted into the Montana Officials Association Hall of fame.

Bob was an active community leader in Billings, Montana and was a driving force in completing the planning and construction of a new baseball park in Billings which opened in the summer of 2008. On top of his baseball success, he was best known for his generosity in the community. On countless occasions he would provide free game admissions to underprivileged children who could not otherwise afford the price of a ticket. In Billings he will always be known as Mr. Baseball.

One of the core values of Sigma Chi is the spirit of giving. Bob, through his life's work and his passion for baseball and his community, exemplified the Spirit of Sigma Chi and the qualities of the Jordan Standard which he learned in his undergraduate years at the Beta Phi Chapter.

Bob was proud to be a Sigma Chi. All honor to his name.