



Philip “Flip” May ‘80

Has been elected to membership in the

Beta Phi Hall of Honor Class of 2006

Brother Philip “Flip” May, came to the University of Arizona in 1976. As an undergraduate, Brother May was a member of Sophos, Chain Gang, and Bobcats men’s honoraries. Brother May joined Beta Phi in 1978. He was attracted to Beta Phi because of its high academic standards and strict adherence to a no-hazing policy which distinguished it from other campus fraternities. He served as Magister in the Fall of 1980.

During his sophomore year, Brother May became concerned about the lack of adequate intramural and recreational field space at the U of A. He voiced his concerns regarding the limited intramural facilities to student government (ASUA). Brother May’s advocacy lead to his appointment to a vacant spot on the ASUA Senate. As a result of his effort to improve student recreational facilities, Brother May received the Rawson-McRae award as the University’s outstanding sophomore man.

Brother May was elected to the ASUA Senate during his junior year. He continued to focus on the lack of student recreational facilities. Brother May promoted the development of recreational facilities including a student recreational center at the U of A. His efforts included promoting a student referendum to gauge student support for a recreational center. The favorable results of the referendum was the first step in a journey which eventually lead to construction of the U of A Student Rec Center. The Center has become a central feature of campus life.

In 1979, Brother May was elected ASUA President. During his term in office, his concern about dorm safety lead ASUA to commission a report on the fire safety of the U of A’s older residence halls. The report identified hundreds of fire code violations. The publication of the report resulted in the construction of fire escapes and safety renovations throughout the campus residence hall system. Fire escapes built as a result of Brother May’s efforts are evident across campus.

Brother May’s service to our University continued after his graduation. He became involved in the Arizona Alumni Association in the early 1990’s serving as Chairman of the Board in 1999-2000. During his tenure, he promoted numerous heritage and traditions projects on campus including the development of Alumni Plaza, and the creation of a for-credit heritage and traditions class. Brother May formulated the plan for the location and construction of Alumni Plaza, and was honored for his efforts by his selection to present the keynote address at the Plaza’s dedication.

For his commitment to our University, Brother May was honored in 2002 with the Sidney S. Woods Alumni Service Award and in 2005 with the Bobcat A.L. Slonaker Award.