

Honorary Alumnus / Alumna

William E. Blaine, Jr.

With gratitude for efforts on its behalf, Ohio Wesleyan bestows on William Blaine the status of honorary alumnus of this university.

Largely through Bill's management skills and tenacity, a treasured campus landmark has been preserved and transformed, and a dream has become a reality.

Austin Hall, beloved to generations of alumnae as their on-campus home, has reopened its doors as Austin Manor, an elegant 60-unit intergenerational residence for alumni, friends, and honor students.

Appointed a Trustee-at-large in 1981, Bill was chairperson of the Board's Facilities Committee at the time of Austin's closing in 1984. Under Bill's leadership, the committee, charged with deciding Austin's fate, determined to create a unique living-learning community, rather than lose the building to the wrecker's ball.

Through every stage of the project, Bill has been inspiration and optimist in overcoming an awesome array of obstacles. Undaunted by complexities of financial arrangements and of soliciting approvals necessary because of Austin's historic status, Bill guided the endeavor to successful completion.

As further enhancement to Austin Manor, Bill and his wife Joann furnished a model apartment and offered it to the University for lodging of important campus visitors.

Recognizing generosity of spirit, time, imagination, and resources, it is a pleasure to welcome Bill Blain as fellow alumnus of Ohio Wesleyan.

May 20, 1989

