



# CONCORD UNIVERSITY

## DOCTOR OF HUMANITIES, HONORIS CAUSA

Charles F. Erickson, your unique contributions to higher education are the fulfillment of the vision your father, C.O. Erickson, had for the colleges and universities of West Virginia. He envisioned a campus home for alumni that would connect them to their alma maters and keep them involved in the life of the institutions. With you sharing his vision, that dream has been realized in the alumni centers standing strong on campuses across this state. The Erickson Alumni Center at Concord University is among these dignified spaces. Anchoring Concord's newest landmark, University Point, the center has honorably taken its place as home to alumni and as a gathering place for the entire campus and surrounding community. Because you and your father recognized the importance of higher education to the future of your home state, West Virginians and all who pursue an education here are enriched thanks to your generosity and the work of the Erickson Foundation.

The groundwork for making your family's vision for higher education possible was laid by your father's entrepreneurial acumen. Today, those beginnings are fulfilled through the endeavors of the Erickson Foundation that you so admirably continue. Together, you and your father became known as "pioneers in cable television" forging a partnership that brought cable to The Mountain State. The remarkable success of this venture resulted in the largest cable television operation in West Virginia. You worked as partners for nearly three decades before your father retired. The cable operation was sold and the legacy of the Erickson Foundation began to unfold.

You have not been a by-stander in the establishment of alumni centers across West Virginia, but take an active role in their planning and design. Drawing on your love of architecture, you have worked to see that they are not only beautiful buildings that all alumni would be proud of but that they are also functional and serve to help the institutions in the most appropriate way.

For your extraordinary contributions to this University and its alumni, to higher education in West Virginia, and to the people of this state, Concord University confers upon you, Charles F. Erickson, the degree of Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*.

CONFERRED ON  
MAY 18, 2013

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