

Honorary Alumnus / Alumna

David Liles Warren

It is a great privilege, and an equal pleasure, to bestow upon Dr. David L. Warren the status of honorary alumnus of Ohio Wesleyan University- the premier institution of its kind, which he served so well as president for nine-and-a-half years.

From his arrival on campus in March of 1984, when the “line-in” presidency became a vehicle for communicating with alumni via national media coverage; to his final day as our 13th president, July 31, 1993, which he and Ellen devoted to an alumni gathering in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, David Warren’s leadership reflected deep concern, respect and affection for the Ohio Wesleyan alumni body.

David Warren came to Ohio Wesleyan at a difficult time in our history, a time when many alumni were hesitant to claim their alma mater with much enthusiasm. Almost immediately, Dr. Warren’s energetic style, his passionate and optimistic oratory, and his firm belief in the students, faculty, strengths and values of the institution, helped re-generate alumni hope. And the subsequent accomplishments of his presidency solidly restored alumni pride in Ohio Wesleyan.

The achievements of the Warren years are well documented: increased enrollment; elevated academic quality; improved faculty and staff compensation; the renovations of Elliott, Austin, Welch and Selby; construction of the Mowry Alumni Center and the Hamilton-William Campus Center; development of the national Colloquium; invigoration of the athletic program; Five-year Plans I and II; increased financial support; and the \$ 60 million success of The Campaign for Ohio Wesleyan, to name a few.

But it is, perhaps, David Warren’s true red-and-black spirit which prompts us to designate him an honorary alumnus: his tenacious attachment to a long red-and-black scarf, his thousands of morning runs (here and elsewhere) clad in red-and-black jogging attire, his reliable attendance at nine years’ worth of student and alumni activities, and his perpetual presence among the cheering fans at Battling Bishop athletic contests in all sports.

For the energy, vision, wisdom, good humor, and most of all the pride that he shared so fully with this University and its people, we extend a hearty and heart-felt welcome to David Warren as he joins the ranks of Ohio Wesleyan alumni!

October 30, 1993

