

Nominator: Frank Linkous Email: frank.s.linkous@gmail.com

Nominee: Willard Stubbs

Nominee Class: 1985

Award: Distinguished Service Award

Justification: Captain Willard Stubbs, USN (Ret.) is most deserving for recognition with the Distinguished Service Award for his service as Secretary and Treasurer for the UNC NROTC Alumni Association from 2015 to 2019. In 2015, when the Alumni Association was moribund and on the brink of dissolution, Will led the alumni "March on Chapel Hill" to the Annual Meeting at which the issue of dissolving the Association was to be considered. By marshaling concerned alumni, Will brought forward a broad group interested in serving as directors on the Board, which completely reenergized the Alumni Association. During his terms as Secretary and Treasurer, Will worked tirelessly to restore the Association's organizational, administrative, and financial well-being. He completely cleaned up and overhauled the membership list, and his direct outreach significantly boosted membership and dues, especially through new life memberships. He skillfully separated and corrected the Association's financial accounts, ensuring the accounting was clear and the accounts were solvent. He worked to revive the annual reunion in company with the annual meeting and as well as revitalizing the Association's web page. His Herculean efforts completely righted the sinking ship that was the Alumni Association in 2015. Bottom line – while not done alone, Will was the driving force behind saving the Alumni Association at that desperate time and he was the center of gravity for all of the efforts to make the Alumni Association a strong, vibrant organization to support the NROTC unit, and to provide the alumni a place to renew the fellowship and camaraderie from our days at the unit. Everything we manage now as Directors for the association, Will played a critical role in saving and fixing. We wouldn't have this organization today, in sound financial condition and with strong membership, able to focus on such priorities as saving the Armory, if it wasn't for Will. He has unquestionably earned the recognition of the 2022 Distinguished Service Award.