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"Quintessential Quiet Yankee" Receives Hubbard Family Award For Service To Philanthropy At UNH

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Editors: A photo of Forrest D. McKerley is available for download at:
<http://unh.edu/news/img/ForrestMcKerley.jpg>

DURHAM, N.H. -- Forrest D. McKerley '57 has received the UNH Foundation's 2006 Hubbard Family Award for Service to Philanthropy. A long-time supporter of UNH, McKerley has endowed two major faculty positions—both in the School of Health and Human Services—and was a founding member of the UNH Foundation.

"We feel especially privileged to honor Forrest McKerley, the sixth recipient of the Hubbard Award, who has done so much for the University of New Hampshire and for our great state," said David Brownell, acting president of the UNH Foundation. "His philanthropic gifts have deepened and extended opportunities for faculty and students across the university."

Called the "quintessential quiet Yankee" by those who know him, McKerley built his family's Penacook nursing home into a statewide elder care provider comprising more than a dozen nursing homes and retirement communities and employing thousands of people, providing care for some 1,400 patients. He is also a co-owner of Secure Care Systems, a manufacturer of electronic security monitors designed for use in nursing homes. He pioneered the application of these monitoring devices to hospital maternity wards.

Named Citizen of the Year by the Concord Chamber of Commerce in 2005, McKerley was recognized as much for his community contributions as his business. Throughout his career, he has given generously of his expertise as a member of many boards, including the New Hampshire Historical Society, the New Hampshire Council for the Arts, and Concord Hospital. In addition, he is an active Mason and helped establish the state's first learning center devoted to children with dyslexia.

Also at the university, McKerley has served as a member of the Whittemore School of Business and Economics Executive Board, UNH Advocates for Higher Education, and the School of Health and Human Services Dean's Leadership Council.

The Hubbard Family Award for Service to Philanthropy is the highest honor bestowed by the UNH Foundation, and is named for the university's greatest benefactors, Oliver, Austin, and Leslie Hubbard. It recognizes outstanding individuals whose philanthropic leadership has significantly strengthened the state of New Hampshire, its communities, and the university. The UNH Foundation, Inc. is an independent charitable organization dedicated to increasing private support for UNH.