

Friday, May 25, 2012

Rock Island man awarded honorary doctorate

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. — Howard Braren of Rock Island was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters last Friday, May 18, by Wagner College, his alma mater.

Braren was a senior consultant for the professional fund-raising firm of Marts & Lundy before founding his own firm, Howard Braren Associates Inc., in Davenport, Iowa in 1968. Over the next 29 years, he with his wife Ruth Braren and staff expanded the firm to a base of more than 60 educational, cultural and human service institutions in 10 Midwestern states, helping them to raise more than \$1.5 billion. He is the retired president of Braren, Mulder, German Associates Inc. Braren was previously awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters degree by McPherson College in Kansas.

Braren graduated from Wagner College in 1950 with a bachelor's degree in business and economics. Actively involved with the college, Braren recruited more than 70 student athletes over 13 years, including many members of Wagner's undefeated football teams of 1960 and 1964. Employed by Wagner College as director of alumni relations from 1957 to 1963, Braren has served on the college's National Alumni Association board and recently completed his third consecutive 4-year term on Wagner's board of trustees.