

LOCAL NEWS

For Wagner College, an angel with wings

Bequest of Herbert (Boss) Vaughan Jr., Class of 1934, to fund Main Hall rehab

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

When Herbert Vaughan Jr. strolled the campus of Wagner College — then Wagner Memorial Lutheran College — in 1930, the Main Hall had just been completed.

Little did he know that 80 years later, it would need major renovation — and that he would help make that happen.

Though Vaughan died in 1998, the \$2.8 million he bestowed upon the Grymes Hill college will be used to give a face-lift to the Main Hall, the school's architectural signature, officials announced yesterday. The project is expected to cost about \$6 million.

Vaughan's donation is the



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE FILE PHOTO

Deceased Wagner College alumnus Herbert Vaughan Jr.'s \$2.8 million gift will be used to renovate the Main Hall on the Grymes Hill campus.

largest ever received by Wagner from an alumnus, officials said. A Staten Island native, Vaughan graduated from Wagner Memorial Lutheran College in 1934, just a few years after school was first certified by the New York State Board of Regents to award bachelor's degrees.

Though Vaughan was afflicted with polio and walked with crutches, he was one of the most active students on campus. Not only was he the manager of the football team and the business manager of the college yearbook, he was a member of Alpha Kappa Pi and president of the student

body. In fact, by the time Herb Vaughan earned his degree, he'd also earned the affectionate nickname "Boss" from classmates.

Vaughan continued his education at Brooklyn Law School, then operated by St. Lawrence University, and was admitted to the bar in 1937. He worked as an attorney in the engineering department of Procter & Gamble on Staten Island until 1969, when he retired to Linwood, N.J.

Shaped by the Great Depression, Vaughan and his wife, M. Josephine Taylor, amassed a sizable personal fortune, much of it in Procter & Gamble stock.

The couple never had children, and following Ms. Taylor's death last year, their savings were disbursed to Wagner College, United Methodist Homes of New Jersey and the Salvation Army.