

JAMES HOWARD HARLESS

DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

JAMES HOWARD HARLESS, KNOWN TO YOUR MANY FRIENDS AS "BUCK," FROM YOUR HUMBLE BEGINNING IN THESE MOUNTAINS OF SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA THROUGH HARD WORK YOU HAVE ACHIEVED EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS SUCCESS HERE AND ABROAD AS A SELF-MADE ENTREPRENEUR, AND AS SUCH YOU HAVE PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR GAINFUL AND REWARDING EMPLOYMENT TO THOUSANDS OF MEN AND WOMEN. ALONG THE WAY, AS YOU TRAVELED THIS PATH THAT LED YOU TO PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT, YOU HAVE REMEMBERED THE NEEDS OF OTHERS AND GENEROUSLY HAVE SHARED YOUR TREASURE TO BECOME A MUCH-LOVED PHILANTHROPIST, SUPPORTING YOUR CHURCH, EDUCATION, HEALTH SERVICES, YOUR COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND A HOST OF OTHER WORTHY ENDEAVORS. RECOGNIZING YOUR VISION AND TALENTS, MANY OF OUR NATION'S HIGHEST POLITICAL LEADERS, INCLUDING PRESIDENTS AND GOVERNORS, HAVE SOUGHT YOUR ADVICE, AND YOU HAVE GIVEN MUCH TIME TO VOLUNTEER SERVICE ON NUMEROUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS. FOR YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN BUSINESS AND FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE, WE WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BRING YOU INTO OUR FELLOWSHIP AND TO HAVE A RESPECTED WEST VIRGINIAN INSCRIBED ON OUR ROLLS BY CONFERRING UPON YOU CONCORD COLLEGE'S DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

*GIVEN UNDER THE SEAL OF CONCORD COLLEGE AND
CONFERRED FROM THE ACADEMIC HALLS IN ATHENS,
WEST VIRGINIA, ON THIS SEVENTEENTH DAY OF MAY,
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND THREE,
AND OF THE COLLEGE THE ONE HUNDRED
THIRTY-SECOND.*

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