

UNIVERSITY OF CHARESTON

2009 Honorary Degree Recipients

On Sunday, May 3rd, the University of Charleston held its 121st Commencement in the Eddie King Gymnasium. In addition to conferring degrees on the most recent class of University graduates, five outstanding individuals were awarded honorary degrees. Among those receiving an honorary degree was Fleet Admiral Charles Jones.

A long-time supporter of the University of Charleston, Charles Tandy Jones (Charlie), was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. His generous contributions to UC have helped fund scholarships, residence halls and the Clay Tower Building. A World War II Navy veteran, Jones returned to Charleston to head the river operations of a family business that now operates the largest fleet of inland sternwheel towboats in the world. Most recently, Jones and his son, Nelson (MHC '77), named one of the company's towboats for UC President Edwin Welch. "That was a rewarding experience for me...honoring Dr. Welch and surprising him with the dedication at the same time," said Jones.

Those receiving honorary degrees alongside Fleet Admiral Jones were: William Cammack Campbell, John Frampton McGhee, William R. McDavid, and Morgan Spurlock.

Fleet Admiral Jones (far right in photo) is a founding member of The Great Kanawha River Navy. His dedication to the Kanawha River and the Navy has strengthened both in a way that will outlast each of us. ¹



Source: *University of Charleston 2008-2009 Annual Report*

¹ This sentence was added to the original writing.