

**William K. Marimow**  
Trinity College Class of 1969  
***Doctor of Letters***

You, Bill Marimow, once wrote that your bonds to your “Trinity friends, to the faculty, and to our college” were “strong and enduring.” We recognize and celebrate those bonds as we honor you today.

It was here ’neath the elms that you formed lifelong friendships and enjoyed the great camaraderie of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and the genuine satisfaction of serving on the Interfraternity Council. It also was at Trinity that your English professors, including Hugh Ogden and John Dando, nurtured your love of writing and helped you to develop the analytical skills that have proven so valuable in your career.

After graduating from Trinity in 1969 with a bachelor’s degree in English, highlighted by several appearances on the Dean’s List, you began working at the *Evening Bulletin* in Philadelphia before joining *The Philadelphia Inquirer* in 1972. At *The Inquirer*, you covered a series of beats, winning the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service in 1978, and, seven years later, the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting. You then moved to *The Baltimore Sun*, where you served as metro editor, managing editor, and then editor-in-chief. During your time there, *The Sun* won Pulitzers for feature writing, beat reporting, and investigative reporting and was chosen by *Columbia Journalism Review* as one of the nation’s 10 best newspapers.

You then went to National Public Radio, where you strengthened and expanded the news division, and in 2006, you returned to *The Philadelphia Inquirer* as editor. In 2011, you joined the faculty of the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University, where you shared your immense knowledge of the field with the next generation. The following year brought you back to newspapers when you were recruited to become, once again, the editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Your excellence in journalism has earned you, among numerous other honors, two Silver Gavel Awards from the American Bar Association, two Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Awards, and awards from journalism’s honorary society, Sigma Delta Chi. In 1982, you were named a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University.

While you have met with much success and recognition in the professional world, you have made it clear that you value family above all. You have said that your most fulfilling moments were the births of your two children, Ann and Scott, and equally important, you have been married to Diane since 1969.

Even with all of your professional and personal demands, you have remained a steadfast volunteer for Trinity College, which gave you the financial aid necessary to pursue your liberal arts education. You offered your wise counsel and guidance to the College during your time on the Board of Trustees, which you served from 2008 until stepping down last year. Your service to Trinity also has included membership on the Board of Fellows and on the most recent Presidential Search Committee. You have been honored with Trinity’s 175th Anniversary Award, the Alumni Achievement Award, and The Eigenbrodt Cup, which recognizes a prominent graduate who has rendered unusual and significant service to the College. You also are a member of The Elms Society.

In recognition of your extraordinary accomplishments in the field of journalism and of your unwavering dedication and loyalty to Trinity College, I have the honor of presenting you, William K. Marimow, for the degree of Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*.