The Alumni Association’s Salmon Award honors those graduates who have distinguished themselves in service to the College and its Alumni Body. The Alumni Association of the College of Veterinary Medicine recently bestowed the College’s highest honor, the Daniel Elmer Salmon Award, on John Shumway, DVM ’56.

Harmon Leonard, DVM ’44, who worked with Shumway for 22 years until his retirement, traveled from Arizona to make the presentation at a luncheon held during Cornell’s Conference for Veterinarians in March, 2002. The award was a complete surprise to Shumway, who came to the luncheon expecting to present the award to Leonard, his close friend of 45 years. Robert Clark, DVM ’52, executed the ruse for Leonard by inviting Shumway to make the presentation.

Shumway, who is retired from practice at the Cheshire Veterinary Hospital in Cheshire, Connecticut, has earned the remarkable distinction of co-chairing every one of his reunion classes since graduation. He has also served twice on the College Development Committee, both terms coinciding with college and university campaigns, and as a member of Cornell University Council.

To mark his 30th reunion in 1986, Shumway established the Class of 1956 Scholarship, the first of such scholarships at the College. His idea has inspired 43 other class scholarships. The College’s class scholarship endowment now stands at $2.6 million and is expected to yield $190,000 in scholarship support for the coming academic year.