

## **Robert F. Kahrs**

### **DVM 1954, MS 1963, PhD 1965**

At the College's Honor Day exercise on May 5, 1954 Robert F. Kahrs received the *Prize of the Women's Auxiliary of the AVMA*. He was chosen for the award as "the fourth year student deemed to have best advanced the standing of the Veterinary College on the campus by special contributions of an extracurricular nature." Some things never change.

Fifty years later, we are honoring Dr. Kahrs with the Daniel E. Salmon Award, a recognition for graduates who have distinguished themselves in service to the College and its alumni body. Since his graduation, Dr. Kahrs has been involved with the College in many ways. He currently serves on the Alumni Association Executive Committee and is co-chairing the Class of 1954 reunion. He has recently compiled a manuscript, "A Century of Bovine Medicine at Cornell", that will serve as a valuable resource for future historians of the College.

An exemplary member of the veterinary profession, Bob long ago earned the admiration and affection of his colleagues. When asked about the man, the words "charisma", "honesty", "integrity", and "realism" are woven throughout descriptions of his low-key, straightforward approach. Kahrs's understanding of the visibility and respect that veterinarians garner in their communities has strengthened his effectiveness as an advocate for the profession in New York State and beyond. He has a distinguished history of involvement with the veterinary, public health, and agricultural fields and has worked tirelessly to mobilize other members of the veterinary profession around important issues.

Dr. Kahrs received his professional and graduate education at Cornell University (D.V.M '54, MS '63, Ph.D. '65). His work experience included seven years of large animal practice in New York State and 24 years in academic posts at Cornell University and the University of Florida, where he chaired the Department of Preventative Medicine. Dr. Kahrs then served as dean at the University of Missouri's College of Veterinary Medicine from 1982 to 1992. His tenure there proved pivotal; he is "credited with saving the college from possible closure and placing it on a firm foundation for greatness in the 21<sup>st</sup> century."

The members of the Alumni Association are delighted to recognize Dr. Kahr's outstanding contributions to our college and our profession.