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NEWS RELEASE

**NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TO HONOR BROTHER RAYMOND FITZ,
 SIX OTHER OUTSTANDING GRADUATES**

DAYTON, Ohio — Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., the longest-serving president in University of Dayton history, will receive the distinguished alumnus award from UD's National Alumni Association on Friday, Sept. 19.

Fitz and six other outstanding graduates will receive alumni awards from their alma mater during an awards dinner in the Kennedy Union Ballroom at 7 p.m.

Fitz stepped down as president in June 2002 after 23 years at the helm. More than half of UD's alumni received their degrees from Fitz, who earned an engineering degree from UD in 1964. During his tenure, the University of Dayton became known as one of the strongest Catholic universities in the country and locally as a partner in addressing issues ranging from child protection to neighborhood redevelopment to aircraft safety. As the Ferree professor of social justice, he's teaching classes and sharing the lessons he's learned with students and faculty working in UD's Center for Leadership in Community that bears his name. He's also chairing Montgomery County's human services issue campaign.

"The University of Dayton always had a social conscience," said Brother John Lucier, S.M., who nominated Fitz for the honor. "This was demonstrated as early as 1913 when we fed and housed victims of the great flood. Under Brother Ray, this concern for all people was elevated several notches. Brother Ray became known and respected throughout the Dayton area as one who was not just wringing his hands over social problems but who became actively involved in their solutions. We will never forget his direct involvement in the improvement of

children's services for the Dayton area."

Besides Fitz, other alumni receiving awards include:

- Timothy L. Dues, product group manager of propulsion systems for the Air Force. As a member of the U.S. Senior Executive Service, he has responsibility for nearly 4,500 military and civilian employees around the world and administers a \$3.8 billion budget. Dues, who will receive a special achievement award, graduated in 1974 with a degree in biology. He lives in Oklahoma City.
- Nancy K. Hayes, president and CEO of WYSE Senior Services in Santa Monica, Calif. A former IBM executive, she served as CEO of the Starbright Foundation, which serves seriously ill children. Hayes, who will receive a special achievement award, graduated in 1973 with a degree in English. She resides in Los Angeles.
- John D. Lewis, vice chair of Comerica and community volunteer in Detroit. Lewis, who will receive a special achievement award, graduated in 1970 with a degree in management. He resides in Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.
- Paul M. Engle has spent his retirement in service to others. For 17 years, he's volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and has served a number of other non-profit organizations. Engle, a 1943 chemical engineering graduate, will receive the Christian service award. He resides in Manlius, N.Y.
- Joseph F. Spadaford Jr., outgoing president of the National Alumni Association and former member of UD's board of trustees, will receive a special service award. He helped launch a program that places UD finance and accounting majors in internships in New York. With his wife, Jennifer, he is one of the founding partners of the Davis Center for Portfolio Management, where students invest \$3 million of the University's endowment. Spadaford, vice president of strategic initiatives at AXA Financial in New York, graduated in 1969 with a degree in accounting. He resides in Yardley, Pa.
- Jeffrey P. Rombach, who works at Ernst & Young, will receive the Joe Belle memorial award. Named for a popular, longtime UD administrator who died of a brain tumor, the award recognizes a graduate who continues to support a campus organization after graduation. Rombach, former student manager of UD's Davis Center for Portfolio Management, helped UD launch an internship program in New York for finance and accounting majors. Rombach, who resides in New York City, earned a degree in accounting and finance in 2002.

"The National Alumni Association, through its annual awards, tries to honor those alumni who have distinguished themselves in numerous walks of life and who continue to embody the University's emphasis on learning, leadership, service and that degree of character that truly is a hallmark of so many of our alumni," said Bill Hunt, director of alumni relations at the University of Dayton.