



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

August 17, 2007

To the OSU Campus,

The entire Oklahoma State University community was shocked and deeply saddened this week by the sudden loss of OSU graduate, long-time donor and dear friend M.B. “Bud” Seretean. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to his family and many friends.

A carpet industry pioneer, successful entrepreneur and philanthropist, Seretean was one of the nation’s leading advocates of healthy living. Bud was 83 and as active as ever when he died in London August 13 after suffering an aneurysm.

A 1949 OSU graduate, Bud was one of our school’s biggest benefactors, helping establish both the Seretean Center for the Performing Arts and the Seretean Wellness Center. He also provided student scholarships and has been giving to OSU golf since 1973.

He served as President of OSU’s Board of Governors and in 1999 on the 50th anniversary of his graduation from OSU he received an honorary doctorate for his professional achievements and philanthropic activities.

Seretean had a lifetime of achievements and one of his greatest honors came earlier this year when he and five other health and fitness pioneers received the inaugural lifetime achievement awards from the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. He shared his thoughts on fitness in his 2005 book, *Living Healthy to 100: A Wellness Program for Seniors*. He was named outstanding small businessman in the nation in 1965.

Bud’s philosophy was simple: “Act assured. Impart the image of success. Think big. Act humble.”

In honor of all that Seretean has meant to Oklahoma State University, flags on our campus will fly at half mast all day Monday and we will play the Alma Mater on the Library carillon several times Monday morning beginning at 9 a.m., which is the time of his service in Florida. In addition, the President’s Wellness Walk for the annual United Way campaign will be renamed the Seretean Memorial Wellness Walk and the Department of Music will dedicate a fall concert to his memory. I’m sure there will be other remembrances.

We are sincerely grateful for his generosity and the lasting impact he will have on our university. OSU is a healthier and better campus thanks to Bud Seretean. We are committed to carrying on his passion for life and for good health.

Marlene Strathe