2010
School of Engineering and Applied Science Distinguished Alumni Award
(Presentation to William L. Talbert)

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An award to graduates of the School of Engineering and Applied Science, who through his/her career and service to the University, state, and/or nation have brought recognition to the University of Virginia and to themselves as individuals.

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• Bill received his Bachelor’s degree from the School of Engineering and Applied Science in Civil Engineering in 1971 and an MBA from the Darden School of Business in 1973 prior to his entering the construction business.

• Now…36 years after going to work for Clark Construction in 1974 as a project manager, he has risen through the ranks to become the Chief Executive Officer of the Mid-Atlantic Region…with his vision and executive leadership being responsible for approximately half of the firms $4.8 billion dollars of business in 2009.

• He is responsible for the firm’s 1000+ local employees whose work is seen in the DC Landmarks: the Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater; the new baseball stadium, National’s Park; the U. S. Department of Transportation Headquarters; the National Museum of the American Indian; and the American Red Cross Headquarters…just to name a few!
• To the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering he has provided 15 years of leadership and advice working with its Advisory Committee leading to the establishment of scholarships and courses in construction and more recently the Furman Barton Fund and…let’s not forget Clark’s employment of UVa graduates, where many work successfully today.

• To the School of Engineering, he and fellow SEAS graduate, Dan Montgomery were the driving force behind a $1 million dollar gift from Clark Construction to launch the most successful minor degree program at SEAS, the Engineering Business minor…with 283 students presently enrolled, it is a testament to his vision and guidance for the School of Engineering.

• To quote the chair of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Mike Demetsky, “Bill Talbert has truly given back to the Department, the School, and the University some of the fruits of his professional success. These are exemplified by his service and philanthropy throughout these many years after his graduation.”

• All of us at the School of Engineering and Applied Science are pleased that this man remains strongly tied to us and we are indeed honored to present this year’s School of Engineering and Applied Science Distinguished Alumni Award to William L. Talbert.