



# PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

*College of Arts and Sciences*

One Hundred Fortieth Commencement

May 13, 2023

# PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

*College of Arts and Sciences*

*Commencement*

Ten o'clock in the morning

West Plaza

## PRELUDE

### RINGING OF THE HISTORIC BELL

George Creighton Coleman Taylor '23

*President, Class of 2023*

### ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL

*(Please do not stand until the processional enters reserved seating area.)*

"Highland Cathedral" Ulrich Roever and Michael Korb

The Presbyterian College Pipes and Drums

Gary Oscar Hipp, *Pipe Master*

### THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

*(Please stand if able.)*

Led by

Olivia Sadorf '23, *soprano*, and Dessa Jones '23, *soprano*

### INVOCATION

*(Please stand if able.)*

The Reverend British Hyrams, M.Div., M.A.C.E.

*Jack & Jane Presseau Associate Chaplain*

### WELCOME AND REFLECTIONS

Matthew P. vandenBerg, Ed.D., CFRE

*President*

### INTRODUCTIONS

Kerry Pannell, Ph.D.

*Provost*

### COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Kennedy Wright '23, *Outstanding Senior 2023*

*"Be Bold"*

### PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR ADDRESS

Daniel "Ben" Bailey, Ph.D. *Associate Professor of Political Science*

*"Getting Comfortable with Being Uncomfortable"*

### PRESENTATION OF VALEDICTORY AWARDS

President vandenBerg

Provost Pannell

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE GRANTING OF DEGREES

E.G. Lassiter III '69

*Vice Chair, Presbyterian College Board of Trustees*

CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES

President vandenBerg

Provost Pannell

Vice Chair Lassiter

William Shearer, Jr., J.D. '64

*Doctorate of Humanities, Honoris Causa*

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

President vandenBerg

Provost Pannell

Vice Chair Lassiter

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INDUCTION

Brian Barnwell, J.D. '06

*President, Presbyterian College Alumni Association*

PRAYER FOR THE GRADUATES

The Reverend Buz Wilcoxon '05, D.Min.

*Lassiter Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual Life*

CLOSING

President vandenBerg

ALMA MATER

*(Please stand if able. Words on back cover.)*

Led by

Aubree Price '23, *mezzo soprano*

PRAYER OF BENEDICTION

The Reverend Joe Evans '02

*Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Marietta, Ga.*

ACADEMIC RECESSIONAL

*(Audience, please remain seated until the conclusion of the recessional.)*

Scotland, the Brave - Traditional

*The Presbyterian College Pipes and Drums*

Gary Oscar Hipp, *Pipe Master*

## *Commencement Traditions*

*The pomp and pageantry of the PC commencement ceremonies grow out of a rich religious and scholarly tradition.*

The bagpipes that herald the procession of faculty and candidates for degrees have their origins in the high Scottish Presbyterian Church ritual in which honored individuals are piped into an arena.

The academic dress generally conforms to a code adopted by colleges and universities at the end of the 19th century. The colors, trimmings, and patterns of the regalia are all traditional, and they interpret both the degree and the field of learning.

The bachelor's gown, designed to be worn closed, has pointed sleeves; the master's gown, which may be worn open or closed, has oblong sleeves; the doctor's gown has bell-shaped sleeves and is designed to be worn open or closed. Bachelor's and master's gowns are untrimmed. Doctor's gowns are faced with black velvet, with three bars across the sleeves; or the color of the velvet may be that which is distinctive of the degree.

Traditionally, the hoods were one of three colors: crimson for Doctor of Divinity (from the color of Christ's robe), deep blue for Doctor of Philosophy (from the color for truth) or green for Doctor of Medicine (from the green epaulets on the uniform of the British Surgeon General). Today, however, hoods are edged and bound with velvet of the color appropriate for the degree, such as brown for fine arts, dark blue for philosophy, green for medicine, light blue for education, orange for engineering, yellow-brown for accounting and business, scarlet for theology, and white for arts, letters and humanities.

The hoods, differing in length for the three degrees, are lined with official colors of the university or college conferring the degree, usually with one color forming a chevron pattern over the other. The standard bachelor cap is the black mortarboard and is adorned with a black tassel. The doctoral tam may have a gold tassel signifying a terminal degree or the color appropriate for a specific degree to match the doctoral hood.

# Candidates for Baccalaureate Degrees

August and December 2022 Graduates

May 2023 Graduates

## Bachelor of Arts

Charles Thomas Alexander, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....( <i>in absentia</i> ) .....	Cheraw, S.C.
** Lauren Elisabeth Andrews, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Honors in English</i> .....	Camden, S.C.
Gabrielle Lavinia Ardelt.....( <i>in absentia</i> ) .....	Clinton, S.C.
Zachary Taylor Ashley, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Greenville, S.C.
Benjamin Blanton Bayles, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Second Lieutenant, United States Army</i> ...	Mount Olive, N.C.
Tristen Gilbert Becker.....( <i>in absentia</i> ) .....	Barrington, Ill.
† Carrington Andrea Blackwell.....	Columbia, S.C.
Keith Martin Boyd Jr., <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	Chester, S.C.
¥ Tysheika Nikia Boyd.....	Clinton, S.C.
** Emma Katherine Bradley, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Honors in English</i> .....	Spartanburg, S.C.
Jacob Levi Brasseur, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> .....	Lexington, S.C.
Alex Armani Byrd.....( <i>in absentia</i> ) .....	Laurens, S.C.
Sharecka Yavester Byrd.....	Kindards, S.C.
Elena Alexis Camacho .....	Greenville, S.C.
Blakeney Herlong Campbell.....( <i>in absentia</i> ) .....	Columbia, S.C.
Teodor Samuel Cariov, <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	Greenville, S.C.
Blanton Harris Cox, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Pawleys Island, S.C.
Taylor Nicole Cunningham, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Columbia, S.C.
¥ Deandrell Shaquon Davis.....	Union, S.C.
Martha Grace Dixon.....( <i>in absentia</i> ) .....	Thomasville, Ga.
Autumn'Don Samantha Dove.....	Lexington, S.C.
Ryann Elizabeth Doyle.....( <i>in absentia</i> ) .....	Seymour, Tenn.
Matthew James Duncan, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Clinton, S.C.
** Gabriella Morgan Evans, <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	Greenville, S.C.
William Roberson Phillips Farrar, <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	Birmingham, Ala.
Sean Montgomery Fowler, <i>Second Lieutenant, United States Army</i> .....	Loris, S.C.
Jimmy Lee Gary.....	Waterloo, S.C.
¥ Orion Kenneth Griffin.....	Smyrna, S.C.
Carrie Lucile Haltiwanger .....	Little Mountain, S.C.
Justin Seth Hill.....	Clinton, S.C.
Miley Lauren Howell .....	Newberry, S.C.
Taylor Mary James .....	La Plata, Md.
Ty Logan Katz.....	Columbia, S.C.
Kelli Jayne Kragh.....	Estero, Fla.
† Ainslie Claire Lane.....	Bixby, Okla.
Gretchen Eles LeGrand.....( <i>in absentia</i> ) .....	Aiken, S.C.
† Sarah Faith Loftis .....	Lyman, S.C.
John Allen McMahon, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> .....	Hickory, N.C.
Mitchell Jackson Mercer, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Fort Mill, S.C.
Cydni Lewmaya Miller .....	Houston, Texas

Steven Nicholas Moore .....(in absentia) ..... Gray Court, SC  
 ¥ Tyrese Jamar Moses ..... Laurens, S.C.  
 † Xavier Rasheed Nance..... Belton, S.C.  
 Christopher Lawson Page .....Inman, S.C.  
 Brianna Nichole Parnell, *Cum Laude* ..... Blythewood, S.C.  
 ¥ Delvecchio Maurice-Jordan Powell II ..... Savannah, Ga.  
 Salvador Rivera Peris, *Cum Laude* ..... Alzira, Valencia, Spain  
 Alexandra Grace Rivers.....(in absentia) .....Spartanburg, S.C.  
 Taryn Mikaela Rolnik-Tomaszewski, *Summa Cum Laude* ..... Acworth, Ga.  
 Kinsey Freeman Sanders .....Hartsville, S.C.  
 Brendan Everett Shaw.....Charleston, S.C.  
 † Shayla Jade Snow ..... Palm Harbor, Fla.  
 ¥ Jumel Samuel Spence ..... Palm Bay, Fla.  
 \*\* Hayley Alice Steves, *Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Creative Writing* .....Greenville, S.C.  
 \*\* Sophia Catherine Sullinger, *Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Creative Writing, English, and Psychology* .....Naples, Fla.  
 Ava Louise Ward.....Mount Pleasant, S.C.  
 Madison Ann Watkins, *Summa Cum Laude, Honors in English* ..... Mebane, N.C.  
 Heaven Marie Weems .....Lake Wylie, S.C.  
 \*\* Anna Claire West, *Summa Cum Laude*.....Dacula, Ga.  
 Jackson Andrew Wright, *Cum Laude* .....Anderson, S.C.  
 Cameron William Zamudio, *Magna Cum Laude* .....San Diego, Cal.

### *Bachelor of Science*

Alexandria Nicole Addy, *Summa Cum Laude*..... Saluda, S.C.  
 Camryn Hazel-Bryce Alverson, *Cum Laude* ..... Summerville, S.C.  
 \*\* James Wilson Armstrong, *Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Physics*..... Gray Court, S.C.  
 Jordan Michael Art.....(in absentia) .....Scranton, Pa.  
 + Robert Douglas Azevedo, *Summa Cum Laude* ... (in absentia) ..... Simpsonville, S.C.  
 Shelby Lynn Ballington ..... West Columbia, S.C.  
 Jalen Rashaad Banks, *Cum Laude* ..... Covington, Ga.  
 Katherine Ruth Bazemore, *Summa Cum Laude*.....Sylvania, Ga.  
 Maxwell Harrison Benson, *Cum Laude* ..... Albany, N.Y.  
 Mamie Louise Blake, *Summa Cum Laude*..... Belton, S.C.  
 \*\* Anne Griffin Blakely, *Summa Cum Laude* .....Lexington, S.C.  
 Blake Alan Bouknight, *Cum Laude* ..... Irmo, S.C.  
 Amirah Kai Boyd, *Cum Laude*..... Atlanta, Ga.  
 Sophia Christine Boyle, *Cum Laude*..... Worcester, N.Y.  
 Bryanna Marie Brady .....Goodyear, Ariz.  
 Khalid Osmon Brinkley ..... Hephzibah, Ga.  
 Ashley Makayla Brown ..... (in absentia) ..... Ridgeway, S.C.  
 † Diamond Imani Byrd .....Gray Court, S.C.  
 Paige Cecilia Cairns, *Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Biology*..... Canton, Ga.  
 Carington Grace Cantarella ..... (in absentia) .....Greenville, S.C.  
 \*\* Ciera Marie Carter, *Summa Cum Laude*..... Aiken, S.C.  
 Rebecca Margaret Clark, *Summa Cum Laude* .....Evans, Ga.

+ Kaileigh Drummond Collins, *Summa Cum Laude ... (in absentia)*.....Pawleys Island, S.C.  
Kenedie Taylor Conaway, *Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Biology* ..... Clinton, S.C.  
Gatlyn Brooke Connelly..... Lugoff, S.C.  
Angel Malenga Pearl Cooke, *Summa Cum Laude*..... Camden, S.C.  
Seth Ayden Cooper, *Magna Cum Laude, Honors in Business Administration* ..... Mountville, S.C.  
¥ Charles Wesley Corbett, *Magna Cum Laude* ..... Pawleys Island, S.C.  
Itzel Martinez Coria, *Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Biology* ..... Irmo, S.C.  
Pedro Crespo .....(in absentia) .....Madrid, Spain  
Maya Elizabeth Cunningham ..... Walland, Tenn.  
Sydni Nichole Dachs, *Summa Cum Laude* .....Johns Creek, Ga.  
Trey Matthew Davis..... Murrells Inlet, S.C.  
Kyle Wayne Decker, *Magna Cum Laude* ..... Fletcher, N.C.  
Joshua Tyler Driggers ..... Moncks Corner, S.C.  
Grace Danielle Durham, *Magna Cum Laude*..... Moore, S.C.  
Mary-Charlotte Dusa ..... Cheraw, S.C.  
† S'Agee Lamont Eason.....Spartanburg, S.C.  
Jessica Elizabeth Ferqueron, *Cum Laude* ..... Greenwood, S.C.  
Alex Jeffery Flood, *Magna Cum Laude* .....Snellville, S.C.  
Megan Elizabeth Flynn..... Richburg, S.C.  
† Sarah Elizabeth Foster ..... Ware Shoals, S.C.  
Madison Anjolee Foti..... Williamstown, N.J.  
Marcus Reagan Fowler, *Magna Cum Laude* ..... Loris, S.C.  
Elizabeth Lath Freeman, *Cum Laude* ..... Pauline, S.C.  
Emily Grace French ..... Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
Anna Catherine Fuller, *Summa Cum Laude* ..... Columbia, S.C.  
Laken Elizabeth Fulmer, *Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Biology* ..... Batesburg, S.C.  
Paige Alexandra Gacek.....Syracuse, N.Y.  
Ignacio Gallego Peceno .....Madrid, Spain  
Harrison Fisher Geary, *Cum Laude*.....Gaffney, S.C.  
Ashlyn Caroline Getway, *Magna Cum Laude* .....Denver, N.C.  
Kendall Marie Goldfarb, *Summa Cum Laude* .....Longwood, Fla.  
Vladimir Dyllan Gorrin ..... Columbia, S.C.  
Jenna Grace Greene, *Magna Cum Laude* .....Hamlet, N.C.  
Davida Elizabeth Grier, *Cum Laude*.....Greenville, S.C.  
Keegan Douglas Halloran, *Magna Cum Laude* ..... Fountain Inn, S.C.  
¥ Dylan Joseph Harrell, *Summa Cum Laude* ..... Ridgeway, S.C.  
Haley Keri Haselden .....(in absentia) ..... Hemingway, S.C.  
Gentry Morris Hawk III, *Cum Laude, Second Lieutenant, United States Army*..... Seneca, S.C.  
Isaiah Lugene Hawkins Jr. ....Greenville, S.C.  
† Jack Reed Henegan .....Greenville, S.C.  
† Obed John Hessou ..... Lawrenceville, Ga.  
Donovan Winston Hill ..... Irmo, S.C.  
¥ Kameron Bree Hinson, *Magna Cum Laude* ..... Rock Hill, S.C.  
Colleen Alyce Hirt, *Magna Cum Laude, Honors in Accounting*..... Seneca, S.C.  
Niklas Hoener, *Cum Laude*..... Bielefeld, Germany  
Tayler Patricia Hofmeister, *Magna Cum Laude* ..... Austin, Texas

Abbiegail Suzanna Hudson	Laurens, S.C.
† Carter Kip Huggins	Chapin, S.C.
Chase Lee Hughes, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Conway, S.C.
Riley Jaymes Hulett, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Orange Park, Fla.
Michael Ellis Iannacone, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Highland, N.C.
Jeremiah Lynell Jackson	Lexington, S.C.
Mallorie Aspen Jaeger, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Newberry, S.C.
Liliana Irene Jaraczewski, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Chemistry</i>	Greenville, S.C.
Layna Bay Johnson, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Aynor, S.C.
Madeline Rose Johnson, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Waynesboro, Pa.
Dessa Elizabeth Jones, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Greenville, S.C.
Jalen Kristopher Jones, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Charlotte, N.C.
Jermaine Alton Jones Jr.	Spartanburg, S.C.
Austin Jude Kenyon	Wrightsville Beach, N.C.
† David Alexandre' Kinard	Lexington, S.C.
Sean Patrick Klein, <i>Cum Laude</i> ..... ( <i>in absentia</i> )	Fort Worth, Texas
Bryanna Faith Klopfenstein, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Greenville, S.C.
Jose Omosigho Lado Okoro	Perales Del Rio, Madrid, Spain
Olivia Golden Lane	Greenwood, S.C.
¥ Kori Amanda Lawrence	Benson, N.C.
Mayah Codyn Lee, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Biology</i>	Camden, S.C.
† Bartley Dowd Leonard	Fort Mill, S.C.
Patrick Ronald Leonard, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Biology</i>	Rock Hill, S.C.
Thomas Bentley Liebenow ..... ( <i>in absentia</i> )	Columbia, S.C.
Cassandra R. Lopez	Ellicott City, Md.
¥ Gerard Lopez Forner	Silla, Valencia, Spain
Ansley Morgan Lowe, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Greenville, S.C.
Parker Thomas Maddrey, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Zebulon, Ga.
Stephanie Martinez, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Atlanta, Ga.
Ivy Brooke Massey	Fountain Inn, S.C.
¥ Colin Scott McCarl	Greenville, SC
Owen Cooper McCormack, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Advance, N.C.
Abigail Josephine McLaughlin	Mooresville, N.C.
Kyle Richard Merkle, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Valrico, Fla.
Charles Edwin Merrick IV	Charleston, S.C.
Matthew Bruce Miller, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Lexington, S.C.
† Laura Ann Moore	Westminster, S.C.
Caroline Tate Morgan, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Gaffney, S.C.
¥ Ashe-Leigh Jordan Morris	Union, S.C.
Jacob Ali Najmabadi ..... ( <i>in absentia</i> )	West Palm Beach, Fla.
Logan Sarratt Nichols	Spartanburg, S.C.
Nokkvi Már Nokkvason, <i>Cum Laude</i> ..... ( <i>in absentia</i> )	Vessmannaeyjar, Iceland
Matthew Thomas Nunnery, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Easley, S.C.
Carolay Ospina, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Atlanta, Ga.
† Mykayla Sanaa Overton	Summerville, S.C.
Ruta Gautam Patel, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Laurens, S.C.

† Yuktiben Piyushkumar Patel.....	Laurens, S.C.
Caroline Ashley Paterson.....	Mount Pleasant, S.C.
Aatara Danielle Payne.....	(in absentia) Union, S.C.
+ Marissa Drew Pettit, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> .....	(in absentia) Union, S.C.
Willie James Pontoon III .....	Laurens, S.C.
** Elaine Isabella Powers, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Psychology</i> .....	Lexington, S.C.
Aubree Me'Chelle Price .....	Sumter, S.C.
** Gracen Irene Price, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Ninety Six, S.C.
Kiersten Alyssa Price, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Gilbert, S.C.
Tanadjé' Jalay Price .....	Great Falls, S.C.
Isabella Patricia Theresa Quatraro, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> .....	Flowery Branch, Ga.
Jason Dalton Reeves.....	Lugoff, S.C.
¥ Chloe Jane Rice, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> .....	Richburg, S.C.
¥ Madeline Danielle Richburg, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> .....	Lugoff, S.C.
Brandon Marquis Rodgers, <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	Spartanburg, S.C.
Detrel Deion Rush .....	(in absentia) Andrews, S.C.
Hannah Michael Ryder, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Travelers Rest, S.C.
Olivia Marie Sadorf, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> .....	Chapin, S.C.
¥ Hailey Brooke Sanders, <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	Lancaster, S.C.
Sanford Deloach Satcher.....	(in absentia) Edgefield, S.C.
Kieran Dru Schuetterle .....	(in absentia) Chapin, S.C.
Hannah Leigh Schuetz .....	Cary, N.C.
Michael Nelson Senn Jr. ....	Greer, S.C.
Nathaniel Turner Simkins Jr., <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	North Augusta, S.C.
Sarah Elizabeth Smathers, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Honors in English and Psychology</i> .....	Jacksonville, Fla.
Emily Joan Smith, <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	York, S.C.
** Victoria Marie Snyder, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Simpsonville, S.C.
** Abigail Ann Sparkman, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Boise, Idaho
Madalyn Anne Stabler, <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	Lexington, S.C.
Isabelle Raye Stichnoth, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> .....	Clinton, S.C.
** Brandon John Stiff, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Psychology</i> .....	Lake Wylie, S.C.
Benjamin Loftis Stone, <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	Union, S.C.
Darrell Tyrese Taylor .....	Newberry, S.C.
** George Creighton Coleman Taylor, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Carlisle, S.C.
Dylan Matthew Thibault.....	Saint Augustine, Fla.
David Isaiah Thompson.....	Simpsonville, S.C.
† Hunter Chase Tinsley .....	Spartanburg, S.C.
Morgan Miller Todd .....	Conway, S.C.
¥ Cameron Blake Tyler.....	Latta, S.C.
† Marigordon Rae Varner.....	Laurens, S.C.
Jordyn Perry Wall .....	Rockingham, N.C.
Margaret Stewart Wannamaker, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> .....	Columbia, S.C.
† Campbell Alexander Watson.....	Fayetteville, N.C.
Makenna Kay Watt, <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	York, S.C.
Hannah Christine Watts, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> .....	Zanesville, Ohio

† Mason Orion Whatley .....	Augusta, Ga.
** Megan Danielle Whisonant, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Chemistry</i> .....	York, S.C.
Shelby Juliann White .....	(in absentia) .....
Matthew Hendricks Whittemore.....	Easley, S.C.
† Anna Marie Wicker .....	Newberry, S.C.
Emmalyn Caroline Williams, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> .....	Bamberg, S.C.
Megan Alexandra Wilson, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Honors in Biology</i> .....	Frederick, Md.
+ Amy Elise Wortkoetter, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> .....	(in absentia) .....
† Kennedy Bailey Wright .....	Greenville, S.C.
Logan Eric Ymker, <i>Cum Laude</i> .....	Sioux Falls, S.D.

\*\* Earned Two Bachelor's Degrees

+ Degree Plus Program (earned 2 degrees with PC School of Pharmacy)

† Anticipated Graduate

¥ August/December 2022 Graduate participating in ceremony

## HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT INFORMATION

### *William B. Shearer Jr. '64* *"Bill"*

William Shearer began his career as a lawyer in Macon, Ga. His career included small and large law firms in Fort Monmouth, N.J. (Army), Greenville, S.C., and Atlanta, Ga.

A native of Macon, Ga., Shearer is a graduate of Sidney Lanier High School and Presbyterian College with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. He is also a graduate of Mercer University Law School, the Judge Advocate General's School at the University of Virginia, and the New York University Graduate School (Taxation). While in the Army, he served with the Judge Advocate General's Corps, and he was a criminal prosecutor and defense lawyer who provided defense in one murder trial.

Shearer's principal area of legal services was serving as a tax and business lawyer helping clients in disputes with the IRS and State Taxing Authorities and in achieving their goals and ambitions in financing, growing, selling, and buying businesses. His largest tax case involved resolving a \$450 million plus assessment of tax interest and penalties for an individual. His work with the International Association of Financial Planning (IAFP) allowed him to serve clients in various roles over the years, including: National IAFP officer-director, president, chairman of the board, chairman, IAFP World Congress, London, England, and Trustee and Director of IAFP Foundation. The acquisitions he managed involved purchases and sales of businesses with assets in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Canada, Mexico, Panama, France, England, and Russia. The total value of these exceeded \$40 billion.

Although, Shearer has a lengthy list of well-known clients and companies, some of the most notable individuals and sports clients were: Yvonne Goolagong, the Australian and former number one world women's tennis player, whom he accompanied the last two times she played at Wimbledon; Bjorn Borg, Swedish former number one world men's tennis player; James Brown, "the Hardest Working Man in Show Business," and the Angels baseball team.

While always an entrepreneur and investor, Shearer was also a member of numerous legal organizations, published in various legal publications, presented at seminars, held advisory positions with many companies, taught as an adjunct professor at Georgia State University, and retired senior partner in the Atlanta office of an international law firm with 20 offices worldwide and more than 1,000 lawyers.

Shearer contributed greatly in the areas of civic and social activities. He worked with the Planned Giving Committee of Mercer University Law School and was chair of the Mercer Law School Board. He held positions with the Atlanta History Center, Kappa Alpha Order Alumni Association, Leadership Georgia, United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Atlanta, Gridiron Secret Society, Peachtree Racket Club, Board of Directors North Atlanta Teen Center, Lake Burton Civic Association Board of Directors, Waterfall Country Club Advisory Board, Burge Plantation, Capital City Club, and the Cherokee Town & Country Club. He and his wife are patrons to many organizations of civic and cultural significance. They are members at All Saints Episcopal Church in Atlanta, Ga.

He also served Presbyterian College as a committed and generous board member for the Board of Visitors, Board of Trustees, and PC Foundation. He also served as chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Shearer's most notable sporting achievements include: the London, England Marathon in 1984. In 1987, he and his 14-year-old son ran the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, DC. The reason they ran the Marine Corps instead of the Boston or New York is because there was an age qualifier of having to be 18 to run them. When Shearer inquired about an age requirement for the Marine Corps Marathon, the Marine on the phone said "Sir, if your son thinks he's man enough to finish, we will sign him up!"

Mr. Shearer and his wife are now retired, managing three homes: on the beach in Destin, Fla; in the North Georgia Mountains on Lake Burton; and in Atlanta, Georgia. They also travel and recently returned from three weeks in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Egypt. They are a blessed Christian family that has believed in and followed PC's motto "Dum Vivimus Servimus" during their working years and now in retirement. With a combined family of seven children (and their spouses), eighteen grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, retirement is better than they ever expected.



PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE  
ALMA MATER

Alma Mater, Hail to thee

Everyone sings praise to thee,

Thou art built on faith,

We have faith in thee,

Here we stand now, side by side,

Singing praise to thee.

Great Presbyterian! Hail to thee!

— William P. Jacobs III '40

*The Junior Marshals*

Amanda Melissa Bailey '25..... Leesville, S.C.  
Patrick Alexander Buchannan '25..... Myrtle Beach, S.C.  
Kathryn Elizabeth Dover '24..... Inman, S.C.  
Landon Isaiah Norizsan '24..... West Union, S.C.