



## **David A. Dawson** **Class of 1956**

Dave graduated from Fort Hill High School in 1956 as a three-year letterman in football - including making the All-City team his senior year. After graduating from Strayer College, he worked with the accounting firm, Councilor, Buchanan & Mitchell, and subsequently with the American Personnel and Guidance Association and Urban America. In 1970 Dave took a position with the fledgling non-profit Common Cause and through his audit work on the Committee to Re-Elect the President, played a pivotal role in unraveling the Watergate scandal.

Tired of the political spotlight, Dave became EVP of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and revolutionized the process of donor fundraising - leveraging the baseline analytics that evolved into the data management activities of such firms as Amazon and Google.

In 1978 the David Dawson Company was established. Within five years, it was the second largest fundraising firm of its kind - with a special focus on environmental conservation and cultural organizations. Upon closing the business in 2009, Dave served on the Johns Hopkins Presidential Strategic Planning Committee as well as the boards of the National Salvation Army, and Handgun Control, Inc. He also served as a Patient Advocate for the National Cancer Institute.

Dave passed away on January 1, 2017 leaving behind his wife of 58 years (Marian), two sons, one daughter and eight grandchildren. At his passing, Dave ended his reign as Johns Hopkins longest surviving metastatic prostate cancer patient - having had the disease for over 20 years.