DTH/EMILY SCHNUR

## **Mann Closes J-School Chapter**

## JEREMY BRADLEY Staff Writer

Of the many impressions Professor Raleigh Mann has left at the University, one seems to be a little deeper than the others. His sincere interest in students has been noted from administrators to colleagues to stu-0000

dents themselves. Mann retired from teaching in the School of Journalism and M a s Communication on June 22 after 22 the at years



retirement leaves the University with one less genuinely interested and dedicated teacher, yet allows him to pursue his variety of outside interests.

Some said Mann's journalism knowl-edge was part of what made him such an excellent teacher.

"He knows his subject in and out," said fellow journalism professor Jim Shumaker. "He's an expert in news-ed, page design, headline writing, copy editing and basically anything else in the field."



Mann's rise to expertise began in Florida where he worked for several diffiorida where ne worked for several in-ferent publications including The Miami Herald. He moved to Chapel Hill in 1977 to become Assistant Director for Medical Center Public Affairs, then joined the journalism school one year

Mann's role at the journalism school proved to be an integral one, helping to shape the school into what is consistent-

ly considered among the country's best "The curriculum has changed to reflect what's going on in the information world, so I try and balance my aching to best prepare my students," Mann said.

This "balance" has certainly worked said Tom Bowers, associate dean of the journalism school.

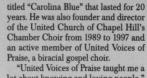
"I've had more than one graduate say that Raleigh Mann's course was one of the most challenging and most helpful to their career; and these are former stu-dents who have gone on to do great things," Bowers said.

But many said Mann is more than just an excellent teacher. He served as adviser for the Society of Professional Journalists since 1986. He also received the David Brinkley Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1996 and was named one of the University's Favorite Faculty in 1997. These accolades are a of what Bowers described as Mann's high standards and sincere concern over students and what they learn.

Mann's passion and dedication are not solely reserved for the classroom. He is extremely active in his church, the United Church of Chapel Hill. Reverend Richard Edens called Mann a highly involved member.

An active participant in several professional and community theatre groups, Mann also loves music. Coming from what he describes as a "blue-collar family from Baltimore," Mann's parents helped develop these passions by "always finding a way to expose us to great music, theatre, live performances and having a piano in the

Mann's life. Psychology Professor Joe Lowman, a long-time friend of Mann's, describes him as "a musician, singer, actor and lover of fine music." In 1978,



lot about knowing and loving people," said Mann. This theme has permeated his life and has been a motivating factor for several years.

In 1997, Mann underwent major heart surgery. "Something like that changes you,

you start being grateful for every new day and you truly begin to cherish and value experiences," he said. Mann likened his new lifestyle to the

idea of showing St. Peter a videotape of his life upon reaching the Pearly Gates. He wants to look at his actions and be

"You start behaving as though time were limited," he said. "You start loving people in spite of things. I really am grateful for every day and I make the most of it."

Mann plans to make the most of retirement by "turning off the alarm

clock and not grading papers," he said. Mann will spend some of his free time helping edit a friend's book. He said he might also try his hand at fiction writing

He plans to stay involved with the journalism school, possibly teaching part-time or speaking at workshops.

When Mann retired, the University lost no only a stellar teacher, but a man with a genuine reverence for life

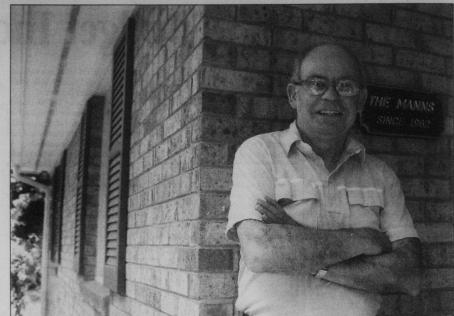
"Give as much as you can and don't be afraid to love people," Mann advised students. "Keeping your guard up, feel-ing vulnerable and thinking about your own personal agenda makes you lose track of what life's about. Life is about

making yourself a better person." A cardinal rule in the journalism school is to write with perfect grammar. In this case, when a news-editing spe-cialist is the subject of the story, a writer feels a special desire to abide by this rule. With any luck, Mann's retirement story (and its editing) will reflect the dedication to perfection he showed throughout his career.

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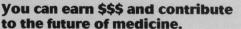
Retiring Professor Raleigh Mann has been teaching journalism students the ropes for 22 years. His passion, dedication and enthusiasm for his students and for the University will be missed, but fondly remembered.



DID I LEAPT INTO ACTION







house," he said. Music has played a key role in Mann founded a barbershop quartet CHAPEL HILL'S ORIGINAL IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT

W. B. YEATS

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