



Photo by Theresa Darma-Douglas

After graduation from Nevada, Frank Randall '56 (business administration) worked at Dean Witter & Co. in Reno from 1956 to 1959, before moving to Southern California. Frank has worked as a bank director and as director of an international medical corporation. He is retired from the U.S. Naval Reserve as lieutenant commander. Frank first came to Nevada as a teenager, working odd jobs at Lake Tahoe during summer vacations. He was named University Alumnus of the Year in 2005. He and his wife, Joan, live in Newport Beach, Calif. Their generosity served as the lead gift in building the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, which opened to the public on Aug. 11.

What role did the University have in the choices you have made in your life?

The education I received at the University enabled me to get my start in business and as a stockbroker. That business required interest in virtually everything that is happening anywhere in the world at all times. That interest has carried on and I find it difficult to ignore current events in business and politics that others might not find relevant, even though I am not as personally involved anymore.

My hope is that the Knowledge Center will

Frank Randall stands proudly in front of the Randall Rotunda at the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center opening reception on Aug. 7.

provide the facility for research for students in all the disciplines offered at Nevada. It is certainly well named and will be a true storehouse of knowledge for decades of students to come.

What have you done that you are most proud of?

I will answer that after stating that what I am most proud of is my family.

My wife, Joan, is someone who has introduced me to so many sides of the arts, literature and philosophy that I had not thought much about before, being previously more interested in Wall Street and real estate.

My children are both something to be proud of when I think of their accomplishments. My son is highly regarded among his fellow faculty where he teaches. My daughter is well on her way to becoming a successful artist and she and her partner are involved in rehabilitation of the historic district of the small Midwestern town where they live. I can't leave out my grandchildren, who are all receiving top grades at school and are interested in extracurricular activities.

I am also proud of the building complexes I built that employ many hundreds, and which I have since sold. I am proud to be involved in many land conservation organizations and hope someday to do something big in that field. I was able to provide the impetus for saving some of the undeveloped land in my hometown, South Pasadena, Calif. while serving as a city councilman. Finally, my ability to give financial help in the fight against animal exploitation has also been most gratifying.

What advice would you give someone just starting out after college?

My advice to graduates is to be very selective in where they work and in what industry they choose. If they have the time and opportunity to intern before graduation, they should do so. If they find something that they are very attracted to, the initial salary and location should not be the determining factors.