MARGARET “PEGGY” WADE, BSN ’63
CARRINGTON AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Margaret Sutton Wade (better known as “Nurse Peggy”) is a 1963 graduate of the UNC School of Nursing. Nurse Peggy began her career at Bethesda Hospital in uptown New York before raising a family of three children at Army base residences in Germany and the U.S. Following a miraculous healing in her own life at age 46, Nurse Peggy returned to her career and started a new series of accomplishments in the medical field. In 1991, she started a camp in North Carolina where teenagers are trained to care for physically disabled teens. She has led eleven medical mission trips to Honduras, and she has provided medical foster care to 129 children. Nurse Peggy has trained CHA students for over 25 years, and she currently works as a nursing case manager. Nurse Peggy credits her training at UNC for giving her the sense of total patient care that has enabled her to serve the medical field in a wide range of capacities for over 50 years.

ERNEST J. GRANT, PHD, RN, FAAN
HONORARY ALUMNIUS OF THE YEAR

Currently vice president of the American Nurses Association (ANA), Ernest J. Grant, PhD, RN, FAAN, has more than 30 years of nursing and leadership experience. Grant is an internationally recognized burn-care and fire-safety expert and serves as the burn outreach coordinator for the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center at University of North Carolina (UNC) Hospitals in Chapel Hill. In this role, Grant oversees burn education for physicians, nurses and other allied health care personnel and runs the center’s nationally acclaimed Burn Prevention Program, which promotes safety and works to reduce burn-related injuries through public education and the legislative process. Grant also serves as adjunct faculty for the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Nursing, where he works with undergraduate and graduate nursing students in the classroom and clinical settings.

Grant is frequently sought out for his expertise as a clinician and educator. In addition to being a prolific speaker, he has conducted numerous burn education courses with various branches of the U.S. military in preparation for troops’ deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. In 2002, President George W. Bush presented Grant with a Nurse of the Year Award for his work treating burn victims from the World Trade Center site. In 2013, Grant received the B.T. Fowler Lifetime Achievement Award from the North Carolina Fire and Life Safety Education Council for making a difference in preventing the devastating effects of fire and burn injuries and deaths within the state.

An active leader in professional organizations, Grant is currently chair of the National Fire Protection Association board of directors and second vice president of the American Burn Association board of trustees. He also holds membership in Sigma Theta Tau, Chi Eta Phi and The American Assembly for Men in Nursing. In 2011, he was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, making him one of approximately 2,500 RNs across the nation to be bestowed this honor out of the 33 million Registered Nurses practicing in the U.S. Grant served as president of the North Carolina Nurses Association from 2009-11. In 2002, ANA honored Grant with the Honorary Nursing Practice Award for his contributions to the advancement of nursing practice through strength of character, commitment, and competence.

Grant holds a BSN degree from North Carolina Central University and MSN and PhD degrees from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He is the first male elected to the office of vice president of the American Nurses Association.