

The Ottawa University Alumni Association Awards
The Esther Ruth Award
To
Edith (Carter) '54 and Eldon Rader



You can always tell when it's about time for the college students to return to Ottawa University – suddenly the OU flag is flying at 1335 S. Mulberry Street, the home of Edith and Eldon Rader.

Edith Carter Rader graduated with the infamous and enthusiastic Class of 1954 and has maintained her interest in campus life ever since. Her husband Eldon has become a dedicated OU supporter in his own right. Most anytime anything is happening on campus where volunteers are needed, you can count on the Raders pitching in to help enhance the experience.

Edith and Eldon often helped host the volunteer breakfast during the years when that was a tradition on campus. In more recent times, Edith's cookies have helped to welcome new students on move-in day, and

both she and Eldon have staffed the alumni greeter tents, making the youngsters welcome. The Raders almost always host a group of new students for dinner in their home during their first night in Ottawa.

Edith and Eldon can often be found with their friends among fans in the stands for OU football and basketball games. And it's reported that Eldon frequently rides his mower over to the baseball and soccer fields to watch the action there. They are almost always among those riding the OU bus to important out-of-town contests.

As a former music major, Edith enjoys frequenting the concerts and performances on campus and Eldon accompanies her from time to time. Edith substitutes on the Chapel organ when needed, is the full-time organist at First Baptist Church, and teaches numerous music students in their home.

When the request went out last year for alumni volunteers for Student Appreciation week, Edith and Eldon were among the first to answer the call. They enjoy visiting with current students and, for many years, "adopted" students through the First Baptist Church.

For their long-term, enthusiastic support of campus life, Edith and Eldon Rader are being recognized with the 2005 Esther Ruth Award.

Spring 2005

Esther Ruth Award

This award recognizes volunteer service to enhance student life at The College and for the benefit of Ottawa University. Established in 1987, only one such award may be given each year.