

## The Class of 1998 Selects...

### John W. Gumpper (Class of 1936)



"The man who gave Butler its look." As a young man, Gumpper worked in the advertising department of American Bantam Car Company. He also drew editorial cartoons for the Butler Eagle. Except for a correspondence course from the Chicago Art Institute, Gumpper's artistic skills are self-taught.

John Gumpper began his career in design with the former Walter Wimer & Associates, a Butler architectural firm, where he worked for 28 years. Some designs include the Sunnyview Nursing Home and several buildings for Mine Safety Appliances. From 1975 to 1985, Gumpper created designs for the Butler County Planning Commission, including the renovation of the Lafayette Building and the Butler County Courthouse. The Butler County Vietnam Memorial in Diamond Park was the design of John Gumpper. He has contributed the cover designs for more than 50 Butler County Symphony Orchestra programs. Gumpper illustrated three publications for Butler High School - "Favorite Sons and Sons of Guns," "Silent Heroes Among Us," and

the high school alumni directory. Music is another talent Gumpper developed with no formal training. He plays the tenor and soprano saxophones and formed his own orchestra and jazz band in the 1970s.

He is a board member of the Associated Artists of Butler County and Butler County Symphony Association. Gumpper has won numerous awards including: The American Legion Award for Volunteer Service, The Butler County Chamber of Commerce Senior Distinguished Service Award, and Rotary Club's Paul Harris Fellowship.