In the world of professional sport, the great ones are often known just by their first names: Pele, Magic, Tiger, Kobe.

In the world of Dartmouth class presidents, the great one we honor this year is known simply by a letter: "H."

H. Randall Morgan has guided the great Class of 1987 by combining his own personal energy, a commitment to building community, a goal-setting and goal-achieving spirit, and a keen sense of teamwork to encourage and motivate his fellow officers.

The 25th Reunion was not simply a mountaintop to rest on, but a platform for the future, as H. worked in earnest with incoming president Tracey Salmon-Smith to recruit a new team of officers to build on ’87’s success for the next five years. Throughout his term, H., along with his leadership team, focused on improving the Class of 1987’s arsenal of communications tools, setting metrics for those tools, and made strategic use of shorter but more frequent newsletters to build 25th Reunion participation. Traditional communications tools such as the newsletter and Class Notes were supported by regular use of email blasts and social networking through LinkedIn and Facebook that reach more than 350 classmates. Class identity and unity have been fostered by off-year gatherings, including ’87’s 11th annual 87th Night of the Year mini-reunion that has now gone national. This focus on community and a spirit of giving resulted in the Class of 1987 raising more than $5 million for the Dartmouth College Fund at its 25th reunion.

Under his tenure, the Class of 1987 steadily built support for its scholarship program, and celebrated at its 25th reunion the graduation from Dartmouth of the first Class of 1987 scholar.

But that’s not all. H. served ably and energetically as the president of the Class Presidents Association from 2010 to 2011, helping design a Class Officers Weekend last year that was aimed at introducing student leaders to alumni leaders and laying the groundwork for a re-examination of Alumni Relations’ annual class reporting system. Working with H. was a seminar in people-driven leadership.

H., a cum laude graduate of Dartmouth, with honors in his major subject of Russian, demonstrated his personal energy and intellectual curiosity as an undergraduate, as a member of the African Drumming Ensemble and by participating in theater, the Russian Club and the Russian Choir, in crew, and as a member of Zeta Psi. It should not surprise anyone that this leader with a gift for communication is president and CEO of a firm, Morgan Language Services, that specializes in serving government and corporate clients’ foreign language needs, from French and Spanish to Arabic and Pashtun.

H. and his wife, Lynn, live in Potomac, Maryland, with their children Daniel, Kate, and Natalie.

It has been a privilege to serve with you, H., on the class executive committee and to learn from you, and it is an even greater privilege to honor you as our President of the Year.