UW’s 1982 Distinguished Alum

in Rawlins, with the proceeds going to fund youth activities and scholarships. Neuman is also a director of the Rawlins National Bank, a member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity and a recipient of the Wyoming State Kiwanis Club Distinguished Service Award, an honor made all the more special because Neuman is a member of the Rawlins Rotary Club.

Neuman is a life-long member of the UW Alumni Association and serves as a trustee of the University of Wyoming Foundation. He has also served as vice president of the Wyoming Trucking Association.

With such a distinguished and impressive background, Neuman was still surprised by his selection as one of this year’s Distinguished Alumni. “I am deeply flattered and honored that the UW Alumni Association has chosen me,” Neuman said. “One reason I am so pleased is that my mother, who will be 92 this October 4, will be able to come down to Laramie during Homecoming for the ceremony. The family is looking forward to having her there with us. It will be a very special day for all of us.”

Robert Outsen, BA ’29, MA ’34

Soldier, Teacher, Public servant, Civic Leader.

It sounds like a history book description of George Washington — but those distinguished labels also apply to Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Robert Outsen, a man who has literally dedicated a lifetime — more than fifty years — to public service.

“I suppose my distinction is that I have not confined all my activities to business and professional life,” Outsen says. “My background has been very broad and it would be hard for me to pinpoint any one thing as the most important. I have been a teacher, a soldier, a public servant and a civic leader. Those four areas identify Bob Outsen, I think.”

Outsen came to the University of Wyoming in the fall of 1925 as an all-state center from Rock Springs. He earned four letters in basketball, was a member of Iron Stull, Scabard and Blade, “W” Club and served as vice president of his sophomore class. Outsen graduated from the University with a bachelor of arts in 1929, a year which did not offer great opportunities so young men fresh out of college.

“I was supposed to have been a geologist, but there were just no jobs to be had,” Outsen remembers. “I took a job coaching and teaching at Mountain High School. I had to take education courses to qualify for a temporary teaching certificate. At that time, anyone who could get a job of some kind was lucky.”

1936 he was appointed deputy state superintendent of public instruction, and he later served as deputy secretary of state for Wyoming.

A reserve officer with the 415th U.S. Army Reserve Regiment, Outsen was called up to active duty in 1940 as a captain. By the time the war ended he was a lieutenant colonel serving in the Philippines.

Outsen continued to serve in the military after the war, and in 1958 assumed the duties of professor of military science at the University of Wyoming. He retired with the rank of brigadier general in 1961.

Since his retirement, Outsen has been an active and dedicated civic leader, devoting his energies to a wide spectrum of areas, from chairing the board of the Wyoming Olympic Committee to serving as a member of the Legislative Executive Commission on Reorganization of State Government, appointed by Gov. Stan Hathaway. Outsen is a former board member of the UW Alumni Association and has served as president of the Wyoming Heart Association, Cheyenne Quarterback Club, Young Men’s Literary Club of Cheyenne, Cheyenne Kiwanis Club, Laramie County United Way, and in 1975 he was honored by the Cheyenne Chamber of Commerce as that city’s “Man of the Year.”

“It is important for an individual to keep adding to the accomplishments of life,” Outsen says. “The longer you live, the better your record should look.”


Jack Rosenthal, BA ’52

Jack Rosenthal describes himself as a “jovial old fogy.”

“I think the thing which has highlighted my relations with the University of Wyoming has been one of its severest critics,” Rosenthal says. “I try to keep the folks in Laramie on their toes, offering constructive criticism in an effort to improve the University.”

Throughout his distinguished career in broadcasting, Rosenthal has been behind the microphone and the pen, pointing out flaws in the University’s structure and system. But at the same time he has also put money where his mouth is, contributing to the University by supporting several scholarship programs and serving as a director of the UW Foundation’s Millard L. Simpson Endowment.

“Nothing can ever say that I have been a cheerleader,” Rosenthal says. “I believe the University is always open to improvement, and I have seen a great deal of improve-