



CAL MARITIME

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**NEW CAL MARITIME RESIDENCE HALL NAMED IN HONOR OF
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AND BENEFACTOR
CAPT. ROBERT MCALLISTER**



(Vallejo, CA – Sept. 22, 2009)...Cal Maritime's new 132-bed residence hall will officially be named McAllister Hall in recognition of distinguished alumnus Robert McAllister (1942) and his late wife Edith. The honor was ratified today by the Board of Trustees of the California State University at their September meeting in Long Beach. McAllister is the largest private donor to Cal Maritime. The endowment earnings from his contributions have helped numerous Cal Maritime students stay in school and complete their educations through ongoing scholarship support.

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McAllister graduated from Cal Maritime at the start of WW II and quickly earned his Coast Guard licensure as a vessel captain. During the war he skippered numerous Liberty ships...the workhorses of the Allied fleet, ferrying men and materiel to locations throughout the Pacific, including initial landings at Iwo Jima. Immediately after the war he helped transport relief supplies to Europe.

McAllister became a pilot on the Panama Canal in 1951 and held that post for the next 24 years until his retirement in 1975. That was also where he met his wife of 48 years, the late Edith Trowbridge McAllister.

McAllister made a habit of continually investing part of his earnings as a pilot in the stocks of blue-chip companies, and those investments grew over the years into a sizable portfolio which he used to create the Robert and Edith McAllister Endowment at the California Maritime Foundation.

Asked about his contributions, McAllister said, "It just seemed natural to give back to the school that did so much to help me start my long career as a captain and pilot. I hope in future years today's students will give back to the school so another generation of cadets can have the chance to complete their education as I did."

President William B. Eisenhardt and Vice President for Advancement Tom Dunworth said ceremonies dedicating the Robert and Edith McAllister Residence Hall are scheduled during Homecoming weekend, on Saturday, October 10, 2009. The Fall, 2009 issue of the campus magazine *Cal Maritime*, now being mailed to University alumni and friends, also features a cover photo of Mr. McAllister and an article about his career and his generous gifts to the University. (A copy of the latest issue can also be found on the Cal Maritime website via a hotlink from the home page – www.csum.edu.)

"While we would have loved to have Mr. McAllister join us for the ceremonies in his honor next month," said President Eisenhardt, "his advanced age made the travel involved an impossibility. However, he will be with us in spirit in October as we dedicate our newest building in his honor."

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