

The Rose-Mary Rumbley Library

During Homecoming celebrations at Dallas Baptist University, the University dedicated the new Rose-Mary Rumbley Room in the Vance Memorial Library of the Collins Learning Center.

Dr. Rumbley, whose career has ranged from teacher, actress, historian, humorist, and author, has been a beloved member of Dallas Baptist University since the school's relocation to Dallas over forty years ago. From 1965 to 1977, Dr. Rumbley taught communication arts and led the drama department at Dallas Baptist, in what she calls the greatest years of her life. After a tenure of speaking and writing full-time, she returned to DBU in 1991 as an adjunct professor—and was eventually recognized as a Distinguished Adjunct Professor.

An experienced stage and screen actress, Dr. Rumbley has appeared in several Dallas Summer Musicals, as well as the film *Paper Moon* and other made-for-television movies. She was the long-time columnist of a weekly feature in the *Oak Cliff Tribune*,

and she is the author of several books about the history of the city of Dallas. Throughout all of her various roles, Dr. Rumbley has always collected books. Whether biographies, fiction, non-fiction, or even cookbooks, Dr. Rumbley's long list of interests have kept her library varied.

On February 15, 1996, in her *Oak Cliff Tribune* column "Not So Faded Memories," Dr. Rumbley joked that she suffered from *bibliomania*—a fanatical collecting of books. She stated, "Most bibliomaniacs find a college that wants the valuable tomes. Here's what I plan to do. Stand by, Dr. Gary Cook. When my collecting proves fatal, the books go to Dallas Baptist University."

Dr. Rumbley kept her promise, donating all of her books to the University's library earlier this year. "I want my books to be read and enjoyed by all," expressed Dr. Rumbley, "all those who are in need of the materials my books can furnish, all those who need added information for a research project, and all those who just like to read."

After the dedication of the library, the University also honored Dr. Rumbley with the title of Honorary Alumna at the University's Homecoming Dinner.



Dr. Rose-Mary Rumbley (center left), along with her daughter and son-in-law, Ken and Jill Beam (left), daughter-in-law, Karen Rumbley (center right), grandson Scotty, and son, Phil Rumbley (right), at the dedication ceremony.