

# 2006

# C O M M E N C E M E N T



167th Annual Commencement

Miami University

Saturday, May 6, 2006

Yager Stadium, 3 p.m.

Oxford, Ohio



# MIAMI UNIVERSITY

# THE HONORARY DEGREES

*Harvard was the first university to confer honorary degrees in 1692. Prominent in the professions and the community, honorary degree recipients are recognized for their distinguished achievements in their respective endeavors and for the contributions their accomplishments make to the life of the university and the betterment of society.*

## **Arthur D. Collins Jr. Doctor of Laws**

Arthur D. Collins, Jr. grew up in a medical family and developed a keen interest in the power of medical discovery to improve people's lives. Instead of becoming a doctor like his father, however, he has risen to the leadership of the world's largest medical technology company.

Mr. Collins is Chairman and CEO of Minneapolis-based Medtronic, Inc., which maintains a presence in more than 120 countries and employs more than 34,000 people. The statistic that Mr. Collins prefers to cite, however, is that every six seconds, someone somewhere in the world receives a Medtronic product that either saves or significantly improves his or her life. Medtronic is continually recognized for its strong corporate governance and its commitment to philanthropy and community involvement. In this year's *Fortune* magazine list of the "Most Admired" U.S. companies, Medtronic was first in its industry category.

Mr. Collins graduated from Miami University in 1969 with a B.S. degree in business administration. He subsequently served as an officer in the U.S. Navy and then earned an MBA from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He began his professional career as a consultant with Booz, Allen & Hamilton and then joined Abbott Laboratories. In 1992 Collins accepted the position of Corporate Executive Vice President and President of Medtronic International. He became the corporate CEO in 2001 and Chairman in 2002.

Collins serves on the Board of Directors of U.S. Bancorp and Cargill, Inc. He is a member of the Board of Overseers of the Wharton School and a member of the Board of The Institute of Health Technology Studies. He remains active in a variety of community and volunteer activities.