



**Earl Deal '66**

**Professor Emeritus, Gentleman Farmer**

For the College of Natural Resources' 2006 Outstanding Alumnus, Christmas is yearlong endeavor.

Dr. Earl Deal is president of Cranberry Tree Services, owner of Smokey Holler Tree Farm and professor emeritus in the College of Natural Resources Department of Wood and Paper Science. After a 25-year career at NC State, Earl retired to help manage more than 250,000 Christmas trees with his wife and son. But don't think for a moment that this gentleman farmer is taking retirement seriously. He is a member of more than 10 professional and civic organizations and societies, including the board of directors of the Mount Rogers and Alleghany County Christmas Tree Associations. He chairs prominent committees for both the North Carolina and National Christmas Tree Associations.

In 2005, Earl had the distinct honor of providing the official White House Christmas tree. At NC State, Earl and his family have established the Deal Family Christmas Tree Research Endowment, and he actively encourages his fellow tree growers to contribute to the college's research funds. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Earl Deal.