UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING SOCIETY

IN MEMORIAM

VIRGINIA CAMPANA

Whereas Virginia and her twin sister, Mary Lou Campana, were exceptionally close siblings whose interests included world travel, the study of languages and dialects, the love of animals, and a shared belief in the power of philanthropy;

Whereas, inspired by her parents’ belief in the importance of service to others, Virginia served as a devoted volunteer at St. Paul Cathedral for a number of years and, together with Mary Lou, made many gifts to numerous social service organizations, public libraries, religious groups, and animal rights and protection agencies and established the Trixie Puff Foundation and the Caesar Puff Foundation, named in honor of their beloved family pets;

Whereas Virginia and Mary Lou maintained close, long-lasting friendships with members of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg faculty and provided support to the University of Pittsburgh, including a gift made by Mary Lou to establish the Dr. and Mrs. Fred T. Campana Endowment Fund in memory of their parents;

Whereas Virginia made an extraordinary bequest to Pitt-Greensburg in memory of her sister to construct the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center, a beautiful facility that has become a centerpiece of the Pitt-Greensburg campus and provides an inspirational space for educational programs, artistic performances; and special events celebrated by Pitt students, staff, faculty, and alumni; and

Whereas Virginia and Mary Lou Campana’s lifelong devotion to the welfare of animals and their deep religious beliefs are represented in the Campana Chapel and Lecture Center’s stained glass windows, which depict the Peaceable Kingdom, a series of paintings by 19th-century painter and Quaker preacher Edward Hicks, who used animal imagery to convey a biblical message of peace,

Now, therefore, in recognition of her extraordinary generosity and commitment to the University of Pittsburgh, I hereby induct, posthumously, Virginia Campana into the Cathedral of Learning Society.

Presented by
Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg,
the 25th day of June 2010

The Cathedral of Learning is the most widely recognized symbol of the University of Pittsburgh, representing the University’s highest aspirations and serving as an enduring monument to the spirit of philanthropy.

The Cathedral of Learning Society pays tribute to those outstanding individuals whose remarkable leadership support inspires others to recognize the transforming power of knowledge. Induction into the Cathedral of Learning Society is among the highest honors that the University bestows.