

## THAYER TUTT SPORTSMAN AWARD

*The Thayer Tutt Sportsman Award is presented annually by the Colorado Springs Sports Corporation to an individual in recognition of exceptional philanthropic and community sports support, as well as on the national sports stage.*



### BARBARA YALICH

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Dubbed the “Girl of the Golden West” by her friends, Barbara Neeley found more than she bargained for when she arrived at Colorado College in the fall of 1949. There she met her late husband, Milo “Mike” Yalich, a World War II veteran and star on the 1950 NCAA Champion Colorado College Tigers Hockey Team. Yalich became a lifelong sports fan and launched a career in public service and higher education that lasts to this day.

Yalich served with Colorado College in Alumni Relations and Development from 1974 to 1996 as the first female Vice President for Development. She was a constant advocate for the Tiger athletic programs, heading up fundraising drives for renovations to Honnen Ice Arena, Reid Gymnasium and Washburn Field, and special gifts for multiple sports programs.

Her long and distinguished career spans some of the most tumultuous and important times in CC history - from the implementation of the block plan in 1970, to the Vietnam War protests and construction of The Broadmoor World Arena. In 2015, CC honored her with a very special surprise naming an important room in the newly redeveloped Spencer Center as the “Barbara L. Yalich Class of 1953 Boardroom.”

Yalich was present at the creation of Citizens Goals at the Keystone retreat in 1976 that led to today’s Leadership Pikes Peak. Her civic involvement and commitment to the community included efforts on behalf of Grace Episcopal Church, Junior League, and serving as a board member of the Chamber of Commerce, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Colorado Springs Philharmonic and Pikes Peak Mental Health. She was also on the founding board of The Broadmoor World Arena and served on its board of directors for more than a decade.