

Compass Supporters Honored by ACLU

This past February the ACLU presented a certificate of appreciation to Canon Richard Nolan and Robert Pingpank for Exceptional Leadership and Devoted Community Service. They have also been widely recognized for their long lasting commitment to each other. Their love, work and involvement with the community and Compass is greatly appreciated. Dick & Bob have supported Compass for many years, they have recently made a capital campaign pledge which among other things will secure, through a historic partnership with the city of Lake Worth, the future home of Compass for the next 20 years.

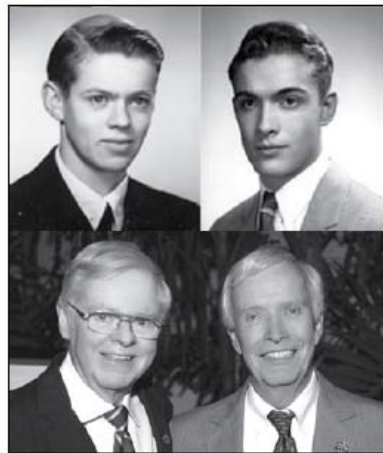
In love since the Eisenhower administration, Dick and Bob met at a picnic during their freshman orientation week at Trinity College. Now together for 50 years, they live in West Palm Beach, where they were the first couple in the city to register as domestic partners in February of 2005. Says Bob of their relationship, "We're like any other couple that's been together for so long - we finish each other's sentences, walk our dogs, and just enjoy each other's company."

For most of their life, Dick and Bob lived a quiet life in Connecticut. Because Dick was an Episcopal priest and Bob was a high school math teacher, both of them worried what would happen to their careers if they were found out.

The couple retired in 1994 and moved to Florida. They worry about visiting each other in the hospital, their ability to make emergency medical decisions for each other, and whether their wishes with regard to burial arrangements will be honored.

"Our domestic partner registration is the only document we have that proves we're not strangers. It seems so unfair and wrong that people would want to amend our constitution in a way that would jeopardize what few protections we have for our relationship," said Dick.

To learn more about Bob and Dick or to contact them please visit their website Nolan-Pingpank.com, the online book *Soul Mates: More than Partners* has been well received and used as a case study in some colleges and religious groups.



Bob and Dick - the year they met and today.