Robert Rubright graduated from Westminster in 1953 with a degree in English. He was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, the editor-in-chief of The Columns and active in many organizations and committees.

Rubright began his professional career as feature writer for the *Minneapolis Star* in the late 1950s. “I remember interviewing Judy Garland, John Foster Dulles, and Harry Truman, my favorite,” Rubright recalls. “Back then access to presidents was easy. I simply walked out onto the airport apron, jumped in the backseat of a big black limo, and casually chatted one-on-one with Truman. Discussing our common admiration for Westminster probably got me 15 more minutes with him.”

Rubright returned to St. Louis in 1960 to enter a new field – not-for-profit public relations and marketing. He was the public, patient, employee relations, and development director for The Jewish Hospital of St. Louis. Later, Rubright co-authored *Marketing Health and Human Services* and *Persuading Physicians: A Guide for Hospital Executives*. These two books were considered pioneering efforts in helping to develop some of the first hospital marketing and physician relations departments in American hospitals.

Continuing his pursuit of institutional marketing, Rubright took a position as a partner at Frank-James Productions in Clayton, Missouri in the mid 1960s. He soon acquired the Westminster College account where he developed a prototype college magazine that won many national awards. He was in on the early details and promotion of the budding Churchill Memorial project and joined Dr. Robert L. D. Davidson in Washington, DC in 1964 to sponsor Truman’s 80th birthday party.

Rubright remembers, “Larry and I represented Westminster that night. Lyndon Johnson was there and so was Henry A. Wallace, James A. Farley, Gen. Omar Bradley, George Jessel and countless other icons. We were both agog with excitement.”

For decades to come, Rubright ran his own consulting firm with clients locally and nationally. In St. Louis, he was board president of Mount St. Rose Hospital, the American Lung Association of Eastern Missouri and Washington University’s Child Guidance Clinic. He was the first board marketing chair of the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and once was interim president of what is now Dance St. Louis. As a board member of the St. Louis Mercantile Library, oldest private library west of the Mississippi, he organized the first Friends of Mercantile Library group, becoming its president.

In the 1980s and 90s, Rubright taught marketing and management for the graduate program in health administration at the Washington University School of Medicine. While there, he wrote a guidebook, *Walks and Rambles In and Around St. Louis*, which was adapted in part by KETC/Channel 9 in St. Louis for a series of walks that continues to be shown to this day. In 2002, he wrote *Weekend Walks in St. Louis and Beyond* which included an 18-page walk through “historic Fulton.”

Since 1999, Rubright has been the president of the Open Space Council for the St. Louis Region, which sponsors the annual Operation Cleanstream along the Meramec River and its tributaries and is America’s largest and oldest river cleanup program. He is on the board of the American Hiking Society, Washington, DC and is board chair of Crossings Concerts, Inc., St. Louis, a producer of concerts pairing symphonic strings and local jazz and folk musicians. He is now completing *Breakfast, Lunch and Diner*, an anecdotal look at 100 long-established Missouri and Illinois restaurants. He is an active elder at the First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood, Missouri.

He and his wife Lynn live in Kirkwood, Missouri. They have two sons, Ted and Dan, and two grandsons.

“What I learned about ethics, fellowship, service to others, the liberal arts, and interpersonal relationships I have carried with me for half a century. Westminster set me on the path I continue to follow.”