

The Bartee File

Personal

- Raised on a farm in Battle Creek, Nebraska
- Father, John, was a farmer and later in life a feed salesman; mother, Kathryn, was a stay-at-home mom
- One sister, Jackie, who lives in Lincoln
- 1969, married Helen Larsen. They had two children who both live in Omaha – Deanna Bartek, a medical social worker at Children’s Hospital & Medical Center, and Josh, president and CEO, Enterprise Bank.
- They have four grandchildren – three girls and one boy – Josie, Gabe, Tess and Grace.

Education

- 1965, Battle Creek High School – was class president for three years; played baseball, basketball and football; and was an award-winning actor whose one-act play competed at the state level
- 1969, BA, history major with minor in political science and English, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 1971, master’s degree, Syracuse University, Maxwell Graduate School of Public Affairs

Work career

- 1971-1972, national staff for the presidential campaign
- 1973-1975, community organizer, Nebraska Department of Economic Development
- 1975-1980, assistant to the vice president for governmental relations and assistant corporation system, University of Nebraska System
- 1980-2006, executive assistant to the chancellor, UNMC, responsible for government, public, community and alumni relations
- 2006-present, vice chancellor, external relations, UNMC
- 2019-2021, vice chancellor for external relations for University of Nebraska Omaha

Notable accomplishments

- Targeting 20 percent of the state’s Tobacco Settlement Funds for biomedical research
- Dedicating a portion of the state’s Cigarette Tax to research in cancer and smoking-related diseases
- Securing state support for the nationally-recognized Nebraska Rural Health Education Network (RHEN)
- Creating and raising funding support for the High School Alliance
- Leading the efforts to raise public funding for the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center
- Creating the Office of State and Community Relations at UNO
- Team member who helped create and obtain state support for the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN)
- Assembling partners to create a vision and master plan for Destination Omaha to revitalize midtown Omaha
- Leading efforts to create the Nebraska Cancer Registry
- Creating the UNMC Health Professions Tracking Center
- Creating the UNMC Office of Alumni Relations

Honors and awards

- 1967-1968 (junior year at UNL), Bartee was one of 13 members selected for the prestigious Innocents Society, whose membership is based upon superior academic achievement, unparalleled leadership, and selfless service to the university and community.
- 2005, Marvin D. Swede Johnson Achievement Award, jointly bestowed by four national associations of higher education for lifetime achievement in governmental relations.
- 1998, Welcome T. Bryant Memorial Award for service from the Urban League of Nebraska, Inc.
- 2010, Nebraska Career Education Distinguished Partner, primarily for his role in developing the UNMC High School Alliance.
- 2017, Friend of Medicine Award, Nebraska Medical Association

- 2021, Lifesavers Award (to Helen and Bob), Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures
- Member, Association of American Medical Colleges Senior Level Advocacy Group and its Governmental Relations Steering Committee
- Member, Association of Academic Health Centers Health Policy Advisory Committee and Policy Assembly
- Chairman of the board of several organizations including Destination Midtown, Wellness Council of the Midlands, Omaha Community Partnership, the Nebraska Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society, and Nebraska Health Coordinating Council
- Board member, UNeMed and the Conference for Inclusive Communities (CFIC)
- Member, Judicial Nominating Commission for Chief Justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court
- Former member, board of trustees, History Nebraska