



## Class Agents Letter

Class of 1966

Class Agent  
Cal Black

June 2024

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Dear Men of '66,

The last class letter featuring Jerry Blossom brought several very nice responses. Here are three of them from John Lennes, John Fargher and John Pickerill.

My daughter Inga is an MD, formerly at Massachusetts General and Harvard Med School faculty, now President of Ambulatory Services at U of California (SF) medical school. She's a practicing oncologist, and went to sort of a variation of Wabash, Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts where she captained the crew team, among other things. I know Jerry's story would have meaning for her.

Thanks again for the great series of insights into the lives, careers and character of some very fine people. *Always Fighting, JBL*

I thoroughly enjoyed reading your synopsis of Wabash and your resulting fantastic career. You are a typical example of why Wabash is great. All of us that went had ability, but no idea what we wanted to do. Wabash was there to kick our ass and lead us to exceptional careers. My story was similar to Jerry's. Quirky at times. I wanted to be a Jacques Cousteau and accepted a fellowship in marine biology in Corvallis Oregon. Out of the blue Indiana University medical school sent me a letter accepting me. I didn't even apply. Apparently my MCAT triggered something. I went to IU and graduated and befriended a virologist who taught at IU, he convinced me to accept a public health fellowship to do research in Jamaica after I graduated. Surprisingly, my research confirmed that leptospirosis was conveyed to cattle and pigs through rats. Wrote a bunch of papers that got me some notoriety. I gave a bunch of talks throughout the United States concerning this topic. At one of the talks a man came up to me afterwards, explained to me that he was starting a radiology program at Tampa University and wanted me to be in the program. How quirky was that. I accepted, did my residency, got called into the military for two years at the end of Nam, and then went to Lakeland Florida Regional Medical Center where I and two other radiologists started an organization called Radiology & Imaging Specialists (RIS). It still is there, extremely active and what's even more quirky-my son has become a radiologist and works there also. Wabash was my blessing. *Thank you, John Fargher*

One helluva biography Jerry! Congratulations and thank you. *John Pickerill*

George Taybos sent a very thoughtful and solemn email prior to Memorial Day. George sent pictures of the Viet Nam War Memorial Wall and the name of our fallen classmate, Mike Hall. Tom Ochsenschlager and Paul Robinson '67 responded and their messages follow:

I absolutely agree. Mike was a great loss to all who knew him. Another loss in Viet Nam was Randy Henze, my fraternity brother class of 65. No one should have been killed in Viet Nam least of all, Randy. I remember when one of our brothers was going to step on a bug in our house, Randy stopped him and took the bug outside. I understand Randy refused to carry a weapon while serving as a medic.

I honor his name on Panel 40E, line 63 at the Memorial. *Tom*

This really touches my heart. I loved Mike Hall. He was my pledge father and mentor. He always looked out for me. What a great shepherd for this wayward Freshman.

I had a similar experience when I was in the East. I visited Mike at the wall, and bawled my eyes out. What a great loss. *Robbie '67*

The Wabash Annual Day of Giving on 04/24/24 was a terrific success and set new records in almost every category. Here is an email from Hugh Vandivier '91 that sets forth details from this record effort. **THANK YOU TO EACH OF YOU WHO PARTICIPATED!**

Thank you for celebrating, participating, and elevating Wabash on 04.24.24. For the seventh straight year, Wabash raised more than \$1 million in a single day for the benefit of the talented, creative, and intellectually curious students enrolled here. In staggering, record-smashing fashion, Wabash raised more than \$1.719 million from 3,646 alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students, and friends. **Best yet, together we raised more than \$2,035 per Wabash student!**

Also, we appreciate your patience as we processed 8,039 gifts, another new record for a Wabash Day of Giving. Because of challenges like yours, Wabash Nation responded with such overwhelming generosity that it took a while to ensure everything was accounted for accurately.

While your Class Challenge was to all classes, your classmates gave \$13,027.90 from 102 gifts by these 33 unique donors on the Day.

James Ackil  
James Adamson  
Harry Antibus  
Charlie Bell  
Cal Black  
Jerry Blossom  
Riley Brissman  
John Coligan  
Jay Fisher  
John Flanagan  
Lowell Flickinger

Jim Gineris  
John Gisler  
Chuck Graff  
Larry Haugh  
John Herrin  
Lee Kochman  
Dave Krattbol  
Ned Luce  
Bob Main  
John Miller  
Squier Neal

Gene Neal  
Bill Robb  
Max Rudicel  
Ken Schild  
Bob Smith  
George Taybos  
Roger Thies  
Jim VanDolah  
Dennis Whigham  
Jay Williams  
Howard Wooden

You'll be proud to know that my class answered your call and gave generously.

Thank you again for making the 2024 Day of Giving one we can truly celebrate.

With tremendous gratitude,

**Hugh Vandivier '91**

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Wabash College – Advancement Office  
Office: (765) 361-6056  
Cell: (317) 627-0068

P.S. Here's how classes ranked in a few key metrics.

**Top Classes by Unique Donors**

1.	1991	78
2.	2017	56
3.	1989	55
4.	2005	53
5.	2018	51
5.	2019	51
7.	2003	50
8.	2015	47
9.	1988	45
10.	1993	44
10.	1995	44
10.	1974	44
10.	2004	44

**Top 10 Classes by Gifts**

1.	1991	283
2.	1979	278
3.	1989	206
4.	2003	195
5.	1992	155
6.	1983	150
7.	1987	135
8.	1978	129
9.	1977	125
9.	2012	125

The fiscal year at Wabash ends on 6/30/24, so if you have not made a gift to the College and want to do so, please note this date. It's on a Sunday this year. The College tells me that to reach 40% alumni participation for the 11th consecutive year they need another 444 to make a gift. Any gift of any amount toward anything that supports Wabash students counts. You can make your gift online at [wabash.edu/give](http://wabash.edu/give), by phone at 877-743-4545, or by mail to Wabash College Advancement | 301 W. Wabash Ave. | Crawfordsville, IN 47933.

“The hosts of Wabash meet to pledge undying loyalty.”

Cal