

Class of 1967

Class Agents
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Dear Classmates,

November 18, 2024

Additional Class Views

The concept of Class Letters is obviously a focus on a given class with classmate and campus news. I enjoy reading letters from other classes which are posted on the Wabash website, https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/class_leaders. I encourage you to view them, especially the ones from the '60's. The following two examples caught my eye.

1. New Campus Center (from Class of '61)

Following Commencement and "Big Bash" (5/31-6/2/2024) Sparks Center will be demolished. This is the biggest project in the history of Wabash (some \$80 Million) and will take two years to complete. The spark was \$20 Million of a \$25 Million grant the College received from the Lilly Endowment in December. The HVAC will be upgraded including the underground tunnel. (Don't ask! I have no idea where it is.) The kitchen in Sparks will be set up temporarily near the Tennis courts. Bon Appetit, the campus food service, will have a load on their hands.

<https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class-of-1961-March-2024.pdf> (includes a picture)

2. A New School Year (from Class of '66)

The 2024-2025 school year has started and here are some numbers that may be of interest to you:

-- Total number of students is 882, with 267 new students, which includes 24 international (record) and 47 legacies; also, 60% of students are Greek.

-- Athletes out for each sport:

Baseball-51	Basketball-19	Cross country-22	Football-145
Golf-17	Lacrosse-40	Soccer-38	Swimming-41
Tennis-17	Track and field-69	Volleyball-19	Wrestling-45

Thank you for Making '67 #1

According to Alumni Office records, our class had the highest alumni participation rate of 64%, for FY 2024!! Interestingly, the top six classes and eight of the top ten classes in participation rate are from the '60's. For reference, the traditional target of alumni giving for all colleges and universities is 40%; Wabash has accomplished that many times, including the most recent 11 years.

And we were the most "engaged" class of the 1960's, at 52%; third of all classes. Many thanks to all of you who continue your support and participation.

Classmate News

Phil Coons

Late summer and early fall have been very busy for me regarding Wabash activities. As a member of the board of the Global Health Initiative, I visited three GHI Wabash students who were serving internships at the Montgomery County Health Department. I also lunched with two Wabash students who were working on GHI internships elsewhere. During homecoming festivities a group of Betas got together for dinner at the Crawfordsville Country Club. Finally, the GHI Board and colleagues from Peru met at the Elston Homestead to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Global Health Initiative at Wabash College.



Bob Pindschmidt

Duane, Earl and the rest of Class of '67,

OK, I am rightly upbraided for not writing. It is hard to come up with something that seems interesting without coming across as bragging or boring. So let me try an experiment and open the can of worms.

Most of the time, probably for many of us, what we have is a comfortable if no longer quite as active life style. I am basically retired from a career in polymer and monomer chemistry, mainly in industry in PA, but ending at UNC-Chapel Hill. I am lucky to still be able to indulge my technology addiction by going into UNC and sometimes work with various research groups. I also did a 6 month sabbatical (from retirement) with a 3D printing start-up in Redwood City, CA in 2022. Marilyn still teaches a few piano students.

With a shady yard, my gardening is at a local community garden. I still work out and ride my bike, but tennis elbow ended tennis and racquetball decades ago and a pulled biceps tendon ended windsurfing (at which I was at best a fair weather dabbler and is a dying sport anyway. I tried it again last summer, but my balance is also not what it was.). Running ended with atrial fib and a pacemaker, and with NC summer weather even walking is rarer.

A good chunk of the average week is doctor appointments. For me it is lesser stuff - side effects from cataract surgery, stiff neck PT, pacemaker checks. For Marilyn it is worse: she has glaucoma and needs at least one shoulder rebuild, a nerve rerouting, and bunion treatments (plus more routine tongue and forehead biopsies).

-My Thought on Aging: 'If you get up one morning and nothing hurts, it's a pretty good sign you died during the night.'

This is not to complain. What we have is all age-appropriate and not life threatening (unlike what Rick is going through - wishing you all the best on that). What is more, in this era, unlike for our parents and grandparents, it is mainly treatable and we have the medical coverage and savings to handle the cost.

We also do a good bit of traveling, either to see far flung kids and granddaughters (PA, MA, Romania-moving-to-Vancouver) or for pleasure (finally did NZ), but long car trips are harder now. Keeping busy with something I feel is meaningful is a critical component of happiness. I don't always do it enough.

Best regards, Bob

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Alan Witte

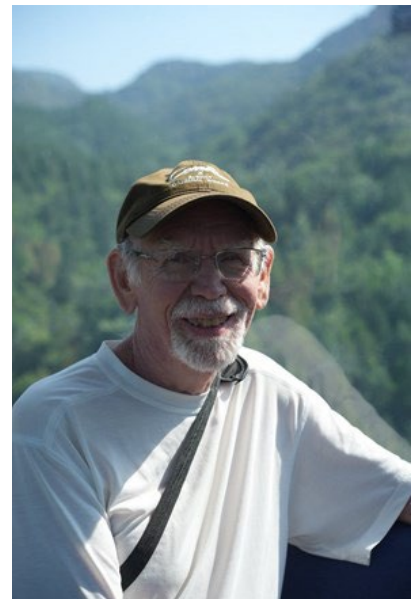
Noted the recent Wabash Magazine's focus on first time college attendees at the College. Also understand that attracting first time attendees is now a particular focus of Wabash's recruiting. I was a first time attendee in my family and know **Tom Werner** was as well. Wondered how many others of our fraternity brothers were also their family's first time college attendee?

Responses (also first-timers): **Mike Butler** and **Duane Hile**

Responses of a legacy: **Peter Keenan**, father Max was '33

Dedicated to the memory of Ronald Lee Sheese

Ron was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana to Marilyn and Orland Sheese. He grew up in Greensburg, Indiana with his younger siblings, Carol Jane and Richard. Ron's early years were filled with visits to his grandparents' farm, scouting adventures in nature, and a wide range of school and community activities. His senior highschool yearbook lists no less than 26 affiliations including class vice president, booster club council, drum major, projectionists club, class play, and baseball. Ron received a B.A. in Mathematics at Wabash College (1967) and went on to earn his M.A. in Mathematical Psychology (1970) and his Ph.D. in the Psychology of Learning (1973) at the University of Illinois. Ron moved to Canada in 1971 to take up the position of Lecturer at York University in Toronto where he worked for more than 50 years until his retirement in 2021.



For nearly two decades, Ron lived on Four Winds Drive in a neighbourhood he cherished and nurtured. He lovingly raised two children, Kate (born 1979) and Patrick (born 1982), and their home on Four Winds Drive was a second home to many children in the neighbourhood. Ron was active in the Four Winds Tenants' Association where he dedicated much energy to protecting public space and infrastructure in the neighbourhood. Ron considered his relationships and experiences in the highly diverse Four Winds community to have influenced his approach to teaching, developing a pedagogy increasingly attuned to issues of class, race, immigration, feminism, and democracy and committed to countering the elitism of the academy.

Ron earned numerous titles and distinctions in many roles over the five decades that he taught and served at York University. He was a former Associate Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Chair of two thriving and diverse academic departments (Psychology and Writing), and served as a Director for the Centre for the Support of Teaching, the Writing Centre, and Undergraduate Program Director of the Professional Writing Program. In 2002, Ron received the honorary title of University Professor, given to a very small group of faculty who have made extraordinary contributions in their years at York University. However, as colleagues have expressed in the days since he died, Ron's legacy is not defined by his titles and distinctions. The friendships that Ron made at York have fostered generations of staff, students, and faculty that have found ways to work together to support teaching, learning, and innovation at the university. Many of Ron's colleagues and former students are still contributing to York or abroad and the ideas that Ron embodied – collaboration, innovation, mutual respect, and bridge-building – are a living legacy.

In the summer of 2014, Ron joked that he was updating his CV for the first time since 1971 as he applied to teach Introductory Psychology during the summer term in Shanghai at East China Normal University. He got the job and returned to teach the course several times, developing a strong interest in Chinese cultures and cultures of education. He continued to travel to China regularly to nurture the many important friendships he developed there. Ron read voraciously and developed a large personal library of Chinese literature and non-fiction which will be donated to the Toronto Mandarin School where he continued to study Mandarin until shortly before his death.

Ron was an avid gardener, not only at home where he took great delight in tending to an impressive assortment of plants and flowers, but also in other aspects of his life, as a father, a teacher, and a colleague. Ron had a terrific capacity to envision the not-yet, to nurture processes of becoming, and he was always, always attentive to the conditions of the soil.

Ron died on August 15, 2024 of complications from undiagnosed lymphoma. He died without pain and with both of his children at his side. He is survived by his daughter Kate Sheese, his son Patrick Sheese and grandson Nathaniel Sheese, his sister Carol Jane Koutz, and brother Richard Sheese.

Confused About Athletic Conferences Changes?

Some or all of the Ohio members of the NCAC have previously voiced concerns about travel expenses to Wabash and That School Down South. Now, they've admitted WashU to the conference, only for football (by far, the most expensive travel sport), beginning in 2026! And, Case Western (similar in academics and athletics to WashU) is in Ohio, but neither an NCAC member nor apparently a candidate.

Speaking of Football

Bowl game: Can't get enough of football bowl games? Four Division III conferences have announced the inaugural Opendorse Bowl Series. The Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference, the North Coast Athletic Conference, the Ohio Athletic Conference, and the Presidents' Athletic Conference will each be represented by their highest-ranked team not to make the NCAA playoffs in a one-day, two-game series set to take place **at 1 p.m. on November 23, 2024**. With support from regional tourism arm VisitCanton, the series will be held at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium at Hall of Fame Village. Full articles for more PR:

<https://d3football.com/notables/2024/01/oac-pac-ncac-hcac-go-bowling>

<https://biz.opendorse.com/blog/historic-division-iii-football-bowl-series-comes-to-hall-of-fame-village-with-opendorse-support/>

[Wabash will be one of the four teams \(as a result of That School Down South getting a three-peat in the Bell game\) and the opponent is Hanover.](#)

NIL: Wabash has entered a multi-year partnership with Opendorse, the nation's leading education-focused Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) firm. More details: <https://sports.wabash.edu/news/2024/11/13/general-wabash-and-opendorse-to-partner-on-nil-program.aspx>

The comprehensive suite of services from Opendorse will teach student-athletes how to build their personal brand and connect with nationally recognized companies; educate them on the tax implications of NIL; and help maintain NCAA compliance and eligibility requirements.

Deep Thoughts on Aging

Mirror, mirror on the wall What the heck happened??

I run like the winded.

When you do squats are your knees supposed to sound like a goat chewing on an aluminum can stuffed with celery?

I remember being able to get up without making noises. Those were good times!

You dropped something:

- when you were younger, you just picked it up.
- now, you stare at it for a while, contemplating if you really need it.

When I say “the other day,” I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 40 years ago.

A little gray hair is a small price to pay for all this WISDOM!!

If you're happy and you know it, it's your MEDS!

Please send us your news and comments!

Duane