



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Office of Alumni Affairs

P.O. Box 352

Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Web site: www.wabash.edu

Email us: alumni@wabash.edu

Phone: (765) 361-6369

Class of 1951

Class Agent

Richard H. Griesser
4608 Grand Meadows Drive

Appleton, WI 54915

Phone: 920-832-0639

rgrease@aol.com

September 1, 2008

Dear Men and Ladies of the Wabash Class of 1951:

A few days ago President White rang the bell welcoming to Wabash some 250 members of the Class of 2012. Wow back when we graduated in 1951 did you ever dream that you would be reading these words?

When I read about this I realized that a class letter to you is long overdue. So here I am.

Did you hear about the Forbes Magazine ranking of U.S. Colleges and Universities? Wabash was ranked 12th. Yes, you heard right. I was more than surprised but most pleased. Just look at the schools that were ranked ahead of the Home of the Little Giants: Princeton, Cal Tech, Harvard, Swarthmore, Williams, U. S. Military Academy, Amherst, Wellesley, Yale, Columbia, and Northwestern. Wabash looks really good among these schools. Just think of all the great and famous institutions of higher learning that ranked below our beloved school.

Might as well get to the sad news now. I received notice that **Cloyd R. Partridge** died at his home in Kirkland, Washington on May 12, 2008. Also, I received notice of the death of **Kurt D. Kaufman** on July 1, 2008. Cloyd's widow, Karen Partridge, 9715 NE Juanita Drive, Condo 208B, Kirkland, WA 98034. Kurt's widow, Marilee Kaufman, 1903 Lucina Court, Ft. Myers, FL 33908.

I've asked Michele Tatar to include the obituaries with this letter. I know you join me in expressing our sorrow for these losses.

Homecoming will be here soon, October 4th. This is always a wonderful time to visit the old school and see other old guys. Nick Longsworth keeps telling me that it would be nice to have a class luncheon at Homecoming since he wouldn't know anyone else. He told that to Chuck Goering who replied he knows the President of Wabash on a first name basis and all the top staff and that was good enough for him. Not a bad answer but he could have added that there are as many as ten members of our class who regularly make homecoming and the college has an alumni chapel where we join the Glee Club in singing Old Wabash and Alma Mater and this is followed by a huge luncheon and a great football game. This year we will be playing Allegheny. It will also be a reunion for the Sphinx Club. Believe me it will be worth the trip back. Hope to see many of you there. I bet that I've been going to Homecoming for at least twenty years and they've all been rewarding experiences. It is amazing how the campus and the college have grown over those years.

You men and ladies amaze me. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008 you finished with a total of 53 donors for 60.2%. That places us second only to the Class of 1961 which posted 60.6%. What a fantastic job. And, not counted in our total was a gift from Jane Adams Witkowski that was not allowed to count because the gift did not come from a class member or his spouse. James Adams '51 is deceased as well as his wife. His daughter, Jane, makes a gift each year in his name which she would like to be credited to the Class of '51. The college has refused to do this¹. Jane's son, Evan Schmit, graduated from Wabash class of 2005. He graduated from Marquette Law School last May. We very much appreciate Jane being a part of our class.

Here are the Little Giants who made 60.2% possible: **J. Bentley, A. Brinklow, Hugh Busenbark, Benjamin Calacci, James Clark, Robert Clipsham, Mrs. Marianne Cullinan, Joseph Daszek, Willard Dunbar, Jr., Willis Ellis, William Everitt, Dr. Mary Ellen Finch, Charles Goering, Richard Griesser, Elmer Halwes, Jr., Mrs. Winifred Harries, W. Heazlitt Jr., Chandler Holmes, Lawrence Honan Jr., Warren Jackson, Stuart Jacobs, Paul Jones, Edward Jube, Dr. Kurt Kaufman, Mrs. Marilee Kaufman, Paul Kortepeter, Mrs Holly LaSalle, Ellwood Lewis, Walter Longsworth Jr., William MacDougall, Dr. Donald Martin, Dr. Daniel McLaren, Donald Mefford, Kenneth Millican, Robert Montgomery, Donald Mosiman, William Orman, Dr. Roger Parsell, Donald Partridge, Mrs. Margaret Regnier, J. Mark Rhoads, Philip Robinson, Robert Rogers, Jack Schenck, John Schick, Tully Shaw, Donald Shepherd, James Slagle, Joseph Lee Smith, Mrs. Nancy Swain, Dr. William Von Der Lehr, Mrs. Mary Beth Wahl, Dr. Donald Wise, Richard Yoder.**

Many, many thanks. What a great bunch. What a GREATCLASS!!!

Beth and I are looking forward to seeing the Stripey Lewises when they come through Wisconsin in September. Hope to see many of you at Homecoming.

Best regards,

Richard H. Griesser

¹ Editor's comment: The gift our good friend Dick mentions honors Jane's parents and the Class of 1951, it just isn't credited as a gift from the Class of 1951. The College certainly appreciates the loyal support of Jane Witkowski, counts her gifts alongside all the other generous gifts we receive from parents, and we're thrilled to have Evan as a young alumnus. *The Editor.*

Partridge, Cloyd Ronald (Bud) -Ronald PARTRIDGE Born to Josephine and Charles Loren Partridge November 16, 1928 in Mishawaka, Indiana. He died at home in Kirkland, Washington, May 12, 2008, age 79. A high school athlete, he led his cross country team to top state honors in 1945 and that year earned full scholarship to Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana where he received a BA in 1951. He served in the military during the Korean War and returned to earn a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Purdue University. He was active in early civil rights integration efforts throughout the Midwest. He consulted to the courts in Chicago, Illinois, then moved the family to southern California and established private practice in addition to consulting services to various courts and agencies. In 1967 he was asked to originate family consultation services at the USAF hospital in Wiesbaden Germany in the areas of special education, drug abuse and family guidance. During this time the family traveled widely in Europe and the Soviet Union. Always the humanist, he organized candle light vigils during the Vietnam War and was an early member of Amnesty International. Returning to Northern California, Bud became coordinator of intern and paraprofessional program training at Stanford University Children's Health Council and consultant to the State, local and regional education systems. Following retirement, Bud and wife Karen enjoyed life on the Monterey, Ca. peninsula, and in 1996 to 2004 moved to Bloomington, Indiana, where they looked after Karen's mother and greatly enjoyed offerings of the largest music school in the nation. Bud loved dogs and college and professional football games. He continued to author studies and a recent book in the field of child development. Bud is survived by daughter, Julie Marsh-Probst, her husband, Ivan Probst, her children, Kendall and Michael Marsh; two sons, Brent and Scott Partridge; and Stephanie Christenberry Partridge, and his wife of 50 years, Karen Hickman Partridge.

=====

Kaufman, Dr. Kurt -Dr. Kurt Kaufman grew up in Indianapolis, IN. He earned his B.A. from Wabash College, a Masters from Harvard University, and a D. Phil in organic chemistry from Oxford University. He held over 10 patents for drugs developed from his work with the psoralens, organic compounds found in the skin. He also conducted research at Kalsec, a spice extraction company in Kalamazoo, MI. He was loved and respected as a professor at Kalamazoo College, where he was considered a truly gifted communicator and leader by both colleagues and students. Kurt was happiest when he was teaching, mentoring dozens if not hundreds of future chemists and thinkers. He was an avid tennis player, actor in the Reader's Theatre, and reveler at the Whistle Stop on Friday afternoons. Kurt is survived by his wife of 37 years, Marilee. He has three daughters, Kristina Vaughan-Towne, Cindi Gilliland, and Meredith Kaufman, five grandchildren as well as scores of friends, old and new. He suffered a debilitating stroke in 1980 which took away his ability to speak, read, and write. Despite this overwhelming disability, he continued to inspire all who knew him by his strength of will and character as well as his incredible sense of humor. Kurt spent the last twenty years living in Florida, on Sanibel Island and in Fort Myers, loved and cared for by Marilee. Kurt will be deeply missed by many. He died on July 1st. Any gifts can be made in the form of a donation to the Kurt Kaufman Fellowship at Kalamazoo College, 1200 Academy St, Kalamazoo MI, 49006, or Hospice at Shell Point in Fort Myers, FL 33908