



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1952

Class Agent

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Dear '52ers

LEADING UP TO THE MONON BELL

So far this football season, Wabash is undefeated:

9/5/15 - W defeated Hampden-Sydney in VA 35-3 in the second annual "Gentlemens Classic" between two all-male colleges. Our classmate **Russ Thrall** reports "my grandson, Justin Jannuzi '05, is the only person ever to have started for both teams. (long story)." That story **Russ** hopefully will write and I will include in a future Letter.

9/19/15 - W defeated Allegheny College in PA 54-0.

9/26/15 - W defeated Wittenberg University at C'ville 42-14.

10/3/15 - W defeated Hiram College (Homecoming at C'ville) 38-0. Classmate **Mike Austin** reports that of Class '52 attendees at Homecoming this year, all were members of Phi Delta Theta. Mike's daughter drove him up from Texas; **Hugh Smaltz** had his son drive him up from Kentucky, and **John Poncher** & wife Gwen drove down from Valparaiso IN. All six enjoyed the game together, especially as Wabash won handily

10/10/15 - W defeated Oberlin College in OH 55-18.

10/17/15 - W defeated Kenyon College at C'ville 35-0. Following this game, our *Bachelor* newspaper noted "The Wabash defense has been impeccable this year. They have allowed a Div III low 26 yards per game rushing and have allowed only 177 yards per game total, *which is second in the nation.*"

10/24/15 - W defeated The College of Wooster in OH 55-7. Following this game, at 10 p.m. **Brad Johnston** sent this e-mail: "Couldn't have been much fun, could it? I wore my Texas Longhorn cap to town this evening and talked college football to random folks. When I got home, I pulled up Wabash football and there was today's game. Wabash has outscored 7 Division III opponents 45-6, so we must be playing (a) over our heads or (b) out of our league. My senior year, Wabash was undefeated and it's been a big deal ever since. Looks like another one is brewing."

10/31/15 - W defeated "The Bishops" of Ohio Wesleyan University at C'ville 34-10. On *this same afternoon* the next and final two opponents of Wabash played each other: Denison University vs DePauw University, both with 6-1 records going into this game. Depauw made a field goal *in the final 3 seconds* to win with the final score 31-29. *WOW!*

11/7/15 @ 1 p.m. - W hosted Denison University (now 6-2 after losing to DePauw on 10/31) at C'ville and W won with the score of 38-7. Now for the Big One this coming Saturday, read on

11/14/15 @ 1 p.m. - W will visit Depauw (now 8-1) at Greencastle for the 122nd annual Monon Bell game in what has been long recognized as "the oldest continuous football rivalry west of the Allegheny mountains."

BENJAMIN G. WRIGHT
(d. July 9, 2015)

Ben Wright's first five college semesters at Wabash as a member of Sigma Chi were interrupted, like many in our class, by the Korean War. After serving with the U.S. Navy, he then finished his college education at Drexel University and pursued a career in engineering, which included being involved in the construction of chemical facilities, refineries, and power plants for M.W. Kellogg Co and U.S. Synthetic Fuels Corporation.

He is survived by his loving wife (Carolyn) of nearly 40 years, and five children, two grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Ben and Lyn moved to the Landings in Savannah, GA in 1987, where he served as an elected Director of The Landing Association, chaired its annual golf tournament, was an active member of his church, and served as a volunteer in many community activities.

I first got to know Ben not at Wabash, but later *via* many e-mail exchanges which started in the 1990's with his response to one of my Class '52 Letters. We covered politics, economics, military updates plus other sundry subjects, and I now miss those exchanges which developed as a side benefit to being a class agent.

STANLEY D. DEUITCH
(d. August 7, 2015)

Stan Deutch is well remembered as “a loyal Phi Psi and Wabash man” by his fraternity brother **Russ Thrall**, who adds that Stan was a particularly good friend of another of our classmates, **Dick Cheney**, who died a scant 20 years after our days at Wabash. Indeed, Stan wrote an excellent two page “Remembrance” of Dick Cheney which was published in **Dick Daniels’ ’52@50**.

A native of Greenfield, IN, **Stan** returned there for a career as an insurance and investment broker for 45 years. He was a Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) and member of the Society of Certified Senior Advisors. Stan was both founder and developer of the Greenfield Youth Baseball Association and its baseball fields in addition to serving as baseball coach and manager for thirty years involving 400 boys each summer. He was proud of “helping my three sons through DePauw, Rose Hulman, and Butler, my daughter through Vincennes University,” all four of whom have Masters Degrees.

Stan concluded his biodata in Daniel’s book with this recounting of his Wabash Memories:

“Pat Pattersons’ indoctrination speech: ‘You will be responsible men and gentlemen (or your a— is outta here!)’ Byron Trippet’s eloquence; Ben Rogge’s

humor; Dr. Johnson winging an eraser at me when I dozed off. Professors who were beautiful people; the greased pole; Pan Hells; 3 a.m. and still trying to cram; **Huntsman** dismembering tacklers on the way to the goal line. Comps, etc. *ad infinitum* Oh yes — Harry Cotton's magnificent intellect.

“What did I get out of Wabash? An intellectual awakening and a lifelong pursuit of understanding and truth along with a commitment to the research and hopefully the humility necessary to find both.”

DONALD LEE COLE
(*March 29, 1930 - October 24, 2015*)

Classmate **Don Cole** passed away peacefully late last month in Boynton Beach, Florida. He and wife Sonja “semi-retired” to Florida in 1977 according to his biodata in **Dick Daniel's** book **'52@50**. In addition to his wife of 62 years, Don's survivors include four children and five grandchildren. Born in Marion, Indiana, he and **Hugh Smaltz** attended the same high school, where Don's talent as a gifted artist was recognized early. (The **Cole/Smaltz** friendship continued a lifetime.) **Don** graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Wabash in our Class '52, followed by two years in the US Army where he wrote and illustrated MP training manuals.

His artistic talents while at Wabash included many contributions to the *Wabash* yearbook, the *Bachelor* newspaper, our humor magazine *The Caveman* (plus service as Editor thereof), membership on our Board of Publications, and Blue Key honorary. An “Independent” in more ways than one, Don truly helped define our Class '52. Who among us can forget his “Wally Wabash” character he depicted as a humorous, confused-yet-confident fictional student we both recognized and welcomed almost as a classmate?

Early in his career Don assisted the great cartoonist Dave Gerard, Wabash '31, with his two nationally-syndicated comic strips “WILL-YUM” and “City Hall.” He directed advertising for the “Indiana Farm News” newspaper and created “Image,” a Grand County IN publication which won numerous state and national awards. Don wrote and illustrated two children's books, “The Funny Red Zoo” and “Dr. Fun in the Hospital,” which were purchased by hospitals around the country. An artist, a cartoonist, and a voracious reader, he was also a businessman who ultimately ran his own advertising firm.

In lieu of flowers, Don Cole's Florida obituary suggested any donations in his memory be made to Wabash College, P.O. Box 352, Crawfordsville, IN 47933-0352.

Some Little Giants! All three of these guys: **Ben Wright, Stan Deutch,** and **Don Cole.** We knew them well and are proud to claim them as classmates.

WORLD WAR II REMEMBRANCES

Comparatively few of our class of '52 were directly involved in World War II. Indeed ours was probably the first post-war class to have more recent high school graduates than war veterans.

Classmate **Paul Arnold** recently wrote the following story from way back then. It involves our classmate **Klauss Wulff**, a foreign exchange student from Bavaria who had served in Germany's Africa Korps.

"As you recall," Paul begins, "Foreign students spent 30 days at a shot eating in the several fraternities. During Klauss's stay at the Sigma Chi house, he and 'Hugh' Sutton (a Wabash upperclassman) discovered that they had served in North Africa at the same time, under Rommel and Patton, respectively. Not only that, but they were both cryptographers.

"I was present when they discovered that fact, and there followed a discussion of the codes being used by each side and the success/failure of decoding specific codes. It was a fascinating discussion."

This story reminds me of another which concerns our '52 classmate from Finland, **Heikki Lahtinen**. (During our freshman year, he was one of 10 students residing in Gillian House that included **Bill Etherton, Gail Mullin,** and **Jack Hiatt**, all fellow freshmen in our class). Like Klauss Wulff, Heikki also alternated 30 days eating in the several fraternities so that we Americans could share in learning from our foreign students and *vice versa*.

One night during dinner at my Delta Tau Delta fraternity it came out that Heikki had flown a Messerschmitt ME 109 in combat. (As you will recall, Finland was allied with Germany to fight off an invasion by Russia.) Well, veteran USAF Captain Ed Washburn's face froze at what he just heard. How so?

Because Ed Washburn was shot down while flying his P-51 fighter plane over Germany — and the plane that downed him was a Messerschmitt ME 109.

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Heikki, do you recall that story? Please drop me a line about your activities post-2002 when you did an excellent bio-data for **Dick Daniels'** book **'52@50**.

And I make the same request for updates from the rest of our class. Your news and views are essential for future **Class '52 Letters**. The following article illustrates how this is so.

TWO PHI PSI'S REPORTING

Harry Livengood reported in **'52@50** that his fellow Phi Psi "**Jim Youngjohn** was a good buddy." So isn't it a coincidence that both called me independent of each other?

Harry's hometown was Elwood IN. His student days at Wabash were interrupted by the Korean War, following which he matriculated at University of Central Florida where he earned a Master's degree in Education. He then taught Marketing and coached football and baseball in Winter Park FL High School for 29 years. Presently Harry has a stent, wears a pacemaker (as do I), but has improved from wheelchair use to now getting by with a walker and cane. He also wears a special ring for 211 victories and 24 losses (in coaching football) presented by the Orange County Metro Hall of Fame.

Jim Youngjohn called me from his home in Valparaiso, IN on 4-23-15 to inquire: "Of 10 men who reach age 80, how many of them will be alive at age 90?" Correct answer: One. "I'm trying for that 10% Club," he added. Having attended our 60th Class '52 Reunion, Jim said he is looking forward to our 65th Reunion in 2017.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

- **David W. Givens**, a retired CEO/President of INB Financial and a longtime Wabash trustee, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at the Wabash 2014 Commencement. Formerly of the Wabash College class of 1950, he was promoted to being a member of our Class '52 at page 9 of the Summer 2014 issue of the ***Wabash*** magazine.
- For more news about our alma mater, on your computer go to wabash.edu where you can be brought up to date on anything and everything. Indeed, as previously reported (with lament) in my year ago Letter of October 2014, many of the more recent Wabash Class Agents dispense with doing a Letter altogether and instead write occasional computer messages to class members.
- During a family reunion at Edgewood (Boothbay Region) Maine in June this year, I telephoned **Jim Thomas** of Penobscot thinking we might have lunch together. To my great surprise, Jim said we were 2 1/2 hours driving time apart, which would be like me driving from So Bend to Indianapolis and back (same 5 hours total driving time) just to do lunch! So we decided to scratch my idea and instead talk some more by telephone. In concluding our conversation, Jim observed "At age 85 I think our 1930 Warranty has just about run out."
- Dates to Remember: Save room on your calendar for this travel date June 2-4, 2017: our 65th Reunion for the Wabash Class of '52! Pray for an Extended Warranty *per* Jim Thomas' observation just noted.

YEAR END TAX PLANNING

This past spring many colleges and universities (including Wabash on 4/22/15) again held very successful drives for financial contributions.

But for me, it is toward the end of the year when a charitable nudge should be most meaningful and appreciated because **now through 12/31** is the donor's last chance during 2015 to take advantage of charitable gift giving for federal and state income tax purposes.

Many requests at this coming yuletide season are merged into the giving spirit of Christmas. And that is good. (Whatever works, right?) Moreover, as you know the college will again urge its Class Agents to publish a word of thanks when it provides a list of 2015 donors early in the New Year and you probably don't

want to be left off that list in a future Letter. But for an even better list of reasons why Wabash belongs on each of our list of donees, please re-read the last two paragraphs at the end of **Stan Deutch's** obit.

Indeed, go back and re-read the obits for all three recently deceased classmates. Their achievements are due in no small measure to an education at Wabash College.

Cordially,

Bill

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