WABASH COLLEGE



Class Agents Letter Alumni and Parent Relations P.O. Box 352 Crawfordsville, IN 47933 Web site: <u>www.wabash.edu</u> Email us: <u>alumni@wabash.edu</u> Phone: (765) 361-6369

Class of 1954

Class Agent

Robert E. Johnson rejohns54@sbcglobal.net Cell Phone: 317-670-4633

October 2016

Dear Survivors of 1954--

Still hanging in there but we have lost so many good people.

Ed Gallagher took his daughter from near Chicago to go sailing off Galveston Bay, Texas. Ed's brother, Fred's daughter was the skipper of a 32 footer she owns along with a fleet she manages. It was a great time reconnecting with the daughter and niece. Ed declined sleeping on board but the others did so not sure Ed is a real sailor but he still has salty comments.

Gathered together at Creekside Lodge on Sugar Creek with Bill Glascock, Vic Lindquist, Dick Rose, Ed Gallagher and our best mates before the Wabash Bash in June. Of course we always recall stories and several about Dean Trippet and how did he know about all the misdeeds that happened. Three of us were called by him to get some naughty things addressed and hoped corrected. Glascock remembers not really sure after military service if he would return to Wabash and Dean Trippet convinced him to do it. Dick Rose continues his creative writing by publishing a sequel to his previous book. Vic always has his share of stories and hopes to visit some real Irish pubs this year. We all gathered for dinner at Trippet Hall and former Dean Gary Phillips led a good discussion about Wabash today and the student thinking and outlook.

Wabash has 215 Freshmen, down from desired 250. Retention has improved from 80% to current 91% of frosh returning. Graduation in 4 years is a high 83% vs. below 50% at IU and Purdue. Still a great Wabash College for young men to grow, learn and have fun.

Talked briefly with Stan Huntsman who is home after being in rehab for some time. Still limited mobility and his mate, Sylvia is wonderful in helping him and keeping morale up.

Jim Cronin was on a golfing trip when I called .An annual trip with longtime friends who seek to bring some Michigan Golf Course to the knees or maybe it is the other way

around but good news about Jim. Called John Goffinet who found he couldn't do half time Doctor and has adjusted to retirement. John said everyone has some frustrations in life and Golf is his. John says they plan two trips a year with Spring in France and joining his sister in Switzerland this time of year.

Bob Allen '57 died in September after 9 month really tough time and this was a shock as we had been with them in Fall of 2015. At that time Bob was still involved with his New Jersey shore house completely swept into Atlantic Ocean from Hurricane Sandy. Called Dave Orr in Mexico and he related the circumstances of the last few months. Exchanged notes with Betty Allen and she expressed Bob is at peace and no longer suffering and appreciated our long friendship.

The College is pleased that 50% of our class along with 4 wonderful widows supported the 2015-2016 Annual Fund and listed here with great appreciation.

Carol Augsburger, Herb Bunch, Jim Cronin, Ron Callen, Dick Carlson, Jay Dittus by wife Bjorg, Walt Elisha, Charles Ellercamp, Bob Franklin, Bill Garrard, Bill Glascock, Jim Hogshire, Abe Howe, Stan Huntsman, Bob Johnson, John Lehman, Vic Lindquist, John Pantzer, Anne Pantzer, John Proffitt, Ron Repking, Richard Rose, Dick Sadler, Jim Sears, Nancy Shenk, Don Smith, Bill Tait, Jim Twomey, Ralph Yount, and Chuck Zimont.

My apologies as I wrote the names down but then couldn't read my own writing so hope haven't garbled this too much and my big fear is I left someone out. Hope not. Also, my new Windows 10 computer is not friendly and messes up.

"Long in our hearts"...,

Bob and Helen Johnson