



## WABASH COLLEGE

---

### *Class Agents Letter*

Alumni and Parent Relations

P.O. Box 352

Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Web site: [www.wabash.edu](http://www.wabash.edu)

Email us: [alumni@wabash.edu](mailto:alumni@wabash.edu)

Phone: (765) 361-6369

### **Class of 1969**

#### **Class Agent**

Ken Crawford

[ken.crawford69@wabash.edu](mailto:ken.crawford69@wabash.edu)

### **50th Reunion – 2019**

April 21, 2016

Gentlemen of the Class of 69,

After long freezing nights and cool rainy days it appears spring has finally arrived here in Indiana with the red buds in full bloom. Spring in Indiana and at Wabash College is always a beautiful time of the year. And with advancing spring the semester for Wabash students is rapidly approaching an end. Only days left before finals the first week in May, followed by the 178<sup>th</sup> Commencement on Sunday, 15 May.

I am sure you have heard Tom Runge stepped down 1 April as Alumni Director, after 15 years of outstanding service to the College and Wabash alumni. It has been a good journey with Tom over these many years. I have enjoyed working with him and greatly appreciate all he has done for our class. Today (21 April) the IAWB hosted a breakfast at the NCAA Hall of Champions in Indianapolis to honor Tom. I had the privilege to say a few words about Tom and present him with a walnut plaque on behalf of the Class of 69 commemorating his 45 years of service in the Air Force and at Wabash College (pictures enclosed). We wish Tom well in his “new” retirement. Steve Hoffman is the new Alumni Director.

**The Wabash Day of Giving is today, (April 27).** It will be a big day for the College, students, alumni, and friends of the College. Building on the success and excitement of last year’s Day of Giving the goal is to achieve 2700 unique donors this year. There will be a lead challenge, bench marks through the day, affinity challenges, a leader board, live streaming, and a lot of Wabash spirit!! The theme for this year’s Day of Giving is “WABASH PROUD”, focusing pride in the College mission. I hope you will join in the fun and excitement of this year’s Day of Giving and make a donation to the College. I am also hoping you are reading this letter today, and will participate. If not, you will know we gave it our best effort and I thank you for all you could do for ‘ol Wabash!

In my precious letters I described how we have established a strong class legacy with our Class of 69 Dean Moore Scholarship Fund. As we look at retirement and the years ahead and begin thinking of our own personal legacy and how we wish to be remembered, many options are offered in a Wabash deferred giving plan. Just as our classmate Dr. Ray Knight created a charitable remainder trust, another example is provided by John Burrell when he bought a single payment whole life insurance policy and made Wabash the owner of the policy. John received a significant tax benefit since the College will receive the full value of the death benefit. There are many ways and variations to make Wabash a beneficiary in your life

insurance policy. Naming Wabash as the policy owner is one such way. To learn more call Dave Troutman at [765-361-6135](tel:765-361-6135) and check the Planned Giving Guide at <http://wabash.giftplans.org>.

On a special note I want to thank all of you who have made gifts to the College this fiscal year. Many of you have contributed to our Class of 69 Dean Moore Scholarship Fund, to the Annual Fund, and to other College funds. Every thought and every dollar you give to Wabash means so much and is greatly appreciated. Unless you visit the campus from time to time you may not easily see the results and benefits of your generous gifts over the years, but they are there. You see it in the students, in the faculty, the staff, the facilities, the beautiful campus, and the broad range of activities taking place every day at Wabash and around the world. Wabash College is truly unique in educating gentlemen and with your gifts you are a key part in the process of providing an outstanding and remarkable liberal arts education.

January saw the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Celebration of Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work with 42 oral presentations and 32 poster presentations, in the Detchon Center (I still call it Yandes Hall). The scope and breadth of original research performed by Wabash students is truly remarkable. This speaks highly for the quality of the Wabash faculty.

On February 6 Wabash hosted its 5<sup>th</sup> Entrepreneurship Summit with 12 speakers, many from the medical technology field, with a networking luncheon, and an engaging panel discussion on entrepreneurship. The summit was well attended by the student body.

The Wabash wrestling team placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the 2016 NCAA Division III National Championship with two wrestlers winning national titles and three winning All-American honors. Some little Giants!

The new Residence Life District for independent students is almost complete. The buildings are beautiful (pictures). Landscaping is not yet in but getting close. The dedication ceremony will be Saturday, 14 May. Crawford Street has been repaved - a major improvement! Martindale is well under way in its renovation (picture). When completed in August it will be a truly beautiful residence hall.

Big Bash 2106 is 3, 4, and 5 June. Class of '66 is having their 50th reunion. Aren't these the guys who treated you "well" when you were freshmen? If you are not far from Wabash or are in the area that weekend consider coming to the Big Bash Banquet Friday evening. It is always a good time with excellent food and great companionship in the finest Wabash spirit. I will be there, hoping some of you may also stop by.

One of the (many) short comings of my letters is the lack of class news, primarily because I do not hear too much from you. If you have stories or family news or anything you would like to share with your class mates please drop me a line. I enjoy writing the class letters but sometimes struggle on what to write.. My goal is to always stay in touch with you and keep you up to date on Wabash and events.

Wishing everyone the best in the summer season.  
Stay safe! ...and stay in touch!

Warm Wabash '69 Regards!

**Ken** **W69**



Resident Life District – 19 February



Resident Life District – 19 February

Martindale – 19 February



Campus sunset – 19 February

Forest Hall - 2 April



Indy 500 Day at Wabash – 12 April      Fast turns around the campus!

Honoring Tom Runge at the IAWB Inaugural Leadership Breakfast at the NCAA Hall of Champions





Walnut frame picture of F-35 and the walnut plaque I made, cut from a tree too close to our horse track. The plaque for 45 years of dedicated service was given on behalf of our Class of 69. Dr. Lon Porter cut the laser images in his chemistry lab. The book on left and the red plaque were given by the IAWM. Here is the poem I read in my remarks honoring Tom Runge. This is the first time he heard the poem and was visibly moved upon hearing his son wrote it. The poem tells it all!

### **A Wabash Man**

A Wabash Man is a gentleman, from the local 'ville to afar.  
 A Wabash Man is a family man, blessed with wife and sons.  
 A Wabash Man is a patriot, proud of country, and fights for thee.  
 A Wabash Man works hard, but still finds time to play.  
 A Wabash Man leaves a legacy, beyond his end of day.  
 Here's to you Tom Runge, a true Wabash Man,  
 to father from son.  
 by *Chris Runge '94*