



## WABASH COLLEGE

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### *Class Agents Letter*

Alumni and Parent Relations

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### **Class of 1969**

#### **Class Agent**

Ken Crawford

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17 June 2016

**50<sup>th</sup> Reunion – June 2019**

Gentlemen of the Class of 69,

As the summer days grow longer (at least to the 21<sup>st</sup>) and we look forward to warm sun, blue skies, and enjoyable days on the golf course, on vacation, or somewhere in the world, I just wanted to take a moment to bring you up to date on a few recent events at the College and our Class.

**4/27 Wabash Day of Giving.** It was a record day. \$619, 292 was given to the College in 3,529 donations made by 3,030 unique donors over the 24-hour period. The extent of generosity and philanthropy shown by alumni, students, faculty, parents and friends exceeded all expectations. Particularly interesting was the level of student participation with a total of 853 students giving. The Class of 2019 beat everyone with 259 students giving, followed by 2018 with 220, 2016 with 192, and 2017 with 182. From the alumni classes 2004 had the lead with 88 giving. Our class had 33, much ahead of the other classes in the 60's. There were 69 affinity challenges. We especially want to thank Dave Pancost on his challenge for Martindale with 62 giving, and John Burrell on his challenge for the '69 Kappa Sigs with 21 giving. I managed to have 32 give to my Dean Moore Scholarship challenge, of which 20 were from other classes ranging from 1960 to 2008. Overall 26% of the Wabash alumni base gave on 4/27, beating all other schools who had days of giving. The closest school was Notre Dame with 17% of its alumni giving. The devotion and dedication of alumni to Wabash College is truly unique. On behalf of the College and our Class of 69 I want to express our appreciation and thank all who gave on 4/27. It was an outstanding effort. 4/27 was a good day for the College and for all who participated.

**Commencement.** On Sunday, May 15, 195 students received their diplomas (still sheepskin) in the 178<sup>th</sup> Commencement of Wabash College. It was a beautiful sunny day but just a touch on the cool side. 71 of the seniors (36% of the class) graduated with honors, another sign of the high quality of teaching by the Wabash faculty. We wish to congratulate Daniel Craig for earning his Fulbright Scholarship as an English Teaching Assistant working in southern Germany. He is the seventh senior to receive a Fulbright Scholarship, along with one Rhodes

Scholar, in the past three years. We wish all graduates success in their new careers in the coming years, whether it be in medical or law school, graduates studies, business, or service in America or distant lands. We know they will do well and hope they will come back home to Wabash from time to time. Wabash College will always be their home, as it is our home. We welcome the Class of 2016 in to our unique brotherhood of Wabash College alumni.

**Big Bash 2016.** Fifty years ago the Class of 1966 graduated from Wabash College in an era of expanding conflict in Vietnam and increasing national discord on the war. Times were not easy. Today on this peaceful weekend in June 2016, 66 members of the Class of 1966 returned to Wabash College and Big Bash to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion. With 75% (136) of the class making a gift the Class of 1966 presented Wabash College a gift of \$ 8,000,000. This beat the \$ 5.5 million record last year from the Class of 1965. The Class of '66 also won most members and highest percentage attending and the chapel sing. I attended the Big Bash Banquet Friday in what was a very enjoyable evening with an excellent dinner and good Wabash fellowship, bringing back many stories and memories of Wabash in the 1960's.

**Housing Project.** The new Residential Life District (pictures) was completed and formally turned over to the College on Saturday, 14 June, with a ceremony attended by many donors to the housing project. This is a major milestone for improving the quality of life for Wabash's independent students. Progress on Martindale (picture) is moving forward with an August opening date. It will be a beautiful building. The new Class of 2020 coming to Wabash in August will have the full benefits of the new housing.

**Class News.** I recently received an email from Tom Gran saying he has retired from his ten years of work at the Nevada National Security Site (formally known as the Nevada Test Site) and has moved to Findlay, Ohio. He enjoys teaching at the University of Findlay a class in industrial hygiene sampling and calculations, even using the ole PhysChem phrase – “a mole is a mole is a mole”! He says this keeps him in green fees. Our best wishes to Tom in his retirement with many enjoyable days on the golf course. We hope to see him come back home again to Wabash for a football game in the near future.

If you have any news you wish to share with our class I would really enjoy hearing from you.

**Fiscal Year 2015-16.** On 30 June the current College fiscal year comes to an end. Our class has seen an outstanding effort by classmates to give to the College. As of 18 June, 81 class members have given. We are down slightly from the pace last year. At this time 23 class members who gave last year and in preceding years have not yet given this fiscal year. Our goal is to at least sustain a level of class giving consistent with our past few years, if we can. This will take a little effort. As the closing days of June fade into the “evening breeze”, I might ask each of you who have not yet given to consider giving a dollar (or two) to 'ol Wabash. Every dollar helps! We will be honored to have your name once again on our Class of 69 Honor Roll. Please give it some thought. As always you can mail a check to Wabash College, Annual Fund, PO Box 352, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, call 877-743-4545, or give on-line at

[www.wabash.edu/giving/give](http://www.wabash.edu/giving/give). Every dollar helps and even a small gift has a big impact for Wabash.

For all you have given this year I sincerely thank you for your gifts, your thoughts for the College, and all you do for Wabash. The results and impact of your gifts are seen in the students and the faculty, in the class rooms, on the campus, and all that is taking place at Wabash.

I do hope you can make it back to campus from time to time for the many College activities and games. Maybe a football game this fall? The DePauw game is at Wabash this year.

I wish everyone a good summer! Enjoy the long summer days with your family and friends, and have a few cool ones!

The pictures attached were taken 13 June.

As always... stay safe!..and stay in touch!

**WABASH ALWAYS FIGHTS!**

With Best Wabash 69 Regards,

Ken      **W69**



Residential Life District on Crawford Street – east



Crawford Street - center



Crawford Street - west



Milligan Street - across new parking lot



Martindale



Time and Center Hall