

Class Agents Letter

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Class of 1966

<u>Class Agent</u> Cal Black Alumni & Affinity Group Engagement Office 301 W. Wabash Ave. Crawfordsville, IN 47933 765-361-6360 alumni@wabash.edu

July 1, 2025

ANOTHER CHALLENGE-ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY!

Dear Men of '66,



Several weeks ago Roger Thies called and had an idea that he wanted to discuss. While all who served deserve our respect and thanks, Roger wondered if there might be a naming opportunity in the new community center (replacing the Campus Center) in memory of our classmate, Mike Hall, who was killed in Viet Nam. Roger also thought that perhaps we could honor all of our alumni who were killed in Viet Nam.

Contact with the College was very positive, and they were not surprised the Class of '66 was ready to take on another challenge. One of the most visible naming opportunities is the Senior Arch. The Senior Arch currently sits between Goodrich Hall and Sparks Center, and people

walk underneath while going between the campus Mall circle and the Allen Athletics and Recreation Center. It has become the center of a tradition since students do not walk under the arch until they are graduates. After each class goes through commencement in Little Giant Stadium, the president and faculty lead the class on a march under the arch for the first time as alumni. It is a very visible and important landmark on campus. Rebuilding this arch is necessary due to the design of the new community center that will replace the Sparks Center.

We plan to memorialize the four Wabash alumni, (see below) including our classmate Michael Hall '66, who were killed in action in the Vietnam War by raising \$250,000 for the naming rights to the rebuild of the Senior Arch. On a plaque, we will honor these men, list our class as leading the effort, and list individual donors.

The four Wabash alumni killed in action in the Vietnam War.

- Philip Ducat '62, 1st alumni killed in action in 1966
- Randall Henze '65, killed in action in 1968
- Michael Hall '66, killed in action in 1968
- Robert Bardach '67, killed in action in 1967



We want to reach \$250,000 in gifts and pledge commitments by June 1, 2026, before celebrating our 60th class reunion June 5-7, 2026. Our classmate, Roger Thies, wants to provide momentum to our fundraising effort by matching your gifts dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000. His generosity is a terrific way to launch this class project.

The College will count gift commitments up to five years in length.

There are various ways to make your gift. When making your gift please note that it is for the "Senior Arch Project."

- 1. Make a gift online at <u>www.wabash.edu/egift</u>
- 2. Mail a check to Wabash College, Advancement Office Attn: Steve Hoffman, 301 W. Wabash Ave., Crawfordsville, IN 47933
- 3. Contact Steve Hoffman at Wabash 765-376-2832 or hoffmans@wabash.edu to
 - a. Make a multi-year commitment
 - b. Make a gift of stock or other asset
 - c. Ask a question about the community center or this class fundraising effort

Our 60th reunion is going to be very special, and this effort will be the highlight of the weekend. Additional plans are underway at this writing, and our very own Bill Cook has already indicated he will be our song leader along with Bill Berry for Chapel Sing. The dates of the reunion are June 5-7, and details about motel rooms, etc. will be forthcoming. Get out your Pots, living unit sweatshirts, letter sweaters, Sphinx Club pots, etc. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend! THIS WILL BE SPECIAL!!

Oooohh WahWah-Loud and Greasy!!

Cal