



Class Agents Letter

Class of 1966

Class Agent
Cal Black

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Dear Men of '66,

60th REUNION COMMITTEE

For the last year your reunion committee (John Flanagan, Dave Krattebol, Roger Thies, Cal Black) has conducted numerous telephone calls and zoom meetings. We simply want to provide a great experience for each of you next June 5-7 at our 60th reunion. Many thoughts and ideas have been discussed, but the real impetus came last March when Roger Thies suggested we honor Wabash alumni killed in Viet Nam. Our own Micheal Hall is one of the four alumni to lose their lives in Viet Nam.

Roger issued a challenge to all of us as he pledged \$50,000 to get this project started. Roger also thought that perhaps there might be a naming opportunity in the new community center, and the College thought that we could put our class name on the rebuild of the Senior Arch. The Senior Arch is located in a very high visibility area of the campus, and an all-weather plaque with all donor's names will be placed thereon. This was announced in the July 2025 class letter, and so any gifts made to the College from our class members from July 2025 to June 30, 2026 will qualify for the Class of '66 plaque. WILL YOUR NAME BE ON THE PLAQUE?

IS YOUR NAME ON THE LIST BELOW?

The following classmates have indicated they will attend our 60th reunion.

Harry Antibus, Cal Black, Jerry Blossom, Riley Brissman, John Flanagan, Jim Gineris, Jack Hauber, John Herrin, Larry Haugh, David Kendall, Dave Krattebol, John Lennes, Ned Luce, Bob Main, Max Rudicel, Walt Snodell, George Taybos, Roger Thies, Stan Vogel, Stan Walker, Jay Williams. Visit wabash.edu/bigbash to see the schedule and register.

CLASSMATE NEWS

Max Rudicel advised that he has had some recent health issues but is planning to attend our 60th reunion. His son, Rob, is a Wabash trustee.



Jay Williams has sent several very thoughtful messages and advises he recently had some spine surgery but is doing very well. Jay is a Wabash trustee.

Squier Neal has commented on the Indiana University football season as he was in law school there the last time IU went to the Rose Bowl.

Jack Hauber will split time between our 60th reunion and family activities but looks forward to seeing all classmates in attendance at the reunion.

Ken Schild is selling his home, downsizing and is hopeful he may make our reunion.

UPDATE-OVERALL CLASS GIVING

At our 60th Reunion, we will once again present President Feller and the College with a “big check,” just as we proudly did at our 50th and 55th reunions. The amount on that check will represent our class’s total philanthropy to the College over the past five years — including newly disclosed or increased planned/estate gifts such as bequests.

As of this writing, the total is approaching **\$10 million**.

We believe there are additional bequests that have either not yet been established or have not yet been disclosed to the College. To encourage this important step, a generous classmate has committed an additional \$1 million from his estate to match any new or increased bequests dollar-for-dollar.

For example:

If you inform the College that Wabash is included in your estate plans for \$50,000, that commitment will be matched — bringing the total impact to \$100,000.

- If you previously shared that Wabash is included for 10% of your estate, and that 10% was valued at \$25,000 at the time of disclosure but is now worth \$75,000, the \$50,000 increase will be matched — doubling the added impact to \$100,000.

The bottom line: If you have made a new bequest, or if the value of a previously disclosed bequest has grown, please contact any member of the Advancement Office or Steve Hoffman at 765-376-2832 hoffmans@wabash.edu to ensure it is counted and matched.



Unfortunately, we have lost another classmate, Ronald Horndasch, and his obituary follows: Ronald E. Horndasch, 81, ascended into the arms of Jesus on Saturday, January 17, 2026, with son-in-law Darrell Goering at his bedside after a courageous battle with Parkinson's Disease. Ron was born in Chicago, Illinois on November 14, 1944 to Hubert and Anne Catherine (Jacobs) Horndasch.

Ron graduated from Honey Creek High School in 1962, attended Wabash College after which he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps (1966). He was deployed to Vietnam in 1968-1969 where he was a "boots on the ground" Marine. He served a second tour from 1970-1971 as a radar air strike controller. He was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant in 1974. He received many medals for his service in Vietnam and was very proud of his tenure as a Marine. He was exposed to Agent Orange which would later invade his body with Parkinson's Disease.

After his military service, Ron worked for Singer Corporation (now Lockheed-Martin) as a weapons tester on numerous Naval ships. This allowed him to see the world. After a mass reduction in force, Ron returned to Terre Haute and began his career with Eli Lilly, Clinton Lab as an instrument technician. He retired in August, 2009 after 20 years of service. Ron met his wife, Judi in 1989 at an adult literacy group held at the library. He had a passion to help young men desiring to join the service but that were not able to pass the required ASVAB. Further, he wanted to teach adult men to read. He partnered with Education Services at Sisters of Providence as a volunteer and within a few months, they were awarded a \$2,000 grant for supplies needed. Classes for young men wanting to pass the ASVAB were conducted at The Life Center and the success rate was greater than 75%.

In 2012, Ron became the first Veteran Volunteer with Hospice of the Wabash Valley. He and his wife, Judi were instrumental in helping staff develop the We Honor Veterans program. As a veteran volunteer, Ron visited Hospice patients where he gained the trust and companionship of many veterans approaching the end of life. He participated in more than 100 veteran pinnings, a recognition and thank you service to veterans.

Ron loved flowers and landscaping. He maintained the most beautiful & meticulous yard in the neighborhood.

Ron loved his family first and foremost after God. He was a devoted son, husband, father, Pop Pop, Papaw Great and friend. Ron was a faithful member of The Life Center church. He and Judi spent many years vacationing with family to favorite destinations such as Kentucky Lake, Gulf Shores, Branson, Destin and Daytona Beach. Where there was good fishing, beach bumming and boating/jet skis, we were there!

Ron is survived by his loving wife of 33 years, Judi (Boyd) Horndasch, daughter Heather Stark (Travis Ely), step-children Angie Goering (Darrell), Malcolm Dean Boyd (Lisa), half-sister, Cheryl Diebold (Mark), step-brother John Whalen, brother and sister-in-law Johnnie Rogers (Georgia), grandchildren April Garrett (Chris), Tersha McNeely (Sam), Breanna Hagenow, Carli Yoder (Buck),

Wyatt Hagenow (Laura), Tanner Hagenow (Angelina), Noah and Adam Stark, and 24 great grandchildren. Ron has many aunts, uncles and cousins plus many close friends.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents, adult daughter, Cathy, mother-in-law Mary Rogers, stepfather Richard Quist, son-in-law Jarrod Hagenow, brother-in-law Mark Killion, and sister-in-law Anita Killion.

We want to express our sincerest thank you to Hospice of the Wabash Valley and Clinton Gardens for the loving, compassionate care given to our Marine.

Visitation will be at Debaun Springhill Chapel on Saturday, January 24th, 2026 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. Service at 1:00 pm with Darrell Goering Jr officiating. Full military rite burial will follow at Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Ron's memory to Hospice of the Wabash Valley, the Loyal Veteran's Battalion or The Life Center Church.

“Thou Counselor in College days, thou guide in riper years.”

Cal



[West Earns All-America Honors](#)



[Day Finishes National Runner-Up/Waters Claims Seventh](#)



[Ten Wabash Track and Field Athletes Earn All-Region Honors](#)



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