

Class of 1966

Class Agent
Cal Black

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John Flanagan is a member of the 60th reunion committee, and he has provided a very wonderful and inspiring message.



Good day, fellow '66 members!

When Cal invited me to share some thoughts with my classmates just a few weeks before our 60th class reunion, I was honored that he believed I could deliver an impactful message to my well-educated classmates. Looking back on my Wabash experience and the life-long lessons learned there, this rambling class letter highlights a few topics that stand out.

Let's start with a quick observation --- Have you ever seen a U-Haul trailer behind a hearse? Of course not - you can't take it with you!

After you take care of providing for the care and comfort of your family members, carefully consider sharing some of your estate with Wabash College. Our class was shaped, modeled, and educated to become the accomplished Wabash College Class of '66. We demonstrated our care and generosity at our 55th reunion. Once again we have the opportunity to say thank you by supporting the Wabash experience for future Wabash students.

The College's thank you letter for establishing the Flanagan Family Scholarship Fund includes a great sentence --- "Wabash provides life-changing opportunities and upholds our historic commitment of providing a residential liberal arts education to qualified men regardless of their financial circumstances."

All of us matured under the unique Gentlemen's Rule to live responsible and productive lives guided by the Rule's precepts. The impact and influence of living under the Gentlemen's Rule for four or more years guided us to make wise decisions that lasted through our 60th class reunion. Each of us has an opportunity to share the legacy of maturing under the Gentlemen's Rule by donating or gifting to Wabash College so scholarships will support the next generation of graduates.

Beyond the classroom, and in addition to the maturing influence provided by the Wabash faculty, the guidance and examples provided by the Juniors and Seniors in my living unit impacted me as a freshman. They imparted a sense of purpose and direction as they marched toward graduation, grad school, or careers. This group of men exemplified the seriousness of attending Wabash College, and for this we should be grateful.

The life-long friendships among the Class of '66 are incredibly strong. Plan to attend and participate in our reunion the first weekend in June. This event allows us to reconnect, to catch up on our families, to compare travel experiences, to share the benefits of volunteering, and to learn how each of us has adapted to life after work. We can also share pictures and brag about our perfect grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Hope you are all looking forward to our Class of '66 dinner on Saturday night and to Raising a Glass. Raise a glass to our spouses and families. Raise a glass to Wabash College. Raise a glass to the memory of our departed classmates. Raise a glass to the Class of '66 Senior Arch honoring those Wabash grads who gave their lives in Vietnam. Raise a glass to the magnificent and spectacular Class of '66 Reunion Gift to the College. Raise a glass for our gathering tonight. Raise a glass to thank our Class Agent Cal Black and his wife Marsha for keeping us in touch, organizing the weekend, and sharing newsletters and humor. Raise a glass looking forward to our 65th reunion. And finally, raise a glass to getting home safely after raising so many glasses as we come together to celebrate tonight.

John Flanagan '66

WHO IS ATTENDING OUR 60TH REUNION ON JUNE 5-7, 2026?

Here are our classmates who have indicated they will attend Big Bash and our 60th reunion: Harry Antibus, Charlie Bell, Cal Black, Jerry Blossom, Riley Brissman, Bill Cook, John Flanagan, Jim Gineris, Jack Hauber, Larry Haugh, John Herrin, David Kendall, Dave Krattebol, John Lennes, Bob Main, Max Rudicel, Bob Smith, Walt Snodell, George Taybos, Roger Thies, William Todd, Stan Vogel, Stan Walker, Mel Washburn, Jay Williams, Ken Wood.

HAMPTON INN MOTEL RESERVATIONS

We have twenty rooms reserved for our class and the code for this block of rooms is B60. The manager is Nikki Copeland, telephone number 765-366-3563 and the Hampton number is 765-362-8884. Here are the names that have registered under this code: Flanagan, Krattebol, Thies, Wood, Bell, Herrin, Kendall, Rudicel, Smith, Blossom.

IF YOU HAVE MADE A RESERVATION AND ARE NOT MENTIONED ABOVE, YOU MAY WANT TO VERIFY THAT YOU DO HAVE A RESERVATION. SOME JUST HAVE NOT USED THE CODE WHICH IS FINE, BUT VERIFY YOUR RESERVATION!

ANNUAL GIVING TO THE COLLEGE

We have 166 members on our rolls, and to date we only have 65 donors. This is down from where we usually are, so if you have not made a gift yet this fiscal year please do so as we want to continue to lead all classes. If you recall, we had 75% for our 50th reunion-a record that will stand for many years.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER AND ATTEND OUR 60TH REUNION

Here is the link for you to see the schedule and register for Big Bash and our 60th reunion: wabash.edu/bigbash. The RSVP deadline is Wednesday, May 27. Please contact the Alumni and Affinity Group Engagement Office at alumni@wabash.edu or (765) 361-6360 if you need assistance.



OUR CLASS IS SPECIAL, AND THE COLLEGE WILL MAKE A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT OUR CLASS GIFT TO THE COLLEGE

Over a year ago, Roger Thies suggested we name something on campus in memory of the Wabash men who lost their lives in Viet Nam. Our classmate Mike Hall is one of the four heroes identified by the College who gave their lives for our country. We easily met the goal (not surprising) the College set for us and have absolutely exceeded all expectations for this inspiring memorial.

OUR CLASS-THE CLASS OF WABASH COLLEGE!

“thy loyal sons shall ever love thee..”

Cal