



## Class Agents Letter

Class of 1972

### Class Agents

Rick Fobes  
John Bridge  
Tom Ristine

Alumni & Affinity Group Engagement Office  
301 W. Wabash Ave.  
Crawfordsville, IN 47933  
765-361-6360  
alumni@wabash.edu  
wabash.edu

December, 2025

Gentlemen:

I wanted to get one more letter to you before the end of the year. Hope all your lives are well and your families are thriving. From what I have heard from many of you, we are all in various stages of working, semi-retirement, retirement, downsizing, dealing with medical issues, and just trying to figure out what we want to do, now that we are passing the 75+ year mark. Good for us! I'm still teaching one senior level Marketing Course at North Central College in Naperville, IL, and loving it. It keeps me disciplined, up to date on what's going on, and gets me out of bed early at least three times a week! I need that. I've signed up for one more year, then we'll see what happens. I still play keyboards in a rock band, and I try to get to the YMCA for some cardio on the treadmill 2-3 times per week. I know all of you are sorting out your routines. I just wish you all the best as we head into the holidays.

### **The College**

I was on campus earlier this year. Beautiful as always. Still tough looking at this big empty space which used to be the Sparks Center! From what I can gather, all things are well at Wabash. Raising funds and keeping enrollment at acceptable levels continues to be critical, but the Wabash community, along with all of you have helped in achieving the college's goals by stepping up and supporting our Alma Mater.

### **Annual Giving**

There is still time to contribute to Wabash's Annual Fund, as our tax year comes to a close. Go to the Wabash website ([wabash.edu/give](http://wabash.edu/give)), call the College at 877-743-4545, or send in a check to Wabash College / Advancement Office / 301 W. Wabash Ave. / Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Anything you can give is much appreciated, and contributes to maintaining and building the school we are so proud of.



## Other News

The Little Giants lost the 131st Monon Bell Classic 41-20 on Nov. 15. The next week, Wabash stunned Ohio Northern 32–31 with a last-second touchdown and two-point conversion to win the 2025 ForeverLawn Bowl in Canton, Ohio. (This is the first time I had heard of this Bowl game!)

Former Wabash Football Coach Greg Carlson passed away on Nov. 15—on the day of the Monon Bell game—after a decade-long battle with cancer. Coach Carlson served Wabash for 21 years including 18 as Head Football Coach from 1983-2000. He was inducted into the Wabash College Athletics Hall of Fame in 2008.

## 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion

My fellow Class Agent John Bridge and I were briefly discussing the fact that in 2027, we will be celebrating our 55<sup>th</sup> Year since graduation. As so many of you who attended our 50<sup>th</sup> recall, Wabash recognized the classes who were over 50 years at the Big Bash by grouping them altogether. We discussed getting some early input from you to gauge interest in having a more formal 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion of our class during Big Bash in June, 2027. Is there interest among you to plan for this? John said early next year, he could reach out to representatives from all the living units to see if there is interest. We have such a strong class, it might be fun, rather than being wrapped up with all those other old guys from other classes. In the interim, please feel free to reach out to Tom, John or me if you would be interested in coordinating our own **55<sup>th</sup> Reunion**. We'll then go from there.

## News From You

Heard from **Gordon (Gordy) Goodwin** earlier this year. “Late last summer (2024) our farmhouse and property were added to the National Register of Historic Places; the house dates to the mid-1800s, the barn a little later. This seems improbable since we’re only about 90 seconds from 96<sup>th</sup> and Keystone. The only other thing I have to report is that sometime before Christmas I saw a guy at the gym who was wearing a t-shirt that said “DePauw Tennis,” and, despite credentials as a psychologist, I was wondering what kind of person would admit to such a thing....much less advertise it in public? Maybe someone in the class could enlighten me.” Good question!

**Rick Severinghaus** writes: “Over the decades, I've been woefully delinquent in communicating with Wabash folks. All I can offer is, life is busy! This is my 1<sup>st</sup> ever note to you/the class. I was at Wabash, one year, '68-'69, in the Beta house. I left to enter the Naval Academy, with my appointment by Lee Hamilton. Four years later, June '73, with a BS in Economics, commissioned as Ensign, USN, I joined the submarine force. Served on 5 submarines (USS Guardfish, USS Pollack, USS La Jolla, USS Alaska (Blue crew), and USS Annapolis (my command tour). Following my CO tour, I trained CO's and their crews in tactics, and led a team contributing to design of advanced combat systems and sonar simulators.

Following retirement from the navy, I worked as a defense contractor for some two decades, working on simulator designs and Fleet exercises, and spent a decade as a consultant to the Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory.

Sadly, I have long since lost contact with friends gained during my one year at Wabash. But the Beta folks have found me time and again through many Navy moves back and forth across country, so I continue to receive their magazine! We have 3 children, spread across 3 states – Illinois, Virginia, and Washington – all doing well.

All in all, the past 5 decades have been great. And, it all started with a great year at Wabash College. Rick, Virginia Beach VA” Thanks, Rick!

From **Hugh McClelland**. (This is news from earlier this year...sorry). “Our news from St Augustine (Florida) is that Linda and I are moving to Westminster St Augustine, a Life Plan Community. We're not giving up any of our St. Augustine communities, we're adding Westminster. A number of friends from church live there—we know it well and look forward to it. Regardless, L and I are at peace and are excited for what God has in store for us during this next chapter of our adventure together (and I'll get to play golf at the World Golf Village).” Nice!

Heard from **Gary Wolf** earlier this year. Gary lives in Dangriga Town, Belize. “I oversee a solar installation at one of those fancy resorts (in the area). I only get to see in brochures normally. Have had rough seas all week, so the 45-minute ride over and through large swales in a small open twin-outboard means getting soaked to the bone coming and going.”

(Gary shared that he's had some real heart challenges this past year (like many of us), and I trust he's doing ok.)

He continued: "I taught some Journalism and Radio-TV classes while doing PhD. work at SIU-Carbondale back in the '90s. Also had a weekly public affairs program on the PBS station there for two years, did three 60-minute docs, then was an Asst. Prof. at Middle Tennessee State University for seven years, mostly Media Writing for all Mass Comm majors (a lot of Recording Industry students), Reporting, Editing, and writing coach at the student newspaper, 1996-2004." Hope you are staying healthy, Gary!

Nice note from **Paul Martin**. (Again, I received this earlier this year, so I hope it's up to date!)

"As I write I am still in the nation of Louisiana and in Shreveport. Do you remember the song, "In the cotton fields back home"? One of the lines goes, "It was down in Louisiana about a mile from Texarkana in those old cotton fields back home." Well, that's just about where I live.

In the Episcopal Church clergy have to retire at age 72. So, I am semi-retired. I left as Rector of St. Paul's, Shreveport, a church I had served for 24 years and I am now helping out part time at St. Mark's Cathedral, Shreveport. This is supposed to give me time for golf, tennis, etc. Supposed to. Not seeing it. Golf game is fading, Tennis is slower. But I still live in hope. I no longer use my kayak. The idea of going down a stream only to have two eyeballs pop up level with mine is not good.

That being said, life is good. Married to Christine (a Brit) for 46 years+, three great children, all doing well, and 6 grandchildren, also doing well. I celebrated this June 50 years of ordained ministry." Thanks Paul.

I keep in pretty close contact with **Don Lawton**. He just moved to a new home in Indianapolis, with his wife Molly, not far from his son Samuel. All are doing well.

At least once a year, we get together at Don's with other friends from our Indy high school to have dinner and share stories. Great fun. Don is retired from dentistry, but continues to help with fellowship programs and dentistry in a number of countries, including the Ukraine.

Finally, I spent a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July in the Land O' Lakes Wisconsin area last summer with **Bob Ivancevich, John Failey and Paul Gojkovich**. Ivan hosted all of us for 3 or 4 days of food, fun, and boat riding at his home in Land O' Lakes. We even rode in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade in one of Ivan's classic cars. My

band, Big Brother's Vinyl had the honor of coincidentally playing at a summer festival there while we were all together, so that was really fun. I was quite nervous playing in front of my talented Delt brothers from Wabash, but all went ok! Below is a picture of all of us which I thought you'd enjoy.



(From L to R):

Ivan and Sue, Tuke and Pierce, Jill and John, Paul and Mary, Rick

That's all for now. Have a great holiday and end of the year. You can email me anytime with your news at [rwfobes@gmail.com](mailto:rwfobes@gmail.com)

Rick