

Class of 1981

Class Agents
Peter Wright
Mike Robak

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

May 2026

Fellow Members of the Class of 1981,

We are now less than a month away from our 45th reunion – just over five years from the big 5-0, and a little more than six years from Wabash’s bicentennial. In other words, we are officially in the “*don’t put this off again*” phase of life.

The Big Bash RSVP deadline is May 27, 2026, so there’s still time to turn this into an actual reunion rather than a quorum. Reminder: please use the [online registration form for Big Bash 2026](#).

If you cannot dedicate the weekend to joining all the festivities, please consider joining us for some of the activities on Friday or Saturday.

Friday, June 5

- Registration opens at 9:00 a.m. in the Allen Center and goes on all weekend
- Golf scramble at Rocky Ridge (shotgun start at 10:00 a.m.)
- Campus tours from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Welcome Back Lunch in Chadwick beginning at 11:30 a.m.
- Afternoon symposium: *Healthcare and the Liberal Arts*
- Kickoff Celebration Dinner from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Wally’s Pub open in the afternoon and after dinner

Saturday, June 6

- Morning bike ride and fun run/walk
- Fathers Roundtable program and breakfast

- Alumni Chapel Sing at 11:00 a.m., followed by picnic lunch
- Reunion photos after lunch
- Afternoon updates from Dean of Students Scott Brown and President Scott Feller
- Reception in Chadwick Court
- Class Dinner at 6:45 p.m.
- Wally's Pub open in the afternoon and after dinner

Sunday

- Informal buffet breakfast to wrap up the weekend

Let us offer a few gentle nudges (and a couple not-so-gentle ones):

- “I’ll go to the 50th” is the new “I’ll start exercising next Monday.” We all know how that goes.
- You don’t have to do everything. Come for one event—the class dinner, a walk across campus, or even just a handshake and a story or two. Partial credit counts. Extra credit will be given for participating in the Chapel Sing.
- Bring a friend (or convince one). Misery loves company—but so does nostalgia.
- Think of it as a live-action group chat from 1981. No passwords required, and the jokes are still terrible.
- You’ve earned this. We survived Wabash and one or more careers as well as 5 recessions. Showing up now is the easy part.

We all have competing demands - family, work, travel, and the occasional desire to sit quietly and not attend anything at all. But reunions aren’t really about the schedule; they’re about the people. The conversations you didn’t expect, the stories that improve with age, and the reminder of a shared experience that still means something.

So, let’s keep reaching out, checking in, and encouraging one another. Even showing up for a single event can make this reunion memorable—for you and for someone else who’s hoping to see a familiar face.

A bit of College news: on April 8, Minnesota Wabash alumni hosted President Feller for his first Twin Cities visit, and turnout was strong. His remarks focused on keeping Wabash thriving in a challenging higher ed landscape. A recent Huron Consulting report suggests over a quarter of private colleges may face closure or merger in the next decade—about 442 institutions. The good news: President Feller and the Board are working hard to ensure Wabash is not on that list. Planning for the bicentennial in 2032 is also well underway, and it's encouraging to see how our class efforts align with that long-term vision. Come to the Big Bash and learn in person from President Feller about what Wabash is doing to respond to the demographic cliff caused in part by the drop in birthrates during the 2008. See you in Crawfordsville next month!

WAF

Peter and Mike