

Class of 1955

Class Agent
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Dear Classmates,

It's July and the Wabash class of 2023 has graduated and run from Crawfordsville to get this world of ours straightened out. The Big Bash weekend was a smash, as usual, and Wabash continues its role as one of the top liberal Arts colleges in the country.

It pleases me that 40% of Wabash alumni have contributed financially to the college every year for the last ten years. That puts us in a really good position when it comes to receiving funds from the various foundations that small colleges depend upon. (Most colleges - including our Greencastle friends – can depend on donations from 10% to 15% of their alumni.) It's also good to know that 95% of our 2022 graduates were in their first destination positions within six months of graduation. This figure was slightly lower than the previous few years, perhaps affected by lack of internships during the pandemic. 95% still puts Wabash in the very top ranks of Liberal Arts schools. We can be sure that Wabash Grads have an education as well as a diploma.

Sadly, Cliff Wagner passed away August 20, 2022. He is survived by his three children, Chip, Chase and Sarah, eight grandchildren, one great grandchild, his wife Anne, her two children and five grandchildren.

On campus, Cliff was a Sigma Chi. After graduation he joined the United States Marine Corps. Returning to Cincinnati, his home town, he joined the family business, Wagner and Sons Bottling Company. He later acquired, along with a partner, a local Insurance company, from which he ultimately retired.

Cliff was a family man, active in his church and coach of his girl's soccer teams. He enjoyed travel with his family. He leaves a powerful legacy of kindness, generosity, laughter and wit.

The college sent a notice that Rem Johnson passed away in April. Rem was probably the College's best known Alumnus on campus. He had supported Wabash teams strongly in many ways, traveling with them to many games. I was always glad to hear of Rem's campus activities, because I was too far away to do much and Rem covered for a lot of us absentee alums.

You'll find their remembrances at the end of the letter.

I've not heard from any classmates since my last letter, so this note will be limited. I'll not bore you with too many of my personal stories.

One pleasant experience: I had occasion to call Lynn Ault and had a good talk with him. I knew Lynn on campus as one of Wabash's quarter milers. He and the others were very gracious to me when I decided to try the quarter mile for a while. (they ran away from me on the track, but did it graciously.) Lynn, I'm sorry to report, had a strong stroke sometime back and is now confined to a wheelchair. He sounded fine on the phone and said he was living in an assisted living facility. He has a hard time with physical movement, but has a daughter living nearby who helps him with writing important things, running errands, etc.

Since I haven't heard from any classmates for some time, here's one of my stories: Our four children and their families get together at Christmas and have a good time exchanging gifts, etc., the usual Christmas stuff. Most years Santa visits with gifts, but sometimes his alter ego, "Bad Santa" also leaves a gift or two to those who have done something obnoxious or had an unusual experience during the year. Last Christmas there was a square box with my name on it no one would claim. As I opened it, I could see a perfect coffee mug -just what I needed! --But as the wrapper was pulled away, the mug was yellow, and had one word printed on it - "Depauw" and the face of a tiger! Obviously, Bad Santa had struck again!! Coffee drinks fine from the mug, and I'm reminded daily that there are other good colleges in the Midwest. Please, guys, I know it's a pain to write, but you all have had interesting things happen to you in the last 68 years - the rest of us would like to read about your experiences. You can write me at Wabash, the Alumni Office will see that I get your message or give you addresses.

Good health and Best wishes,

Bob Kellogg, Wabash, 1955



Clifford Paddack Wagner



Clifford "Cliff" Paddack Wagner passed away August 30, 2022, at the age of 89. Born and raised in Cincinnati, he graduated from Hughes High School and Wabash College in Indiana where he was a proud member of Sigma Chi. He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings and wife Patricia "Patsy". He is survived by their three children, son Chip (Alicia), daughter Chase Bahlman, daughter Sarah Wagner and loving grandchildren Kyle (Arielle), Adam (Chrissy), Preston, Harrison, Paddack, Edie, Leah and Logan and one great grandchild, Declan. He is also surviving is his wife, Anne, her two children, Jennifer Rodes (Scott) and Stephen Hutchinson (Shannon), and her five grandchildren. Upon graduation from Wabash College, he proudly served in The United States Marine Corps and then joined the family business, Wagner and

Son's Bottling Company in Cincinnati. He and partner Paul Gosiger subsequently acquired and developed the local independent insurance agency, Emory P. Zimmer Insurance Company, from which he ultimately retired. When they started their family, he and Patsy embraced every aspect of parenting. He attended all the sporting and school events, but really found his niche coaching his daughters in soccer with Patsy. They traveled the country with their teams to participate in tournaments. He was an active 56-year member of The City Club (formerly Gyro Club), the University Club, as well as a long-standing member of Knox Presbyterian Church in Hyde Park. The family enjoyed regular summer trips to northern Michigan with friends and family. Retirement led them to Maine and their house on the water enjoying lobster, looking for moose, and watching the eagle land on the rock in front of the house which would inspire the name of the property- Eagle Rock. In his final years, he and Anne liked a good game of gin rummy, rides in the country, a nightly Bourbon, and the love of their families. He leaves a powerful legacy of kindness, strength, generosity, laughter, and wit. This world is a better place because of him. Rest in peace, Cliff, Dad, G-Pa, Grampy, Wags, Tiffy, and Grandpa. Private services will be held at the convenience of the family. Interment Spring Grove Cemetery. In remembrance of Cliff, please consider a donation to the City Club of Cincinnati Foundation, 5303 Lester Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45213. Sympathy may be expressed at www.springgrove.org.

Legendary Wabash Supporter Rem Johnston '55 Passes Away

by Jim Amidon • February 20, 2023

Remington "Rem" A. Johnston III passed away in hospice care on February 18, 2023.

Born August 5, 1933 in Ossian, Indiana, he was the son of Remington and Elizabeth "Betty" Johnston. He graduated from P.A. Allen High School in Bluffton, Indiana in 1951. Following in the footsteps of his father (class of 1927) and grandfather (class of 1901), he graduated from Wabash College in Crawfordsville in 1955. He majored in political science and was a proud member of Sigma Chi fraternity. A "life-loyal Sig" – loyal and dedicated to generations of his brothers -- he and was awarded the Order of Constantine in 2022, the fraternity's highest honor.



He earned a degree in printing from Carnegie Mellon University and began a half-century career in the printing business. He spent eight years with Harris-Seybold Printing Machinery Company in Dallas, before returning to Bluffton in 1964 to lead his family's business, the Rem Johnston Printing Company.

Upon returning to Indiana, Rem became one of the most significant alumni volunteers in the history of Wabash College. He was a prolific recruiter, led the alumni association, assisted in organizing alumni events, and was particularly close to the Wabash athletic department. He traveled with the college's football, track, and golf teams, among others, which earned him the nickname "Big Cookie" because he always made sure student-athletes had snacks while traveling to athletic competitions – including big cookies from a Bluffton bakery.

He attended every Wabash football game, home and away, from 1970 through 1995 except for a single game in 1970 when his father died. Rem was exceptionally proud of his involvement with Wabash's 1977 football team, which played in the national championship game, the 1982 basketball team that won the national title, and the undefeated 1983 football team.

Rem received the highest honors bestowed by Wabash College. The National Association of Wabash Men (NAWM) honored him with the Alumni Award of Merit in 1971, making him the youngest person ever to receive the award. For his support of Wabash's athletic teams, he was inducted into the college's Athletics Hall of Fame in 1997. He served several terms on the Board of Directors of the NAWM and served a term on the Wabash College Board of Trustees. In 2018, Wabash President Gregory Hess awarded him an honorary doctorate, the same year the College named the campus gateway in his honor.

He received a Sagamore of the Wabash from Governor Robert Orr in 1983.

In addition to his passion for all-things Wabash, Rem was active in First Presbyterian Church in Fort Wayne, where he served as a youth-group leader. He volunteered as a docent at the Lincoln Museum and as a teacher with the Literacy Alliance in Fort Wayne. He was an avid golfer and bridge player, a member of the Orchard Ridge Country Club in Fort Wayne, and loved opera, classical music, and theater.

Rem had a passion for travel and especially enjoyed his trips to Mexico and Spain. He was also an energetic gardener and liked browsing antique stores. Perhaps more than anything, Rem will be remembered for introducing literally hundreds of Wabash students to new and interesting food, agreeing to pick up the tab if the students chose something from the menu they had never eaten. The relationships he formed with Wabash men evolved throughout their lives with Rem a constant source of wise counsel, celebratory hugs, and life guidance.

Memorial donations may be made to the Big Cookie Athletics Spirit Fund at Wabash College, c/o Advancement Office, 301 West Wabash Avenue, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933; online at www.wabash.edu/give; or by phone at (877) 743-4545.