



Class Agents Letter

Class of 1972

Class Agents

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Gentlemen:

I hope you and your families are having a safe and healthy Fall, '23. It's been a few months since our last Class Agent letter was published and distributed, written by Co-Class Agent **Tom Ristine**. Along with our 3rd Co-Class Agent, **John Bridge**, we are hoping to keep all of you even more informed about what's going on each year with the College, with Annual Giving, and with all of you. As we all move through our 70's, keeping in touch is getting more important every day!

Let me make a request right now to **please email me** some information about what you are up to these days. My Class Agent role is to report on all of you. For those at our 50th Reunion, the highlight for me was when we passed the microphone amongst all of you and you informally reported what was going on in your life...the good, bad or ugly news you were willing to share. What a great time for all!!! Please email me with anything you'd like included in my next letter. I know everyone will love to hear it. Just a simple email is all I ask: rwfobes@gmail.com

I want to also extend a sincere thanks to all of you who emailed me after I shared my news about my heart attack almost a year ago. Can you believe it?! Thank you so much for your very kind notes and wishes. I'm doing good. Exercising more often, better diet, regular check-ins with my cardiologist.

Medical science is amazing and the achievements and improvements they have made in cardiology over the past years are phenomenal. I'm back to teaching two college courses each semester, both in Business and Marketing...one at North Central College, the other at Elmhurst University (two fine Division III, liberal arts schools). Both schools meet Wabash from time to time in various sports competitions, so attending those games is always a treat for me.



A few bits of News: (Tom and/or John may add to this in future letters)

Annual Giving

FY'23 total Annual Giving for the College once again exceeded the goal of \$3.6MM with a total \$3,858,472...the second highest Annual Fund total in the College's history. Total Alumni participation was once again over 40%. Our Class once again did very well, with a participation rate of **40.2%**...a higher participation than the past few years except for our 50th Reunion year where participation was 47%. Total Annual giving by our Class of '72 in FY '23 was **\$275,638**, given by 68 donors (out of our solicitable roll of 169 classmates). Great job to all!

Got to spend some time this summer with **Bob Ivancevich** and his charming wife Susan in Land O Lakes Wisconsin. Ivan has been instrumental in creating and running the Land O Lakes Arts Organization for many years in that area. They have a series of musical events in the summer, and for the second year in a row, he invited the rock band I play in ("Big Brother's Vinyl") to participate in the event. What a great time. Thank to Ivan and Sue for being such wonderful hosts to all of us.

I also spent some time in Indy with **Don Lawton** and his lovely wife Molly. Don is retired from dentistry, but very busy, particularly this past summer, as he and others organized a 55th Reunion celebration for our high school class from North Central High School in Indy. I visited with **Dan Grube** as well at this classy event.

I was saddened to hear from John Bridge that **Finley Campbell** passed away this last August. As many of you know, Dr. Campbell joined our Class at our 50th Reunion in 2022, and participated in most of the events involving our class. He told us all that weekend that he always referred to himself as "a member of the Class of '72". Most of you know that Finley was recruited by Dean Moore to be the first Black Assistant Professor of English at Wabash in 1972. He went on to be involved in many campus activities and events, including being instrumental in the formation of the Malcolm X Institute. Our condolences certainly go out to Dr. Campbell's family. John Bridge will provide some additional information regarding Finley in his next letter.

That's all for now. **PLEASE** send me a brief email about what you are doing these days, and I'll include that news in my next letter. I'm sure everyone in the Class will appreciate hearing about you.

All the best,

Rick