



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

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Class of 1958

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Dear Friends,

They attempted it again. It was not a symphony in trespassing and burglary. Four Wabash students, including the football team's place kicker, were caught by the Greencastle police carrying the Monon Bell out of the building where it was on display. The men were wearing Obama and Trump masks. The police officers were not amused. The students' punishment was picking up the DePauw stadium's trash after the football game.

A few days later the students got the Bell the correct way: The Wally's won the 124th Monon Bell Classic, 22-21. Perhaps another seven year win streak has begun.

Both schools' record were 8-2. Wabash lost to Wittenberg and Ohio Wesleyan and DePauw to Wittenberg and Wabash.

We had a nice luncheon with Bob and Kathryn Brockfield a few weeks ago. Bob attended the 125th anniversary of the Wabash College Glee Club and was on the way back to Cincinnati. He had a ball singing some of the old Mitchum arrangements. We did not attend the concert now I don't know why. Senility!

Jack Wyatt had coronary bypass surgery a couple of weeks ago. He is doing well.

On December 5th we lost Grant "Rex" McKeever. His obituary appears below.

Grant Rexford McKeever passed away at home in Bellville, Texas, on December 5 with his loving wife, Rebecca, by his side. He was 81. Known as "Dr. Grant" professionally, "Rex" to his friends, and "dad" to his children, Dr. McKeever was an orthopedic surgeon who followed his father into the family business, an adventurer, and a lover of life, animals, food, friends, and family.

Rex was born on January 21, 1936 in Kansas City, Missouri, along with identical twin brother, Clark Dickson, to Duncan Clark and Dorothy Grant McKeever. His family moved to Houston in 1939. He graduated from Lamar High School in 1954, from Wabash College in 1958, and from Thomas Jefferson Medical College in 1962. He completed his residency at Jefferson, and served in the Air Force for two years during

the Vietnam War. In 1968 he started the McKeever Orthopedic Clinic with his twin brother. Rex was one of the founding doctors of Memorial Hermann Hospital, and its chief of staff in 1977. He practiced medicine for nearly 50 years.

Rex and his first wife, Coni, settled in the Memorial area to grow their family. As his children, we knew him as a gentle and firm father who taught us to catch crabs in Port Bay, raise ducks and geese along Buffalo Bayou, ride bikes, drive cars, and that "can't never did anything." He freely shared his hugs and "I love you's".

Rex had so many passions it is difficult to name them all, but at the top of his list was his love of sailing. He started sailing when he was in high school and spent time racing sailboats, volunteering to restore and sail on the 1877 tall ship Elissa as first mate, and sailing on every boat that would take him on as a crew member. It was while sailing on a 125-foot schooner with Sea Education Association that Rex met the love of his life, Rebecca Grundy. Rex and Rebecca married in 1994 and moved to a 110-acre farm in Bellville where Rex's dreams of being a Texas rancher/farm owner were fully realized. He loved working with Rebecca building barns, clearing land, breeding Drum Horses, and caring for injured animals. Rex and Rebecca founded Lone Star Wild Life Rescue to help all native wildlife, especially birds of prey, a passion they shared.

He spent his later years doing what he loved most – treating patients, running his farm, and filling his Sunday dinner table with family and friends. One of his favorite sayings was, "If you exercise and eat right, you won't live longer, you'll just feel like you did," and he lived that to the fullest, following every dream and adventure and sharing meals with those he loved until his very last days. He will be greatly missed. Rex was preceded in death by his mother and father, and his twin brother, Dick. He is survived by his wife, Rebecca, his children Debbie (James) Dunn, Wendy (Andrew) Franz, Duncan (Colleen) McKeever, Jennifer McKeever, and grandchildren, David, Emily, and Brad Dunn, Kelsi (Michael) McCormack and Harry Franz, William (Stephanie) McKeever, Patrick, Courtney, and Catherine McKeever, his brother John (Bridgett) McKeever, his sister-in-law Patty McKeever, and the mother of his children, Coni Abrams.

A celebration of his life will be held Monday, December 18, at 1:00 p.m. at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church, 11612 Memorial Drive, Houston, Texas 77024. Because Rex preferred scrubs and boat shoes to suits, and only wore the silliest ties when ties were absolutely necessary, guests (men and women) are encouraged to wear fun/silly ties to the service. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Dr. McKeever's memory may be directed to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research. Published in Houston Chronicle on Dec. 10, 2017
He will be greatly missed.

Peggy and I are greatly disappointed that our favorite grandson (son of Chris '88) chose not to attend Wabash. I could not convince him (and his mother) that he would be a better engineer with a Wabash liberal arts background. Education first, training later. It's our own fault that we, since the day he was born, had David enrolled at Wabash. We'll get over the disappointment someday. Maybe.

The College just missed achieving its fund raising goal at the end of the fiscal year last summer. As the calendar year is ending, we have the opportunity to make things right. So, please consider a contribution to the Annual Fund before December 30. I know, I know there are 31 days in December, but something about there being no mail on the 31st. Any amount will be greatly appreciated.

Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New year.

Yours in Old Wabash,

Gordon