

Wabash.

Class Agents Letter

Class of 1961

Class Agent

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WE GOT THE BELL!!!!

Down to the Dannies 21- Zip in the 1st Quarter, the Little Giants fought back to grab victory 42-35, only decided in the final minute of the game!!!



W.

Dear Many Miler,

Greetings to you from Wabash!
What an exciting victory at the new Little Giant Stadium. With tailgating stretching from the Lambda Chi house all across former “mud hollow”, it was a festive affair for all.



Thanks to John Birdzell, we got to sit in the “W Club” seats which are padded plastic and with access to a fabulous buffet and cash bar! This is the new **WABASH!** The QB, Liam Thompson attended the Manning Quarterback camp last summer and Archie Manning came to watch as well as perform the coin toss. And, Liam performed!!!



Many Miler 60th Reunion - October 16th, 2021

It was a beautiful day in Crawfordsville! We were provided a tasty buffet in the Allen Center overlooking the field. Susie Cumming joined John Birdzell for lunch and the game. Sam & Susie Hildebrand, Austin and Lucy Brooks along with Jim and Carol Davidson joined us. Birdy presented me with two beautiful tumblers from Scotland.



We were treated to snacks and drinks on the upper level of Little Giant Stadium. Sadly, the team was defeated by very inspired Wooster College players!

As you know, age, infirmity and Covid dealt our reunion a severe blow! But we had a very lively discussion at dinner. I learned that Jim Davidson has maintained contact with several Many Milers. He sadly reports that David and Bonnie McAfee are experiencing health issues. (see class comments below!)

Our dinner at Crawfordsville Country Club (hosted by the Hildebrands) was excellent. The six Many Milers joined about 50 members of the Class of 1966. No speeches, just fun conversation.



Class Agent Forum

The College is in GREAT shape! Our fellow class agents were there in high attendance, spanning 72 years – 1949 (Dale Milligan '49) thru 2021. There was even one class agent there who has served Wabash for sixty consecutive years!

Report from President Scott Feller:

The Wabash Little Giant stadium is completely paid for! No Debt!
Wabash Endowment now exceeds \$400 Million.

Next project: A new Campus Center (Sparks).

The new building will be moved closer to the mall even with Lilly Library. Thus, Wolcott & Morris Halls will be preserved. There will be a connecting span between Lilly & new Center. It will be a campus living room. It will serve as Independent eating (with expanded hours for snacks.) It will have event space. Students seek opportunities to visit and parents are visiting campus more frequently.

This has been a full “anything goes” planning effort with countless input meetings from students, faculty, staff and outside consultants!

ALL Wabash men have the opportunity to participate in immersion programs both in US and abroad.

Wabash continues to serve Indiana (77% students) with the broadest socio/economic student body. Using an egalitarian approach to recruiting, the College is open to anyone who wants to gain an excellent education. 94% of Wabash men wishing to pursue medicine are accepted. Law school acceptance is 88%.

At the meeting, 99.4% of the Class of '21 were in their first destination position. Pres. Feller knows the one alum who was not yet there! And now the class is at 100%. The national average at 6 months after graduation is 59%.

Wabash faces difficult demographics: Indiana has the lowest percentage of young men going to college in the Midwest. All colleges in IN are down in count except IU and Purdue. However, President Feller expressed confidence that Wabash will continue to be able to attract 250 young men each year, giving us a 900+ student body.

Musings from Many Milers....

Note: these are notes from phone calls. There may be inaccuracies due to my poor memory and scribbled writing!

Jim Talcott reports that he and Laurie are doing “OK”, and that he misses his Kappa Sig brother, Jere Wysong.

Pete and Janie Pippen are doing well. Pete plays Pickle Ball 3 xs per week while Janie keeps their lawn looking fantastic! They stay close to home. They have a grandson @ Mount St. Mary’s and is a Lacrosse starter, a granddaughter @ Brebeuf.

Rusty and Tina Cleland enjoyed a great summer on Cape Cod. An older brother of his passed, and Rusty has been going thru his massive stamp collection. Talking basketball, Rusty once had the opportunity to guard the Big “O” during a summer camp!

Doug & Pat Burns are in the Denver area. He will undergo back decompression surgery.

Steve Herman is living in Wisconsin, though he spends a lot of time skiing @ Vail in Colorado.

Steve Nikazy is retired for 25 years and living in Toledo.

Walt Lippard and Diane have both retired. WK has lost both a brother and sister. His brother had run a marathon in all 50 states! WK is frustrated by his difficulty carrying on a conversation.

Austin and Lucy Brooks have been staying close to home. His big project this year was to totally remove the dam on Sugar Creek near the old power plant which required canoe folks to pull out and portage around it. This took ten years of negotiation and a lot of work to get done! A young man of color was assigned to Aus decades ago and he returned to campus for Homecoming. Aus was happy to see the success this Wabash man has achieved.

John and Judy Dinsmore are living in San Antonio where you can catch him as “that old guy” at Wal-Mart! They mostly enjoy football games and going out to eat. Their son & wife had Covid but their kids did not. John had a small heart attack and got three stents inserted. 45 hours later he was back home and is feeling great! John left Wabash and got his degree from the Air Force Academy.

Bob Passwater is living in Wolcottville, IN. He remembers his Wabash days when he got a new Chevy and drove it 110 mph on Hwy 32! (With the build-up between Lebanon and Muncie, you can't do that now!)

Eric Holm (Nancy Brand) is retired and living in Bloomington, IN.

Curt and Marilyn Oehler are living in Terre Haute where he is "still healing the sick!" He works in monitoring cardiac patients. Both of them had Covid and Curt has become a "Long Hauler" which is not fun!

Mike and Rosie Hughes He has had Vertigo issues as well as lack of energy. Rosie was diagnosed with Parkinson's in January 2020, then this spring she had a stroke. She undergoes therapy 3 days each week and is gaining function and speech. Two of their kids are in Cottage Grove, WI where they live, and one is 20 minutes away. Their fourth lives in Normal, IL. Mike's latest book recommendation is "When Breath Becomes Air"

Bob and Peggy Bock are in Bloomfield Hills MI where Bob is slowly watching Peggy fade away. He remembers that they had 45 great years together and continues to paint which he loves.

Joe and Ann Kiley live on Plum Creek golf course in Carmel where he plays several times per week. Joe is now 87 (following Navy service before Wabash.) He is vastly proud of being a member of the "Greatest Generation!"

Bob and Bethann Panzer getting along well, takes naps frequently! He remembers that as a sophomore he served as Garland Frazier's secretary where Coach would say "send a letter....". He thinks he still has a scab on his nose from Sphinx Club initiation! His grandson, Jake, is in Lacrosse and has brains. He has been recruited by Wabash.

Charlie and Cathy West live in Somerville, NJ where they raise Paw paws. He is hoping to get a 1000 # harvest this year. They also have Persimmon trees. One son in England studied Paw paws @ U of Kentucky and another son was a hurdler @ Denison.

Chris Witteveld lost his wife to cancer in '97. He is now living in New Hampshire with his wife's best friend. They live in a standalone condo and enjoy the outdoors in New England. One thing about roundabouts is that there is no eye contact! His younger brother, Peter John, graduated from Wabash with the class of 1966.

Ted and Myrna Todd living in Madison, IN. Ted had a heart valve replaced, then a pacemaker installed and is feeling great. They have 7 grandchildren, one of which is a co-ed at DePauw. One daughter is a nurse at Riley Hospital in Indy, where Ted had rotator cuff surgery.

Don and Vicky Weddle live outside Dayton OH. Vicky suffers from Fibromyalgia and they both have had Covid. Now they are both vaxxed and living in a retirement community. They both got shingles shots and a Covid booster shot. They stick close to home.

Terry and Carolyn Anderson “Ernest” I watched the game. One of the best. You are lucky to have been there. Regards to all, Algernon. This refers to our star roles in “The Importance of Being Ernest” performed in the round behind the campus center kitchen area in May 1961.

Tim & MaryBeth Conlon “Lots of excitement in Crawfordsville today with Wabash’s win on the football field. Makes me proud I am an alumnus of Wabash College.”

On a final note, with an overtime win at Denison on Nov 6, Wabash has won 700 football games. This is the fifth winningest Division III program in history. And yes, since 2001, Wabash has defeated DePauw 15 times to their 5 wins (no game in 2020.)

Barbara and I wish you a Happy Holiday season!

Many Miles Before the Night,

J B

