



## WABASH COLLEGE

### *Class Agents Letter*

Alumni and Parent Relations

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### Class of 1961

#### Class Agent

JB Bachman

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June 6, 2017

Dear Many Miler:

Recently, Sam & Susie Hildebrand invited me to attend a quiet party to celebrate Joe O'Rourke's 89<sup>th</sup> birthday. Joe & Beverly bought the house that J P Allen (parents of Dave and Joe Allen) built when they moved to Greencastle so he could teach accounting at DePauw. The house sits right on top of Sugar Creek.



We had a small group of mostly Episcopalians in attendance and Joe was on his game and seemed to really enjoy the company. He's had a tough row to hoe but on this day he was great. The party included Sheila Foster Evans whom I had an evening bridge date during our freshman year. She had just recently lost her husband so it was good for her to join us. Her father Fr. Foster was the priest at

St. John's in Crawfordsville when we were in college. After our visit with Joe we had a nice time dining at Crawfordsville Country Club. Thank you Sam & Susie.

Wabash stands tall these days and graduated 189 seniors on Mother's Day. Quite a good class and the first one to graduate that started with President Greg Hess. National recognition continues to flow especially in the area to student/faculty engagement. The student/faculty ratio is currently 10/1. 95% of the faculty has a PhD. or equivalent degree.

The Career Services office is now headed by Jacob Pactor '04. They are providing immense success with internships and mentoring; and is recognized as one of the best in the USA! Wabash men all over the country continue to engage these young men. Last year's class was 70% employed or in grad school by commencement. Six months out, 90-95% are settled. The tuition this year was \$40,014 while room & board can be as high as \$9200 in the new living units. Over 90% of students receive aid. (This is a far cry from our \$600 tuition at Wolcott & Morris @ \$250 and board \$400 per YEAR! Oh, well, I think we struggled to cover those costs quite a bit.)

A big cloud came over Indiana this year. St. Joseph College in Rensselaer announced it will close following 2017 commencement. Very sad! I remember years ago that the Chicago Bears held their summer camp at St. Joe. Not far behind may be St. Mary's of the Woods in Terre Haute. Wabash, along with Purdue and other institutions have gone to the campus to offer assistance.

On 1/22/2017 1:14 PM, john [Birdzell](#) wrote:

Wanted to pass along the news that our former classmate, QB of "Gar" Frazier's football team, and former Hammond Tech football, baseball, and basketball standout, **Rudy Folta** passed away on January, 17, 2017....He was a good man and a good friend to many of us, going back to our high school days in Da Region....RIP

I recall we were defending a pass toward the end zone at Valpo our senior year, and I thought Rudy was right behind me. I could have gotten my hands on the ball, but felt he could catch it easily, so I called, "Take it Rudy!" He wasn't there and their guy caught it. TD? Can't remember. After I talked about 'sage-ing' at a reunion, he said he learned more in that hour and a half or so than while at Wabash. I do know he was not a Phi Beta Kappa. Gosh, I just hate hearing of old friends and classmates passing away. God bless us all. **Mike Hughes**

Sad for me to learn about Rudy. He was a pledge brother. He married Sharon after his freshman year. Each year for the next three years on April 9th they had a child Sharon did everything but jump off the

roof to be sure the third one arrived on the 9th. Unfortunately, after a few more kids they divorced. About ten years ago? Rudy had a heart attack, and after surgery and recovery he married his nurse. Hearing of old friends and classmates passing away. God bless us all. Mike They came to our fifty year reunion, I think, and he seemed happy and she seemed nice. Rudy never did graduate, a victim of Comps as I recall. Great guy and gone too soon. .Hope all is well. Hi you all from the Barnette's. All the best. Joe

and from Jim Wood: Never saw too much of Folta in all those Div 1 classes I was taking but knew him as a fun bloke. Had really good visit with him at a couple reunions. Was surprised he came back after not bothering to come back and take a second whack at comps. I vaguely recall they had twins or even triplets that first time. Carry on friends.

wood here, Might be right about twins or "trips" as the obit says he had six kids by his former wife Sharon, along with 3 stepchildren, which added up to 13 grandchildren.....and, like a few of us, he was a longtime Cubs fan who survived long enough to watch them win the World Series.....Also, seems like he and Sam and Susie were neighbors in Mud Hollow..... Birdy

Obituary:

February 17, 2017 **William A. Gabel**, 83, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 8:54 p.m., February 17, 2017 at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was born November 19, 1933 in Detroit, Michigan to William and Jessie (Osgood) Gabel. William attended USC- Santa Barbara before entering the US Army. After his discharge, he attended Wabash College. He married Linda Whitcraft in Lincolnville, Indiana on July 14, 1963. He worked at General Tire, in Wabash, and retired from both United Technologies and Manchester Foundry. He was a member of Wabash Presbyterian Church. He enjoyed math, psychoanalysis, riding his bike and hiking.

He is survived by his wife, Linda Gabel of Wabash, four children, Rhett Gabel of Wabash, Adam (Charlotte) Gabel of Nashville, Tennessee, Megan Gabel of Compton, California, and Seth (Lara) Gabel of Anacortes, Washington, five grandchildren, Shyanne Gabel, of Oregon, Sydney (Austin Samons) Gabel of Wabash, Riley Gabel and Emma Gabel both of Kokomo, Indiana, and Reilly Gabel of Boulder, Colorado, great-granddaughter, Adalynn Samons of Wabash, and his brother, Phillip Gabel of Phoenix, Arizona. He was preceded in death by his parents, step-father Dr. J.A. Wall, three sisters, Gwendolyn Keragis, Genevieve Parrott, and Geraldine Gabel, and his granddaughter, Sarah Gabel. Date of Death: 02/17/17

Spouse: Linda Gabel. While at Wabash: Attended 4 Semesters. Was an Independent  
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As you may know, my wife Michèle Moureau (whom you met at the big 50th Class Reunion in 2011) had breast cancer around 12 years ago and through the chemotherapy, radiation and an operation, she had recovered totally from her breast cancer. However, unfortunately, last year she was diagnosed with pancreas cancer and after 5 months of chemotherapy and radiation treatments, the cancer

had spread to other areas and she passed away in September 2016 at the age of 63. But her father had also died of pancreatic cancer at the age of 66 and there is a possibility that it could be genetic.

However, I have several friends who have also had cancer but with chemotherapy, radiation and other treatments they have been able to recover from their cancer.

PS This is just to let you know that I am doing well and am still working full time in the field of Portfolio Management in the Commodity Futures Markets with clients in the Middle East and the Far East, but doing all of the administration from our Dunn & Hargitt International Group Administration Headquarters office here in Brussels, Belgium.

Please give my best wishes to all members of our Class of 1961 and of course to the Phi Delta Theta. **David Lee Hargitt**

Dear Dave: So sorry to hear of your wife's passing with such a tough cancer to beat. I'm passing your message on to those whose addresses I have at hand. I can only assume that we will be having our 60th reunion in 2021; I'm curious to hear if you plan to be continue working up to that time. Don't forget that retirement is still an option, although I'm not sure that Jim Cumming has remembered that either. Hope you can be able to make it. By the way, once retired, will you return to the states? If so, remember that Edsels have been discontinued by GM (Ford?) Thanks for praying for Doug-----his attitude is A-1. Jay Moore

Regarding **Doug Dalrymple**: Hello to All,

Just wanted to let you know that Doug is getting stronger each day. He still gets very tired if he tries to do too much. The surgeon has released him so the next step was to go see the oncologist; she said that since the cancer was in two lymph nodes that chemo was necessary. So on the 24th of this month he will start the treatment. He will go two consecutive days every three weeks until the middle of August. Thanks everyone for all your caring thoughts.....we certainly appreciate! Sandy. I wanted to send this to you a couple of weeks ago but it seems that some of the half million possible side effects to chemo finally showed up. I feel better now, which makes sense since I get the next injections next Wednesday and Thursday. I really appreciate your thoughts, comments and prayers. Both Sandy and I have a very positive attitude and look to win this battle. Doug told me that he gave up golf when he started losing too much \$\$\$ on the course.

For your information, my cancer was found by a chest x-ray, and subsequent scans, from my physical. Don't give up on them. See you all at our 60<sup>th</sup> reunion! Doug

I spent an afternoon with **Fred Ruebeck** recently. He is working very hard to combat Parkinson's along with peripheral neuropathy and needs assistance when walking. We had a great time reminiscing. Fred & I made many trips back from IU on Sunday nights! They have travelled much in the USA this year as well as a trip to Germany where Fred has relatives. Bev has her hands full as she also cares for her mother. They sold their home near Geist and have moved to a ground floor condo in Tarkington Tower @ 40<sup>th</sup> & Meridian. A great view out toward north Meridian Street! They still spend time at their place on British Tortola with a magnificent view.

**William "Bill" Albert Keim**, 77, passed away Sunday, May 14, 2017 at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Fort Wayne. Born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Bill was the son of the late Raymond and Margaret Keim. He graduated from Central High School in 1957. He graduated in 1961 from Wabash College with a degree in Chemistry and a minor in

Mathematics. While there, he was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity. He worked as an Associate Professor while studying for his master's degree at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. As a Physical Chemist, Bill worked at Pittsburgh Plate and Glass (PPG) in Barberton, Ohio, OM Scott and Sons, in Marysville, Ohio, Norac Chemical Company in Azusa, California and Helena, Arkansas. He was a partner in Keim Derma in Barberton, Ohio. He was a member of the American Chemical Society, National Fire Protection Agency, Organic Peroxide Producers Safety Division, American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Past President of Kiwanis, Scout Master in the Boy Scouts of America, YMCA Summer Camp Counselor both at Potawatomi and Fort Wayne. Bill enjoyed golf, basketball, boating, reading, movies, collecting wizard figurines, was an avid Harry Potter fan, cooking, playing cards, and games, and spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Surviving are his wife, Betty Keim of Fort Wayne; sons, John (Lisa) Keim of Akron, OH, Michael Keim of Barberton, OH; brothers, Jim (Maggie) Keim of Avilla, Dan (Dianne) Keim of Fort Wayne; sister, Callie (Steve) Daniel of Englewood, FL; step-children, Sharon (Bob) Tekulve, Jim Seitz, Susie (John) Keilholz, Sandy (Jim) Gearhart, Sally Seitz; 11 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren, along with many nieces and nephews. Service is 2:00 pm, Saturday, May 20, 2017 at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home, 1320 East Dupont Road with calling from 12:00 pm until the service. **Memorials may be made to Betty Keim for the use of a Wabash College Scholarship Fund.** Betty tells me that they were married for 20 years, that Bill fought kidney cancer for over a year. He never found fault in anyone, loved to play golf and was wonderful with his and her children/grandchildren. They are building a home in Tennessee to be near children. Betty J. Keim 12234 Driftwood Pt. Ft Wayne IN 46845

**David R. Fink**, DDS, 77, of Noblesville, passed away peacefully Wednesday, May 31, 2017, at Riverview Health in Noblesville while surrounded by family. He was born on Aug. 29, 1939 to Hubert and Rosamond (Glowka) Fink in Crawfordsville, Indiana. He graduated Valedictorian from Ben Davis High School in Indianapolis in 1957. He attended Wabash College (4 semesters) and was a member of Phi Gamma Delta. He earned his Doctor of Dentistry degree from IU in 1964, and served his country as a captain and dentist in the US Air Force in Duluth, MN from 1964-1966. He opened his dental practice in Noblesville in 1966 and practiced until 2014. He was also the dentist for the Hamilton County Jail for forty years and a member of the American and Indiana Dental Associations. He was a compassionate dentist who cared for many people. He was very involved in the Noblesville community. He was Past President of the Noblesville Optimist Club and Boys and Girls Club of Noblesville. He served on the Noblesville School Board for twelve years. He was a member of Noblesville First United Methodist Church, the Elks Club, the 50/50 Club, and the American Legion. He coached youth baseball for ten years, was a private pilot and enjoyed golf, bridge, poker and euchre. He was an avid IU and Big 10 sports fan. Above all, he was a family man.

Survivors include his wife of more than 57 years, Sandra (Jumpp); three sons, Randall, Robert (Jennifer), and Gerald (Cindy); brother William (Thella); six grandchildren, Robyn, Lisa, Abby, Kelly, Breana and Sean; as well as many other loving family members and friends. Memorial contributions may be made to Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville, 1448 Conner Street, Noblesville, IN 46060.

**Denny Sheridan** reports that he has been travelling to Kalamazoo (40 minutes) for dialysis since March. After some rough going with heart issues, he is doing much better and having his treatments in Marshal. Then their dog yanked on his chain and pulled Sue down resulting in a broken hip! So, this has not been a delightful spring for them. Their grandson led the Phi Delt pledge class academically and is thoroughly loving Wabash.

**Doug Burns** reports a bout with bladder cancer involving two surgeries and several chemo sessions, but is now cancer free. They are busy with church work and a food pantry.

Speaking of Spring... local TV says Central Indiana had its wettest May ever contributing to 5<sup>th</sup> wettest spring. Do you know which was the wettest spring in Indy area??? Yes, 1961!



On the slopes with Amy & Sam Hildebrand.... (His second skiing trip this year.)

Spring grades were reported with Phi Gams leading the way (3.465) followed by Beta, Delts, Sigma Chi & Kappa Sigma.

Big Bash was on a beautiful weekend and well attended. The Class of 1967 reported 106 member donations to raise NINE MILLION SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS for Wabash. They won nearly every award possible and set a very high bar! Congrats to the men who worked on a great 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion.

I apologize for the many sad reports on our fellow Many Milers. It has been a bad year for many of our brothers and their spouses. It seems that every week we face a new issue to add to our prayer list. We send our best wishes to you for a healthy summer!

As June 30<sup>th</sup> looms, I ask you to check to make sure you have made your annual gift to our great College. Wabash seems to be running on all cylinders and quite smoothly. There are difficulties, but they seem to be addressed promptly by President Hess and the Board.

Many Miles Before the Night.....

J B