



## WABASH COLLEGE

### *Class Agents Letter*

Alumni and Parent Relations

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### Class of 1967

#### Class Agents

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May 7, 2018

Dear Classmates,

We are in the process of season change on the North Coast of America – just finishing *Still Winter* and moving into *Orange Barrel*. However, we now have some sunshine, temperatures above freezing, and opportunities to get reacquainted with neighbors after winter hibernation.

Even Better!! Big Bash is almost here! Remember how much fun you had at our 50<sup>th</sup> last year? Why not return this year for one more chance to harass the '68 Rhynies and renew old friendships? Here is the link for info and sign-up: <https://wabash.edu/alumni/reunion/schedule>. Earl and I will be there – please join us, even if only for part of the weekend.

### ***Great News from Campus!***

Thanks to all of you who participated in the Wabash Day of Giving in April. Once again, it was a huge success! I reference two messages, from President Greg Hess and Kevin Andrews in Development:

We took a bold step for Our Wabash.



Dear Friends,

Thank you, Wabash.

Early in the morning on 4.18, I wrote an email asking you to **strive together for #OurWabash**; to make a gift in support of our enduring mission; to share with the world the impact Wabash has had on your life and the lives of those you love. You responded in ways that are simply remarkable.

My eyes grew tired as I scanned my phone reading the heart-felt accounts you wrote on social media describing what Wabash means to you. I watched videos on Facebook, read your Tweets, and saw your photos and stories on Instagram. Many of you sent us emails to share your pride in #OurWabash. There is no way to put into words how inspiring all of you are - for all of us who work with our Wabash men each and every day. Thank you.

When I finally shut off the lights around midnight in Crawfordsville, our Day of Giving was still going strong. By this afternoon, the results of #OurWabash were coming into focus: **Over 5,100 gifts totaling over \$1,000,000** were made to our College in a single day. We took steps into history for our students. And those totals will only rise as our colleagues in the Advancement Office tally up all of the affinity challenges (most of which were met) and checks that will arrive in the mail.

I must extend my sincere gratitude to Kevin Andrews, Joe Klen, Michelle Janssen, and everyone in the Advancement and Alumni and Parent Relations offices. Their planning and execution were exceptional. The Communications staff helped keep up the excitement, and our students in the Sons of Wabash secured 100% student participation. Handling the volume of Internet traffic is very difficult, but the staff in IT Services kept us online all day. Thank you to everyone on campus for making #OurWabash Day of Giving so successful.

Our Lead Challenge Donors, whose names appear below, provided meaningful inspiration with every step we took toward our audacious goals. They contributed

more than \$418,000 to drive us to - and well past - our goal of 4,180 gifts. Thank you to these amazingly loyal trustees, alumni, spouses, partners, and friends.

There is a group of about 300 Online Ambassadors whom we ask to give up their day to serve as hubs of social media and email activity. Some are Class Agents, others NAWM Board members, and many are just committed alumni and friends who place Wabash as their highest priority on the Day of Giving. Their spirit, enthusiasm, and relentlessness are worthy of our highest praise.

Finally, thank you to everyone who took time to read our many emails and respond with one, two, or more gifts to support our Annual Fund. It was so heartening to see this community strive together for #OurWabash. Our alumni are second to none, but the impact of gifts from parents, spouses, partners, friends, coaches, faculty, and staff makes us so much stronger and supports our time-honored mission of educating men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely. Our students, who themselves made significant contributions during the day, learned a wonderful lesson in philanthropy, which will stay with them long after their years on campus.

When the final numbers are tallied, we will celebrate them on the College's website. Until then - and on behalf of all who live and learn here - thank you for caring so deeply; for giving so generously; and for **striving together for #OurWabash**.

Sincerely,

Gregory Hess  
President

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Friends,

Three days ago, I wrote to you with great anticipation for our fifth Day of Giving and how we would strive together for #OurWabash.

I want to thank all of you who made gifts, second gifts, sent emails, texts, and tweets, and encouraged your classmates, friends, and family with a constant stream of messages.

We trended on Twitter in Indianapolis, people from across the country got together to celebrate, students *rallied together to achieve 100% student giving*, friends and family put their money on the line by leading affinity challenges - we all made this day special.

We set an ambitious goal of 4,180 gifts and **received more than 5,100 gifts and we just crossed \$1,000,000** - an incredible feat - which is still likely to grow as we collect checks from the mail and hear from our affinity challengers.

What we continue to do is the envy of so many other colleges and universities - but as you all know - Wabash is different. The Wabash Community once again responded in ways that should make all of our volunteers feel proud. So many people joined in yesterday to inspire others for Our Wabash. Thank you so much for all of your help as ambassadors and affinity challengers - we wouldn't have had this success without you.

Let's share the great word of the day and the College in the weeks, months, and years to come. As a point of reference, this means the College received about \$1,200 in support for each student on campus - higher than any Day of Giving output we have ever seen reported from any day of giving.

Some quick follow-up notes:

1. The reporting on [www.wabash.edu/418](http://www.wabash.edu/418) and the 4.18 Day of Giving Honor Roll at [www.wabash.edu/418/honorroll.cfm](http://www.wabash.edu/418/honorroll.cfm) should not be considered final. We will continue to provide this provisional information on the site so you can make general conclusions about the day, but know this information could change as we make additions or corrections. Check at [www.wabash.edu/418/insider.cfm](http://www.wabash.edu/418/insider.cfm) to search the honor roll quickly.
2. It will take around 7-10 business days for our gift processing team to enter and to review all of the gifts for accuracy (class year, affinity challenge codes, designations, etc.). Only after this process can we begin to complete an analysis of the day, which will allow us to follow-up with you on reports and lists by class, living unit, etc.
3. There were 81 different affinity challenges issued on the day. Again, it will take our team a few days to get all of this information calculated. We will then report final challenge numbers and the names of the donors who participated in their challenge.
4. Because it is so important to thank those who responded to our calls to action, we can provide you #OurWabash notecards to thank those who responded to your calls.

Thank you so much for all of your help as ambassadors and affinity challengers - we wouldn't have had a day like 4.18 without you.

For Our Wabash,

Kevin

**Kevin M Andrews**

Director of Annual Giving

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Most of you have degrees from other institutions and many of them have followed the lead of Wabash in sponsoring “days of giving”. I suspect all of those efforts are considered successful, but I have not seen any numbers on a per-student or per-alumnus basis that compare to Wabash, including several “leading” universities attended by friends and family. I readily admit I am biased, but I do believe that Wabash is unique in many ways, especially alumni support.

Thanks, once more, to all of you who participated!!

### ***Classmate News***

#### **From Bob Pinschmidt**

Earl,

OK, I am suffering through an 18 step security update for my work computer, and after 20 min I am still not thru step 1 (reboot). This gives me lots of dead time on my computer to update you guys. Does anyone else feel totally inadequate working with modern computers using a brain from before the invention of the transistor?

Anyway, we are both still working part-time, Marilyn as a piano teacher in our home (she enjoys it, is good at it, and will do it indefinitely), and me - for about \$1 an hour (and other consideration) - as a lab chemist working on new resins for 3D printing at UNC-Chapel Hill. I have always been a technology junkie and I still need my daily fix. Plus it is fun playing Yoda with the students and postdocs. I consider myself a lucky man.

We have three adult children (married! - the (!) means it took a while, but we like the spouses) and three granddaughters. Unfortunately, they are spread out all up the east coast (and one of them is off to Asia soon for a couple of years), so we do a lot of Skyping. People lament the loss of a sense of local family and community, but with two working spouses and a job market where location is the first non-negotiable, **that is usually our kids' (and our) world.**

Semi-retired means we can travel (as long as our health holds out). We are just back from a really good archeological trip to Chile and Rapa Nui (cognoscenti for Easter Island) with a group called Andante out of England. Get to learn a lot, not spend months planning the details, and spend the time with an **international group of mixed professionals. A far cry from GoGo Tours (don't go there). Rapa Nui is the** sad story of a successful colonization of a densely forested remote S. Pacific Island with almost none of the animal and plant diversity of the Galapagos. The inhabitants sculpted 800+ Moai stone statutes weighing up to 80 tons and moved most of them miles to elaborate platforms around the island. When the forests gave out, the perhaps 20K population collapsed and the Moai were tipped over. With a few Western germs after 1722 and some slave raids, the population bottomed out at 110 and the island was **sold by the Chileans to a sheep ranching company...**

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A sad note:

# LARRY BRUCE UNDERWOOD



A humbled Soul winged its way to heaven on March 28, 2018.

Larry Bruce Underwood became an Angel, his children at his side.

Larry was born on February 08, 1945 in Louisville, KY to parents Lonzo and Beatrice Underwood, both deceased.

Larry is survived by spouse Sandra, and children Mark, Kristi, and Michael Underwood of Yuba City, CA; daughter in law, Laura, granddaughter Kayla, and two great grandchildren; siblings: Brenda C. (Joe) Bertel, Sherry L., Gary B., Jerry L. (Shirley) Underwood; Michele D. (Steve) Cambridge; Michael E. (Katie, Carla) Underwood; Sherry (Cameron) Henry; and Sharon (Jason) Chandler all of Indiana. In addition, to many nieces and nephews and 4-legged friends.

Larry attended Southport High School in Indianapolis, IN, graduating in 1963. Larry was President of his class his freshman and sophomore years, and Vice President his senior year. Larry was awarded a Full Academic Scholarship to Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana. While at Wabash he was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity. He graduated in 1967 with a Bachelor's Degree in History.

Upon graduating from Wabash, Larry joined the [United States Air Force](#) entering as a 2nd Lt. Officer. He was a member of the Strategic Air Command completing 339 missions as a Navigator in the B-52's during the [Vietnam War](#). He was an Electronic Warfare Officer and a member of the Strategic Air Command and "Old Crows" out of March AFB in Southern California. He was instrumental in the Development of the Radar Jamming System for the Air Force. Larry was a member of the "U2/TRI Dragon Ladies" Command Post RAF, Alconbury, England. He was a member of the United States Air Forces in Europe. His missions included those out of RAF Akrotiri

in Cypress; Anderson AFB in Guam; U-Tapao Royal Thai Navy Base in Thailand; Mather AFB; and Beale AFB including 9th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing and 99th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron planning missions for the U2 Spy plane.

In 1973 Larry was presented with the Highest Medal Award, "The Distinguished Flying Cross" by the President of the United States by Executive Order for his extraordinary achievement while participating in an Aerial Flight mission. In addition to this, Larry received The Meritorious Service Medal with one Bronze Cluster Leaf, The Air Medal with four Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, The Air Force Commendation Medal, The Combat Readiness Medal, The Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with four Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, The Defense Service Medal, The AF Overseas Long Tour Ribbon, The AF Training Ribbon, The [Veterans](#) Service Medal with three [Bronze Stars](#), The AF Outstanding Unit Award with one silver oak leaf cluster, The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palm Device, and the Republic of the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Larry retired from the United States Air Force in 1989. He was presented with a United States Flag that had flown over Pearl Harbor at the time of his retirement. After Retiring from the Air Force, Larry became a school teacher for Plumas Elementary School in Northern California for over ten years. He also worked with young adults in the Sutter County Juvenile System as a teacher and mentor. He was an excellent educator working with at impoverished youth as well as those who did not speak English. After retiring from teaching, Larry dedicated his time to be with his family. He was an avid sports enthusiast. He was a fan of the USC Trojans, however, also cheered for Kentucky and Indiana teams. Larry was also a faithful Pittsburgh Steelers fan.

Larry was a dedicated Christian. He believed in The Lord and Jesus Christ. Larry was a "True Hero" of America. He believed the Flag represented the blood lost by all the fallen heroes who gave their lives for the freedoms of America. He strongly believed all Americans should "Not ask what this country can do for you, but: What can you do for this country." He believed America should care for the Wounded Warriors, the handicapped, disabled, and the elderly who could no longer take care of themselves. He believed in our country and fought with every ounce of his being to make America safe.

America has Lost a "True Hero" to the Heavens above! God Speed!

Send condolences to [www.appealdemocrat.com](http://www.appealdemocrat.com) Published in Appeal Democrat on Apr. 3, 2018

One more loss: **Kurt Ramig** passed away in early April; no obituary was available. He was a member of the Glee Club and French Club, and an Independent, at Wabash.

Classmates **Al Witte** and **Frank Kosmakos**, in April: Al's comment: "Old (emphasis on "old") friends reconnecting in Maryland."



From **John Goodrich**, in March:

Guys,

I was on campus yesterday with my nephews (Matt Franks, W '91 and Morgan Hefty) and Morgan's son Paxton (Grand Nephew). Paxton is a Jr. in high school at Garrett, IN. He liked Wabash very much so there might be another Wabash Man in the family. I am really impressed with the administration at Wabash! (President Hess, Nic Jones, Steve Hoffman, etc) They do their jobs so well that recruiting is such a breeze.....WAF  
Goodie



**Paul Robinson** has a grandson who will be a Wabash freshman this fall and will join a cousin (another grandson of Robbie), currently a Wabash freshman.

***Humor? (From George Carlin)***

If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?

Why is a person who invests your money called a broker?

Don't sweat the petty things and don't pet the sweaty things.

Not only do I not know what's going on, I wouldn't know what to do about it if I did.

*Keep sending us news!*

*Enjoy the warmer weather!*

*Join us at the BIG BASH!!*

***Duane***