

## **Class Agents Letter**

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Class of 1967

Class Agents
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Classmates – October 11, 2021

We begin this letter with some sad news – the passing of another legendary Wabash personality who touched the lives of many Wallies over his long service to the College.



Max Edward Servies, 85, of Crawfordsville, was called home by the Lord on Saturday at Ben-Hur Home. Mr. Servies had retired in 2000 from Wabash College after 40 years of service. He was previously employed at Crawfordsville High School 1958-60 as a teacher of biology and coach. He was a past member of the First United Methodist Church and later the First Baptist Church of Lucerne Park in Winter Haven, Florida, and the Mace United Methodist Church. He and his wife, Nancy, spent winter months in Florida since 2007.

Mr. Servies was a 1954 graduate of Crawfordsville High School, a 1958 graduate of Wabash College, with a degree in biology. He earned a Master's Degree in Biology from Purdue in 1962, and an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from his alma mater, Wabash College, in 2009.

His tenure at Wabash includes 40 years as wrestling coach, 28 years as assistant football coach, 5 years as assistant in track, and 33 years as athletic director. He was a member of several national athletic associations and received numerous honors during his career in coaching at Wabash. The wrestling facility at Wabash was named in his honor. With the help of David Phillips, he wrote the book "Some Little Giants" chronicling the athletic history of Wabash.

Visitation will be from 1 to 4 Sunday, Oct 17th at Burkhart Funeral Home, 201 W. Wabash Avenue, with services starting at 4 PM. Entombment will take place at 11 AM on Monday, Oct 18th in the Oak Hill Cemetery Mausoleum. The full obituary can be seen at <a href="https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/max-servies-obituary?pid=200358838">https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/max-servies-obituary?pid=200358838</a>.

I'm sure several of you have some memories or stories about Max – please send them along to Duane or me and we will include them in the next class letter.



## Some classmate updates:



Phil Coons sent us an update on some recent travel. "Liz and I are just back from a two-week vacation in the Rockies. It was a Globus bus tour from Rapid City, SD to Las Vegas. We saw 5 national parks and several national monuments. Covid-19 vaccinations were required of all participants and masks were required on the coach. Masks were required in national park facilities. Many dinners were grab and go. We felt very safe and had a wonderful time."

(As Phil's was the only recent update anyone sent me, I had to resort to Facebook stalking to find the next couple of items. Yes, that is a hint that we would like to hear from some more of you!)

Saw a post from **Tom Werner**: "On the Superior Hiking Trail in northern Minnesota...very few people... no politics... just beautiful nature... and a few bears and Moose." (Seems to be an outdoor theme going here.)



And this from **Gene Snipes.** Gene and his daughter were spending some quality time picking grapes at the Butler Winery in Bloomington. From the post I saw, they were rewarded for their picking efforts with bottles of wine from the winery. Seems like a fun way to

A couple items of College news -

Dr. Scott E. Feller was inaugurated as the 17th President of Wabash College in an on-campus ceremony Friday, October 8. The College's Board of Trustees elected President Feller in May 2020, but COVID-19 forced the postponement of his formal inauguration. Dr. Feller becomes the first person to rise directly from the faculty to the presidency since Byron K. Trippet was elected president in 1956. Feller has served Wabash as the Lloyd B. Howell Professor of Chemistry, Chemistry Department Chair, Chair of the Division of Natural Sciences, and Dean of the College. "Wabash has been my home for over 20 years and few college presidents have the benefit of such a long association with the institution they lead," said Dr. Feller. "I come to my office every day thankful for the relationships I have developed here and an appreciation for what Wabash means to its students and alumni." Read the news story and view the photo albums here: https://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news ID=11795

The 127<sup>th</sup> Monon Bell Classic is scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup>. As the Little Giants march toward that end of season highlight, they are currently undefeated on the gridiron.

Sometimes as I prepare one of these class letters, I look back at the yearbooks covering our time at Wabash and also at the Bachelor archives to find references to our classmates' activities. This time around, I happened on a Bachelor article from the September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1966 edition. Fall of our senior year when we were all looking into and planning for what would come next to us after graduation. Like probably several of you, I was planning on attending law school after Wabash. I was planning on taking the LSAT and was interested in taking other tests to "get in the test taking mode". The article I saw was headlined "Foreign Service, National Security, Civil Service Exams Slated Soon for Seniors" and listed some upcoming tests offered by the Civil Service Commission, the State Department, and the National Security Agency. As a whim and out of curiosity, I decided to take the National Security Agency exam. The one part of the test that I still recall centered on making sense of an artificial language of some sort; that made no sense to me and I walked away thinking that was a waste of time. So, on to the GRE's and LSAT. Then at home for Christmas break, my Dad said that some of the neighbors had told him that some federal investigators had been around asking questions about me. I assured him that I had done nothing illegal to prompt that, but didn't quite make the connection to the test until I received a letter from NSA referencing the test and asking if I would be interested in coming in for a job interview. To make a long story short, I never made it to law school, but as a result of that test I spent the next 45 years working for NSA. That makes me wonder if any of you had some similar unexpected changes in post-graduation plans based on some chance event. Are there some stories there to share?

Duane and I look forward to hearing from you – current events, updates, stories from our Wabash days, pictures, proofs of life – whatever. In the meantime, be well and enjoy the Autumn. Get back to Wabash for a visit if you can.

WAF. Earl