

Class of 1968

Class Agent **Jim Roper**

September 2020

Alumni and Parent Relations Office
301 W. Wabash Ave.
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
765-361-6360
alumni@wabash.edu
wabash.edu

Dear Friends in the Class of 1968,

Like many, I expected normalcy to return by now. But, no. More cancellations. More craziness. Television looks more and more like 1968. I hope all are well and safe. Here's hoping for a safe and quick return to stability and the end of the virus situation.

Big news is postponement of the Wabash football season. That's a first. So, I am sure you are all making the best of the hand we've been dealt. Please take care. Send photos when you can. Here's the news from '68:



Iron Mike Gallagher and Kathy celebrate # 52. I think he said this picture was from the big 5-0, but the 52nd celebration was great.



Speaking of great people, **Cody Roeder** sent this photo of **Cal Black** and himself. I hope to see Cody on his next trip to Colorado. And Cal will be cheering the Little Giants at the next football game, whenever that happens. Not our class, but close enough! Some Little Giants!



7-9-20 Proud grandpa **Mike Dybel**. Gotta love photos of overjoy! Vacation on the right **8-21-20**.

Terry Smith

2020-06-12

We got back yesterday from our 9th family vacation—14 of us. This one was at Norris Lake in TN. Had a great time on the pontoon boat and in the lake. As your family grows and you become grandparents, this is something that you need to try and do. We mentioned this to our kids 9 years ago, and they thought it was great idea. We have created many memories every year and are thankful for the time together. Am already looking forward to our 10th vacation next year which will be in the Gatlinburg area. God has blessed us with such a great family and allows us to spend 1 amazing week together each year.

1. **Message from Steve Hoffman:** Wabash joins other North Coast Athletic Conference schools and **suspends athletics through December 2020**.
https://sports.wabash.edu/news/2020/7/22/general-Wabash-NCAC-Fall-Sports-Announcement.aspx?utm_medium=sidearm-email&utm_source=sports.wabash.edu&utm_campaign=NCAC+Wabash+Suspend+Intercollegiate+Athletics&utm_content=38ba797e-a040-447a-af4b-d18cbdab0982
2. Jasmine Robinson has passed away. Many of you knew her, but even if you didn't, you will appreciate her role in Wabash's history. Here is the announcement to the Wabash community.

I am saddened to report the passing of Jasmine Robinson, a pioneering woman who served Wabash with passion from 1963 until her retirement in 1991. Jasmine was the first black woman to be employed at Wabash, and worked in the College's computer center. Over nearly three decades, she "broke in" nine different directors of the computer center and adapted to rapid changes in educational technology. Beyond her professional position, she was a beloved figure on our campus, especially to the men of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies. At the 30th anniversary of the MXIBS, one of the founders, Keith Nelson '71, said that Jasmine was a critical part of the "Malcolm X Family" — serving as a surrogate "aunt who was the only person

of color on campus when we first arrived.” Indeed, Jasmine Robinson was more of a mother to countless numbers of Wabash men. Hers was an open table where all were welcome for a home-cooked dinner at a time in the College’s history when many students needed a strong sense of family more than anything.

Further, **Steve Hoffman** informs, in case you didn’t read the details of the Alumni letter:

I am writing to share news regarding Homecoming 2020, scheduled for September 18-19. We have made the decision to either postpone, cancel, or change the following Homecoming events.

**Athletics Hall of Fame Induction
Kane Society Reception
Hollett Alumni Chapel
Leadership Luncheon
NAWM Board Meeting**

**Postponed to Homecoming 2021
Canceled
Postponed, Date TBA
Postponed, Date TBA
Changed to a virtual meeting**

We will update you as plans for the postponed events become firm. As of now, Homecoming 2021 is scheduled for September 24-25, 2021

Let’s have a look at a gathering of the 1968 crowd on September 24, 2021.

Here’s a suggestion from the Bash: **Stay Connected This Fall**

Wabash College's highest priority is the well-being of its students, faculty, and staff.

In the spirit of balancing the need to connect with maintaining a healthy campus, here are ways to remain connected to Wabash this fall.

1. Monitor our website daily at www.wabash.edu. You can see how the campus is responding to COVID-19 at www.wabash.edu/covid.
2. Participate in our virtual offerings for alumni; check listings at www.wabash.edu/calendar.
3. Virtually connect with an individual or group; contact us at alumni@wabash.edu and we can set up a Zoom call for you.

Roper adds: Everybody’s hiking these days.



**We hiked Spruce Mt Trail July 30
Seth, Will, Jim, and Finn**



Wayne Kornas – 2 August. Big Summer Golf Outing.



Van and Mary Butler August 5 “Hiked Engineer mountain this morning. The wildflowers were awesome.”



And then it became Van’s Birthday -- 29 and holding?

8-10-20 Happy Birthday, VAN.



(Posted by Mary):

Birthday cake for breakfast for this great guy! (Epic collapse of the cake - I should have followed the high altitude directions. Luckily it tastes better than it looks, like frosted pudding.) Happy birthday, Van!

From Steve Hoffman – 8-6-20

To Class Agents and Regional Leaders:

It is with a tremendously heavy heart that I share the sad news that Jim Dimos, Wabash Class of 1983, died from a heart attack Wednesday morning. Jim was a gentle giant of a man whose influence was significant in every aspect of his life. I share this news with you because he was so involved as a Wabash alumnus.

At Wabash, Jim was a political science major and member of Delta Tau Delta. He served his alma mater with distinction over the course of his life – as a Class Agent for the Wabash Class of 1983; President of the Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men; President of the National Association of Wabash Men; and recently as a member of the Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse Advisory Committee. I can also say that the return of Delta Tau Delta would likely not have occurred without Jim's longtime and consistent leadership through that process.

After Wabash, he graduated from the Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, and practiced 29 years with Locke Reynolds and Frost Brown Todd in Indianapolis. He was Past-President of the Indiana State Bar Association.

He left his practice in 2015 to become the Deputy Executive Director of the American Bar Association, and also served the ABA as General Counsel since 2019.

Prior to joining the ABA staff, Jim was an active volunteer, serving on the ABA Board of Governors and its Executive Committee and Finance Committee.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy, and children Stephanie, Jennifer, and Jonathan. Notes of sympathy can be sent to Kathy at 6938 Bluffridge Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46278.

Jim Dimos was Some Little Giant.

Steve (Hoffman)

Mike Gallagher 8-23-20

Kathy and I had the Pleasure of attending a Vancouver opera garden party last evening, our first real social event and live music event in six months.



FROM WABASH:

Nice little campus tour if you have Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WabashCollegeNews/photos/a.10152134159375837/10157896953135837>

PRINCETON REVIEW

Wabash retained its #1 rank for Alumni Network and internships.

The Princeton Review continues to rank Wabash College among the best institutions nationally for undergraduate education in its annual college guide. Wabash ranked in the top-20 in 12 categories overall, including seven rankings in the top-10 nationally.

https://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=11617

On Sunday, (August 30), Wabash College held its annual “Ringing In” ceremony—the first tradition in a string of many that marks the four years of a Wabash man’s education. Wabash welcomed 255 young men from the Class of 2024 (hailing from 8 countries and 23 states, with an average GPA of 3.75) as they sat in socially-distanced seats on the College’s Mall.

Support Wabash

To refer a prospective student to Wabash [click here](#).

To inform the Schroeder Center for Career Development of internship, employment, or recruiting opportunities [click here](#)

To make a gift to Wabash [click here](#).



A flash from the past.

9-5- 2016 **Steve Johnson** apparently running the Rut 11K. Must be a Montana thing. Better late than never!

A lot of folks will remember the crazy days with Gary. Brilliant guy!



Dr. Gary Dillon

Dr. Gary Dillon believes in the value of hard work, which is why he and his wife Ann are establishing a scholarship for Wabash students who have demonstrated their work ethic-and funding it with a blended gift from his IRA that includes cash from annual distributions plus a beneficiary designation. Gary learned all about hard work while growing up on a farm, but its value was further instilled during his years at Wabash when he was expelled-and then allowed to return to complete the education that launched his professional life.

"I started at Wabash in 1961 and spent most of my time with the class of '65 but didn't graduate until 1968," explains Gary, a successful dermatologist who still has a practice in Fort Wayne, Indiana. "The truth is that I was enjoying the uptown party life too much, and I was expelled. But after my suspension I was allowed back in, and I always felt grateful for getting that second chance from Wabash and Dean Moore." (The late Norman Moore served as dean from 1959 to 1984 and developed a legendary reputation for being both tough and fair.)

Were we tougher ... ?



The results of the socially-distanced Chapel Sing are in: 1. Lambda Chi, 2. Sigs, 3. Fiji, 4. Beta, 5. Phi Delt. No haircuts, no distracting earthworms or bugs, no screaming. At the end, the Sphinx Clubber said, "Thanks for coming." Wow. Okay. The culture has changed. Got it.

Roper sez: One of my dearest friends in the Air Force was a terrific guy who had played college football, earning All-American honors as a linebacker at the University of Oklahoma during the Barry Switzer era. For at least 10 years after he graduated he would trot back to OK for an "Alumni Game." Uniforms and pads, smashmouth D1 football. They all loved it. Just sayin'. Honestly, I don't know which story is more amazing.

Please send Updates

I would love to hear from you guys. Please let me know what you are up to these days. Family photos, 10 or 11K Runs, Coaching the grandkids. Photos for sure. Whatever. I will show the Wabash world what you are up to. Hope you are taking advantage of the miracles of modern medicine. My last appointment was "virtual." Hmmm. I still do the gym thing. Hope you are staying well and taking good care. Let us know. Every opinion counts here.

WAF,

Jim Roper '68