

Class Agents Letter

Class of 1977

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Good-bye. As we say good-bye to 2019 and to the decade of the 2010s, there is a lot to celebrate with respect to our alma mater, Wabash College. Here are just a few of the highlights.

HE IS NO. 1



Our own DAVID REA, president of Salem Investment Counselors, was ranked as the nation's leading financial investment counselor by none other than CNBC. That doesn't come as a surprise to those of us who are classmates! Congrats! After Wabash, David went on to earn both a J.D. degree from Wake Forest and an MBA from Indiana Univ. He's putting both those degrees and decades of experience to excellent worth for his clients. Here are links to the story and the CNBC video.

https://blog.wabash.edu/alumninews/2019/10/29/david-rea-77-president-of-1-ranked-financial-advisor/

https://www.cnbc.com/video/2019/10/10/no-1-ranked-financial-advisor-on-his-top-stock-picks-and investment-strategy.html

KEVIN & GARY LEAD THE (GATE)WAY

Over and above a new Little Giant Stadium and a renovated Lilly Library (current projects), the college also developed a new front entrance at the corner of Grant and Wabash Avenues. The project was completed and dedicated in early October. Our classmates KEVIN CLIFFORD and GARY REAMEY and their spouses made the project possible through their generous donations. The gateway is named in honor of alumnus and long-time Wabash College Athletics fan and supporter Rem Johnston '55. Here's a story and a photo of Gary, Joanne, and Rem:

https://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news ID=11492





GIANT STEPS, FOLLOW WABASH ON VIDEO

Several hundred alumni, parents, and staff members of the college have already contributed to the college's \$225 million endowment campaign called GIANT STEPS. One of those who have contributing to the campaign are President Greg Hess and his wife Lora. President Hess has made 30 "Giant Steps" presentations in 27 different cities across the U.S. since the campaign started in 2018. Here's a link to a story: https://giantsteps.wabash.edu/?pagetype=news&news_ID=11508

DID YOU KNOW – More than 8,500 alumni and friends of Wabash College are "subscribers" to the Wabash College YouTube Channel? Being a subscriber doesn't cost anything: it simply means that you'll receive an e-mail when there's a new video posted. No need to subscribe to NetFlix or Disney. Here' the link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoEOd19LmiGQTQWSr3yD0sA

"POST HOLIDAY" SPECIAL – If you have NOT make a contribution to Wabash in the last two years (2018 or 2019) and you make one before December 31, let me know. As a personal thank you, I'll snail mail you your choice of any one of these three books. E-mail me at johnkprof@gmail.com to let me know that you've made a contribution and you want a book (and which one). Choose from:

WABASH ON MY MIND (Trippet) -- President Byron K. Trippet's personal memoirs of his association with Wabash.

THESE FLEETING YEARS (Harvey, editor) -- A 50-year history of Wabash from 1932-1982.

GLORY REBORN (Kerezy) – A five-year focused history about Wabash and its athletics teams, from Fall 1977 to Fall 1982.

Here is a link to the college's "official" end of year giving information, with specific details for those who might wish to donate stocks or mutual funds to take advantage of federal and state tax benefits.

https://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news ID=11509

PRAYERS ARE ALWAYS THINE, OUR VOICES & HEARTS COMBINE

Many thanks to those of you who send cards, notes and give prayers and best thoughts towards Kathy and me. Many of you know that we took in Kathy's mother and father in 2014, when their health became quite fragile. Kathy's mom passed away in 2016. Kathy's dad, Grant Johnson, died on November 27 after a brief illness. The next page has a picture of him with me at the Wabash vs. Allegheny football game back in September. For us, Grant's death also represents a full circle back to being empty nesters once again. We're looking forward to traveling a bit more, but I still enjoy teaching at Cuyahoga Community College and plan to keep that up for at least a few more years. Not ready to retire just yet.

In fact, I'm completing a research project on disinformation (DI) and disinformation campaigns. I've become convinced that DI is a far greater threat to our democracy than we realize. You're welcome to follow along for the next several months at the website I've established for the public part of this, www.dicampaigns.com

As we say good-bye to the teens and ring in the 2020s, it's with awareness that probably 100% of our class will be retired before the end of this next decade. We'll also be saying farewell to a few classmates as well. Kathy and I are revising our wills and make estate plans now, and I suspect many of you are doing the same. Let's keep in touch, and if your travels bring you to Northeast Ohio let's get together. Also, I am back in



Crawfordsville 4-5 times a year due (in part) to my service on the National Association Board, and Kathy and I will be glad to "stop and visit" with classmates every time I make that journey.

Best for Wabash Always,

John

John Kerezy '77