



Class of 1985  
Class Agent Letter  
December 2020

Class of 1985:

Happy Holidays! Thankfully, the world is getting some good news on the COVID vaccine front. Soon we'll have that pandemic nastiness in the rear-view mirror!

1. Class of 1985 updates:

- a) Once the Pfizer vaccine was approved, the next challenge was to get it spread around. That is where our classmate, **Houston Mills**, VP of Flight Operations for UPS, came to the rescue. Houston piloted the first shipment of the vaccine to the UPS Worldport facilities in Louisville, where they will be expedited Next Day Air to select destinations. More details are at: [https://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news\\_ID=11670](https://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=11670)
- b) When you hang your 2021 calendar, be sure to mark **June 4-6** for our **Bigger Bash** weekend. The timing should be right for us to finally leave our pandemic bunkers and (to paraphrase Prince) **party like it is no longer 2020!** We even get to hang with the kids from the Class of 1986, so we can share twice the memories. If you would like to help round-up a good turn-out by calling folks, let Kyle or me know.
- c) So how have you been keeping busy in your bunker the past 9 months? Let Kyle ([kcarr1@mhcn.net](mailto:kcarr1@mhcn.net)) and/or me know what you're up to so we can give our classmates the information! Also, be sure to notify us or the Alumni Office (at [alumni@wabash.edu](mailto:alumni@wabash.edu) or at 765-361-6360) of any changes to your contact information).
- d) More Class news is available on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/206066189687/>

2. Wabash news:

- a) Career Services reports, "Six months after graduation, 97.6 percent of the members of the Class of 2020 have settled into a first destination—employment, graduate school, or service." The national average for an ordinary year is only 64 percent. Hitting 90 percent at the six month mark is something most colleges only dream about in a year when the world and the economy are both healthy.  
As President Feller said, "This is, without a doubt, the story of the year at Wabash College. With COVID gripping the country and the economy weakened, our students graduated in May and within six months, virtually all of them have settled into a meaningful first destination. This is a testament to the value of a Wabash liberal arts education paired with the College's nationally ranked career services staff and program." More details are at: [https://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news\\_ID=11637](https://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=11637).

b) The college got top marks (as usual) from the various college rating services. This year's glowing praises included from the Princeton Review, Forbes, and 2021 Fiske Guide to Colleges among others.

W.A.F. (at a healthy distance, with clean hands, while *properly* wearing a mask!)

Mike Gilvary, 1985

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p.s. My boss wanted me to pass along some tax news. The CARES Act that passed last Spring included a tax law change for this year to encourage charitable giving. This year, people can deduct charitable contributions even if they use the Standard Deduction instead of itemizing deductions on Schedule A of the Form 1040. There are a couple caveats to this tax break though:

- 1) You have to make the contribution by December 31, 2020.
- 2) The maximum deduction under this provision is \$300. It's okay to give more, but if you want to deduct more, then you need to use Schedule A.

p.p.s. If you're looking for a good charity to receive your contribution, I suggest that you send the money to this place:

Wabash College  
Annual Fund  
301 W. Wabash Avenue  
Crawfordsville, IN 47933-0352

(or, if you want to go high-tech: online at [wabash.edu/give](http://wabash.edu/give), or over the phone at (877) 743-4545)