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PHOTO BY John Coffman







**Alumni and Friends,**

For the last three years, the following phrase has been front and center in our constituent engagement efforts as part of our \$100-million Having Light Campaign: "When we pass our light on to others, Wittenberg shines."

Since the launch of the campaign – the largest in Wittenberg's history – I have seen that phrase come to life across every facet of the University experience.

From conversations with our alumni, friends, students, faculty, and staff, to the philanthropic support we have received to date, to the stories that fill this special class notes booklet and the forthcoming magazine, everyone shines when we share our light. We even placed those words on the back of this publication.

The light we all share has also been visible as we prepare to conclude the Having Light Campaign on June 30, 2023. Last fall, during Homecoming, Reunion, and Family Weekend, we announced that we had already surpassed our campaign goal – a full nine months ahead of time. Despite this success, we never stopped engaging with you – our alumni and friends – and we never will. In fact, we increased the number of future light-sharers by a few hundred as we welcomed the Class of 2023 into our alumni family, May 13.

As you enjoy the profiles and updates in this booklet, I ask that you consider investing in Wittenberg again or for the first time before June 30. Your support will help our people, place, and present for generations to come. It will also reveal the power of the Wittenberg light to change the world.

**Best regards,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Frandsen".

**Mike Frandsen, Ph.D.**  
President



'59

The Emmanuel Episcopal Church of Petoskey, Michigan, celebrated the 60<sup>th</sup> ordination anniversary of Rev. **William Nicholson** on June 12, 2022. A 1962 graduate of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, he was ordained by the Michigan Synod that same year.

## STATUS UPDATES

Stay up to date with fellow alumni.

'63

In a July 9, 2022, ceremony at the MAPS Air Museum in Green, Ohio, **Walter B. Stitt '65S** received the French Legion of Honor, France's highest honor created by Napoleon in 1802. According to an article in *The Repository*, Stitt was honored for his "service in the Army, fighting to liberate France from the Nazis." A corporal in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Armored Regiment of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Division, he was a loader and gunner in Sherman tanks who was wounded twice in battle.



Richard "Dick" Ogle '58 (center), pictured here with Wittenberg staff, returned to campus in June 2022 while his grandson attended orientation events for new students.

'66

**Wendell R. Lutz** was awarded the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) Gold Medal, the society's highest honor, for "outstanding lifetime contributions in the field of radiation oncology, including achievements in clinical patient care, research, teaching, and service to the profession," according to a press release. A medical physicist and former member of the Wittenberg University Board of Directors, Lutz held faculty positions at Harvard Medical School, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and the University of Arizona before his retirement.

'68

**Miriam Weber Brown** was named the 2022 Ohio Nationally Certified Music Teacher of the Year from the Ohio Music Teachers Association. According to a press release, she excels as a teacher, serves as a role model, and volunteers with the organization. She taught public school music for 33 years and continues to teach piano lessons. As a professional harpist, she performs for weddings, corporate events, and private parties in the greater Columbus area, including the Franklin Park Conservatory Candlelight Tours and Sunday Brunches at the Hyatt Regency.



Jeff '74MSM and Linda Haines Pannebaker '72 '74MSM, Karen Areheart Ives '79, Robert Hobby '85, Katherine Reier '82, Wayne Wold '79MSM, and Paul Otte '75MSM attended the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians conference in July 2022 held at Valparaiso University in Indiana.

'72



Miriam Weber Brown '68

**John and Linda Hodges Forest** celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on July 29, 2022. They reside on their small farm with their horses just south of Dallas, Texas, and enjoy overnight weekend visits of their two grandsons, Tommy and T.J.



'75

**Paul Otte '75MSM**, retired minister of music at Peace Lutheran Church in Hutchinson, Minnesota, was recognized in September 2022 during Concordia University's Alumni Awards Banquet. He received the Service to the Church award for teaching and leading music ministries for more than 52 years.



Pi Kappa Alpha brothers Rob Armstrong, Gary Weitkamp, Ron Roberts, and Dave Bombard, all members of the class of 1976, gathered in Chazy, New York, on Lake Champlain in the summer of 2022.

'79

**Fr. Thomas Chininis** was appointed dean of the historic Annunciation Cathedral of Boston by His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, according to a press release. He had served as the presiding priest of Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Lowell, Massachusetts, since September 2012.

'82

**Ralph T. Gigliotti** was honored by President Joseph R. Biden with a Presidential Rank Award for Fiscal Year 2021, earning a Meritorious Senior Executive award. He works for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Wylecia Wiggs Harris**, CEO for the American Health Information Management Association, was recognized as one of 2022's Top Women Leaders by *Modern Healthcare*. In 2021, the magazine named her a Top Diversity Leader. She was appointed to the board of the Northwest Community Healthcare Foundation in August 2022.

**Henri G. Mann Moore**, vice president/head of responsible business at GSK Consumer Health, has been appointed by President Joe Biden to the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development.

'80

**Brian Agler** was inducted into the Circle of Champions by the Ohio High School Athletic Association in March 2022. The Circle of Champions program recognizes individuals who had prominent roles in the history of Ohio athletics.

'81

**Leslie Yerkes** is co-author of the children's book *Your Forever Dog: How it Feels When Someone Loves You* (Lost Dog Books, Dec. 2021).

'78

**Gary Garfield**, retired CEO of Bridgestone Americas, was honored with a 2022 Distinguished Law Alumni Award from the University of Cincinnati College of Law on April 29, 2022. A speaker, consultant, and author in the areas of leadership, culture, and change management, he serves as an advisor to Belmont University's Center for International Business and trustee for the Nashville Law School.



Wittenberg graduates from the class of 1986 gathered for a relaxing weekend on Hilton Head Island. Pictured from left to right: Cheryl Rockhill Degenhardt, Jenny Peters, Lisa Olson Vega, Margie Ames, Beth Hughes Reichert, Karen Ness Coffee, and Jennifer Riehl Koch.



'85

**Thomas D. Cross** was named president of Hearst Transportation in December 2021. He had served as executive vice president since January 2016, while simultaneously serving as president of Black Book and president of MOTOR Information Systems.

'86

**David Danzeisen**, M.D. was named Physician of the Year by the Napa Solano Medical Society in May 2022. Before working as a family medicine physician with Kaiser Permanente for more than 22 years, he had a nine-year career in the Air Force, participating in a humanitarian mission to the Philippines, receiving an Air Force commendation medal for saving the lives of two Air Force officers on a trek in Nepal, and deploying to Croatia during the Balkan Conflict. He currently serves as physician-in-charge of the Kaiser Permanente Fairfield Clinic in California.

'87

**Don and Gail Schlossman Mewhort '86** are happy to announce the birth of their grandson, Vincent John McCafferty, on March 17, 2022. Their daughter, **Sara Mewhort McCafferty '11**, and her husband, Ryan, are the proud parents.

'89

Nominated by President Joe Biden and confirmed by the U.S. Senate, **Dean R. Thompson** has been sworn in as the U.S. Ambassador to Nepal. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, he most recently served as the State Department's Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs.

**Ann Burns Tolliver**, a fifth-grade teacher at Eaton Community Schools, was inducted into the Ashland County (Ohio) Sports Hall of Fame in October 2021.

'90

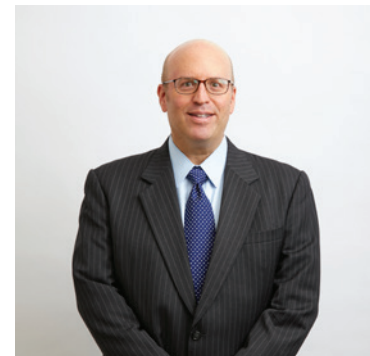
Piper Sandler Companies announced in June 2022 the addition of managing director **Steven Hull** to the DIS investment banking group. He is based in the firm's Chicago office. Prior to joining the firm, Hull worked as a managing director at BMO Capital Markets for 15 years in both the M&A and Industrials groups and recently as head of transportation and logistics sector coverage.

In July 2022, Broadleaf Results announced that **Judith Wear Walcott** has been promoted to vice president of client delivery for the organization, which provides talent acquisition and workforce management services. She joined Broadleaf in 2019 as senior director of client delivery.

'91

**Peter R. Tyksinski**, a foreign attorney with Momo-o, Matsuo & Namba in Tokyo, Japan, has

been appointed as the vice chair of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan's Legal Services & IP Committee. In this role, he co-organized a seminar at the Japan International Dispute Resolution Center (JIDRC) in Tokyo in September 2022. The seminar, which was presented in coordination with the JIDRC, the Japan Commercial Arbitration Association, and the European Business Council, included both an on-site and virtual tour of the JIDRC's facilities followed by a discussion of international arbitration in Japan by leading Japan-based arbitration practitioners.



Peter R. Tyksinski '91

'92

**Andrew Top** serves as manager of the Excel Title Services office in West Chester-Liberty Township's Towne Centre Square in West Chester Township, Ohio. The office opened in 2021.

'93

**Brian J. Murphy** was promoted to senior vice president, chief investment strategist for Canandaigua National Bank & Trust (CNB) in January 2022. He joined CNB in 2018 and has more than 25 years of experience



in the financial services business. According to a press release, he volunteers with the Veterans Outreach Center and Penfield Youth Lacrosse.



Maria Thrasher '93

**Maria Thrasher** has joined Hearst Media Production Group (HMPG) as a business partnerships and development executive. Prior to joining HPMG, she ran her own consultancy in Charlotte, North Carolina, providing consulting, strategy, and execution for all aspects of clients' marketing and advertising initiatives.

'94

**Scott Blackburn** is the new principal of Urbana Junior High School in Urbana, Ohio. He holds a master's degree from Wright State University.

**Robyn Gramlich Stewart**, assistant city manager for Worthington, Ohio, was named acting city manager, effective Dec. 12, 2022, according to a press release.

'95

**Julie Gordon Law** has been named chief people officer for Rocket Software, headquartered in Waltham, Massachusetts. She previously worked as the head of human resources for John Hancock, the U.S. segment of Toronto-based Manulife, and global head of talent management for Manulife.

'96

**Courtney Chavers Schmidt** has joined Atwell LLC, a national consulting, engineering, and construction services firm, as director, power and energy. Previously, she worked for a wireless technology consulting company for 22 years. She is based in Atwell's Independence, Ohio, office.

As of Aug. 1, 2022, **Forrest Trisler** is superintendent of Wynford Local Schools in Bucyrus, Ohio. Previously, he was principal at Columbian High School in Tiffin, Ohio.

'97

**Kevin C. Murphy** has been named chief digital officer and promoted to executive vice president of 1<sup>st</sup> Source Bank and 1st Source Corporation. He joined the Bank in 2006 and has served in various positions, most recently as group head of IT, marketing, and digital strategy.

'98

**Dan Rose** has joined the Cleveland office of JLL as vice president with a focus on office sales, office leasing, and tenant representation. He has more than 20 years of experience in commercial real estate and finance.

'00

**Karin Porada Asher** is the inaugural assistant dean for student engagement and professional development in the Division of Student Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh. She began her new position on July 15, 2022, after serving as the interim director of Pitt's Career Center for the 2021-2022 academic year.

**Laura Mayer Connor** was named assistant treasurer for Oakwood Schools in Ohio. Previously, she was the director of athletics and student activities. She began her new position Aug. 1, 2022.

After nearly 20 years working for various travel companies in the San Francisco area including STA Travel and Airbnb, **Karen Rosenblum** moved to Spain in 2018 to start her own travel company specializing in Spain. Through her Spain Less Traveled brand, she works one-on-one with clients to help them plan and personalize their unique trips to Spain, with a focus on off-the-beaten-path areas.

'01

**Jessica Joseph McKenna** is director of academic programs and planning for the Humanities Division of the University of California, Santa Cruz.



'02

**Kurt Lindamood** was hired as vice president, employee benefits by Alliant Insurance Services. Based in New Albany, he is establishing Alliant's presence in Ohio, according to a press release.

'03

**Terri Engle Brown** accepted a position as senior counsel with TransUnion LLC in January 2022.

'04

**Lesley Baker Bowen**, who has worked as an occupational therapist since 2007, has founded Holistic Hands Wellness Gallery in Toledo, Ohio. A nonprofit providing access to holistic wellness, this community space offers a variety of healing services.



Greg '04 and Sarah Charles Luerman '04 and family

**Greg and Sarah Charles Luerman** have moved from Ohio to Seattle, Washington, where Greg accepted a new role as vice president for research &

partnerships with Curi Bio. They have been taking advantage of their time out west, including visits to eight national parks, with plans to see many more.

'05

**Dixie Brown**, an integrative medicine practitioner, has started Moonstone Wellness, a virtual wellness center that offers nutrition, movement, and self-care programs and information.

**Kia Armstrong Bryant** was selected as the 2022 Lyman T. Johnson Torch of Excellence Award winner for the University of Kentucky College of Public Health. According to its website, "the award recognizes one African American alum from each of the university's academic colleges whose faith, hard work, and determination have positively affected the lives of people on the campus, the city, nation, or beyond." She works as the data management and implementation team lead for the Clinical Research Branch within the Division of Tuberculosis Elimination of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**Daniel "Danny" Brywezynski**, executive vice president of integrated operations for ScionHealth, was named by *Louisville Business First* to its 2022 40 Under 40 list. He was honored with fellow recipients at an awards banquet on Sept. 27, 2022, at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Kelly McKay Darnell** was appointed interim director of The University of Southern Mississippi's Gulf Coast Research Laboratory. She serves as an assistant research professor in the university's Division of Coastal Sciences and is director of the Mississippi Based RESTORE Act Center of Excellence.

**Darcy Ark Leis**, a seventh-grade English teacher at Clark-Shawnee Local Schools in Springfield, Ohio, received the Excellence in Teaching Award sponsored by the Springfield Rotary Club, Ohio Edison, The Springfield Foundation, and the Greater Springfield Partnership in March 2022.

**Tom Pickering** is principal of Newark Catholic High School, where he previously served as athletic director.

'06

**Emily Smith** is the new director of special education with the Urbana City School District in Ohio.

'07

**Katy Barrett Brewer**, co-owner of Wood & Brewer LLC law firm, was sworn in as Worthington City Council (Ohio) member on Jan. 3, 2022. She was elected president pro tem by her colleagues.

**Zach Raines** was named principal of Schaefer Middle School in Springfield, Ohio, effective Aug. 1, 2022. He was previously assistant principal at the school.

'08

**Shawn Hills**, director of communications for the National Basketball Association (NBA), delivered the 2022 James C. Bowling Executive-in-Residence lecture at the University of Kentucky. According to a press release, his lecture focused on crisis communications, including how the NBA has navigated the pandemic and social justice protests of 2020.



'09

**Stuart “Stu” Hartenstein** was named central region director for Little League International, effective Dec. 6, 2021. A longtime Little League volunteer, he served as an umpire-in-chief at both the local and district level for more than eight years and served on advisory committees for more than six years. Most recently, he worked as a history instructor and assistant men’s basketball coach at Denison University.

*Columbus CEO Magazine* named **Sara McKinniss**, marketing director for FST Logistics, to its 2022 class of Future 50. Selected for their vision and leadership to help make Columbus, Ohio, better, members of the class work together on a specific project designed to create meaningful, quantifiable change in the area.

**Michael and Kelly Clark Maxey** welcomed their son, Michael Creed Maxey III, on May 5, 2021. Kelly is the co-founder of Mom League, whose mission is to help all new moms thrive by hosting classes and social outings for moms in the early stages of motherhood. Mom League’s Newborn Class Series allows moms to meet other moms, learn from experts such as local doctors and specialists, and share their experience of motherhood with other moms who have babies the same age. The family resides in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

'11

**Heather DeSantis**, CEO of Publicity for Good, was named an Honoree Top Women in PR by PRNEWS in July 2021. According to a press release, this award “is dedicated to those inventive

and influential women who are looked up to and celebrated for their impactful success at their organizations.”

**Sara Mewhort McCafferty** and her husband, Ryan, welcomed the birth of their son, Vincent John, on March 17, 2022.



Michael C. Maxey III, son of Michael '10 and Kelly Clark Maxey '10

'13

**Hallie Donathan Cruzen**, head volleyball coach at Muskingum University, was featured in the *Zanesville Times Recorder* on Jan. 3, 2022, as part of the Aces of Trades weekly series that focuses on people and their jobs.

**Halle Krajenski** is program director for The United Way of Knox County in Mount Vernon, Ohio. Previously, she was with Knox County Head Start as an advocate and accredited Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) practitioner.

**Colin Payton** is the new director of the Simpson College Writing Center in Indianola, Iowa. He previously worked at the Iowa State Writing Center.

'14

**Alexandra Dressman**, who works for Citi Fund Services, received an Emerging Leader Award from Nicsa, a not-for-profit trade association in the global asset management industry. The award recognizes investment professionals under the age of 40 who demonstrate excellence in performance innovation with outstanding contribution to the development of the industry.

**Mallory Skrobot** has joined Dümme Orange, the world’s largest breeder and propagator of cut flowers, bulbs, and more, as retail project manager for marketing in North America. Previously, she worked in marketing for the Ohio History Connection.



Kenzie J. Kush '17 and Robert L. Everett '14

'16

**Morgan L. McDermott** married **Charles “Zach” Shy** '17 in May 2022 at Haig Point, South Carolina. The couple resides in Columbus, Ohio, where Zach works at U.S. Bank and Morgan is a second-year law student at Capital University Law School.





Morgan L. McDermott '16 and Charles "Zach" Shy '17 (center) celebrated with alumni the night before their May 2022 wedding.

**Sarah Webb** has joined AC Business Media as editor of *Rental and Green Industry Pros*. She previously served as managing editor of the *Landscape Management, Golfdom, and Athletic Turf* brands.



**Katherine "Katy" Baumgartner**, a physical education teacher for grades K-8, and **Austin J. Lewis**, who works for Eli Lilly and Company, announce their engagement. They are planning to wed on July 22, 2023.



**Kenzie J. Kush** married **Robert L. Everett '14** on May 14, 2022, in New Carlisle, Ohio.

**Payton Marshall** is a nightside reporter for FOX19 NOW in Cincinnati, Ohio.



**Brennan Whitis** was named head coach of the Ohio University men's golf program in July 2022 after serving as an assistant coach during the 2020-2021 season. He holds a master's degree in recreation and leisure administration from the University of Toledo.

**Troy E. Boucher** and **Delaney Detrick '21** were married on July 23, 2022, in Springfield, Ohio.

**Laura Harting '19MA** has been hired by Florida Tech as assistant coach of the swimming program. Since May 2019, she had served as assistant men's and women's swimming and diving coach and recruiting coordinator for St. Bonaventure University.

**Sierra Sánchez**, a student at the Maurice A. Dean School of Law at Hofstra University, was chosen by the New York State Bar Association to receive the inaugural Ruth Bader Ginsburg Memorial Scholarship. Created in honor of the late Supreme Court justice, the scholarship honors her principles while encouraging brilliant law students with a \$5,000 award.



**Claire Bergefurd**, a teacher at Mattamuskeet School in Swan Quarter, North Carolina, was honored as Beginning Teacher of the Year at the Hyde County Schools Board of Education meeting in September 2022. Sponsored by The North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching, the award includes a \$5,000 cash prize, participation in a GoGlobal NC trip in 2023, and instructional supply funds for the teacher's school.



Troy E. Boucher '19 and Delaney Detrick '21



# Advocating For Students

Professor of Education Sally Brannan  
receives the 2022 Alumni Award for  
Distinguished Teaching

By Cindy Holbrook



PHOTO BY John Coffman





Celebrating the University's dedication to superior, quality teaching, the Alumni Association Board named **Sally Brannan**, professor of education, the 2022 recipient of the Alumni Association Award for Distinguished Teaching, the top faculty prize.

Brannan learned the news during the annual Honors Convocation in April of 2022. The award was presented by Alumni Association Board Past-President Steve Shanor '90.

"This year's award recipient continuously demonstrates her service and commitment to Wittenberg," Shanor said in his remarks. "She has always advocated for students and shows genuine care. The type of care she has shown along with so many of the faculty here is what makes Wittenberg such an amazing place. Like past recipients, she demonstrates that excellence in teaching spans all aspects of Wittenberg's curriculum. Dr. Brannan has grown not only students' interest in her field, but the value they place on a Wittenberg liberal arts education."

He added that she "has continued a great tradition of connecting with students, bringing them to Wittenberg, and giving it everything she has to make their lives and careers more fulfilling. In turn, they are lifelong contributors to our communities and stewards of Wittenberg University."

Earning her B.A. in education from West Liberty State University in 1987, followed by an M.Ed. in special education from Ohio University in 1991, Brannan served for seven years as the director of early childhood programs at the Easter Seal Rehabilitation Center in Wheeling, West Virginia. She also taught students with severe and multiple disabilities at John Marshall High School in West Virginia for two years while completing her doctoral studies at West Virginia University.

"Dr. Brannan has been one of the best professors that I have had here at Wittenberg," Allison Moore '22 said. "She explains all her course work very well, and her door is always open for help. I have had her for three classes here

at Witt, and in each one of the classes, I have found something valuable that I could use in my future teaching career."

Becca McMahon '22 also had high praise for Brannan, saying she "passes her light to her students by being compassionate and understanding of her students' situations and stressors. If you are having a difficult day, she will take time out of her day to listen to you and provide support. In the classroom, she is an excellent teacher. It is obvious that she wants all of her students to grasp the concepts and use scaffolding to build a concrete understanding, rather than memorization. She lets her students share their opinions and thoughts without any judgment and finds the good in all ideas."

Currently serving as the chair of Wittenberg's department of education, a role she also held from 2011-2014, Brannan was overwhelmed upon receiving the award.

"It took a while for it to sink in with me, and it's still overwhelming when I think about it," said Brannan, who joined



the department in 2001. “The very first thing I did was walk over to Recitation Hall and read every single name on the wall of the past recipients and see how many I knew in my 21 years. It means so much to me, especially being a trained educator and understanding how people learn, and then being recognized for teaching. I had no clue it was going to be me. You sit there during the ceremony and hear the description thinking ‘oh, I know who this is.’ I only realized it was me the moment before he said my name.”

Brannan teaches in both the graduate and undergraduate degree programs at Wittenberg and has been very active in research, teaching, and service. Her primary research examines collaboration among special educators and related health service providers for children and students with disabilities.

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**“Dr. Sally Brannan has continued a great tradition of connecting with students, bringing them to Wittenberg, and giving it everything she has to make their lives and careers more fulfilling.”**

- Steve Shanor '90, Alumni Association Board Past-President

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“Things have changed over the last 21 years, and I’m just trying to stay on top of my game and not get stale in my teaching,” she added. “School curriculum and education licensure change constantly, and we have to stay up with that to make sure we are reaching all our students. I want to make sure that my future teachers understand the content and how it applies and how it will be used in the classroom. And, when I see former students and hear them being excited

about what they are doing in the classroom and their enjoyment in the classroom, it makes me proud. I love to see the grit and resiliency they’ve had staying in the profession.”

Much of Brannan’s teaching is directed toward the introduction of teacher candidates to the needs of preschool and elementary students with special needs and the appropriate teaching strategies and methodologies that address these needs. She normally teaches three courses a semester in the intervention specialist and assessment and inclusion area.

“My research is in collaboration amongst special education leaders, occupational therapy, physical therapy, school nurses, guidance counselors, and care of students with a disability. I have an ongoing piece with it. I like teaching the intervention specialist courses – it’s in my wheelhouse,” she said.

Dedicated to service, Brannan has given presentations at the national meetings of several professional societies including the Council for Exceptional Children, the American Association for Intellectual Disabilities, and the American Council on Rural Special Education. Presenting on a variety of topics including community-based instruction, assistive technology, collaboration, and distance learning, she has served on the editorial boards of *Rural Special Education Quarterly* and *Education and Treatment of Children*.

Brannan’s service to Wittenberg extends beyond the department of education.

“She has been involved in the recruitment of prospective students to Wittenberg by participating in programs presented through enrollment management,” Shanor said. “Her interest in welcoming and fostering incoming students to Wittenberg is evidenced by her enthusiastic participation

in conferences for the first-year experience and students in transition. Throughout her endeavors with and for her students, Dr. Brannan sets high goals for herself and her students with every expectation that they will be achieved.”

“It has been a joy and a pleasure to teach at Wittenberg. I love being a part of the faculty. I love it here, and I love my job,” said Brannan, who is now seeing her first group of students having their own 20-year milestones in their careers in the education field.

“As a faculty member in the education department, we work well collaboratively, play well, and enjoy each other’s company outside the job. The faculty’s commitment to being progressive and on top of things in the education world is amazing. I like who I work with, and it’s always been a good fit for me. We are committed to putting out good teachers and making sure they are as good as they can be.”

*Established in 1960, the Distinguished Teaching Award is presented to a faculty member who has completed five years of service at Wittenberg and is a full-time teacher at the time of selection. Selection is based on current performance, and all alumni, students, faculty and staff are allowed to nominate candidates. To learn more or to nominate a faculty member, visit [www.wittenberg.edu/alumni/awards-recognition](http://www.wittenberg.edu/alumni/awards-recognition).*

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Editor’s note: The 2023 recipient Matthew Collier '94, professor of biology, will be featured in a future Wittenberg publication.





PHOTO COURTESY OF Olivia Lawrence '23

## OLIVIA LAWRENCE '23 MAKES HISTORY WITH FIRST-EVER ALL-WOMEN FIRE CREW IN ALASKA

BY DEBBIE RITTER

Pitching tents, digging latrines, wielding a chainsaw, and traveling by smokejumper plane were all part of a typical work day last summer for Olivia Lawrence '23, a member of the first-ever all-women conservation corps fire crew in Alaska hosted by the National Park Service (NPS). She spent 14 weeks training, learning leadership and outdoor skills, and performing fuels reduction activities to help prevent and control wildfire spread in Alaska's national parks.

Lawrence's interest in fire was sparked in her sophomore year, when she helped with a prescribed burn at Kirby Preserve at Old Reid Park led by Jeremy Block '11.

"I just expected them to let me watch the burn," Lawrence says. "But they let me suit up fully and carry the drip torch and everything. It was just a really great experience for me, so I thought why not try out the wildland firefighting side."

Lawrence found the Alaska opportunity through the Student Conservation Association. Her experience with a prescribed burn tipped the scales in her favor.

Training in Alaska was rigorous. She had to pass the "pack test," a three-mile hike carrying a 45-pound pack in 45 minutes, take firefighting classes, and master basic chainsaw skills.

In Katmai National Park and Preserve – accessible only by plane or boat – the crew spent a month cutting down dead black and white spruce trees, victims of the spruce bark beetle. After a fuels reduction project in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley, they took a smokejumper plane to their first fire assignment in Allakaket, an Athabaskan village in the Arctic Circle,

where they helped protect Native allotments from the Slathtouka Fire.

"I was terrified, because you learn how much hard work fire is and you can be working 14- to 16-hour shifts for two weeks straight and you don't get days off," Lawrence said. "I already knew [that in] Alaska a lot of the fires are very rural, so we would be in the middle of nowhere with no showers, no phones, no anything for those two weeks.... It turns out it was a really great experience. It was my favorite part of the summer actually. It's such a great bonding experience."

She finished the summer at Denali National Park and Preserve, undertaking another fuels reduction project outside of the Visitor Center which allowed her to interact with tourists.

A first-generation college student, Lawrence has found support at Wittenberg, especially from Amber Burgett, former associate professor of biology, and the environmental science faculty. When she thought she couldn't afford the required supplies for Alaska, the environmental science program stepped in, providing her with the first-ever Equip Award to fund her equipment purchases.

"Because Wittenberg is a smaller school, I feel like it's easier to learn and to experience things here," she said. "When we do go out in the field and do field work, it has been more of a rewarding experience because it's more hands-on with your professor. That field work experience has really prepared me for actual field work for any job I want to go into."



PHOTO COURTESY OF Melissa Clary '90

## MELISSA CLARY '90 COMBINES HER PASSIONS TO CREATE A UNIQUE THERAPY PRACTICE

BY BELLA FIORITO '23

**A**t Heels Down Healing, Melissa Clary '90 practices a type of therapy you may never have heard of. A practitioner of Equine Gestalt Therapy, she partners with horses to help clients navigate and heal past trauma.

Clary's interest in psychology started at Wittenberg. "I had always loved learning about the whole human condition, everything from looking at therapy and mental illness," she says.

While student teaching in local Springfield schools, she discovered school psychology. "There was a need for not just educational help in the schools, but social and emotional outlets [too], and Wittenberg allowed me to take that on and work with kids at lunch and have groups and it was fantastic."

Clary went on to get a master's degree in counseling psychology from Tufts University.

"My psychology advisor, Dr. [John] Wing, [was] the one that encouraged me to go to graduate school," she says. "I still have the letter that he wrote for me to get into Tufts."

For many years, she worked as a school psychologist. While struggling with postpartum depression following the birth of her youngest child, Clary – on a whim – signed up for Equine Gestalt Therapy. Immediately, she fell in love.

Growing up in the Midwest, Clary, a self-proclaimed "horse girl," had a special connection with horses. Just six months into her experience as a client of Equine Gestalt Therapy, she decided to pursue getting certified and starting her own practice.

The switch to Gestalt therapy was a change for Clary.

Unlike talk therapy, "the main goal of Gestalt is to take care of any unfinished business with the understanding that grief and trauma and despair [lie] in our body," Clary says. "It's a very body-centered form of therapy."

As "naturally highly sensitive beings," horses make the perfect partners for Gestalt methodology. "They read energy," she says.

Clary works with women going through transitional periods in their lives that can cause anxiety and stress, as well as with children going through the difficult transitions of adolescence.

Clary chooses the horse her client will partner with. Then, she will take some time to talk with the client or go through some exercises with them and see how the horse reacts.

If the client is holding on to something they need to process or release, the horse can tell.

"Horses don't necessarily understand language, but they understand feeling and intention," Clary says. "They're amazing lie detectors. They just won't stand for people not being authentic."

Looking back on her experiences at Wittenberg, Clary, who lives and works in Chicago, reflects, "I just felt like the growth that I had in those four years at a small school – I'm not sure I would have had it at a larger university. I could be in a sorority [Alpha Delta Pi], and I could be involved in Union Board, and I could double major, and I had so much support from my professors. It was just such a positive growing experience for me."



'40

**Betty Eakins Ryan**, Hilliard, Ohio, died Nov. 20, 2021. During World War II, she served in the U.S. Navy. She was a member of Chi Omega, First Lutheran Church in Springfield, and later Upper Arlington Lutheran Church in Columbus. She volunteered at Springfield Community Hospital and Planned Parenthood.

'45

**Gloria Hawken Mendenhall Bredekamp**, Anderson, South Carolina, passed away April 21, 2022. She had a long career as a teacher, having taught in both Ohio and the Panama Canal Zone. She was a member of High Street United Methodist Church in Springfield and Gamma Phi Beta.

'46

**Jean Fisher Johnston**, Reading, Pennsylvania, passed away Jan. 9, 2022. She worked for Cleveland Trust Company before returning to Reading, where she worked for Beaumont Heller Spelling Ad Agency and later Ruttenburg Travel Service. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta, Christ Episcopal Church, and Junior League of Reading and also volunteered with Reading Hospital and Reading Museum.

**Betty Miller Nooney**, Spokane Valley, Washington, died Aug. 11, 2019. A member of Alpha Delta Pi, she was a longtime educator in Honolulu, Hawaii.

**Susie Mason Ward**, Hendersonville, North Carolina, passed away Aug. 29, 2021. She was a voice instructor and choir director and worked as a teacher in Syracuse, New York, and then several schools in Ohio for a total of 30 years. She was a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church and the Professional Music Society Sigma Alpha Iota.

Tecumseh School District. She was a member of First Christian Church where she taught Sunday school, served in the church nursery, and was involved in the Women's Missionary group and card ministry.

**Joann Zimmerman Inskeep**, Columbus, Ohio, died Feb. 5, 2022. She taught English for more than 30 years at Springfield Hayward, Lima South, Columbus Medina, and Mifflin schools. She was an active member of her teachers union and an avid traveler.

**Patricia "Pat" Gabany Sauer**, Covington, Kentucky, passed away Jan. 23, 2020. Early in her career, she worked for NBC and NW Ayer in New York City. She retired as educational coordinator of The United Methodist Church in Fayetteville, New York. She was a member of Immanuel United Methodist Church in Lakeside Park, Kentucky.

**Miriam Pfau Shepperly**, Mansfield, Ohio, died Feb. 18, 2020.

**Wilma Maurer Werstler**, Canton, Ohio, died Nov. 30, 2021. She was a teacher for more than 50 years, mostly teaching third grade at Lincoln Elementary in Adrian, Michigan. In retirement, she supervised teachers and helped to create The Children's Museum in Canton. She was a member of the Lake Township Historical Society.

## IN MEMORIAM

Honoring  
those  
no longer  
with us.

'47

**Lois Wappner Allbeck**, Riverside, California, passed away May 31, 2022. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

'48

**Irma Mustar Baumgardner**, Springfield, Ohio, died Aug. 2, 2022. She worked for Pure Oil Company and Shell Oil Company and later as secretary to the library coordinator in the

'49

The Rev. Dr. **William N. "Bill" Paul '66S** of Sylvania, Ohio, and formerly of Temperance, Michigan, died Oct. 24, 2021. For 30 years, he was pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. He was a member of Olivet Lutheran Church in Sylvania, Ohio, and active with the Bedford Township Lions Club.



'50

**Anna Bickham Coil**, Wapakoneta, Ohio, died Dec. 28, 2021. She worked for Meredith & Meredith law firm for 69 years, from 1948-2017. With her husband, she owned and operated John E. Coil's Used Cars and the Welcome Inn in New Hampshire, Ohio. She was a lifetime member of Muchinippi Church.

**Carol Pifer Kane**, Canfield, Ohio, passed away Jan. 22, 2022. She retired from St. Elizabeth Hospital as a medical technician.

**Sam T. Knappenberger**, Redlands, California, passed away Sept. 26, 2021. He completed his residency at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City before spending two years in the U.S. Navy. He practiced urology at St. Bernardine Medical Center in San Bernardino for 30 years, eventually holding the title of chairman of the board of directors. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi and Redlands Country Club and served as past president for La Quinta Country Club.

**Phyllis Phillipy Mast**, Zanesville, Ohio, died Feb. 11, 2022. She was a member of Chi Omega, St. John's Lutheran Church, Bethesda Guild, Authors Club, and Moorings Yacht & Country Club in Vero Beach. She served as a board member of Bethesda Hospital, treasurer and board member for the Zanesville Day Nursery, and charter member of Beaux Arts.

**A. Keith Rhoades**, Martinsville, Indiana, died July 16, 2021. A World War II veteran with the U.S. Army, he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Martinsville, and associate member of Marco Lutheran Church in Florida, and was past president of the Beech

Grove Kiwanis Club. He taught and coached at Morgantown High School from 1950-1954 and Bloomington High School (1954-1964) before holding various administrative positions with Beech Grove Schools from 1964 until his retirement in 1988.

**Bertrand A. "Bert" Trompeter**, Louisville, Kentucky, died May 14, 2022. Drafted into the U.S. Army, he served in Korea and was honorably discharged as a second lieutenant. He then worked in management at John F. Trompeter Co. and served on many boards in the tobacco and candy industry, as well as for Stock Yards Bank and Trust Company and Louisville Chamber of Commerce. He was inducted into the American Wholesale Marketers Association's Hall of Fame and the Male High School Hall of Fame and earned state and national citizenship awards. A member of St. Leonard Parish, Louisville Serra Club, and Phi Gamma Delta, he received the Wittenberg Alumni Citation in 2000.

**Paul C. Whitesel**, Thornton, Colorado, passed away Sept. 26, 2019. During World War II, he served as a medic in the Army. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta.

**Betty Eckhart Wilkins**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Nov. 6, 2021. She taught first grade and was a substitute teacher for several years. She was a member of Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church, Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Springfield Fortnightly Music Club, Women's Association of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, and George Rogers Clark Heritage Association. A member of Alpha Delta Pi, she was a past president of the Wittenberg Alumni Association.

'51

**Ann Journey Bell** of Espanola and Los Alamos, New Mexico, died Oct. 15, 2021. She spent 13 years as a missionary in Brazil. She worked as a school nurse at McCurdy School in Espanola and a maternity nurse at Espanola Hospital. She was active in the Santa Cruz, Alcalde, and Velarde United Methodist Churches.

**Mary Jane Creviston Billow**, Avon, Ohio, died July 23, 2022. She taught music and home economics in Gambier, Ohio, Delaware County Schools, and Waite High School in Toledo, Ohio. A member of Alpha Delta Pi Sorority, she served as Grand Council President for their board of directors. She also was a member of the Eastern Star and Asbury United Methodist Church in Toledo.

**Grace Adolphsen Brame**, Colfax, North Carolina, died May 1, 2021. She was a choir and youth director in Madison, Wisconsin; an adjunct professor at Villanova University and La Salle University; director of music at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Wilmington, Delaware; and pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wilmington. The author of four books and numerous journal and magazine articles and encyclopedia entries, she also performed as a professional mezzo-soprano in opera and concert, and served as a retreat leader in America, the Caribbean, Russia, and Tanzania.

**Joan Acton Brandt**, New Carlisle, Ohio, passed away March 30, 2022. During World War II, she was employed with Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. She was a member of The First United Methodist Church of New Carlisle, Charity Women's Group, and The Daughters of the American Revolution.



**Vincent Del Medico**, Akron, Ohio, passed away Sept. 24, 2021. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he served in the U.S. Navy until 1958. He then took over management of Chez-Del Interiors, retiring in 1994. He was active with St. Sebastian's Church, including 20 years on the Foundation Board, was a past board member at Archbishop Hoban High School, and volunteered with Good Samaritan Hunger Center of Akron.

**Robert E. Jackson**, Springfield, Ohio, died Aug. 6, 2022. He served in the South Pacific with the U.S. Navy during World War II. He had a nearly 38-year career at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, retiring as director of the visual communication department. He was a past member of First Lutheran Church, and member of Alpha Tau Omega, Masonic Temple Anthony Lodge #455, and Disabled American Veterans.

**Carl E. Juergens**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Feb. 2, 2022. A member of Phi Mu Delta, he served in the U.S. Army in Europe. He established Juergens & Juergens law firm and was honored by the Ohio State Bar Association for 65 years of service. He was past president and member of the Clark County Bar Association, First Lutheran Church, and Springfield Exchange Club. He taught business law at Wittenberg in 1958 and was an associate member of Ascension Lutheran Church in Indian Harbor Beach, Florida.

**Paul J. Morsches Jr.**, Columbia City, Indiana, passed away Feb. 12, 2022. He served in the U.S. Army's Ordnance Rocket Center Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama. Chairman of Morsches Builders Mart, he completed the Harvard Business School "Families in Business" program. His interest in horses led him to build a competitive breeding and racing program. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta.

**Myrlene Hagle Mezger Shoup-Hugo**, Sun City, Arizona, passed away Jan. 13, 2022. She worked as an elementary school secretary for Worthington, Ohio, schools, then continued to work in education at the Creighton School District and Arizona Department of Education, retiring in 1992. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta.

'52

**Ewen L. "Lefty" Bryden**, Charleston, Illinois, passed away March 8, 2022. He served three years in the Navy prior to college. He taught and coached several sports at two different high schools in the 1950s. Through the 1960s, he was the recreation director at North American Rockwell in Columbus, Ohio, before founding and chairing the department of recreation & leisure studies at Eastern Illinois University, where he worked for 22 years before retiring in 1991. A member of Delta Sigma Phi, he played professional baseball from 1946-1950 with the New York Giants and Philadelphia Athletics organizations and as a semi-pro player for another 13 years.

**Margaret "Megs" Sovick Contadino**, Cincinnati, Ohio, died Nov. 17, 2020. A member of Gamma Phi Beta, she was a teacher, vocal artist, and active member of many arts organizations.

**Harriet "Pat" Pattison Helling Cox**, Xenia, Ohio, passed away Aug. 8, 2021. She was a member of Jamestown Presbyterian Church and Alpha Delta Pi.

**Mary Schuler Dickson**, Jacksonville, Florida, passed away May 25, 2022. A violinist, she worked for 30 years as a public-school teacher in Brevard

and Volusia counties and advocated for arts in the schools. She volunteered with various string programs, including at Jacksonville Beach Elementary and Suzuki, and played in the Brevard Symphony, Daytona Beach Civic Orchestra, and the Civic Orchestra of Jacksonville.

**Gene E. "Skip" Markley**, Cincinnati, Ohio, passed away Jan. 22, 2022. He was a member of the Masons and vice president of St. Stephen Martyr Lutheran Church in Canton, Ohio. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he was a private pilot for more than 30 years.

**Marilyn Weir Pryka**, Maumee, Ohio, died April 20, 2022. She spent 30 years working in social work for county and state welfare departments, retiring in 1985. Active in local ministries, she was a member of Maumee Community Church and Alpha Delta Pi.

**James H. Rush** of Pennsylvania, and formerly of Massillon, Ohio, and Stuart, Florida, passed away March 8, 2019. He served in the Navy from 1946-1948 as a Navy seaman first class and received a commendation of excellent to outstanding work while serving in the Atlantic Fleet, Utility Transport Squadron Two. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he was a salesman and church volunteer.

**Eleanor McFarland Rutherford**, New Carlisle, Ohio, died March 15, 2022. She was a member and volunteer with the Animal Welfare League for nearly 60 years.

**Betty Wallick Sauer**, Upper Arlington, Ohio, passed away March 1, 2022. She began her elementary teaching career in Springfield, Ohio, and later was a substitute teacher in Akron and Upper Arlington. She was secretary at Riverside Methodist Church from 1978-1985. A



member of Alpha Delta Pi, she delivered Meals-on-Wheels for 25 years and earned the John Nilssen Spirit Award from LifeCare Alliance in 2010. She served on Church Council, Altar Guild, and Hospitality Committee for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church where she was a member for 47 years.

The Rev. Dr. **Kenneth H. Sauer '55S '74H**, Upper Arlington, Ohio, passed away Dec. 25, 2021. Ordained in 1955, he developed Faith Lutheran Church in Akron, Ohio, and served as its pastor until being elected president of the Ohio Synod in 1973 and then bishop of the Southern Ohio Synod in 1987. He was instrumental in the formation of Trinity Lutheran Seminary and the creation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He served two terms on the Executive Council of the Lutheran Church in America, was chair of the Conference of Bishops of the ELCA from 1992-1996, and was president of the Ohio Council of Churches from 1991-1993. Retiring in 1996, he served as interim pastor of All Saints Lutheran Church in Worthington, Christ Lutheran Church in Bexley, and David Lutheran Church in Canal Winchester. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi.

**Joanne Studeviant Schmidt**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away June 13, 2022. She taught in the Springfield City Schools for 46 years and also appeared in commercials in New York City. She was a lifelong member of St. John's Lutheran Church and member of Women's Town Club.

**Sonja Hillgreen Spragg**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Oct. 22, 2021. She was a member of Chi Omega Sorority, Junior Service League, Young Woman's Mission, First Lutheran Church, and a board member of the Clark Memorial Home.

**Richard A. Wengenroth** of New York City and Acra, New York, died June 15, 2022. He served in the Army before attending Wittenberg. He was a professor of art at Ohio Wesleyan University, where he established the Great Lakes Colleges Association Arts Program in New York. He later joined the faculty of Baruch College, retiring in 1991 as chairman of the art department. A widely exhibited artist, he published the retrospective *Richard Wengenroth - The View at 90*.

**Thomas R. Wiseman**, Millwood, Virginia, passed away Jan. 23, 2020. During the Korean War, he was a Marine fighter pilot and then served 10 years in the Marine Corp Reserves. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he worked as an executive in the steel industry, retiring as president of Franklin Industries.

'53

**Nancy Clarihew Beltramini**, Gainesville, Florida, passed away Dec. 13, 2021. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

The Rev. **Thomas M. BeMiller '83H**, Louisville, Kentucky, passed away Sept. 5, 2021. Ordained in 1956, he served as pastor of congregations in Michigan and Kentucky, including 32 years at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jeffersontown, Kentucky, and in multiple Indiana-Kentucky Synod leadership roles. In retirement, he was interim pastor to multiple congregations along the South Carolina coast. A member of Alpha Tau Omega, he was a former member of the Wittenberg Board of Directors.

The Rev. **Alfred R. "Al" Buehner '55S**, Pensacola, Florida, passed away Aug. 13, 2022. With a career

in the Lutheran clergy, he began a mission congregation in Detroit, and served St. James Lutheran Church in East Cleveland, Ohio, and Mighty Fortress Lutheran Church in Kettering, Ohio. He then took a position with Lutheran Social Services in Dayton until he was appointed as assistant to the bishop for the Southern Ohio Synod of the Lutheran Church in America. In retirement, he served as a supply and interim pastor across Northwest Florida. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha.

**Margaret Jane Shuman Clawson**, Hilliard, Ohio, passed away Nov. 19, 2021. She taught in public schools in Dayton, Springfield, and Marion, and was a member of Job's Daughters, Order of the Eastern Star, and Kappa Delta.

**Joseph J. Dietrich**, Centerville, Ohio, passed away Sept. 15, 2021. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Navy. He was a former social studies teacher and elementary school principal, as well as a basketball and football coach at Parkman, Kingman, Dixon Israel, Germantown, and Centerville. A member of Phi Kappa Alpha, he was inducted into the Stivers High School Hall of Fame in 2020.

The Rev. Dr. **Charles K. Henry**, Evansville, Indiana, died Jan. 4, 2022. During World War II, he served stateside in Guam. His ministry included pastorates in Western Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and Ohio under the Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) Church umbrella. While pursuing a doctorate in education, he was a substitute teacher for Tilghman High School in Paducah, Kentucky, and eventually served as principal for 27 years while also pastoring at St. James CME Church, which he served for 18 years. He held numerous leadership positions with the CME Church, including presiding elder,



delegate to the General Conference, General Board member, and first president-elect of the CME Retired Ministers. He was a Commissioned Kentucky Colonel, served as president of Kentucky Council of Churches, and was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and lifetime member of the NAACP.

**Barbara Baker Hubbell**, Lilburn, Georgia, passed away Feb. 10, 2021. She was a registered nurse and volunteered at Eastside Hospital. A member of Delta Zeta, she sang in the choir at Cannon United Methodist Church.

'54

**Elaine Korengel Durham**, Wilmington, North Carolina, passed away March 5, 2020. She completed a Master of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and practiced social work in her private counseling practice for more than 50 years in Wilmington. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta.

**Maralyn Spenny Flinger**, Burnsville, Minnesota, passed away Aug. 14, 2022. She began her career teaching music, directing choirs, and playing organ and piano in Illinois. Later, she taught piano lessons in Mankato, Minnesota. She was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Mankato, First Lutheran Church in St. Peter, and Alpha Delta Pi.

**David K. "Kay" Roush**, Urbana, Ohio, passed away Oct. 31, 2021. He worked for the City of Urbana, W.H. Marvin Company, and retired from Champaign Telephone Company. Active with the Urbana Boosters Club, he also was a longtime member and past president of the Urbana Rotary Club and member of Alpha Tau Omega.

**Joan Bruning Schell**, Dallas, Texas, died July 27, 2022. An emerita member of the Wittenberg Board of Directors, she was a librarian with the Dallas and Cincinnati Public Libraries.

**Susanne Dudley Stucky**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away March 19, 2022. A lifelong volunteer, she was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority and Northminster Presbyterian Church.

**Rosemarie Petri TerHark**, Lena, Illinois, passed away Dec. 12, 2021.

**Ann Hutzell Winters**, Wheeling, West Virginia, passed away Jan. 21, 2022. She was a member of St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church and Kappa Delta, past member of Wheeling Hospital Auxiliary, and Meals on Wheels volunteer.

**Patricia Huber Yeater**, Ashland, Ohio, died Oct. 29, 2019.

'55

**James H. Baker**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Feb. 2, 2022. With expertise in logistics and operations, he served in a variety of positions with the Ohio State Republican Party, Republican National Committee, Republican National Conventions, Presidential Inaugural Committee, and as director of operations and scheduling for the American Freedom Train from 1974-1976. He was president of JHB Enterprises, providing government relations services to Fortune 500 companies. He was a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church, The Association of Ohio Commodores Inc., and member of the Clark County Historical Society Board of Directors.

**Mary-Louise Neumann BeMiller**, Louisville, Ohio, died Dec. 27, 2019. She was a news reporter for Channel 23 in Rockford from 1969-1994. She played in the Freeport Concert Band, taught horsemanship classes, and was secretary for the State Saddle Horse Association.

**Rosemary Shufang Yang Chu**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, died Dec. 9, 2021. For 42 years, she worked as a resident hall director for Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, retiring in 2009. She was active in the First Baptist Church of Lee's Summit.

**John P. Fabian '58S**, Richland, Washington, died Aug. 18, 2022. He served as pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Newcomerstown, Ohio, before becoming the first chaplain resident in clinical training and later staff chaplain at Emanuel Hospital in Portland, Oregon. He then became executive director of Friends of Youth while also opening a private practice in counseling and consulting. In Richland, he worked in organizational development at Battelle and consulted with Rockwell and Westinghouse. A member of Lambda Chi Alpha, he authored *Creative Thinking and Problem Solving*.

**Marlene Karr Kotso** of Savannah, Georgia, and formerly of Hammond and Merrillville, Indiana, passed away Feb. 28, 2021. She was an elementary school teacher and member of Kappa Delta sorority.

**Shirley Hines Whonsetler**, Louisville, Kentucky, passed away Feb. 16, 2022. She taught junior high and high school while working alongside her husband, Rev. Richard G. Whonsetler '55 '58S, to serve Faith Lutheran Church in Wilmington, Ohio; Trinity Lutheran Church in Dayton, Ohio; and St. John Lutheran Church



in Louisville as a pastor's wife. At Ballard High School, she was an English, humanities, and special education teacher and instructional coordinator until retiring in 1998. She co-founded an ACT/SAT prep class and also owned Pet Love Pet Sitters with her husband. She was a member of Baptist Milestone Wellness Center and Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

'56

**Charles R. "Dick" Faulkner**, Greenville, Ohio, died Sept. 9, 2021. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He retired as an assistant superintendent of schools in Bellevue, Ohio, and coached football in Logan, Upper Sandusky, and Bellevue for many years. He was a member of Phi Mu Delta, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Greenville Elks, Greenville V.F.W., Greenville American Legions, and Greenville Rotary Club.

**Gloria Albright Kelly**, Cedar Park, Texas, died July 18, 2022. She was a 4-H leader, teacher, and homemaker. As a pastor's wife, she belonged to many Lutheran churches where she loved singing in the choir and hosting annual church council Christmas parties.

**Ben Andrew Miller Jr.**, Northville, Michigan, died March 22, 2022. He spent his entire career working for General Motors. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha, Society of Industrial Engineers, and Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Livonia, Michigan, where he was a choir member and occasional soloist. In retirement, he lived for a time on Kiawah Island, South Carolina, where he was active in the Sea Turtle Rescue Project and Lutheran Social Services. He also volunteered with the Travelers Aid Society at Detroit Wayne County Airport and received their Airport Volunteer Recognition Award in 2010.

The Rev. Dr. **Jerry L. Schmalenberger '59S '76S** '84H, Sedona, Arizona, died April 25, 2022. He was the pastor of five Lutheran congregations in Springfield, Bellefontaine, Tiffin, and Mansfield, Ohio, and St. John's in Des Moines, Iowa. From 1988-1996, he was president and professor of practical theology at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. In retirement, he taught for 16 years as a Global Mission Volunteer for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The author of 35 books, he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha and former member of the Wittenberg University Board of Directors.

'57

The Rev. Dr. **William C. Haggis '57S**, Dover, Ohio, passed away May 6, 2022. He was called to 42 years of ministry to Roseville Lutheran Parish in Roseville, Grace Lutheran Church in Steubenville, and Grace Lutheran Church in Dover, from which he retired after 26 years as senior pastor. He then served 16 years as interim pastor of The Stone Creek - Evans Creek Lutheran Parish in Stone Creek and three years as supply preacher for Trinity Episcopal Church in New Philadelphia. He was chaplain to the Dover-Tuscarawas County Chapter of the Order of St. Luke the Physician, past president of the Dover/New Philadelphia Ministerial Association, board of directors for Habitat for Humanity, chairperson for the American Cancer Society, and board of Community Professional Services. He was a member of Dover Historical Society and Argus Masonic Lodge #545 of Canfield.

**John H. Herrlinger**, Vacaville, California, died Aug. 31, 2021. He had 42 years of military service in

the U.S. Army and Army Reserve, serving in Vietnam, Japan, and Germany. Ordained in 1957, he served St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Shively, Kentucky; Our Savior Lutheran Church, Memphis, Tennessee; St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; Trinity Lutheran Church, Niles, Ohio; and Zion Lutheran Church, San Jose, California.

**Marian Duncan Huston**, Columbus, Ohio, passed away June 21, 2022. A member of Kappa Delta, she was a junior high math teacher in Hilliard schools for 32 years. In retirement, she volunteered for Meals on Wheels and was an usher for the CAPA City Theaters.

**David L. Larson**, Fredonia, New York, passed away March 20, 2022. He was an associate professor of sociology at SUNY Fredonia with a joint appointment in the department of business administration and served as chair of the Middle States Study, Faculty Council, department of sociology, and acting chair of the department of business administration. In retirement, he taught at Empire State and Jamestown Business College. He was program chair and past president for the Rotary Club, president of the United Way, board member of Chautauqua Opportunities Inc., and member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

**William E. "Bill" Leffel**, Hilliard, Ohio, passed away Oct. 21, 2021. He served in the Army during the Korean Conflict. He had a 34-year career with Nationwide Insurance, primarily as division manager in the corporate investment accounting department. A member of Beta Theta Pi, he coached youth baseball and served as commissioner of the Prairie Boys Athletic Association.



'58

**Robert L. "Bob" McMillan Sr.**, Pompano Beach, Florida, passed away Dec. 21, 2021. For more than 30 years, he was supervisor of music and director of choral activities for Fairborn City Schools, which inducted him into its Hall of Honor in 2015. From the age of 13, he served as organist for the Fairborn Presbyterian Church and continued for the next 70 years as director of music, senior organist, and choral director for various churches in Ohio and Florida. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi.

**Richard W. Snarr**, Lexington, Kentucky, passed away Oct. 13, 2021. After a brief career teaching and coaching baseball, he returned to his family's farm. He later began a 29-year career as a professor and administrator at Eastern Kentucky University, where he designed a master's program, served as department chair of correctional services, and was instrumental in pioneering distance learning. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

**Eugene E. "Gene" Urbanski**, Elizabeth, Pennsylvania, passed away Aug. 2, 2021. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam era. He taught English and coached football and baseball at Glassport, Monongahela, and Burrell High Schools, then obtained a position with the Department of Education for 30 years. He was a scout for the St. Louis Cardinals from 1964-1070. He was a member of Queen of the Rosary Church, PNA in Glassport, and Phi Gamma Delta. He was inducted into the Wittenberg Athletics Hall of Honor in 1987.

**Martha Cauble Willis**, Centerville, Ohio, died Oct. 25, 2021. She was a nurse at Kettering Medical Center, Sycamore Medical Center, and Hospice of Dayton. She was a member of P.E.O., Centerville Women's Civic Club, The Stephen Ministry, United Methodist Women, and Alpha Delta Pi.

**Jane Winkler Bauman-Laurila**, Rittman, Ohio, passed away July 27, 2021. She worked as an elementary teacher for area schools and was a member of Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church.

**Mary Lou Spencer Binnig-Wood**, of Westerville, Ohio, and formerly of Richmond, Indiana, passed away Oct. 27, 2019. She had an award-winning career as a real estate professional, serving as past president of the Richmond Association of Realtors and past director of the Indiana Association of Realtors. A member of Chi Omega, she was active in the Central United Methodist Church, Kiwanis Club of Richmond, Leadership Wayne County, League of Women Voters, St. John Lutheran Church, and the Wayne County Area Chamber of Commerce.

**Allan W. Fetherolf**, Scottsdale, Arizona, died Jan. 19, 2022. He had a lifetime career in music in Ohio, retiring from Tecumseh High School in Clark County. He was involved in community theatre productions.

**Arlene Fabian Harder**, Pasadena, California, died July 25, 2022. She worked at Trinity Lutheran Church before becoming a homemaker and PTA volunteer. Later, she earned an M.A. in marriage and family counseling and became a licensed therapist in her own practice. A founding member of the Wellness Community-Foothills, she authored several self-help books and websites. She was a member of Delta Zeta.

**Audrey Buchanan Spahr**, Kansas City, Kansas, died Oct. 14, 2021. She was an elementary school teacher and later did some work for the Welcome Wagon and in event management. A member

of Alpha Delta Pi, she volunteered with the Symphony League in Kansas City, P.E.O., and the Care Center at John Knox Village.

**Michael C. Turoff**, Athens, Greece, passed away Dec. 26, 2021. He had a career in the U.S. Air Force, serving in Vietnam and various other locations. Retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1986, he earned many honors during his service, including the Bronze Star Medal, National Defense Service Medal with 1 Bronze Star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, among others.

**Claudia Benedict Wagner**, Port Townsend, Washington, died Oct. 27, 2021. She taught high school students across eight states over more than 30 years, with 14 years in the English department of Lower Merion High School, Ardmore, Pennsylvania. She later taught at Northern Illinois University. She was a member of Grace Lutheran Church and Alpha Delta Pi.

'59

**Mary Recher Brown**, DeKalb, Illinois, passed away March 23, 2022. She was a member of Delta Zeta sorority and Crossview Church, where she led women's Bible studies for several decades.

**Joanna Moritz Fara**, Finneytown, Ohio, passed away Sept. 1, 2021. She taught physical education and science at Kettering Fairmont and Wyoming High Schools and was an award-winning girls' sports coach. After retiring from teaching, she worked as an adult development specialist at Great Rivers Girl Scout Council in Cincinnati, Ohio. She attended Faith Lutheran Church in Wilmington, Ohio, where she served on the church council, taught Sunday School, and sang in the choir.



The Rev. **Richard A. “Dick” Giessler ’63S**, Floyd, Virginia, died Feb. 28, 2022. Ordained in 1963, he served congregations in Springfield, Ohio; Park Hills, Kentucky; College Lutheran Church in Salem, Virginia; and Floyd-Willis Lutheran Parish. He helped to form the Greater Cincinnati Interfaith Commission and the Northern Kentucky Society for Better Housing. He also held positions with Crenshaw Lighting and Lutheran Brotherhood. He was active with the Red Cross, Floyd Theater Group, and Zion Players, and was a member of the American Philatelic Society, Floyd County Historical Society, and Lambda Chi Alpha.

**Carol Zigler Kusserow**, Zelienople, Pennsylvania, passed away Feb. 23, 2022. A pianist and composer, she served as a missionary with her husband in Malaysia and Singapore for 16 years, then in Tanzania, East Africa for 14 years.

**John R. “Jack” Lebold**, Staunton, Virginia, passed away June 8, 2017. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi.

**Ted E. Linham**, Scottsdale, Arizona, died Nov. 1, 2021. His career in the insurance industry included positions in Denver, Colorado; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Chicago, Illinois; Fort Wayne, Indiana; and Seattle, Washington. After retiring, he moved to Bellingham, Washington, to be the owner of a Grand Banks Yachts and Charter company for one year.

**Anthony A. “Tony” Mullen**, The Villages, Florida, passed away Aug. 10, 2021. He had a long career at the Freedom Area School District where he served as junior high school principal and high school football coach. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta.

**Jon B. Ruse**, Sun City Center, Florida, passed away July 20, 2021. He joined the Navy, attended Officer Candidate School, was stationed in Hawaii and Guam for several years, and finished his Naval career in the Reserve. He worked in personnel management for government agencies, including Social Security and the CDC. He was a member of Masonic Lodge 171 in Green Valley, Arizona, Redeemer Lutheran Church in Sun City Center, and Delta Sigma Phi.

The Rev. **Raymond P. Serocka ’61S ’64S**, Port Clinton, Ohio, passed away Dec. 5, 2021. Ordained in 1961, he served Casstown Lutheran, Casstown; Christ the King, Centerville; Messiah and Glenwood in Toledo; and First St. Mark’s, Oregon, Ohio. He was associate interim at Christ Lutheran in Las Vegas, Nevada, and visitation interim at St. John’s in Oak Harbor, Ohio. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

The Rev. Dr. **Joseph M. Wagner**, Port Townsend, Washington, died Oct. 21, 2021. An ordained Lutheran pastor, he served St. Timothy, Norfolk, Virginia, and Holy Trinity, Terre Haute, Indiana. He served on the staff of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, and in 1973, joined the national staff of the Lutheran Church in America in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. From 1987 until his retirement in 2002, he was director of the division for ministry for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He was a member of Grace Lutheran Church and Lambda Chi Alpha.

**Beatrice “Bip” Smith Warfield**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away July 31, 2019. She retired from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in 1993 after 36 years of service. She was active in the Federal Women’s Program and International Training in Communications (formerly

Toastmistress), winning several local and regional speech contests. She was a lifetime member of Catherine Street First Church of God, where she served as church secretary, treasurer, board secretary, and devotions leader, and served as president of her neighborhood association, earning a national neighborhood volunteer award.

**Paul L. Winemiller ’59S**, Venice, Florida, died July 19, 2020. A paratrooper with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division of the U.S. Army, he served with the United Nations Command in Korea and continued with the Army Reserve, achieving the rank of lieutenant colonel. He became a pastor and mission developer for the Lutheran Church of America in Japan. He served as pastor at Christ Lutheran Church in Carey, Ohio, then developed Our Savior Lutheran Church, Nokomis, Florida, and Nativity Lutheran Church, Weeki Wachee, Florida. In retirement, he served All Saints Lutheran Church in Port Orange and Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Venice.



**Marjorie D. Ball**, Springfield, Ohio, died Oct. 30, 2021. She retired from Clark State College where she was employed as a professor of nursing. She was a lifelong member of Mt. Zion and was active in missionary and community organizations.

**Raymond D. Bellisari**, Venice, Florida, died July 11, 2022, in Columbus, Ohio. He was a high school teacher and football coach in Ohio, beginning his career at Massillon High School and ending at Whetstone High School and Upper Arlington High School, which won the state football championship in 2000. He coached the Central Ohio All Star Game in 1985, served



as president of the Ohio Football Coaches Association, and was elected to the Ohio High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame in 1995. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega.

**Betty Fair Dickson**, Fernandina Beach, Florida, passed away April 28, 2022. A teacher of composition and literature at the high school and college level for almost 20 years, she served on the DeKalb County, Georgia, and Scott County, Iowa, library boards. In retirement, she volunteered at the local library and Barnabus Center/New to You in Fernandina Beach. She was a member of Delta Zeta and St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

**Ruth Williamson Johnson**, Traverse City, Michigan, died May 11, 2021. She was a member of Chi Omega.

**William F. "Bill" Locke**, Silverdale, Washington, passed away Aug. 3, 2022. A member of Phi Mu Delta, he had a 40-year career with the National Park Service, beginning as a park ranger and retiring as a regional budget director.

The Rev. **Myrl "Elden" Smith**, Toledo, Ohio, died April 30, 2022. In 1964, he was ordained a priest of the Episcopal Church and served Ohio parishes in Columbus, Ashland, Norwalk, and Findlay. A priest of the Ohio Episcopal Diocese, he served on numerous elected and appointed diocesan and national Church bodies. He also was a dean of the Diocese of Ohio West Deanery. He was a member of Delta Sigma Phi.

The Rev. Dr. **Ralph W. Spears '64S**, Indianapolis, Indiana, passed away Dec. 19, 2021. He was a Lutheran minister for the former St. Matthew Lutheran Church, past president of the International Lutheran Council, and member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

**F. Thomas "Tom" Starkey**, Columbus, Ohio, passed away Nov. 18, 2021. Since 1971, he directed German choruses in the Columbus area, including The Harmony Glee Club Arbeiter Maennerchor and Frauenchor, The Sachsenchor, and the Newark Maennerchor. After 30 years of service, he retired from the Columbus Public Schools, where he taught general and vocal music in junior high and middle schools. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

**Roger L. Thompson '60S**, Willard, Ohio, passed away Feb. 12, 2022. He served congregations in Bellevue, Kentucky; Valparaiso, Indiana; Elwood, Indiana; Indianapolis, Indiana; and Willard and Sugarcreek, Ohio. In retirement, he served as support and interim pastor in Sandyville, Massillon, and Willard. He was the police department chaplain in Sugarcreek, a volunteer for Adult Teen Challenge, past president of United Fund in Willard, and active with the Madison County Migrant Ministry committee and YMCA in Elwood.

**Dean Robert "Bob" Webb**, Bellevue, Washington, died Jan. 4, 2021. He served in the Air Force as a flight surgeon before entering private practice as an allergist. He continued in the Air Force Reserves, retiring as a colonel in 2001. He was a member of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Medina, Washington, Rotary Club of Kirkland, and Delta Sigma Phi.

'61

**Robert F. "Bob" Baker**, Springfield, Ohio, died June 11, 2022. He retired from International Harvester after 43 years.

**Donald L. "Don" Culler '61M.Ed.**, Springfield, Ohio, died June 21, 2022. He served two years in the Army as an assistant to Special Chief of Chemistry and Physics. He was a teacher, coach, and principal at Warder Park/Anthony Wayne Elementary School for 39 years, retiring in 1990. He was instrumental in starting The Dad's Club and the afterschool soccer program.

**Fritz W. Ermarth**, Cheyenne, Wyoming, died Jan. 19, 2022. For more than 40 years, he worked on national security affairs in government, academic, and commercial institutions specializing in Soviet, strategic, and regional conflict issues. He held various positions including chairman of the National Intelligence Council, special assistant to President Ronald Reagan, and National Intelligence Officer for USSR and East Europe with the CIA, and also worked for Radio Free Europe, Rand Corporation, and Northrop Corporation, among others. A member of Phi Mu Delta, he earned the Distinguished Intelligence Medal and National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal.

**Virginia "Ginny" Hartz Wessenhauer Prince**, Bartlett, Tennessee, died April 23, 2022. She had a 40-year career with H&R Block as an enrolled agent and tax advisor where she specialized in corporate and business taxes. A member of Delta Zeta, she was active in her church as a catechism and Sunday school instructor, organist, and singer, and with the Boy Scouts, MIFA Meals on Wheels, and Singing Saints.

**Robert P. "Bob" Stelzer**, Springfield, Ohio, died April 26, 2022. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was honorably discharged in January 1957. He had a long career with Ohio Bell, serving as district manager in



Springfield, and AT&T, retiring in 1989 after 30 years. He served on the boards of the YMCA, Junior Achievement, The United Way, and the Springfield Chamber of Commerce, worked on the bereavement committee at St. Christopher Parish in Vandalia, Ohio, and was a member of the Telephone Pioneers.

'62

The Rev. **Dean H. Beckwith** '65S, South Haven, Michigan, passed away Oct. 18, 2021. He established a new congregation at King of Kings Lutheran Church, Lake Orion, Michigan; served Good Hope Lutheran Church, Garden City, Michigan, for 18 years; St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Washington, Illinois, for 13 years; and served as interim pastor for congregations in southern Michigan and pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Allegan, Michigan. He served on the board of Senior Services of Van Burn County.

**James H. Conrad**, Commerce, Texas, died in August 2019. An historian, he received the Thomas L. Charlton Lifetime Achievement Award from the Texas Oral History Association and twice earned the Ottis Lock Award for Best Book on East Texas History from the East Texas Historical Association. He co-authored *Nameless Towns: Texas Sawmill Communities, 1880-1942* and *Freedom Colonies: Independent Black Texans in the Time of Jim Crow*.

**Jerry R. Ford**, Upper Arlington, Ohio, passed away Feb. 9, 2022. He worked for the Defense Supply Center in Columbus and was a longtime member of the Shamrock Club and Holy Spirit Church. After moving to Upper Arlington, he attended St. Andrew Church.

**Elizabeth Sotak Jamison-Butler**, Clarendon Hills, Illinois, passed away Dec. 20, 2020. She was a first-grade school teacher for 45 years, as well as a reading specialist, which she continued post-retirement. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi.

**Jennie Berkshire Lebold**, Penn Laird, Virginia, passed away April 4, 2022. A member of Chi Omega, she taught in the Springfield City Schools, then worked for the John T. Bryant Company and Stutzman's Garden Center.

'63

**Joseph D. Bullock**, Columbus, Ohio, passed away Jan. 5, 2022. He served as a physician in the U.S. Air Force and practiced allergy and immunology from 1971-2016. He was a Fellow of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology, the American College of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, served as president of the Ohio Allergy Society, and volunteered in the allergy clinic at Nationwide Children's Hospital. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi, Chamber Music Columbus, The Chrichton Club, The Golf Club in New Albany, Ohio, and Indian Creek Country Club of Indian Creek Island, Florida. He was a board member of The First Tee of Columbus.

**William H. Carter**, Elyria, Ohio, passed away Jan. 17, 2022. He served as a dentist in the U.S. Air Force from 1965-1967 and the Navy Reserves from 1967-1974. For more than 40 years, he practiced dentistry in Grafton, Ohio, and Elyria. He also started the dental clinic at Wesleyan Village and was a founding member of Lorain County Health and Dentistry. He was a member

of The First United Methodist Church, 103<sup>rd</sup> O.V.I. in Sheffield Lake, Lorain County Dental Society, and Lambda Chi Alpha.

**David H. Hathaway**, Brunswick, Ohio, passed away May 4, 2022. He began his career in Berea, Ohio, as a math teacher at Roehm Junior High School; he then became an administrator at both the high school and Center Junior High School. For more than 30 years, he taught canoeing and outdoor living skills at Wild Goose Camp for Boys in Maine. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi.

The Rev. **Martha Glasoe Hendricks**, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, passed away Aug. 21, 2022. She served multiple churches in Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin, mostly recently Christ United Methodist Church in Rochester, Minnesota. A musician, she sang opera, recitals, and with church choirs. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi.

**Charles "Chuck" M. Imhoff**, Lady Lake, Florida, passed away Sept. 1, 2022. The son of The Rev. Roger G. Imhoff Sr. '33 and Virginia Milner Imhoff '33, he was inducted into the Wittenberg Athletics Hall of Honor in 2014. He went undefeated against Ohio Athletic Conference competition the last three years of his collegiate career and won three league titles at his position. After college, he played in many tournaments in Kentucky, Ohio, Texas, Mississippi, and Florida. He was a member of Delta Sigma Phi.

**Harriet Gonter Johnson**, Washington, Pennsylvania, passed away April 2, 2022. She was employed by Trinity Area School District from 1976-2004. She volunteered with Meals on Wheels and Carnahan Library and was an active member of The Church of the Covenant.



**Marcia Knisley Price**, Dayton, Ohio, passed away April 17, 2022. She was a registered nurse who spent her career in labor and delivery, and was a longtime member of the Miami Valley Outdoor Club.

**John S. Rogers** of Greenhurst, New York, and formerly of Lakewood, New York, and Troy, Ohio, passed away May 1, 2022. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Troy.

**Alwine Diener Stull**, Bellville, Ohio, died Jan. 18, 2022. She worked for the *Bellville Star* and retired from the Bellville Library. She volunteered as a Court Appointed Special Advocate for Richland County and was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, where she served for 50 years, including the church council.

The Rev. **Donald S. Worth**, Monroeville, Pennsylvania, died Nov. 29, 2021. He served as a student missionary in Kumamoto, Japan, and was a member of Dorm League.

'64

**Gloria Sharkey Ault**, Shelby, Ohio, died Jan. 10, 2022. She was a teacher before working at First National Bank for over 20 years, retiring as a real estate loan officer. In retirement, she and her husband opened Ault's Country Tyme Shop. A lifelong member of First Lutheran Church and past president of its church council, she also was a member of the Malabar Foundation and Malabar Spinning and Weaving Guild.

**Jan Thompson Baughman**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Nov. 5, 2020. She was a teacher for many years with the Springfield City Schools.

**Scott C. Detrick**, Louisville, Kentucky, passed away Nov. 13, 2021. He achieved the rank of second lieutenant while serving with the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam as a platoon commander. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (V) and a Purple Heart for wounds received in action. He owned Scotty's Market in St. Matthews and served as property manager at Marshall Realty for 20 years. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega, VFW Post 1170 in Middletown, and Rotary Club of Louisville.

**Lucinda "Lucy" Mock Edwards** of Boca Raton, Florida, and formerly of Oldwick, New Jersey, passed away March 14, 2021. She taught kindergarten in Ohio and Colorado and Sunday school. A member of Alpha Delta Pi, she volunteered with Seeing Eye of Morristown, New Jersey.

**Janet Pearson Ervin**, Springfield, Ohio, died May 27, 2022. She retired from Springfield City Schools in 1995. A member of Alpha Delta Pi, she also was a lifelong member of First Lutheran Church.

**Judith Ripper Flint**, Marietta, Georgia, died Jan. 19, 2022. She was a librarian for the Atlanta Symphony and a choral director and music teacher at Walker School in Marietta. She was a member of the Lutheran Church of the Incarnation and Delta Zeta sorority.

**Patricia Matthews Hemmett**, Mattoon, Illinois, passed away Aug. 23, 2021. She was a Head Start teacher, kindergarten teacher, and day care center director in the 1960s and 1970s, then worked as a tutor and adult basic education instructor for Lake Land College before serving as literacy coordinator for Project PAL. She retired as the adult education and literacy supervisor in 2008. She was a member of the Illinois Reading Council, Phi Delta Kappa, and Rotary International.

**Jerrold D. "Jerry" Keifer**, West Des Moines, Iowa, passed away May 21, 2022. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

**John D. "Jack" Martin** of Scituate, Massachusetts, and formerly of Cohasset, Massachusetts, died July 7, 2022. A member of Beta Theta Pi, he earned a Master of Divinity and a Ph.D. in pastoral psychology. For more than 45 years, he was in private practice as a clinical psychologist at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston and on the south shores of Boston. He was a longtime member of the First Parish Unitarian/Universalist Church in Cohasset where he sang in the choir.

**Donna R. Silberberg**, New York, New York, died April 16, 2022.

**Mary Gottron Thomas**, Oxford, Ohio, passed away July 10, 2018. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

**Robert M. Wark**, Marietta, Ohio, died March 30, 2021. A member of Phi Mu Delta, he went to Officer Candidate School and then on to active duty in the Navy during Vietnam, from 1965-1969. He then joined his father at Wark Accounting and became a licensed CPA. He was a member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Ohio Certified Public Accountants, and Marietta Country Club.

'65

**Susan K. Barrett**, Annapolis, Maryland, passed away Aug. 29, 2021. She had a career with IBM where she oversaw long-term planning. In retirement, she enjoyed sailing with the Alberg Group of Annapolis. She was treasurer and board member of the Bay Ridge Land Trust, served on the Board of Jubilee of Baltimore, and was a member of Chi Omega.



**Dixie Smith Denney**, Charlotte, North Carolina, passed away May 2, 2022. She opened Sunshine Gifts in 1977 before managing the gift and flower shop at Carolinas Medical Center and later working for The Buttercup. She was a member of Myers Park Presbyterian Church, The Junior League of Charlotte, the Mint Museum Auxiliary, and Chi Omega.

**Penny S. Hesselberg**, Homosassa, Florida, died July 11, 2021. She was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

**Judith Israel Jenkins**, Galloway, Ohio, passed away Nov. 6, 2021. She performed with the USO and taught high school English in the Middle Township Public School District for nearly 40 years.

**Eileen Mays Juengel**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Oct. 14, 2021. She taught fourth grade at South Elementary School in Fairborn, Ohio.

'66

**Daniel G. Bookshar**, Erie, Pennsylvania, passed away Dec. 14, 2020.

**Carol Feiser Laque**, Chicago, Illinois, passed away Jan. 2, 2022. For 36 years, she taught comparative literature at the University of Cincinnati and led their poetry workshop. She also taught English at Xavier University, founded Circumference Press, published new poets, and founded a writers workshop at Cincinnati's Lighthouse Youth and Family Services. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta.

**Frances E. "Frank" Murphy '66M. Ed.**, Akron, Ohio, passed away Jan. 31, 2022. He began his career

as a Spanish teacher at Gahanna Lincoln High School before joining Austin E. Knowlton Company as a project coordinator for the design, construction, and finance of major capital improvements. In 2007, he founded University Housing Solutions.

**Kenneth E. Seeley '66M.Ed.**, Orient, Ohio, died Oct. 26, 2021.

**Mary Louise Utz Thieszen**, Berlin, Germany, died Sept. 24, 2021. With an advanced degree in library science, she worked as a librarian for the British consulate in Munich, Germany. At Wittenberg, she was active with the Cosmopolitan Club and Deutsches Haus. She is survived by her husband, Volker Thieszen, and sister, Catherine L. Williams.

**Reevea Stott Voigt**, Springfield, Ohio, died April 10, 2022. A school librarian at New Carlisle-Bethel Schools, she enjoyed traveling the world, especially Germany.

'67

**Charles W. "Chuck" Chambers**, Vail, Arizona, died Aug. 15, 2022. He spent nearly 30 years with Hanesbrands, where he led the company's direct marketing business, and later became an executive coach. He supported Carver High School through the Adopt-a-School program and served local nonprofits including Crisis Control Ministry, Habitat for Humanity, and Second Harvest Food Bank.

**Dean A. Deter**, Sparta, North Carolina, passed away Dec. 14, 2021. He spent many years teaching English at colleges and high schools around the eastern United States. He moved to Sparta to teach at Alleghany High School.

**Patricia Whipple Devore**, Houston, Texas, passed away Aug. 23, 2021. She taught English at Perry High School and Clear Brook High School. She was Teacher of the Year and honorary football team Coach of the Week and was recognized by Coca Cola Company for her efforts to obtain scholarship money for graduating seniors.

**Thomas S. "Tom" Loeb**, Mystic, Connecticut, died Feb. 22, 2022. He spent his nearly 50-year career largely in the paper/packaging industry in sales and sales management, including with International Paper Company in Dallas, Texas, Atlanta, Georgia, and New York, and the Container Corporation of America in Brewton, Alabama, and Mystic.

**Marcia Hobach Mackey**, Akron, Ohio, died July 11, 2022. She was a computer programmer for MK Ferguson in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County Auditor, and General Tire and Rubber Co. She was a member of Grace Lutheran Church, serving as president of the Women's Society, and Fairlawn Lutheran Church. She also was a member of Witan, Akron Women's City Club, Cuyahoga Falls Women's Club, and Sigma Kappa.

**Richard Allen Naille**, Flagstaff, Arizona, died July 25, 2022. He served as a helicopter pilot in the Army and was awarded a Purple Heart, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. His career included serving as president of Amfac and in a variety of jobs in the hotel and restaurant business including the National Parks, retiring in 1996. He served as an advisor on the Navajo Nation Tourism Board for 40 years in addition to the Arizona Town Hall and Northern Arizona University Advisory Board. He was a member of the Arizona Porsche Club.



**Ronald L. Roth**, Xenia, Ohio, passed away Nov. 17, 2021. In his career as a teacher, administrator, and football and wrestling coach, he held numerous positions in the Xenia, Dayton, and Vandalia-Butler schools, including director of special services and principal for Arrowood Elementary School and principal of Xenia High School. He served on the Xenia Board of Education, Vandalia-Butler Board of Education, Vandalia Park and Recreation board, Vandalia Jaycees, St. Christopher's Church, St. Brigid Church, and Rotary Club. He was a member of Xenia Elks Lodge #668.

**Richard E. Willett**, East Hampton, New York, passed away July 15, 2022. He was an educator who worked his way from the classroom to become superintendent of schools for the Pascack Regional School System in New Jersey, retiring in 1999. That year he became a partner in Wines by Morrell. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he volunteered at Legal Momentum and served as acting head of school for the Newark Boys Chorus School.

'68

**Robert A. "Bob" Houston**, Dayton, Ohio, passed away Jan. 30, 2022. He retired from Hyster Company in Greenville, North Carolina. He was a member of Christ United Methodist Church, Kettering, and Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, and served on the Wilmington/Clinton County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the Education Task Force, Advisory Board for Southern State Community College's Center for Business and Industry, and Clinton County YMCA board. In North Carolina, he was a member of Cypress Landing Golf Club and First Presbyterian Church of Washington. He also spent many years as a swimming and football official.

The Rev. **Charles R. Phelps '68S**, Clarksburg, West Virginia, died July 15, 2021. In 1950, he began a 45-year ministry as a local church pastor, serving Novelty Community Church, Novelty, Ohio; Troy Baptist Church, Garrettsville, Ohio; New Lyme Baptist Church, New Lyme, Ohio; First Regular Baptist Church, Bellefontaine, Ohio; Berean Baptist Church, Endwell, New York; Emmanuel Baptist Church, Clarksburg, West Virginia; Blessed Hope Baptist Church, Springfield, Ohio; and Calvary Baptist Church, Massillon, Ohio. In retirement, he was pastor's assistant and home missionary of Emmanuel Baptist Church.

**Janice "Jan" Lushbaugh Soeder**, Westlake, Ohio, died Oct. 28, 2021. An educator and administrator in the Lakewood City Schools system, she was actively involved at Lakewood Presbyterian Church.

'69

**Emily Palm Brown**, Grand Rapids, Michigan, died Aug. 22, 2022. She owned an H&R Block franchise for 40 years, earning the highest ranking as an enrolled agent. An accomplished amateur musician, she was a published composer and arranger. She also was a member of Sigma Kappa and the West Michigan Flute Association, serving as both president and treasurer.

**Owenita Schumacher Grubert**, Batesville, Indiana, passed away Feb. 1, 2022. She retired from IBM in New York. While living in Pleasantville, New York, she was a member of the Emanuel Lutheran Church and parent volunteer with the Pleasantville School District. She was a member of St. John's United Church of Christ in Batesville and Delta Zeta sorority.

**Dorothy Harden Minor**, Springfield, Ohio, died Sept. 20, 2021. She worked at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base for 38 years. She was active with Opportunities for Individual Change of Clark County, Urban League Guild, Reading Is Fundamental, Gamma Phi Delta Sorority of Business and Professional Women, Frontiers Auxiliary, Wittenberg Guild, National Council of Negro Women, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and Second Missionary Baptist Church, among others.

**Thelma Perry Violet**, Peoria, Illinois, passed away April 14, 2022. She taught at Dohron Wilson Elementary School in Mechanicsburg, Ohio, and Northridge School in Clark County, Ohio, from where she retired. She was a member of the Mechanicsburg United Methodist Church, teaching Sunday School and active in the women's group. She also was a member of the Women's Tourist Club and Caroline Chapter of the Eastern Star.

'70

**Trevor K. Buehler**, New Philadelphia, Ohio, passed away July 30, 2021. He was an attorney, law director of New Philadelphia, court administrator for the Ohio 5<sup>th</sup> District Appeals Court, prosecutor for Dover and New Philadelphia, solicitor for the Village of Zoar, and Ohio Inheritance Tax Supervisor. He served as president of the Tuscarawas County YMCA board and Union Country Club. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi.

**Julie Fox Click**, Union City, California, passed away June 5, 2022. She was an elementary school teacher at Pioneer Elementary School for more than 32 years.



**John H. Libert**, Bloomington, Illinois, passed away Aug. 7, 2022. After earning a Master of Divinity, he served congregations in Decatur, Warrensburg, and Kewanee, Illinois, as well as Western Avenue Community Center and Resurrection Lutheran Church in Bloomington and Good Shepherd United Church of Christ in El Paso. He also worked as the executive director of the Wellness Center at Mennonite Hospital, then at Four Seasons Association. He was a member of Phi Mu Delta.

**Richard V. “Dick” McLaughlin**, Elgin, Illinois, died Jan. 10, 2022. He was a member of Delta Sigma Phi.

**Stephen A. Rausch**, Cincinnati, Ohio, died May 30, 2021. He designed costumes for Schenz Theatrical Supply, including the Easter bunnies featured at the White House since 1981. After retiring in 2011, he created magical high-fashion dolls.

area, earning several Teacher of the Year awards. She was the U.S. National Scoring Chair for synchronized swimming and chief recorder for seven Summer Olympics for FINA, as well as in charge of Scoring Central for the U.S. Open, U.S. Women’s Open, and U.S. Senior Open Golf championships. A member of Sigma Kappa, she sang with the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus for 18 years, wrote two music puzzle books, and was active with American Martyrs Catholic Church and The Rotary Club of Redondo Beach.

**Richard A. Raabe**, Canton, Ohio, passed away Nov. 18, 2021. He had a podiatry practice in Canton, Ohio, and also served at Aultman Hospital, Canton Mercy Medical Center, and Lifecare Health & Dental Center. He volunteered as a dog trainer with Canines Helping Independent People in Canton and coached Little League, YMCA basketball, and Northwest Jackson soccer teams.

'73

**Susan R. “Sue” Amidon**, Columbus, Ohio, passed away Sept. 8, 2021. She worked in gifted education and enrichment programs for Huber Heights City Schools, Delaware City Schools, Columbus City Schools, and Westerville City Schools, as well as in administration for Worthington Schools and Westerville Schools. She also taught at Sinclair Community College, Antioch University, Central State College, Ohio State, and Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas, where she directed the first Summer Honor Initiative. A member of Chi Omega, she was president of the Consortium of Ohio Coordinators of the Gifted, vice president of the Ohio Association of Gifted Children, and an Ohio Department of Education consultant.

**Lisa Minnick McCullough**, Lexington, Kentucky, passed away July 17, 2017.

'71

**Susan Trimmer Bair**, Grand Rapids, Michigan, died Dec. 12, 2021. She taught school in Michigan before becoming a stay-at-home mother. She served as a Ladies Bible Study leader and was a member of Delta Zeta.

**John G. Himelfarb**, Dallas, Texas, passed away June 10, 2022. He was a vice president for Neiman Marcus before holding executive roles at Pier One and the Home Interiors group. He founded a catalog business named Badge Marketing and was a member of Phi Mu Delta.

**Susan Albrecht “Sue” Johnson**, Manhattan Beach, California, passed away Jan. 30, 2022. For 25 years, she was a middle school math teacher in the Cleveland

'72

**Ann L. Gillig**, Tiffin, Ohio, passed away Aug. 11, 2021. She taught first grade at Lincoln Elementary for 38 years and was a member of Trinity United Church of Christ, serving on the church council and as chairperson of the Christian Ed Committee. She sang with the Heidelberg Community Choir, served as president of Junior Women’s League, and was active with the Ritz Theatre as membership chair and actor.

**Beth Breneman Taylor**, Wooster, Ohio, died June 5, 2021. A retired grade-school teacher, she volunteered with her church, Meals Together, Master Gardener activities, and P.E.O. She was a member of Kappa Delta.

**Mary M. Scofield**, Beverly Farms, Massachusetts, died Dec. 31, 2021. Passionate about education, she taught others about science and the ocean in classrooms, during tidepool field trips, as a board member of the Maritime Gloucester, and through Wellspring House. She also served on the boards of Brookwood School and Pingree School.

**Paul L. Smith**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Dec. 27, 2021. He served in the U.S. Army. President of M&M Bank for 22 years, he also was an adjunct professor at Clark State College and owned Ray & Smith Appraisals. He was a member of North Hampton Community Church, Rotary Club of Springfield, University Club, and Spring Run Farms Trout Club. He also was a member of Anthony Lodge F & AM, Antioch Shrine, and Scottish Rite Masonic orders.



**Timothy R. “Tim” Smock**, Richmond, Indiana, died Feb. 11, 2022. His legal career included working with Lewis & Roca in Phoenix, as a partner at Scult, Lazarus, French, Zwilling & Smock, and his own firm, Smock & Weinberger. He was a board member for Cope Environmental Center in Richmond, Indiana, and the Indiana Football Hall of Fame. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi.

**James E. Spittler Sr.**, Miami Beach, Florida, died Oct. 19, 2019. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega.

'74

**Nancy L. Allison**, Virginia Beach, Virginia, passed away Oct. 3, 2021. Since 2001, she was a member of the Tidewater Kidney Specialist team and also served as medical director of the Virginia Beach DaVita Dialysis Center. She participated in Remote Area Medical (RAM), delivering free medical services to underserved and uninsured families in rural Virginia and was a member of the Norfolk Botanical Garden and Virginia Beach Public Library.

**Carl Donald “Don” Carlson**, Moorhead, Minnesota, died Dec. 21, 2021. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**William F. “Bill” Downing**, Concord Township, Ohio, died March 29, 2022. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

**Douglas R. Jacobs**, Savannah, Georgia, died April 19, 2022. He served four years as a dentist in the U.S Air Force and later opened his own dental practice in his hometown of Springfield, Ohio, which he operated for 30 years before retiring to Savannah.

**Terry D. Merz**, Hamilton, Ohio, passed away May 23, 2022. He was a teacher and football coach at Hamilton High School, Lakota West High School, Princeton High School, and Talawanda High School.

'75

**Susan Palo Cherwien**, St. Louis Park, Minnesota, died Dec. 28, 2021. An international performer, she earned a graduate degree as a soprano soloist at the Berlin Conservatory of Music. She composed several popular hymn texts used in hymnals throughout the United States, Canada, and parts of Europe, and authored several hymn text collections, including *O Blessed Spring: Hymn Texts of Susan Palo Cherwien*; vol. II: *Come, Beloved of the Maker*; and vol. III: *Peace, Be Still*. She was active in Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, where she served as a volunteer, sacristan, and soloist.

**John F. Shanahan**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Feb. 22, 2019. A teacher for many years, he was a member of Knights of Columbus #624 and St. Raphael Catholic Church.

**James D. “Jim” Willman**, Trussville, Alabama, died Dec. 16, 2021. He served in the U. S. Air Force as an illustrator. After teaching commercial art for many years, he became a training manager for Honda until his retirement in 2009. He was active with prison ministry and volunteered at a food pantry.

'76

**John M. Birkhimer**, Urbana, Ohio, passed away June 7, 2022. He served for more than 30 years in the U.S. Army Reserve, retiring with the rank of captain. He was a designer for Tech Development and GE Aviation. He was a Board of Education member, a 50-year member of the Urbana High School Booster Club, and served as football and basketball statistician for nearly 50 years. A 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree Mason, he also was a member of the Blue Knights, Harmony Lodge #8, Urbana Chapter 34, Urbana Council 59, and Raper 19 Commandry.

**Jeffrey W. Jadel**, Madison, Wisconsin, passed away April 11, 2022. His interest in the outdoors sparked a career selling high-end camping and outdoor equipment.

**Patti J. Smith**, Richmond, Indiana, died Sept. 10, 2021. She was a member of Kappa Delta.

'77

**Richard A. Dill**, Bay Village, Ohio, passed away Sept. 5, 2021. A member of Phi Mu Delta, he had a long career with the FBI.

**Richard P. “Ric” Pilgrim**, Yakima, Washington, passed away Jan. 2, 2022. Following service with the Peace Corps as a music teacher in Kenya, he was a music teacher in the Granger School District. He served as band teacher at Wapato High School and Yakima Valley Community College, and later as principal of Satus Elementary School in Wapato. He then held administrative roles as executive director of teaching and learning in the Wapato School District and assistant superintendent at ESD 105. He also played piano in a jazz trio.



**Carl C. Weaver**, Springfield, Ohio, died Aug. 21, 2022. He was a U.S. veteran, serving his country in the U.S. Army for three years, then serving in the U.S. Air Force for 24 years before retiring. He then went to work for the City of Springfield and later for Clark County. He attended First Brethren in Springfield where he served as deacon and taught adult Sunday school.

'78

**Mark K. Celsor**, Cincinnati, Ohio, died April 22, 2022.

**Michael T. Kuchinsky**, Derwood, Maryland, died May 22, 2021. After graduating in 1984 from the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, he served as pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Richmond, Virginia, before becoming chaplain and instructor of religion at Newberry College in South Carolina. He then earned advanced degrees in political science and government and international studies and worked for several nonprofit organizations, including the Africa Food Security Project with Bread for the World Institute, and for Luther Institute. Later, he began a career as a college professor at Goucher College and finally at Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs, North Carolina. He also was a supply or interim pastor at many churches throughout the D.C. metro area.

**James D. Unger**, West Hempstead, New York, died Dec. 26, 2021. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi.

'79

**Sarah Albright Healy**, Colorado Springs, Colorado, died Oct. 8, 2021. After briefly teaching high school English in Enon, Ohio, and working as a copyeditor at the Rockefeller University Press, she spent 34 years working in various editorial capacities in the journals operations division of RELX (formerly Elsevier Science Publishing Company). A member of Delta Gamma Fraternity, she was active with the Delta Gamma Fraternity Alumnae Chapter, served on the board of the Woman's Educational Society of Colorado College, and led the effort to form a support group for those diagnosed with multiple myeloma.

**Michael N. Ward**, Dayton, Ohio, died May 21, 2019.

'80

**Kristine A. "Tina" Ellingson**, Waupaca, Wisconsin, passed away Jan. 31, 2022. She was employed at Belmont Finance LLC. She was a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church choir and vestry and served on the leadership team of the Cursillo Renewal Movement in the Episcopal Diocese of Fond du Lac.

**Laurie Loufman Wittoesch Malone**, Scottsdale, Arizona, passed away May 21, 2022. She held high-level positions at Fifth Third Bank, GE Capital, and CAD Soft. With her husband, she bought, grew, and invested in four businesses from Ohio to Arizona: Jani-King, Malone Consulting Services, Arizona Final Clean, and Golden Heart Senior Care. She was a member of Delta Gamma and a founding board member of K2 Adventures Foundation, serving as secretary and advisory board member.

**Teresa A. Shoumlin**, Cincinnati, Ohio, passed away Dec. 6, 2021. She settled in Cincinnati to pursue a career in journalism.

'81

**Kenneth E. Urban**, Manistee, Michigan, died June 22, 2021. He was a member of Delta Sigma Phi.

'82

**Jacqueline "Jackie" Welling Roth**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away July 14, 2022. She earned certificates in sculpture, water color, and figure drawing from the Springfield Art Center. A volunteer with the Springfield Community Beautification Committee and other nonprofits, she joined Clark County's Alliance on Mental Illness and the Mental Health Board and served as president of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) of Clark County.

**Nancy Lewis Sturgeon**, Springfield, Ohio, died Nov. 17, 2021. She taught at St. Teresa Catholic School, El Bethel Temple Pre-K, and Springfield City Schools for special education and home-instructed students. She retired after 17 years with the State of Ohio, London Correctional Institution and continued substitute teaching and tutoring ESL children and adults.

'83

**Jeanne Croker Blum**, Canal Winchester, Ohio, passed away Sept. 24, 2021. She was employed by Aetna Insurance.



**Karen Barringer Dubinoff**, Lisle, Illinois, passed away March 5, 2021. A devoted and loving mother to her three children who she cherished beyond measure, Karen was a great friend to many, always giving selflessly to help others. Her friendship circle was wide including many sisters from Alpha Delta Pi sorority. Travel was a lifelong passion and she enjoyed a 35-year career at American Airlines, O'Hare International Airport. She was a faithful member of Faith United Methodist Church in Downer's Grove, Illinois, where she served as a Sunday school teacher and friend to many.

'84

**Kevin A. Rings**, Marietta, Ohio, passed away Sept. 17, 2021. An attorney for the Washington County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, he was a member of the Ohio Bar Association and Washington County Bar Association. He taught law classes at Washington State Community College and Peace Officer Basic Academy. He was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church of Parkersburg and Delta Sigma Phi.

'86

**Paulette M. Welch**, Cleveland, Ohio, died Feb. 18, 2022. She held a variety of positions in sports information, including as publicity director for The Red Mile Racetrack in Lexington, Kentucky, and as sports information director for Notre Dame Cathedral Latin, where she ended her career. She also worked in marketing for Cleveland MetroParks and as an editor of *Emerald Necklace*. She was a board member for WISE (Women in Sports and Entertainment) in Cleveland and volunteered at numerous NCAA Final Four events.

'90

**Mark B. Dallas**, Loveland, Ohio, passed away Jan. 22, 2022. With a doctorate from Xavier University, he worked as a neuropsychologist specializing in dementia care and diagnosis in the elderly.

**Gilberto R. "Tito" Sanchez**, Ypsilanti, Michigan, died Feb. 26, 2022.

'95

**Thomas P. Minnich**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away July 24, 2021. He served in the Air Force from 1961-1963. He attended Maiden Lane Church of God and volunteered with the Clark County Election Board.

'96

**Beverly Roberts Benham**, Tipp City, Ohio, passed away July 4, 2022. She was a registered nurse with both Dettmer and Stouder Hospitals in Troy, Ohio. She then served as a Dayton Public School nurse, retiring in 2014. She was a member of Cove Spring Church and P.E.O.

**R. Brian Triebelhorn**, Denver, Colorado, passed away in December 2021.

'97

**Johnetta Eddie Jaudon**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away June 22, 2022. She retired from the City of Springfield, where she worked in the finance department. She was a member of St. John Missionary Baptist Church, National Council

of Negro Women, L.I.N.K.S., and the NAACP. She served as a board member for the Rocking Horse Center and Springfield Metropolitan Housing Authority and taught marriage tools with Marriage Resource Center.

'98

**Thalia Pavlatos '98H**, Springfield, Ohio, died July 29, 2021. She operated Pillars Nursing Home for 30 years then opened City Look Clothing Store. She was active with The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, the board of the Family Service Agency, Wittenberg Guild, and served as president of the Clark County Medical Society Women's Auxiliary.

'99

**Brent W. Parke**, Springfield, Ohio, died Jan. 14, 2022. He taught math at Springfield South High School, Graham High School, and Northwestern Middle School and coached baseball and golf at various schools. A realtor at Real Estate II, he owned and managed numerous rental properties, attended Cornerstone Baptist Church, and was a mentor and board member at Springfield City Youth Mission.

'02

**Keisha Jenkins Gibbs**, Canal Winchester, Ohio, died Nov. 13, 2021. For 16 years, she was employed with the Columbus Metropolitan Library, serving as manager of the Martin Luther King Branch. She spearheaded The Columbus African American Digital Collection Project as project manager and coordinator.



'03

**Christopher G. Nash**, Westlake, Ohio, passed away Sept. 11, 2021. He was co-founder of In-Finite Search Solutions.

'19

**D'Anthony Dorsey**, Tampa, Florida, died in September 2021. He was a marine biology and physical science teacher at Auburndale High School.

### Faculty and Staff

**William I. "Bill" Buscemi**, professor emeritus of political science, died Dec. 19, 2022.

**Frederick F. Jackisch**, retired professor and dean of School of Music, died Oct. 12, 2022.

**Francis E. "Gene" Roller '57**, retired University registrar, died Dec. 22, 2022.

**Ronald G. Timmons**, former director of gift planning, died Nov. 26, 22.

'05

**Andrew M. Berger**, Savannah, Georgia, died Dec. 9, 2020. He was an adjunct instructor at Eastern Kentucky University.

'20

**Mallory Moss**, Columbus, Ohio, died May 21, 2022. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority, Outdoor Club, and two academic honor societies, Gamma Sigma Alpha and Lambda Pi Eta.

'15

**Erika A. Rich**, Scott Township, Pennsylvania, passed away Feb. 14, 2022. She was a yoga instructor, member of Delta Gamma sorority, and the founder of Bloomfoundation.gives, a foundation aimed at helping others with their battle against breast cancer.

'21

**Caleb I. Taulbee**, Logan, Ohio, passed away June 12, 2022. He worked in the accounts receivable department for the Rocky Book Company in Nelsonville, Ohio. He was a member of The Tree Church in Lancaster, Ohio, and Lambda Chi Alpha, and was a Hocking County 4-H alumnus.

### Friends of the University

**Ray A. Cox**, former member of the Wittenberg Board of Directors, died June 23, 2019.

**Thomas J. Murray**, former member of the Wittenberg Board of Directors, died March 22, 2023.

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### Something You Should Know

By Cole Lewis

Is that as a kid, I always wanted to grow up.  
Seeing the high school soccer players  
Itching for my time to be like them.  
Blinking and it's your senior night.  
Never thinking you would be old enough  
to go to college,  
Blinking and having 3 Semesters left at  
the Perfect University  
As I have gotten older,  
These memories have come from one  
common theme  
Family, and friends.  
Realizing that life is fast.  
You will miss everything if you always wish for  
something else.  
Maybe that's why I live in the moment. Not  
wanting to miss a thing.  
Maybe that's why I love Wittenberg so much.

---

A member of the class of 2024, Cole Lewis, a math major and education minor from Lewis Center, Ohio, wrote this poem for an assignment in Professor of Practice Erin Hill's Education 312: Disciplinary Literacy course, required for all adolescent/young adult preservice educators. Students write an original poem modeled after Dr. Clint Smith's poem "Something You Should Know," using the poem's title as a starting point. The course allowed Lewis to discover his voice, which reaffirms the power of the liberal arts to create lifelong learners and inspiring leaders.



SAVE THE DATE



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