IF THE PAST COULD TALK
By Kerry M. King ('85)
Ever wondered about the weathered plaques on walls, doors, benches and trees around campus? Behind the inscriptions are stories that can bring a smile or a tear.

A SECRET HISTORY IN PLAIN SIGHT
By Carol L. Hanner
With persistence and innovation, materials scientist Laura Ware Adlington ('10) delved past what meets the eye at Canterbury Cathedral to solve a mystery and make history.

ELEVATING A “CONSCIOUSNESS OF CARE”
By Katherine Laws Waters ('20)
Vice President for Campus Life Shea Kidd Brown has a higher aim for students beyond fitting in.

HUMOR HIM
By Maria Henson ('82)
E.J. Masicampo has a side-splitting side gig. He’s a psychology professor with a penchant for open-mic nights.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
The University honors Beth Norbrey Hopkins ('73, P '12) and J.D. Wilson ('69, P '01) for their Pro Humanitate service to Wake Forest.

CONSTANT & TRUE
By Clint McCown ('74, MA '78)
A poet, actor, bouncer, teacher reflects on his start at Wake Forest.

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AS I WRITE THIS MESSAGE, the sounds of spring are drifting through my open office window in Reynolda Hall. Students are playing Frisbee on Manchester Plaza, grabbing a bite between classes and sitting on the patio enjoying the warm weather. Cherry blossoms are in full bloom, and tulips are peeking up through the garden beds. There is nothing quite like spring in the Forest.

By the time this edition of the magazine reaches you, the season will be changing once more — this time from spring to summer. These seasonal transitions have inspired my reflection on our own Wake Forest season of change. During the first two years of my presidency, we have engaged in deep dialogue about Wake Forest University: what makes us distinct, what challenges are before us and what we aspire to become. In many ways, universities are in constant states of change. We welcome new students, staff and faculty to our community and in the same academic year say farewell to our latest class of graduates. We work to renew our historic buildings while simultaneously imagining and planning for future spaces in which our students will live and learn. Our faculty members exercise their tremendous commitment to the teacher-scholar model — a hallmark of the Wake Forest experience since our earliest days — to prepare our students for leadership in a rapidly changing world.

Through these changes, we remain, as the alma mater reminds us, “constant and true” to our core educational mission, in our commitment to Pro Humanitate and to building toward our future together.

In this issue, you will encounter exciting new stories, while also reading between the lines to recognize the hallmarks of the Wake Forest you know. We see the tremendous opportunities enabled by our liberal arts-grounded undergraduate education in the story of an alumna advancing the science of dating medieval panels of stained glass. The magic of our Reynolda Campus landscape is revealed through the lens of the historic markers and plaques that help define our cherished sense of place. And, we are united in the sharing of the achievements of your classmates, faculty and friends that each issue seeks to uplift.

In whatever season these pages reach you, I hope you find inspiration, pride and connection to Mother, So Dear as we continue to build momentum toward our bright future.

Sincerely,

Susan R. Wente, Ph.D.
in plain sight

With persistence and innovation, materials scientist Laura Ware Adlington (‘10) delved past what meets the eye at Canterbury Cathedral to solve a mystery and make history.

by Carol L. Hanner

ITHTHIN THE MAJESTIC stained glass windows of England’s celebrated Canterbury Cathedral, a lost secret of medieval history hung in plain view for more than eight centuries.

In 1987, an art historian with a sharp eye and deep knowledge had pos- ited the secret, but her theory about the Ancestors of Christ window series gained little traction without hard evidence. It was not until 2020 that Laura Ware Adlington (‘10) created an innovative process to help solve the mystery scientifically, using chemistry, math and an adaptation of a handheld device that looks like a space gun.

The secret? The glass in a window panel depicting Nathan, an ancestor of Christ, is much older than experts had believed. The art historian had prop- osed that Nathan dates to 1130 to 1160, and Adlington’s chemical analysis supports that theory. This appears to make the panel the oldest figurative stained glass window still in place in the United Kingdom — and among the oldest in the world.

Nathan’s panel contains glass older than most of the other windows in the Ancestors of Christ series, which depicts the genealogy of Jesus from Adam to the Virgin Mary. The windows were installed to replace those lost in the cathedral’s catastrophic fire in 1174. The estimated age of Nathan’s window means it predates the fire — as do possibly three other as-yet untested windows with the same stylistic differences noted decades ago by the art historian.
DLINGTON'S POST-DOCTORAL work supports the art historian's conclusion that monks salvaged Nathan and the three similar windows from the ashes until the sacred images could be restored to their proper place of glory.

The discovery has excited historians' imaginations. It would mean that the assassination of Archbishop Thomas Becket on Dec. 29, 1170, unfolded under Nathan's gaze. On that infamous day, four knights of King Henry II unsheathed their swords to murder the king's nemesis. They chased the archbishop to the altar, acting on the monarch's angry admonition that his court should not let him "be treated with such shameful contempt by a low-born cleric!"

The spilling of Becket's blood on the ornate floor, in front of stunned worshippers at this English center of Christian power, set off political and religious turmoil across the kingdom and made Becket a martyred saint three years later by papal decree.

Besides enlivening history and resolving the mystery of the mismatched Canterbury panels, Adlington's innovations have opened new windows to previously inaccessible investigations of stained glass history. Her work has blown fresh breath into interdisciplinary collaborations among scientists, art historians and conservators, whose concerns have sometimes collided, say colleagues and experts.

Adlington's achievement was to adapt a handheld spectrometer that aims X-rays at glass or other material and measures the elements inside. The spectrometer does this in a non-invasive way, without the need to risk disassembling windows or chipping off samples for a lab analysis. She invented a simple but critically important, 3D-printed plastic device that attaches to the spectrometer with Velcro. She gave the attachment a cheeky name, the Windowlyzer. It allows measurements with previously impossible precision for testing glass panels that are still installed in a building, or in-situ.

Adlington, 35, is low-key and humble about confirming the art historian's theory that was published the year Adlington was born. But Leonie Seliger, Canterbury's stained glass conservator, says Adlington's creative approach was inspiring. It "really, really is a game-changer."
That Adlington chose Wake Forest for undergraduate studies is no mystery. Her family is filled with Deacons: her parents, Rick Ware ('72) and Debbie Darden Ware ('75), who met at Wake Forest; a brother, Don Ware (MBA ‘12); her late grandfather, Jim Darden Jr. (‘45, MD ‘47); her uncle, Jimmy Darden III (‘81, P ‘16), and two aunts, Sally Ware Mims (‘83) and Charlotte Darden Miller (‘79) and Charlotte’s husband, Dr. Mill Wayne Miller (‘80). The family endowed the Ware Family Scholarship at Wake Forest.

Laura grew up going to tailgate parties and games and seeing her parents smile with old friends. “It was my ideal college,” Adlington says.

She arrived on campus certain she would major in physics and her mother’s major, mathematics. As so often happens with Wake Foresters, Laura’s horizons widened. “I started right in with physics courses, and I kind of fell in love with social studies along the way,” she says.

Growing up in Pennsylvania, she was so enamored of Latin in her high school classes that she chose it exclusively over modern languages. At Wake Forest, she ultimately majored in classics with minors in mathematics and anthropology. She studied abroad in Florence, Italy, and immersed herself in history, art and archaeology. Fittingly, she lives in a 17th-century renovated log cabin in Wayne, Pennsylvania, with her husband, Edward, who is a print-maker and an elementary school art teacher, and their son, Jonny, just shy of 2 years old.

Canterbury Cathedral’s Great South Window contains some of the panels in the Ancestors of Christ series, including Nathan, with a red background, fourth from right in the top row of the largest panels. Beside Nathan is the crowned King David, also with a red background. Chemical analysis supports the theory that Nathan dates to 1130 to 1160, earlier than believed, as is suspected of King David’s untested panel. Two other untested panels believed to be made in the same earlier period hang in the Great West Window.

“How did Adlington land in the world of stained glass archaeology? “I kind of fell into it,” she says. “Like early adulthood, I just kept following different opportunities, and I didn't really have a plan.”

She credits her adviser, Tom Phillips (’74, MA ’78, P ’06), with the prescient suggestion that he could see her in art conservation one day. It was Paul Thacker, an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology at Wake Forest and director of the University’s Archaeology Laboratory, who urged her to apply for the Richter Scholarship Program. That led her to Italy for a summer dig studying Etruscan culture, which bridged ancient Greek and Roman cultures. The women of Tuscany held an unusually elevated place in male-dominated Roman society. The topic became her senior thesis and lured her into archaeology.

“I’ve always loved history,” she says. “I always really loved the mythic stories and Homer, … these older expressions of ourselves as humans and how much they still resonate today.”

When the time came to look for a job, Adlington reached out to the editor who curated a favorite book on Etruscan women, and the connection led to an internship at the British Museum in London. Adlington learned about a master’s program at University College London to specialize in scientific archaeology or archaeological science.
The program aims to bring humanities students into science, and “you don’t get any more humanities than the classics,” says Adlington’s UCL adviser, Ian Freestone, a professor of archaeological materials and technology who drew her into the post-doctoral Canterbury work. Initially, he wondered whether Adlington’s classics focus would challenge her in a scientific program, but “it turned out she was a natural as far as applying the science was concerned.”

In fact, merging her love of science with her fascination with cultural history was just what Adlington craved. She began pursuing her Master of Science in the Technology and Analysis of Archaeological Materials.

She was drawn to stained glass more than ceramics or metals as her material of choice. Glass played to her strengths and her desire for certainty in results, she says. “You analyze it. You get a list of numbers of its composition, and you can apply statistics to it. It’s just really straightforward to me in the information you can pull from it. … Of course, it’s a bit more complicated than that,” she says.
The beauty of the work also drew her in, she says. She felt privileged to see the glass up close. “It’s just so finely, beautifully painted in such minute detail. They labored over this, and most people are going to be quite far away from it and not be able to see such amazing details.”

Freestone pulled her into a conservation project at York Minster, one of the world’s great cathedrals. The work in York became her master’s thesis, which received the highest mark among the program’s 272 students in 2013 and won an Institute of Archaeology Master’s Prize.

She extended her work at York to earn her UCL doctorate in archaeological materials science, which laid the foundation for her postdoctoral work at Canterbury Cathedral.

**WHAT MAKES STAINED GLASS SO IMPORTANT**

Pondering the great art of the world brings to mind the European Renaissance of the 14th to 17th centuries — Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael — rather than the Middle Ages preceding it. But stained glass is an art form with its own magnificence.

Stained glass brought light into the Dark Ages.

“The first words we hear come from the mouth of God in the Book of Genesis are ‘Let there be light,’ and Christ identified himself as the light of the world,” says Sarah Brown, director of the York Glaziers Trust at York Minster, where Adlington conducted her graduate work.

Theologians regarded light as the means for infusing God’s spirit into the church. The windows were a way to “bathe the devout, could transport you psychologically and in terms of your imagination and your senses,” Brown says. She has seen seasoned, modern travelers gasp as they step into the cathedral.

“The language in which the Book of Revelation describes the heavenly Jerusalem is comparable to what you would experience walking into a medieval cathedral, … the closest experience you can get to heaven on earth,” she says.

The chance to work at York Minster and then to do post-doctoral work at Canterbury Cathedral in Kent were huge opportunities for Adlington.

Canterbury, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was founded in 597 AD, establishing Christianity’s foothold in England. Besides its fame as the site of St. Thomas Becket’s murder, the cathedral is home to the Ancestors of Christ stained glass series, considered among the most famous works of medieval painting. Originally 86 windows, with 43 surviving, the series depicts the male ancestors of Christ in colored glass with the faces and clothing painted on the surface. The life-sized seated figures inspired awe and told visual stories to the many illiterate worshippers of medieval days.
Leonie Seliger, the Canterbury conservator, says the ancestor windows were as bold and fearless for their day as modern Abstract Expressionism was in the 1940s. “These were cutting edge works of art,” she says. “They were masters who grabbed the art of their time and shook it by the scruff of its neck.”

Adlington was not the first to use an X-ray spectrometer to assess the chemical makeup of materials. Stained glass researchers had used it to determine broadly a window’s era or whether windows, mostly post-medieval, were original to a home or church, Adlington says. She refined the process further to focus on medieval stained glass.

She analyzed just one panel at York for her master’s thesis, hoping to unpack glaziers’ methods and the craft of European studios from which English artisans imported their colored glass. The elements in glass differed by region, according to the sand, trees and plants found there. “It was pretty surprising to us actually that we were able to detect (individual) batches … from the same glass house,” Adlington says. They could see distinct compositional differences between one sheet and another made just a short time later.

Traditionally, researchers take samples to characterize glass based on the lighter elements present, which make up the majority of glass. But the spectrometer had poorly analyzed those lighter elements when glass had decayed in the humidity or water seepage of England’s soggy weather. Adlington recalibrated the spectrometer to focus only on the heavier elements in glass that can identify its origins, yielding meaningful data.

In just the first of several well-timed connections, Professor Freestone introduced his grad student Adlington to York Minster, which was engaged with York Glaziers Trust in one of the world’s largest and most complex conservation projects from 2005 to 2018, restoring its Great East Window. It is the largest medieval stained glass window in England and beloved for its beauty, sophistication and iconography.

In a shock to conservators in 2005, a piece of stonework around the window fell to the floor. Repair became mandatory, says Brown. Fixing the stonework required taking down the windows. Experts grappled with whether to simply fix the stonework and return the glass as it was or seize the chance to correct the many piecemeal restorations done through the centuries.

The risky decision was made: dismantle, repair and restore while staying true to the original design. The experts drew on the window’s extensively documented building contracts from the 1400s and discussed each tiny piece of glass to assess whether it should stay or go and whether to alter a panel in any way.

Conservation of medieval glass has changed over time, Adlington and Brown note. In earlier centuries, art and historical value played second fiddle to expedience and cost in patching up holes to keep worshippers secure from the weather. Some restorers were closer to plumbers than artisans, Brown says.

As the art of making medieval glass was lost, restorers often inserted 19th-century stained glass, with brighter but harsher colors, into medieval windows, creating noticeable mismatches. Then 20th-century conservators set out to remove this inserted 19th-century glass, sometimes with equally dismal results such as a head too big or too small for the figure. In the Great East Window, “we did have a small number of 1950s interventions which frankly were so gruesome that we didn’t retain them,” Brown says.

Conservation of medieval glass has changed over time, Adlington and Brown note. In earlier centuries, art and historical value played second fiddle to expedience and cost in patching up holes to keep worshippers secure from the weather. Some restorers were closer to plumbers than artisans, Brown says.

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Brown says Adlington’s analysis helped York create new learning about the craftsmen’s methods, enriching their story.
“It’s not carbon dating (which works only for organic material.) It’s all the weight of the evidence. It’s circumstantial. ... We are piecing together a mosaic.”

—Leonie Seliger, Canterbury conservator
in history. It also formed the proof of concept for Adlington to apply for a larger sampling for her doctoral degree.

Brown says the project “demonstrated the power of inter-disciplinary and cross-disciplinary working. It really turns a whole page in terms of how we can all work together so profitably.”

For Adlington, synchronicity continued. Falling stonework had set off the York restoration. Four years later and 4½ hours away, another surprising stonework freefall bedeviled Canterbury Cathedral.

“In 2009, our biggest window spat a surprise at us,” says Seliger, Canterbury’s conservator. The 60-foot-tall perpendicular Great South Window has many transoms and mullions, the vertical stonework that separates window units. “One day a large chunk of one of the major mullions ended up on the floor,” she says.

Inspectors scour the cathedral every five years, and it has an architect on site, but “this was a perfect storm of extremely hot summers and a leaking drain and an earthquake a few years before,” Seliger says.

Canterbury had to immediately install supporting scaffolding. “That window had to go into a corset,” she says. “We needed to evacuate the stained glass. You don’t leave that sort of important stained glass in a window that isn’t structurally sound.”

Seliger is director of Canterbury’s Stained Glass Workshop. It not only cares for the cathedral, which she says holds the best collection of early medieval glass outside France, but has resources to collaborate with other churches and museums to expand historical and technical knowledge.

As York Minster’s leaders had done, Canterbury’s experts had to decide how much restoration to undertake while the precious stained glass was out of the wall and accessible.

The stonework had been installed in the late 1700s to hold much older, medieval stained glass in very high windows. “They thought, ‘Hey, nobody sees it up there. Let’s just grab it from (another spot), stick it in the Great South Window … and we don’t have to pay for new stained glass,’” Seliger says.

“You have to imagine this window being the world’s craziest, most glorious and most expensive patchwork quilt. It’s full of really important medieval glass that doesn’t belong there.”

Ultimately, Canterbury chose massive restoration of the stonework only.

A stained glass panel in Canterbury Cathedral shows English King Henry II visiting the cathedral tomb of St. Thomas Becket in 1174 in a public act of penance for the king’s soldiers assassinating Becket four years earlier. Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Henry’s ally-turned-nemesis, was slaughtered at the altar in front of worshippers. Henry took 300 lashes from the monks as penance, quelling unrest and giving his endorsement to the cult of pilgrims who sought miracles at the cathedral after Becket’s death.
It was British-American art historian Madeline Caviness who wrote in 1987 about the stylistic differences that set apart four figures in Canterbury's Ancestors of Christ panels.

Caviness, who retired from a distinguished career at Tufts University in Massachusetts, began her lifelong study of stained glass with a fortuitous purchase as a young woman. "I love stained glass. I think the colors are beautiful, ... and I found some in an English antique store and bought it for a few shillings," says Caviness, 85. "I took it to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, which is kind enough to give you some advice about what you have."

The answer? Her piece wasn't worth much, but she learned that the last great stained glass expert in that department had died, with no real successor in England. She says many women of her generation hesitated to join a field crowded with men. "So it seemed like a perfect challenge for me to see if I could step in and begin to learn about glass," she says.

She won a scholarship to learn with the best people in France, published an article and "got going along well with it."

As she prepared a catalog for Canterbury in the 1980s, the dissonance she saw in the four ancestor portraits nagged at her. But a catalog is a reference work, she says. "You have to be very careful to be sure you proved everything. It's not a place to publish risky theories or hypotheses."

She held onto her hunch and published the theory elsewhere, first in 1987.

Her essay focused on the panels depicting King David; his son, Nathan, brother of King Solomon; Roboam, Solomon's son; and Abia, Roboam's son.

"The evidence I had in front of me was ... the way the glass felt to my touch, the way the different glasses had weathered and broken down compared with other figures in the series, and largely the style, which is quintessentially Romanesque as opposed to beginning to look like early (Gothic) art," she said.

The four figures were smaller and more squat than the others, perhaps indicating previous placement in a smaller frame. The folds of their robes, the size of their hands, their heavily drawn eyes and noses, their beards and other features differ from the surrounding ancestors but match the style of wall paintings from 1130 to 1160. Well-documented building records meshed with her theory, she says. "The reason I could go out on a limb has to do with how art historians are trained as opposed to people in the sciences, and I think we need to work together," Caviness says.

Her conclusion was that monks rescued the four figures after Canterbury's 1174 fire. A historian of the time, Gervase of Canterbury, described grieving monks wailing and howling at the fire's ravages in the sacred cathedral area he called "the glorious choir." Caviness concluded that the four panels were repurposed during the restoration through the early 1200s.
“[Caviness’] article had always been sitting there, and nobody had really worked on this any further because it was one person’s opinion.”

— Leonie Seliger, Canterbury conservator
The artistic styles of these four panels led art historian Madeline Caviness to argue that they were made earlier than the other panels in the Ancestors of Christ series in Canterbury Cathedral. From left, King David and Nathan are in the Great South Window, and Reboam and his son, Abia, (the spelling of their names varies in historical references) are in the Great West Window. Adlington's chemical analysis of Nathan's glass supports Caviness' theory that monks salvaged a large portion of the panel and several others, still untested, after a disastrous fire in 1174.
“The evidence I had in front of me was ... the way the glass felt to my touch, the way the different glasses had weathered and broken down compared with other figures in the series, and largely the style, which is quintessentially Romanesque as opposed to beginning to look like early (Gothic) art.”

—Madeline Caviness, art historian
Seliger had long known of Caviness’ theory but also knew that taking down the windows to investigate the theory was too dangerous for the historic stained glass — until the stonework disaster created a partial opening.

Seliger had admired Caviness’ chutzpah in publishing her theory and wondered if it could be confirmed.

“In 1987, making a stylistic analysis purely based on a person’s training was really poo-pooed by art historians,” Seliger says. “Her article had always been sitting there, and nobody had really worked on this any further because it was one person’s opinion.”

But there was a snag. Unlike York, Canterbury was not going to dismantle its glass during the restoration of the stonework. “It didn’t need that,” Seliger says.

“When we were approached by Laura and Ian about access to the window for testing, I said, ‘You’re very welcome to look at it and (do) whatever you can do with it without taking samples. You’re not going to get permission to interfere with the substance. Over to you,’ ” Seliger says with a laugh. The decision was not hers alone anyway; numerous councils would have had to sign off, she says.

Despite her resistance to lab sampling in this case, Seliger has joined with other voices calling for more collaboration among art historians, the materials scientists eager to physically dig into treasures and the conservators and curators who protect the integrity of objects.

“When I started here in 1991, I was told, ‘You are a conservator. You are not to have any opinions on the materials you are working on. That is for historians, art historians and scientists,’ ” Seliger says. “But I’m the one who looks through the microscope for weeks and years on end … building up an awful lot of empirical knowledge. How is it that they don’t want the information that I can help with? And I was really disturbed by that. And I was not the only one.”

Over the past 25 years, various groups have begun to recognize that by working together, “we can actually come up with results that are greater than the sum of the individuals,” Seliger says.

Adlington and Freestone responded with enthusiasm to the “you can look, but you cannot touch” gauntlet she threw down. “That meant that Laura had to become an inventor,” she says.

Adlington worked well with the team, Seliger says. “I felt completely safe in asking her to explain (her processes).”

The four Canterbury windows in question had been split up during a restoration in the 18th century, with Roboam and Abia installed in the Great West Window and Nathan and King David in the Great South Window that needed current repair. Adlington tested and compared Nathan, installed between 1213 and 1220, with a control group — the panel of Methuselah, documented as made within six years after the 1174 fire, and the Great South panel of Ezekias, known to be made in the 1200s. Although Nathan and Ezekias were installed about the same time, Adlington found that Nathan contains glass matching the older type of glass in Methuselah, making a pre-fire date for Nathan possible.

Before beginning work at Canterbury, Adlington returned to York to re-analyze the panels she had tested there when they were disassembled. Those panels were now back in their lead cames, like Canterbury’s windows, and she had to be sure the spectrometer produced accurate results on framed pieces, too.
"When I saw the results, it was really bad," she says. "I was, like, 'Oh, this is a failure. My research has been great up until this point, and now I just feel like I've hit a complete roadblock, and it's over.'"

At issue was the distance between the spectrometer and the glass. With thick lead camees, sometimes the glass inside was slanted and thus slightly farther from the spectrometer, enough to skew the results. Adlington's easy personality has a steel core — her persistence. She loves solving a puzzle, and she says she can't stop until she finds the missing piece. After her disappointment passed, "I don't know. I'm just kind of stubborn. I just wanted to find a way around that."

She needed something to keep the measuring distance consistent. Her first attempt was pretty rudimentary, she says — a bit of sawed-off PVC pipe attached to the spectrometer with duct tape. "The machine heats up, and the duct tape actually can melt a little," she says, able to laugh now. Her doctoral adviser suggested using the Department of Engineering's 3D printing workshop. She taught herself the software, and she wouldn't stop until she had created her device. She named it the Windowlyzer. She has shared her Windowlyzer design with researchers around the world. "Because the attachment is lightweight, it's good for archaeologists," she says. Her other doctoral adviser suggested using with duct tape. "The machine heats up and the duct tape actually can melt a little," she says able to laugh now.

Adlington's verification of spectrometer readings of framed glass meant she could investigate the Canterbury Cathedral windows without taking physical samples from the stained glass treasures.
Stained glass brought light
into the Dark Ages.
Caviness has not met Adlington, but the confirmation of the theory delighted the art historian. “It’s always wonderful when people reconfirm each other’s results. And ideally we would always work with scientists as well. That would be wonderful. Laura broke through what was a very difficult problem,” Caviness says. Seliger at Canterbury grew more and more excited as preliminary results firmed up into conclusions that led to international coverage about Adlington’s work, from British newspapers to the Smithsonian magazine. Stained glass windows that pre-date 1150 or 1160 “are as rare as hen’s teeth,” she says.

Germany’s Augsburg Cathedral, consecrated in 1065 in Bavaria, had been considered to have the oldest stained glass window in Europe, but its Prophets panels were recently dated to the early 1130s or later, putting Canterbury in contention as one of the oldest in the world.

“The trouble is, of course, they don’t come with a date … like 1136 or 1152,” Seliger says. “It’s not carbon dating (which works only for organic material.) It’s all the weight of the evidence. It’s circumstantial. … We are piecing together a mosaic.”

The future holds more discoveries, Seliger says. UCL and the University of York acquired limited funding to continue examining the windows in Canterbury. Personnel on site can do the spectrometer tests, and Adlington has analyzed their results remotely as a consultant.

Adlington would love to stay in stained glass research, but she wants to remain close to her Pennsylvania home and family, and the United States has less stained glass than do European cathedrals, so she is considering positions in related fields while she works as a freelance technical consultant and editor.

Freestone says the real significance of Adlington’s work is showing that the spectrometer technique works. Just recently, Freestone says, researchers have “got up the scaffolding and been able to analyze windows which beforehand were completely inaccessible to scientific studies. She laid the groundwork for this.”

The new technology, the non-invasive technique and new collaborations will create research in other cathedrals, churches and museums, Seliger says. “This is a really thrilling time for us.”

The work reaches into the past and holds promise ahead. Adlington says the project “gives us this vivid glimpse into the past,” and her innovations offer a way to shine a light on “this beautiful and unique art form and craft,” where more secrets await discovery.
Adlington demonstrates at Canterbury Cathedral how she uses the X-ray spectrometer, for which she invented the Windowlyzer attachment to allow precise measurements of the glass. She doesn’t normally work in the dark but took advantage of the lighting contrast to highlight the stained glass.
Vice President for Campus life Shea Kidd Brown has a higher aim for students beyond fitting in.

By Katherine Laws Waters ('20)
Illustration by Nigel Buchanan
Photography by Ken Bennett and Lyndsie Schlink
FOR STUDENTS, that’s a familiar greeting from Vice President for Campus Life Shea Kidd Brown, whether they cross paths with her in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library or in the bustle of the Magnolia Room. Her question means more than pinpointing a hometown. She defines it as a way for people to say, “Wait. What’s my story? Where is home?” Home may be where you’re from. Home may be where you feel safe and where you feel comfort.”

Since Kidd Brown made her professional home at Wake Forest in 2022, she has sought ways to interact with students during their everyday moments to help them feel connected with their community. Her reputation among students is one of warmth and friendliness.

“Belonging can happen one touch at a time,” she says, “and it can happen through transformative programming and experiences.”

During her first year as vice president, Kidd Brown established Wake Up Wednesdays, where University leadership offers free coffee and treats to students, and she co-leads with President Susan R. Wente monthly Gold & Black roundtable chats. She serves as a member of the Reynolda Cabinet and leads the Division of Campus Life, with more than 250 employees and responsibility for nearly 8,000 undergraduate and graduate students. The Division of Campus Life oversees a broad range of offices, including Campus Recreation, Fraternity & Sorority Life, CARE Team & Case Management, Office of the Chaplain,
Title IX, University Police, University Counseling Center, Residence Life & Housing, Student Engagement and Student Health Service.

Kidd Brown worked in sales after completing her undergraduate degree in speech communication at the University of Southern Mississippi in her hometown of Hattiesburg in 2002. When she realized working in sales wasn’t “filling my cup,” she reflected on her college experiences and mentors’ advice. Higher education? “It found me,” she says.

She received her Master of Education in college student affairs administration from the University of Georgia and a doctorate from the University of Memphis, where her scholarship focused on racial identity development in African American college students. Her most recent job was associate vice chancellor for student life and dean of students at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Deputy Editor Katherine Laws Waters (’20) talked with her about her background and her insights into campus life. These excerpts have been edited for brevity and clarity.

**KW:** I remember seeing you at an event in Wait Chapel. Instead of sitting to take a breath before the event, you put your things down and went over to talk with young people. I wonder what was going through your mind.

**SKB:** It’s noticing. Every moment we have a chance to connect with someone, and you never know what that person might be going through, what
“It’s such a trajectory-builder when you think about what life-changing, transformative experiences can happen on a college campus.”
they’re navigating and what connection you might miss by not engaging. And so it lifts their spirit, but it lifts my spirit. Selfishly, it feels good to be part of that. I try to sprinkle that positivity as much as I can all over campus.

KW: I love the phrase in your Twitter bio, “Hard work and heart work.” Tell me about it.
SKB: Two years into my tenure at the University of Tennessee, COVID hit. While I was espousing those values (of hard work and heart work), I think it became even more important because it felt like we were in crisis mode for so long. Adrenaline is only meant to last for a short period of time, … and we were in this adrenaline mode for months and months at a time. … What we were doing was hard. The heart part … is I love what I do. I love students. I love working with staff. I love working with colleagues. It’s not transactional. What I do, what I try to create, is really about that connection I make with people. That’s where the heart comes in — as both the passion and the North Star of always thinking about remembering where I started. But it’s also the connection that happens that can’t happen in the head. It has to happen in the heart.

KW: What advice would you give to your younger self as a student?
SKB: The first is: I am enough. I think our families, our friends, our culture sort of try to tell us what enough looks like, and enough can look like a lot of different things. It means that I have something unique to give to the world, and instead of trying to be or fit into some other box that I am the box. I could create the box. I think that’s what I was navigating (as a student), truly, was trying to be enough. My identities come into play there. I grew up in a space that didn’t always look like me, that didn’t always understand. … I was sort of trying to compensate. That’s a piece that I continue to try to instill in students, but I also still tell myself that today. The other one is: Do good work. Often we want a five-year plan, a 10-year plan, a 15-year plan because that helps us feel assured that it’s all going to be OK and that we are going to be successful if we’re goal oriented. And I am all for being goal oriented because I still am. But I think learning the value of working hard and creating sustainable structures — the opportunities are going to come your way as long as you build quality relationships with people and you invest in a place.

KW: Tell me about your own undergraduate experience at the University of Southern Mississippi.
SKB: I grew up attending community events and football games, but I didn’t see myself actually there as a college student because I was a hometown kid. … Quite honestly, I did not know if I was four-year university material. One night I was at a high school gym college fair, and a woman (from Southern Mississippi) said, “We have this leadership scholarship, and you should consider applying.” … I think I needed that confidence boost of someone to say, “You should think about this.” I received that scholarship, and (it) set me on this journey of exploration and curiosity and figuring out who I was. … The scholarship required me to live on campus for four years and to be involved. I was a recruitment ambassador my first year, … and that gave me the inside scoop on the history, the
traditions and the spirit. As part of that experience, I also was connected to the university ambassadors who were also orientation leaders. They wear these gold blazers. And I remember saying, “I want to wear a gold blazer at some point.” (She shares that she joined student government, went overseas for missions work, got a job in admissions and became an official tour guide. By senior year, she wore the gold blazer.) My salient experiences were about creating experiences for other people.

Then one day, I was outside “The Hub,” the university center. The vice president for student affairs came up to me, and he was, like, “Hey, what’s your name? What’s your story?” His name is Dr. Joe Paul. I became his student assistant, so I got to see the day-to-day functioning of a vice president for student affairs. (He also encouraged her to leave sales for higher education.)

**KW:** Why did you pursue higher education?

**SKB:** I wear a bracelet that says, “Remember why you started.” (As an undergraduate student), I was thinking about the difference I could make in students who might have been like me. And today I think about who I might meet at the stairs or at the Mag Room or in ZSR who just needs connection. I chose higher ed to make a difference and to really help students find their place in the world — not only on their college campus — but in the world. It’s such a trajectory-builder when you think about what life-changing, transformative experiences can happen on a college campus.

**KW:** When you gather with campus life leaders at other universities, what are the issues the group discusses?

**SKB:** Mental health is at the top of our concern. Our students have been through a lot (during the pandemic). We want to support and care for students and build long-term structures. But we’re also curious about the next generation of students. My son was in fifth grade when COVID began. Eighth grade was his very first routine school year because we moved. That’s a significant number of potential deficits that might exist socially and otherwise in the generations to come.

My hope is that we elevate the consciousness of care on campus. Wake Forest is a deeply relational place. … I want to elevate that. I want every student to feel that and for us to create structures where, if I’m concerned about my roommate, I know what to do other than call the counseling center. While that’s a great option, there are a lot of things you can do before that. (Examples include inviting students to a meal or event or walking with them to the counseling center.) I’m really excited about building our capacity across campus as we think about student-to-student interactions and how staff and faculty care for students.

**KW:** What goals do you have for the Division of Campus Life?

**SKB:** Diversity, inclusion, equity, belonging — all of those are important to me personally. … How do we create those spaces where people feel like, not “I fit in,” but, “I belong; my uniqueness, the texture of my story, my background make Wake Forest better?” We’re helping our students understand their identities — and I use identities with an “s” because we’re all multifaceted people. … Our students come from all over the world. When they come here, now it’s many voices, many perspectives, but one Wake Forest. My vision would be “one Wake Forest,” where we are all making sure everyone feels like they matter and belong, and they can thrive. … It’s not to say that we all have this singular experience but that we are valuing the story of the person next to us.

I’ve seen (belonging) be really successful through dialogue. I’m from 60 miles from the Gulf Coast. I grew up eating crawfish. The ways in which I see and understand the world are likely to be different from someone who grew up in Portland, Oregon. Let’s sit down and talk about that. What have you learned? What are the things that have shaped you? Then we think about that through our programming (and) through our curriculum.
In conversations around diversity, equity, inclusion, I think people are accustomed to being shamed or to feeling like they don’t fit in the conversation if they don’t belong to a marginalized group. My thought is that everybody fits into that (conversation), because a world that fosters belonging is a better world for all of us.

**KW:** Your maternal grandmother was secretary to civil rights activist Medgar Evers when he was assassinated in 1963 in Jackson, Mississippi. How did she influence you?

**SKB:** I grew up spending summers walking the halls of the NAACP in Jackson where Medgar Evers also walked. That was long after his assassination, but I was exposed to conversations around justice and racial equity and equality. My grandmother (called Granni, who died shortly after this interview) was born on the Fourth of July and is absolutely a firecracker. She taught me, even if you’re afraid, you have to stand up for what’s right and you have to be an advocate.
“How do we create those spaces where people feel like, not ‘I fit in,’ but, ‘I belong; my uniqueness, the texture of my story, my background make Wake Forest better?’”
The life that I get to live now, while it isn’t perfect, it is so much different than the life she lived. So now I look at what’s covert. What are those things we don’t necessarily see overtly but that need to also be interrupted? Do that with love and do it with care — but do it. … I feel like I won the granddaughter lottery by being connected to her.

KW: You have a job that I imagine can be very taxing and perhaps even heavy at times. What is well-being to you? How do you incorporate well-being into your daily life, even if imperfectly, to carry your load?

SKB: Well-being is this ability to feel grounded. That can be mentally, financially, physically, relationally, but I know when my well-being is off I feel a sense of groundlessness. I feel like I’m not rooted in something. When you’re planted in the ground, you’re also flourishing and you’re also thriving. You’re able to reach your full potential when your well-being is fully intact.

You’re right; every day is not perfect. There’s a level of emotional intelligence and self-awareness that has to exist so I know when I am doing well and when I’m not. I’d say first just really knowing myself, and that comes from being deeply reflective each day. I practice gratitude. I say “practicing” because you have to be thoughtful about: What is going right today? What did I learn? What am I challenged by?

A huge part of being able to be self-aware is having people around you. … The way I have structured that in my life is I have what I call a “personal board of directors.” I have people that I can call on who give me advice and who help me to say, “Yeah, that’s off base,” or “great job.” They’re my cheerleaders affirming me, but they’re also keeping me grounded. That’s come in the form of people who have become on-campus mentors … being able to check in with people who are familiar with Wake Forest. My husband, Ryan, is also in higher education (as general counsel at Lincoln Memorial University.)

As I think about well-being in my own life, it’s a lot of different things that keep me grounded. I think parenting keeps me going. I have a middle schooler (Jack) who also keeps me on my toes, and perhaps I need to let something go or close the laptop.

KW: I like how you call Jack your “junior vice president.”

SKB: JVP! He has always been by my side in higher ed. … I spend a lot of time here, and I want him to always feel like he’s a part of it.

KW: Is there anything you would like to add?

SKB: I like to end with gratitude. It is really heartening and humbling to come to an office every day that was the place that I wanted to be when I grew up. This first year, I have felt so welcomed, and I have been able to build really strong relationships with students and colleagues. That’s really, I think, what it takes for us to work together in partnership to navigate these complex challenges and opportunities. I have felt that support and spirit of Pro Humanitate we talk about as a new person coming here.
THE PAST COULD TALK

Ever wondered about the weathered plaques on walls, doors, benches and trees around campus? Behind the inscriptions are stories that can bring a smile or a tear.

By Kerry M. King ('85)

ILLUSTRATIONS BY
Eric Hanson
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
Ken Bennett and Lyndsie Schlink
Pause for a moment to look closely under the branches of dogwoods and oak trees around Wait Chapel and beneath the magnolias on Manchester Plaza. Wander through Benson University Center. Stop to smell the roses at Byrum Welcome Center. You might be surprised. Tucked away, sometimes forgotten, under trees, down lonely corridors, in staircases, and yes, in a rose garden, are plaques commemorating students, alumni and professors.

Look down to notice the brick pavers in Tribble Hall’s courtyard and outside Farrell Hall. Other tributes are right in front of us. Benches around Hearn Plaza have plaques heralding students and alumni who should be remembered. Plaques adorn classroom and office doors in academic buildings and special spaces in Scales Fine Arts Center and Reynolds Gym. You’ve probably walked right by without giving them a second thought. Take a minute to look, and you might be inspired.

Each small plaque offers a glimpse into Wake Forest’s past and the Wake Foresters who have come before us. But the plaques give only the barest of details. Behind each plaque is a person or story worth contemplating. Each has a history, contributing to Wake Forest’s unfolding story. Here are a few of our favorites.
FARRELL HALL opened in 2013 as the new home for the School of Business, bringing graduate and undergraduate business programs together under one roof. The late Mike Farrell (LL.D. '13) and his wife, Mary Flynn Farrell, parents of Michael Edward Farrell ('10), gave $10 million toward construction of the building, named for Mike Farrell’s late father, Michael John Farrell.

Outside the $55 million building, on the Reynolds American Foundation Terrace, a fire pit surrounded by rocking chairs offers a quiet, peaceful spot for studying, contemplation or relaxation beneath a canopy of trees. The gift of an anonymous donor and encircled by granite blocks, the fire pit offers an engraved, inspiring message to all who study at Wake Forest:

“The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled”
- Plutarch
LOOK FOR THE LEGACY of Mark Reece around campus in the paintings, prints, sculpture and photography in what was known for many years as the Student Union Collection of Contemporary Art. Benson University Center houses many of the pieces. Its fourth-floor gallery space is named for Reece (’49, ’77, ’81, ’85), the longtime dean of men and Student Union adviser and later dean of students.

Reece had the bold idea in 1963 — before Wake Forest even had an art department — to give students money to travel to New York to buy contemporary art for Wake Forest. Back in 1969, he offered his modest hope for the collection: “I believe that the end result, not many years from now, will be a collection of some significance of which we can all be proud.”

He was right. Every four years (with the exception of the pandemic year when students selected works via Zoom), students have visited New York art galleries and debated which artwork to add to the collection. The collection has grown to 160 pieces by more than 100 artists, including Pablo Picasso, Jasper Johns, Roy Lichtenstein, Alex Katz and Louise Nevelson.

Last year, John Reece (’81, P ’07, ’09) and Libby Reece (P ’07, ’09) endowed a conservation fund to steward the work and to bestow a new name: the Mark H. Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art. This fall, Wake Forest will celebrate the 60th anniversary of its one-of-a-kind art-buying trip.

*“Flags” 1967-68, Jasper Johns, acquired in 1969; © 2023 Jasper Johns / Licensed by VAGA at Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

*“Vincent with Open Mouth” 1970, Alex Katz, acquired in 1973; © 2023 Alex Katz / Licensed by VAGA at Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York
Representatives from the North Carolina tribal nations were on hand in 2019 when Wake Forest unveiled a plaque in the Tribble Hall courtyard honoring the land on which the University and the original campus were built.

Savannah Baber (’19), a citizen of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina and the Chickahominy Tribe of Virginia, spoke of Wake Forest’s indigenous legacy “from the ancestors of the Catawba and other Native nations” to Jim Jones (‘55, MD ’59), Wake Forest’s first Native American graduate, to today’s Native American students.

“I was fortunate to be surrounded by faculty and staff mentors as well as supportive peers who constantly encouraged me to advocate for and highlight Native culture through my studies and activities on campus, but … not all Native students are so lucky,” Baber said at the dedication. “Native students need to know that they are seen and cared for by their institutions of higher education, and acknowledging the history of the land on which universities sit is a fantastic first step in letting indigenous students know that they are valued.”
**Campus Wonder Dogs**

A succession of golden retrievers has watched the passing parade of students from beneath a magnolia tree on Manchester Plaza. If you don’t believe that, ask the latest golden retriever that kept watch, Glacier, once described as “the campus wonder dog.”

“The lower quad is mine; that’s my turf,” Glacier barked to the Old Gold & Black some years back. “Everyone says ‘hi’ to me when they see me. Campus is sort of like ‘Cheers’ for me; everybody knows my name.”

Before Glacier there was Montana (aka Tana), who started coming to campus in the 1990s with her “dog parent,” now retired Professor of Communication and Director of Debate Allan Louden. After Montana’s death in 2002, a couple of students gave Louden a puppy, which he named Wyoming (aka Ms. Ming). Then came Glacier, adopted from the Forsyth County Humane Society in 2014.

Each dog’s name reveals a bit of Louden’s past. Louden grew up in northwest Montana not far from Glacier National Park and graduated from Montana State University and the University of Montana. He taught at a community college in Wyoming before coming to Wake Forest in 1977 as a speech instructor and debate coach. He built an illustrious debate program that won national titles in 1997 and 2008 and consistently ranks among the top 10 in the country. (The team made history this year, winning the “Triple Crown” of national debates.)

All three golden retrievers dutifully accompanied Louden to meetings in Reynolda and classes in Carswell Hall. A student once wrote of Glacier, “All semester long, Glacier was a model student. He achieved perfect attendance, greeted every student with a friendly tail wag and quietly enjoyed the lecture, but mostly getting petted by the students.” Glacier could also be spotted walking in the annual “Hit the Bricks” event for the Brian Piccolo Cancer Research Fund.

Through the years, the friendly pups have invited many a student to pause from a busy day and strike up a conversation with Louden that might not have happened otherwise. “I’ve made some wonderful friendships,” Louden said.

A plaque, under a magnolia tree in front of Carswell Hall, honors Louden and his pups:

**Marking This Spot**
by sweet pups Montana, Wyoming, Glacier, and indeed all the dogs of Wake Forest
Dedicated to Dr. Allan Louden
Professor, Director of Debate, Department Chair, Leader, Friend, and Dog Parent
To commemorate his retirement from the Department of Communication on this 7th day of May 2022
The plaque also includes a rainbow between two clouds. Nelson, who died in 2019, was a scientist and researcher with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Research Triangle Park and lived in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. His family donated the bench.

“Wake Forest meant a lot to him; it’s where he met my mom (Susan Powers Nelson ’63),” said his daughter Lara Nelson Hanson (’93, P ’24, ’25). “He was a great listener and always made you feel good and happy. Maya Angelou was a professor when my husband (Stillman Hanson ’94, P ’24, ’25) and I were at Wake Forest, and this quote captured (my dad’s) essence. We wanted to honor him and hope this inspires others to be kind.”
THE WAKE FOREST community despaired in September 1996 when two members of Chi Omega sorority, 19-year-old sophomores Julie Hansen of Rockville, Maryland, and Maia Witzl of Arlington, Texas, died in a car accident on Polo Road. A car driven by an impaired driver struck the students’ car, just two blocks from campus.

Though the impaired driver went to prison, the case galvanized students to channel their grief to push for, and win, tougher North Carolina laws mandating sentences for habitual impaired offenders.

Three benches around Wait Chapel remember Hansen and Witzl. One bench has a plaque with both students’ names and their dates of birth and death. Two other benches remember each individually:

**Julie Marie Hansen:** She moved our souls to dance and left her footprints on our hearts.

**Maia Cory Witzl:** So this is Eden ... I see the faces of the chosen few. Those who came before us, and those who will follow ... There is amazing grace in being chosen.

Hansen, who wanted to become a doctor, was a track-and-field star in high school who volunteered with Students Against Drunk Driving. “I realize I’ve been given many gifts,” she wrote in her admissions essay. “I pray to God I know how to use them.”

Witzl, who wanted to become a lawyer, wrote in her admissions essay that she hoped “to be remembered as someone who has been an influence on people’s hearts. Although I’m far from perfect, I believe it’s possible to be a positive influence on others by word and by action.”
Two other students were killed that year. Sophomore Graham Gould died in a car accident in his hometown of Sanford, North Carolina. Senior Matt Alexander of Florence, South Carolina, died in the crash of TWA Flight 800 off Long Island, New York, on his way to a study-abroad program in Dijon, France.

At Commencement, then-President Thomas K. Hearn Jr. (L.H.D. ’04) remembered the four students and several other members of the University community lost that year. “(We) must leave here bearing lives, not just our own, whose promises, aspirations and ambitions must become ours, lives which live on in us and through us,” Hearn said. “Our families, our friends, our faculty mentors, and, yes, those lost to this life, all become part of us. This is what it means to live, as your diploma says, ‘For humanity.’ You are not one. You are many.”

Chi Omega places flowers on the benches every Sept. 4. The Chi Omega Foundation endowed scholarships in memory of Hansen and Witzl that are awarded to Wake Forest Chi Omega members each year.
A TALL WOOD CARVING in the foyer of Wait Chapel, “The Least of These,” uses selections from Job 31:13-32 and imagery to evoke service to humanity:

if i have withheld anything that the poor desired.
or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail.
or have eaten my morsel alone …
if i have seen anyone perish for lack of clothing.
or a poor man without covering …
if i have raised my hand against the fatherless...
Job 31

A plaque notes that the sculpture was commissioned by Edna and McLeod Bryan (P ’71, ’72, ’75, ’82) and dedicated in 1986. The sculptor was the Bryans’ friend John Alan Steely, an artist who grew up in Wake Forest, North Carolina. He carved the piece from wood that “Mac” Bryan saved from a black walnut tree on his family farm.

Professor Emeritus of Religion Bryan (‘41, MA ’44) taught Christian ethics at Wake Forest from 1956 until 1987 and was an unflinching advocate for civil rights, social justice and environmental causes. He fought for the integration of Wake Forest in the 1960s and against the war in Vietnam, among other causes. Provost Emeritus Edwin G. Wilson (’43, P ’91, ’93) once described him as “Wake Forest’s acknowledged spokesman for the liberal causes of his lifetime. ... Whatever there was a cause he believed in, his voice could be heard ... against every manifestation of intolerance or injustice or unfairness.”

The Bryans wanted to provide a special work of art to display in Wait Chapel. They chose the theme of the piece, Mac Bryan once said, “not only because it (Wait Chapel) is a sanctuary and a place of worship, but also because in this place a variety of programs are held in tribute to ethical moments in human service, including programs of sponsorship of interracial activities, musical performances dedicated to peace, and pivotal meetings celebrating moments of historical importance.”
STROLL THROUGH the sunlit atrium that connects the Z. Smith Reynolds Library (named for the youngest son of R.J. and Katharine Reynolds) and the Edwin G. Wilson Wing (named for Provost Emeritus Edwin G. Wilson ’43, P ’91, ’93).

Bookcases in the atrium have simple brass plaques given in honor of past professors, administrators and alumni. The plaques are small, but the legacies of the individuals honored loom large, including:


- **David and Renate Evans (P ’97) given by Sean Forsyth (’81).** David Evans was professor of anthropology, 1966-2001, and founder and director of the Overseas Research Center.

- **Maya Angelou (L.H.D. ’77) given by Eva Rodtwitt, lecturer in Romance languages.** Angelou was Reynolds Professor of American Studies, 1982-2014.

- **Merrill Berthrong given by friends and colleagues.** Berthrong was director of libraries and associate professor of history, 1964-1989.

- **Henry Stroupe (’35, MA ’37, P ’66, ’68) given by Professor of History Richard Barnett (’54, P ’81) and Betty Tribble Barnett (’55, P ’81).** Stroupe was the first dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 1967-1984, and professor of history, 1937-1984.

- **Carlton West given by Vice President and Treasurer John G. Williard.** West was College librarian, 1946-1975, and professor of history, 1928-1975.
1. Remembering Lives Lost
2. The Least of These
3. The Flying Parson
4. For There is Hope for a Tree
5. A Fire to be Kindled
6. Honoring Traditions
7. A Soothing Tribute
8. Campus Wonder Dogs
9. Be a Rainbow
10. The Divine Nine
11. An Artful Legacy
12. The Provocative Editor
13. The Comic Professor
14. The Family She Loved
15. Indigenous Lands
16. Honoring Professors
17. The Age of Dinosaurs
18. Grace’s Garden
19. Welcome to Wake Forest
20. Remembrance Lives Lost
DEDICATED IN 2010, the National Pan-Hellenic Council Garden on Manchester Plaza, near Benson University Center, pays tribute to nine historically African American fraternities and sororities and their impact on Wake Forest and the larger community.

Nine brick and granite podiums with plaques — one for each of the fraternities and sororities that make up the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) — are arranged on a circular brick and flagstone patio around a larger podium with a plaque describing the history of the NPHC.

The NPHC organizations emerged at a time of racial segregation and discrimination throughout the country. In 2020 to mark the council's 90th anniversary, council president Vanetta Cheeks-Reeder said the organizations arose from the need to foster change in communities. “From our advocacy to improve the health of Black & Brown lives to preparing our next generation of professionals for the workforce, the NPHC has and will remain relevant in this country,” she said in a statement from council headquarters in Decatur, Georgia.

Five of the organizations — Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, Omega Psi Phi fraternity and Delta Sigma Theta sorority — are active at Wake Forest. Phi Beta Sigma fraternity has been active at Wake Forest in the past.
The Flying Parson

BETWEEN THE WRIGHT brothers and Charles Lindbergh, there was Belvin W. Maynard, a Wake Forest ministerial student who became known in 1919 as the “Flying Parson” and the greatest pilot on earth. As a large brass plaque, largely forgotten in a Wait Chapel staircase, notes, Maynard was a “pioneer in conquest of the air” and a “distinguished soldier in World War. … World famous but modest, brave but gentle, honored above others, his thought was always of others.”

Maynard grew up on a farm in North Carolina and was an expert mechanic who could take a car apart and rebuild it. He enrolled at Wake Forest in 1913 to become a minister but left to join the U.S. Army Air Service during World War I. He proved to be a skilled aviator and became one of the top American test pilots in France.

After the war ended, he remained in the Air Service but used his skills to promote flying. He set a world record by performing 318 consecutive loops in 67 minutes in a Sopwith Camel at a French airfield, and, in 1919, he won the International Aerial Derby, flying from New York to Toronto and back.
That same year, Maynard won the longest air race of its day, a transcontinental race from New York to San Francisco and back in a de Havilland DH-4 biplane he named “Hello Frisco.” Mechanic William Kline shared the rear cockpit seat with Maynard’s German shepherd puppy, Trixie, brought from France after the war. While other pilots relied on roads and rivers to navigate, Maynard used a compass and pushed his plane to fly faster than other pilots did.

Spectators turned out to cheer him at stops along the way. “Parson, the sinners are with you,” one spectator told him. “He may be a parson, but he certainly flies like the devil,” another said. Flying through rain, snow, winds and fog, Maynard was the first pilot to land at Presidio Field in San Francisco after more than 25 hours in the air, spread over three days. “No human being had ever made a faster journey across the continent,” wrote John Lancaster in his book, “The Great Air Race: Glory, Tragedy, and the Dawn of American Aviation.”

On the return flight, even with an unscheduled stop when he was forced to land in a Nebraska cornfield because of engine trouble, Maynard beat the other competitors to New York, becoming the first person to fly from the Atlantic to the Pacific and back.

Maynard became the best-known airman in the country, and Winston-Salem named its commercial airfield, the first in the state, in his honor. He delighted crowds at the dedication by performing aerial stunts before landing. (Maynard Field operated until Miller Municipal Air Field — the forerunner to Smith Reynolds Airport — opened in the 1930s.)

On a victory tour of North Carolina, Maynard was joined by a newspaper reporter for a flight above Fayetteville. “To make the flight with Lieutenant Belvin Maynard, whom The New York Times described as ‘the most celebrated aviator on earth,’ is too thrilling for words,” she wrote. “(T)he Flying Parson is not only a king among aviators, but a prince of a gentleman.”

But Maynard’s star quickly faded. After he accused some of his competitors in the transcontinental race of being drunk, the Army threatened to court-martial him. He left the Air Service but continued flying. In 1922, he died when his plane crashed while he was performing stunts at a fair in Vermont. He was 29.

The Flying Parson’s story came full circle when his brother’s son, Doug Maynard (’55, MD ’59, P ’88), enrolled at Wake Forest. Maynard was born a dozen years after his famous uncle died. “I would like to have known him,” said Maynard, the retired chair of radiology at what is today Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. “He must have been quite a character.”
ALMOST EVERYONE who attended Wake Forest from the 1960s through the early 2000s can thank William G. Starling (’57), who carefully, and lovingly, crafted the student body year after year. Starling joined the admissions office a few years after graduating and was named director of admissions in 1964 and dean of admissions and financial aid in 2001, shortly before he died. Across four decades of interviewing untold thousands of potential students and reading thousands of essays, he never lost his sense of purpose. With integrity, warmth, kindness, curiosity and a sense of humor, he never forgot that behind each application was a unique young person full of hopes and dreams. With an unerring feel for whether students would be a good fit and an uncanny sense for their potential, he was the sustainer of Wake Forest’s future. He welcomed generations of students to join him on the campus he loved and never left.

Starling was 65 when he died, still young at heart and full of hope for future classes of students. Four months after his death, Wake Forest renamed the admissions building William G. Starling Hall. After the admissions office moved next door to Porter Byrum Welcome Center in 2011, a bench near the new entrance commemorated the Wake Forest legend.

The Southern Consortium of colleges and universities donated the bench, but the words on its plaque could have been written by many of us:


Starling Hall remains home, appropriately, to the Program for Leadership and Character.
AS EDITOR OF The Student magazine in the late 1940s, editor Harold T.P. Hayes (’48, L.H.D. ’89, P ’79, ’91) brought strong writing, creative photography and original artwork to what had been a staid college publication. Hayes, who once referred to himself as a “solid C-average” student, left an indelible mark on Wake Forest’s — and the nation’s — literary scene. “Under Harold’s editorship, we knew at once that something provocative and revolutionary had happened,” Provost Emeritus Edwin G. Wilson (’43, P ’91, ’93) once said of Hayes’ The Student magazine. “This new magazine had lightness and wit and spontaneity, but it also had an editorial control derived from exactingly professional literary and artistic standards.”

Hayes took that sense of style and creativity with him to New York, where he was editor of Esquire magazine during the turbulent 1960s and early 1970s. He ushered in the New Journalism literary style with smartly written, novel-like journalistic pieces by some of the country’s top writers, including Nora Ephron, Norman Mailer, Gay Talese, Gore Vidal and Tom Wolfe. Coupled with provocative covers — Andy Warhol drowning in a Campbell’s Soup can, Muhammad Ali as St. Sebastian and boxer Sonny Liston as a Black Santa Claus — Esquire became the literary and visual embodiment of the era.

Hayes’ son, Tom Hayes (’79), described Esquire as “the red-hot center of journalism ... irreverent, brash, fearless ... rich with attitude” in his 2014 documentary about his father, “Smiling Through the Apocalypse: Esquire in the 60s.” “What I learned most, ... is how he would look at something and put a spin on it that would be so completely outside the box,” Tom Hayes said. “Anything obvious or conventional was boring and only became interesting if you looked past what everyone else was seeing and tilted it on a specific angle.”

When Benson University Center opened in 1990, the office of The Student magazine (now called Three to Four Ounces) was dedicated in memory of Hayes, who had died the year before. Many of his personal papers are in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library Special Collections & Archives, including original manuscripts, correspondence, drafts of articles and cover designs from his time at Esquire.
THE LATE PORTER B. BYRUM’S name is prominently displayed on Byrum Welcome Center, but look to small plaques on three benches for the people and places important to Byrum (JD ’42).

Byrum, an attorney, businessman and philanthropist from Charlotte, died in 2017. He was the most generous individual donor in Wake Forest history, giving more than $120 million to the University over the course of decades. His generosity has enabled hundreds of undergraduate and law students to attend Wake Forest.

“I know that I didn’t pay my way when I went to Wake Forest,” Byrum once said. He and three of his brothers received free tuition to Wake Forest because his father, John Thomas Byrum (1908), was a minister. “Given the circumstances, my daddy never would have been able to have gotten four boys through Wake Forest, so somebody ought to pay back the debt. And it makes me feel good to do that.”

Named for Byrum, the admissions and welcome center opened in 2011. In 2016, Wake Forest planted specially cultivated Wake Forest roses at its entrance to honor Grace Smith Thomas, Byrum’s longtime friend who loved roses. A plaque on a bench amid the rose bushes recognizes her:

Grace’s Garden, planted in honor of Grace Smith Thomas, special friend of Porter B. Byrum (JD ’42) and Wake Forest University.

A second bench nearby honors Byrum’s commitment to Wake Forest:

In Loving Memory of Porter B. Byrum (JD ’42), who always remembered the opportunities of his Wake Forest Education (1920-2017).

A third bench, behind Byrum Center, honors Byrum’s parents and his stepmother, Isa Ward Byrum. The plaque includes a quote that you can imagine Porter Byrum saying:

“Education is something the world can’t take away from you, and something you will enjoy every day of your life.”
For There is Hope for a Tree

WHEN A HERITAGE oak tree beside Worrell Professional Center was felled for construction of an addition to house the Department of Health and Exercise Science, the tree gained new life as a bench behind Wait Chapel. As the plaque notes:

“For there is hope for a tree”...
Job 14:7. Made from an Oak Tree that stood by the Worrell Building. Crafted by the construction team at Facilities and Campus Services. Gifted to WFU by the School of Divinity Class of 2018.
EXAMINE THE ROUGH limestone walls in the two-story lobby of Winston Hall. Run your fingers over the walls, pockmarked with the fossil remains of clams, oysters, snails and other organisms that lived when dinosaurs roamed the earth.

As a plaque explains:

*This wall is veneered with slabs of limestone from the Walnut Formation of Austin, Texas. Like most limestones, the Walnut Formation was deposited at the bottom of a shallow sea. The pits and surface markings are fossil remains of molluscs and other organisms which lived in the sea at that time. ... (The Walnut Formation was laid down in the early Cretaceous period. ... approximately 130 to 65 millions of years ago.)*
Longtime biology professor Charlie Allen ('39, MA '41) had the idea for the unique feature when he helped design what was originally known as the Life Sciences Building for the biology and psychology departments. (The building houses only biology today.) It cost $1.3 million, funded through donations from individuals, businesses and foundations in Forsyth County.

As a student, Allen studied evolution with biology professor and Wake Forest’s seventh president, William Louis Poteat (Class of 1877, MA 1889, P 1906). After graduating, Allen was an aerial reconnaissance photographer in the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II; his photographs of wartime England and France are in the State Archives of North Carolina. After the war, he returned to Wake Forest and taught evolution and other subjects until retiring in 1989. In addition to designing Winston Hall, he also helped design Scales Fine Arts Center and started the Artist Series, now the Secrest Artists Series. Allen died in 2005.

At the dedication of Winston Hall in 1961, the Old Gold & Black reported, “One feature that attracted attention of visitors was the walls of the lobby. The walls are made of fossil sandstone from Texas, estimated to be about 180 million years old.”
FOR FOUR DECADES, Professor Emeritus of History Jim Barefield revelled in teaching students the art of comedy. Much of his teaching genius unfolded in Tribble Hall A109 — with its comfy couches and armchairs — where he taught the cornerstone honors classes “The Ironic View” and “The Comic View.” His wry sense of humor, delivered in his inimitably raspy voice, and his infectious love of irony both in literature and in life endeared him to students.

Barefield’s influence extended far beyond Tribble Hall. He helped build Wake Forest’s overseas studies program, particularly at Casa Artom in Venice and Worrell House in London, and he was a valued mentor and adviser for undergraduate scholarship holders and for students competing for postgraduate scholarships, including the Rhodes and Fulbright. After he retired in 2004, he continued conducting interviews with prospective students for the undergraduate admissions office.

But his most lasting impact came as architect of the University’s pathbreaking interdisciplinary honors program. While he might find it wryly amusing that a classroom is named in his honor, his legion of devoted former students would surely find it unironic that his old classroom is named the Barefield Honors Seminar Room with not one, but two(!) plaques.
FROM 1986 UNTIL her death in 1997, Grace O’Neill — often dressed in formal black tie, vest and white shirt — stood at the Magnolia Room doors welcoming students, faculty and staff. She set the standard for the countless food service workers who followed her to become part of the Wake Forest family, providing meals and comfort, especially to students far from home.

After O’Neill’s death, then-Wake Forest President Thomas K. Hearn Jr. (L.H.D. ’04) remembered her in his graduation remarks, and the community planted a tree in her memory in front of Tribble Hall:

Dedicated to Grace A. O’Neill,
Magnolia Room Manager,
1986 – 1997, from the Wake Forest family that she loved.
THE HOWARD HALL of Traditions, at the main entrance to Worrell Professional Center, was a gift from Ken Howard (JD ’82) and Martha Howard. The installation occurred in 2015 after a renovation for the School of Law and the move by the School of Business to Farrell Hall.

Text, photographs and videos share the law school’s story, beginning with its founding in 1894. Panels highlight the school’s values and the traits that define a Wake Forest lawyer: honesty, diligence, competence, creativity, thoughtfulness, dedication, passion and civility.

“Knowing the history of the school you attend can only make you appreciate what a special place that school is,” said Ken Howard, director of the North Carolina Museum of History and a past chair of the law school board of visitors.
A MULTIYEAR, $58 million renovation of Reynolds Gym, completed in 2018, transformed the historic building into the Wake Forest Wellbeing Center, tripling the amount of fitness space on campus and creating a hub for health and wellbeing.

While the building hosts loud weightlifters, Zumba dancers and splashing swimmers, it also has a place for fitness buffs to pause and reflect: a calming, two-story water wall. Dave Wahrhaftig (MBA ’82, P ’18, ’21) and Sue Wahrhaftig (P ’18, ’21) gave the wall in memory of Dave’s godson, John R. “Jack” Mann Jr., who died at age 24 in 2012. He is the son of John “Roy” Mann (MBA ’82, P ’20) and Sally Mann (P ’20).

Roy Mann and Dave Wahrhaftig have been friends since their student days in MBA school. Roy Mann is godfather to Dave and Sue’s oldest son, John Wahrhaftig (’18).

Dave Wahrhaftig helped lead the fundraising for the Reynolds Gym transformation, and Sue Wahrhaftig designed the water wall. They wanted to honor Jack Mann’s memory and their belief that mental health should be considered a fundamental component of wellbeing.

“Jack was a great kid and was such a positive influence on so many people,” said Sue Wahrhaftig. “We have friends and family who have been impacted by mental illness. The sound of water can be relaxing and soothing, and hopefully users of Reynolds Gym enjoy that. More importantly, perhaps Jack’s story can make a difference to others.”
E.J. Masicampo has a side-splitting side gig. He’s a psychology professor with a penchant for open-mic nights.
minutes, 15 or 20 at The Auto Pour in Charlotte? Who will join me for stand-up comedy night at Winston-Salem's ghoulishly festooned Monstercade, the self-proclaimed “strangest bar in North Carolina?” Such are the considerations of the professor after hours.

“My days are working. My nights are comedy,” he says.

Publish or perish. Punchlines or perish. Where does one quest end and the other begin, especially now that the 41-year-old Masicampo, associate professor of psychology, reigns as the winner of the 2022 North Carolina’s Funniest Person contest? No pressure or anything.

Last summer in a competition that spanned multiple evenings over multiple weeks, he went through three rounds of standup performances at Goodnights Comedy Club in Raleigh. The audience judged the first round of sets, which promoters said drew more than 100 aspiring comics to the mic. Despite having brought “zero people” to the show, Masicampo won audience approval and moved on to the final rounds, during which a panel of judges assessed the comics’ talent. Eventually, the panel bestowed on Masicampo the “Funniest” title along with a certificate and a $1,200 prize. Helium Comedy clubs, of which Goodnights is one, present their homegrown “Funniest” versions around the country, but that’s where it ends.
HOW TO BECOME A COMIC

There was no comedy school or how-to book that launched the professor. Masicampo found inspiration from comedian Judd Apatow’s book “Sick in the Head: Conversations about Life and Comedy.” An old YouTube video of the late Ralphie May at The Comedy Store in Los Angeles delivered the ironclad advice to do three shows a week.

Podcasts have been gold, particularly “Let’s Talk About Sets,” about the science and craft of standup comedy. Another favorite: “WTF with Marc Maron.” The host has been writing comedy for more than 30 years and appeared often on late-night television shows starring David Letterman and Conan O’Brien. “Part of our jobs as ... comics is to frame things that are terrifying or menacing in a way that makes them palatable or at least gives you some control over it,” Maron said on his podcast in April 2022. “It’s a skill set that enables you to present things to people that can be anything or can be truly horrible in a way that they can process and laugh even. That’s the whole agenda.”

Masicampo recorded his set at The Auto Pour on his iPhone to review later.
For his joke crafting, Masicampo looks for something “weird or interesting or frustrating.” What makes something funny is a contradiction, two things in conflict with one another — “like someone being silly in a serious situation or being serious in a silly situation.” He uses the example of a UPS woman delivering a heavy package to his house, but Masicampo is too weak to hoist it easily in front of his daughter. The contrast is that he’s “not manly enough — a huge asset for raising a daughter. ... I’m so incapable, it’s coming off as feminism,” he says, recalling the crux of a joke he is working to perfect. “There’s always, I think, a good point and a twist. It has to be unexpected. They can’t see it coming.”
There is no moving up, Miss America style, for winners. For Masicampo, the North Carolina designation will have to do, and that’s fine with him. The “insane credit, the over-the-top label,” as he calls it, makes it easier to score bookings in clubs, an obvious step up from open-mic nights.

Masicampo arrived at Wake Forest in 2011, fresh off his master’s and doctorate in social psychology at Florida State University in Tallahassee and a postdoctoral fellowship at Tufts University in Massachusetts. His undergraduate degree is from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He was a California kid, born in Oxnard to parents who emigrated from the Philippines. His dad was in the U.S. Navy. The family moved a lot. Their food was different. Their language was different. It was sometimes hard for Masicampo to fit in because of his appearance.

“I remember white kids talking to me like I knew nothing about the culture and trying to trick me into thinking that, like, ‘Oh, yeah, tomorrow’s a holiday where everyone has to come to school with their head shaved. You better shave your head.’ (He didn’t.)

“There were a lot of little things that stood out to me that definitely made me feel different and unwelcome in ways that I think I’m still sometimes coping with. I think that’s where a lot of comedy comes from.”

He has talked often about growing up in a culture that treated Asian folks differently and finds it fodder for his comedy. In his experience, things that arouse the strongest feelings birth the strongest material. “People can see the humanity in what you’re saying. It feels more like you’re sharing something about yourself than just telling jokes.”

“How to end a set

“You always have to end on the funniest joke. ... You always want to be concise, omit needless words, and the punchline has to be as short as you can make it. There’s often a reveal, and if the reveal is the last word that’s perfect, you end on the reveal. If you keep talking after the reveal, you’re just talking over the joke and other people’s laughs.

“And, yeah, it’s weird. There are certain words (to end on) that work better than others that just sound good or funny. This is well known in the comedy community, and people can’t really explain it, but ‘k’ sounds are good. ... I’ll say Cadillac is just a funnier word to end on than Honda. I don’t know why. That’s just how it goes.”
He has written about race from the beginning. It was 2019. His marriage was ending. He started listening to podcasts about standup comedy — the science of it — and comedic writing. He ventured first to an open-mic night in High Point, North Carolina, to watch and listen. A few nights later, he went to another one, at Monstercade. At the third stop, in May 2019, at The Idiot Box Comedy Club in Greensboro, he performed. He had put a lot of thought into the material, and the performance went well. Even the bartender was impressed. “Stick with it a year,” Masicampo recalls his advice. Challenge accepted.

“When I do something, I want to be good at it,” Masicampo says. “I like a challenge.”

Ever the good scholar who studies goals, he aimed to perform at least three times a week and write regularly. He carried a notebook to jot down his set list and sharpen his lines. He did open-mic nights but also had bookings at comedy clubs in and out of state. He was no longer married. He was, as he calls himself at shows, the “divorced dad” with two young children, ages 9 and 6, who live with him every other week and an ex-wife who works in, of all places, Greene Hall. No pressure or anything.

**HOW TO MAKE THEM LAUGH**

Masicampo standup joke 1: “Ever since having my two kids I feel so much less alone. Because now there are two other Asians in town.”

Joke 2: “You know the world is mostly Asian people. Sooooo, you’re the weird ones. Yeah, your houses smell funny. People will talk about the Asian community. Yeah. That’s Earth.”

Joke 3: “Racist people want to send me back to China. If that ever did happen, my family in the Philippines would be so impressed by how well traveled I am.

“This is true also, white people who are learning Chinese love to practice it on me. And it’s happening so often, they actually are teaching me Chinese. They’re like, ‘E.J., your Mandarin is impeccable. Are you being tutored?’ Actually, I’m being stereotyped.”

Originating in 1972, the marshmallow test is a classic test of self-control and delayed gratification. A child sits in front of a marshmallow. The adult promises two marshmallows if the child resists eating the one sweet while the adult is out of the room. Masicampo uses the test in his classes and studies. “It is a window into how people deal with inner conflict,” he says, “how they negotiate between a small reward now or a bigger reward later.”
The professor recalls performing as the surprise act at an Indian man’s 80th birthday party. He wasn’t allowed to bring an amp or mic, and it was a windy day. He was off to the side of the tent delivering jokes. “Nothing about this is good for comedy,” Masicampo says. “Half of them were facing away from me, and they all tell me they are hard of hearing.” It was a 30-minute set with children running everywhere. While any set might have one obstacle or challenge, this one had a dozen. How did he overcome the situation? “That one was potentially a complete nightmare but saved by the fact the people were just so nice (he adds, when they could hear him), and the food was amazing.” In a word: eat.

How to overcome a stressful set

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Leaving ‘Steeped in Pro Humanitate’

By CAROL L. HANNER | Photography by KEN BENNETT and LYNDIE SCHLINK

WHEN COMMENCEMENT speaker Kathy Killian Noe (’80, D.D. ’17, L.H.D. ’23) broke both her legs in a 30-foot fall into a pit on a hike in Indonesia, a guide climbed down and rescued her by bench-pressing her body upward to the top, one ledge at a time.

“No one gets out of the deep pit on their own,” Noe told the Class of 2023, their families and faculty on Hearn Plaza on May 15. “Honestly, no one accomplishes anything of lasting value on their own.”

Noe, a recipient of the University’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 2015, has worked to help those struggling out of the trauma of homelessness, addiction or other mental health challenges. She is an author, pastor, community builder, visionary and founder of Recovery Café and the Recovery Café Network of 67 centers across the country. She is author of two books: “Finding Our Way Home” (2004) and “Descent Into Love” (2015). She also co-founded Samaritan Inns, a network of transitional and long-term housing communities in Washington, D.C.

Noe offered stories of struggles overcome through purpose, power and proximity to others that allows relationships to develop. “You leave Wake Forest steeped in Pro Humanitate. You understand that what gives purpose and meaning to life is not what we get, but what we give,” Noe said.
“Commit to a daily practice of listening to the deepest truths within yourselves,” Noe said. “For, as theologian Howard Thurman warns, if you cannot hear that truth within yourself, all of your life you will spend all of your days on the ends of strings that someone else pulls.”

Commencement ceremonies honored 1,185 undergraduates and 1,016 graduate and professional school students under cloudy skies that gradually gave way to sunshine. Earlier hooding ceremonies conferred degrees for the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, the Graduate School of Business and the law, divinity and medical schools.

President Susan R. Wente offered a welcome to those gathered on Hearn Plaza, reminding the students that their journey — past their own cloudy days in a historic pandemic — equipped them well to forge their path ahead. They can feel confident in themselves, she said. “You are ready!”

Giving the Baccalaureate Address on May 14 in Wait Chapel was the Right Rev. Kimberly “Kym” Lucas (92), who made history in 2019 when she was elected the first Black female bishop of the Episcopal Church in Colorado. She is one of seven Black women clergy serving as diocesan bishops, and she is featured in “This Band of Sisterhood: Black Women Bishops on Race, Faith, and the Church” by Westina Matthews.

Her prayer for the Class of 2023, she said, is that they be lifelong learners — about people, the world and cultures. “Curiosity leads to awe and wonder. ... In my tradition we cannot be transformed if we are not curious. We cannot be transformed if we are not willing to learn.”

She noted the 202 mass shootings in the United States this year and the work unfinished for equal rights and justice. “There is so much work to do,” she said, naming love and “persistent, relentless hope” as the keys for change. “We must have the courage to love the hell out of this world,” she said, “because love is the only thing that can save us.”

The University awarded Lucas an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree at Commencement and awarded Noe her second honorary degree, a Doctor of Humane Letters.

In earlier ceremonies, Wake Forest granted an honorary Doctor of Business Administration degree to Larry Culp (P ’17, ’19, ’23), University trustee, chairman and CEO of GE and CEO of GE Aerospace, and an honorary Doctor of Science degree to Dr. David Acosta, chief diversity and inclusion officer for the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Capt. Keon Patrick, an assistant professor of military science, called to the stage four graduating ROTC cadets to be sworn in as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army.

Student Body President Pilar Agudelo (23) spoke to her fellow graduates: “This place will always be yours. It has given us immense joy but has also brought us challenge and hurt, as a home sometimes does. It is not ever easy, but there is a corner for everyone at Wake.”

Parents and graduates on social media shared their pride. “I only cried once. It’s official! She’s a college graduate!” Amanda Larson Rehm of Commerce Township, Michigan, posted on Facebook about Madeline Rehm (’23).

“It’s that time in life that every parent has dreamed of,” Karla Rivas, mother of Sebastian Pauli Rivas (’23) of San Juan, Puerto Rico, said on Instagram.
The Spirit of Wake Forest

Wake Forest and the Alumni Council named Beth Norbrey Hopkins (’73, P ’12) and J.D. Wilson (’69, P ’01) to receive the 2023 Distinguished Alumni Awards. They were recognized at a gala on April 21 to honor them for their service to the University and for exemplifying Pro Humanitate.

Beth Norbrey Hopkins
(’73, P ’12)

The seeds of Beth Norbrey Hopkins’ career in law, education and community outreach were planted as she grew up in Petersburg, Virginia, during the civil rights movement. “I participated in a lot of marches. ... We were trying to orchestrate change, and I guess that’s why I went into the practice of law, because I wanted to be a change agent,” she said.

When she enrolled at Wake Forest in 1969, she was one of about 20 Black students and one of only four Black women. She was one of the first two Black women to integrate the dormitories and was the first Black Homecoming queen.

After law school at William & Mary, she spent a decade in private and public practice before joining the legal office at Wake Forest in the 1980s. She also taught an undergraduate history course on race and the courts. In 2010, she joined the School of Law and transformed the pro bono and public interest programs. When she retired in 2016 as director of the Smith Anderson Center for Community Outreach, the law school’s public interest scholarship was renamed the Beth Hopkins Pro Humanitate Grants.

Hopkins, a Life Trustee of the University, was married to the late Larry Hopkins (’72, MD ’77, P ’12), a prominent OB/GYN in Winston-Salem, a former Wake Forest football star and a University trustee. Her passion for service remains strong. “I want others to have a better chance. ... To push for progress is not something that I think about. I just do it.”

J.D. Wilson
(’69, P ’01)

J.D. Wilson grew up in the small town of Mount Sterling, Kentucky, before crossing the Appalachian Mountains to Wake Forest. “Those big doors at Wake Forest opened and pulled me over the mountains and have been opening doors for me ever since,” he said.

Wilson has spent much of his life opening doors to promote the arts at Wake Forest and in Winston-Salem. His commitment to the arts began in 1969 when he was College Union president and one of four students to travel to New York to buy art for what was then the College Union Collection of Contemporary Art. It was a life-changing experience; Wilson became a collector and a patron of the arts.

Last year, Wilson received the Distinguished Arts Ambassador Award for his support of Wake the Arts, an initiative to infuse the arts into all aspects of campus life at Wake Forest. He has created funds to support transformative art projects and student travel to New York for the art-buying trip, and he co-chaired the effort to endow the renamed Mark H. Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art.

His leadership of Reynolda House Museum of American Art, the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and the Creative Center of North Carolina has transformed Winston-Salem.

The arts bring us together and enrich our lives, said Wilson, co-founder of Excalibur Direct Marketing and Stepstone Strategic Partners, both in Winston-Salem. “Our job in life, whether that’s at Wake Forest or for me as a person, is to help open doors for others.”

For more on these Distinguished Alumni Award recipients, see bit.ly/2023DistinguishedAlumniAwards and bit.ly/BethHopkinsvideo and bit.ly/JDWilsonvideo
Lilly Endowment Inc.’s monumental gift

The grant will enable the University to expand support for character education across the country.

By Cheryl Walker ('88, P '21)

LILLY ENDOWMENT INC. awarded Wake Forest a $30.7 million grant to support the University’s Program for Leadership and Character and create a national higher education network devoted to educating character.

Highlights of this historic grant include:
- It will dramatically extend the impact of leadership and character education nationwide.
- More than $23 million will allow Wake Forest to award grants to other colleges and universities to create their own initiatives focused on character education.
- The money will also support ongoing programming to integrate character into coursework and campus programming.

“We believe focusing on character can help many colleges and universities realize their aspirations to educate the whole person and generate the knowledge, capacity and character that our students will need to live and lead well in the 21st century,” said Michael Lamb, executive director of Wake Forest’s Program for Leadership and Character, F.M. Kirby Foundation Chair of Leadership and Character and associate professor of interdisciplinary humanities.

In addition to supporting the creative programming and cutting-edge research taking place at Wake Forest, the five-year grant will dramatically extend the impact of that work nationwide by helping public and private colleges and universities across the country develop and strengthen their own character education initiatives.

“Universities are called to be catalysts for good in our society,” said President Susan R. Wente. “With this unique and truly significant investment from Lilly Endowment, Wake Forest will lead broader public conversations across higher education that place character at the center of leadership and become a national resource for supporting colleges and universities across the country in developing their capacity to educate character.”

Wake Forest is already known as a premier center of leadership and character for students who wish to develop the virtues needed to lead and for scholars who wish to deepen their understanding and application of character education. For the last few years, the University has partnered with the Oxford Character Project at the University of Oxford in England to lead conferences on leadership and character that have attracted thousands of participants from around the world.

Michael Schur, writer, actor, director, producer of “The Good Place” television show and author of “How to Be Perfect(t): The Correct Answer to Every Moral Question,” discusses character, ethics and TV in Brendle Recital Hall. His visit is one of a range of campus events by the Program for Leadership and Character, featuring such speakers as author, activist, philosopher and civil rights leader Cornel West and conferences such as, in 2019, “The Arts of Leading” with Marla Frederick of Harvard University (now with Emory University), Tahera Qutbuddin of the University of Chicago and Alan Mittleman of The Jewish Theological Seminary talking with Wake Forest religion professor Mary Foskett.
Wake Forest named Jackie Krasas as Dean of the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences. She is a highly regarded sociology and women’s, gender and sexuality studies scholar who was deputy provost for faculty affairs at Lehigh University.

Krasas will oversee the College’s 30 academic departments and 16 interdisciplinary programs and the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences’ 30 master and doctoral degree programs. She will hold a faculty appointment in the women’s, gender and sexuality studies department. She succeeds Michele Gillespie, who is now provost.

President Susan R. Wente said Krasas brings extensive scholarship, teaching and administrative experience to her new role. “I am confident she will further enhance and extend Wake Forest’s reputation for academic and research excellence, while developing new ways to ensure our faculty and students flourish,” Wente said.

At Lehigh, Krasas led a team managing recruitment and hiring, faculty development and promotion and tenure. Among initiatives she led was a faculty salary equity and benchmarking study. She led Lehigh into a partnership funded by the National Science Foundation to increase racial diversity among STEM faculty and support inclusive teaching and mentoring.

She earned a bachelor’s degree in social relations from Lehigh and a master’s degree and Ph.D. in sociology with a specialty in gender studies from the University of Southern California. She was on the faculty at Penn State and directed the master’s program in industrial relations and human resources. More at bit.ly/3UOsoGB

2 Jacqueline Travisano was named executive vice president and chief financial officer, overseeing the University’s financial operations, human resources, facilities and campus services, information systems, real estate and auxiliary services. She has worked for more than 30 years for universities and nonprofit organizations, most recently as executive vice president for business and finance and chief operating officer at the University of Miami. She succeeds Hof Milam (’76, MBA ’91, P ’00, ’04), who retired.

President Susan R. Wente said Travisano brings deep higher education expertise and an ability to effectively manage complex organizations. “We … look forward to the leadership, strategic vision and commitment to excellence she will bring to our community.”

Travisano earned a doctorate in higher education leadership from Nova Southeastern University in Florida and an MBA from Chatham University in Pittsburgh. She is a CPA with a degree in business administration from Robert Morris University in Pennsylvania. Among her awards are the National Diversity Council’s Glass Ceiling Award, and the Florida Diversity Council named her as one of Florida’s Most Powerful and Influential Women. More at bit.ly/3zWIhB1
3 Reid Morgan (‘75, JD ‘79, P ‘13, ‘14, ‘19) received the Medallion of Merit, the University’s highest honor for service, at the Founders Day convocation. Morgan retires this year as senior vice president and general counsel after more than 40 years of giving legal counsel to four administrations. He will continue as secretary for the board of trustees for another year. More at bit.ly/3xCMuNq

4 Emmy award-winning director and producer Debbie Allen will visit Wake Forest Nov. 13-14 as the inaugural recipient of the University’s Maya Angelou (L.H.D. ’77) Artist-in-Residence Award. Allen, a Broadway star early in her career, has earned six Emmy Awards, a Golden Globe, five NAACP Image Awards, a Drama Desk and the first Astaire Award for Best Dancer. She has choreographed the Academy Awards a record 10 times. More at bit.ly/43A3XRc

5 The University celebrated the 100th birthday of beloved Provost Emeritus Edwin G. Wilson (‘43, P ‘91, ‘93) in February with a reception at Z. Smith Reynolds Library to honor “Mr. Wake Forest.” More at bit.ly/41RJHc3


7 Elham Ghadiri, assistant professor of chemistry, received a 2023 National Science Foundation Early CAREER Award of $650,000 over five years. She will study novel laser techniques made in a Wake Forest lab to support sustainable energy conversion devices, biomedical devices and medicinal applications. More at bit.ly/41mcGEg

8 The Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame inducted five Deacons in February: 2008 Butkus Award winner, All-American and former professional linebacker Aaron Curry (‘08); 2007 NCAA National Championship winner, two-time All-American and former professional soccer player Sam Cronin (‘08); 2008 Intercollegiate Tennis Association National Indoor Doubles Championship winner and two-time ITA Doubles All-American Cory Parr (‘09, MBA ‘20); Academic All-American, two-time All-American and former professional soccer player William Hesmer (‘04); and six-time All-American runner Nikeya Green (‘04). More at bit.ly/3KWxm0p

9 Rogan Kersh (‘86), Distinguished University Professor of Politics and International Affairs and former provost, delivered the 2023 Poetate Lecture on “The Rising Generation & America’s Political/Cultural Future.” The prestigious lecture is named for Latin scholar Hubert McNeill Poteat (1906, MA 1908, P ’36, ’40), who taught at Wake Forest from 1911 to 1956. More at bit.ly/3MGKNaX


11 Tai Feldman (‘23) was named to the 2023-24 class of the acclaimed Schwarzman Scholars for a one-year, fully funded master’s degree program in global affairs at Tsinghua University in Beijing. Feldman is a Stamps Scholar who majored in economics and mathematics. More at bit.ly/43yBn2e

12 The United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship awarded the 2023 Excellence in Pedagogical Innovation Award to the Wake Forest Center for Entrepreneurship. The award honors the IDEATE teaching method developed by Dan Cohen (P ’25), a professor of practice and the center’s executive director, and Greg Pool (JD/ MBA ’08), assistant professor of practice who directs Wake Forest’s Startup Lab. More at bit.ly/40bLvL1

13 The 2023-24 Face to Face Speaker Forum will present presidential historians Doris Kearns Goodwin and Michael Beschloss on Sept. 27; Daymond John, CEO and founder of FUBU hip-hop apparel and “Shark Tank” investor, on Nov. 1; former Wyoming U.S. representative and author Liz Cheney and biographer and historian Jon Meacham (L.H.D. ’17) on Feb. 22; and former “The Daily Show” host and author Trevor Noah on April 17. More at bit.ly/3zX0Cxo

14 Nathaniel Ivers (MA ’06, P ’26), associate professor and chair of the Department of Counseling, received the 2023 Dr. Judy Lewis Counselors for Social Justice Award from the American Counseling Association. Assistant professor of counseling Isabel Farrell received the Carl D. Perkins Government Relations Award. More at bit.ly/3UDxYeG

15 Rising senior Michael Brennan won the ACC individual championship in men’s golf. Women’s golfer Rachel Kuehn became the first two-time ACC Player of the Year in program history. More at bit.ly/3LDBZNV and bit.ly/3HzEFl1

16 Corey D. B. Walker (P ’25), humanities professor, director of the African American Studies Program and interim dean of the School of Divinity, is among 14 Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholars for 2023-24. More at bit.ly/3GK5n1k

17 Harold W. Tribble Professor of Psychology Eranda Jayawickreme received the Early Career Contributions Award from the International Society for the Science of Existential Psychology. More at bit.ly/43t609D

18 Historian and biographer Rajmohan Gandhi spoke in March at Wake Forest about his paternal grandfather Mahatma Gandhi’s passion for social justice, fairness and equality and his work’s connections with that of civil rights activist Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. More at bit.ly/3ohK2X2

19 Denisha Champion was named the University Counseling Center director. She joined the Counseling Center in 2009 and most recently was associate director for community engagement. More at bit.ly/3ogtfDn

20 Cathy Higginbotham was named executive director of Student Health Service in the Division of Campus Life. She was director of nursing at N.C. State. More at bit.ly/41pw2s
Dear alumni,

Wake Forest alums have had a great spring. You’ll see in this issue a tribute to our most recent Distinguished Alumni Award recipients. Beth Norbrey Hopkins (’73, P ’12) and J.D. Wilson (’69, P ’01) join a long line of Wake Forest graduates who have served their communities and professions and embody the spirit of Pro Humanitate.

Speaking of Pro Humanitate, I want to thank everyone who participated in our annual Pro Humanitate Week. Whether you worked with members of a Wake community near you or found a solo project, you contributed to the spirit that is the foundation of Wake Forest. More than 250 alumni participated in 21 projects in 15 cities across the country. Another 70 alumni volunteered on their own in their communities.

I’ve been beating the Wake Forest drum in Joplin, Missouri, for many years as a solo effort. I’m glad to report that I now have some Wake connections. For the first time, there was a WAKEJoplin project! Hope Nardini Malloy (’11) and Alyson Miller (P ’26) joined me in collecting and delivering pet food to “Snowflake’s Snack Shack,” a program that helps folks who love their pets but sometimes have trouble making ends meet.

I also had the opportunity to virtually attend some of the events for Wake Women’s Week in March. This was the second virtual event and a perfect way to connect with alumnae nationwide and across the decades. Tycely Williams (’97), who chairs the Fraternity and Sorority Life committee of the Alumni Council, led a terrific session on finding common ground in a diverse environment.

While sitting at my desk this week, I decided to check in on the Wake Forest alumni group on LinkedIn. While the group has over 21,000 members, only 16 of my LinkedIn contacts were members. I’m trying to fix that! A current student reached out to me for advice when she discovered that I do some work for a company where she wanted to apply for an internship.

I hope to drive home through these examples that staying connected to “Mother, So Dear” is easy even without visiting campus. Alumni Engagement and the Office of Personal & Career Development create many opportunities for us to leverage our Wake Forest experience to grow our network, make new friends and be informed of all the excellent work that so many of you are doing in your careers and your charitable endeavors.

It’s a beautiful surprise to discover that a new co-worker, neighbor or even someone you meet on vacation is a Wake Forest graduate. So, stock up on Deacon apparel, join the Wake Forest alumni group on LinkedIn and be on the lookout for fellow Deacons. You’ll always have something in common. I’m looking forward to seeing many of you at Homecoming this fall.

In the spirit of Pro Humanitate,

Jane Owens Cage (’78)
Joplin, Missouri
President, Wake Forest Alumni Council
Visit alumni.wfu.edu
1950s

Joe T. Millsaps (’57, JD ’61) retired from his general civil law practice, Millsaps & Bratton, after 61 years. He and his wife, Betty Reinhardt Millsaps, live in Charlotte.

Jane Freeman Crosthwaite (’59) has written “Shaker Visions of the Divine: Essays on Their Sacred Art and Scripture.” She is professor emerita of religion at Mount Holyoke College.

1960s

Bill Constangy (’64) is the author of the fourth edition of “Noncompete Law,” a national law book on employment covenants. He is an arbitrator in Charlotte and a retired North Carolina Superior Court judge.

Dallas Clark (’65, JD ’68) wrote his second novel, “Murder at Fourth and Elm.” It continues the fictional story of a Wake Forest graduate and lawyer serving in the U.S. Marines in Vietnam who was introduced in Clark’s first novel, “The Investigation Officer’s File.”

William “Bill” Halsey Freeman (’67, JD ’74) was reappointed chair of the North Carolina Ethics Commission by Gov. Roy Cooper. The commission oversees the conduct of more than 7,000 legislators, judicial officers and certain state employees. Freeman served 24 years as a Superior Court judge in North Carolina before retiring. He and his wife, Cory, live in Winston-Salem.

Carl Tucker (’58) received the 2022 Pete Moffitt Courage Award from Wake Forest athletics in recognition of his resilience battling chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Wake Forest athletics have been a part of Tucker’s life for more than 50 years. He is a member of the Deacon Club and past president of the Deacon Club Board of Directors. He endowed the Carl and Linda Tucker Family Athletics Scholarship and has made other gifts for facility improvements. He operates his family business, C.M. Tucker Lumber Companies LLC, in Pageland, SC, where he works with his sons, David (’95), Mark (’97), Andrew (’04) and Paul. The Moffitt award is named for Pete Moffitt (’84, P ’19), who died of ALS in 2013. It is awarded annually to a Wake Forest student-athlete, coach or alumnus.

1970s

Deborah L. Best (’70, MA ’72) received the Distinguished Alumna Award from the UNC-Chapel Hill psychology and neuroscience graduate programs. Best received her Ph.D. in developmental psychology from UNC. She joined the Wake Forest faculty in 1972 and was named William L. Potteat Professor of Psychology in 1997. She was the first female dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Wake Forest from 2004-2008.

Steven Harvey (’71, P ’98, ’07) won the Wandering Aengus Press Award for Nonfiction for “The Beloved Republic,” his fourth collection of personal essays. The essays examine recent events such as the white nationalists rally in Charlottesville, VA, and the Sandy Hook (CT) Elementary School shooting, and personal experiences including the secular spirituality of a mountain-top vision and the rediscovery of a mother’s love 50 years after her suicide.

Bill Grouch Jr. (’73, P ’02) is the CEO and founder of BrightDot, a fundraising and leadership consulting company in Raleigh. He was the speaker at the 2023 W.C. Dobbs Endowed Lecture, hosted by Baylor University’s George W. Truett Theological Seminary. He spoke on “Faith, Fear, Fundraising: Forget Failing.”

Janice Pope Howerton (’73) and Richard T. Howerton III (’73) moved to Winston-Salem in March 2020 and are enjoying volunteering with Wake Forest. Janice serves on the Face to Face Speaker Forum Board of Advisors, and Richard serves on the School of Divinity Board of Visitors. Living near their alma mater inspired Richard to write his first book, “Sparks from Lightning Bugs and Other Life Lessons,” a memoir told in vignettes, including several about campus events.

Gary Strickland (’73, P ’99) retired after 42 years as official scorekeeper for Wake Forest men’s basketball games at the end of the season. Strickland has scored about 725 home games since he became the official scorekeeper in 1981 and another 275 as visiting scorer or at neutral sites. He worked the ACC Men’s Basketball Tournament 21 times and the NCAA Tournament eight times. He is president of Hugh G. Strickland Inc., a commercial building company in Winston-Salem founded by his father. Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum and Truist Field public address announcer Jeffrey Griffin (23 years) and stat guru David Kvett (35 years) also retired.

Greg Gelburd (’74, P ’13) retired after 40 years practicing family medicine. He started his career in Windsor, NC, and finished in Charlottesville, VA, where he was frequently chosen best doctor in Charlottesville by the local newspaper. He and his wife, Kathy, have five daughters and four grandchildren.

Paula Pfeiffer Tignall (’74) and her family, along with two other families, opened Liquidity Aleworks, a craft brewery in a refurbished bank building in Mount Airy, MD. They brew daily stouts, porters, ciders, IPAs and sours. They hope to meet Wake Forest alumni or current Deacons who live, work or travel in the area.

James Wiley Narron (JD ’75) received the John B. McMillian Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina State Bar. He is senior partner with Narron Wenzel PA in Raleigh and Smithfield, NC. He has written more than 100 manuscripts and law review and journal articles for the bar and has given continuing legal education presentations across the country. He is past chair of the board of the North Carolina Community Foundation Inc. and was selected as Citizen of the Year in 2006 by the Smithfield-Selma Chamber of Commerce.

Richard Dewitte Sparkman (JD ’75, P ’99) received the 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award from the North Carolina Bar Association’s bankruptcy section. He was surprised with the award at the Annual Bankruptcy Institute at the Granover Resort in Greensboro, NC, while he was entertaining attendees with his guitar and humor. Sparkman has practiced bankruptcy law in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina for more than 40 years and is a Chapter 7, 11 and 12 bankruptcy trustee.

Anthony Quinn Wright (’76) was elected president of the city council of Hueytown, AL. He retired from Alabama Power Co. after 35 years and is a past board chair of the central Alabama chapter of the Sickle Cell Foundation.

Charles “Chic” Dambach (MBA ’77) was honored by his undergraduate alma mater, Oklahoma State University, with the establishment of the Dambach Endowed Peacebuilder Fellowship. His classmates funded the initiative, which will provide two scholarships for graduate students each year. Dambach was also named a Henry G. Bennett Distinguished Fellow in the School of Global Studies at OSU, which honors individuals who have provided leadership in addressing global issues. Other Bennett fellows include Tony Blair, Colin Powell, Robert Gates and Condoleezza Rice. Dambach is president emeritus of the National Peace Corps Association.

Wake Forest Magazine welcomes Class Notes submissions from alumni. There are three ways to submit information:

STANDARD MAIL:
Class Notes Editor
Wake Forest Magazine
PO Box 7205
Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7205

EMAIL:
classnotes@wfu.edu

ONLINE:
magazine.wfu.edu/class-notes/submit/
Gaither Keener Jr. (JD ’77) and his wife, Beverly, were named the 2022 Deacon Club Members of the Year. They have funded athletic scholarships and supported capital projects, including the Olympic Sports training room in the Miller Center and the Keener-Horn Training Room at Couch Ballpark. Gaither Keener is a past president of the Deacon Club and a past member of the School of Law Board of Visitors. He is special counsel to The McIntosh Law Firm in Lake Norman, NC, after retiring from Lowe’s Companies as executive vice president, general counsel, chief compliance officer and secretary of the board. The Keeners live in Waxhaw, NC.

Curtis Strange (’77) was named to the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame. Strange helped lead Wake Forest to back-to-back NCAA golf championships in 1974 and 1975 and three ACC Championships. He was the youngest golfer ever to win the individual NCAA championship as a freshman in 1974. He was also a three-time first team All-American in 1974, 1975 and 1976. He was one of the top golfers on the PGA Tour in the 1980s and won U.S. Open titles in 1988 and 1989. Strange is also in the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame and the World Golf Hall of Fame.

William David Hill (’79, MS ’82, PhD ’89) was appointed director of basic and fundamental research for the new Institute for Healthy Aging at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

Stan Clarkson (’80) received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the highest honor awarded by the governor of North Carolina, for significant contributions to the state. Clarkson worked in the state’s juvenile justice division for 37 years, including as agency research director and chief court counselor.

Amy James Hurd (’80) is director of communications for the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference of The United Methodist Church. In 2022, she received the Epi Award for excellence in communications ministry from the United Methodist Communications global agency. In 2021, she received the Hercules Award from the Nashville (TN) chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. She and her husband, Bob, live in Nashville.

Rick Glazier (JD ’81) was named director of the Campbell University law school’s Blanchard Community Law Clinic. Glazier has been an adjunct professor at the law school for more than 30 years and was executive director of the North Carolina Justice Center. He served seven terms representing Cumberland County in the North Carolina House of Representatives.

John D. Martin (’81) received a 2022 Core Value Award from Cranfill Sumner LLP, where he is a trial lawyer and managing partner of the firm’s Wilmington, NC, office. The award is presented to individuals who best exemplify the firm’s core values of client service, reputation and teamwork. Martin received his law degree from Campbell University.

Ted Smyth (JD ’81) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2023 Legal Elite list in litigation. He is of counsel in Cranfill Sumner LLP’s Raleigh office.

Eric R. Spence (JD ’82) was named to the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in real estate law and to Business North Carolina’s 2023 Legal Elite list. He is of counsel at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Andrew M. Tucker (’82) received the Jerry “Hawk” Rhea Award from the Professional Football Athletic Trainers Society for his contributions to the NFL and the athletic training profession. Tucker is chief medical officer of the Baltimore Ravens. He has been with the Ravens since the team’s inception in 1996, first as team physician, then head team physician until he was named chief medical officer in 2021. He is a past chair of the NFL General Medical Committee and a past president of the NFL Physicians Society. Tucker has more than 30 years of experience providing medical care to athletes, including as medical director of the sports medicine program at MedStar Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore. He graduated from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

Marcia High Armstrong (JD ’83) was installed as the 88th president of the North Carolina State Bar by North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul Newby. She is a partner at The Armstrong Law Firm PA in Smithfield, NC. She practices with her husband, Lamar, their children, Lamar Armstrong III (JD ’11) and Eason Armstrong Keeney (’12, JD ’15), and son-in-law Daniel Keeney (JD ’14). Their son Hinton Armstrong (’19) is a biochemical engineer.

Paul T. Flick (’83, JD ’86) was one of 13 lawyers in the state named to the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for alternative dispute resolution. He is the principal at Flick Dispute Resolution and practices law with Miller, Monroe & Plyler PLLC in Raleigh. He was also named to Business North Carolina’s 2023 Legal Elite list in litigation.
Penelope “Penny” Humphrey Parks (’83) was named to the 2023 Power 100 list of Tampa Bay’s most influential leaders by the Tampa Bay (FL) Business Journal. Parks owns a boutique investment bank, Links Financial, and Links Golf, which owns two golf courses in Homosassa, FL.

Gerald “J.J.” F. Smith Jr. (’83) retired as president and CEO after 37 years with Valley Proteins Inc. when the business was sold. The company, founded by his grandfather in 1949, was the largest privately owned collector and processor of animal and poultry byproducts and waste cooking oils in North America. He and his wife, Kaye DeHaven Smith (’84), live in Winchester, VA. They have three daughters, including Elise Smith (1984).

Jennifer Mills Grabosky (’84) was inducted into the Greenville County Schools (SC) Hall of Fame. She graduated from J.L. Mann High School in Greenville County and was honored for her three decades in television broadcasting. In 1995, she helped Arnold Palmer (’51, LLD ’70) launch the Golf Channel and was co-anchor of Golf Central’s nightly newscast. She is also an artist, whose paintings have been featured on the cover of a number of publications. She and her husband live in western North Carolina.

Jeff Harris (’84) joined Transwestern Development Company as regional partner, southeast, to develop multifamily and mixed-use communities. He lives in Charlotte.

Bill Pollock (’84) was named to the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in construction litigation for the 10th consecutive year. He was also named to Business North Carolina’s 2023 Legal Elite list in construction litigation. He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Jenny Womack (’84) received the Suzanne C. Scullin Award, the highest honor from the North Carolina Occupational Therapy Association. Womack is a professor and founding program director of the new occupational therapy program at Appalachian State University and a fellow of the American Occupational Therapy Association. She lives in Blowing Rock, NC.

David D. Daggett (JD ’85) competed in the Ironman 70.3 World Championship, a half Ironman (1.2-mile swim, 56-mile bike ride and 13.1-mile run), in St. George, UT. He finished first in his age group (over 60) in the Ironman Executive Challenge. The same month, he competed in the iconic Hawaii World Triathlon Championships (2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run) for the ninth time. Daggett is managing partner of Daggett Shuler Attorneys at Law in Winston-Salem.

Toni Newman (’85) was named director of the Coalition for Justice & Equality Across Movements, a new division of NMAC. Previously, she was the interim chief executive officer and president for the Black AIDS Institute.

James K. Pryor (JD ’85) is in his fifth year working for Diamond Communications, a wireless infrastructure company, in Springfield, NJ. He handles site acquisition and development. He also maintains a limited private practice in Randolph, NJ. He and his wife, Jennifer Robinson Pryor, live in Mine Hill, NJ. His daughter, Alice, is a music teacher, and his son, Patrick, attends County College of Morris.

Mark J. Cundiff (’87) was named director of business development and marketing for Tormod, a Hargrove engineering and construction company that supports industrial manufacturing clients with maintenance services, project management and environmental, health, safety and security solutions. Cundiff and his wife, Beth, live in Valdosta, GA, and have two sons in college, Elijah (21) and Ethan (19).

Beatrice R. Dombrowski Hair (’87) has reinvented her business model for the Salisbury Tutoring Academy: The One-on-One School, from in-person tutoring in Salisbury, NC, to online tutoring with greater results. When not directing her school, Hair enjoys her grandchild, playing sports, coastal living in her oceanfront cottage and traveling overseas with her husband, Randy.
Mari Walsh Valoeras (’87, MBA ’99, P ’24) and Rebecca Toney Ginn (’96) started Hugs From Home Winston-Salem. The recent empty nesters started the small business, which curates and delivers gift baskets and more to Wake Forest students from their parents. Valoeras and her husband, Tom Valoeras (’88, P ’24), live in Winston-Salem. Ginn and her husband, Adam Ginn (’96, MD ’00), also live in Winston-Salem.

Christopher Kurtz (’89) was named executive assistant to the 39th surgeon general of the U.S. Navy, Rear Admiral Bruce Gillingham. After graduating from Wake Forest, Kurtz joined the Navy on a health promotions scholarship to the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He completed his residency in orthopedic surgery at Allegheny General Hospital. On active duty since 1998, he has served in Japan, Virginia and Washington, DC, and has deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Inherent Resolve. A captain and a Surface Warfare qualified medical officer, he has received the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Thomas Sifferinger (’89) was promoted to vice president of global sales at KUBTEC Medical Imaging to manage its domestic and international clinical business unit. He had led the company’s North American sales organization since 2018.

1990s

Douglas Balser (’90) reached the 500-win milestone in his 25 years coaching high school volleyball. He is head coach of the girls’ varsity volleyball team and a world history teacher at Reagan High School in Pfafftown, NC. He was named the 4A Coach of the Year by the North Carolina Volleyball Coaches Association. He has also taught and coached at South Stokes High School in Walnut Cove, NC, High Point (NC) Christian Academy and Winston-Salem Christian School. He was named in 2021 as an inaugural member of the Winston-Salem Christian School Athletic Hall of Fame, after coaching volleyball and basketball at the school for 18 years.

Greg Cox (’90, P ’20) was named a Triad Business Journal Power Player in 2022. He is Triad president and senior vice president of global commercial banking at Bank of America. He lives in Winston-Salem.

Patrick Flanagan (JD ’90) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2023 Legal Elite list in employment law. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

Walter P. Collins III (’91) has been regional Palmetto College dean (CEO) of the University of South Carolina Lancaster for 10 years. He is also professor of French and English and has been with the University of South Carolina system for 23 years.

Chris Richter (’91) and his wife, Stephanie Ruiz, took early retirement after decades of working in the federal government, Richter in the military and government agencies and Ruiz with the Congressional Budget Office. They “traded the DC treadmill” for Chachagua, Alajuela, in Costa Rica, where they grow coconuts, bananas and avocados and entertain two energetic dogs.

Reed Russell (’91) was inducted as a fellow into The College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. He is a partner at Phelps Dunbar LLP in Tampa, FL.

Robert L. Smith (’91) joined Beaufort Memorial Palmetto Medical Group in Bluffton, SC. He has expertise in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses in pediatric and adult patients. He credits the time he spent with team physicians and trainers during his undergraduate years as men’s basketball student manager with sparking his interest in medicine. He earned his medical degree from Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY.

Timothy P. Veith (JD ’91) joined the Atlanta office of Adams and Reese LLP as special counsel in the corporate services, transactions group.

Jerome Patricia Butler (’92, MD ’96) was appointed faculty and REACH coach at the Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine in Pasadena, CA. She was featured in Southbay Magazine’s September/October 2022 issue for her work as a prominent and outstanding pediatric physician in Southern California for more than 22 years.

Steve Levin (JD ’92) joined Steptoe & Johnson LLP in Washington, DC, as senior counsel in the independent & internal investigations and white-collar defense practice groups. He was recognized as a top 25 criminal lawyer in Maryland by The Daily Record’s 2022 Criminal Law Power List.

Robert J. Rameur Jr. (’92, JD ’95, P ’23) was selected to the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyer list in real estate law for the 10th consecutive year. He was named to Business North Carolina’s 2023 Legal Elite list for the 17th consecutive year. He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

David Styers (’92) collaborated to help with a series of books called “The Definitive Guide to Thriving on Disruption” by Roger Spitz and Lidia Zuin. Styers is director of learning and leadership programs at the League of American Orchestras in New York City. More at bit.ly/3iWRjJv

Elliott Berke (’93) and his Washington, DC-based firm, Berke Farah LLP, serve as outside counsel to Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., House Majority Whip Tom Emmer, R-Minn., four committee chairs and dozens of other members of Congress. Berke has been recognized the last 12 years as a Nationwide Best Lawyer by Chambers USA and was the Republican National Lawyers Association’s 2021 Republican Lawyer of the Year. He also has an entertainment law practice and has worked with artists including Billy Idol and Garth Brooks.

Tom Galati (’93) and his wife, Meghan Beard, founded Earth Recovery, a startup that creates cleaning products with ingredients that are plant-derived and biodegradable with 100% natural fragrance. They have released their first product, an all-purpose cleaner concentrate and a reusable spray bottle made from plastic waste that would have otherwise reached oceans and waterways (100% Ocean Bound Plastic). The company is based in Newtown, CT.

David J. Shipley (JD ’93) was admitted as a fellow of the American College of Tax Counsel. He is a shareholder at Stevens & Lee in Princeton, NJ, and co-chair of the firm’s state and local tax group.

David K. Vickerman (MBA ’93) was named chief financial officer of Sol Systems, a national solar energy firm based in Washington, DC.

Sidong Zhang (MA ’93) was promoted to associate professor in the mathematics department in Campbell University’s College of Arts & Sciences. He teaches calculus, statistics and cryptography.

Lori Aveni (’94) owns a full-service accounting firm, Lori Aveni, CPA, PLLC, in Apex, NC. The firm was voted Best Accounting Firm in the 2022 WRAL-TV Voters’ Choice Awards for the second time in three years.

Ashley H. Ray (’94) was selected by peer review to Business North Carolina’s 2023 Legal Elite list. She is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Amy Wallace Stewart (’94) is founder and managing partner of Stewart Law Group, a minority- and woman-owned firm in Dallas. The firm celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2022 and plans to open an office in Los Angeles this year. Stewart was selected by Texas Lawyer as one
of three finalists for attorney of the year in 2022. She serves on the boards of the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum and Girls Inc., a nonprofit that empowers girls to overcome gender and social barriers. She played basketball and coached at Wake Forest before going to law school at the University of Missouri.

Heather H. Szajda (’94, JD ’97) was named to Virginia Business magazine’s 2022 Legal Elite list for taxes, trusts and estates and to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for trusts and estates. She is a partner at Virginia Estate & Trust Law PLC in Richmond, VA.

Dawn M. Dillon (JD ’95) was elected the first female managing partner at Raleigh-based Young Moore and Henderson PA. She is a shareholder at Young Moore and co-chairs the compensation and employment law group. She joined Young Moore in 1996 and has been recognized in The Best Lawyers in America and Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite.

Sean Moran (’95) remains happily married to Susan Ott Moran (MD ’95). They reside on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Honolulu. Susan is command surgeon of Pacific Air Forces, and Sean is commodore of the Pacific Yacht Club and a sailing instructor for the base’s morale, welfare and recreation programs. They have three daughters scattered across the country.

Sarah Newell Taylor (’95) was named section chief of neonatal-perinatal medicine at Yale School of Medicine and Yale New Haven (CT) Children’s Hospital. She is also a professor of pediatrics and the director of neonatal clinical research. She has provided neonatal care and specialized in neonatal clinical research at Yale since 2018. She has tripled the number of clinical research studies, and the section’s number of externally funded studies has more than doubled. Taylor established the National Institutes of Health-funded Yale Neonatal NOUrISH (Nutrition Outcomes Research In Sustaining Mother and Infant Health) team.

Craig N. Czyz (’96) was named program director of the first U.S. ocular trauma fellowship at OhioHealth Grant Medical Center. He is professor of ophthalmology at Ohio University and department chair ophthalmology and section chief ocuofacial plastic and reconstructive surgery at OhioHealth Doctors Hospital.

Rebecca Toney Ginn (’96) and Mari Walsh Valaoras (’87, MBA ’99, P ’24) started Hugs From Home Winston-Salem. The recent empty nesters started the small business, which curates and delivers gift baskets and more to Wake Forest students from their parents. Ginn and her husband, Adam Ginn (’96, MD ’00), live in Winston-Salem. Valaoras and her husband, Tom Valaoras (’88, P ’24), also live in Winston-Salem.

Robert “Bert” C. Kemp III (JD ’96) received a Professionalism Award from North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul Newby during an event with the North Carolina State Bar and North Carolina Bar Association. Kemp is chief public defender in Pitt County. He is also an adjunct professor at Campbell University’s Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law and a state military judge in the North Carolina National Guard.

Rick Wallace (JD ’96) was promoted to managing director at private equity firm The Carlyle Group, where he is global head of investment valuations. He and his wife, Lynda Boggs, live in Arlington, VA, with their blended family of four teenagers.

Jeffrey M. Harvey (JD/MBA ’97) joined law firm Clark Hill PLC as a member in its corporate practice group in Dallas. He advises clients in mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and strategic partnerships, private equity financing, startup funding and venture capital, technology and licensing transactions, and franchising and dealership relationships.

Dan Katzenbach (JD ’97) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2023 Legal Elite list in construction law. He is a partner in Cranfill Sumner LLP’s Raleigh office.

Doug Radi (MBA ’97) was named the first president of Sweet Loren’s, a better-for-you baked goods company. He lives in the Denver area.

Stacy Landis Hackney (’98) wrote her second novel, “The Sisters of Luna Island,” which was named to Virginia Living’s list of favorite books of 2022. The children’s book is about a 12-year-old who lives on North Carolina’s Luna Island and must learn to accept her magic to break a 200-year-old curse. Hackney lives in Richmond, VA, with her husband and four sons.
Joy Vermillion Heinsohn (’98) was named executive director of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation in Winston-Salem. She was philanthropy liaison for the North Carolina Office of Strategic Partnerships. She previously worked for the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation for more than two decades in several roles, including assistant director and, on two occasions, interim executive director. She and her husband, Ben, and their two children live in Winston-Salem.

Tom Langan (JD ‘98) was reelected to his second term as District Court judge in Surry and Stokes (NC) counties. He was certified as a juvenile court judge in 2022. He is also a North Carolina State Bar councilor. He lives in Pilot Mountain, NC, with his wife, Jennifer, and stepson, Tyler.

Kate T. Crowley Parker (‘98) spoke this spring to an online gathering of APA/Washington, DC (American Photographic Artists chapter) about her photography career. She is working on her fifth book after publishing best-sellers “Strong is the New Pretty: A Celebration of Girls Being Themselves” and “The Heart of a Boy: Celebrating the Strength and Spirit of Boyhood,” as well as “Play Like a Girl: Life Lessons from the Soccer Field.” She and her husband, Mike Parker, live in the Atlanta area with daughters Ella, 17, and Alice, 14, and two spoiled golden retrievers, Mabel and Tobin. More at bit.ly/3EnexrX

Amie Fonville Siven (‘98) was selected by peer review to Business North Carolina’s 2023 Legal Elite list and named to the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in appellate practice. She is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Jamison “Jamie” Weinbaum (‘98) was named chief executive officer of Horning, a real estate company that has developed and managed residential, retail and mixed-use communities throughout the Washington, DC, region for more than 60 years. Previously, Weinbaum was with Mid-City Development.

T.L. Brown (‘99, JD ’03, MBA ’08) was named chief fiduciary and planning officer at Members Trust Co. He lives in Winston-Salem.

Ryan Shurman (JD ’99) joined Cranfill Sumner LLP as a partner in the Raleigh office. He has more than 23 years of litigation experience in medical malpractice law, representing physicians and hospitals.

Megan Eaton Cann (’00) celebrated 20 years with Emory Saint Joseph’s Hospital in Atlanta. She received The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses and the Kenneth E. Thomas, MD Award for Nursing Excellence. She lives in Atlanta.

Sarah Villani Davis (JD/MA ’00) is senior vice president of the University Partnership Group at Learfield. She received the 2022 Sports Business Journal Game Changers Award that recognizes innovators and trailblazers in the sports industry. She and her husband, Peter Davis (MBA ’98), and son, Landon, live in Dallas.

Jason Harris (JD ’00) was named to the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in transportation/airline law. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Wilmington, NC.

Allison Doyle Roditi (’00) was appointed vice president of orthopedics for Catholic Health Services of Long Island. The health system has nearly 16,000 employees, six acute-care hospitals, three nursing homes, a home health service, hospice and a network of physician practices. Previously, Roditi was chief administrator of the Sports Medicine Institute at Hospital for Special Surgery in New York. She lives in Long Island, NY, with her sons, Connor and Ryan.

Crystal Simms-Hines (’00) was named compensation manager of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System last year. She lives with her family in Silver Spring, MD.

Stacy Wentworth (’00, MD ’04) is a radiation oncologist who holds her dream job as medical director of Cancer Survivorship at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center in Winston-Salem. More at bit.ly/3mfpUyF

Geoff Foster (MBA ’01) was named a Triad Business Journal Power Player 2022. He is CEO and president of Core Technology Molding Corp. in Greensboro, NC.

James “Jim” E. Hickmon (JD ’01) was named to the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in estate planning and probate and estate and trust litigation. He was also recognized by Martindale Hubbell as an AV Preeminent peer-rated lawyer and by Business North Carolina in its Legal Elite listing. He is firm principal at North Carolina Estate Planning & Fiduciary Law in Charlotte. Hickmon is also an adjunct professor at the Wake Forest School of Law, where he teaches wealth transfer and fiduciary income taxation of trusts and estates.

Laura Huntingdon Budd (JD ’02) was elected to a two-year term in the North Carolina House of Representatives to represent District 103, which includes South Charlotte and Matthews.

Richard Dietz (JD ’02) was elected associate justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court. Previously, he served on the North Carolina Court of Appeals. His wife, Kelley Wilson Dietz (’02), joined the development office at UNC-Chapel Hill. She was director for presidential operations at William Peace University. They live in Raleigh.

Brendan O’Toole (’02) received the 2022 Criminal Justice Pro Bono Award from Koch Industries. He partnered with the Virginia Redemption Project to provide pro bono assistance for compassionate release for Sincere Allah, who had served 23 years of a 45-year prison sentence. Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam granted a conditional pardon to Allah. O’Toole is a partner in the litigation section at the law firm William Mullen in Richmond, VA.

Erin Regan (’02) is a firefighter-paramedic with the Los Angeles County Fire Department. She has led efforts to encourage girls and young women to consider a career in firefighting. She lives in San Clemente, CA. More at bit.ly/3JjncXh

Bo Walker (’02) was named to the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in civil litigation defense and to Business North Carolina’s 2023 Legal Elite list. He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Walter W. “Trip” Baker III (JD ’03) was appointed a District Court judge in Judicial District 18, serving Guilford County, by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. He was an assistant district attorney in Guilford County.

Ryan Scott Eanes (’03) has written a textbook, “Insightful Branding: People-Centric Tactics for
Building Brands.” He is a faculty member in the Department of Advertising and Public Relations in the Klein College of Media and Communication at Temple University.

Stacy K. Hurley (03, JD ’06) joined Barton Gilman LLP in Providence, RI, as an associate. She represents physicians, hospitals and health care providers in civil litigation.

Linda M. Malone (03, MSA ’04, JD ’07) became a shareholder in the law firm of Howard, Stallings, From, Atkins, Angell & Davis PA in New Bern, NC. She was named to Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite list for tax and estate planning.

Anna Warburton Munroe (03, JD ’09) was named a 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyer. She was also recognized in The Best Lawyers in America in family law for the sixth consecutive year. She is a shareholder in Allman Spry Davis Leggett & Crumpler PA in Winston-Salem.

Susannah I Rosenblatt (03) was promoted to vice president, corporate social good at Fenton, a social change agency that advances and supports advocacy organizations and social causes. She lives in Arlington, VA.

Brys Stephens (JD/MBA ’03) founded Brothers Gerard Baking Co., a Charleston, SC-based brand of frozen biscuits and scones that are available online and in grocery stores including Kroger, The Fresh Market and Earth Fare. He developed the brand in 2020 to offer breads and pastries made with simple ingredients and no artificial ones.

Sally Kirby Turner (JD ’04) was appointed a Superior Court judge in Judicial District 27B, serving Cleveland and Lincoln counties, by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. She was an assistant district attorney in those counties.

Eric F. Werrenrath (04) returned to Windermere, Haines, Ward & Woodman PA as a shareholder. He practices commercial lending, commercial real estate, creditors’ rights and general commercial litigation in the law firm’s Winter Park, FL, office. He earned his law degree from Stetson University.

2005

Wes Bryant (05) joined Sports Radio 92.7 WFNZ in Charlotte with the addition of the “Wes & Walker” show. Bryant and co-host Walker Mehl discuss national sports topics and ACC and SEC teams. Bryant is also a host and producer for the ACC Digital Network and was the pre-game and post-game co-host for the Charlotte Hornets on Bally Sports South for the 2021-2022 season. He played on the offensive line on Wake Forest’s football team.

Megan Kohler Griffin (05, MSA ’06) was promoted to managing director in the financial institutions group at Wells Fargo’s Corporate & Investment Banking division. She and her husband, Chris, and their young daughter live in Charlotte.

Matthew Lowder (05) was promoted to associate professor of psychology at the University of Richmond. His research and teaching focus on cognitive science and psycholinguistics.

Randall Perry (JD ’05) was designated a board certified specialist in residential real property law.

2004

Gabrielle “Gabi” Kelly (JD ’04) joined leadership search firm Coleman Lew Canny Bowen in Charlotte as an executive search consultant. She recruits officers and senior level executives for companies, academic institutions and nonprofit organizations. Previously she was an assistant district attorney for 17 years in the Mecklenburg County District Attorney’s Office.

Stephanie Dishart Kramer (04) was named chief human resources officer at L’Oreal USA in New York. She has written her first book, “Carry Strong: An Empowered Approach to Navigating Pregnancy and Work.” She had her first son, William, when she worked at Chanel and her second son, James, when she worked at skincare company Kiehl’s Since 1851.
by the North Carolina State Bar. He is managing attorney with The Law Offices of Randall L. Perry PLLC, a real-estate law firm in Winston-Salem.

2006

Edward Kuehnle (’06) launched Somm for the Day, a sommelier business that offers individuals and groups custom wine tastings, pairings and other experiences. Kuehnle lives in Charlotte with his wife, Juliet Lam Kuehnle (’06), and their two daughters.

Meredith Poe Martin (’06) was named vice president of programs at Crossnore Communities for Children, a child welfare and mental health nonprofit serving children and families in western North Carolina. She lives in Charlotte.

Patrick J. McCann Jr. (’06) was named to the 2023 Georgia Super Lawyers list as a Rising Star. He is a shareholder at Chamberlain Hrdlicka in Atlanta, where he represents taxpayers at all stages of tax controversy, including examination, appeals and litigation.

2007

Lindsey Lynn Perea (’07) was named medical director of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Research at Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health, where she is a trauma surgeon. She was also named program director of the General Surgery Residency Program at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. She lives in Lititz, PA.

Michael Preczewski (’07) was selected as the U.S. Army Medical Department’s RAND Arroyo Fellow for 2022-2023. He works with senior military and government officials on policy analysis and research. He is based in Santa Monica, CA.

Zac Selmon (’07) was named director of athletics at Mississippi State University. He was deputy athletics director for external engagement and advancement at the University of Oklahoma. He and his wife, Rachel, have two daughters. He was a four-year starter at tight end on the Wake Forest football team.

Scott Chalkley (’09) and his brother co-founded Meat Sweats, a Raleigh-based company that makes signature barbecue spritz products to flavor pork, beef and poultry using traditional ingredients. Chalkley and his wife, Margaret, and their two sons, Hughes and Weller, live in Raleigh.

Guy Timothy “Tim” Montgomery (’09) received his master of arts in teaching degree from Bel-larmine University. He has taught sixth grade English language arts at Highland Middle School in Louisville, KY, for two years.

Rohit Nath (’09) was named a full equity partner at Susman Godfrey LLP in Los Angeles office. He received his law degree from The University of Chicago Law School.

Simone Parker (’09) was named associate director, strategic communications (digital) in Wake Forest’s University Advancement office. She previously worked as a lead web developer and site administrator at UNC Greensboro. She and her husband, Brad McDanel (’10, MS ‘12), live in Lancaster, PA, with their daughter.

2008

Aaron Curry (’08) joined the Pittsburgh Steelers as inside linebackers coach. He was previously assistant defensive line/defensive ends coach with the Seattle Seahawks. Curry was a first-team All-American and All-ACC linebacker at Wake Forest and received the Butkus Award as the nation’s best linebacker his senior year. He was drafted by Seattle with the fourth overall pick in the 2009 NFL Draft and played four seasons in the NFL. He is a member of the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame.

Heidi N. Urness (’08) joined McGlinchey Stafford PLLC as a member and chair of the cannabis practice group in Seattle. She is a nationally recognized cannabis attorney and represents businesses, banks, investors and trade organizations in the hemp, CBD and THC industries. She received her law degree from the University of San Francisco School of Law in 2011.

2009

Zahir Rahman (’10) was named vice president, deputy general counsel for the Las Vegas Raiders. His wife, Maggie Ryan Rahman (’10), is associate director, global regulatory affairs at IQVIA, a health care technology company. They live in Las Vegas with their three young children.

2010

Michael P. Canavan (’10) was named of counsel in the environmental practice at Greenberg Traurig LLP in the Silicon Valley and Philadelphia offices.

2011

Kevin J. Mallary (’11, MA ’13) earned a doctorate in communication and information from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in August. He is an assistant professor in library and information studies at Old Dominion University.

2012

Stephen Bell (JD ’12) was recognized as a Rising Star in business litigation in the 2023 edition of North Carolina Super Lawyers. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Wilmington, NC.

Sylvia Shank Laurence (’12) was named president of Trevero, a consulting and leadership development division of The Resource, headquartered in Winston-Salem. She has coached leaders across the United States and Canada.

2013

Steven Corriveau (JD ’13) has been named shareholder in the Raleigh law firm Martin & Jones PLLC. Since joining the firm in 2015, he has
focused on representing workers injured on the job. He has been recognized in The Best Lawyers in America and as a Rising Star in North Carolina Super Lawyers.

Katie Drummonds ('13) joined the Federal Trade Commission as an attorney in mergers and acquisitions. She lives in Nashville, TN.

Corvaya Jeffries ('13) appeared on “Ready to Love,” a dating reality show on the OWN network. It was the latest step in her career as a journalist, digital strategist, speaker and content creator in Miami.

Thomas S. Lambert (JD ’13) was promoted to member at Pullman & Comley LLC in Bridgeport, CT. He represents businesses, individuals, fiduciaries and municipalities in state and federal courts and Connecticut’s Probate Courts. He was named to Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America in three litigation areas for the third consecutive year and has been a Connecticut Super Lawyers Rising Star since 2019 in civil litigation: defense. He lives in Fairfield, CT.

2015

Meredith Allgood ('15) graduated from Xavier University with a doctorate in psychology with a specialty in dialectical behavioral therapy and mindfulness therapy. She is a clinical psychologist at the Center for Cognitive and Dialectical Behavioral Therapy. She lives in Long Island, NY, with her great dane, Bella.

Clay Armentrout (JD ’15) was named chief of staff for U.S. Sen. Katie Britt, R-Ala. Previously, he oversaw Alabama U.S. Sen. Richard Shelby’s legislative staff. Armentrout is a native of Alabama.

Dan Harrison Segall (’15) won the 2023 ASCAP Foundation Harold Adamson Lyric Award in the country division. His song, “Friendly Fire,” received the 2021 ASCAP Jay Gorney Award and the December 2022 Bluebird Cafe Golden Pick Award. He is a musician and songwriter in Nashville, TN, performing as Dan Harrison. He has released several singles as a solo artist, as well as with his country duo, Salemtown.

Meredith Kay Shaw (’15) completed her anesthesiology residency at LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. She is returning to North Carolina for a regional and acute pain fellowship at UNC-Chapel Hill.

2016

Heather Higgins (JD ’16) joined Patrick, Harper & Dixon LLP in Hickory, NC, as an associate attorney practicing civil litigation, family law and criminal law. She is originally from Hickory and lives in nearby Newton, NC, with her husband and their two children and rescue dachshund.

Caleb J. Holloway (JD ’16) received the Julius L. Chambers Diversity Champion Award from the Mecklenburg County (NC) Bar. He is associate general counsel for Atrium Health, where he focuses on labor and employment matters. He helped establish Atrium Health’s disability resource group, AAA Accessibility for All, and co-chairs the Charlotte Legal Diversity Clerkship program for the Mecklenburg County Bar.
Amanda Presgraves (MSM ’17) has written “The NonRecipe Book: Designing for Whole-Self Nourishment Using Your Unique Ingredients.” It explores how to apply Design Thinking principles for creativity in ways that benefit athletes and everyone in choosing how they nourish themselves, whether pulling together a meal in the kitchen or shaping their lives.

Timothy J. Readling (JD ’16) was named to the Rising Stars list in the 2023 edition of North Carolina Super Lawyers in civil litigation and general litigation. He is managing attorney at Davis & Davis, Attorneys at Law PC, in Salisbury, NC, and vice president of the North Carolina State Bar Judicial District 27 (Rowan County) Bar.

McKenzie Maddox (’17) was promoted from senior consultant to manager at Capgemini Invent, a sustainable IT company. She lives in New York.

Peter Morton (’18) was promoted to executive in the sports property sales department at Creative Artists Agency. His clients include Oracle Red Bull Racing, Formula 1, Riot Games, the Atlanta Braves, the Ryder Cup and the United States Tennis Association. He is based in New York.

Jordan Monaghan (’17) was named deputy communications director in the office of North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. Monaghan lives in Raleigh.

Peter Morton (’18) was promoted to executive in the sports property sales department at Creative Artists Agency. His clients include Oracle Red Bull Racing, Formula 1, Riot Games, the Atlanta Braves, the Ryder Cup and the United States Tennis Association. He is based in New York.

Kalyn Epps (’19) completed a second year as a Fulbright Scholar. She lived in Santa Cruz de Tenerife in Spain’s Canary Islands as the Canarias culture and pedagogy mentor. During her first year, she was an English teaching assistant. She is now in the master’s program in journalism at Stanford University.

Alistair Johnston (’19) played in all three of Canada’s matches in the 2022 World Cup in Qatar. He grew up in Aurora, Ontario. He played on Major League Soccer’s CF Montreal team before signing with Scotland’s Celtic Football Club last year.

Chris Miller (MA ’19) started “Talk to People,” a podcast that explores the human experience through conversations with diverse guests, including professors, executives, entertainers, creatives and Olympic gold medalists. Miller and his wife, Annie Santarelli Miller (MA ’20), live in Lawrence, KS.

Nicole Small (MA ’19) was named director of academic student support services at Kennesaw State University (GA).

Blake Buchanan (’21) is an account executive in the Wake Forest athletics ticket office. He played basketball at Wake Forest and earned a master’s in management at George Mason University.

Anna Hogewood Cole (’21) was named a leadership gift officer in Wake Forest’s University Advancement office. She previously worked with Reformed University Fellowship at UNC-Chapel Hill. She and her husband, Jackson Cole (’22), live in Winston-Salem.
Grace Fricke (’21) was promoted to senior research specialist, financial services, at Gartner, a research and consulting firm in the information technology industry. She lives in the Washington, DC, area.

Chris Osgood (’21) was promoted from assistant director to director of football operations at Wake Forest.

Michael R. Vlahos (’21) is sales operations manager at Novolyze, an IT services and consulting company for food and beverage clients all over the world. He lives in Jacksonville, FL.

Peter Gilbert (’22) was promoted to customer success manager at EPIC iO Technologies, a software development company. He lives in Charlotte.

Mark Sucoski (’22) is pursuing a career as a country musician and songwriter in Nashville, TN, as Mark Taylor. He has been featured on festival bills with acts including the Zac Brown Band, Dan + Shay, Russell Dickerson and Jon Pardi. He has written songs recorded by Amii Stewart (singer on the 1979 No. 1 hit, “Knock on Wood”), Whey Jennings, Hayley Payne and Molly Lovette.

**2022**

Parker is manager in the Deloitte consulting government and public service practice.

Now that community events have resumed since COVID-19, what are some of the events that WAKEAtlanta will be hosting or has hosted recently?

We are thrilled to resume our annual signature events: WAKEWelcome in the fall, a local Lovefeast in December and Pro Humanitate Days in the spring, plus football and basketball game watch parties. We partnered with the athletics department to host a pregame event when the men’s basketball team played in the 2022 Holiday Hoopsgiving at State Farm Arena (in Atlanta) and had an awesome turnout. We were also fortunate to host a fireside chat about innovation at Wake Forest with Trustee Mit Shah (’91) and Andy Chan, vice president for innovation and career development.

Are there other alumni involved in planning events?

We have 10+ WAKEAtlanta Executive Committee members — and always welcome new faces. Coming out of the pandemic, we established dedicated committees (professional development, Pro Humanitate, traditions, athletics) to curate a calendar of events and serve the diverse interests of our alumni, parents and friends. I’ll give a special shoutout to Katie Winokur Hooper (’14) and Jessica Peterson Dempsey (’96, JD ’99), who founded Wake the Arts Atlanta, a group for those interested in experiencing and advancing our vibrant local arts community. We had a fantastic kickoff at the Atlanta Contemporary Arts Center in February.

**Marriages**

Jay D. Hockenbury (JD ’72) and Elizabeth Cameron, 5/21/22 in Wilmington, NC, where they live.

Austin Gracey Hester (’09) and Bryan Crevis-ton, 12/10/22 in Charleston, SC, where they live. The wedding party included Lukia Klossis (’09) and Caroline Sutton Vogler (’09).

Sarah Jean Sparks (’11) and Derek James Johnson, 2/12/22 in Greensboro, NC. They live in Lex-ington, NC. The wedding party included Brittni Shambaugh Addison (’10).

Lauren Suggs (’11) and Leslie Walker (’11), 6/4/22 in Stowe, VT. They live in Montpelier, VT. The wedding party included Melissa Suggs (MD ’20). Suggs is the daughter of Susan Olson (PhD ’84) and William Suggs (MD ’83).

Caroline Karas DeCelles (’13) and Daniel Emmett Schnell (’13), 9/17/22 in Washington, DC, where they live. The wedding party included Mary Kate Lewis Gibbons (’12, MSA ’16), Elizabeth Ales (’13), Justin Credit (’13), Patrick Fisher (’13) and Benjamin Strickler (’13). The bride is the daughter of Margaret Williams-DeCelles (’74).


Joshua Chung-Hua Pan (’13, MD ’17) and Vanessa Yik-Yun Ng (MD ’17), 10/15/22 in Winston-Salem. They live in Chicago. The wedding party included Melissa Suggs (MD ’12, JD ’19). Suggs is the daughter of Susan Olson (PhD ’84) and William Suggs (MD ’83).

Addy Rothman Parker (’13) is president of WAKEAtlanta and a committee chair for the Class of 2013 10-year Reunion (Homecoming/Reunion weekend is Oct. 20-22). There are nearly 8,000 alumni, parents and friends in the greater Atlanta area. Parker is manager in the Deloitte consulting government and public service practice.

**How did Wake Forest make you who you are today?**

Wake Forest taught me the ongoing power of relationships, and I am fortunate that my family, my career and my closest friendships all grew from Wake Forest roots. As a proud liberal arts graduate who spent a lot of time in Tribble Hall — I majored in politics & international affairs and minored in international studies and history — Wake Forest prepared me to find meaning and purpose in every personal and professional endeavor and to enthusiastically catalyze opportunities for others in my community.

**Who were some of your mentors?**

Wake Forest sets itself apart through the character and caliber of its people, many of whom I consider lifelong mentors and friends, including Tom Brister (politics and international affairs) and Todd McFall (economics). Since I’ve graduated, I’ve gotten to know Kelly Meachum McConnico (’00) (assistant vice president, Alumni Engagement) and Marybeth Sutton Wallace (’86) (special assistant, Office of the Vice President, University Advancement). They represent some of the best of Wake Forest, and it’s a joy to see them when I’m back in Winston-Salem.

**What’s your favorite Wake Forest memory?**

While Saturday games at BB&T (now Truist) Field with my Tri Delta sisters and late nights in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library are hard to beat, my favorite Wake Forest memory is marrying my husband, Adam (’10), in Reynolda Gardens in 2018. Wake Forest brought us together and remains very special to us. We even named our rescue black lab Benson!

For more information on WAKEAtlanta and other WAKECommunities, visit wakecommunities.wfu.edu.
party included Eric Friedman (’13, MD ’17), Kevin Goldsmith (’13), Howard Graves (’13), Aaron Green (’13), Alec Yale (’13, MSA ’14), Shannon Montock (MD ’17) and Ethan Miller (MD ’17).

Kyle Lindsey Campbell (’14) and Charlie Sommers, 8/20/22 in Vail, CO. They live in Washington, DC. The wedding party included Katie Drummonds (’13), Jess Argenti (’14) and Will Campbell (’17). The bride is the daughter of Webb Campbell (’81) and the granddaughter of the late Will D. Campbell (’48, LHD ’84).

Annie Johnson (’14) and Matthew A.C. Williams (’14, MSM ’15), 12/31/22 in Chicago, where they live. The wedding party included Charlie Wigdale (’14) and Andrew Wood (’14, MSA ’15).

Samantha Boures (’16) and Jack Haberl (’16), 11/5/22 in New Vernon, NJ. They live in New York. The wedding party included Sarah Barbina (’16), Megan Donnan (’16), Joseph Motola (’16, MSA ’17), Michael Shaner (’16), Caroline Smith (’16), Brendan Wood (’16) and Lauren Boures (’19).

Devin C. McIlvan (’16) and Carolina A. Saca (’16, MBA ’23), 10/29/22 in Alpharetta, GA. They live in Denver. The wedding party included Sam Frost (’16, MSA ’17), Caroline Keenan (’16), Colleen Keenan (’16), Tanvi Kumar (’16), Max Lemmens (’16), Robert McLellan (’16), Angela Gallagher Schwartz (16), Allison Siragusa (16) and Adam Yudelman (’16).

Joseph G. Parrish (’17) and Caroline M. Boyce (’20, MSA ’21), 12/30/22 in Raleigh. They live in Chapel Hill, NC. The wedding party included Cate Glendenning Parrish (MS ’17) and Melat Mesfin (’20).

Lucas Prillaman (MSA ’17) and Morgan Kremaz, 6/11/22 in Charleston, SC. They live in Charlotte. The wedding party included Alec Yale (’13, MSA ’14).

Kahla T. Seymour (’17, MSBA ’20) and Gavin C. Sheets (’18), 12/17/22 in Sterling, VA. They live in Baltimore. The wedding party included Lindsay Preston (’17, MSM ’19), Monreau Stewart (’17), Keegan Maronpot (’18), Donnie Sellers (’18) and Madison Hammond (’19).

Blake Robert Kurtzman (’18) and Maya Elizabeth Menon (’18), 8/14/22 in Seattle, where they live. The wedding party included Morgan Beatty (’18), Joshua Berger (’18, MSA ’19), Luke Colley (’18), Matthew Kanter (’18) and Madison Moseley (’18).

Maggie Elizabeth Lancaster (’20, MSM ’21) and Zach Martinez, 10/1/22 in Lexington, NC. They live in Washington, DC. The wedding party included Ashton Rizzi (’19, JD ’22) and Paige Flederbach (’20). The bride is the granddaughter of James E. Snyder (67, JD ’70).

Courtney McKay Carlock (’21) and Robert “Spencer” Giglio (’21, MD ’25), 2/4/23 in Winston-Salem. They live in Charlotte. The wedding party included Anna Jones (’21), Katie Lawrence (’21), Erin Major (’21), John Norris (’21), Ann Romance (’21), Mark Sucoloski (’22) and Caroline Fahrbier (’23).

Ashley Julienne Williams (JD ’22) and Winston Robert Kimmel, 8/27/22 in Raleigh, where they live. The mother of the groom is Susan Crockett Batson Kimmel (’81).

### Births

W. Taylor Campbell III (’00, MSA ’01) and Elizabeth Martin Campbell, Winston-Salem: a daughter, London Isabella. 9/18/21. She joined her half sister, Davis Lauren (17), and half brother, Will (14).

Allison Bates Smith (’00) and Stephen Buford Smith Jr., Washington, DC: a son, Henry Blackwood. 9/23/22. He joined his brother, Stephen (2).

Tripp Mickel (’03) and Amanda Bell, San Francisco: a son, Henry Barnes Mickie. 12/10/22

David Thomas Bruno (’07, MSA ’08) and Kryptal Loewe Bruno, Boulder, CO: a son, Jackson Loewe. 1/17/23

Joy Elizabeth Meeder Crook (’08) and Brian Crook, Towson, MD: a daughter, Madeleine Louise. 10/29/2022

Caitlin Berry (’09) and Kyle Walden, Arlington, VA: a daughter, Rosemarie Lane Walden. 12/15/22

Abigail “Abi” Kamens Engel (’09) and Robert Engel (’09), Lexington, MA: a daughter, Eloise Britton. 7/14/22. She joined her brother, Graham (6), and her sisters, Blake (4) and Avery Rose (2).

Katharine Williams Farrell (’09, MSA ’15) and Sean Patrick Farrell (’12), Atlanta: a son, Nolan Patrick. 10/15/22

TJ Groner (’09, MSA ’10, MBA ’15) and Christine Nader Groner (’11), Charlotte: a son, Thomas Alexander. 11/14/22. He joined his sisters, Caroline (4) and Emma (2).

Meredith Lane Younger Hayes (’10) and Matthew Armstrong Hayes (’11), Carrboro, NC: a daughter, Eloise Lane. 11/23/22. She joined her brother, Alvin (3).

Alexandra Dalgliesh Pardue (’10) and Joshua Carter Pardue (’10), Williamsburg, VA: a daughter, Dowden Alexandra. 2/3/22. She joined her brother, Carter (3).


Hannah Greenough Linke (’11) and Lance Linke, Ipswich, MA: a son, Rolf. 10/31/22. He joined his brother, Baerht (2).

Anna Marie Carr-Reinhard (’12, MA ’22) and Robert Reinhard (’12), Winston-Salem: a daughter, Mary Rudelle Reinhard. 12/28/22. She joined her sister, Ada Kathryn (2).

Stuart Tucker (’12) and Hilary Burns Tucker (’14), Cohasset, MA: a daughter, Evelyn Ann. 5/27/22

Christopher “Corey” Pegram (’13) and Kathryn Norcross Pegram (’14), Winston-Salem: a son, Henry Adam. 11/18/22. He joined his sister, Nora (2).

Rachael Duane Schmid (’13) and Michael John Schmid, Winston-Salem: a son, Ezra Wayne. 1/24/23. He joined his brother, Jonathan Donald (1).

Cecile Vocelle Shidler (’13, MA ’15) and Nathan Wayne Shidler, Winston-Salem: a son, Ezra Wayne. 1/24/23. He joined his twin sisters, Margot (2) and Callie (2).

Wes Hardy (JD ’17) and Rachel Raimondi (JD ’17), New York: a daughter, Fiona Vittoria Eloise Raimhart. 10/9/22. She joined her brother, Finnegan (2).

### Deaths

Roger Hawley Crook (’42), Dec. 2, 2022, Raleigh. He was a religion professor for nearly 40 years at Meredith College and established the college’s study abroad program. He was 101.

Altha Smith Satterwhite (’45), Nov. 13, 2022, Portland, OR. She was a medical missionary in Japan for 21 years and a nurse in Florida. She was preceded in death by her husband, James P. Satterwhite (MD ’46).

Holcomb McClain “Mac” Stroup Jr. (’48, Nov. 6, 2022, Fayetteville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force at Hickam Field in Hawaii during World War II. He retired from First Citizens Bank as the senior vice president of commercial loans. He was preceded in death by his father, Holcomb McClain Stroup Sr. (1921).

Charles W. Dobson (’49), Jan. 11, 2023, Ashe-ville, NC. He was a pilot in the U.S. Naval Air Corps in World War II. He retired as a lieutenant colonel from the U.S. Army Dental Corps and was a dentist in Asheville and Flat Rock, NC. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

D. Parker Morton (’49), Feb. 15, 2023, Durham, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and worked for Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina.

Elwyn Judson “Jud” Trueblood Jr. (’49), Jan. 14, 2023, Hockessin, DE. He served in the U.S. Army. He retired as a senior financial adviser after 39 years at DuPont. He continued working in the personal trust income tax department at JPMorgan Chase & Co. for 17 years.
Bill Bullard (‘50), Nov. 19, 2022, Laurinburg, NC. He played football at Wake Forest in the 1946 Gator Bowl and served in the U.S. Army. He operated Bullard Furniture Co. in Laurinburg. Survivors include son Dan Bullard (‘90, JD ‘93).

Frederick Happel Billups (‘51), Dec. 31, 2022, Springfield, VA. He was coordinator of counseling services at Northern Virginia Community College.

Charles Edmund Cimerro (‘51), Nov. 19, 2022, Raleigh. He served in the U.S. Navy.

Josephine Snyder Caldwell (‘52), Jan. 31, 2023, Charlotte. She was supervisor of the chemistry department at several medical schools, including Wake Forest School of Medicine.

Richard K. “Dickie” Davis (‘52), Dec. 16, 2022, Wake Forest, NC. He played football at Wake Forest and was named All-Southern Conference as a quarterback in 1950 and as a safety in 1951. He was inducted into the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame in 2003. He retired from Superior Stone.

Walter Raleigh Parker Jr. (‘52), Feb. 8, 2023, Rocky Mount, NC. He devoted his life to education.

Mabel Vendrick Baird (‘53), Nov. 27, 2022, Madison, NC. She was a retired science teacher. Survivors include her husband, Lloyd Baird (‘51).

Breck Richardson (‘53), Dec. 24, 2022, Asheboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy. He was a top salesman for Dixie Container Corp. for 35 years before creating two businesses, B&H Panel Co. and Atlantic Packaging, with his nephew.

Ruth Marshall Thomas (‘53), Feb. 28, 2023, Albany, GA. She was preceded in death by her sister, Sue Marshall Smith (‘46).

James Harold Homesley (‘54), Jan. 15, 2023, Seven Lakes, NC. He served in the U.S. Army. He retired from AT&T as district marketing manager in Atlanta and operated a real estate agency in St. Simons Island, GA, with his wife.

Mary Nell Reed Mason (‘54), Dec. 8, 2022, Winston-Salem. She was a kindergarten teacher.

John Richard “JR” Ball (‘55), Feb. 28, 2023, Cedar Point, NC. He was a leader in social work education and taught at Duke University medical school and East Carolina University and helped found the North Carolina mental health department.

Ida Brinkley Blumberg (‘55), Dec. 20, 2022, Cupertino, CA. She worked in medical technology and was a nurse.

Barbara Beals Boggs (‘55, MAEd ’77), Nov. 5, 2022, Henrico, VA. She was a public schools guidance counselor who worked alongside her late husband in his ministry and was education director at Hunton Baptist Church in Glen Allen, VA. Survivors include sons Robert L. Boggs Jr. (‘81), William B. Boggs (‘87) and Bennett G. Boggs (‘87).

Phyllis Wall Edwards (‘55), Feb. 4, 2023, Indianapolis. She was a teacher at May Whitney Elementary School in Lake Zurich, IL.

Donald M. Farrow (‘55), March 5, 2023, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army in Germany and in the Army Reserve. He was pastor of Waughtown Baptist Church in Winston-Salem for 17 years. He was preceded in death by his wife, Louise Cash Farrow (‘57).

Frances “Fran” Harrington Johnson (‘55), Jan. 15, 2023, Henrico, VA. She taught preschool for 25 years at Epiphany Lutheran Nursery School. She was preceded in death by her husband, Phil Johnson (‘55).

James LeRoy King Jr. (‘55, MD ’58), Dec. 28, 2022, Raleigh. He co-founded and practiced for more than 25 years at Wake Anesthesiology Associates. He also founded Dickens Destinations, a learning-travel business that took adventurous travelers on international trips. He served two terms as board chair for Friends of Residents in Long Term Care, a nonprofit that advocates for improved long-term care services in North Carolina. Survivors include daughter Sara King Chappelow (‘83).

William “Harry” Swicord ('55), Feb. 26, 2023, Statesboro, GA. He played basketball at Wake Forest and was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. He was president of Trust Company Bank in Savannah, GA, and president and vice chair of the board of SunTrust Bank of Savannah. He served on the board of Memorial Medical Hospital in Savannah for more than 20 years as treasurer and chair.

Kenneth Thomas Ward ('55), Aug. 7, 2022, Richmond, VA.

James Bennett Andrews Sr. ('56), Dec. 30, 2022, Kill Devil Hills, NC. He served in the U.S. Army in Germany and was an insurance adjuster in Virginia Beach, VA, and Fort Lauderdale, FL. Survivors include his wife, Margaret “Maggie” Averitt Andrews ('58).

Joseph Eugene “Gene” Rogers ('56), Dec. 11, 2022, Sanford, NC. He was a Korean War veteran and an accountant for more than 40 years.

Edward Jackson “Jack” Jennings ('57), Jan. 20, 2023, Austin, TX. He served in the U.S. Army patrolling the border between East and West Germany. He worked for 30 years in commercial real estate and property management and owned the Davis Mountain Running and Fitness Camp in West Texas.

John Walter Midkiff ('57), Feb. 19, 2023, Norfolk, VA. He played basketball at Wake Forest. He was a principal and headmaster.

James “Jimmy” Colonel Todd ('57), Jan. 27, 2023, Dillon, SC. He was in Kappa Sigma fraternity at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve for more than 25 years and was owner of Todd Equipment Company International Harvester in Bennettsville, SC.

Nancy Kathryn Waddell Burgiss ('58), Feb. 8, 2023, Laurel Springs, NC. She was a middle and high school English teacher. She was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

Lawrence C. “Pat” Davis Jr. ('58), Jan. 28, 2023, Spartanburg, SC. He was executive vice president of ABCO Industries for more than 20 years before forming his own company, Global Resources. Survivors include his fiancée, Gail Downer Rogers ('58).

Gilbert Franklin Fleming ('58), Nov. 28, 2022, Belews Creek, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a staff sergeant during the Korean War. He was a retired division chair at Guilford Technical Community College in Jamestown, NC.

Jack “Swede” Frauson ('58), Dec. 18, 2022, Garner, NC. He played basketball at Wake Forest. He helped establish more than 25 parks and recreation departments in North Carolina and received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina’s highest civic honor. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

Janice Wayne Caldwell Pitts ('58), Nov. 25, 2022, Newton, NC. She was a high school teacher in Catawba County (NC). She was preceded in death by her father, Lawrence McClure Caldwell ('55), Jan. 23, 2023, Fairfax, VA. She was a computer programmer and systems analyst. She was preceded in death by her sister, Courtney Isenhour Ward ('55).

Frederica “Freddie” Isenhour Brinson ('59), Jan. 23, 2023, Fairfax, VA. She was a computer programmer and systems analyst. She was preceded in death by her sister, Courtney Isenhour Ward ('55).

Joseph Lawrence Lynch ('59), Feb. 9, 2023, Fort Mill, SC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.


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Joseph Lawrence Lynch ('59), Feb. 9, 2023, Fort Mill, SC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.
Yates King Wilkinson Jr. (’59), Feb. 22, 2023, King, NC. He was a Baptist pastor for 40 years at churches in North Carolina and Virginia.


Robert “Bob” David Brown (’60), Nov. 22, 2022, Winchester, VA. He played baseball at Wake Forest and was signed by the Baltimore Orioles. He was owner and president of Bauserman Oil Co. in Winchester. He coached youth baseball for more than 45 years and was inducted into several sports halls of fame. Survivors include daughter Shannon Brown (’89).

Sarah Gay Harrell (’60), Jan. 4, 2023, Wilmington, NC. She worked for New Hanover County for more than 20 years.

Roy Linwood Hughes Jr. (’60, MA ‘67), Dec. 20, 2022, Seattle. He served in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He taught and conducted research in marine sciences and oceanography. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

Paul Jacobs Jr. (’60), Dec. 7, 2022, Ormond Beach, FL. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam. He was director for training research labs at Hawaiian Tropic sun care for nearly 30 years.

Robert “Kason” Keiger (JD ’60), Dec. 14, 2022, Lake Norman, NC. He was a Forsyth County (NC) District Court judge for 20 years. A courtroom in the Forsyth County Hall of Justice is named for him. He was preceded in death by his second wife, Ann Williams Keiger (’79). Survivors include stepdaughter DD Thornton Kenny (’81).

Clifton “Ray” McLaurin (’60), Feb. 25, 2023, Fayetteville, NC. He was a member of Sigma Pi fraternity at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was inducted into the Fayetteville Area Shaggers’ Hall of Fame.

Robert C. Medford (’60), Jan. 10, 2023, Williamsburg, VA. He served in the U.S. Army. He was a chemical engineer with a top-secret security clearance who traveled the world, conducting audits of aerospace equipment with the National Aerospace and Defense Contractors Accreditation Program.

Richard George Rogers (’60), Feb. 16, 2023, Winston-Salem. He played baseball in college and in the minor leagues before beginning his career at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. He was a high school and college football official for 40 years.

Charles Wood Chatham Sr. (’61), Jan. 27, 2023, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army at Fort Benning, GA. He was a founding officer of Forsyth National Bank, an officer of Southern National Bank and BB&T and a stockbroker at Morgan Stanley. He was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia Grimsley Chatham (’65).


Elga Delight Loftin Langdon (’61), Feb. 7, 2023, Troutman, NC. She was on the Magnolia Court at Wake Forest and was a high school teacher. Survivors include her husband, Glenn Langdon (’61).

Kenneth Conrad McKaughn (’61), Nov. 25, 2022, Winston-Salem. He owned Air Cooled Engines Inc. and Office Furniture Warehouse in Winston-Salem.

Danny Mitchell Wall (’61), Sept. 24, 2021, Wilmington, NC. He served in the U.S. Army as a communication center specialist and systems analyst and worked in information technology.

Wilmer Sanders’ dedication to Wake Forest students stretched back 60 years — as a professor for 31 years and as a donor for three decades who has helped more than 125 students study German abroad.

His legacy lives on in the W.D. Sanders Scholarship for Study Abroad, which he established in 1989. The scholarship will continue to help four to six students study each year in Germany or Austria.

“I had no children so I thought I should at least send one student to Europe, and it turned out it bloomed into more than 100. My students were always something special,” he said last year.

Sanders, who retired in 1992, was one of the last professors who started teaching on the original campus. He died March 9, 2023, in Winston-Salem, two months before his 101st birthday.

A native of Lyon Station, Pennsylvania, Sanders was a machinist apprentice at a steel mill when he was drafted into the U.S. Army. He served overseas in World War II as a radio and telegraph operator in an anti-tank communications unit. He was also called on as an interpreter when his company encountered German-speaking civilians in its march through Alsace-Lorraine, France, into Germany and finally into Austria. Growing up in the Pennsylvania German area, he had taken two years of German in high school.

In the closing days of the war, he heard about the GI Bill of Rights, which provided a range of benefits to veterans, including tuition assistance to attend college. “Up to that point, I had no idea what I was going to do with my life,” he said. “On the spur of the moment, I said, ‘I’m going to college. I’m going to be a German professor.’”

After returning to the United States in 1946, he used the GI Bill to graduate from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He earned his master’s degree and Ph.D. in German from Indiana University. Sanders joined the Wake Forest faculty on the original campus in 1954 to fill in for a couple of years for another professor. He taught German and French at Salem College from 1957 to 1963 before returning to Wake Forest in 1964.

Some former recipients of Sanders’ scholarship made gifts to the scholarship in honor of his 100th birthday in May 2022. Students receiving the scholarship today were born long after he retired. “I wanted somehow to leave some mark of my presence behind,” he said last year. “I always liked to help people. I could not have found a better place than Wake Forest. I’ve been extremely, extremely lucky.”

Professor Emeritus of German

Wilmer D. Sanders

CLASS NOTES

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Jo Anne Bradley Wallace ('61), Jan. 15, 2023, Wadesboro, NC. She was a teacher in Anson County (NC). She was preceded in death by her husband, Hugh Emmette Wallace ('60).

Kay E. Weston ('61), Jan. 8, 2023, Seminole, FL. She was a teacher.


Charles E. Scott ('62), Dec. 10, 2022, Yadkinville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army as a specialist in accounting. He was a certified public accountant and ran his own firm.

Jack Griffin Tesh ('62, MAEd '74), Dec. 29, 2022, McLeansville, NC. He played football at Wake Forest and was a teacher and coach for more than 40 years. Survivors include his wife, Mary Jane Sturdivant Tesh ('62). He was preceded in death by his father, Jack Vermont Tesh ('41).

David Allred ('63, MA '77), Dec. 21, 2022, King, NC. He was a Southern Baptist minister and a marriage and family counselor. After the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in 2001, he volunteered at the Pentagon as a mental health counselor. He was preceded in death by his father, Thurman Wheeler Allred ('54).

William “Bill” Grady Ijames Jr. ('63, JD '68), Feb. 17, 2023, Mocksville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was a lawyer and District Court judge.

Stephen L. Mahovlich Sr. ('63), Dec. 12, 2022, Eden, NC. He played football at Wake Forest. He served in the North Carolina National Guard and worked at Bank of America for 28 years.

George Willard Slagle ('63), Feb. 9, 2023, Edinburg, TX. He worked with his son at Slagle-Sosa Construction Co.

Diana Gilliland Wright ('63), April 1, 2022, Washington, DC. She was a member of the 1963 College Bowl team at Wake Forest that won two rounds at “The G.E. College Bowl” in New York, broadcast by CBS. She earned a Ph.D. in Byzantine history.

J. HOWELL SMITH Retired Professor of History

More than a few alumni counted Howell Smith— with his engaging teaching style, an accessible, kind demeanor, a ready smile and an easy laugh — as one of their favorite professors.

Smith, who taught U.S. history at Wake Forest for 47 years, from 1965 to 2012, died Jan. 11, 2023, in Asheville, North Carolina. He was 86. Survivors include his wife, Jeanette, his son, Hilton Smith ('84), and his daughter, Susan “Smitty” Dotson-Smith (JD '91). His family created the J. Howell Smith Family History Department Fund several years ago.

Numerous former students posted comments on Facebook following his death. “Dr. Smith was a fantastic professor, mentor and friend,” wrote Jenny Parker Motley ('78, MAEd '79). “He had a tremendous impact on my life and on the lives of countless students.” Roshan Varghese ('02), a high school history teacher, wrote that Smith’s classes “spearheaded me into being the professional I am today ... and each semester, as I teach Sept. 11, I share with my students being with Dr. Smith on that morning, and how his eloquence found words in those moments where we could not.”

Smith grew up on his family farm in Farmersville, Texas, and attended a two-room schoolhouse. He graduated from Baylor University and received his master’s degree from Tulane University. He earned a Ph.D. in 20th-century American history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison through a Rockefeller Foundation program that subsidized the graduate studies of students who agreed to teach in the South for several years.

After joining the Wake Forest faculty in 1965, Smith taught U.S. history and other memorable courses, including The Last Decade of Optimism and Wealth in America: Millionaires, Manna and Morality. As a mentor to student organizers, he championed symposia on the war in Vietnam, social change and other contentious topics in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

In 1969, he initiated and, for 20 years, taught the University’s first course in African American history. With English professor Tom Gossett, he started January-term African American study trips to Harlem in New York and to Washington, D.C. Late in his career, Smith taught a class on the integration of Winston-Salem and collaborated with students and faculty at Winston-Salem State University to record oral histories of people who helped integrate the city.

As history department chair from 1987 to 1995, Smith shepherded the department’s growth from one focused on American and Southern history to one with a more global and inclusive perspective in its course offerings and faculty. He was also the pre-law adviser for many years. He received the Kulynych Family Omicron Delta Kappa Award for contributions to student life in 1989 and the Donald O. Schoonmaker Faculty Award for Community Service in 1997.

Smith retired from full-time teaching in 2007 but continued to teach part time until 2012. He once said he hoped students remembered their obligation to help others. “Many of them already have seats reserved for them on the other side of the door of opportunity. What Wake Forest can do is help them know and understand how to leverage that power for their own benefit and the common good. We want them to be proud of what they have done with the power they hold 20 years out.”
antique history in her 50s and taught courses in Greek mythology at The New School for Social Research and the University of Washington.

**William “Bill” Charles Arney (MA ’64), Feb. 6, 2023, Newton, NC.** He was a research chemist for Union Carbide Corp. and Dow Chemical Co. for more than 30 years.

**Robert “Bob” L. Harris Sr. (JD ’64), March 2, 2023, Williamsburg, VA.** He served in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps. He was a circuit court judge in Richmond, VA, and a mediator at the McCammon Group.

**Jack Grady Monday (JD ’64), Nov. 24, 2022, Martinsville, VA.** He and his late wife, Frances Helms Monday (JD ’65), practiced law together for almost four decades.

**Jerry Frank Thompson (’64), Dec. 23, 2022, Star, NC.** He was a high school English teacher for 35 years at East Montgomery High School in Bescoe, NC., and Hoke County (NC) High School and was named Teacher of the Year at both schools.

**Nancy Jane Boles Brady (’65), Dec. 28, 2022, Pinnacle, NC.** She was a high school chemistry and physics teacher for 30 years.

**Larry Eugene Harris (JD ’65), Dec. 5, 2022, Concord, NC.** He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and practiced law in Cabarrus County (NC) for 51 years.

**Bert Jack “BJ” Klein Jr. (MS ’65), Dec. 25, 2022, Hendersonville, NC.** He was a research physicist at the Brevard (NC) DuPont Research and Development Station. Survivors include his wife, Linda Morrow Klein (’65).


**Robert Clark Dillon (’66), Dec. 9, 2022, Lexington, NC.** He served in the U.S. Air Force in intelligence. He was a trust officer at the McCammon Group.

**Curtis Cameron “Cam” Lane Jr. (’66), Dec. 30, 2022, Lewisville, NC.** He was a retired sergeant in the Winston-Salem Police Department.

**Robert “Bob” Samuel Matheny (’66), Dec. 3, 2022, Zebulon, NC.** He played football at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. He was mayor of Zebulon for 28 years and played for the Montreal Alouettes in the Canadian Football League. After his playing career was cut short by injury, he was an assistant coach at Wake Forest under Chuck Mills and at several other schools. He was inducted into the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame in 1994. He had a long career as a financial adviser for institutional investments. Survivors include daughter Summer Headley (’05).

**Stephanie C. Beuttell (’67), March 10, 2023, Winston-Salem.** He served in the U.S. Navy for 25 years and retired as chief of medicine at the naval hospital in Portsmouth, VA. He was later medical director of the veterans outpatient clinic in Winston-Salem. Survivors include daughter Ashley Beuttell Macko (’97).

**John Suggs Cromlish (’67), Jan. 31, 2023, Belmont, NC.** He was secretary/treasurer at his family business, School Resources Inc.

**Wade “Leon” Davis (JD ’67), Dec. 19, 2022, Lancaster, SC.** He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and served in the U.S. Navy in the West Pacific in the early 1960s. He practiced law in Charlotte.

**Richard Gordon (’67, JD ’70), Dec. 3, 2022, Matthews, NC.** He was a judge advocate general in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was a partner at the Dozier Miller Law Group in Charlotte and assistant U.S. attorney in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina.

**James H. Logan (’67), Dec. 28, 2022, Pittsburgh.** He practiced law in Pittsburgh with his wife, Kathleen. Survivors include his stepgrandson, Liam McGinley, a rising junior at Wake Forest.

**James Patrick “Pat” McGinn (’67), Dec. 31, 2022, Debray, FL.** He served in the U.S. Army and was stationed at the White House Communications Agency in Washington, DC. He was a teacher and principal in Florida.

**William “Bill” Kalick Templeton (MA ’69), Jan. 8, 2023, Saline, MI.** He taught at Siena Heights University for more than 40 years.

**Dean McGinley’, a rising junior at Wake Forest.**

**Dusty Alexander Blackwood (’69), Jan. 27, 2022, Greensboro, NC.** He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was a real estate appraiser.


**William “Bill” Kalick Templeton (MA ’69), Jan. 8, 2023, Stockton, CA.** He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and served in the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserve and practiced law in Salisbury for 50 years and was corporate counsel for Ryan’s Family Restaurants of Greer, SC.

**Marcus “Marc” Lee Craver (’72), Feb. 28, 2023, Lexington, NC.** He worked for Tyco Electronics for more than 40 years.

**Sue Ketner Gelarden (MAEd ’73), Feb. 28, 2023, Kannapolis, NC.** She was a certified rehabilitation counselor.

**Awilda Gilliam Neal (’73), March 6, 2023, Winston-Salem.** She was one of the first African American women to move into the women’s dormitories at Wake Forest in 1969-70. She and four other women were honored in 2020 for their strength, resolve and legacy at a commemoration celebrating the 50th anniversary of African American women integrating the dorms. Neal taught in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools for four decades. Survivors include her husband, Robert Neal (’72). He was preceded in death by son Clifford Neal (’02).

**Kitty-Lynn Chandler Holt (’72), March 6, 2023, Murfreesboro, TN.** She earned a master’s degree in clinical psychology from UNC Charlotte and was a clinical psychologist. Survivors include her husband, Phil Holt (’72).

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**Winthrop “Win” Sargent Headley (’71, MA ’75), Jan. 18, 2023, Naples, FL.** He was an All-American and All-ACC defensive tackle at Wake Forest and the most valuable player on the 1970 ACC Championship team. He was the co-recipient of the Arnold Palmer Award in 1971 as the University’s top male athlete. He was drafted by the Green Bay Packers and played for the Montreal Alouettes in the Canadian Football League. After his playing career was cut short by injury, he was an assistant coach at Wake Forest under Chuck Mills and at several other schools. He was inducted into the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame in 1994. He had a long career as a financial adviser for institutional investments. Survivors include daughter Summer Headley (’05).

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**Mildred “Mickie” Coble Tisdale (’66), Nov. 15, 2022, Winston-Salem.** She worked at Wake Forest Baptist Hospital for 30 years and was one of the first female executives in information technology.

**Mary Catherine Cox Weight (’66), Feb. 26, 2023, Murray, UT.** She was an internal computer auditor at The University of Utah, where she worked for more than 25 years.
Southern Illinois University. He retired from Dai-ichi Sankyo pharmacy company as a senior medical science liaison.

George Alexander Kaneklides (JD ‘76), Jan. 23, 2023, Coats, NC. He was chief justice in Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity at Wake Forest. He was an attorney who served under North Carolina Governors James Holshouser (P ’85) and James G. Martin (LLD ’87, P ’95). He was the author of “The Making of a Governor” about his time with Holshouser. He was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina’s highest civic honor, by Holshouser.

Cynthia “Cindy” Kellis Holt (’77), Feb. 27, 2023, Greensboro, NC. She was a teacher at Lausanne Montessori School in Memphis, TN.

Roberta FitzHugh Michal (MAEd ’77), Dec. 26, 2022, Winston-Salem. She was a learning disabilities specialist and school psychologist and an administrator at the Center for Special Education in the Orton Reading Center at Salem College. She helped found and was on the board of directors of the Greenhills School in Winston-Salem for students with dyslexia.

Theodore “Ted” Franklin Cummings III (JD ’78), Jan. 12, 2023, Hickory, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was a criminal defense lawyer.

Anne Carole Bucher (’81), March 9, 2023, Palatine, IL. She was a food science researcher and packaging designer with Kraft Foods, where she was credited with 12 packaging patents. She researched and produced a book, “The Greatest Thing Since Sliced Cheese,” about Kraft’s history of innovations. Bucher, who had multiple sclerosis, was an advocate for Kraft’s employees with disabilities.

Todd Goodling (’81), Jan. 24, 2023, Seven Valleys, PA. He was a founding principal of AUM Architecture and coach of the boys’ volleyball team at Central York (PA) High School.

Stephen Winston Lucas (’81), Feb. 10, 2023, Charlotte. He was a minister for 15 years before starting his own consulting company, Transitions-in-Balance.

Lynne Hicks (JD ’82), Nov. 28, 2022, Mocksville, NC. She practiced law and organized Davie County’s first Veterans Day ceremony. She received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina’s highest civic honor.

Louise Anderson (MAEd ’83), Feb. 20, 2023, Advance, NC. She was a retired teacher with Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools.

David Phillip Gibbon (’83), Jan. 22, 2023, Melbourne, FL. He was a member of Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity at Wake Forest. He served in the Civil Air Patrol and retired from BK Technologies.

David Blair Ramsey (’83), Dec. 11, 2022, Wolf Laurel, NC. He was president of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity at Wake Forest. He was a former Baptist minister and the author of a best-selling

BILLY PACKER (’62)

Billy Packer (’62) helped lead Wake Forest to its only appearance in the Final Four in 1962 and later became the voice of the Wake Forest Coach Horace “Bones” McKinney. Packer and All-American Len Chappell (’62) led Wake Forest to back-to-back ACC championships and NCAA tournament appearances in 1961 and ’62. Packer was named to the ACC All-Tournament Team in 1961 and ’62 and was a two-time All-ACC selection. After reaching the Elite Eight in 1961, Wake Forest advanced to the Final Four the next year. Wake Forest lost to Ohio State in the national semifinals but defeated UCLA in the consolation game for third place behind 22 points from Packer.

After graduating with a degree in economics, Packer was an assistant coach at Wake Forest from 1966 to 1970 and helped recruit Charlie Davis (’71, MALS ’97, P ’96), who was the first Black student to be named ACC Player of the Year in 1971.

Packer began his career in broadcasting in 1972 when he filled in as color analyst for a regionally televised ACC game. He broadcast ACC games in the 1970s and ’80s, paired with play-by-play announcer Jim Thacker and occasionally with Bones McKinney, during the golden age of ACC basketball. Packer joined NBC in 1974 and called his first Final Four in 1975. After CBS gained the rights to the NCAA Tournament in 1981, Packer made the move, too, and was the network’s lead college basketball analyst through the 2008 Final Four. He received a Sports Emmy for Outstanding Sports Personality, Studio and Sports Analyst in 1993 and was inducted into the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame in 2008.

Sean McManus, the chair of CBS Sports, said Packer was “synonymous with college basketball for more than three decades and set the standard of excellence as the voice of the NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament.”

John Kendrick Burns Jr. (JD '84), Jan. 12, 2023, Winston-Salem, NC. He was editor of the Jackson-ville (NC) Daily News and was honored by the North Carolina Press Association for his editorial writing. After going to law school, he practiced in Winston-Salem for 35 years and won a case before the North Carolina Supreme Court. He was preceded in death by his father, John Kendrick Burns (JD ’36).

Pamela Howard Lutin (JD ‘84), Jan. 4, 2023, Lincolnton, NC. She is survived by her daughter, Anne Lutin (’08).

William “Bill” S. Weiss (JD ’85), Dec. 17, 2022, Mount Vernon, ME. He served the commonwealth of Massachusetts for 40 years, including 20 years as the first assistant clerk magistrate in the Worcester housing court.

Ellen Bailey Gordon (JD ’87), Feb. 26, 2023, Winston-Salem. After practicing law, she earned a master’s in library science from UNC Greensboro and was a librarian at the Downtown School and the Main Street Academy in Winston-Salem.

Thomas Ian Blackwelder (’88), March 3, 2023, Ludowici, GA. He was a master technician with Mercedes-Benz for 20 years.

Katherine Potak Zehfuss (’89), May 8, 2022, Denver. She was working on a Federal Emergency Management Agency project to restore areas on Saipan in the Northern Marianas Islands damaged in a typhoon. She also worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation.

Kevin Edward Brown (’92), Dec. 13, 2022, Pinnacle, NC. He was a farmer and coach.

Gabrielle Lee Ponzi Rowe (’96), Jan. 20, 2023, Durham, NC. She earned a master’s in education from Princeton Theological Seminary. Survivors include her husband, Kevin Rowe (’96).

Edward Avery Wyatt (JD ’03), Nov. 24, 2022, Raleigh. He was editor-in-chief of the Wake Forest Law Review. He practiced law at firms in Atlanta, Raleigh and Washington, DC, before being a stay-at-home dad and opening his own firm in Raleigh specializing in corporate law. He established the Edward Avery Wyatt Family Scholarship at the Wake Forest School of Law.

Brendan J. Quinn (’04), April 1, 2022, Boston. He was a principal scientist at Dyne Therapeutics.

Amanda J. Pickard (PhD ’14), Jan. 24, 2023, Lancaster, PA. She was a senior research scientist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She was vice president and board member for the Spinal CSF (cerebrospinal fluid) Leak Foundation.

Logan Foster Willis (MDiv ’22), Nov. 4, 2022, Winston-Salem. He was an intelligence officer in the U.S. Navy before attending the Wake Forest divinity school.

Friends, Faculty, Staff, Students

Marjorie Ann Singleton Bass, Nov. 11, 2022, Statesville, NC. She was a secretary in the Wake Forest School of Law.

Evelyn Whittenton Bingham, Feb. 13, 2023, Winston-Salem. She established a tennis scholarship at Wake Forest in memory of her husband, William Louis Bingham (’44, MD ’46), and was a member of the Legacy Society. She was recognized as a Dedicated Deacon for more than 50 years of giving to the Deacon Club. Survivors include daughter Anne Philpott (’69, MA ’75, P ’99, ’02, ’05) and son Arthur Bingham (’77, P ’10).

James Thomas Broyhill, Feb. 18, 2023, Winston-Salem. He was a past member of the Wake Forest Board of Trustees and the Babcock Graduate School of Management Board of Visitors and a life member of the Wake Forest Baptist Health Board of Visitors. After beginning his career in his family’s company, Broyhill Furniture Industries, he represented North Carolina for 23 years in the U.S. House and briefly in the U.S. Senate. He later served as North Carolina commerce secretary. Survivors include his wife of 71 years, Louise Robbins Broyhill, a Life Trustee at Wake Forest; son J. Edgar Broyhill (’76, MBA ’78) and daughter Marilyn Broyhill Beach; six grandchildren, including grandson Penn Broyhill (JD ’13) and granddaughter Ashley Beach Brooks (’10, MBA ’14); and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Philip Robbins Broyhill (’78).

Gene Thomas Capps, Jan. 3, 2023, Winston-Salem. He was executive director of the Wake Forest College Birthplace in Wake Forest, NC, from 2001 to 2005. Previously, he was vice president of interpretation at Old Salem Museums and Gardens, where he worked for nearly 30 years.

Herbert Czermak, Dec. 28, 2022, Vienna. He was a specialist in 20th-century European history and taught history and literature at Wake Forest’s Flow House in Vienna for 20 years.

Sandra Griggs, Jan. 15, 2023, Clemmons, NC. She worked in the Wake Forest admissions office for 17 years.

Jon Timothy “Tim” Heames, Feb. 16, 2023, Rome, GA. He was professor of management strategy and a founding faculty member of the Babcock Graduate School of Management, now Wake Forest School of Business. After leaving Wake Forest, he created and directed the MBA executive program at Samford University and taught at the University of Mississippi. He retired from West Virginia University in 2016. Survivors include daughter Melissa Weresch (’89).

Thomas Lester Johnson, March 1, 2023, Pilot Mountain, NC. He was a retired maintenance supervisor at Wake Forest.

Dillon Johnston, Dec. 22, 2022, St. Louis. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard. He was professor of English at Wake Forest from 1973 until retiring in 2003. In 1975, he founded Wake Forest University Press, the leading publisher of Irish poetry in the United States. Johnston and his wife, Guinn Batten (’75, MA ’76, MBA ’86), brought many Irish poets to Wake Forest and to their mountain hideaway in Virginia, nicknamed the “shack.” In 2015, WFU Press published a tribute book to Johnston, “The Shack: Irish Poets in the Foothills and Mountains of the Blue Ridge.” He also taught at Washington University and wrote books and essays on Irish literature.

Michael L. Manning, Feb. 3, 2023, Winston-Salem. He was a retired custodian at Wake Forest.

Betty Ray McCain (LHD ’99), Nov. 23, 2022, Wilson, NC. She worked to preserve North Carolina culture and history as secretary of cultural resources under the administration of Gov. Jim Hunt (LLD ’82, P ’88, ’90) in the 1990s. As secretary, she opened the North Carolina Museum of History’s new building, expanded the North Carolina Museum of Art and refurbished state historic sites. She was president of Democratic Women of North Carolina and the first woman to chair the state Democratic Party. She was inducted into the North Carolina Women’s Hall of Fame and received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the highest civic honor in North Carolina. Survivors include daughter Eloise McCain Hassell (JD ’83).

Linda Holyfield Mecum, Dec. 8, 2022, Dobson, NC. She was the administrative assistant in the Department of Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Wake Forest for 11 years.

Mary Wylane Myers Parsons, Feb. 23, 2023, Winston-Salem. She was a secretary in the football office at Wake Forest for 33 years.

Dave Pollard, March 1, 2023, Durham, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve and was in banking. Pollard and his wife, Rhonda, and his brother and sister-in-law, Larry (JD ’74) and Brenda Pollard, and other family members gave to Wake Forest the homeplace of their grandfather, Wake Forest Trustee Egbert L. Davis (LLB 1904), at Reynolda and Polo roads in Winston-Salem. Their gift of the surrounding Sunnynoll property helped fund scholarships for undergraduates, law students and divinity students. In addition to his wife, survivors include daughter Joy Pollard Halsey (’98). He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

Judy Carolyn Adams Byrd Simmons, Feb. 26, 2023, Boonville, NC. She was a library specialist in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library at Wake Forest for 42 years.
I arrived on campus in August of 1970 knowing nothing at all about Wake Forest except that it was where Arnold Palmer ('51, LL.D. '70) had gone to college. I was not without a plan, however: I would major in journalism and play on the golf team. But after discovering that the school had no journalism major, and that I was woefully inadequate as a golfer, I didn't quite know what to do with myself. In my campus wanderings, I happened across the old theatre, a homemade facility occupying the top two floors of the library. On a whim, I tried out for a play — Tom Stoppard's existential classic "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead." I played a nameless Soldier who had four short lines of conversation with the character Hamlet.

Three years and 15 consecutive theatre productions later, I played the other side of that same conversation. Harold Tedford (P '83, '85, '90), for whom the main stage in the Scales Fine Arts Center was later named, not only directed that production of "Hamlet," he also played Claudius, the murderous usurper of the throne, and for years afterward we laughed at how much fun we'd had in our scenes together. He always mock-chided me for taking too much enjoyment in killing him in the final act.

Dr. T was family to me, as was our other director and acting teacher, the eternally kind Donald Wolfe, and Caroline Sandlin Fullerton, who taught us all not to talk like we had marbles in our mouths, and Marie Bagby (P '74, '77, '83), the patient and ever-supportive administrative assistant who kept everything running smoothly. We students couldn't help but return, show after show, so benevolent and protective was the atmosphere created by those four remarkable people.

But I also had a second home, a second family, in the English department, where it was my tremendous good fortune to enroll in two of the famed poetry classes of Ed Wilson ('43, P '91, '93) and two more taught by Elizabeth Phillips, plus the essay and short story courses offered by Bynum Shaw ('48, P '75). The encouragement they gave me ultimately defined my path going forward.

After Wake, I spent a few years in New York City, acting and giving poetry readings in coffee houses and church basements around Greenwich Village. As my droll father once noted, “It’s OK if he doesn’t make it as an actor; he always has poetry to fall back on.” But even with two careers I couldn't make ends meet — acting paid $45 a week, and the standard for poetry readings was 10% of the gate, which was usually about $3. I supplemented my income working as the bouncer at the Metropolitan Opera.

Eventually I came back to Wake to get my M.A. in English, and during that time I was lucky enough to become friends with the great poet and fellow Wake Forest grad A.R. Ammons ('49, D.Litt. '72), who had returned to teach for a year. Archie was a great supporter of my writing, as was the wonderful and gifted Emily Herring Wilson (MA '62, P '91, '93), co-founder of Jackpine Press, and those two became the mentors responsible for my first book of poems.

I didn't quit acting right away — my final play at Wake was another Tom Stoppard gem, "Jumpers" — the first production directed by the brilliant James Dodding, who, like all the other Wake Forest giants I learned from, would himself go on to become something of an institution at the school.

Those English and theatre professors — along with others too numerous to mention here — taught me everything I know about teaching and about writing. But more importantly, they set a standard about how to behave in the world. Their generous and forgiving spirits became, for me, the essence of Wake Forest, and if, from time to time, I have done anything right over the past half century, all credit goes to them.

Clint McCown ('74, MA '78) teaches in the MFA program at Virginia Commonwealth University. He has published 12 books, and his stories, essays and poems have appeared in more than 75 national journals and magazines. The Tennessee native is a two-time winner of the American Fiction Prize for his short stories. In 2021 he was inducted into the Wake Forest Writers Hall of Fame.

A poet, actor, bouncer, teacher reflects on his start at Wake Forest

By Clint McCown ('74, MA '78)
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Extraordinary talking points

The @wake_debate tweet said it all: “History Has Been Made! Wake Debate wins the Triple Crown. ...”

The triumphant news on April 12 noted how Wake Debate wrapped its season by winning the 2023 Cross Examination Debate Association National Championship, “the first time in history that a debate program has won all 3 national championships in the same season!!”

That victory came as the University’s top two teams of juniors Iyana Trotman and Tajaih Robinson along with seniors Ana Bittner and Ari Davidson were the last two teams standing, winning first and second place.

Earlier in the month Wake Debate won the national championship in intercollegiate debating at the 2023 National Debate Tournament. The “Triple Crown” — all three national policy debate tournaments — also includes Wake Forest’s win in early March at the American Debate Association National Championship.

Jarrod Atchison (’01, MA ’03), the John Kevin Medica Director of Debate, said Wake Forest “is the first institution in the history of intercollegiate debate” to win those three college national championships.

Wake Forest’s win at the National Debate Tournament, widely regarded as the most prestigious championship in college debate, was the University’s third time. The first victory was in 1997 and the second was in 2008.

“To win a national debate tournament requires a lot of time and commitment and weekends of being away from campus,” Robinson said after the National Debate Tournament victory. “I’m still in shock and cannot believe it! I am super excited to have won.”

Trotman is the youngest Black student to ever win the National Debate Tournament. She’s also the third Black woman in history and the sixth woman ever to win the NDT Championship.

“As I debated, the only thing I could think of was making history and setting a path for little Black girls to follow after me,” she said.

In March, Bittner and Davidson went undefeated, did not lose a single ballot and won the 2023 American Debate Association National Championship.

“Extraordinary talking points

Wake Forest’s top two debate teams, from left, juniors Tajaih Robinson and Iyana Trotman and seniors Ana Bittner and Ari Davidson.