

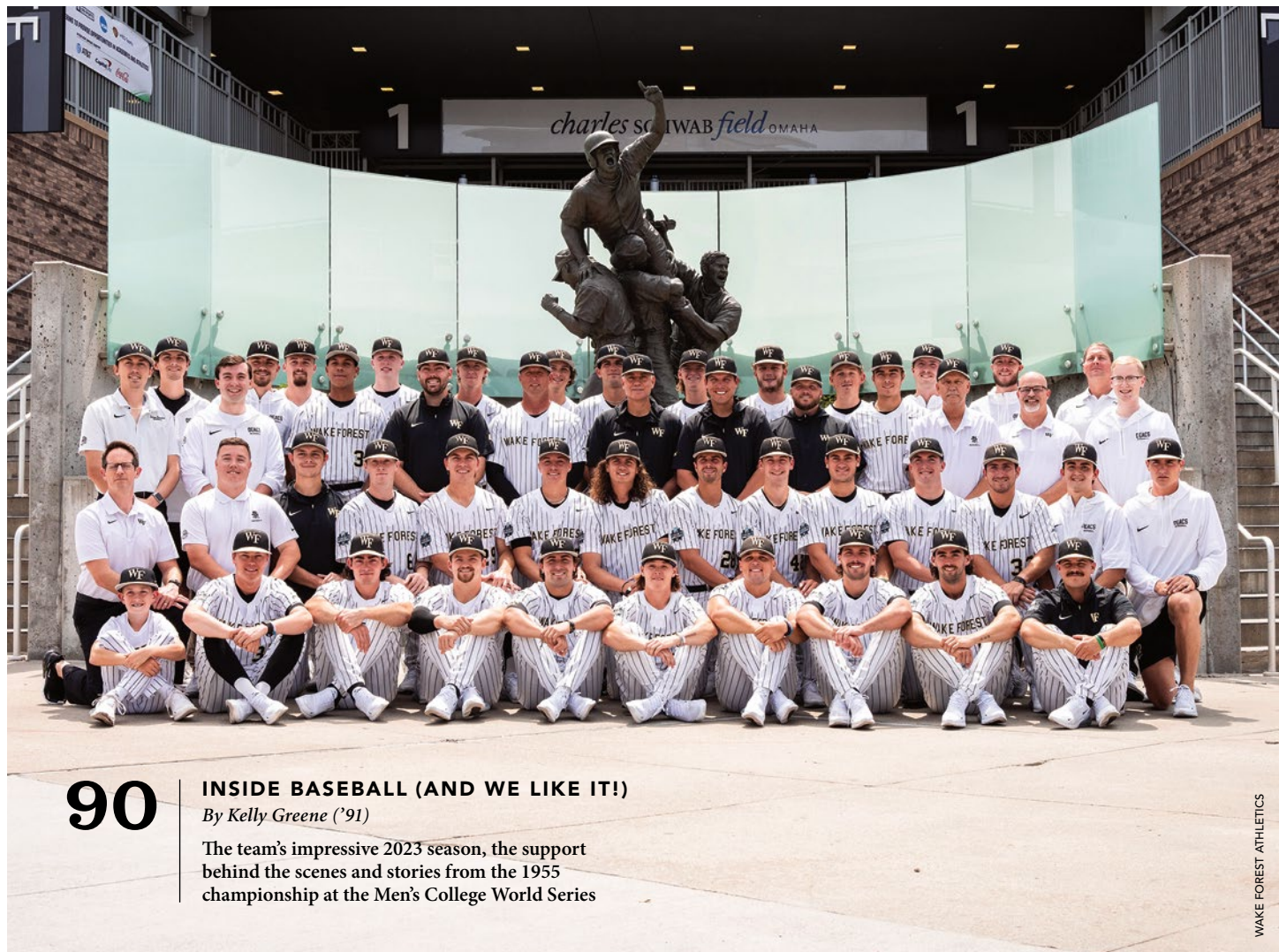
FOOD FOR PRO HUMANITATE | DECIPHERING A HOLOCAUST STORY | HOW A TEACHER OF THE YEAR GOT STARTED

# WAKEFOREST

MAGAZINE

FALL 2023

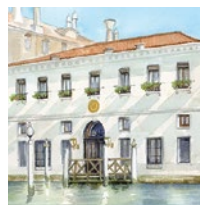




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# WAKEFOREST

MAGAZINE

2019 ROBERT SIBLEY  
MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR

FALL 2023 | VOLUME 71 | NUMBER 1

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**The Lane Press, Inc.**

Wake Forest University Magazine (ISSN 0279-3946) is published three times a year in the Spring, Summer and Fall by Wake Forest University, P.O. Box 7227, Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7227. It is sent to alumni, donors and friends of the University. The magazine is part of University Advancement, led by Senior Vice President Mark A. Petersen.

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Wake Forest Magazine Alumni Records  
P.O. Box 7227  
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**Class years:** Alumni have years of graduation in parentheses. A "P" indicates a parent of a graduate.

## ON THE COVER

Illustration by Eglė Plytnikaitė

## FROM *The* PRESIDENT

IN HIS PLAY, "AS YOU LIKE IT," William Shakespeare wrote:

"All the world's a stage,  
And all the men and women merely players.  
They have their exits and their entrances,  
And one man in his time plays many parts, ..."

After visiting Casa Artom in Venice in May, I find that this famous quote feels especially fitting. All the world is indeed a stage for Wake Foresters: to learn, to teach, to experience new cultures and to carry our motto, Pro Humanitate, to the far corners of the globe where their academic studies and personal interests take them.

Setting this stage for learning are our incredible international houses, including Casa Artom, which you will read more about in this issue. During



my visit to Venice, I met alumni representing 50 years of transformational experiences that unfolded under Casa Artom's roof and along the canals of the city. When our students explore the world beyond Wake Forest, they discover new interests and passions, which are then nurtured and stretched under the caring guidance of our dedicated faculty. Whether you traveled abroad during your time at Wake Forest or not, I know you will enjoy learning more about Casa Artom and its rich history.

Encouraging our students to expand their horizons through global education is just one of many hallmarks that make Wake Forest distinctive in the higher education landscape today. Another distinction represented in these pages are the incredible people who make Wake Forest so special: from alumni like James Brim ('87) and Kimberly Jones ('05, MAEd '06) enlivening and embodying Pro Humanitate in their career paths to cherished colleagues like Hof Milam ('76, MBA '91, P '00, '04) and Reid Morgan ('75, JD '79, P '14, '19), who dedicated their professional lives to making Wake Forest an even better place for past and future generations.

No matter the time, the place or the part, there is much to celebrate in our Wake Forest community. Please enjoy this season's issue!

Warmly,  
Susan R. Wenthe, Ph.D.



WE'LL  
ALWAYS  
HAVE



# VENICE

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ILLUSTRATIONS  
BY LITTLE  
FRIENDS OF  
PRINTMAKING

---



CASA ARTOM

50  
YEARS

1971 • 2021



A

**AS IF ON JUBILANT PILGRIMAGE,** Wake Foresters across generations made their way back to Venice this year to a house they once called home. Casa Artom, a magnificent 19th-century, two-story building facing the Grand Canal, was having a birthday, belated because of a pandemic but worth the wait for a glittering anniversary.

The celebration marked 50 years of Casa Artom's place in University history. In 1971, Wake Forest acquired what was once the American consulate and opened its doors for the University's first overseas residence for students to have a study-abroad semester in Europe. It was a game-changer.





If you speak with alumni who studied at Casa Artom, you will hear without hesitation how the experience transformed them. They saw the world differently. They gained confidence. They immersed themselves into the rhythms of local life, down winding lanes, past the street cats sunning themselves on ledges or snoozing atop stacks in a famous bookstore. Above all, you hear alumni speak of the mentorship of professors, the constant sense of discovery and the breathtaking beauty of the art and architecture that enriched every moment of their study abroad.

For decades, world-renowned scholar and professor Terisio Pignatti (D.F.A. '76) taught our students art history at Casa Artom. This resident of Venice knew his subject, having written more than 60 books on art, most about Venice. (Wake Forest eventually named him Reynolds Professor of Art History.)

In 1963, long before his association with Wake Forest, he wrote a

catalog's introduction for a traveling exhibition from Venice to the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. In it he extolled the work of artists who depicted Venice in the 1700s, the subject of the exhibition:

"Perhaps (Venice's) image has been preserved because so much of the city's past still remains close to us; gondolas and canals, crowded fondamenta with lazy boys in the sun, and the Piazza San Marco ... with processions of foreigners, and the boats bobbing along the Riva degli Schiavoni."

He wrote as vice director of the Correr Museum in Venice, and while he was referring to artists, his message holds true for pilgrims like our Wake Foresters today. The familiar sights evoked memories that correspond to "an inner image" created by those long-ago artists' portraits of Venice, he wrote, "a time beloved and dreamed about like a youthful fancy."

Pignatti died in 2004, having imparted his lessons to our students and many more from other universities. Upon his death he was lauded for his "sustained infinite love of beauty" and his "indelible trust in the values of the universality of spirit."

With this issue we toast Casa Artom and the guides like Pignatti who helped students and visiting faculty feel welcome in Venice. We hope you will enjoy the following collection of reminiscences and celebratory odes to Wake Forest's home in a city that leaves anyone who visits with a lasting "inner image" of elegant surroundings, a time beloved and an appreciation for the universality of spirit.

— Maria Henson ('82), editor of *Wake Forest Magazine*



A WRITER REMEMBERS

# CASA ARTOM, JIM BAREFIELD AND 'THE FINE LINE BETWEEN MISHAP AND ADVENTURE'

IN VENICE ♦ By Steve Duin ('76, MA '79)

Those were the best days in the lives of Tancredi and Angelica. ... When they were old and uselessly wise, their thoughts would go back to those days with insistent regret ... .

— Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa, "The Leopard"

Those semesters in Venice? They were the best days in *our* lives. We were young, foolish and blissfully unaware, but we had Jim Barefield in the house.

I don't know that the program, or many of us, would have survived without Wake Forest's storied history professor. When Barefield first took the plunge in the spring of 1973, the study-abroad experience was, like so much of Venice, unmoored, unkempt, unstable.

"A lot of the instability in '73 was me," Barefield concedes. He launched the History of Venice course when there was not yet a reliable history-of-Venice textbook, forcing him to explore and excavate the city every weekend to remain a half-step ahead of his 22 students. Casa Artom was so cold and damp that students

**Opposite page, clockwise from top left:** Casa Artom, circa 1977; Provost Emeritus Ed Wilson ('43, P '91, '93) in Venice in 1997; and Professor Emeritus of History Jim Barefield, who has taken more student groups to Venice than any other professor



once fed the fireplace with wood stolen from the Accademia Bridge, setting the mantel ablaze. And because the budget was as threadbare as the living-room furniture, Barefield was forced to assemble the students' daily buffet — a curious feature of the program at the time — on \$80 a week.

"At the end of that semester," Barefield says, "I weighed 128 pounds."

He rallied. He tightened his belt. He was inventive, resilient and self-effacing, and he came to understand that he and *La Serenissima* were a perfect match: Its history was a comedy of errors, and he had graduate degrees in comedic timing and the comic view. When then-Provost Ed Wilson ('43, P '91, '93) needed an emergency replacement to teach in the fall of 1975, Barefield not only volunteered, but accepted 28 students, still the most in the program's 50-year history.

"I think 19 of them became lawyers," Barefield recalls. "They were somewhat litigious."

He was a deft judge of character. As amused by his own quirks as he was by ours, he never held court. Barefield insists he had only two rules — "No one from outside the house inside without permission, and no drugs" — but there was always timely counsel. Intervisitation was still a divisive issue on campus that fall, and we wanted to write a letter to Old Gold & Black, gloating over how happily men and women were cohabiting on the Grand Canal. "For God's sake," Barefield said, "keep your mouths shut."



# Venice 1977



Fall 1977 Venice group with Professors Lowell Tillett (P '76, '78) and Anne Tillett (P '76, '78), standing second and third from right

He knew how much help we needed when it came to living together. He schooled us regularly on the temperament of our hosts and blue-collar neighbors: "The Italians put up with things that a lot of people won't ... because they do things that a lot of people don't." He arranged class schedules so we might dodge train strikes on our way to Nice or Neuschwanstein. He not only introduced us to Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa, but put the novelist's best work to glorious use: In nightly competition with the house jocks, Barefield set copies of "The Leopard" on a table in the palatial downstairs hallway, then sent them cartwheeling with Frisbee flings from the ends of the hall.

All the while, Barefield was solidifying the relationships that allowed Wake Forest to finalize its purchase of the former U.S. Consulate and set its roots deeper into the mud of the lagoon. In the beginning, the University's only real link to the city was Bianca Artom, the Wake Forest Italian professor who regularly

returned to Venice, where she grew up, to keep the program afloat. Bianca's nieces, Dora Sullam Levis and Anna Vera Sullam Calimani, were the house manager and Italian instructor, respectively, and Bianca served as grievance counselor to the long-suffering housekeepers, Luciana and Marisa. Barefield was a master of subtle diplomacy. He helped cement our connection to the Dorsoduro merchants, bartenders and gianduiotto architects. Despite his wretched Italian, he charmed many of the locals, no one more influential than Terisio Pignatti (D.F.A. '76), who later became Reynolds Professor of Art History at Wake Forest.

Pignatti, the director of the Correr Museum in Piazza San Marco, was an eminent art historian who had authored dozens of books on Venetian artists such as Giorgione, Tintoretto and Titian. He could be gruff and imperial in his lectures on Renaissance art, but Barefield gained his confidence and his friendship. "Venice was his parish," Barefield says. "He could do anything he wanted in Venice," and

"BAREFIELD IS  
ONE OF THE  
PEOPLE WHO  
TRULY SHAPED MY  
UNDERSTANDING  
OF THE WORLD."

—Doug Abrams ('76, JD '79, P '05, '19)



that included the power to open so many doors for Wake Forest in the city. I mean that quite literally. In early December, we told Pignatti how much we'd appreciate one more morning with the glorious 15th-century paintings of Vittore Carpaccio's Saint Ursula Cycle, which had been locked behind closed doors at the Gallerie dell'Accademia for weeks. Pignatti called the gallery director that afternoon and arranged the reunion.

Education had an intimacy and immediacy in Venice that I rarely found at Tribble Hall, and Barefield took full advantage. He required that we immerse ourselves in the maze of the city and its cavernous churches, sordid ambitions and colorful historians. "I was trying to rub your nose in Venice," he says. "If you're there, you might as well find out about the



town. And it's a complicated thing to find out."

To stay sharp, he was forever taking notes, the rough draft of a blueprint he generously passed on to the professors who would follow him to Italy. "Barefield taught us how to teach Venice," says Tom Phillips ('74, MA '78, P '06), who took leave from the admissions office in 1991 and 1997 to do so. "Venice appealed to his sense of irony. He saw it as a great lens to see how history works, how it permeates who we are and predicts our possible selves and futures."

Those lessons endured. Trains often stop in the middle of nowhere. Laughter is just as essential as kindness. As St. Lawrence discovered, Barefield reminded us, sainthood sometimes requires that you end up "grilled, rather like a cheese sandwich."

"Barefield is one of the people who truly shaped my understanding of the world," says Doug Abrams ('76, JD '79, P '05, '19), one of the future lawyers in the house in the fall of '75. "He put his stamp on all of us, and I think it mattered to him to shape us. He took pride in it."



Illustration by Barbara Williams Humpton ('83)  
**1.** Paul Diodati ('83) **2.** Cynthia "Cindy" Ennis Mitchell ('81) **3.** Beverly Church Blissit ('82)  
**4.** Doug Blissit ('81) **5.** Barbara Williams Humpton ('83) **6.** Bob Clark ('82) **7.** Edward Allen ('82)  
**8.** Tom Pike ('81) **9.** Mike Pontari ('82)  
**10.** Theodora M. Drozdowski ('83) **11.** Robert Jenkins ('81) **12.** William "Bill" Davis ('83)  
**13.** Margaret Ford Gregory ('81) **14.** Joseph Davis ('80) **15.** Robin Conte Isaf ('82) **16.** John Spotts ('82) **17.** David Davis ('81) **18.** Beverly Perry Dillon ('80) **19.** Mary Moorman Holmes ('80)  
**20.** Virginia "Ginnie" Harvin Pitler ('82, P '11)  
**21.** Donna Snipes Schoettmer ('81, P '12)  
**22.** Kimberly Brewer ('81) **23.** Anne Barnes ('81)  
**24.** Jim Barefield





His pride generally translated into affection. Even when Lucie Wall scaled the roof and followed a tree branch over the thin canal that separated Casa Artom from the Peggy Guggenheim Museum, Barefield remained calm and, ultimately, forgiving. Maybe he sensed that Lucie Wall-Stylianopoulos ('76) would continue that climb into a career as a Byzantine archaeologist. "What I've done with my life all started with him," she says. "He was always there and supportive, yet he allowed me the independence to really explore Venice until I felt like it was my home and I could make of it what I wanted to."

Or perhaps Barefield simply knew we needed to puzzle out certain things on our own. So much could go wrong. So much did; the history of Venice was proof of that. While we negotiated the fine line between accident and adventure, Barefield was caustic about our bids at bridge and spades, and far more gentle with our near catastrophes.

Small wonder we all remained close when we returned to Winston-Salem, where Barefield, in another glorious fanfare for an uncommon man, spent the next 10 years living, for \$95 a month, in the Manor House at Graylyn. He would eventually return to Venice four more times. When he took over as program director in 1986, Barefield persuaded Wilson to invest another \$50,000 annually into its mysterious budget. "That's what I ran Venice on from 1986 to 1995," he says. "I thought it was very nice of the administration not to question me much about it."

And very wise. Barefield had a unique grasp of both Venice and the college students who came to visit. My only regret is that we're not together there now, Frisbee in hand, "The Leopard" ducking for cover.

*Steve Duin ('76, MA '79) studied at Casa Artom in the fall of 1975. He is the author of eight books and a long-time newspaper columnist at The Oregonian in Portland.*

## fall 1980



700



CASA ARTOM





# CASA ARTOM AT A GLANCE

In 1971, Wake Forest leased an 1828 palazzo, a former U.S. Consulate, at Dorsoduro 699 on the Grand Canal in Venice, with help from then-U.S. Ambassador to Italy **Graham Martin ('32, LL.D. '69, P '84)**.



◆◆◆  
Then-Assistant Professor of Classical Languages **John "Andy" Andronica (P '89, '92)** took the first eight students — six from Wake Forest, none of whom had been abroad before, plus a student from Salem College and one from Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri — to the "Venice House" in the fall of 1971.



◆◆◆  
The U.S. House and Senate approved the sale of the consulate building to Wake Forest in 1974 for \$250,000. If the University ever decides to sell the house, it must offer it to the government first for the same amount, plus the cost of improvements.

◆◆◆  
The "Venice House" became Casa Artom to honor the late **Dr. Camillo Artom**, a prominent Italian biochemist and medical doctor. Italian colleagues called Artom the "fat chemist" because of his groundbreaking work on how the body processes fats.



**Camillo Artom**, who was Jewish, and his wife, **Bianca Artom**, had fled fascist Italy in the 1930s. He became chair of the medical school's one-man biochemistry department, retired in 1961 and, in 1969, received the University's first Medallion of Merit.



**Bianca Artom** was Casa Artom's summer director and taught Italian language and literature on the Reynolda Campus from 1975 until 1990. After her death in 1994, Wake Forest honored her as the founder of the Venice program.



**Peggy Guggenheim**, next-door neighbor and art collector, was the first person to sign the guest book at the dedication of Casa Artom on July 11, 1974.

"THERE HAD BEEN A HEAVY RAIN, BUT THE SUN WAS OUT, AND MY FIRST GLIMPSE OF THE DOGE'S PALACE AND OTHER NEARBY BUILDINGS, SPARKLING LIKE THE 'FAIRY CITY' THAT LORD BYRON DESCRIBED, PERSUADED US THAT WE HAD COME TO THE PLACE WHERE WAKE FOREST SHOULD HAVE A SECOND HOME."

—Then-Provost Edwin G. Wilson ('43, P '91, '93), Summer 1970  
 "The History of Wake Forest University, Volume 5, 1967-1983"

The original wood-carved University seal over the Grand Canal entrance came from **Peggy Guggenheim's** friend, **Countess Elsie Lee Gozzi**, a native of Fayetteville, North Carolina, who ran high-end Fortuny fabrics in Venice and was married to Italy's **Count Alvise Gozzi**.



The act of Congress authorizing the sale of the consulate building contains a provision that the University must provide office space to U.S. government employees from time to time, if requested. White House staff members used the building during presidential visits to Italy in the 1970s and 1980s.



“THE VENETIAN VENTURE HAS BROUGHT REACTIONS OF BOTH ENTHUSIASM AND SKEPTICISM. THOSE WHO HAVE PARTAKEN OF IT REJOICE IN ITS PERMANENCE. THE SKEPTICS DOUBT ITS PERMANENCE. TO THEM I CITE 12 CENTURIES OF VENETIAN SURVIVAL.”

— President James Ralph Scales, 1974



President James Ralph Scales and his wife, Betty, pack for Venice in 1974.

Thanks to the generosity of **Bianca Artom**, 253 Artom Scholars have studied in Venice. “Bianca’s Italian Table” is a cookbook with her handwritten recipes.



Seventy-one faculty members from 20 academic departments have been resident professors. Retired Professor of History **James Barefield**, who taught in Venice for six semesters, holds the record.



More than 2,000 alumni have studied at Casa Artom. More than 30 alumni met their spouses while studying there. Fourteen children of Casa Artom alumni followed in their parents’ footsteps to Casa Artom.

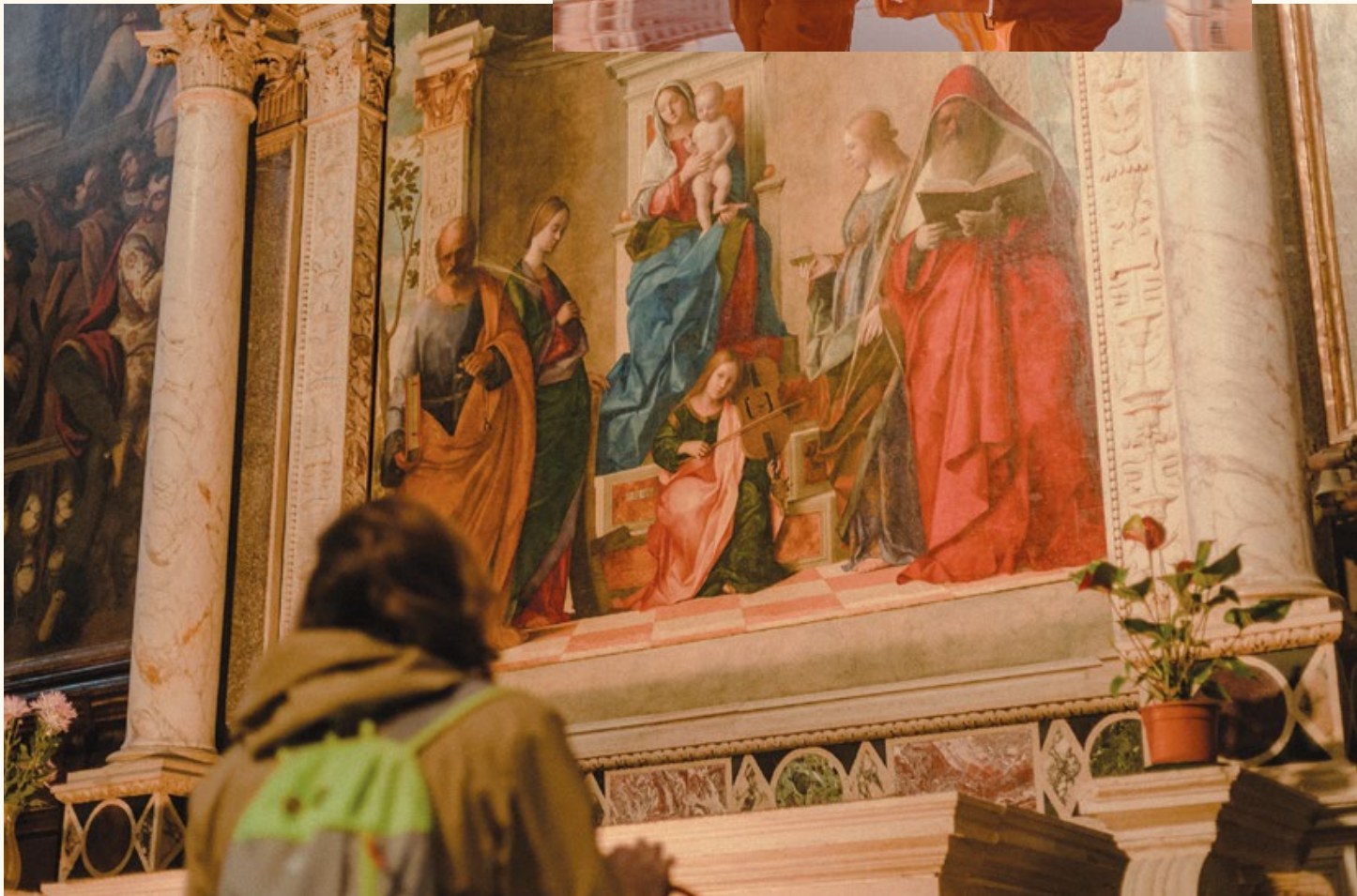


The man who helped Wake Forest find a home in Venice, **then-U.S. Ambassador Graham Martin**, had a daughter, **Nancy Martin Lane ('84)**, and granddaughters **Samantha Lane Englerth ('92)** and **Amanda Lane Long ('95)** who graduated from Wake Forest. Nancy Lane studied Italian with Bianca Artom as an undergraduate. Englerth studied at Casa Artom in fall 1991.

i Mamma mia! I could be here in  
million years. Volveré. Thank you,  
Jim Gregorio C. Martin 8/28/80

Many, many Thanks to Jim Barefield and  
the students at Casa Artom for their warm  
hospitality. Best wishes to all!  
Ed and Nancy Griffin

Thank you for the use  
of your school from  
9.25.76  
Tony Curtis for  
Casanova  
Venice  
[that's Tony Curtis, folks]





# THE PROFESSOR IS IN ... VENICE

When Wake Forest decided to start a study-abroad program in the early 1970s, then-President James Ralph Scales looked first to Italy to realize his vision of professors taking students abroad for a semester to live and study in a residence owned by Wake Forest. Scales was fond of quoting poet Robert Browning: “Open my heart and you will see/Graved inside of it ‘Italy.’” The following scholars and keepers of the Casa Artom spirit surely share his sentiment.



## JOHN “ANDY” ANDRONICA (P ’89, ’92)

PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

Casa Artom’s first resident professor fall 1971 through spring ’72, spring 1981 and fall 1992

Andronica had studied in Rome but had never been to Venice when he was tapped to take students to the new “Venice House” in the fall of 1971. His wife, Grace Andronica, who had spent time growing up in Rome and Naples, taught Italian. Their children, Matthew, 4, and Kristina, 2, went with them, and both later studied at Casa Artom.

We arrived, I think it was in July, and entered the palazzo on the long corridor entrance (now the library). Perched on a ladder — like Tiepolo or one of the great Venetian masters

doing a mural — was Signor Abis, the hold-over caretaker from the U.S. government, who was whitewashing a wall with a (small) brush. The problems of water absorption were very serious and created all sorts of damage. The walls were constantly peeling. Signor Abis knew what he was doing. It just took him a long time to do it.

He was quite a character. That first year, when we came back from Christmas holidays, the door (to Casa Artom) was bolted from the inside. We had no way of accessing the building. We had to wake Signor Abis, who lived around

the corner. He had locked the place and bolted it shut from the inside. He had to get a ladder, scale the wall and let us in.

We had barely gotten settled when a young lady and two men with the local government arrived. The U.S. government had failed to pay taxes (on the building), and they were going to confiscate everything that was



movable. I got in touch with President Scales, and he said, "Don't do a thing. We have a contact in the embassy in Rome, and we'll contact him. In the meantime, don't let them take any furniture." (The issue was resolved, and Casa Artom kept its furniture.)

Peggy Guggenheim reported us to the local government for having an oil-burning furnace. Little did she know, the furnace rarely worked. We may have gotten two or three weeks out of it the whole year. We had a fireplace in the main reception room upstairs which was constantly burning. Wood is very difficult to come by in Venice. The students would go to the vegetable and fruit markets at the end of the day and ask for the wooden (produce) crates. They'd bring them back, break them up and put them in the fire. We (also) used the gas oven in the kitchen. We shouldn't have done that, but I can't tell you how many times we slept in the kitchen.

The administration didn't know exactly what was involved, and they can be forgiven for not knowing that. ... Unless I had (already committed to) the second semester, I would've packed up and left because the challenges were many. But once we settled in, it was a wonderful opportunity for faculty and students to learn together.



## PETER KAIROFF

PROFESSOR OF MUSIC

Casa Artom program director, 1996–2021, and resident professor spring 1995, fall 1999, fall 2013 and fall 2021

Kairoff first visited Venice in 1981 when he was studying in Florence on a Fulbright Scholarship. He and his wife, now-retired Professor of English Claudia Kairoff, taught at Worrell House in London in 2018 and helped start Flow House in Vienna.

You look at old paintings and then look out the window (in Casa Artom) and realize that that view is the same one that Canaletto might have seen or painted in the 1700s, and Carpaccio a couple hundred years before that. It's thrilling

in a deeply moving way to be in a place where the vibrations of the past are still resonating even as modern-day life unfolds before you. ... You start to see, not the ghosts of the past, but echoes of the past.

There's a word, palimpsest, that refers to old manuscripts, often written by monks, in the Middle Ages. The parchments were precious, so if they needed to reuse one, they would scrape the words off one and write the new text. Sometimes the shadow of the early words shines through. I feel like Venice is a palimpsest

Andy Andronica, far right, his wife, Grace, next to the woman in the red vest, and their children, Kristina and Matthew, front, with students in spring 1972

sometimes. The modern “text” is right there. You see the shops and the tourists and all the boats going by. But if you look underneath it, you can see the shadow of all those other centuries of life.

The real preciousness of Casa Artom is that the students live there. They’re not visiting. It’s not a hotel; it’s their house. They are Venetians. ... Venice is more different than any other place. It’s transporting. It’s magical. You’re in this place where the 20th and even the 19th century seems to have never quite made it.



## ALESSANDRA BEASLEY VON BURG (P '14)

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION

Current Casa Artom program director and resident professor fall 2014 and spring 2023

Von Burg is a native of Northern Italy. Her husband, Associate Professor of Communication Ron Von Burg, taught a lifelong learning course at Casa Artom in summer 2023. Their son, Josh Beasley ('14), studied at Casa Artom in 2012.



Casa Artom is both a palace — a grand, beautiful, gorgeous palace on the Grand Canal with the Guggenheim Museum as our neighbor and the 15th-century Ca' Dario on the other side — and a home. For students, after a few weeks, it really feels like home, even if it is this grand place that makes you feel like you're living in a fairy tale.

Venice is a city of contradictions. It's beautiful, but the wonderful parts can also be the difficult parts. There is a peacefulness to Venice, in the water and the boats. But at the same time, it can be very challenging. Over time, the unique experiences become part of the charm, but at first it can be overwhelming.

This is a time (for students) to grow, to push themselves beyond what's comfortable. Students never come and leave as the same person. Being in another country challenges you in ways that you never thought possible. There's no such thing as reading a book or watching a movie and thinking you know a country. Venice is unique; there's no other city in the world like it.

— Faculty memories as told to Kerry M. King ('85) of *Wake Forest Magazine*

[More faculty memories at magazine.wfu.edu](https://magazine.wfu.edu)

**Top:** Peter Kairoff, front, and Claudia Kairoff, far right, with students in summer 2019

**Bottom:** Professors Ron Von Burg, right, and Alessandra Beasley Von Burg, in back beside him, reunite at the gala with students who studied in Venice in 2014: from left, front row, Emma Dolgos ('16) and Tee Urquhart ('16); back row, Hannah Duane ('16), Chelsea Bellomy ('16) and Samantha Larsen ('16).

# SAME PLACE, DIFFERENT TIME

CASA ARTOM CHANGED THESE STUDENTS WHEN THEY CALLED IT HOME. AS ALUMNI, THEY REFLECT ON HOW THEIR TIME AT THE HOUSE INFLUENCED THEIR CAREERS AND THEIR LIFELONG APPRECIATION FOR ART AND CULTURE. ♦ By Kerry M. King ('85)

## ♦ 1970s ♦

### MARK ROBERTSON ('78)

CHARLOTTE

**THEN:** Psychology major

Semester in Venice: Fall 1977 with then-Professor of Romance Languages Anne Smith Tillett (P '76, '78) and then-Professor of History Lowell Tillett (P '76, '78)

**NOW:** Adjunct professor, Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs, North Carolina; retired principal, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

Returned to Venice with his wife, Halina, for their 10th wedding anniversary in 1989

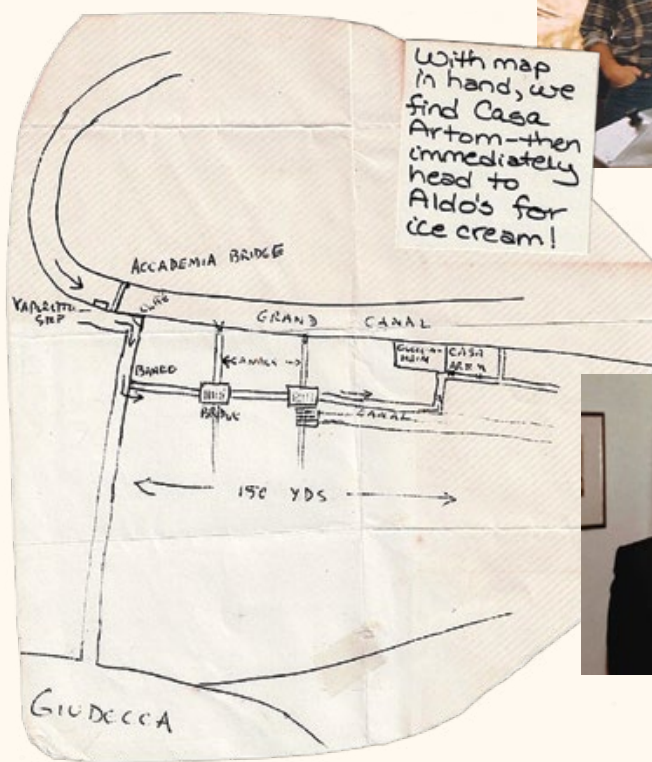
#### Why did you want to study in Venice?

I had originally wanted to go to Venice because my girlfriend at the time was going. Then she dropped out, but I decided to go anyway. I flew to Brussels and went to London and Paris, and then I took the train to Venice. I had instructions on how to get to the house, which were totally useless. It was foggy and rainy. I could hardly see because of the fog. One of my friends came out of the fog quite by accident, and we greeted each other and went to the house. I was not “traveled” at the time, ... and the whole trip to Venice was a real eye opener.

#### What is your favorite memory?

The Tilletts came down one night — all the men were on the bottom floor and the women on the top floor — and said they had been invited to a party for (University of) Warwick from Coventry, England, and would anyone like to go? One of my friends and I went to





the party, and it was a lot of fun. I met my wife (who was a student at the University of Warwick) there. The only problem was, I started on the wrong end of the bar, and by the time I worked myself around to her, she was pretty sure she didn't like me. She was in a pensione (apartment) by the Accademia (museum). She and I hit it off eventually and fell in love.

### What are some other memories?

Peggy Guggenheim was still alive, and she would walk her dogs. No one ever talked to her because we were afraid to. She'd teeter along back there with her little dogs.

I was a millionaire for the first time in my life, because it was 880 lira to the dollar. And I had just over a million lira when I first got there. I called home one time all semester because it was the biggest rigmarole you've ever seen. You had to go to this public phone and wait in line. (I remember) mailing those little light blue, Par Avion, fold-up letters.

I remember our record player in the kitchen. We had five albums, and I remember three of them: "Born to Run" was a necessity at the time, "The Best of the Allman Brothers Band" and Tom Waits' "The Heart of Saturday

Night," which is a real bluesy, sad, sad record. You could tell what people were feeling when they put on their record of choice.

We liked to go to Trattoria ai Cugnai (restaurant) for supper because it was the closest one, and I had no money. You could get a fixed-price meal for, I think it was 3,000 lira. So, for less than \$3 you could get a helping of spaghetti or just a bowl of soup for 1,000 lira at the most. I lost a lot of weight, but I lived much healthier.

I remember (art historian) Dr. (Terisio) Pignatti (D.F.A. '76) took us to the church where the Tintoretto paintings are. That was fantastic. Titian's "Assumption" (of the Virgin) was new to me. And I really enjoyed seeing art in context versus seeing art in museums.

### How did the experience change you?

I consider it one of the watershed moments of my life. It changed my perceptions of people and cultures. In a funny way, it informed my work with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools in low-income, predominantly African American and Latin American schools. The study of culture is different from studying "right" or "wrong." It's the way people do things. It's the way you interact with people. It's making contact with human beings whatever their ethnicity or their culture.

**Opposite page:** Mark and Halina Robertson in 2023

**This page:** top, Doug Scofield ('78), Ann Robinson Austin ('78), Judy Pazdan Lytle ('79, PA '82) and Mary Martin Kozlowski ('78, P '08); middle, Tom Hayes ('79) and Kate Cochrane Rush ('78); bottom, Professor Terisio Pignatti. Photos courtesy of Tom Hayes



# ♦ 1980s ♦

## DOUG SCHALLER ('89)

PHILADELPHIA

**THEN:** Art history major

Semester in Venice: Spring 1987 with then-Associate Professor of Classical Languages Robert Ulery

**NOW:** Works in business development for an architecture firm, MGA Partners; formerly a dealer in contemporary art

Returned to Venice on his honeymoon with his husband, David Barquist, in 2015 and has visited numerous times for the Biennale that focuses on contemporary art

### Do you recall your first impressions when you arrived in Venice?

Western Europe had a deep freeze, and Venice had a large snowfall. It was eerily calm and quiet. Venice in the '80s was a much less intense environment (than today). The cruise ships that came later really changed the tourist industry. Venice was always a playground for the wealthy, but it wasn't quite as ostentatious.

### What do you remember about living in Casa Artom?

I don't know how a professor would ever figure out how to get the right mix. Many of us were in an Italian class together. Rob (Ulery) knew how to choose, I think, gentle, really

lovely individuals. He's a soft, quiet person, and maybe that's why he picked who he did. I was so young in some ways and very unformed, not worldly. I had been to Europe (but not to Venice) in high school, and I was coming in with a strong interest in the arts and history. Our cohort had a very strong group of Reynolds and Carswell scholars. They were ambitious, and they were already in a scholarly sort of channel. I really appreciate that now in a way that I didn't think about at the time.

### Is there a moment or experience that especially stands out?

There's a great exhibition hall, Palazzo Grassi on the Grand Canal. The space (restoration) was designed by a woman named Gae Aulenti. She also did the Musée d'Orsay (in Paris) at roughly the same time. Both of those museums made such an impression on me professionally. There I am at 19, experiencing a rethought museum or exhibition space. That is critical for how my ideas about design for exhibitions (and) museum collections have always impacted me.



**What other experiences do you remember?**

A beloved outing that became a Sunday routine was a late afternoon visit to a church near St. Mark's, San Zaccaria, with one of Giovanni Bellini's great altarpieces.

Robert (Ulery) did something very wise. He planned a study trip to Rome and Naples during Carnevale to get us out of that craziness. We had an audience with the Pope. Chris Ryan's ('88) family were strong Catholics and had some kind of connection (through a friend to the Vatican that allowed the group to receive third-row seats). He (Pope John Paul II) prayed for Wake in English and Italian, maybe Polish.

**How did the semester impact your life?**

You're trying it on for size ... in terms of self-identity. Who are you? At 18, 19, 20, that's still in formation. What an amazing place to be when you start to really define that, to do it in

a city that is about art, architecture and history and to do it with students that are scholars and future scholars. What is the life of a scholar?

What is an academic, and is that for me? Is that where I would find myself? Venice really solidified a lot of that because it was intense; it was more in your face. It was all around you — work, study, sleeping, playing.

**What's it been like going back to Venice over the years?**

Arriving by train, each time I've done that, it feels like I am a student once again.





Top, Natalie Harvey and her mother, Pat Harvey, at Taverna San Trovaso; middle, Casa Artom at dawn; bottom, the Corner Pub near Casa Artom. Photos courtesy of Natalie Harvey

I GOT OFF AT THE ACCADEMIA BRIDGE VAPORETTO STOP AND THEN HAD TO WALK UP AND OVER A COUPLE OF TINY LITTLE CANALS, AND THEN YOU COME TO THE DOORWAY (OF CASA ARTOM). OPENING THE DOOR WAS JAW DROPPING. YOU COULD SEE STRAIGHT OUT TO THE CANAL.

# • 1990s •

## NATALIE HARVEY ('94)

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

**THEN:** Art history major

Semester in Venice: Fall 1992 with then-Professor of Classical Languages John Andronica (P '89, '92)

**NOW:** Director of cultural affairs, town of Hilton Head Island

### Why did you go to Casa Artom?

I had friends who had studied abroad and lived with families, but that didn't really appeal to me. I was interested in spending time with other Wake Forest students who I didn't necessarily know and having that dormitory experience, although the most beautiful dormitory on the planet. I was looking forward to spending time getting to know the city instead of being a tourist.

### What was it like arriving at Casa Artom for the first time?

I had traveled for a couple of weeks beforehand, and I had so much luggage. I remember the struggle of getting luggage on and off the vaporetto. I got off at the Accademia Bridge vaporetto stop and then had to walk up and over a couple of tiny little canals, and then you come to the doorway (of Casa Artom). Opening the door was jaw dropping. You could see straight out to the canal.

### What are some of your memories?

My favorite thing to do was just to take a walk: "I haven't been down this road," or "I haven't seen this side of town." You can't get too terribly lost. You're eventually going to find a sign that points you back to a place you recognize. One of the things that always made me laugh is you'd get to a corner, and it (sign) says "Piazza San Marco," and the arrows point both ways.



Natalie Harvey with Elizabeth Hammond Burch, who attended Wake Forest in the 1980s, wishes she could have studied at Casa Artom. She attended the gala with her husband, Bruce Burch, her son, Elias Burch, his wife, Tiffany Marie Morales Burch ('13), and Tiffany's father, Michael Mosal (P '13); Tiffany Burch studied at Casa Artom in the summer of 2012.

You're going to hear a lot about Thanksgiving from anybody that was there in the fall. Grace (Andronica) knew the drill on finding a turkey, but it was too big to fit in our little Casa Artom oven. So, she arranged to have it cooked at the bakery around the corner.

There wasn't a whole lot to watch (on television). But strangely enough, we had a DVD or a VHS tape of "Beauty and the Beast." I'm not kidding, we probably watched it two or three times a week, and we could sing all the songs and recite the entire movie.

Anytime I hear "Nightswimming" or "Man on the Moon" (by R.E.M.), I remember being in Venice with my friends, exploring the city, going out to the Santa Maria della Salute in the evening to watch the gondolas and boats go by.

Having the opportunity to study with Dr. (Terisio) Pignatti and then meeting some of the world-renowned experts in their fields and seeing behind the scenes at museums and galleries really cemented my art history major. We did an ancient civilizations course with Dr. Andronica. Even though it wasn't something that was up my alley, (because of) his passion for it and his enthusiasm, you couldn't help but enjoy it. Then, having the chance in Rome to see the places that we had learned about and discussed really stuck with me.

### How did the experience change you?

I had traveled quite a bit with my parents. The traveling part was not new to me, but spending time there getting to know how the museum world worked and being in a place that is so ancient and yet so preserved did influence me. That certainly influenced my future studies and perspective on historic places.

Alice Green Brown on the Grand Canal in fall 2001 and with her classmates



### What was it like being there during the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks?

There were Italian policemen at our door for a day or two. No one was sure if there were going to be other incidents around the world, and they wanted us to feel safe, which was really kind. Venetians were very sympathetic and supportive and flew their flags at half-staff. The next day, Dan Hammond gathered us to talk about everybody's feelings and fears and to pray for everyone who was affected. The Hammonds let us, and our parents, know that Wake had put together an evacuation plan if necessary. I think the whole experience made us bond more quickly as a group.

### What are some of your favorite memories?

We watched "Seinfeld" over and over. There was a box set at the house, and that was the only English program available. I feel like I could quote all the episodes by heart.

We saw some amazing art. I enjoyed it, but I'm sure my roommate, who was an art history major, enjoyed it more. She probably didn't find the conversations I had with vendors about the economics of converting to the euro quite as interesting.

We took turns cooking for the whole group. My friend, Susan Edwards Groves ('03), and I decided to do a Southern meal, which was quite the undertaking because they (vendors) didn't have any of the ingredients that we needed. We had to be creative, and we had some interesting conversations with the Italian food vendors. We made fried chicken — we had to buy several whole chickens — and we couldn't figure out anything to dip it in other than corn flakes.

## ♦ 2000s ♦

### ALICE GREEN BROWN ('03)

ATLANTA

**THEN:** Economics major

Semester in Venice: Fall 2001 with then-Professors of Economics Dan Hammond ('72, P '08) and Claire Hammond (P '08)

**NOW:** Founder of social enterprise GoodSteps; formerly a lawyer

Returned to Venice on her honeymoon with her husband, McKnight Brown, in 2011 and visited Casa Artom, where the resident professors were, serendipitously, the Hammonds

Grocery shopping in general was an experience. In Dorsoduro, right down the little calle (street) from Casa Artom, was a cheese and milk vendor (Stefano). A little bit farther down was the bread vendor (Bruno). They were only open during very interesting hours that never overlapped with each other. Otherwise, you'd have to go to Billa, which was the supermarket. The ethnic food store, which was very hard to find, had some American food such as ketchup and peanut butter.

We would go walking at night a lot because all the tourists were gone. At the time, Venice still allowed cruise ships to dock there, so the population would increase by the thousands during the day. It could be a zoo in and around the tourist areas. But at night there was nobody there. We got to see St. Mark's Square, Rialto Bridge and all the most Venetian places with no crowds. We sort of felt like we owned Venice.

The room I shared was the only one facing the Grand Canal on the bottom floor. It was a

constant chorus of motorboats, vaporetti (water buses) and gondoliers singing or talking to the people in their boats. During "acqua alta," when the water overflows the canals, the canal actually came into our room. If you needed to go to the restroom in the middle of the night, you'd better get your boots on.

### Did the experience change you?

Yes, definitely. Partially because of Sept. 11 and partially because I left the country for the first time. It made me more adventurous and more adaptable.



Clockwise from top: In 2001, Brown, right, and Susan Edwards Groves ('03) with a store owner; Groves, left, and Brown preparing the Southern meal at Casa Artom; Groves and Brown at the Casa Artom celebration; and Jonathan Sumrell ('03) and Brown during an acqua alta. Photos courtesy of Alice Green Brown

# • 2010s •

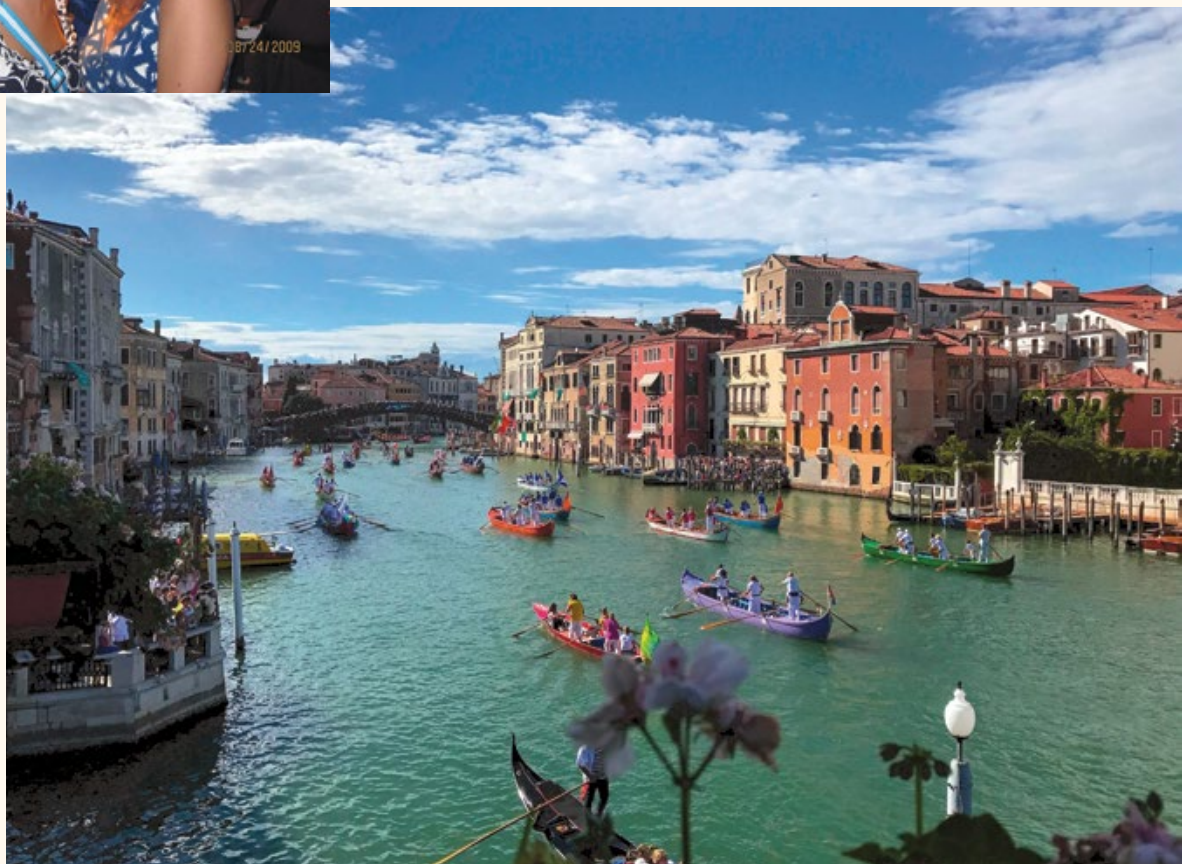
## MARIA ANTONIA “TONIS” MONTES ('11)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

**THEN:** Political science major and Italian and Latin American Studies minors

Semester in Venice: Fall 2009 with then-Associate Professor of English Dean Franco

**NOW:** Senior program officer, United States Institute of Peace, Washington, D.C.



From top, Tonis Montes in 2023; in 2009, wearing a mask; with Olivia Milroy Evans ('11); and on the Grand Canal. Photos courtesy of Tonis Montes. The 2019 regatta photographed from Casa Artom by Whitley Thomas ('20)



**What do you recall about seeing Casa Artom for the first time?**

I didn't realize it was on the canal and right next door to the Guggenheim Museum. Della (Hinman '11), Olivia (Milroy Evans '11) and I were really lucky because the room that faces the canal was the room with three beds. So, we claimed the best room in the house. It was really surreal to open the window and hear the water from the canal and see the boats going by. When we got to Venice, it was the annual regatta. There's a little dock in the front of the house, and we went out there, and boats were going up and down the canal. It was just such a beautiful moment to see the regatta.

**What are some of your favorite memories?**

I remember our Italian art classes, taught by Agnese Chiari, a renowned Venetian art historian. She would show slides of Renaissance art in the classroom and then take us to see it in the museums, and it would just come to life.

Dean Franco instituted family dinners at the house on a Thursday or Friday night that a group of students would prepare. Those family dinners were really special. I also remember Thanksgiving. There was a restaurant, San Trovaso, in our neighborhood that would roast the turkey for us. That was really nice to have a little piece of home.

There was a coffee bar that we all loved called Bar da Gino. I remember getting a cappuccino there on the weekends, and it was where we had a lot of caprese sandwiches between classes.

One of my favorite parts of the city was

the "pointed end" of our neighborhood, Punta della Dogana. I would sit there in the afternoons and look out at the canal. There was a beautiful church, Santa Maria della Salute. You could see St. Mark's from that viewpoint. That was one of my favorite places — and going to the "Gugg" (the Peggy Guggenheim Collection next door), walking around St. Mark's and the Rialto (Bridge) and the fish market.

We had an Italian literature professor, Shaul Bassi, who was a professor at Ca' Foscari, the Venetian university. We were paired with Italian students at Ca' Foscari for a peer exchange to practice Italian and English.

Around the holidays, we had a class to make our own Venetian masks for Carnevale. We got to choose a mask and paint and design it. I still have that mask.

**How did the experience change you?**

We were studying identity in our English classes, how identity shapes culture, what it means to be a stranger in a foreign city and what that means for your own assimilation into a new culture. Currently, I do a lot of work on peace and security and how identities are shaped by conflict and war. I think back to a lot of what we discussed in those literature courses.

On a personal level, it affirmed a sense of wanting to explore different countries. I travel a lot for work now. I attribute my love for travel and interest in different cultures from my time being abroad, and how grateful I am for that time to have adventures and how you learn about yourself and about others.



# SCENES FROM THE MAY CELEBRATION





THIS HOUSE IS CALLED  
CASA ARTOM

IN HONOR OF CAMILLO AND BIANCA ARTOM NATIVES OF ITALY AND LOVERS OF VENICE  
WHO HAVING COME TO THE UNITED STATES IN 1938 SERVED THE CAUSE OF LEARNING  
AT WAKE FOREST WITH GREAT DISTINCTION

CAMILLO ARTOM	BIANCA ARTOM
1863 - 1970	1909 - 1994
WORLD RENOWNED BIOCHEMIST AND PROFESSOR AT THE BOWMAN GRAY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE	FOUNDER OF THE WAKE FOREST PROGRAM IN VENICE AND LECTURER IN ITALIAN
1874	1994



More on the 50th reunion  
◆ and the history of Casa Artom ◆  
at [bit.ly/CasaArtom50th](http://bit.ly/CasaArtom50th)







# Exit SMILING

Two Double Deacs who served Wake Forest  
for more than a combined seven decades say  
farewell to the institution that shaped  
them, and, in turn, they helped shape.

*Illustration by Michael Witte*

**Clockwise from top left:** Wake Downtown, Reid Morgan ('75, JD '79, P '14, '19) with his wife, Elizabeth (P '14, '19), dorms on North Campus, Hof Milam ('76, MBA '91, P '00, '04)

# JUNE 30

marked a milestone when two prominent members of the administration who helped usher in major changes at the University retired.

Promoted to his most recent role in 2011, **Reid Morgan ('75, JD '79, P '14, '19)** was senior vice president and general counsel. He served four presidential administrations, starting in 1979. His first job at the University was assisting the president, then working as a foundations officer and staff attorney. In 2000, he became general counsel, with responsibility for legal offices on the Reynolda Campus and at the medical school. In 2002, he became vice president and general counsel as well as secretary of the board of trustees and the University, assisting governing boards for the Reynolda Campus and Wake Forest University Health Sciences. (Though he retired in June, his role as secretary of the board of trustees will continue through June 2024.)

Morgan, a history major, gained renown for his detailed knowledge of Wake Forest's history and its leaders. A constant steward of Wake Forest, he was the right person to coordinate the University's 150th anniversary celebrations in 1983-84. In February he was awarded the Medallion of Merit, the University's highest honor. President Susan R. Wenthe praised him for his "pivotal role" in the transformation of the University from a regional institution

to one of the top nationally. She also lauded "his skill and success in building the substantial legal framework required to support and sustain the University's ongoing growth," his work to maintain the academic core of a multistate health system and his devotion to the University.

Throughout the years, Morgan has returned to the family farm where he grew up, in Union County, near Charlotte. He's collected more than 15 tractors, and he works on the farm during his time off, earning him a nickname, "the gentleman farmer."

In June, **Hof Milam ('76, MBA '91, P '00, '04)** retired as executive vice president and chief financial officer. He was recruited back to Winston-Salem from Duke University, in part through the efforts of Morgan. "Like Willie Nelson, I'd always had Hof on my mind," Morgan says.

The two men didn't know each other when they were undergraduates but became friends when Milam worked in administration at Wake Forest's medical school and at its affiliated health maintenance organization, QualChoice. Milam left to join Duke, where he was vice president of finance until joining the Cabinet of then-President Nathan O. Hatch (L.H.D. '21) at Wake Forest in 2010.

In his 12½ years in Reynolda Hall, with his office next door to Morgan's, Milam oversaw vast operations, including finance; information systems; human resources; real estate; hospitality and auxiliary services; sustainability; and facilities and campus services. He helped determine financially viable ways to renovate dorms on the Quad and build new residence halls on the North and South campuses, as well as build Farrell Hall, the Wellbeing Center, athletics facilities and Wake Downtown, all, as one trustee said, "on time and within budget."





**“It changed my life when Hof came to Wake Forest. It changed it because Hof created such a sense of partnership inside the administration.”**

*—Reid Morgan*



The trustee, Bobby R. Burchfield ('76), in a retirement tribute to Milam at a trustees gathering, called it “the most significant period of growth and renewal of Wake Forest’s physical facilities since I arrived at Wake Forest as a student in 1972.” He said it was “nothing short of miraculous how Wake Forest managed its way through the (COVID-19) crisis,” and while he credited many for the response, “we cannot overstate the way Hof and his staff managed the financial affairs.”

Milam, who majored in what was then “accountancy,” is known for his precision. He likes to pay attention to “sight lines” and the way the campus appears to visitors. Thank him and his staff for restoring the road that presents a grand view of the arch on the Quad and for making sure students gained a clear view of Wait Chapel from new dorms on North Campus. His precision makes sense: He’s a woodworker with his tools placed just so on his garage wall. Milam has built a kayak and a 17-foot sailboat that awaits sanding after five years. “The building is the fun part. I don’t like the sanding,” he says.

He’s been a sailor for years but these days expects to spend a lot of time in the mountains, where he and his wife, Kathryn, have a vacation home. There, the grandchildren will continue to have the pleasure of walking “Cap’s Trail.”

Maria Henson ('82) of Wake Forest Magazine sat down with Morgan and Milam to talk about their memories and hopes. Their conversation has been edited for length and clarity.

**Above:** Milam and his wife, Kathryn (MALS '95, P '00, 04), at Milam’s retirement dinner. **Left:** Morgan. **Opposite page:** Milam and his team shepherd new construction and renovation projects over Milam’s 12 ½-year tenure.



**Henson:** Tell me about what attracted you to Wake Forest when you were young.

**Milam:** I had always followed Wake Forest sports because my dad (Bruce Milam, '51, P '76) was a Wake Forest grad. I had only been to Wake Forest once. My earliest encounter was 1967. When I was a seventh grader, my parents brought me to a Homecoming football game. That was the last season Wake Forest played in Bowman Gray Stadium. So, in addition to hanging out beside the AM radio and listening to basketball and football games during my childhood, there was that experience coming up here for a football game, which was pretty big for a guy from rural North Carolina. (He grew up in Sunbury, about 28 miles from Elizabeth City.)

**Henson:** How about you, Reid?

**Morgan:** I was a Baptist, but the main thing was my brother went to law school here and graduated the year I graduated from high school — '71. It brought me up quite a bit to see him and back and forth to football games. It got me interested. He had a good experience, and I liked it. ... I wouldn't call

it love at first sight, but it was definitely something I was drawn to, and so it worked out.

**Henson:** Was it love at first sight for you, Hof?

**Milam:** No, I wouldn't describe it that way. I don't think that I fell in love so much with the campus as with the excitement of college. My senior year in high school I came up here for a football game and saw (the late trustee) Larry Hopkins ('72, MD '77, P '12) run for, I think, over 200 yards, and Wake Forest just killed this other team. There was just a lot of excitement. It was just this other attachment to Wake Forest largely through sports.

(Milam and Morgan then discuss that the opponent was Tulsa and recalled details about the statistics and star players.)

**Henson:** There are so many things that make it the Wake Forest experience you carry all of your life. What are some of the best memories you have?

**Milam (laughing):** Well, some of them I can't talk about. What I carry from those days are relationships and friendships that formed, or in some

cases friendships that have formed since then, like Reid or (trustee) Burchfield that I didn't really know that well. My freshman year was really taking advantage of freedom, which was a problem. My grades reflected that. I did crazy stuff. Like when Wake Forest upset Carolina in the ACC Tournament, which was a big deal back then. We were in last place, I believe. That night a group of us drove to Carolina to rub it in.

If I've got the right time, after that game there was a big celebration on the Quad, and the place got pretty muddy with people mud sliding and rolling the Quad.

**Morgan:** I was out there. It was the ACC Tournament of '73, right? Remember that? Lee Foye ('76) hit the shot that tied the game, and Phil Perry ('75) hit the shot that won the game. Everybody just merged onto the Quad from the dorms. There was nothing else to do. (Laughing) People started running and sliding.

**Milam:** I shouldn't just dwell on sports, but when you start thinking about all those ACC games, it seemed like such a big deal then. Everybody went to the basketball games, and most everyone went to the football games.



**Left:** In February 2023, President Susan R. Wente presented Morgan with the Medallion of Merit, the University's highest honor.

**Right:** Morgan with his longtime friend Provost Emeritus Edwin G. Wilson ('43, P '91, 93)

**Henson: What are your best memories, Reid?**

**Morgan:** Like Hof I had great friends — in the suite and some outside the suite. We went to most meals together. In some ways, it was not a large world but a really good world, you know? I certainly enjoyed the classes and all. ... I got to know the professors. It's not like I went to see them every day, but I got to know them.

Sports were big. It was THE thing to do. And you went. And you stayed. Whether the team was winning or losing big, either way.

When I was a sophomore, I found out from a friend about an opportunity to go to the games and be part of the stats crew and the group that helped put on the games from the standpoint of press support. I did that junior and senior year, some all the way through law school. Football and basketball. So, every home game and the ACC Tournament and the NCAA Tournament in Greensboro in '74 when NC State won with David Thompson. ... We had a great time. We went over and did the tournament.

In those days, stories were not submitted electronically at all. They did it with typewriters and telecopiers. Our job at the end of the game was to go get the paper from the sports writers and take it to the telecopy machine and send it one page at a time. I got to know a lot of sportswriters that way.

**Henson: Reid, what would you say is Hof Milam's legacy after all these years of service to Wake Forest?**

**Morgan:** There are so many things I could say. The first part would be accomplishing the objectives of his administrative responsibilities at Wake Forest in terms of really organizing the finances and the resources of Wake Forest and accounting for them in a way that made us so much more able to use our resources well, to understand our capability well of meeting needs in any moment. Then also applying that. And also coming forward in meeting challenges like renovating the original dorms and finding ways to do the Wellbeing Center. The



Morgan

**“Sports were big. It was THE thing to do. And you went. And you stayed. Whether the team was winning or losing big, either way.”**

*—Reid Morgan*



Milam

system and the facilities as well as Graylyn, so all that in terms of really making it happen for Wake Forest in his job.

Second, is how he did it, which was an essential part of, I think, why he came here. And the way in which he lived out what Wake Forest is in his leadership and with his people who worked in his team. ... Hof's way of handling his large administrative footprint here made it possible for Wake Forest to be what it is in terms of its personality and its way of doing things.

**Henson: You get to return the favor. What do you think is Reid Morgan's legacy?**

**Milam:** This is tough because Reid is much better at words than I am. Listening to him, I think about the “what” and the “how” things are done. Reid has always delivered and works tirelessly on behalf of the University. But it's also how he goes about doing it. I hope that Wake Forest doesn't lose sight of the importance of the “how” to do things. That gets back to all of the relationships. Reid has done an incredible job of looking out for the best interest of Wake Forest in some really complicated deals ... (such as) the complicated business transactions related to the medical center.

I don't know of anybody who can cover the breadth of expertise, projects, etcetera, that Reid has covered. What I'm in awe of is his intelligence, his dedication, how he works tirelessly for Wake Forest and his insightfulness. It's been a joy to work with him. He lets me be as blunt as I want to be about stuff. We've had a good partnership for over 12½ years and even prior to that, frankly.

**Morgan:** It changed my life when Hof came to Wake Forest. It changed it because Hof created such a sense of partnership inside the administration. The way in which Hof set the tone in doing the right thing for Wake Forest was something there was no question in the room about. The only standard that really mattered was doing the right thing for Wake Forest in decision making. And strong.

**Milam:** Which is what you've always done.

**Morgan:** I've tried to follow that. To have the person in charge of resources have that idea — it's a key.

**Henson: (Acknowledging Morgan's reputation as a tireless worker), I heard a surprising story about you as the gentleman farmer having had an unpleasant encounter and still showing up for work at Wake Forest. What happened?**



**Morgan:** I was out there mowing a waterway with a Bush Hog-type rotary cutter. An open-tractor platform. No cab. And, bumblebees, you know, nest in the ground, and you can really stir them up by mowing over them. The first thing they do (that day) is attack the muffler. That's the heat source and the noise. Oh, but that's limited gratification! So, they turned their attention to something else, and they found me. ...

I switched off the motor. I jumped off and ran to get away. It was a little bit of rough ground. I stumbled, you know, and just got stung the whole time. I finally got away from them 150 feet away. I got back and started looking at



the (stung) places, and I noticed two little places down on my ankle. ... The next morning, I noticed my ankle really looked different.

About 30 hours later I was passing Baptist (hospital) on my way home, and I thought, "Well, I'll stop and see what it is." They had some kind of a toxicologist in the emergency room at that time. And they said, "Yep, it's a copperhead bite." ...

I didn't really get much venom. I got back here (to Reynolda Hall) and told a story about that. Nathan (Hatch) was somewhere between amazed and shocked about the story. And his reaction was, "If it were mine, I'd have that farm on the market before tomorrow morning!"

**Henson:** How did that incident rank in the complexities or pain of your regular job?

**Morgan (laughing):** It hurt, but it wasn't like some major-league thing where you get all kinds of trouble with it.

**Henson:** As we wrap up today, you have a chance to tell alumni what you wish they knew about the inner workings of the institution that they didn't see as students, and please share your hopes for the future.

**Milam:** I don't think alumni always appreciate the complexity of the University. That's one of the things I tried to do

to help alumni understand that (with) this budget model, where, if somebody wants more financial aid and somebody wants smaller class sizes, what would be the tradeoffs? They're complex.

**Morgan:** I think alumni know that while it's a lot about feeling and memory, it's also about living out the values in a complex world. So, I feel like they know that already, but I guess I would want them to know that the things that they feel most deeply about about Wake Forest that the administration and the faculty — and I would like to think the students, too — are all aware of ... and that the Pro Humanitate aspect of who we are is alive in what we do. The process of making good things happen involves many twists and turns, but the institution is committed to doing that. Like Hof's answer, I'd like for them to have confidence that that's what the place is still about, even in a world that challenges getting all those things done.

**Milam:** What I hope for Wake Forest — it gets back to how things are done, not just what is done. The "what" is important, but I don't want people to lose sight of the "how." When I look back on my time at Wake Forest, I think less about accomplishments and more about relationships. Wake has that value being placed on relationships. There's been some criticism recently about Wake being too relational, and

**Opposite page:** During his time on the Cabinet, Milam oversaw the completion of the Wellbeing Center, urged that there be a “sight line” to Wait Chapel from new North Campus dorms and backed building a road for a better entrance. **Right:** Milam and Morgan served with senior administrators and health officials on a COVID-19 task force. They gathered in Reynolda Hall on March 16, 2020, in person; afterward, they moved their constant meetings online during the worst of the crisis.

I can understand where that comes from. But Wake Forest still has to be a place where people work here not just because of the job and what they’re paid, but how they feel about the place, the attachment to the place. That’s going to be challenging especially with newer generations coming on. (Last spring, he talked with people all over campus and was amazed by the number who have been working here for more than 12½ years, he says.)

**Morgan:** You certainly want Wake Forest to be of greater service to humanity and education and all the things that will make that true in terms of scope and scale and numbers. I certainly hope all those things for Wake Forest as it continues to find its place in terms of the scope of its program and enrollments. The thing that I would come back to is the motto — the ideal of Wake Forest — and what is the thing that we are really about as an institution.

I feel like Wake Forest has been living into that motto now for at least 189 years and finding exactly what it means to really be *for* humanity. The continued discovery of that, both with regard to breadth — what does that mean with respect *to* others? — and depth — what does that mean with respect *to with* others? — is something that I hope will continue unabated and that people will continue to hold that up as the most important thing about Wake Forest.



**“Reid has always delivered and works tirelessly on behalf of the University. But it’s also how he goes about doing it.”**

*—Hof Milam*



# WHO'S HUNGRY?

BY **Carol L. Hanner**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY **Travis Dove ('04)**

James Brim ('87),  
a food bank's  
entrepreneurial  
maestro, has found  
multiple ways  
to fill stomachs  
and buoy hearts  
in his Georgia  
community.





# FOLKS

looked out  
for each other

in Slab Fork, West Virginia, the coal camp town where singer Bill Withers was born. The town inspired him to write “Lean on Me,” his No. 1 hit in 1972:

***“Lean on me  
When you’re not strong  
And I’ll be your friend.  
I’ll help you carry on.”***

The song tells it true, as James Brim (’87) sees it.

Brim was 8 years old and growing up in Slab Fork when that song topped the charts. He remembers Withers — his mother’s cousin — jamming at their house when his band rolled into town in a tour bus.

Brim says his father, a coal miner, worked 12-hour shifts deep inside the earth. He cleaned off the day’s black coal dust and came home to his wife and six children in their shotgun home with two bedrooms and one bathroom.

Yet Brim’s dad found time to tend a huge garden whose bounty the family shared with anyone who came calling. “My dad said, ‘Well, everybody needs food. Everybody is not as fortunate as we are.’ That’s how I got started.”

Brim’s father retired after 33 years as a miner and moved his family back to his hometown of Mount Airy, North Carolina. That was where Brim discovered his talent for sports. He excelled at football in Mount Airy and at Wake Forest and made his way to the NFL.

But James Brim always nurtured a soft spot for hungry people. Today, using his expertise from more than two decades in a food manufacturing career, he pours just as much energy into helping needy families in the Appalachian mountains as he did catching passes for the Demon Deacons and the Minnesota Vikings.

“I love this job,” says Brim, 59, a man always in high-energy mode as director of the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia’s six-county mountain operation in Clayton, near the North Carolina border. “I never get tired of it.”



Slab Fork, West Virginia,  
in 2011 and in an aerial  
view in 1947

He has carried with him the compassion his parents instilled in him in the coal camp, where “everybody in the community was together and cared about each other. ... Nobody went without anything,” Brim says. From Wake Forest, Brim carried forward not only Pro Humanitate values, but the importance of teamwork — and an eye for entrepreneurship so many Deacons parlay into success.

“He’s just a force of nature,” says Dr. Tom West (MD ’81), an Atlanta anesthesiologist who retired to Clayton and is president of the Wake Forest Medical Alumni Association. West and his wife, Dr. Laura Pinner West (MD ’81), also a physician, drew Wake Forest Magazine’s attention to the work Brim is doing.

“He just makes you feel good about community service,” Tom West says.





Brim gets to know people — and their pets — as he loads groceries into their vehicles at the food bank's monthly distribution. **Opposite page and previous page:** Food and other goods line the shelves inside the food bank's "store," where nonprofit partners select items to distribute to their clients.

### **A food bank with an entrepreneurial twist**

Brim manages the 63,000-square-foot food bank in Clayton in a former grocery store that anchored the Covered Bridge Shopping Center. That is where he, a staff of five and a cadre of volunteers hold a monthly food giveaway of more than 30,000 pounds, one of the food bank's many events and programs. They share bags of groceries to get people through the week or the month.

Nearby Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church gives away 40,000 pounds from the food bank in another monthly offering.



former grocery building. Small businesses rent time on the lines or in the kitchen to make products they couldn't afford to produce two hours away in Atlanta — high-end chocolate; sustainable protein bars; turkey, chicken and beef jerky; veggie burgers; frozen French fries that start as unwashed, uncut potatoes and emerge in bags ready for freezing. Brim rented the kitchen in 2021 to the catering team feeding the film crew making the movie “Dog Gone” with Rob Lowe.

A beautiful teaching kitchen, worthy of Bon Appétit and run by 13 volunteers, offers cooking and nutrition classes. Young children and parents learn to cook together. Teens learn to navigate cutting boards, stoves and ovens. Those with diabetes or other health challenges learn to manage their diets. Community folks show up to learn from top area chefs.

The building holds a store stocked with food and supplies, including meats and other frozen goods in a giant freezer, most donated by grocery stores. Partner nonprofits or agencies pay pennies on the dollar to shop from the shelves for their clients.

Brim can list dozens of ideas he's implemented, such as sending opened dry goods, which he can't give to people, to hog farms in the area for feed. In exchange, the farms donate hogs for pig-pickin' fundraisers.



Brim says those two events can sustain many families.

The church's minister, Rev. Don Barber, is a board member of the original Food Bank of Northeast Georgia in Athens, which hired Brim in 2016 to run the mountain location. “What James has done here is unlike anything we know about in other food banks in the country,” Barber says.

What makes the food bank unusual is that Brim also manages the entire shopping center, which a donor bought and gave to the food bank. The leases from the businesses there feed the nonprofit's coffers.

Brim and a food bank team designed and equipped food production lines and a commercial kitchen inside the



When the pandemic squelched live events in the teaching kitchen, four women volunteers known as “The Kitchenettes” developed recipes for “The Little Cookbook.” Brim talked his fellow members of the Rotary Club of Clayton into financing it. The 2022 book, selling for \$40, has brought in \$8,000.

No idea is too small. He asked for a donation of a dollar apiece from local folks to stand on the food bank’s rooftop vantage point and watch holiday fireworks fill the sky.

Businesses in the shopping center get a good rate and contribute back to the food bank. A heating and cooling business helps with repairs and maintenance. The Clayton Tribune runs food bank news.

Each time Brim tells a story of an “I’ll-scratch-your-back-You-scratch-the-Food-Bank’s” arrangement, he leans forward, makes eye contact and shows his winning smile, capping the story with “So that worked out pretty good.” Sometimes he adds with an extra twinkle, “That worked out REALLY good.”

## **Turning obstacles into opportunities**

When Brim showed up for seventh grade in Mount Airy, he knew his parents were stretched financially. He didn’t want to burden them, but he wanted things his parents couldn’t afford. So, he took a job in the school cafeteria standing by a huge trash can, cleaning trays and clearing tables every day.

Young Brim asked the cafeteria workers why some children kept their heads down and wouldn’t look at him as their class filed in at lunchtime. The women told him those students had to stay in the cafeteria even though they didn’t have food money. They were embarrassed.

Brim was making \$240 a month. “I said, ‘Well, give them some of my money,’” Brim says. “Then the cafeteria ladies started giving money; then the teachers started giving money.”

Brim kept giving. “When I left high school, there was no kid with their head down. Everybody as a community was helping each other out,” he says.



James Brim in his football uniform for a sixth-grade recreational league in West Virginia and with the Wake Forest Dance Team during Homecoming 2021.

**Opposite page:** Dave Sweeney of Tiger, Georgia, cooks his gluten-free David's Seed Bars in the commercial production kitchen in the food bank and sells them each week at farmers' markets in Atlanta. "I couldn't do it without this place," he says.



# “HE’S JUST A FORCE OF NATURE.”

— DR. TOM WEST (MD '81)

The obstacle? Hungry kids. The possibility? Share in the fruits of his work to fill children's stomachs.

"I was helping other people because ... that's what life's all about is helping people," Brim says.

## Learning to run and tackle

Brim didn't get a total Mayberry welcome at school in Mount Airy, the feel-good model for "The Andy Griffith Show." Some of his classmates called him "Trash Boy" and summoned him over in the cafeteria to take their trays. He didn't take it seriously; they were just kidding, he says.

As he discovered his talent for sports — basketball, baseball, track and football — he learned to take a hit and give one on the football field, starting in seventh grade. As he grew into his 6-foot-3-inch frame, he admits, he got a bit of satisfaction in hard-tackling some of his Mount Airy High School teammates during practice and giving them a ribbing: "Who's Trash Boy now?"

The obstacle? A little disrespect. The possibility? Go the positive route and turn it into admiration as a running back

who made Parade's 1982 All-American High School Football Team. He developed a football brotherhood. Brim was named to the Surry County (North Carolina) Sports Hall of Fame in 2011.

Football gave him even more. His high school team and their opponents in the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas visited the Shriners Children's Greenville hospital in South Carolina to meet the children there, some severely ill or missing limbs.

The boys grumbled on the bus ride to the hospital, but no one, including Brim, had dry eyes on the ride back, he says. He was so moved he later took his own sons, Marcus and Justin, there. "Those kids kind of showed my kids the way."

## Deacon days

Brim played sports, in part to keep himself out of trouble but also because he dreamed that "one of these sports is going to take me somewhere."

Football offered a path to a Division 1 university. He had attended Governor's School at Wake Forest in high school, and his parents could drive 30 minutes to campus

to watch their youngest son score touchdowns, so Brim became one of the first Black students from his area to enroll as a Deacon.

"I had an offer from UCLA and other places," he says, "but I wanted to be close to home."

His family had functioned as a team, with his three brothers and two sisters always taking care of each other. "I wanted my family to see what I can do."

He proved his value to the Deacons as a wide receiver. He stands ninth in program career receptions and 12th in career receiving yards. He was named to the 1985 All-ACC offensive team.

He appreciated meeting students from all over the world at Wake Forest and majored in history to understand how people of all nationalities operate as communities. From his teammates, he learned to stick together through wins and losses. "Al Groh was a coach who cared about the players, and that meant a lot to me."

Brim moved into the NFL in the summer of 1987, with a few credit hours left to complete his degree. He played briefly for the Vikings in Minnesota. Crossing the picket line during a players' strike wasn't an easy decision, but he had a family of his own by then. (He is divorced, and his two grown sons live in Winston-Salem and High Point, North Carolina. They often use his Deacon season football tickets.)

After the Vikings let him go, "I could have crawled in a hole and said, 'Hey, I'm giving up.' But ... I wanted to go out and make a difference in the world."

## **A natural progression**

Brim worked at Cross Creek Apparel, then moved into a food manufacturing career at General Mills, then at Malt-O-Meal cereals in Minneapolis. He moved to Anderson, South Carolina, as superintendent of a bread plant for the Kroger grocery chain.

Brim never forgot that no one should go hungry and no food should go to waste. In his career, he found ways to supply nonprofits with perfectly good food that was headed for the trash, for reasons that didn't affect food quality, such as managing shelf space.

All of those experiences made him the choice when a headhunter recruited him to lead the Clayton food bank. The Food Bank of Northeast Georgia in Athens wanted to expand beyond its eight counties with a new mountain operation, which serves six Appalachian counties and often helps nearby residents of Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida.

"We don't say no to anyone," Brim says.

SCOTT POSS/SKYPOP AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY



Clayton, Georgia, draws tourists and affluent homeowners to its mountain setting and is also home to many struggling residents.

## **Tourism's contradictions**

In Clayton, elegant homes dot the steep mountainsides just minutes above the charming downtown district. Tourists fill the town and Rabun County in season for hiking, kayaking and rafting in the scenic gorges. They imbibe at local breweries or stroll through festivals.

Tourists may miss the harsher side of the area. Hunger and poverty have historically plagued the struggling agricultural economy that began with Scottish and Irish immigrants and now encompasses many Hispanic immigrants. (Locals aren't fond of mentioning it, but the 1972 film



“Deliverance,” a harsh depiction of Appalachia, was filmed in Rabun County.) In Rabun County schools, more than half the students qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.

Barber, the minister whose church gives away food each month, says Clayton and Rabun County are in the throes of a rural-to-resort shift.

Housing and rental prices have soared with the influx of affluent retirees, luxury vacation or Airbnb homeowners and families who fled Atlanta or other cities during the pandemic and continue to arrive. Multimillion-dollar homes sit on the banks of two large lakes in the area, including a home owned by famed Alabama football coach Nick Saban.

Within the rural-to-resort transformation, Brim is finding opportunities, all for Pro Humanitate purposes. The affluence, besides infusing property tax revenue, supports food bank fundraisers such as silent auctions and celebrity chef cook-offs. A sold-out, \$300-a-plate dinner with each course by a different chef raised \$12,000, Brim says.

Many new residents generously contribute to the food bank. During the pandemic, the wealthy owners of lakeside homes raised \$360,000 in a giving challenge. Many serve on local nonprofit boards. Among them are the Wests, who knew Brim from his community work, including at Barber’s Presbyterian church, where they are members.



Dr. Tom West (MD '81) and his wife, Dr. Laura Pinner West (MD '81), at their mountain home in Lakemont, Georgia, near Clayton. They support the food bank that James Brim leads.

“James has made himself one of the most highly respected people in our community,” Tom West says. “He has won the trust of this community, and people have no idea how much he has done.”


The food bank charges Barber’s church only \$1,500 for the 40,000 pounds of food the church gives away each month. Barber says the food bank estimates the value of that food at more than \$1 million a year. New church members add contributions each year to offer more food.

The church sits next door to an expensive private academy, Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School, on a 1,400-acre hilltop campus. Barber says students who volunteer for the food event gain new perspective as they see lines of cars backed up from 5:30 a.m., waiting for groceries on the third Saturday of every month. The food distribution even rattled perceptions of some of Rabun Gap’s Black students from low-income urban communities, he says. “They couldn’t believe it when they saw hungry white people who needed groceries from the food bank to survive,” he says. “It was life-altering for them to understand the prevalence of hunger affects all people.”



# “WE DON’T SAY NO TO ANYONE.”

— JAMES BRIM ('87)



Brim moves pallets of food to replenish the lineup of bags his staff and volunteers fill for distribution.

## A man about town

Barber notes that Brim shows up every month with his truck driver to help with the church giveaway. “There wouldn’t be many directors of a food bank that would be on the truck at 5 a.m. bringing the food to my church.”

Brim and his small staff of five acknowledge every gift. “I don’t care if you give me a dollar or you give me \$1 million, I’m going to write a thank-you card to that person who just gives me that \$1, because maybe that’s all they had, you know?” Brim says.

Everywhere Brim goes, people know him — at the Italian restaurant nearby, at the dedication of a new business downtown where he cuts the ribbon, at a conference center holding a reception for a new book on women in Appalachian history by the Foxfire Museum in Rabun County. (“You should have had this event at the food bank. Would have saved you a bundle,” James says only half-jokingly to the museum director.)

Brim doesn’t miss an opportunity to benefit the food bank and the community.

He collects large donations from Walmart, which gives away more than any other local retailer in food and household necessities, diapers and other returned items. He persuaded Amazon to certify the food bank as a recipient of its returned merchandise slated to be discarded. Brim auctions or sells it all — televisions, appliances, housewares — to raise funds. Some items, especially shoes or clothing, are needed giveaways.

He’s always checking for shoes on clearance, because school guidance counselors say it’s one of their biggest needs. As he gives us a tour of downtown, a friend joins us in an outdoor store. His friend says, “I know where I’ll find him. He’s in the shoe section.” He was.

He takes us on a driving tour in his Toyota 4Runner, with a Wake Forest license plate frame. Along a winding mountain road, rusting and decrepit houses could be mistaken as abandoned if not for the cars or toys in the yards. For some, Brim says, “Meth and alcohol are big problems, and there’s nowhere else they can afford.”

## Never judge

Brim leads his work from the lines, not from an office or from a distance.

At 7 a.m. on the second Saturday in March, it’s sunny and clear in Clayton, but the Weather Channel says it’s 37 degrees and feels like 33. Brim is already at the food bank. He’s moving fast, as he always seems to do. He has kept in shape since his days as an athlete, he says, with gym workouts, running, hiking and kayaking.



**Left:** volunteers at the monthly food distribution  
**Right:** the line of cars seeking groceries handed out in front of the food bank office

On this morning, the first half-dozen vehicles already form a line in the parking lot an hour before the 8 a.m. event. This is the monthly “mobile pantry,” so called because Brim and the volunteers drop supplies into truck beds or back seats as each driver stops at the food bank, an efficient method begun during the pandemic.

Driving a forklift, Brim delivers a pallet with 18 boxes of frozen pork patty packages. Volunteers add them to pre-packed paper and plastic bags. Each brown bag holds eight oranges, two sweet potatoes, a dozen eggs, almonds, canned goods, raisins, macaroni, frozen pie crusts and a flier listing other resources. The items change each month.

Volunteers line up the bags on sidewalk tables. At another table, a representative of Rabun County Head Start hands out applications for the preschool program. The director of a food bank partner agency called Rabun County Family Connection shares information about its crisis services.

Everyone knows what to do, except perhaps the teen whose mother dropped him off for community service, ordered after he got caught vaping at school. (Brim says he tells schools and courts to “send them my way, and I’ll put them to work,” and some court defendants can donate \$320 to the food bank in lieu of service.)

Trucks, many shiny and expensive-looking, wait in line. Brim tells his volunteers they can’t assume they know anyone’s circumstances. Some are taking food to others in need. “My staff looks at it like this — how do you know that they just didn’t borrow that car? How do you know that they just didn’t lose their job? We don’t judge anybody. We don’t turn anybody away. There’s hungry people all over.”

The same is true every day. Volunteers deliver packages

to people who can’t leave home, and Brim gives emergency bags to anyone who comes to the food bank for help.

Stephen and Cherye Weintraub help at every monthly giveaway, just one of their volunteer efforts. He retired as a computer programmer; she still works as a design consultant.

“It’s all about camaraderie and helping the people who need it,” Cherye Weintraub says. She’s had moments of hunger as everyone does, she says, but hasn’t experienced food insecurity. “I’ve been hungry but never *been hungry*.”

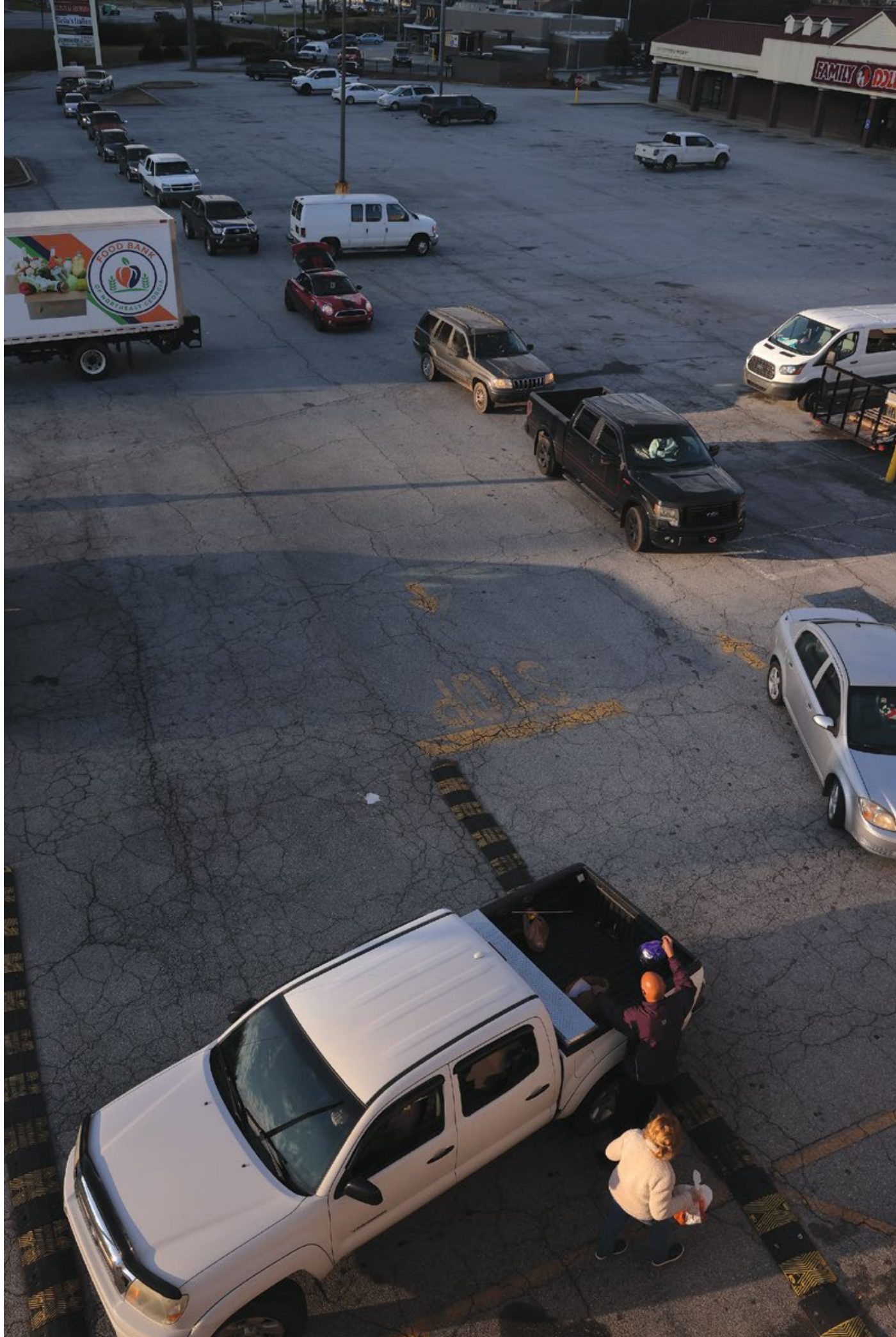
She tells of a man who came by in a car with his dog. “He said, ‘I don’t want to take food from someone else because I’m homeless and can’t cook. Do you have anything I can eat? Or something for my dog?’ James gave him food and dog food. I always wonder what happened with them.”

## Charming the clients

Brim takes the lead for the first rush of 15 cars in line, with more arriving. He knows many of the people and keeps them smiling as the volunteers play classic pop songs on a speaker.

One car has a handicapped tag on the rearview mirror. On the roof of another car, a rope holds down two sets of box springs and a mattress. Brim speaks to everyone.

“He’s going to want three (bags),” Brim says of an approaching truck. He tells the driver, “You’ve got one ham and two bags of frozen meats. Maybe you can invite them over to your house and cook the ham for everybody. ... You have a good one, sir.”





To a driver with a gray-haired passenger, Brim says: “Look at that young lady over there with you.”

To a man driving alone, “Where’s your wife at?”

“At the house,” he replies.

“Be sure and tell her I said hello.”

Of his volunteers scurrying, refilling and handing out bags, Brim says: “Aren’t they great?”

With a half hour to go, Brim is back on the forklift, and volunteers are breaking down boxes to recycle them. The volunteers gush about Brim and praise the way he aims to delight children. “James is a super guy to work with,” says volunteer Renée Ramsay. She shows photos of him wearing an elf hat next to Santa Claus at Christmas, when volunteers give away age-specific toys for children, with batteries and other goods for their families.

By the time Brim and the volunteers have returned everything to its place inside, the sun has risen high and dispatched the cold. Brim and his crew have handed out more than 200 bags of food. They have done what they can on this Saturday morning to let their neighbors lean on them.

As Brim would say in the language of his own refrain, this day has worked out pretty good.

## Help for a

Thanks to the Sharing and Caring Thrift Store and Food Pantry, Tonya and Wade Scroggs and their son, Caleb, could give his disabled sister — their “angel” — love and care at home with a steady stream of live butterflies to delight her.

The women who run the store don’t know whether they could have continued helping families like the Scroggs without the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia’s mountain branch in Clayton and its director, James Brim (’87).

Brim’s organization owns the shopping center that houses the food bank in a former grocery store, and Brim handles leasing and managing the other spaces, including a Family Dollar, a pizzeria and a nail salon, to produce revenue for the food bank.

The store, operated by local non-profit Rabun County Sharing and Caring, sells thrift items and offers free clothing and food from the food bank in the store’s pantry. Founded by a group of church women in 1984, the nonprofit helps families in need. It had operated in a large, free space in a county building until the county needed the space in 2021. The founders were desperate for a place to move.

Brim came to the rescue, says Gail Whitmire, the nonprofit’s vice president.

“I knew James,” says Whitmire. “He said, ‘I got a place. It’s smaller.’ As for rent, he said, ‘Don’t worry about it. We’ll figure it out.’ ... We are so happy. James saved us.”

The location has improved sales and donations enough that the nonprofit’s two annual scholarships grew to \$1,500 from \$1,000 each, she says.

### A SHORT TIME ON EARTH

For Tonya Scroggs, life without the women who run the store is unimaginable. She says they kept her, Wade, Caleb and Celladonna fed and clothed for years, allowing them to make the most of Cella’s short but precious life.

Cella died in October 2020 at age 5. She had undergone surgery immediately after birth and lived with Aicardi syndrome, a rare neurological disorder. She suffered five to 25 seizures a day, had only a tiny field of vision and could not talk or move herself. Collapsed lungs required breathing and suction treatments every three hours.

Scroggs lost her job in Atlanta 12 years ago. She came to Clayton to live with her mother and walked 15 miles

at the Clayton Home Depot and gives thanks every day for the job. But her husband has health issues, and she spent five weeks at home in the spring recovering from acute pancreatitis. They depend on the food bank and the store.

Linda Giles, the president of Sharing and Caring, says, "We owe this all to James. Without him, we wouldn't be here."

—Carol L. Hanner

## Heartbroken Mother

into town for supplies because they had no car. She married Wade Scroggs and gave birth to Caleb, now 10. Life was good.

It fell apart when Caleb's baby sister was born. Cella needed 24-hour attention, in case her seizures or respiratory failure required an ambulance or air lift, which was often. Neither Tonya nor Wade could work.

"I couldn't afford clothes for us or the children. We relied on the food (from the store)," says Scroggs. She learned emergency procedures that kept Cella alive so she could perform them at home, reducing Cella's exhausting hospital trips.

"Every breath that child tried to take, I would've given her mine. I would have given her my eyes, heart, my lungs," Scroggs says as she shares her story in the store's office.

Cella ultimately succumbed to an incurable infection and took her last peaceful breath at home. Despite the grief, Scroggs wouldn't trade one minute. "She was here for a reason."

Scroggs says Cella taught her to be patient, to never give up and to stay calm despite sleep deprivation. "It's the memories, ... not your money. It's not your things. It's how important each moment is," she says.

Scroggs now works as head cashier



**From top:** Caleb Scroggs with his sister, Celladonna, who died at age 5. Tonya Scroggs with Gail Whitmire, left, and Linda Giles, right, whose help allowed Scroggs to stay home with her terminally ill daughter. Photo of Celladonna courtesy of her family

COUPON-REPONSE INTERNATIONAL

*Meine Lieben.*

*Ich habe die Statue der Freiheit in New York gesehen. Sie ist so schön und so groß. Ich habe auch die Freiheitsglocke gesehen. Sie ist so schön und so groß. Ich habe auch die Freiheitsglocke gesehen. Sie ist so schön und so groß.*



Deutsches Reich

87 Kurt Baum



# The Letters

Thanks to the work of four Wake Forest professors and an undergraduate, a Holocaust story spanning 'both sides of the Atlantic' is known.

BY Carol L. Hanner  
ILLUSTRATIONS BY Nadia Radic

# Curt Baum couldn't bring himself to talk about the letters he saved in a brown paper bag.

The letters had come to him beginning in 1937 and ending in 1941. He kept them inside a wooden trunk, which had accompanied him in 1937 as a 17-year-old traveling alone, barely speaking English, from his hometown of Bamberg, Germany, to the United States.

Curt Baum, born Kurt David Baum, would earn U.S. citizenship and a Bronze Star as a U.S. Army medic in World War II and in occupied Germany at the end of the war. He would do the hard work of a butcher in a Cincinnati meat-packing plant for 42 years. He would raise two successful daughters, play family pranks with his grandson and enchant his granddaughter with games and candy. And he would die in Cincinnati in 2004 at age 83 with dementia, after calling out every day for Rose, his wife of 55 years, who had passed away three months before him. "They were a package deal," says his granddaughter, Lauren Postolski Cane of Charlotte.

When they were young, Curt's daughters, Maralynn and Rita, explored Curt's treasure trunk of mementos and found the letters, tucked under linens with the Baum monogram stitched by his mother. The daughters didn't ask about the indecipherable German until they were older. "Every time we brought that up, he would be very upset and wouldn't discuss them," says Rita Baum Postolski, who lives in Winston-Salem. "He would cry."



C

# CURT BAUM WAS JEWISH. HIS PARENTS, JOSEF AND MARIE

Baum, had booked passage to America for their only child to keep him safe. They saw the emerging Nazi threat in 1937 without knowing how far it would go — first to remove Jews from society, then to push them out of Germany, ultimately to the unthinkable, trying to kill all Jews and erase their history.

Curt Baum was collateral damage of the Holocaust. He escaped physically, with his story buried inside him under the debris of his grief and trauma.

But his history will not be erased. His story will be known.

The letters, donated to Wake Forest in 2021 by Curt's family, form the foundation of an innovative academic project and a pending book, thanks to an undergraduate's senior honors project and the relentless work of four Wake Forest professors.

The project began in the University's German department. Professor Rebecca Thomas (P '04, '12) and Associate Professor Grant McAllister (P '26) supervised Fiona Burdette ('21), a German and mathematics major, as she transcribed and translated more than 100 pages of the letters mailed to Curt Baum, most handwritten by his parents. Josef and Marie Baum wrote in a historical script, a form of cursive writing, that is unreadable by most Germans today, but McAllister specializes in the script and taught it to Burdette.

To help research the Baum family history and put the letters in historical context, the German professors invited

two colleagues from the history department, Professor Charles "Chuck" Thomas (P '04, '12), who is married to Rebecca Thomas, and Professor Barry Trachtenberg, the Michael H. and Deborah Rubin Presidential Chair of Jewish History. The four professors plan to publish the book in the next year. It will include the letters, re-transcribed and re-translated by McAllister and Rebecca Thomas at a professional level, with essays by the four professors.

The Kurt D. Baum Family Collection, with letters, documents and photos, now resides in Special Collections & Archives at Z. Smith Reynolds Library. The professors hope the digital collection offers a resource to family historians, students and faculty, especially in researching the immigrant experiences of the Jewish diaspora. That aspect of the Holocaust has received less attention in popular culture and research than the death and direct destruction of that time, the professors say. The Baum story shows the



complexity of the damage done by the Nazis to family relationships in indirect ways.

Rebecca Thomas and her colleagues envision the work as the cornerstone of a larger digital humanities project that can produce collaborations at Wake Forest and with other universities.

The letters "can be used in history studies, Holocaust studies, translation studies and literature ... by lots of people who have various ways of looking at this material and



**"I was so close with my mother's parents that I really felt like we needed to know what was in those letters."**

—Lauren Postolski Cane, Curt Baum's granddaughter



**Opposite page:** Curt Baum (born Kurt), left, with his parents, Josef and Marie Baum in Bamberg, Germany

**This page:** Clockwise from top: Curt's mother, Marie Krauss Baum, center behind the chair, with family; Curt, right, as a boy, with family; the monogrammed trunk where Curt stored letters. On top are the bag for Curt's tallit, or prayer shawl, which was buried with him, and the bag for his tefillin, ritual leather straps wrapped around the arm during prayer. His grandson, Josh Postolski of Cincinnati, cares for the trunk and other mementos; Curt and Rose Baum with their daughters, Maralynn beside Curt and Rita beside Rose

Illustration, clockwise from top: Fiona Burdette ('21); German professors Rebecca Thomas (P '04, '12) and Grant McAllister (P '26); history professors Barry Trachtenberg and Charles "Chuck" Thomas (P '04, '12)

give them something very specific that's a narrative they can build on," Rebecca Thomas says.

She says the letters portray Nazi policies affecting individuals day to day, "like a seismograph where you could look at the historical record and then map that onto the experiences of this family."

The letters, she says, offer "a set of flesh-and-blood characters in Germany, ... and the symbiosis of what's going on on (the German) side of the Atlantic and the United States. ... So, we really have both sides of the Atlantic all in one story."

### A son suppresses his pain

What started as an academic training ground in transcription and translation for Burdette evolved into a heartbreaking journey into the trauma of Curt Baum and his parents.

The biggest gap in telling Curt's story is that his voice is missing. The family has no letters written by him, only letters to him from his parents and other relatives in Germany and the United States. He spoke little of his experiences to

as his only lifeline to survival, and Curt is not responding as Josef thinks he can and should. The letters stop in 1941.

Curt arrived in the United States in September 1937 because his mother, Marie, had reached out to a wealthy cousin, Milton Brown, to sponsor Curt's move. Brown, known to the family as Uncle Milton, owned Jenny High-Fashioned Apparel for Women and Misses in Cincinnati, as well as a farm.

U.S. immigration law required a major commitment from a sponsor. Uncle Milton had to provide housing and show sufficient funds to support Curt until he earned citizenship, found work or left the country. This was to ensure that immigrants did not burden American welfare systems. The United States was in the Great Depression of the 1930s, and conflicts around the world were sending large numbers of refugees from many continents.

Uncle Milton, the U.S.-born son of German immigrants, and his wife, Flossie, from Montgomery, Alabama, had no children. He promptly found a place for Curt to live in another state, at the National Farm School in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. The school was founded by a rabbi in 1896 to

teach science-based agriculture on a 1,200-acre working farm. Uncle Milton appealed to a longtime friend who was board chair at the school, suggesting that it seemed a logical place for Curt, a cattle trader's son who could later work at Uncle Milton's farm or elsewhere. He paid \$600 for Curt to go there for a year.

Uncle Milton writes to the board chair: *I hope they can*

*take this boy on at once, as it is practically impossible to have him live with me in Cincinnati and get any sort of an English education at all, as we are living away out in the country where there are absolutely no facilities for him to obtain same.*

Professors Barry Trachtenburg and Chuck Thomas uncovered a trove of correspondence about Curt — but nothing by him — in the archives of the farm school, which evolved into Delaware Valley University today.

**"The letters portray Nazi policies affecting individuals day to day, like a seismograph where you could look at the historical record and then map that onto the experiences of this family."**

**—Professor Rebecca Thomas**

his daughters. If he discussed them with his wife, she didn't share it with their daughters.

What was it that was so painful to Curt Baum in these letters?

At first, nothing.

His parents express love and concern, along with normal, if persistent, parental nagging. But over time, the letters show Josef Baum's fear and panic engulfing him, and he writes searing words to his son. Josef sees his teenage boy

Hamburg, den 3. Oktober 1937  
 Lieber Kurt  
 Hamburg, 27. August 1937  
 Hamburg 27. August 1937  
 Hamburg 15. September 1937

Mutter.

Die erste Glocke in der Kirche  
 hat die Glocke in der Kirche  
 die Glocke in der Kirche  
 die Glocke in der Kirche

Dies wünscht Dir  
 Lieber Kurt!

Dein Vetter

Karl

21. August 1937

Mein lieber Kurt!

Hamburg  
 den 3. Oktober 1937  
 Lieber Kurt  
 Hamburg, 27. August 1937  
 Hamburg 15. September 1937



Hamburg  
 den 3. Oktober 1937  
 Lieber Kurt  
 Hamburg, 27. August 1937  
 Hamburg 15. September 1937

MIT LUFT  
 PAR AVION  
 BY AIR MAIL

Vermutlich Brief erhalten in Frankfurt am Main mit Postkarte, die besagt, dass  
 forward G.f. v. gut geht, was auf eine neue Besichtigung hinweist. Gefundenes hat sich  
 G.f. v. gefunden. Das Gefundene geht auf die G.f. v. hin. L. Kurt folgt auch. Halten



Mr. B. M.



## Solicitous parents write regularly

Josef and Marie mailed their first letter to their son in August 1937 before Curt had disembarked from the SS Manhattan in New York and traveled on to Cincinnati. Marie writes to him in the language of a mother who already misses her only child and sends kisses and greetings: *My dear Kurt, I hope you are healthy and in good spirits. Surely you survived the beautiful crossing without getting seasick. ... I'm sure it was a warm and touching welcome. Please write and tell us all about it. Mother*

Josef urges his son to be a respectable, capable person so they hear only good reports about him: *I also send you kisses and greetings ... from, your Father, who thinks of you always.*

They had included in his luggage a typewriter and international coupons with which to buy postage stamps, as well as his most valuable items, a Leica camera and his suit coats.

In October 1937, Marie addresses her son for the first time as Curt, rather than Kurt, indicating he anglicized

his name, though his parents spell his name both ways in ensuing letters.

On Oct. 4, 1937, he entered a daunting environment at the farm school, about 30 miles from Philadelphia. He had learned some English in Bamberg but not enough to join classes mid-semester. The school had no room he could share with any of the eight to 10 German refugees among the 185 students, so he shared quarters with an English-speaking student in a dorm with a few Germans.

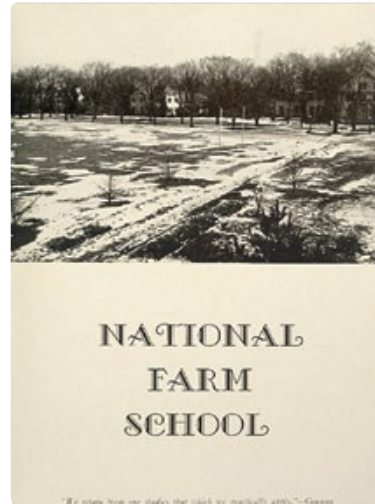
Curt faced six months of milking cows and feeding chickens and hogs before he could begin classes in April 1938. The dean later writes that Curt has picked up English amazingly well. Uncle Milton quickly criticizes the school for not giving Curt the promised formal instruction in English. In letters over the next months, Uncle Milton alternates between harsh criticism of the school and harsh criticism of Curt, often at the same time.

Uncle Milton's letters do not depict an easygoing or patient guardian, despite his largesse.



**Opposite page, from left:** “Uncle Milton” Brown, Curt’s U.S. sponsor; Brown’s home in Cincinnati

**This page:** Top left, students at the National Farm School in Pennsylvania, where Brown sent Curt in 1937. Curt is not listed in any yearbook photos; bottom left, one of the many coupons Curt’s parents gave him for international postage stamps; below, photos from National Farm School yearbooks



## Tension builds in the first year

Throughout 1937, Curt’s parents and other relatives share a steady stream of news about family and friends leaving Germany. They are fleeing the thunderclouds of Adolf Hitler’s Nazi Party, officially the National Socialist German Workers’ Party (NSDAP). This Nazi government sees Jews — as well as many others, including Slavs, Jehovah’s Witnesses and gay or disabled people — as inferior and malignant.

Over and over, Josef and Marie stress to their son the importance of proper behavior and good morals. From his mother: *I implore you to be careful in everything you do, especially when it comes to cars, horses and the farmer’s pretty daughter! Don’t get too friendly with the ladies. It leads to no good.*

His parents begin a perpetual refrain of questions and requests: Write more, write every week, you’re not writing enough; quit smoking; send photos; describe your room, what you do every day. Who is doing your laundry and

darning your socks? Send birthday cards to your grandmother, your aunt. Did you hang the picture of us we sent?! We need to hear from you.

In another often repeated point, Josef urges Curt to write regularly with gratitude to Uncle Milton and other U.S. relatives *“because Americans want to be acknowledged when they do something for you.”*

Curt never fulfills these expectations. Maralynn Baum Martin says her father told her and her sister, Rita Baum Postolski, that he regretted not writing often enough to his father, but Curt didn’t elaborate.

“It becomes clear very early on that Curt is being told that the honor of the family rests upon his behavior, which seems to me such a tremendous burden to be placed on a boy in this situation,” Professor Trachtenberg says.

Circumstances would grow much worse in the coming years, both for Curt and his parents.

# The Baum Letters

**January 1933** Adolf Hitler appointed chancellor of Germany.

**February 1933** Curt Baum, born Kurt Baum to Josef and Marie Baum, celebrates his Bar Mitzvah in Bamberg, Germany.

**September 1937** Curt, who is Josef and Marie's only child, arrives to a safer life in Cincinnati, sponsored by a wealthy cousin, Milton L. Brown, called Uncle Milton. Curt's parents write regularly to their son.

**October 1937** Kurt anglicizes his name to Curt. Uncle Milton sends him to the National Farm School in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

**January 1938** The Nazi government cancels Josef Baum's cattle-trading business license.

**March 1938** Curt's mother dies March 18.

**April-June 1938** Curt spirals into a breakdown when news of his mother's death reaches him. He also has surgery for appendicitis, receives harsh letters from his father and reads judgmental words from Uncle Milton, who threatens to send him back to Germany.

**August 1938** Josef tells Curt he has shamed the family and must realize he could end up in a labor camp or worse if he is sent back to Germany. Josef, hoping to gain sponsorship, too, tells Curt he must make Uncle Milton happy.

**February 1939** Josef writes that he will likely perish and blames Curt. Uncle Milton removes Curt from the farm school and finds him a job as a butcher's helper in Cincinnati.

**April 15, 1941** Josef finally receives Uncle Milton's sponsorship and awaits a seat on a ship. It is his last letter to his son.

## Wake Forest tackles a translation puzzle

Rita and Maralynn entrusted Rita's daughter, Lauren, with Curt's letters, and Lauren was determined to get them translated. "I was so close with my mother's parents that I really felt like we needed to know what was in those letters," Lauren says.

The family members are all close. Rita, who retired as a social worker and director of a Jewish-supported assisted living center in Cincinnati, moved with her husband, Sam Postolski, a pharmacist, to Winston-Salem in 2013 to be near Lauren, a speech therapist. Lauren and her husband, Dr. Zachary Cane, a podiatrist, now live in Charlotte, and Lauren is a full-time mother to Curt, 9, and Rose, 3, named for Lauren's grandparents. Lauren's brother, Josh Postolski, is a pharmacist in Cincinnati.

Curt Baum's older daughter, Maralynn, was a special needs teacher and administrator of group homes in several states before retiring in Cincinnati, where her husband, Ed Freeman, is administrator for a pediatricians' group. Maralynn has three stepchildren and six step-grandchildren. Lauren, 38, and Josh, 31, consider her a second mother.

It was Maralynn who suggested approaching Wake Forest's German department, Lauren says. Professors Grant McAllister and Rebecca Thomas say they routinely get requests for translations but can't take on those time-consuming projects in addition to teaching and research.

McAllister transcribed and translated a couple of letters for Lauren because she was persistent, and he is the only faculty member who knows the historical script, thanks to his work with the archives of the German-speaking Moravians who founded Winston-Salem. Germany replaced the script with a modern one in 1941.

Overloaded as department chair at the time, McAllister couldn't translate more letters. Into the picture came Fiona Burdette, a student with a love of languages and deciphering scripts and codes.

McAllister often entices students into learning the script. Burdette took the bait enthusiastically as a sophomore. She translated Moravian material at a pace that amazed McAllister. "Fiona is just possibly the smartest human being I've ever met in my life," McAllister says.

Burdette, who grew up in Winston-Salem, was a Presidential Scholar in Cello Performance. She played cello and

Fiona Burdette ('21), right, playing mandolin at the UNC School of the Arts with her younger sisters, Ellie, left, and Jessie, in their folk band, the Dan River Girls



mandolin with the regional Martha Bassett Band and the Dan River Girls, an award-winning folk music band with her two younger sisters. In her first year at Wake Forest, she won a W. D. Sanders Scholarship for promising students in German and spent four weeks in Berlin in a summer immersion program. After graduating in 2021, she won a Fulbright Scholarship to study Egyptology at Humboldt University of Berlin and expects to complete her master's degree early next year.

Her father, Dr. Jonathan Burdette (P '21), is a neuroradiologist at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist. Her mother, Shona Simpson (P '21), is an author with a Ph.D. who taught

Burdette compares decoding scripts and hieroglyphics to writing proofs in mathematics, her other major. "You have to try out a lot of different things in your head in order to find the correct path through to the end," she says.

Rebecca Thomas and McAllister worked with Burdette in what Thomas sees as quintessential Wake Forest.

The initial goal was to give Burdette practice with the script in her junior year by transcribing and translating five letters for Lauren to give to her mother as a birthday gift. The professors would "double-team Fiona, and she would have the full attention a couple of hours a week from two full-time Wake Forest faculty members," Rebecca Thomas says. "That's not an experience that undergraduate students get at many universities, right?"

The professors then proposed to help Burdette translate all the letters as her senior honors project.

Burdette did a fantastic job, the professors say, but produc-

ing a book required their professional re-transcription and translation to meet peer review standards. The professors often spent two or three hours at a time together puzzling over one paragraph or just one word. "We had to go through it with a fine-tooth comb," McAllister says.

**"You have to try out a lot of different things in your head in order to find the correct path through to the end."**

—Fiona Burdette ('21)

English for several years as an adjunct at Wake Forest. Fiona studied German at Wake Forest for five semesters when she was 12 and 13 and read German literature with her high school French teacher, who spoke German.

She has considered various professional pursuits, from music to medical school, but puzzles remain irresistible.



### Letters, archives show painful days for the Baums

Josef and Curt both confronted a year of crucibles in 1938.

In mid-January, Josef loses his license to trade cattle, as the government pushes out Jews to take their assets. Marie writes: *So our business is done for. You have no idea how much we still need Uncle Milton's help.* Josef begins to see

**"This must have been one of the worst, if not the worst, periods of (Curt's) life."** —Professor Chuck Thomas

that he must go to America, and he will need Uncle Milton as a sponsor, so he wants Curt to make his guardian happy.

On Feb. 7, 1938, Marie and Josef criticize Curt's "thoughtlessness" and "indifference" for forgetting Josef's Feb. 2 birthday in his latest letter. Josef cautions Curt not to repeat his mistakes, referring to unnamed transgressions: *I beg you again: don't do as you did in Germany! Don't be foolish. ... If dear Uncle stops supporting you, then you'll be on your own.*

Curt learns in a letter dated Feb. 27, 1938 — two days before he turns 18 — that his mother is bedridden in great pain. Josef's letters refer to phlebitis, an infection of the veins, and Marie's descendants, Maralynn and Rita, say family members told them that a cow kicked Marie, and she didn't receive treatment for her infected leg because she was Jewish.

On March 18, 1938, the worst happens. Marie dies at age 45.

Josef and Curt are bereft, but as the months pass, instead of comforting each other across the miles, Josef criticizes more, and Curt appears to communicate less.

Curt meets April 1, 1938, with the farm school dean, who reports to Uncle Milton that Curt has rapidly learned English, is doing well at farm work and deserves a chance to succeed in the classes he has finally started. But when letters arrive soon after that with the news that his mother is gone, Curt's grief overtakes him.

"This must have been one of the worst, if not the worst, periods of (Curt's) life," Professor Chuck Thomas says. "He leaves Nazi Germany, arrives at the home of a distant relative in Ohio who is speaking a different language, is almost immediately sent to the farm school to do day labor, loses his mother, suffers an attack of appendicitis and eventually leaves the school, all within a span of about 15 months. While there, he is also surrounded by about 180 boys and young men who are sufficiently dissatisfied with the conditions at the school that they go on strike, after which one of the strike leaders (a student) writes to Milton Brown that Curt is on the verge of a nervous breakdown."

The student says Curt is "completely unbalanced" and has attempted suicide after the dean threatened to expel him and Uncle Milton accused him of hastening his mother's death by failing to write to her often enough.

The dean and Uncle Milton deny the student's account, with Milton writing that either the student is lying or Curt is. Uncle Milton withdraws Curt for 18 days in April,

then sends him back, only to have Curt land in a hospital with appendicitis until June 5. He has missed many weeks of classes, is too weak for farm work and keeps skipping classes and tutoring.

### Uncle Milton makes an existential threat

Uncle Milton learns of Curt's poor attendance and makes an extreme threat — to ship him back to Germany.

Brown writes: *I am tired of being bothered with your nonsense and your stubbornness. Either you see that I do not get any further complaints or I will take immediate action to have you sent back to Germany. ... Now this is your last chance, and I am not bluffing or fooling.*

Mr. Milton L. Brown,  
8 West Fourth Street,  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Brown:

I have your letter of March 30; re: Kurt Baum. Immediately upon receiving your letter I called Kurt to the office and spoke to him regarding his relationship with his sponsors, at which time he tried to tell me that he was writing regularly and so on. After some conversation I showed him your letter and I think it had a very wholesome effect upon him.

I was rather amazed at the rapidity with which Kurt mastered the English language, in fact he is getting along very well as far as his English is concerned. I also find that he has developed fairly well along industrial lines. The dairyman informs me that he is doing fair work and inasmuch as he started to class yesterday for the first time, I am wondering whether it would not be advisable to allow him to remain for six weeks so that we may get a line on the type of class he will do.

I am convinced in my own mind that he is probably more sincere in wanting to take agriculture than he would indicate by his action in not keeping in closer touch with you.

Relative to his attitude in the trouble we had a month or six weeks ago, it may have been of his own volition but I am doubtful. I think he may have been influenced by some other boys as a great many of them had been and certainly we would not want to hold actions of a boy time of great excitement and especially one who is no more familiar with language and customs than Kurt was, without giving him a chance to change attitude.

I assume that you will gather from what I have written that I really feel that he should be given a chance to at least demonstrate his room ability, and if satisfactory, to remain here.

Very sincerely yours,

CLG.HCS

C. L. Goodling,  
DEAN

**Opposite page:** In July, Professor Barry Trachtenberg took this photo of a sign that says "livestock business" at Josef Baum's former home in Bamberg, Germany, where Curt grew up. The current residents told Trachtenberg they found it on the property, where Josef Baum lived and operated a cattle-trading business. Professors are still researching a claim Curt filed for German compensation for the Nazi seizure of the property.

**This page:** The dean of the farm school writes to "Uncle Milton" Brown that he is optimistic Curt can succeed, but Curt will spiral into grief when he learns days later of his mother's death. National Farm School letters and documents courtesy of Delaware Valley University

Hammond, N.Y. August 1934

I was very glad  
to have good news  
from you

Mr. Milton L. Brown  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
U.S.A.

(Signed) Milton L. Brown

Freshman  
Class



Note that it would cost around \$800 a year  
to keep a boy in the school, and  
I certainly don't want anything for  
nothing, so I would gladly pay this.

Josef Baum  
Bamberg Josefstr.21c  
Germany;Bavaria

Bamberg, March 19th 1939

Mr. Milton L. Brown  
84 Street  
Cincinnati/Ohio  
U.S.A.

My dear relatives,

I have your letter of March th.

I was very glad to have good news from you and I was specially glad to hear that you are now more satisfied with Kurt than before. I'll hope, that he makes now straight affords to become industrious and that the people, he stays with go on to be satisfied with him.

I was glad to hear that you dear Milton intend to make holidays for a few weeks. I wish you a very good recreation and that you come back in a good state of health to Cincinnati.

I have now asked twice at Stuttgart for my affidavit but without any answer. I have to thank you several times for all you have done with Kurt. I hope truly to be able to reward it in a later time.

Now I have to ask you once more to have the great kindness again to help me in a special case. My quota-number to come to U.S.A. is very high and on the other hand I am not allowed to stay longer here. It is so terrible heavy for me I am not allowed to stay here any longer and have not any a chance to come off here. So I apply once more to your kindness and ask you very heartily to help me out of my desperation. There is a way to come to England if relatives abroad are willing to deposit a certain amount on a bank in England for my stay there until my number is due to emigrate to U.S.A. I give you the insurance that I am utmost saving and also need what I need badly for living. You may be convinced that I am willing to reward all you have done with me and Kurt when I am in a position to do so.

In case of you are inclined to help me out of a live, which is not worth to be lived, the GERMAN- JEWISH-AID-COMMITTEE, BLOOMSBURY STREET LONDON W.C.-1. will be glad to give you all informations you need to settle this affair for me.

I can't tell you how very much obliged I should be to you if you could make my coming off here possible,

Loves to your dear wife as well as for you

your thankful!

*Josef Baum.*

Going home would doom Curt. The Nazis had not yet begun full-scale genocide but excluded Jews from virtually all public life and were imprisoning Austrian Jews in concentration camps after seizing the country.

When Josef hears about Uncle Milton's threat, he turns his wrath on his son, rather than Uncle Milton, from whom he needs sponsorship, or the restrictive U.S. immigration system that accepts only a fraction of desperate Jews, or the Nazis, who censor all letters and need little excuse to terrorize Jewish citizens.

Germany, Bamberg, May 30th 1939.

My Dears,

Because there is very a long time, since I heard of you and because I have already twice written to you without getting any answer, therefore I cannot help to ask you, „How do you do?“ I hope that you are well, that I can also tell you of me, that is according to the circumstances. What is the matter with Curt? He does not write. I have already twice written to him to Cincinnati, but no answer.

Dear Milton, is it perhaps possible to do anything for me? You may be assured that I should be the last always to trouble you, if I should not be forced. It is very hard, if you are quite alone and must leave your country. Everyone presses to leave Germany. Therefore I implore you once more to help me in my desperate situation! Is it perhaps possible that you would pay in for me in an other country, for instance England?

My dear Milton, I will not further trouble you, do consider it and do help me! I shall do all that is in my forces to return to you all the kindness you have shown to Curt and to me. Do help me, please, for my dear Mary's sake, who trusted in you so much! Please, do give me soon answer! I wish that you and dear aunt will remain healthy and send you the heartiest greetings

your

ever thankful

Josef Baum.

If Curt returns to Germany, Josef writes on Aug. 22, 1938: *You'll be arrested as soon as you get off the ship and sent to a labor camp. ... Not only did I lose dear Mother first, but she is turning over in her grave. The shame. ... You are a worthless son. If someone has all the good luck you have had and has squandered their chances, that person should be hanged. — your despairing, Father.*

Curt never recovers at the farm school. Records show a long list of violations and punishments. Uncle Milton withdraws him for good on Valentine's Day 1939.

Meanwhile, the relationship between father and son is deteriorating as fear besieges Josef. The infamous “Kristallnacht” rampage against German Jews in November 1938 burns through Bamberg, though Josef's house is spared. A month later, Josef writes that he has registered with government officials for permission to leave Germany, as still allowed. But the list has 24,400 names: *It's going to take a long time until my number is called.*

### Josef's panic builds

Josef writes on Feb. 8, 1939, a week before Curt departs the farm school in failure: *Dear Milton would have taken care of me and sponsored me, but now he's leaving me in the lurch, too. I now also have to stay in Germany and perish, all because of you, because you are a disobedient, dishonest person.*

The wreckage of those words to a son is hard to fathom.

Uncle Milton relents and submits a sponsorship application, but it is delayed by omitted details. On Nov. 4, 1940, Josef begs Curt to sponsor Josef's immigration himself: *I ask that you respond to me immediately when you receive my letter, otherwise I will never write to you again.*

Josef believes Curt would need \$3,000 in the bank — 2½ years of the median income in 1939. Curt doesn't respond.

But five months later, Josef writes again. He has Uncle Milton's sponsorship, and Milton has paid \$490 for Josef to sail from Lisbon, Portugal, if he can catch a rare departure.

While still chastising his son — *I don't deserve this from you* — Josef signs off as he has since 1937: *from your ever-loving, Father.*

The letter of April 15, 1941, is the last one from Josef Baum. He is 61 years old.



**Clockwise from top left:** Curt and Rose Baum on their wedding day in 1948; Curt with his grandson, Josh Postolski; Curt with his elder daughter, Maralynn Baum Martin, at her wedding; Curt with his granddaughter, Lauren Postolski Cane

**Opposite page:** One of Josef Baum's few letters translated into English for him as he implored "Uncle Milton" Brown to help him flee to the United States



## A family grapples with Curt's story

The letters from Josef Baum and other relatives paint Curt as an irresponsible, heartless son, and they are painful to read, say Curt's daughters and grandchildren. They don't match the Curt Baum they loved.

Lauren Cane says, "It's like I was reading about somebody else. That wasn't my grandpa."

But she says her grandfather was too important to her not to uncover his story.

Her grandparents took care of her in early childhood. Curt had retired from E.Kahn's and Sons meats, a company famous for its hot dogs.

Although Maralynn and Rita say Curt was a strict father, he loosened up, as many parents do, with grandchildren. Lauren says Curt and Rose Baum were "the definition of grandma and grandpa," and Lauren's brother, Josh, agrees.

*Lauren, a night owl, often called her grandparents after midnight when her anxiety flared up, and they would calm her. They ended every call by telling each other, "I love you, heart and soul."*

The synagogue in Bamberg in flames during pogroms against Jews across Germany on Nov. 9-10, 1938, known in German as Kristallnacht, or Night of Broken Glass. Photo courtesy of the Leo Baeck Institute for the Study of German-Jewish History and Culture

**Opposite page:** Modern Bamberg. Photo by Sebastian Puskeiler/Unsplash



Lauren savors memories of helping Curt trim the bushes and playing horsey with him by tying chairs together with string for a buggy. He kept Bulls-Eyes caramels and hard candy in his pocket and would lean over conspiratorially to say, “Want some candy?”

She recalls the scent of his aftershave and the feel of stubble on his handsome face. He always wore his red Kahn’s jacket and his Cincinnati Reds baseball cap, and he listened to games on the silver radio in his pocket. He took her to the social gatherings he organized for Kahn’s retirees.

Lauren, a night owl, often called her grandparents after midnight when her anxiety flared up, and they would calm her. They ended every call by telling each other, “I love you, heart and soul.”

Josh Postolski says he remembers throwing a rubber ball around the living room with Curt at family gatherings, until the ball knocked over a lamp or, the final straw, hit Rose.

Josh also has sadder memories of his grandfather’s decline with dementia. Josh stood by Curt’s deathbed at what was then Cedar Village, a Jewish assisted living center, where his mother worked until 2013. He held Curt’s hand and soothed him with wet washcloths on his forehead in his final hours.

Isn’t it nice, when friends must part  
When waving they stand for the last time  
at the station  
A bitter pain, the eye full of tears and  
a silent farewell  
A last squeeze of the hand and but a quiet  
hope of a reunion.

— from a translation of a poem sent to Curt Baum about his friends in Germany

### Isolation growing up in Bamberg

The professors’ research helped put the harsh words of Josef and Uncle Milton into historical context, showing the pressure Curt faced as a distressed young man, even before leaving Germany. Bamberg deteriorated for Jews during Curt’s adolescence.

By the time Curt was born on Leap Day 1920 in Bamberg, Jews had inhabited Germany for at least 1,600 years, with ebbs and flows of acceptance and persecution. Many Jews, including Josef Baum, served their country in World War I, a loyalty worth little to the Nazis, even those who had fought beside them in that war.

Curt celebrated his Bar Mitzvah upon his 13th birthday in February 1933 — a month after President Paul von Hindenburg appointed Adolf Hitler as chancellor of Germany.

“Just in that moment when he is kind of growing into an awareness of the larger world, he learns that his entire society is poised against him,” Professor Trachtenberg says.

But Curt had friends who loved him. A poem by an anonymous family member or friend about Curt’s departure from Bamberg captures his melancholia and the mischievous side his grandchildren would see in him.

The poem teases that he often “fled your mother’s scolding” and annoyed her “as a defiant lazy boy.” It honors him as “the one who thought up so many good tricks to play.”

It chides him: *How often did you sit on the bench in the little garden, sulking, no answers to our questions/But now your moods are all forgotten/We only want to carry your friendship in our hearts. ... Even when you are far away, you will always be near to us.*

Nazi policies imposed damage capable of producing Curt’s “moods” in adolescence.

In April 1933, the government declared a Jewish boycott, and stormtroopers with bayonets stopped people from entering Jewish stores. When Curt was 16, Bamberg banned



Jewish students from sports, social groups and educational programs. Then the city banned Jewish students entirely from public schools and isolated them in a makeshift school in the synagogue. Hitler Youth ambushed Jews on the streets.

Different anxieties pressed Curt in the United States, where Americans expected immigrants like Curt to pull themselves up by the bootstraps, regardless of whether they were seeking opportunity or fleeing as refugees from war, Professor Trachtenberg says.

Curt's daughter, Maralynn, says her father never lost his sense of guilt about his rift with Josef. And Curt never gave up trying to find out what happened to his father, as Curt built a life that would have made Josef proud.

As a medic with the U.S. Army's 126th Evacuation Hospital in Belgium in late 1944 and early 1945, Curt would have cared for injured troops from the bloody Battle of the Bulge, says Professor Chuck Thomas, who specializes in German military history. In the spring of 1945, Curt's unit deployed into Germany and treated German prisoners of war, newly released Allied POWs and people rescued from concentration camps.

"He would have been among the first to offer aid and medical assistance to survivors of Nazi Germany's brutal 12-year reign," Chuck Thomas says.

## Curt searches for his father's fate

Curt's daughters say he told them he drove an Army Jeep to his home in Bamberg in search of his father. The Germans who answered the door wouldn't talk to him, but he still gave them a box of chocolates. (Andreas Goeller, who joined the Nazi party in 1937 and served in both World Wars, had claimed Josef's home, Trachtenberg found in Bavarian records.)

Curt knocked next door. As a boy, he had played with the family's son, who also became a soldier. The family would say only that someone took Josef away.

When Curt and Rose Baum were 70, Maralynn helped them try to determine Josef Baum's fate through a Holocaust documentation service. Professor Trachtenberg found the request forms Curt submitted in 1990 in both German and



722-16026

**B. INFORMATION ON INQUIRER**

14. a. Complete Name Curt David (Baum) ☒ Male ☐ Female  
(Circle Family Name)

b. Other Names Used NONE

c. Parents' Names Josef Baum Marie Baum  
(Father) (Mother)

15. Complete Address and Telephone Number 1434 Kenova Ave.  
CINCINNATI, OH 45237-1513 821-4542

16. Date of Birth Feb. 29, 1920 Place of Birth Bamberg, Germany  
(Month, Day, Year)

17. Nationality U.S. American Ethnic Group Jewish  
(If Naturalized, Please Provide Original Name if Different From Name Above.)

18. Reason(s) for Loss of Contact and Purpose of Search: I want to know what happened to my father + where he is buried

19. I authorize the Release of My Address to the Person Sought.  
Curt David Baum Oct. 25, 1990  
Signature of Inquirer Date (Day, Month, Year)

**C. CHAPTER NAME AND ADDRESS (To Be Completed by the Chapter)**

American Red Cross  
 Cincinnati Area Chapter  
 720 Sycamore Street  
 Cincinnati, OH 45202  
 Social Casework Services

Penny Gobrecht 10-31-90  
Name of Caseworker Date

000012

**"Just in that moment when he is kind of growing into an awareness of the larger world, he learns that his entire society is poised against him."**

—Professor Barry Trachtenberg

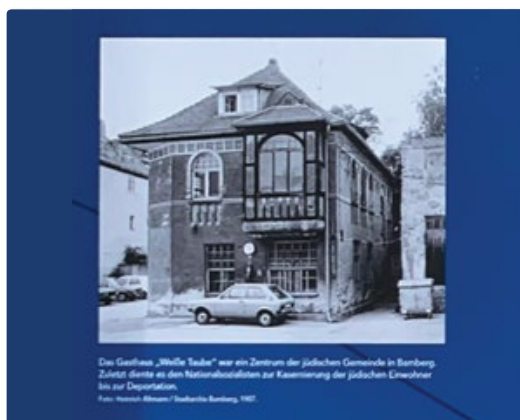
English, the only documents found so far in Curt's handwriting besides his signature. Curt writes in block letters: *I want to know what happened to my father + where he is buried.*

The initial response to Curt in 1994 reported Josef's final destination as Buchenwald or Mauthausen concentration camps, but that referred to a different Josef Baum. A followup response in 1996 said Curt's father was deported to the east and died at an unknown time and place.

Trachtenberg discovered more detail in multiple records. In late November 1941, the Nazis ordered Josef, with two days' notice, to show up at the former White

Dove tavern in Bamberg with clothing, supplies and money. He boarded a train that delivered more than 1,000 Jews, including 118 from Bamberg, to Jungfernhof concentration camp outside Riga, Latvia. Only three Bamberg passengers were among the few who survived the brutal camp. Josef perished there.

He might have died from disease, starvation or the severe cold, Trachtenberg says. Or soldiers might have murdered him in the forest, where they shot thousands after ordering them to lie in a trench that became a mass grave. The scenario is unknown.



**Opposite page:** left, the former Baum home in Bamberg today; Curt's request in English at age 70 to a Holocaust documentation service for information on his father's fate. Also submitted in German, the requests are his only handwriting found so far, other than signatures.

**This page:** Marie Baum's gravestone, discovered and photographed in Bamberg by Professor Trachtenberg. Top, the White Dove tavern in Bamberg, a Jewish gathering place later used for organizing deportations of Jews to concentration camps. Bottom, a museum plaque with Josef Baum's history as the last Jew to leave his village birthplace of Gleisdorf, Germany, in 1909 after cities opened trades to Jews. The surprise discovery while visiting Gleisdorf deeply moved Professors Grant McAllister and Chuck and Rebecca Thomas, bringing Rebecca to tears. Jews turned over the synagogue there to non-Jews who promised not to desecrate it with animals. They honored their promise. It is a museum now.



**"Because of all that happened to my father, one might expect that he would have spent much of his life being angry, but he never was. He taught my sister and I about Tikkun Olam, which in Hebrew means to heal or repair the world."**

**—Maralynn Baum Martin, shown on the opposite page with her nephew, Josh Postolski, in Cincinnati**

**Above, clockwise from left:**  
Rita Baum Postolski, Lauren Postolski  
Cane, Rose Cane and Curt Cane in  
front of ZSR Library, which houses  
their family photos and documents

## Honoring memories in present day

Trachtenberg provided a bit of peace to the family when he and a longtime colleague, a German-Jewish historian, searched last year for hours in Bamberg and found Marie Baum's gravestone.

"We just cried," Trachtenberg says. "It meant so much to find it."

He placed stones on the grave, a Jewish tradition, and recited the Kaddish, or Jewish mourner's prayer.

"As important as the letters are, there's something kind of ephemeral about them," Trachtenberg says. "To find a permanent site for Marie just seemed a very important connection for this family, whose history has been marked by movement and migration and deportation and destruction, just to see that she had a resting place in a cemetery that was not destroyed like so many in the Holocaust."

Rita says she understands her father's reluctance to talk about his pain. Her mother-in-law survived Auschwitz concentration camp but could never discuss it, and neither could the several dozen Holocaust survivors Rita cared for in the retirement home she led. But Rita says her father would approve of telling his story.

Lauren Cane agrees. She is sad that her grandparents had passed away before young Curt and Rose were born, though Curt, a precocious boy who reads at college level, knows about his great-grandparents. As a toddler, little Curt told Lauren one night of a vision: he was seeing the couple outside his bedroom window. They told him they were proud of Lauren and that she had beautiful children. Lauren hopes to take Curt and Rose to Bamberg someday.

Maralynn says the letters have made the family proud of the man their father became.

"Because of all that happened to my father, one might expect that he would have spent much of his life being angry, but he never was," she says. "He taught my sister and I about Tikkun Olam, which in Hebrew means to heal or repair the world."

Her family has done that, she says — Rita with elderly people, Maralynn with teens and adults with special needs, Lauren as a speech therapist and Josh as a pharmacist.

"Until the day he died, my father questioned why he survived while his parents perished. No one can answer that question, but I do think he led a successful, meaningful life and most assuredly did his part to heal the world. Furthermore, he left a legacy of future generations to carry on that tradition."

The Nazis did not succeed. Curt Baum is not invisible.



PHOTOS BY FIONA BURDETTE ('21) (BOTTOM), MARGARET LI (TOP)



These Stolpersteine, or Stumbling Stones, are 4-inch concrete cubes with brass plaques inscribed to commemorate those killed or persecuted under Nazi political doctrine. The stones are usually embedded in pavement, to be discovered, or "stumbled upon" in everyday life. The three Baum memorials will go in front of the former Baum house in Bamberg in a ceremony next year, to be attended by Curt Baum's grandson, Josh Postolski, and possibly other family members. The Stolpersteine project, initiated by German artist Gunter Demnig in 1992, had created 100,000 memorials as of May, most for Jewish victims.



**1 President Susan R. Wentz** announced the completion of Wake Forest's Strategic Framework after a yearlong process that engaged thousands of faculty, staff, students, alumni and key supporters to affirm who we are and what we aspire to be as the University heads toward its bicentennial in 2034. The value proposition: "Wake Foresters will embody Pro Humanitate at home and in the world."

Working groups focused on three thematic goals — being a community of learning, a community of inquiry and a community of partnerships — along with strategic aims supporting them.

The framework also articulates Wake Forest's shared vision for being a catalyst for good in society and will provide a national model for: graduating leaders with integrity and courage; innovation in curricular, co-curricular and experiential learning and in personal and professional

development; excellence in scholarship and research; accountability in inclusion; and entrepreneurial partnerships that advance the University's mission.

The framework is a tool designed for aligning key decisions about planning with Wake Forest's value proposition, thematic goals, strategic aims and shared vision — to be a catalyst for good. *More at [bit.ly/3QizzGJ](https://bit.ly/3QizzGJ)*

**2 President Susan R. Wentz** named **Brian White** as vice president and general counsel and corporate secretary for the University. White was vice chancellor for legal affairs and general counsel at the University of Kansas and has more than 20 years of legal affairs and leadership experience. He leads Wake Forest's Office of the General Counsel and provides advice and counsel on University legal matters, including those related to

Wake Forest University Health Sciences, the School of Medicine and Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

"Brian is an exceptionally accomplished attorney who is deeply committed to higher education and well-known for his integrity and strategic thinking," Wentz said.

White succeeds **J. Reid Morgan ('75, JD '79, '14, '19)**, who retired June 30 and continues as secretary of the board of trustees through this academic year. See page 38 and more at [bit.ly/3rYHm22](https://bit.ly/3rYHm22)

**3 Andrew Klein** was named dean of the **School of Law**. He was interim chancellor of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and executive vice president of Indiana University. From 2013 to 2020, he was dean of Indiana University's McKinney School of Law, where he established 43 scholarships, fellowships and awards, focused on diversity and secured a

\$4 million gift to support LGBTQ rights. He received many awards for teaching tort and environmental law. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin and a J.D. at Emory University School of Law. He succeeds **Nell Jessup Newton**, interim dean for the past year. *More at [bit.ly/3DFK8fp](http://bit.ly/3DFK8fp)*

**4** **Mark Petersen** was promoted from vice president to senior vice president of University Advancement, and **Brett Eaton (P '25, '27)**, senior associate vice president, was promoted to vice president of communications and chief communications officer. Petersen, at Wake Forest since 2008, led its largest capital campaign, which raised more than \$1 billion by 2020 for student financial aid, faculty support and facilities. Eaton joined Wake Forest in 2011 and has led communications and external relations. *More at [bit.ly/3DBvRAB](http://bit.ly/3DBvRAB)*

**5** **Alana James ('09, MSM '10)** was named director of **Wake Downtown**, following **Rebecca Alexander (P '22, '25)**, a longtime chemistry professor and associate dean for research and community engagement. Alexander is interim chair of the Department of Engineering. James was associate director of community engagement at Wake Downtown.

**6** Faculty awards announced in May were: **Reid-Doyle Prize for Excellence in Teaching** to **Francisco Gallegos**, assistant professor in philosophy; **Jon Reinhardt Award for Distinguished Teaching** to **Mary Foscett**, Wake Forest Kahle Professor of Religious Studies and chair of the Department for the Study of Religions; **Teaching Professionals Award for Excellence in Teaching** to **Angela King (P '20)**, chemistry coordinator and teaching professor; **Awards for Excellence in Research** to **Regina Joice Cordy**, assistant professor of biology, **Mark Curtis**, associate professor of economics, and **Lucy Alford**, assistant professor of English; **Excellence in Advising Award** to **Alisa Russell**, assistant professor of English; **URECA Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentorship in Research and Creative Work in the Sciences and Social Sciences** to **Uli Bierbach**, professor of chemistry; **Kulynych Family Omicron Delta Kappa Awards** to **David Wren**, associate teaching professor of chemistry and director of the Chemistry Center,

and **Mir Yarfitz**, associate professor of history; and the **Donald O. Schoonmaker Faculty Award for Community Service** to **Paul Pauca ('94, MS '96)**, professor of computer science. *More at [bit.ly/44Qkpg9](http://bit.ly/44Qkpg9)*

**7** Wake Forest is launching an initiative this fall to further lower barriers to undergraduate admission for **first-generation college students** — those whose parents did not graduate from a four-year accredited college or university. The new **Early Action plan** will allow the applicants who apply through this plan to learn of their admission decision early, by Jan. 15, while retaining the ability to consider other admission offers and financial aid options before making a final decision. *More at [bit.ly/3OGORni](http://bit.ly/3OGORni)*

**8** **Abdou Lachgar**, professor of chemistry, was selected as a 2023-24 Fulbright U.S. Scholar for Namibia, where he will research the development of materials for sustainable production of hydrogen using solar energy and the conversion of biowaste to biofuel. The Fulbright U.S. Student Program, the U.S. government's flagship international educational exchange program, chose three alumni to teach English in other countries: **Madeline Alexanian ('23)** in Spain, **Declan Sander ('23)**, Germany, and **Elise Wright ('22, MA '23)**, the Czech Republic. Conducting research overseas are **Micah Porter ('23)** in Portugal, **Ilse Schaeffner ('21)**, Switzerland, and School of Medicine students **Emily "Gracie" Peck**, Denmark, and **Morgan Yapundich**, Ghana. *More at [bit.ly/3KkOZGo](http://bit.ly/3KkOZGo) and [bit.ly/47g4toW](http://bit.ly/47g4toW)*

**9** Senior **Shelby Horth** was named a 2023 **Barry M. Goldwater Scholar**, the premier undergraduate award for STEM students. Horth, a Thomas E. and Ruth Mullen Scholar in the Carswell Scholarship Program, is majoring in applied mathematics and computer science. She plans to pursue a doctorate in imaging science. *More at [bit.ly/43RpByY](http://bit.ly/43RpByY)*

**10** In response to the U.S. Supreme Court's opinion that race cannot be used in higher education admissions, President **Susan R. Wentz** and Provost **Michele Gillespie** said in a statement: "Wake Forest University will not waver in its commitment to creating and sustaining

inclusive, diverse learning communities; our mission and values have not and will not change. We will continue to recruit and enroll academically qualified students of diverse backgrounds who seek an intellectual home at Wake Forest where they belong and thrive, and in compliance with the Court's ruling." *More at [bit.ly/3rk3d3V](http://bit.ly/3rk3d3V)*

**11** Education professor **Linda Nielsen** received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the **National Parents Organization**. She has focused her research on father-daughter relationships and child custody issues in divorce. *More at [bit.ly/3rXunxC](http://bit.ly/3rXunxC)*

**12** In support of athletics, **Rich Lyons (P '18, '21)** and **Gertrude Lyons (P '18, '21)** endowed the associate head coach positions for both men's and women's golf. **Pam Kentner ('79, P '08)** and **Jeff Kentner ('78, P '08)** made a multimillion-dollar gift to support the baseball team with pitching lab technology and stadium enhancements as well as supporting men's golf. *More at [bit.ly/457VJPT](http://bit.ly/457VJPT) and [bit.ly/47dqZyU](http://bit.ly/47dqZyU)*

**13** **Tim Pyatt**, dean of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library, received an Outstanding Leadership Award from the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries. *More at [bit.ly/3OCMeml](http://bit.ly/3OCMeml)*

**14** **Dr. Cecil Price ('78, MD '82, P '14)**, retired executive director of Student Health Service, received a 2022-23 American College Health Association Lifetime Achievement Award for his dedication to improving the health of college students. *More at [bit.ly/45b9D3T](http://bit.ly/45b9D3T)*

**15** Wake Forest created an **Office of Institutional Equity** responsible for the University's commitment to equitable and inclusive working and learning environments. The office, overseen by Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer **Jacqueline A. Travisano**, evaluates and investigates discrimination and harassment claims and ensures compliance with laws, policies, procedures and practices related to accessibility, affirmative action, equal employment opportunity, harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. *More at [bit.ly/45o8mGL](http://bit.ly/45o8mGL)*



## Inside baseball (and we like it!)

By Kelly Greene ('91)

Wake Forest's baseball team dazzled Demon Deacon fans by finishing the regular season ranked No. 1 and coming oh-so-close to taking the national title before conceding to Louisiana State University (2-0) in the Men's College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska. "The way that these guys love each other, as a coach, I'd rather coach this team and not win the national championship than coach any other team," said Coach **Tom Walter (P '23)**. "I'm just beyond proud of them." *More at [bit.ly/3rX7VVk](http://bit.ly/3rX7VVk)*

**PITCHING SCIENCE:** Pitchers from Wake Forest and even MLB teams have honed their skills with help from the cutting-edge pitching lab that Wake Forest and Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist opened four years ago in the Chris Hurd Player Development Center at David F. Couch Ballpark. Under the direction of biomechanist **Kristen Nicholson**, an assistant professor in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation at the School of Medicine, the lab uses more than 20 cameras, force plates built into a pitching mound and 3D Doppler radar to measure the location, trajectory and

spin rate of the ball. Nicholson uses the data to help players prevent injuries and improve performance. "This year, I felt like we were able to utilize the knowledge we've gained to make an impact and see it all pay off," she says. *More at [bit.ly/3OFor2u](http://bit.ly/3OFor2u)*

**DATA-DRIVEN DUGOUT:** The baseball analytics team, led by **Chris Lewis ('22, MSA '23)**, proved to be another secret weapon, expanding from four to 20 undergraduate and graduate student members during the past four years. Their analysis of biomechanical and bullpen data helps players improve and target opponents. The students started as a club, but "we saw a big opportunity to fill," says Lewis, who joined the Toronto Blue Jays analytics team in July in Florida.

**AVALANCHE OF ACCOLADES:** **Walter** was named ACC Coach of the Year. The ACC named junior **Rhett Lowder** Pitcher of the Year for the second year in a row, Male Athlete of the

Year and Baseball Scholar-Athlete of the Year, and Wake Forest honored him with his second Arnold Palmer Award (Male Athlete of the Year). Five Demon Deacons were named 2023 Collegiate Baseball All-Americans. *More at [bit.ly/3QkjUqa](http://bit.ly/3QkjUqa)*

**REMEMBRANCE:** Wake Forest's last trip to Omaha in 1955 ended with a national title, and players still recall the euphoria of the 7-6 win over Western Michigan University. A few obstacles arose. **President Harold Tribble (LL.D. '48, P '55)** had to get star pitcher **Lowell "Lefty" Davis ('57)** flown in from summer classes for a Saturday game. A rained-out game's postponement until Sunday prompted an outcry from North Carolina Baptists who objected to playing on a sacred day of rest. Winning the title still thrilled players. "That year I was pitching, I thought I'd captured the world," says **Jack McGinley ('57)**. *More at [bit.ly/457UJvo](http://bit.ly/457UJvo)*

**GOING PRO:** A program-record 10 players were selected in the summer MLB Draft, starting with **Lowder** (Cincinnati Reds) and junior **Brock Wilken** (Milwaukee Brewers) in the first round. Drafted in later rounds were **Justin Johnson (MSBA '23)**, **Pierce Bennett ('23)** and undergraduates **Tommy Hawke**, **Seth Keener**, **Bennett Lee**, **Teddy McGraw**, **Camden Minacci** and **Sean Sullivan**. The Deacons quickly began attracting promising transfers. *More at [bit.ly/44VVR5G](http://bit.ly/44VVR5G)*



Biomechanist Kristen Nicholson directs the pitching lab at David F. Couch Ballpark. **Top:** The baseball team celebrates with a "dog pile."

# Wake Forest celebrates signing historic corporate partnerships

**THE HOME OF DEMON DEACONS FOOTBALL** got a new name in June: Allegacy Federal Credit Union Stadium.

The multi-year commitment is the largest corporate partnership in Wake Forest history, deepening Allegacy's existing partnership with the University. Allegacy Federal Credit Union is a leading financial institution with more than 175,000 members worldwide, \$2.2 billion in assets and, under Allegacy Investment Group, more than \$1.5 billion in assets under management.

Since 2007, BB&T — later Truist — had held the stadium's naming rights. In the new deal, Allegacy owns them for an undisclosed number of years. With the agreement, Allegacy became "An Official Banking Partner of Wake Forest Athletics, the Exclusive Credit Union of Wake Forest Athletics, the Official Wealth Management Advisors of Wake Forest Athletics and the Exclusive Banking Partner of Wake Forest Football." Allegacy also became Wake Forest's Preferred Student-Athlete Financial Education Provider, making Allegacy financial experts available to assist Wake Forest student-athletes with general financial matters.

Allegacy Stadium anchors the largest sports and entertainment quadrant west of Greensboro and north of Charlotte. As such, it broadens the credit union's visibility among hundreds of thousands of fans and students who attend Demon Deacons football games and the nearly 20 million total television viewers who watch the Deacs' football games each year. The stadium will host future events like the Sir Paul McCartney concert in May 2022, which drew more than 34,000 fans from around North America.

"Allegacy CEO Cathy Pace (P '17) and I share a strong commitment to the wellbeing and future of the Winston-Salem community and our region," said President Susan R. Wentz, thanking Pace and Allegacy's board. "Allegacy's strategic investment in partnership with Wake Forest will support the continued success of both organizations and provide new, exciting opportunities for Wake Forest students and employees."

For more than 20 years, Allegacy has partnered with the Wake Forest family to advance the community's wellbeing. The University and Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center have been longtime members of Allegacy's Select Employee Group. The Allegacy Center for Leadership and Character at the University's School of Business accelerates the school's mission to develop leaders of character to serve the greater good, through creating and publishing new knowledge in top academic journals across the world and integrating ethical leadership and character strengths into courses, academic programs, co-curricular activities and faculty and staff development programs.



Cathy Pace (P '17),  
president and CEO  
of Allegacy Federal  
Credit Union

"Allegacy and Wake Forest continue to be aligned in mission, ideals and principles," according to Pace, Allegacy's president and CEO, who serves on the board of visitors for the business school. "Our approach to wellbeing is holistic in offering financial products and services that help our members be their best selves. Wake Forest's motto, Pro Humanitate, similarly is a calling to better the lives of others. With this ongoing partnership, we are each building on a proud legacy and a commitment to innovation in education and wellness."

Allegacy and Wake Forest share a common origin. Reynolda Campus was originally part of the estate of R.J. and Katharine Reynolds; Allegacy was founded in 1967 as the Reynolds Carolina Credit Union to serve R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. employees.

"From our initial conversation about the concept of Allegacy Stadium to the culmination of this announcement, it has been inspirational to see the synergy of Cathy Pace and her leadership team with our Wake Forest staff," said John Currie ('93), director of athletics. "This is a unique opportunity to deepen a partnership which has impacted hundreds of thousands of people across our Winston-Salem community and beyond over the past two decades."

Though Truist no longer holds the naming sponsorship for the stadium, Truist and Wake Forest announced during the summer that Truist will be an official banking partner for athletics and presenting partner of Wake Forest Women's Athletics. The arrangement makes Truist Wake Forest's largest non-naming corporate partnership in history. One element of the partnership includes a "Mic'd Up" social media video series highlighting student-athletes, coaches and administrators.

## Dear alumni,

By the time you receive this issue of Wake Forest Magazine, many of you will either be on your way to Homecoming or just getting back home from a wonderful weekend of seeing old friends and enjoying class reunions, Party So Dear and Festival on the Quad. The Alumni Council is scheduled to meet in person during Homecoming. Our committees include Communities, Campus Life and DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion). **Jane Owens Cage ('78)**, president of the Wake Forest Alumni Council, spoke with **Tonja Damon Brooks ('91, JD '96)**, who leads the DEI committee.

**CAGE:** Can you tell us a little about your life since graduating from Wake Forest?

**BROOKS:** I practiced criminal defense law for 22 years as a public defender and in private practice. Currently, I serve as the Criminal Justice Act coordinating attorney for the Western District of North Carolina, managing over 100 private attorneys dedicated

to public service work. I also liaise with the U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina. I'm married to a wonderful husband, and we have two great children, including a recent Yale graduate with a master's in architecture. I am grateful to have my mom living with me, still pushing me to be my best self and encouraging me to lead by serving.

**CAGE:** Why was the DEI committee established?

**BROOKS:** The DEI committee was established to give voice to those in our community that are traditionally devalued, overlooked and even silenced. While Wake Forest has made significant strides, historically many students of color, women and other diverse communities struggled to find community and graduated without a sense of loyalty and admiration for the University. That's why DEI at the alumni level is so important. We hope to reach those discouraged by the past, pulling them into the present to ensure that Wake Forest continues to press for a more diverse and inclusive community.

**CAGE:** What are some of the issues the committee will be addressing?

**BROOKS:** While there are many issues within DEI, the committee has focused on racial diversity. The effects of racism permeate every aspect of society. We aim to elevate these issues, provide educational opportunities and engage our Wake community through conversations, presentations and programs.

**CAGE:** How can alumni get involved in the committee?

**BROOKS:** I hope that alumni will participate in the conversations and presentations. I also hope that alumni will see them as a call to action, especially those who, like me, gave up on Wake Forest a long time ago. It took one person to invite me to join the Alumni Council to bring me back. Consider this my invitation to you.



**Top:** Association of Wake Forest University Black Alumni gather at Homecoming last year. **Bottom:** Alumni celebrate class reunions.

## LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Have a question?  
Contact the Alumni Engagement Office at 800-752-8568 or [alumni@wfu.edu](mailto:alumni@wfu.edu)

## 1950s

**John Gerring ('57)** was visited by four-time All-American golfer and two-time ACC Player of the Year **Rachel Kuehn ('23)** at his home in Greenville, SC. Gerring taught Kuehn at Biltmore Forest Country Club in Asheville, NC, when she was a junior player. Gerring won medalist honors at the 1957 ACC Tournament and helped lead the Deacons to the ACC Championship. He is a member of the PGA, Carolinas Golf Association and Wake Forest Sports halls of fame. He teaches at the Haas Family Golf Center in Greenville, owned in part by **Jay Haas ('76, P '04, '09)** and his son, **Bill Haas ('04)**. Kuehn is pursuing a master's in sports media while playing her final year for the national champion Deacons.

## 1960s

**Gene T. Lawson ('66)** was inducted into the Conditioned Air Association of Georgia's Hall of Fame. He has been in the HVAC industry in Georgia for more than 50 years. He has been an adviser to Lanier Technical College, a board member of Georgia's industry licensing board and president of the Conditioned Air Association of Georgia. He and his wife of 40 years, Louise, live in Gainesville, GA.

**Richard F. Smith ('66)** resigned from Smith Pachter McWhorter, a law firm in Tysons Corner, VA, that he formed in 1986. Smith graduated from law school at the University of Virginia (LL.B.) and at George Washington University (LL.M.), and he served in the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps. He taught construction law at the University of Virginia School of Law for more than 10 years and has been an arbitrator and mediator of construction disputes for 20 years. He is active in the American Bar Association Forum in Construction Law and received its Cornerstone Award in 2010. He and his wife, Linda, have been married 54 years and live in Charlottesville, VA. They have two daughters, including **Kathryn Smith Spencer (JD '05)**, and two grandchildren.

**Frank P. Donaldson ('69)** retired in January after teaching at UNC Greensboro for 33 years. He had been director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Media Studies since 2000. He was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest civic honor, by Gov. Roy Cooper.

## 1970s

**Ben Farmer (JD '70)** is a lawyer in Jamestown, NC. His law office is decorated with 19th-century antiques from Ireland; historical documents, including a note signed by Abraham Lincoln and a 1760 document from King George III; lithographs of caricatures of judges and barristers from the British magazine *Vanity Fair* from the late 1800s to the early 1900s; and autographs and photo-

graphs of famous people, including composer Irving Berlin, author O. Henry, boxer Muhammad Ali, musician Count Basie and actress Mae West. More at [bit.ly/BenFarmer](https://bit.ly/BenFarmer)

**R. Allen "Al" Shoaf ('70)** has published two volumes of poetry: "Selected Poems 1968-2021," a selection of 275 poems from some of his earliest to some of his most recent pieces, and the chapbook "Call Me Queequeg, Ishmael," a collection of poems responding to "Moby Dick." Shoaf is professor emeritus of English at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL.

**Ronald Black (JD '72)** was honored by The Florida Bar for practicing law for 50 years. He practices in Orange County, FL.

**Howard Franklin Robbins Jr. (JD '72)** was honored by The Florida Bar for practicing law for 50 years. He practices in Orlando.

**Dennis L. Salvagio (JD '73)** was honored by The Florida Bar for practicing law for 50 years. He practices in Seminole County, FL.

**Dale Robertson ('75)** and his wife, Claudia, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in August. He is the pastor of North Main Baptist Church in Salisbury, NC, and former secretary/treasurer of the N.C. Baptist Pastors' Conference. The Robertsons have served North Main Baptist Church since 1993.

**Richard Carlson ('76)** completed the fifth edition of "Carlson, Duff, Flake and Bales: Employment Law," a casebook used in law schools around the country. The first edition was published in 2005. Carlson is a professor of law at South Texas College of Law Houston.

**Stan Carmical ('77)** retired after 34 years as a trial judge. He practiced law in Lumberton, NC, until he was appointed to the District Court bench in 1989 by **Gov. James Martin (LLD '87)**. Later he was appointed to the Superior Court bench by Gov. Roy Cooper. He presided over court sessions in roughly half of North Carolina's 100 counties. He and his wife, Beth, have three daughters and five grandchildren.

**James "Jim" Dubinsky ('77)** completed work for a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, the third he has directed or co-directed to support veterans and their families. The grants are part of a decade-long commitment to create veterans studies via the Virginia Tech Veterans Society Initiative (ViS), begun in 2012. The grants include a Summer Institute for K-12 Teachers in 2023, a Summer Institute for Faculty in 2016 and a Dialogues in the Experiences of War grant in 2022-2023, a partnership with The Clemente Course in the Humanities. Dubinsky chaired or co-chaired four ViS conferences at Virginia Tech.

**Douglas "Doug" W. Shouse ('77, MBA '79)** wrote "American Janus," a historical novel about a North Carolina Confederate veteran and his family at the dawn of the 20th century. The



Donaldson  
( '69)



Carmical  
( '77)



Philpott  
(JD '78)

book explores the South and its reckoning with the Civil War and reconstruction. Shouse is the founder of Doug Shouse Marketing LLC and lives in Winston-Salem with his wife, Ruth.

**Nancy Bell Kimsey ('78)** wrote her third devotional book, "Called by the Composer: Devotions for Musicians," a collection of 60 meditations about the joys and challenges of creating music. She lives in Fuquay-Varina, NC.

**Kathryn "Kathy" Lee ('78)** was featured in an article in *The New Yorker* in 2022 about her experience coming out as gay in 2017 while a political science professor at Whitworth University, a Christian university in Spokane, WA. In 2023, Whitworth added "sexual orientation" to its list of classes of employees protected from discrimination in hiring. Lee retired in 2022 after nearly 40 years in Christian higher education and is professor emerita of political science at Whitworth.

**Julian Philpott (JD '78)** received the I.E. Ready Award from the North Carolina Community College System for his contributions to the state system. He has served on the board of trustees at Central Carolina Community College in Sanford, NC, for 16 years and has been chair since 2011. He has been an attorney for 44 years.

**Nancy Joie Wilkie ('78)** wrote "Faraway and Forever," a collection of celestial short stories combining science fiction and Christian faith. She is an author, musician and artist who retired after 30 years in biotechnology and the federal government. She also created a series of greeting cards displaying her artwork and photographs. She lives in Brookeville, MD.

**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](mailto:classnotes@wfu.edu)



### ONLINE:

[magazine.wfu.edu/class-notes/submit/](https://magazine.wfu.edu/class-notes/submit/)



**Cahill**  
(’81)



**Pahides**  
(’81)



**Clayton**  
(’83)



**Fitzgerald**  
(’83)



**Griffin**  
(’83, JD ’86)



**Heidtmann**  
(’85)



**Cronin**  
(’86, MD ’92)



**Stogner**  
(’86, JD ’94)

## 1980s

**Doug Powell (JD ’80)** was appointed to the board of trustees at Susquehanna University, his undergraduate alma mater. Powell is an attorney at Powell & Associates in Atlanta. He served in the Judge Advocate General’s Corps in the U.S. Navy Reserve. He graduated in 2006 from the Art Institute of Atlanta in culinary arts and is a certified sommelier and wine judge. He and his wife, **Beth Powell (’75)**, live in Atlanta.

**Katherine Kelly Burnette (’81, JD ’84)** wrote a short story, “The Recluse,” published in the moonShine review journal. Her short fiction has appeared in Sky Island Journal and Maudlin House, and her poetry has appeared in Flying South, Red Fez and Deep South magazine. Her debut novel, “Judge’s Waltz,” received a Pinnacle Book Achievement Award from the National Association of Book Entrepreneurs and a Feathered Quill Book Award. She and her husband, **Tom Burnette (JD ’84)**, live in Oxford, NC.

**Tony Ray Cahill (’81)** won his bracket, men ages 60-69, in the Pier 2 Pier Beach Run 5K in Myrtle Beach, SC, and finished 26th overall out of 231 runners. He also finished 8th out of 34 runners in his bracket, men ages 60-64, in the Myrtle Beach Marathon 5K and 216th overall out of 1,083 runners.

**Gerald Chrisco (MBA ’81)** was named adviser to the board of directors of The Budd Group, a facilities services company based in Winston-Salem. He was the company’s CFO for more than 40 years and is a former adjunct professor at the Wake Forest School of Business. He lives in Bermuda Run, NC.

**Rick O. Kopf (JD ’81, P ’09)** was recognized in the Chambers USA 2023 guide in real estate law. He is a founding partner and shareholder in Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr PC in Dallas.

**Stephen M. Pahides (’81)** is a senior attorney with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Office of General Counsel. He achieved the rank of lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate General’s Corps. He is a 2023 Veterans Affairs Congressional Fellow, assigned to U.S. Rep. Julia Brownley, D-Calif. The one-year fellowship program is for VA employees to gain an in-depth understanding of the legislative process.

**Jennifer Early Calvert (’82)** was named executive director of Finish the Wall ministries. The nonprofit recruits volunteer teams to complete

churches and other community buildings in Central America that were started by school and church teams, but not finished when their time or funding ran out. Calvert and her husband, Dave, live in Concord, NC.

**Jim Wheaton (’82)** joined William & Mary Law School as clinical associate professor of law and director of its Special Education Advocacy Clinic. During his law career, he has devoted his pro bono efforts to representing students and families in special education matters, and in his new role he will teach and supervise law students doing that work. Previously, he was a clinical associate professor and director of Boston University School of Law’s Startup Law Clinic. He and his wife, **Laurie Weinell Wheaton (’83)**, have moved to Williamsburg, VA.

**George “Chip” Clayton (’83)** was elected president of the Tennessee Dental Association. He will maintain a part-time private practice and remain on the faculty at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He and his wife, Pam, live in Brentwood, TN.

**G. Scott Fitzgerald (’83)** was named director of sales in North America for Octopus News, a broadcast software technology group, after three decades in television news. Fitzgerald won three Emmys for outstanding news production and worked at NBC News and CBS Sports with stops in San Diego, Seattle and Miami. He lives in Houston.

**Elizabeth Dale Gilley (’83)** created Reward Deficiency Syndrome (RDS) Solution Focused Brief Intervention therapy and the RDS Severity of Symptom scale to help clients self-manage their RDS issues. The therapy utilizes neurogenetic and epigenetic advancements to select medication based on an individual’s brain, instead of using generic treatments. An article on her work was published in “Current Pharmaceutical Biotechnology.”

**Rob Griffin (’83, JD ’86)** was certified as a Superior Court mediator with the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner law firm in Raleigh, chair of the firm’s trucking and commercial transportation practice group and co-chair of the civil litigation section.

**Charles Hartley (’85)** is a senior content specialist for TIAA writing about cybersecurity. He has been a business writer and regularly writes humor columns. He and his wife, Megan, live in Davidson, NC. They have three children, including **Grace Hartley (’15)**.

**Henry Heidtmann (’85)** received the 2022 Marian Millaway Douglas Award for Faculty Excellence in Teaching at Summit School, an independent school for pre-K through ninth grade in Winston-Salem. He joined the Summit staff in 1987 and is a classroom technology specialist who teaches digital media and broadcast studios and advises the student radio station, Screamin’ Eagle Radio. He lives in Lewisville, NC, with his wife, **Julie Heidtmann (’89, MAED ’94)**, who teaches math at Summit.

**Kerry M. King (’85)** won a Silver Medal in the university magazine profile-writing category in the 2023 Circle of Excellence Awards from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. He received the award for his feature in the fall 2022 Wake Forest Magazine, “Unearthing Time in a Bottle,” about botanist **Frank Telewski (PhD ’83)**, the latest keeper of a 140-year-old seed experiment at Michigan State University. King is senior editor of Wake Forest Magazine and has worked at Wake Forest since 1989. He and his wife, **Heather Barnes King (MA ’97)**, a math teacher at Stokes Early College in Walnut Cove, NC, live in Winston-Salem.

**Terrence A. Cronin Jr. (’86, MD ’92)** is serving a one-year term as president of the American Academy of Dermatology. He is in private practice in Melbourne, FL. He is a past chair of the academy’s advisory board and has served on its board of directors and executive committee.

**Allyson “Ally” Currin (’86, P ’19)** is an award-winning playwright and head of the MFA playwriting program at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. She has written more than 40 plays. Her musical, “The Silver Belles,” with lyrics by Stephen Gregory Smith and music by Matt Conner, is scheduled in the Virginia Repertory Theatre’s upcoming season (Nov. 24-Dec. 31). The musical had its world premiere at the Tony Award-winning Signature Theatre in Arlington, VA.

**Kimberly Helmintoller Stogner (’86, JD ’94)** is president-elect of the North Carolina Bar Association and North Carolina Bar Foundation. She is a partner at Womble Bond Dickinson LLP and a member of the board of visitors of the Wake Forest School of Law. She and her husband, **R. Stuart Stogner (’85)**, live in Winston-Salem.

**Ed Bonahue (’87)** is president and chief executive officer of Suffolk County Community College on Long Island, NY. It is the largest community college in the State University of New York system. Bonahue and his wife, **Tina Smith-Bonahue (’87)**, live in Wading River, NY.

**Larry “LD” Russell (MA ‘88)** retired after 30 years teaching religious studies at Elon University. He was named Elon’s first senior lecturer emeritus.

**Elizabeth Rovere (‘89)** launched Wonderstruck, a podcast that addresses “Wonder, Awe, Being, Consciousness and the Extraordinary” through conversations with scientists, shamans, academics and artists. The podcast dives into the what, wonder and wow of being with levity and curiosity by discussing, among other topics, fire-based rituals, pursuing a rainbow body in Tibet and finding the luminous in your everyday walk. Guests have included comedian Russell Brand, podcaster Fearne Cotton and author and psychology professor Dacher Keltner. Rovere says transformation can occur through experiences that connect us to something greater and that generate a sense of community with others and our natural world.

## 1990s

**Robert Harville Boyles Jr. (‘90)** is director of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. He was unanimously confirmed by the South Carolina Senate in 2020 after being appointed interim director by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Board in 2019. He and his wife, **Liz Prioleau Boyles (‘91)**, live in Mount Pleasant, SC.

**Dana H. Hoffman (JD ‘90)** was named to the North Carolina Lawyers Weekly Power List for personal injury (defense). She also was elected into the American Board of Trial Advocates, a national association of trial lawyers and judges. She is a shareholder at Young Moore and Henderson PA in Raleigh.

**Steve Lindsley (‘90)** released “Back Again,” his first full-length album in more than a decade. The album is available on Spotify, Apple Music and other streaming services. He is senior pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Charlotte.

**John Shelton Penton Jr. (‘90)** successfully defended his doctoral dissertation at Louisiana State University’s College of the Coast & Environment and earned his PhD in environmental sciences, minoring in oceanography and coastal sciences.

**Jeff Vandiver (‘90)** is managing director and senior wealth advisor at Carnegie Private Wealth in Charlotte. He has more than 32 years’ experience in the financial services industry. The firm, co-founded by **Mary Sherrill Ware (MBA ‘14)**, has \$1.45 billion in advisory, brokerage and retirement plan assets. Vandiver and his wife, **Noelle Morgan Vandiver (‘90)**, live in Charlotte.

**Andy Bray (‘91)** was named chief executive officer of Vanguard Furniture after serving as president since 2012. He succeeded his father, **John Bray (‘64)**, who co-founded the company and will continue to serve as chair of the board. Andy Bray joined the family company in 1993 as a sales representative and was named later vice president of sales before becoming president. Vanguard is based in Conover, NC, and operates

manufacturing facilities in Hickory, NC, and Hillsville, VA, and a showroom in High Point, NC.

**M. Kelly Greene (‘91)** was named managing editor of Wake Forest Magazine. She was senior director of executive communications at TIAA in New York. For more than two decades, she was a journalist, including at the Winston-Salem Journal and The Wall Street Journal, where she led retirement coverage and co-authored the best-selling “The Wall Street Journal Complete Retirement Guidebook.” She lives in Winston-Salem and has two children, Joseph (19) and Lily (13).

**Christa McHan Miller (‘91)** was named chief financial officer at EnableComp, a provider of complex claims revenue solutions. She has been CFO of several other companies. She and her husband, **Scott Miller (‘90)**, live in Raleigh and have two Deacon children, **Ben Miller (‘19, MSA ‘20)** and **Madi Miller (‘23)**.

**Diana R. Palecek (JD ‘92)** was named to the 2023 National Diversity Impact 50 list by Career Mastered Magazine. She is a partner in Fox Rothschild LLP’s real estate department and a member of CREW (Commercial Real Estate Women) Charlotte and its DEI taskforce. She facilitated CREW Charlotte’s inaugural meeting of “community cohorts” for professionals with disabilities.



Russell  
(MA ‘88)



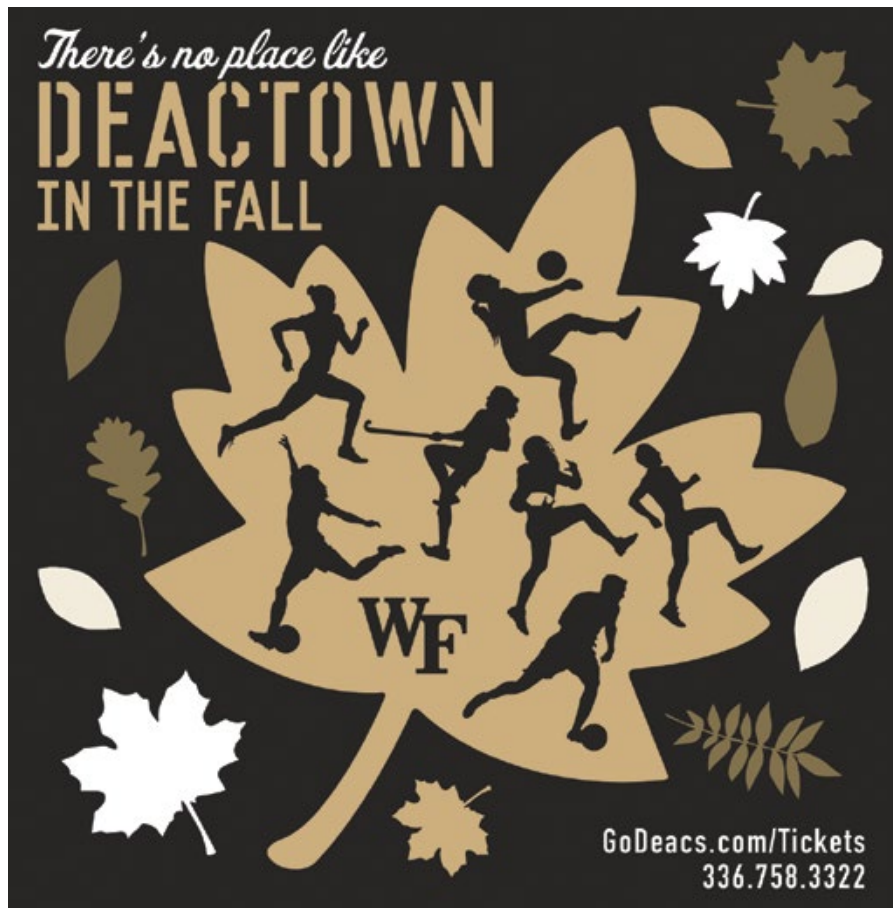
Hoffman  
(JD ‘90)



Bray  
(‘91)

**Allison Orr (‘93)** wrote “Dance Works: Stories of Creative Collaborations.” Orr is the founder and artistic director of Austin, TX-based Forklift Danceworks, which works with diverse communities to choreograph performances that tell stories of work and place. In the book, power line workers, sanitation workers and firefighters reflect on collaborating with Forklift and how the creative process can bring people together to address civic issues. Orr worked with Wake Forest employees in Facilities & Campus Services in 2020 to produce “From the Ground Up,” staged on Hearn Plaza. *More at [bit.ly/2tRMK9L](https://bit.ly/2tRMK9L)*

**Natalie Harvey (‘94)** was named director of cultural affairs for the town of Hilton Head Island, SC. She spent 25 years at the Coastal Discovery Museum in Hilton Head Island, most recently as vice president of collections and interpretation. She lives in Bluffton, SC.





**Stenman**  
(’94)



**Winther-Hansen**  
(’96)



**Evans**  
(’98, JD ’02)



**Feeley**  
(’98)



**McCray**  
(’98)

**Jennifer L. Arthur Stenman (’94)** joined law firm Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren as a shareholder in its Denver office. She earned her JD from the University of Denver and is a frequent author and speaker on real estate law.

**Mark Tisdell (MBA ’94)** was appointed to food technology company GrubMarket’s board of directors as an independent board member and audit committee chair. He is chief financial officer of Mineral Inc., an HR management and compliance provider, and has been a CFO for public and private software technology companies for 15 years. He lives in Sherwood, OR.

**Ed Bogle (JD ’95)** was appointed District Court judge in Gaston County by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. Bogle was a partner at Bogle & Anthony PA in Gastonia, NC. He has argued before the North Carolina Supreme Court twice and wrote a humor book, “Letters to the District Attorney.”

**Lauren Kirby Winther-Hansen (’96)** finds herself “where every theatre major expects to end up”: working at a startup. She is nonprofit training lead at FreeWill, a free online estate planning tool that encourages users to leave money to charities. She designs and implements a training program for FreeWill’s nonprofit partners to drive fundraising. The public benefit company has already helped raise nearly \$8 billion in bequests to charities. She lives in Annapolis, MD.

**Katherine “Kate” Maloney (’97)** is associate vice president at multinational IT consulting company Infosys and executive director of Infosys Foundation USA. She lives in Greenwich, CT. She helps lead the Global Deacs Wake Forest affinity group, which she, **Kezia McKeague (’05)** and **Nico Gabrielli (’11)** co-founded 10 years ago. More at [bit.ly/3PLmiG9](https://bit.ly/3PLmiG9)

**DaBeth Manns (’97)** wrote and produced an independent music project, “The H’ipnotic and Chris Beatz Leath Experience.” The work contains original spoken lyrics accompanied by an eclectic blend of lofi-neosoul with contemporary smooth jazz sentiments and mellow funk/R&B vibes. She donates a portion of the proceeds from the work to music scholarship funds at a historically Black college or university. Manns received her doctorate in 2003 from Purdue University. She retired this year after 20 years as an independent consultant.

**Ernest Piccioli (MBA ’97)** was named senior executive vice president and chief risk officer at TowneBank, based in Suffolk, VA. He has more than 30 years of risk management experience.

**Paidemoyo “Pai” Charasika (’98)** was named one of the top 20 Wealth Management Advisers to Know for 2023 in Louisville, KY, by Louisville Business First. He is a senior wealth adviser at Copperwood Financial Inc.

**Brad Evans (’98, JD ’02)** was named to Business North Carolina’s 2023 Power List for the third consecutive year. He is co-managing director at Ward and Smith PA in Greenville, NC, and a certified Superior Court mediator who specializes in commercial civil litigation.

**Kenneth J. Feeley (’98)** was promoted to full professor in the biology department at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, FL. He teaches classes on ecology and conservation biology and leads several large research programs investigating the effects of climate change on tropical forests.

**Patrick “Pat” Fitzgerald (’98, MBA ’02)** was named senior vice president and chief financial officer of HBM Holdings, a privately held industrial conglomerate. He has more than 20 years’ experience in financial leadership, acquisition development and investor relations. He lives in St. Louis.

**Stacey Gibbs McCray (’98)** was promoted to vice president of communications for Bojangles after two years as senior director. She is also a company officer for the Charlotte-based restaurant chain.

**Jarrod Sisk (’98)** and **Mark Einloth (’98)** started “The Mag Room” podcast, an homage to their days at Wake Forest when they would go to the Magnolia Room and enjoy the buffet, drink sweet tea (“Shout out to the sweet tea lady!”) and talk about whatever was on their minds. They describe it as an irreverent and comedic podcast that “certainly does not take things seriously.” They recently hosted **Ross Samchalk (’98)** to talk about old Wake Forest times. Sisk is a mathematics and economics teacher in Lakeville, CT, and Einloth owns a shipping business in Jupiter, FL.

**Jessica Lewis Luck (MA ’99)** wrote “Poetics of Cognition: Thinking through Experimental Poems.” She draws on research that suggests the strangeness of experimental poetry can reshape the activity of the reader’s mind, creating new forms of attention, perception and cognition. She lives in Redlands, CA, and is professor of English at California State University, San Bernardino.



When we create life-changing opportunities at Wake Forest, we deliver the mission of Pro Humanitate to the world. Right now, all corners of Wake Forest fundraising are focused upon a single goal: changing the lives of 100 deserving students through the power of opportunity. There are many ways to contribute, and every gift plays a part in achieving this outcome, no matter the size. To learn more about how you can join this mission, please visit [giving.wfu.edu](https://giving.wfu.edu) today.



**Mast**  
(‘99)



**Misselhorn**  
(‘99)



**Ramseur**  
(JD ‘99)



**Smith**  
(01, JD ‘04)



**Brown**  
(‘03)



**Michalove**  
(MDiv ‘03)



**Rutledge**  
(‘04, MSBA ‘20)



**Donaldson**  
(MDiv ‘05)

**Kerri Smetzer Mast (‘99)** has been named a principal of Brown Brothers Harriman, a privately held private banking and investment firm. She lives in Charlotte with her husband, Patrick, and their children, Jack and Maggie.

**Amanda Janney Misselhorn (‘99)** was named the first field hockey head coach at Penn State Harrisburg. “Coach AJ” has 14 years of Division I experience, including four years at Indiana University and a decade at Temple University. She was a four-year field hockey player at Wake Forest and remains grateful to coach **Jen Averill (P ‘27)** for passing along “her love of the game to all of us.” Misselhorn pays it forward by helping her team learn life lessons. She and her husband, Walter, live in Mount Joy, PA.

**Patti West Ramseur (JD ‘99)** was installed as the 129th president of the North Carolina Bar Association. She will also serve in 2023-2024 as president of the North Carolina Bar Foundation. Ramseur practices employment litigation and counseling at employment law firm Ramseur Maulsby LLP in Greensboro.

## 2000

**Kristen “Krissy” Miller Peichert (‘00)** received the 2022 Johns Hopkins Medicine Clinical Award for Excellence in Service and Professionalism. She practices internal medicine at Johns Hopkins Community Physicians in Glen Burnie, MD.

**Jessica Jackson Shortall (‘00)** joined the R Street Institute to build and lead its bipartisan Safer from Harm coalition, a new effort to bring diverse voices to advance public policy in harm reduction. She spent the past decade building business coalitions focused on LGBTQ rights in Texas and nationally. She is based in the Twin Cities in Minnesota.

## 2001

**Tyronia “Ty” Morrison Smith (‘01, JD ‘04)** was named assistant general manager of commercial revenue for Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the busiest airport in the world. She oversees non-aeronautical revenue units, customer experience and marketing and brand strategy.

**Joe Yancey (‘01)** was promoted to colonel in the U.S. Army. He is chief medical officer at Carl R.

Darnall Army Medical Center at Fort Cavazos, TX. Yancey lives in Harker Heights, TX, with his wife, **Susie Martin Yancey (‘01)**, and their children, Rachel and Benjamin.

## 2002

**Allen Roda (‘02)** wrote “PhDone: A Professional Dissertation Editor’s Guide to Writing Your Doctoral Thesis and Earning Your PhD.” The book is based on his decade of experience helping graduate students write, edit and format doctoral dissertations. He is chief executive officer of Dissertation Editor and PhD Advantage LLC and lives in Asheville, NC.

## 2003

**Alice Green Brown (‘03)** is the founder of GoodSteps, a flip-flop company and social enterprise whose mission is to provide ongoing funding to nonprofit partners fighting hunger at home and abroad. She, her husband and their three children live in Atlanta. *More at [bit.ly/AliceGreenBrown](http://bit.ly/AliceGreenBrown)*

**Ryan Eanes (‘03)** was awarded a visiting faculty position at Temple University, Japan Campus in Tokyo for the spring 2024 semester. Eanes is an assistant professor of instruction in the Department of Advertising and Public Relations in the Klein College of Media and Communication at Temple University.

**Robyn Byrd Michalove (MDiv ‘03)** was the Baccalaureate speaker at Austin College in Sherman, TX, in May and was awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree. She has been associate pastor of mission and family ministries at First Presbyterian Church in Fort Worth, TX, since 2004. She earned her doctor of ministry degree from Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth in 2019.

## 2004

**Susan Lawson (‘04, MBA ‘09)** was promoted to assistant vice president, Consumer Insights, at Lincoln Financial Group. She lives in Charlotte with her husband, Andrew, and their daughter, Edie.

**Lauren Rhoney Ridgeway (‘04)** received her doctorate in nursing practice from the Family Nurse Practitioner program at Gardner-Webb University in May. She uses her background in

anthropology from Wake Forest to serve as a health care provider in rural North Carolina.

**Molly Rutledge (‘04, MSBA ‘20)** is vice president of analytics at New Orleans-based Causeway Solutions LLC, where she has worked for eight years. She has 18 years of experience in the analytics field. She lives in Fairhope, AL, and is a member of the Wake Forest School of Business Alumni Council.

**Shaunna Bailey Stith (‘04)** and her husband, John Stith, wrote a children’s environmental picture book, “Black Beach: A Community, an Oil Spill, and the Origin of Earth Day.” They have toured schools, bookstores and book festivals to promote the book, which was selected as the Target Book Club picture book for April 2023. Stith is special counsel in governmental practice at Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP. She and her husband live in Ventura, CA.

## 2005

**Jane Bianchi (‘05)** was promoted to director of strategic communications at Berkeley Preparatory School, a pre-K through 12th grade independent school in Tampa, FL. Her two daughters attend the school, Sally in second grade and Josie in pre-K.

**Charlotte M. Brown (‘05)**, associate professor of clinical pediatrics, and **Christopher Sobey (‘05)**, associate professor of clinical anesthesia, were named to Vanderbilt University Medical Center’s Academy for Excellence in Clinical Medicine. The academy honors exemplary clinicians who combine a passion for patient care with a scholarly approach to improving patient health. Brown and Sobey were friends and chemistry lab partners at Wake Forest and are now colleagues and neighbors in Nashville, TN, where they live with their families.

**Michael “Mike” Donaldson (MDiv ‘05)** is pursuing his PhD in global theology at Oral Roberts University College of Theology and Ministry in Tulsa, OK. He has completed his written and oral comprehensive examinations and is working on his dissertation on water baptism formulas. He previously earned his doctor of ministry degree from Fuller Theological Seminary.

## ALUMNI Q&A

**Taylor Miller-Meeks Lazarowitz ('12)** is on the executive committee of WAKEDenver with Trula Tener ('04), Kyle Collins ('06), Ana Arnautovic Likman ('07), Leanne Maciel (MBA '08), Karlos Sachs (MBA '09) and Kelli Duggan ('15). There are about 1,700 alumni, parents and friends in the Denver area. Lazarowitz double-majored in elementary education and psychology and was a cheerleader all four years and captain of the team her senior year. She is a product manager for a technology company.

### How have you reengaged alumni after such a long break because of COVID-19?

WAKEDenver is led by a group of seven eager and enthusiastic alumni. We have no lack of energy and excitement to rebuild the community of Denver Deacs. We've been reengaging alumni, family and friends through a regular series of events like our free summer concerts and Pro Humanitate Days food drive at a golf simulation bar.

### What are some of the events that WAKEDenver has hosted or will be hosting soon?

Our Pro Humanitate Days food drive this past spring was very successful, bringing together Demon Deacons from the class of '96 to the class of '19 and garnering almost 100 pounds in food and supply donations for our community — showing Denverites that #GoodWearsBlack. This summer, we traded in black for purple to cheer on the Colorado Rockies, and we're looking forward to hosting game-watch parties during football season. We're delighted to bring back the annual WAKEWelcome event for recent graduates after a three-year hiatus and are eagerly awaiting Denver Lovefeast this December.

### How did Wake influence your life and career?

The influence of Wake on my life is unquantifiable. The skills I developed are present and visible in my life still today. Friendships have persisted for more than a decade; relationships have been built based on sharing lyrics of the fight song; and connections leading to job interviews and job offers can be tied back to Winston-Salem roots.

### Who were some of your mentors?

I cannot reflect on my time at Wake Forest without Julie Davis Griffin's ('69, P '00) smiling face being one of the first images to come to mind. (Griffin worked in athletics for many years.) Being a student-athlete (cheerleader) created a unique experience, not fully understood by most, and I would not have been able to navigate school and sports without Julie.

### What's your favorite Wake Forest memory as a student and as an alumna?

Standing on the football field, linking arms across teammates' shoulders, swaying and singing (very poorly) the alma mater still brings me goosebumps today. As an alumna, my favorite memories are those small moments when you're wearing a WFU hat or shirt and someone from across the airport or on a bus in Cambodia shouts "Go Deacs!" It's a nice reminder that our small community has reach in all corners of the Earth.

### When I come back to campus, I always visit:

Wait Chapel, followed by Reynolds Gymnasium and student-athlete services. Any visit back to Winston is incomplete without stopping for lunch at Sakura Japanese on Stratford Road, where I waited tables during college.

**For more information on WAKEDenver and other WAKECommunities, visit [wakecommunities.wfu.edu](http://wakecommunities.wfu.edu).**



Jones  
( '05, MAEd '06)



Koschnitzky  
( '05)

**Matt Ganderson ('05)** joined the University of Michigan's Stephen M. Ross School of Business as managing director of the full-time and global MBA programs. He worked at the Wake Forest School of Business for more than seven years, most recently as executive director of MBA programs.

**Diana Santos Johnson ('05)** was recognized as a 2023 Top Lawyer under 40 by the Hispanic National Bar Association. She is an associate at Waldrep Wall Babcock & Bailey PLLC in Winston-Salem and is on the firm's bankruptcy team. She graduated from North Carolina Central University School of Law.

**Kimberly Jones ('05, MAEd '06)** was named the Burroughs Wellcome Fund North Carolina Teacher of the Year. She is traveling around the state to advocate for the teaching profession and will serve for two years as an adviser to the State Board of Education. Jones is an English teacher at Chapel Hill (NC) High School. *More on page 112*

**Chris Koschnitzky ('05)** co-edited his first national security law compilation, "Prisoners of War in Contemporary Conflict." Koschnitzky is a major in the U.S. Army and co-edited the volume while assigned as a military professor at the Stockton Center for International Law at the U.S. Naval War College. He has deployed to Afghanistan and Africa to advise commanders on the law of armed conflict and now does so in the Pacific theater. He and his wife, **Jenna Schuster Koschnitzky ('05)**, and two sons live in Waipahu, HI.

**Kezia McKeague ('05)** is a regional director at McLarty Associates, an international strategic advisory firm, where she advises clients on Latin American issues. She lives in Washington, DC. She helps lead the Global Deacs Wake Forest affinity group, which she, **Kate Maloney ('97)** and **Nico Gabrielli ('11)** co-founded 10 years ago. *More at [bit.ly/3PLmiG9](http://bit.ly/3PLmiG9)*

**Laura Miller (JD '05)** was selected to the 2023 Outstanding Women in Business list by Triad Business Journal. She is a partner at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP in Winston-Salem and Raleigh. She focuses her practice on branding, advertising and brand protection and enforcement.

**Alexis Rejeski ('05, MBA '18)** was named vice president of supply chain and support services at Clinical ink, a global life science company. She lives in Wake Forest, NC.

## 2006

**Joe Elberts ('06, MSA '07)** was promoted to chief financial officer of Christopher B. Burke Engineering Ltd. and The Burke Group Ltd. He lives in Naperville, IL, with his wife, Megan, and their children, Teddy, Maggie, Charlie and Harry.

**Justin Gray ('06)** was named District 21 Coach of the Year by the National Association of Basketball Coaches. He is the head men's basketball coach at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, and a former three-time All-ACC basketball player at Wake Forest.

**Tim Stopulos ('06)** is a singer-songwriter who performs under the name Tim Stop. He released his sixth album, "Silver Lining," which features drummer Keith Carlock.



**Díaz**  
( '07)



**Choi**  
( '08, JD '11)



**Urness**  
( '08)



**Bushee**  
(JD '11)



**Leadem**  
( '11, JD '15)



**Cardi**  
(JD/MA '13)

**Daniel Laughlin (MBA '08)** was named senior vice president of development at ServiceMaster. He was vice president of corporate development for Marcone Supply, a distributor of appliance replacement, HVAC and plumbing parts. He lives in Charlotte.

**Heidi Urness ('08)** was selected for the 2023 Cannabis Editorial Board by Law360. She is chair of the cannabis practice group at McGlinchey Stafford PLLC in Seattle and a nationally recognized cannabis attorney.

**Hall Wang ('08)** has been selected as a Stephen M. Kellen Term Member for the think tank Council on Foreign Relations. The program selects young professionals across government, NGOs, academia and the private sector for five-year terms to engage with international relations and U.S. foreign policy experts and dignitaries. Wang continues to work at Audible podcast company on the strategy & corporate development team.

**William C. Warren ('08)** wrote and illustrated his first book, "The Conquering Creative: 9 Shifts to Build an Unstoppable Creative Business," for creative people who may not typically read business books. Warren, a creative turned entrepreneur, is founder and CEO of The Sketch Effect, a visual communication solutions company in Atlanta.

to include Dotdash Meredith, America's largest digital and print publisher.

**Thomas "Ben" Suitt III ('10)** wrote his first book, "Narratives of Trauma and Moral Agency among Christian Post-9/11 Veterans." The book explores the role of faith in the lives of those who served in the conflicts following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Suitt earned a PhD in religious studies from Boston University specializing in religion and the military. He teaches English at Franklin Road Academy, a private school for pre-K through 12th grade in Franklin, TN.

**Meggan Bushee (JD '11)** received the In-house Innovator Award in the Corporate Counsel Awards program from the Charlotte Business Journal. She is the first general counsel and chief compliance officer at Crossroads Treatment Centers, a national behavioral health provider that focuses on substance-use disorder and mental illnesses. She lives in Charlotte with her husband, Adam Shapiro, and their children, Harper, Holden and Scarlett Jo.

**Evan T. Leadem ('11, JD '15)** was named associate vice president and chief of staff at the University of Portland in Portland, OR. He has worked at the University of Portland and served as a member of the leadership cabinet since 2018.

**Courtlyn Reeves ('11)** was named associate superintendent for human resources of Cabarrus County (NC) Schools. He was a principal in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. He joined Teach For America after graduating from Wake Forest. He and his wife, Sarah, and daughter Hadley Calais, live in Charlotte.

**Michael Cardi (JD/MA '13)** was named to the 2023 edition of Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch for the third consecutive year. He is a partner at Bowles Rice LLP in Morgantown, WV, where he concentrates on complex commercial disputes, financial services, and oil and gas.

**Perrin B. Fourmy (JD '13)** was named to the 2023 Texas Rising Stars list by Super Lawyers. He is a partner at Bell Nunnally & Martin LLP in Dallas.

## 2007

**Bernardo Díaz ('07)** was named manager of international security and risk management at Sandia National Laboratories, a U.S. government-funded research and development center in Albuquerque, NM.

**Matt Fisher (MBA '07)** was named president of Pike Electric, the largest subsidiary of Pike Corp. which provides electrical infrastructure construction and engineering. He has been with the company for more than 14 years and is based in Palm Beach Gardens, FL.

**Patrick Kane (JD '07)** received an Amicus Service Award from the International Municipal Lawyers Association. He was honored alongside colleagues for preparing an amicus brief on behalf of IMLA to the U.S. Supreme Court in *Conner v. Cleveland County* (NC), a lawsuit involving overtime compensation. Kane is a partner at Fox Rothschild in Charlotte and Greensboro, NC.

**Scott Manneer ('07)** is vice president and founding member of Match Play Brands, a performance sports equipment company in Atlanta. The company got off the ground with a \$4 million investment, led by Atlanta-based BLH Venture Partners. Its brands include PCKL for pickleball gear and Piper Golf for tour-quality golf balls. Several of its products have ranked in the top 10 in Amazon's pickleball category.

## 2008

**Erin Marie Tanner Choi ('08, JD '11)** was named a 2023 Texas Rising Star by Super Lawyers. She is counsel in the litigation department at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP in Dallas.

## 2009

**Tramell Zackery ('09, MSM '10)** is regional category manager of IT procurement at Syngenta, an agriculture company. He lives in Winston-Salem.

## 2010

**John Engelhardt Carter (MDiv '10)** received his PhD in theology from Boston College after defending his dissertation, "The Communitarian Conscience: A Theological Response to Legal Debates about Religious Freedom." He is a visiting assistant professor of law in the Wake Forest School of Law and in the program for Leadership and Character. He is also a visiting assistant professor of religion, law and public life in the Wake Forest School of Divinity.

**Kelly Laffey ('10)** is a New York-based writer, editor and content strategist with more than 12 years of editorial and communications experience. She is passionate about connecting people to stories and has expanded her freelance writing

## 2011

## 2013



**Vidaeff**  
(JD/MBA '13)



**Cassidy**  
(JD '14)



**Miller**  
(MBA '14)



**Telarik**  
(JD '15)



**Brewer**  
(JD '17)



**Emory**  
(MBA '17)



**Weekley**  
(18)

**Dana Mullen Graber (JD '13)** was promoted to associate general counsel and senior director, legal and regulatory affairs, at FMI, The Food Industry Association, formerly the Food Marketing Institute. She joined the organization in 2016 as regulatory counsel and focuses on legal and regulatory requirements for food regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and U.S. Department of Agriculture. She and her husband, **Scott Graber ('10, JD '13)**, live in the Washington, DC, area.

**Meenakshi "Meenu" Krishnan ('13)** was lead counsel in a Freedom of Information Act litigation with U.S. Customs and Border Protection. She helped secure the release of documents critical to a story that won the 2023 Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Reporting. The story, "We need to take away children," was written by Caitlin Dickerson for The Atlantic. Krishnan is a media and First Amendment associate at Davis Wright Tremaine LLP in Washington, DC.

**Sungju "SJ" Moon ('13)** and his wife, Rebekah, moved back to the United States after living in South Korea and Canada for more than six years. Moon was appointed assistant professor of mathematics at Nevada State College in Henderson, NV.

**James "Jimmy" Pickert (MSM '13)** joined Kanawha Capital Management as managing director and portfolio manager. He lives in Richmond, VA.

**Vlad Vidaeff (JD/MBA '13)** was promoted to interim president and director of marketing at REI Network LP, a real estate investing company headquartered in Houston.

## 2014

**Jenica Cassidy (JD '14)** joined Helsell Fetterman, a Seattle-based law firm, in the trust and estates litigation and estate planning practice groups.

**Ross Gilliam ('14)** was promoted to vice president of investment banking at Truist Securities. He and his wife, **Kelsey Drusch ('15)**, live in Atlanta.

**Erin Miller (MBA '14)** was promoted to senior managing director at CBRE, a commercial real estate and investment firm. She lives in Charlotte.

**James Paine (MBA '14)** earned his doctorate in system dynamics at MIT's Sloan School of Management. He joined the faculty of Bucknell University's Freeman College of Management

as assistant professor in the analytics and operations management department. He and his partner, **Christina Waxlax (MBA '12)**, and their two children moved to Lewisburg, PA, from the Boston area.

**Mary Sherrill Ware (MBA '14)** co-founded and is managing partner of a new wealth management firm, Carnegie Private Wealth, in Charlotte. She has nearly two decades of experience in the financial services industry. Longtime colleague **Jeff Vandiver ('90)** joined the firm as a managing director and senior wealth advisor. The firm has \$1.45 billion in advisory, brokerage and retirement plan assets.

## 2015

**Alex Telarik (JD '15)** joined Pray Walker law firm in Tulsa, OK, as a shareholder. His practice areas include complex commercial litigation, oil & gas and appellate law.

## 2016

**Corey Washburn Tanner ('16, MA '17)** is development and marketing manager for Back on My Feet. The nonprofit combats homelessness in 17 cities through a fitness program, community support, education opportunities and job training programs. She oversees the "FundRazr" program, which guarantees runners entry into some of the most popular races in the world in exchange for raising a set amount of money. Tanner lives in Sylvania, OH, with her husband, **Hil Tanner ('16)**, and their son, Henry.

## 2017

**Meredith Pace Brewer (JD '17)** was elected partner at Dysart Willis PLLC. She has been with the Raleigh-based criminal defense law firm for more than five years.

**Cynthia Emory (MBA '17)** was named chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation at Wake Forest School of Medicine. She received her medical degree from Augusta University in 2004. She and her husband, Allen, live in Lewisville, NC.

**Lawrence Watkins (MSA '17)** joined Grant Thornton LLP, an international audit, tax and

advisory accounting firm, as strategy & transactions manager. He specializes in mergers & acquisitions data analytics and has experience in technology, media and telecom, retail and industrial, and car wash deals. He relocated from Atlanta to Charlotte.

## 2018

**David Boone ('18)** joined Rieth Jones Advisors, a project management firm, as a senior advisor. He and his wife, **Alexandra Yarosh Boone ('20)**, live in Charlotte.

**Wooten Gough (MSM '18)** was named associate director of student services at the Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon University. He was academic adviser of part-time programs at the Katz Graduate School of Business at the University of Pittsburgh. He lives in Pittsburgh.

**Alisha Hartley ('18)** was named associate director of major gifts at Penn State Smeal College of Business. She was previously associate director of annual leadership gifts.

**Janelle Lewis (MSA '18)** was promoted to audit manager at Deloitte in Charlotte. She took a leave of absence last year to complete a bucket list dream of hiking the Appalachian Trail.

**Hannah Creel Outlaw ('18, MSM '19)** was named business development associate for the grants and proposal services team at Duke Clinical Research Institute.

**William Wang ('18)** is chief of staff & commercial director of Greater China at Oliver Wyman, an international management consulting firm. He has expertise in strategy, consulting and general management and is based in Hong Kong. He is a member of the Wake Forest School of Business Board of Visitors.

**Zhengyang "Will" Wang ('18, MSA '19)** started a new position as senior revenue analyst at Tesla. He lives in San Jose, CA.

**Ben Weekley ('18)** completed his PhD in cancer biology and genomics at the University of Southern California, where he studied epigenetic mechanisms. He moved to New York for a postdoctoral fellowship in the lab of Dr. Ian Maze at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

## 2019

**Mylan Henderson (MSM '19)** was promoted to senior consultant at Deloitte in the government and public sector practice. He lives in Washington, DC.

**Katherine Delesalle Krause (MBA '19)** was promoted to associate director at Grant Thornton LLP. She lives in Charlotte with her husband, Jeff, and their twin sons.

## 2020

**Natalie Alms ('20)** is a staff reporter at Nextgov/FCW, a federal technology news organization owned by GovExec. She lives in Washington, DC.

**Meredith Happy ('20)** is a digital/press assistant in the office of U.S. Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Maryland. She lives in Washington, DC.

**Cat Mizzi-Orrell ('20)** joined Forsyth Futures in Winston-Salem as communications specialist. Forsyth Futures provides research, data analysis and reporting services to support system changes and improve the lives of people in For-

syth County. She lives in Winston-Salem with her husband, **Rance Mizzi-Orrell ('20)**.

**Briana Alexis Roberts ('20)** earned a master's degree in environmental policy and management, with a concentration in environmental management, and a certificate in supply-chain management from the University of Denver. She has been a retail planning analyst II at Hanesbrands Inc. in Winston-Salem since 2022.

**Gamaliel Sitorus ('20)** was promoted from analyst to senior analyst at Palm Tree LLC, a mergers and acquisitions consulting and advisory firm. He is based in Los Angeles.

**Celia Zhou ('20)** joined 25m Health as an associate. 25m Health is a healthtech venture studio that invests in early-stage startups that offer innovative solutions to make communities healthier. Zhou lives in New York.

## 2021

**Jacob Borkowski (MSA '21)** started a new position at PwC as assurance senior associate. He lives in Charlotte.



Henderson  
(MSM '19)



Roberts  
('20)

**Scott Boswell (MSA '21)** was promoted to audit senior at Deloitte in Chicago. He lives in Naperville, IL.

**Margaret "Maggie" Kuhn ('21)** was named assistant director, mentoring and alumni personal & career development in the Office of Personal & Career Development at Wake Forest. She was a talent and people analytics coordinator at Inmar Intelligence. She studied sociology and women's, gender and sexuality studies at Wake Forest and was in concert choir and active in the Women's Center.

**Matthew Mondello ('21)** was named legislative correspondent in the office of U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho. He previously worked for now-retired **U.S. Sen. Richard Burr ('78)**, R-N.C., as a staff assistant and legislative correspondent. Mondello lives in Arlington, VA.

# OF THE TIMES

Sixty Years of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art at Wake Forest

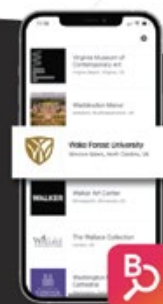


At Hanes Gallery in  
Scales Fine Arts Center  
January 19-March 31, 2024

[artcollections.wfu.edu](http://artcollections.wfu.edu)

Explore Wake Forest  
University's Art Collection  
with our digital guide on  
**Bloomberg Connects**,  
the free arts and culture app.

[artcollections.wfu.edu/free-digital-guide](http://artcollections.wfu.edu/free-digital-guide)





Ray  
(JD '21)



Corts  
(MBA '22)

**James W. Ray (JD '21)** joined Wagner Hicks PLLC in Charlotte as a member of the complex commercial litigation, labor & employment and shareholder disputes & derivative litigation teams.

**Ilse Schaeffner ('21)** was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for 2023-2024 to conduct research in Switzerland.

**Jackson Vogel (JD '21)** joined Carrington, Coleman, Sloman & Blumenthal LLP in Dallas as an insurance coverage group associate.

## 2022

**Christian Corts (MBA '22)** was named regional banking director at Huntington National Bank, based in Columbus, OH, where he oversees the regional banking teams in 11 states. He and his wife, **Katie Goodrich Corts ('13, MBA '22)**, live in Columbus.

**Alden Gallimore (MDiv '22)** was named pastor of First Baptist Church on Bedford Avenue in Altavista, VA.

**Elise Wright ('22, MA '23)** was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for 2023-2024 to travel to the Czech Republic as an English teaching assistant.

## 2023

**Madeline Alexanian ('23)** was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for 2023-2024 to travel to Spain as an English teaching assistant.

**Will Griffin (MBA '23)** joined PNC Bank as senior asset manager. He previously worked at Fidelity Bank and Wells Fargo. He and his wife, Stacey, live in Winston-Salem.

**Micah Porter ('23)** was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for 2023-2024 to conduct research in Portugal.

**Declan Sander ('23)** was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for 2023-2024 to travel to Germany as an English teaching assistant.

**Fulton Smith ('23)** joined Harris Williams in Richmond, VA, as an investment banking analyst.

## No end to education

Wake Forest welcomed back 11 exceptional graduates on July 1 as Wake Forest Fellows. These members of the Class of 2023, selected in a highly competitive process, became full-time staff members to work in higher education administration for a year. They will learn from top administrators, participating in leadership activities and engaging with faculty, staff and students to understand the workings of higher education. The fellowship program began in 2008.



**From left:** Gretchen Castellote, Madi Shaver, Estefania Narvaez, Grace Powell, Nina Banks, Roscoe Bell, Madison Koontz, Dianna LaTerra, Maya Whitaker, Xochitl Ortiz-Sanchez, Jayden Brown / Photo by Ken Bennett

The 2023-24 fellows are:

**Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist:**  
Estefania Narvaez, *Charlotte*

**Campus Life:**  
Gretchen Castellote, *Oakboro, North Carolina*

**Dean of the College:**  
Dianna LaTerra, *Waxhaw, North Carolina*

**Information Systems:**  
Madi Shaver, *Charlotte*

**Leadership and Character:**  
Roscoe Bell, *Jacksonville, Florida*

**Office of Personal & Career Development:**  
Nina Simone Banks, *Freeport, New York*

**Provost's Office:**  
Grace Powell, *Marietta, Georgia*

**School of Business:**  
Jayden Brown, *Winston-Salem*

**stArt Gallery:**  
Maya Whitaker, *Winston-Salem*

**Wake Downtown:**  
Xochitl Ortiz-Sanchez, *Hendersonville, North Carolina*

**ZSR Library:**  
Madison Koontz, *Greenville, South Carolina*

## Marriages

**Donna Johnson ('93)** and Robert Geist, 9/16/22 in Dewey Beach, DE. They live in Dover, DE.

**James Joseph Hefferan Jr. (JD '03)** and Nicole Ann Novotny, 5/20/23 in Belmont, NC, where they live. The wedding party included Jason R. Shoemaker ('00, JD '03).

**Brooke Christie Jacobs ('03)** and Christopher Currans, 4/29/23 in Lexington, KY, where they live.

**Courtney Eva Holmes ('12, MSM '13)** and Ethan Michael Richter, 5/20/23 in Wilmington, NC. They live in Chicago. The wedding party included Caitlin Estes ('12), Ashley D'Auria Kapfer ('12), Eason Armstrong Keeney ('12, JD '15), Kelley McGrath ('12, MSM '13) and Amerika Colombo Wood ('12).

**Emily Bachman ('13)** and Caroline Lange, 10/7/22 in Brooklyn, NY, where they live.

**Scott Richardson ('13)** and Catherine Acomb, 4/15/23 in New Orleans, where they live.

**Sarah Hotvedt ('15)** and **Quinn Simpson ('15)**, 7/15/23 in Minneapolis. They live in New York. The wedding party included Caroline Cheek Aberman ('15), Lindsey Ervin Conde ('15), Henry Hamlin ('15), Meghan Harrington ('15), Taylor Peretz ('15), Blair Pie ('15) and Thomas Wauford ('15).

**Maggie Alyssa Sandy ('16)** and **Carlo Balles-teros-Flores ('18, JD '23)**, 10/29/22 in Winston-Salem. They live in Durham, NC. The wedding party included Scott Smyre ('16, MS '19, PhD '23), Adam Hoxie ('17), Taylor Schronce Hoxie ('17), Jon Beatty (JD '23), Noelle Henry (JD '23), Laura Merriman (JD '23), Bruce Robinson (JD '23), Dylan Shaffer (JD '23) and Caitlyn Wood (JD '23). Victoria Reid (MDiv '17) officiated.

**Abigail Coelho ('18)** and James de Lorimier, 4/22/23 in Carmel, CA. They live in Washington, DC.

**Adrienne "Addie" Folk ('19, MAHS '24)** and **Sean Proske (MBA '23)**, 4/29/23 in Stokesdale, NC. They live in Winston-Salem. The wedding party included Bella Roman Taussig ('18), Dena Kohn ('19), Alex Ruf ('19) and Emily Randall ('20). The bride is the daughter of Gary Folk ('81) and Jane Champion Folk ('81).

**Katherine Marie Laws ('20)** and James "Luke" Waters, 5/27/23 in Concord, NC. They live in Salisbury, NC. The wedding party included Abby Windsor Gilbert ('19), Emily Blumenfeld ('20), Ella Bruggen Filston ('20), Maisie Howland Greene ('20), Payton Calvert Williams ('20) and Thomas Laws ('22). The bride is the daughter of Kevin Laws ('89).

**Jackson Peter Cannon ('21)** and **Cameron Briggs Smith ('21)**, 6/3/23 at Figure Eight Island, NC. They live in New York. The wedding party included Noah Dill ('20), Colson Streitmatter ('20, MA '22), Andrew Cecil ('21), Anna Hogewood

Cole ('21), Grayanna Grigg ('21), Emmy Harman ('21), Megan Klinck ('21), Sam Laurite ('21, MSA '22), Stephen Lee ('21), Doug Maier ('21), Tucker Mullens ('21), Maggie Schrock ('21), Parker York ('21) and Mary Caroline Funk ('22). The bride is the daughter of Mike Smith ('89) and Mary Dee Andrews Smith ('93).

**Kara Taylor Kump ('23)** and Blaine Scott Melton, 5/27/23 in Wait Chapel. They live in Lenoir, NC. The wedding party included Abigail Cole ('22) and Jessica Hardee ('22).

## Births

**Tiffanie Lord Simerson ('05)** and Tyler Simerson, Greenville, NC: a daughter, Oakley Hayes. 3/24/23. She joined her brothers, Miller (7) and Finn (2).

**Ann Tucker ('05)**, Suwanee, GA: a son, John Michael. 3/10/23

**Bernardo Alberto Diaz ('07)** and Maria Agathi Mallory, Albuquerque, NM: a son, Santiago Elias Diaz. 1/18/22. He joined his sister, Aida (3).

**Wesley Thomas Riley ('09)** and **Catherine Lorelei Coelho Riley ('10, MA '12)**, Winston-Salem: a daughter, Rita Marie, 6/27/23. She joined her siblings, Augustine (7), Brigida (6) and Ambrose (2).

**Genevieve Meyers Beig ('10, MSA '11)** and Shahid "Mo" Beig, San Francisco: a daughter, Ellie Farida. 7/9/23. She joined her sister, Myra (3).

**Diego Espinoza (MBA '10)** and **Alanna Zuchelli (JD '11)**, Arlington, VA: a daughter, Mila Alicia Espinoza. 9/22/22

**Bryan Warren Goolsby ('10)** and **Samantha Besaw Goolsby ('11)**, Charlotte: a daughter, Emerson Danyelle. 3/12/23. She joined her brother, Camden (4).

**Mark Hoover ('10)** and Jerilyn Hoover, Cheverly, MD: a daughter, Eveline Renee. 4/11/23

**Christopher Fox ('12)** and **Dana Mayer Fox ('12)**, Charlotte: a daughter, Charlotte Lee. 4/3/23. She joined twin sisters Vivienne and Emilia (3). Charlotte is the granddaughter of Alan Fox ('79, MBA '81) and the niece of Leslie Mayer ('10).

**John Turner ('12)** and **Samantha "Sam" Perrotta Turner ('12)**, Winston-Salem: a son, George Nick. 3/6/23. He joined his brother, Calvin (3).

**Brogan Walters Fulks ('13)** and Daniel Fulks, Knoxville, TN: a son, Harry Torin. 2/21/23. He joined his brother, Theo (2).

**Jonathan Kyle Price ('14)** and **Mary Allyn Johnson Price ('14)**, Charlotte: a son, Luke Jonathan. 5/31/23

**Corey Washburn Tanner ('16, MA '17)** and **Hil Tanner ('16)**, Sylvania, OH: a son, Hal Hildreth "Henry" Tanner V. 4/13/23. He is welcomed by many Deacon family members, including grand-

fathers Hal Tanner III ('85, P '14, '16, '19) and Har-  
rill Gene "Rusty" Washburn ('87, MD '94, P '16).

**Katherine Delesalle Krause (MBA '19)** and Jeff Krause, Charlotte: twin sons, Charles Pierre and Henri Thomas. 6/26/23

## Deaths

**Leslie "Les" E. Cansler Jr. ('41)**, April 27, 2023, New Castle, DE. He was 102 years old. He was sports editor at the Old Gold & Black and a founding member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and in the U.S. Navy Reserve, retiring with the rank of commander. He was an editor at The News Journal in Wilmington, DE, for 40 years.

**Allan Douglas Aldrich ('44, DDiv '67)**, June 23, 2023, Charlotte. He was 101 years old. He was a Baptist minister for more than 70 years. He served on the Wake Forest Board of Trustees and as second vice president of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. He and his late wife, Edna Lou Aldrich, established a scholarship in the Wake Forest School of Divinity. Survivors include daughter **Judith Aldrich Planer ('71)**, son **Joseph Douglas Aldrich ('73)** and grandson **Jonathan Alan Planer ('99)**.

**Margaret Roberts Craig ('47)**, Aug. 10, 2023, Gastonia, NC. Before entering Wake Forest, she worked in Oak Ridge, TN, on the Manhattan Project that produced the atomic bomb. After graduating, she was a junior high school language arts teacher.

**Jean Somervell Moore ('47)**, Feb. 16, 2023, Towson, MD. She was an office manager in a pediatrician's office.

**James Arthur "J.A." West Jr. ('47)**, May 25, 2023, Shelby, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and practiced law in Shelby for 44 years. Survivors include daughter **Evelyn West Ormond ('75)** and granddaughter **Madeleine Ormond ('14)**.

**Robert William Ausband ('49)**, July 19, 2022, Las Vegas.

**Hubert "Harold" Crumpler ('49)**, March 24, 2023, Savannah, GA. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a cryptographer in the Pentagon and in Korea during the Korean War. He retired as president of United Security Life Insurance Co.

**Dorothy Jones Charles Hanna ('49)**, May 14, 2023, North Litchfield Beach, SC. She was preceded in death by her father, Wake Forest Professor of English **Henry Broadus Jones (1910)**, and sister **Elizabeth Jones Brantley ('44)**.

**Thomas Drumwright Long ('49, MD '52)**, March 23, 2023, Roxboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy before opening a medical practice in Roxboro, where he practiced 60 years. He was a member of the North Carolina Baptist Hospital Board of Trustees for 25 years. He received the

# The Legacy of Dillon Johnston

The founder of Wake Forest University Press made a lasting home for literary works and Irish poets.

Nearly 50 years ago, then-Wake Forest English professor Dillon Johnston, dismayed that he couldn't find many American editions of works by contemporary Irish poets, decided he would start his own literary press specializing in Irish poetry.

Johnston spent five weeks in Ireland meeting poets, editors and book publishers before founding Wake Forest University Press in 1975. He grew the Press into the premier publisher of Irish poetry in North America with books by virtually all of Ireland's foremost poets.

For 25 years, Johnston built relationships with young and established Irish poets and brought their works to new audiences. The Press, Johnston wrote in 1998, connects Irish poets with American readers and acts as a "mediator between the American readers' consciousness, the world we inhabit and an other world that we otherwise could not."

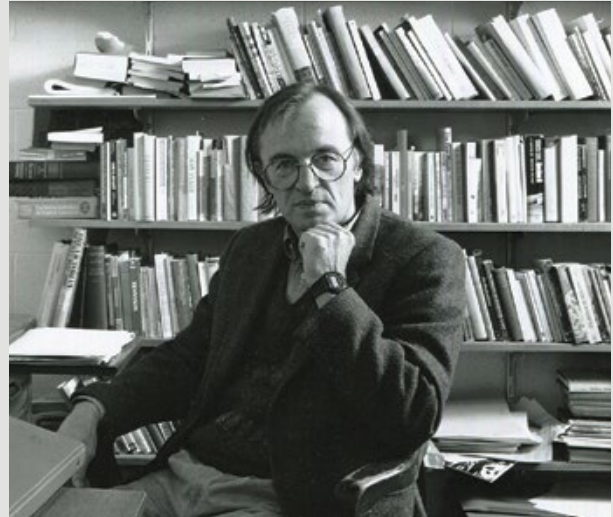
After leaving Wake Forest in the early 2000s, Johnston remained an adviser to the Press for years. He taught courses on modern Irish literature at Washington University in St. Louis until retiring in 2015. Johnston died Dec. 26, 2022, in St. Louis.

Johnston combined his love of Irish poetry with a talent for producing beautiful books, said Provost Emeritus Edwin G. Wilson ('43, P '91, '93), who supported Johnston's efforts and who taught a popular class on poets William Blake, William Butler Yeats and Dylan Thomas. The Press represents the best of Wake Forest's commitment to the arts and humanities and remains a lasting tribute to Johnston's energy and vision, Wilson said.

Professor and Chair of English Jefferson Holdridge, who succeeded Johnston as director of the Press, said Johnston was well-connected in Ireland. "What was special about Dillon was his ability to bring people together and to reach across to the poets ... and get them interested in our entity here," he said. "He was very good at making them (poets) feel very comfortable, and he kept in contact with them."

Johnston joined the Wake Forest English faculty in 1973 and started the Press two years later. The Dillon Johnston Writers Reading Series in the English department annually brings established and emerging writers and poets to campus.

When he was starting the Press, Johnston forged a lasting relationship with Liam Miller, publisher of Dublin-based Dolmen Press. Miller and the Dolmen Press name helped Johnston gain early recognition and credibility among Irish poets. Following Miller's death,



Johnston helped bring to Wake Forest the Dolmen Press archive, one of the most important collections of material on 20th-century Irish poets.

Johnston and his wife, Guinn Batten ('75, MA '76, MBA '86), invited many Irish poets to campus and to their house, nicknamed "The Shack," in the Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia. In 2015, the Press published a tribute book to Johnston, "The Shack: Irish Poets in the Foothills and Mountains of the Blue Ridge." Irish poet Michael Longley wrote in the book, "Who is more thoughtful than Dillon? He is a visionary. Many Irish poets give thanks that he so resolutely kept his head in the clouds."

For many years, the Press was located in a former Cold War-era fallout shelter in Tribble Hall until moving to new quarters on Reynolda Road in 2017. The Press publishes four to six books a year. Since 1975, the Press has published editions of the collected poems of Michael Longley, Thomas Kinsella, John Montague and Richard Murphy and books by Ciaran Carson, Medbh McGuckian, Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, Peter Fallon, Derek Mahon, Conor O'Callaghan and Paul Muldoon.

Holdridge said the Press is planning to invite Irish poets to campus for a 50th anniversary celebration in 2025. "People in Europe and in the Irish literary world know about Wake Forest because of Dillon and the Press," he said. "The Press is small enough not to be a financial burden (on the University), but important enough to bring academic and artistic prestige to the University. Some of the best poets in Ireland, some of the best poets in the English language, are published by Wake Forest."

distinguished service award from the Wake Forest School of Medicine's Medical Alumni Association and the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest civic honor. He and his wife established the Thomas D. and Betty H. Long Scholarships at Wake Forest and the School of Medicine. He was preceded in death by his first wife of 61 years, **Betty Hubbard Long ('49)**. Survivors include his wife, Leila Long, and sons Mike Long, **Steve Long ('80, MD '84)**, **Mark Long ('83)** and **Tom Long Jr. ('90)**.

**John Charles "JC" Mitchell ('49)**, May 29, 2023, Ocala, FL. He was a retired Baptist pastor and former president of the Florida Baptist State Convention and the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

**Julian M. Motley ('49)**, Aug. 6, 2023, Wake Forest, NC. He was pastor of Gorman Baptist Church in Durham, NC, for 30 years and director of field ministry/ministry referral at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Survivors include his wife of more than 75 years, **Jane Owen Motley ('49)**. He was preceded in death by his brother, **Gerald Emerson Motley ('37)**.

**Benjamin "Ben" Lenoir White ('49)**, March 23, 2023, Midlothian, VA. He served in the military in World War II and in the Korean War. He retired as business manager for Lancaster County (SC).

**John Davis Carrington ('50)**, May 10, 2023, Harlingen, TX. He served in the U.S. Air Force for 24 years and flew combat missions in Korea and Vietnam. He worked in real estate and insurance and as a flight instructor.

**James "Jimmy" T. Street ('51)**, May 2, 2023, Roxboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. He owned and operated a pharmacy and managed a Revco/CVS drug store.

**Rose Bullard Willis ('51)**, July 30, 2023, Thomasville, GA. She was a high school English teacher and served numerous churches alongside her husband, **M. Burns Willis ('50)**, who is a retired pastor.

**Annie Geraldine Turner Frank ('52)**, Feb. 6, 2023, Cary, NC. She established the Turner-Frank Scholarship at Wake Forest and was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**William "Bill" Ira Holland ('52)**, May 9, 2023, Asheville, NC. He rose to the rank of colonel during his 23 years in the U.S. Air Force. He served in the Strategic Air Command during the Cuban Missile Crisis and completed two tours of duty in Vietnam, piloting B-52s and reconnaissance aircraft.

**Sarah Johnson Medcraft ('52)**, March 24, 2023, Myrtle Beach, SC.

**Virginia Clayton Nicholas ('52)**, June 1, 2023, Charlotte. She was active in numerous civic and charitable organizations. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Harry J. Nicholas ('54)**.

**Nancy Marshbanks Bales ('53)**, May 24, 2023, Buies Creek, NC. She raised three daughters.

**Mary Jo Nelson Brantley ('53)**, March 20, 2023, Colonial Heights, VA. She was a stay-at-home mother and an administrative assistant at the Cooperative Extension office at Virginia State College. She was preceded in death by her husband, **William P. Brantley ('56)**.



**Thomas R. Donahue ('53)**, May 9, 2023, Hanover, PA. He was an All-American on the Wake Forest football team and played professionally before being drafted into the U.S. Army. He was a real estate appraiser for 70 years.

**Mary Stanland Vail Lanier ('53)**, April 4, 2023, Raleigh. She and her children established the Oakley R. Vail Memorial Fund at Wake Forest in 1983, in memory of her first husband, **Oakley Vail ('53)**, to bring distinguished chemists to campus.

# FRAMING OUR FUTURE

Tradition once again meets innovation as Wake Forest charts a course for the future, ensuring that our graduates will honor and advance the mission of *Pro Humanitate* both at home and in the world.

To learn more about the strategic framework, shared vision and thematic goals, or to monitor its progress, we invite you to visit [framework.wfu.edu](https://framework.wfu.edu)

**Robert Stewart Murphy ('53)**, June 6, 2023, Franklin, IN. He was a high school and community college mathematics teacher.

**Hal Martin Stuart ('53, MD '56)**, March 24, 2023, Elkin, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy as a medical officer. As a resident at Winston-Salem's old City Memorial Hospital and as a family physician in Elkin, he delivered approximately 4,500 babies. In 2006, the nursing staff at Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital in Elkin established the Dr. Hal M. Stuart Award. He was a founding member of the American Academy of Family Physicians and a clinical associate professor at Wake Forest's and Duke University's medical schools. He received the Distinguished Service Award from Wake Forest School of Medicine's Medical Alumni Association.

**Katherine Ward Rivers Braswell ('54)**, April 16, 2023, Laurens, SC. She and her husband owned Chesterfield Drug Co. in Chesterfield, SC.

**Zeb Carson Burton Jr. ('54, MD '57)**, July 18, 2023, Lake Mary, FL. He was a flight surgeon in the U.S. Air Force and a cardiologist in Central Florida. Survivors include son **Michael Burton ('83)** and grandson **Michael Burton Jr. ('21)**.

**Jack Newton Drummond ('54, MD '57)**, March 19, 2023, Hendersonville, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a flight surgeon. He recorded

more than 2,000 births during his tenure as a physician and owner of Grantham Medical Center.

**Donald "Don" McKinley Freeman ('54)**, April 9, 2023, Pensacola, FL. He was a professor of political science at a number of universities and retired as professor emeritus from the University of Evansville. He was a senior Fulbright lecturer in Singapore and the Philippines. Survivors include his wife, **Ina Benner Freeman ('54)**. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**George Walton Barnes Jr. ('55)**, May 18, 2023, Raleigh. He was chief of administrative services and assistant director of adult probation for the North Carolina Probation Commission. He received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest civic honor. Survivors include granddaughter **Taylor Griffin Tarvin (MA '18)**.

**John H. Hall ('55)**, March 13, 2023, Raleigh. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a pharmaceutical sales representative for Upjohn Co. for more than 34 years. Survivors include son **John Hardy Hall Jr. ('86, JD/MBA '90)**.

**Joseph C. Hough Jr. ('55, DDiv '91)**, May 15, 2023, Claremont, CA. He was a past member of the Wake Forest Board of Trustees and a distinguished theological educator, minister and author. He was president of Union Theological Seminary from 1999 to 2008 and dean of the

Vanderbilt University divinity school from 1990 to 1999. Before going to Vanderbilt, he was dean of the Claremont School of Theology and a longtime faculty member at Claremont Graduate University. He finished his academic career as interim president of Claremont Graduate University in 2009. A North Carolina native, Hough earned his PhD from Yale Divinity School and was an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. He received honorary degrees from Wake Forest and Claremont Graduate University and the distinguished alumni award from Yale. Survivors include son **Matthew Hough ('86)**.

**David R. Lewis ('55)**, May 4, 2023, Greenville, NC. He graduated from UNC Chapel Hill pharmacy school.

**L. Bruce McDaniel ('55, JD '58)**, May 29, 2023, Raleigh. He served in the U.S. Air Force as an officer in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. He practiced corporate and securities law in Raleigh for more than 50 years.

**Virginia McBee Cross ('56)**, June 16, 2023, Marion, NC. She volunteered in her church and the Keep McDowell Beautiful program. She was preceded in death by her father, **Paul Thomas McBee (1928)**, and her sister, **Carolyn McBee Morphy ('61)**. Survivors include sister **Helen McBee Shimp ('67)**.



## IT'S ABOUT LIVING



When talking about gift planning, it's difficult for many to get past the idea of no longer being here. We understand. But we'd like to offer you another perspective, one that's centered around the connection between vitality and opportunity, and the fulfillment found in empowering others to live their best lives.

When it comes to gift planning, you have options. We'd love the chance to discuss them with you.

Shaida Horner, Associate Vice President, Gift Planning at [hornersj@wfu.edu](mailto:hornersj@wfu.edu) or 336-758-4696  
Please visit [wfugift.org](http://wfugift.org) to learn more about including Wake Forest University in your estate plan and lifetime membership in the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**Linda Boothe Hunt ('56)**, June 1, 2023, Durham, NC. She taught high school English and library science in Durham for 38 years.

**Alden King ('56)**, June 9, 2023, Bethlehem, NC. He served in the U.S. Army National Guard in a medical unit in Catawba County (NC). He was a pharmacist and owner of King's Drugs in Hickory, NC, and Bethlehem Pharmacy.

**Mary Ann Killian Mignon ('56)**, April 24, 2023, Lincoln, NE. She was a special education and middle school teacher for nearly 30 years. She was preceded in death by her brothers, **John Killian (MD '67, P '05)** and **Paul Killian ('57, MD '61)**.

**James Earl Douthit ('57)**, July 6, 2023, Bryson City, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He was a Baptist pastor and chief administrator of Swain County Hospital.

**Sylvia Messick Gilley ('57)**, June 20, 2023, Winston-Salem. She coached tennis at Summit School and at Wake Forest. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Jim Gilley ('57, MBA '73)**, and her brother **Dale Messick ('58)**. Survivors include son **Mike Gilley ('81)**, daughter **Elizabeth Gilley ('83)** and brother **Ralph Messick ('60)**.

**Jack Doyle Naylor ('57)**, June 20, 2023, Mocksville, NC. He was co-owner of J.P. Green Milling Co.

**Wilma Jean Flynt Parrish ('57)**, Oct. 2, 2020, Macon, GA. She was a research assistant for Mercer University School of Medicine. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Vestal W. Parrish Jr. ('55)**.

**Sue Robinson Harrison ('58)**, June 15, 2023, Newport News, VA. She began her career in computer programming at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, now NASA, and was a computer systems manager at Tidewater Community College.

**Frederick "Fred" Earl Lackey ('58)**, June 29, 2023, Taylorsville, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force for 24 years.

**Charles Clinton Lethcoe ('58)**, July 18, 2023, Jonesville, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was a Baptist pastor. Survivors include daughter **Ellen Lethcoe Frost ('83)**.

**Gary Kirby Myers ('58)**, March 31, 2023, Cumming, GA. He retired after 35 years with AT&T.

**George Bryan Purvis ('58)**, July 14, 2023, Mint Hill, NC. He was a retired office manager. Survivors include his wife, **Sarah Williamson Purvis ('60)**.

**Larry Bruce Vanhoy ('58)**, April 19, 2023, Mooresville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army. He worked for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities for 28 years and retired as superintendent of the wastewater treatment plants. Survivors include his son, **Kevin Vanhoy (PA '92)**.

**Elizabeth "Betty" Butler Watson ('58)**, April 3, 2023, Blairsville, GA.

## DR. JAMES JONES ('55, MD '59)



Jim Jones grew up poor in southeastern North Carolina. He was only 5 years old when his parents left him and his four brothers and sisters with their grandparents on a farm in Pembroke, North Carolina.

His grandmother, a teacher in a one-room school, instilled in him the value of education. His high school biology teacher and a Baptist missionary inspired him to dream of following in the footsteps of his

boyhood hero, Albert Schweitzer, as a medical missionary in Africa.

Instead, Jones found his calling closer to home. A citizen of the Lumbee tribe, he was the first Native American to graduate from Wake Forest College and what was then the Bowman Gray School of Medicine. He became a pioneering advocate for delivering medical care to poor and rural communities. "The quality of your health care should not be determined by your ZIP code," he often said.

Jones, who was 89, died May 16, 2023, in Hampstead, North Carolina. He is survived by his wife, Michelle Fleeman Jones, and two children.

Jones received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2017 and was honored during Wake Forest's "Faces of Courage" yearlong celebration of 50 years of integration in 2012.

His lifetime of service as a physician, educator and advocate was grounded in his eastern North Carolina roots and Baptist heritage. He served in Student Government as an undergraduate at Wake Forest and was twice elected president of his medical school class. After graduating from medical school, he served in the U.S. Navy as a medical officer at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina.

As a young doctor in Jacksonville, North Carolina, he saw firsthand the critical need for more family physicians, particularly in rural areas. The self-described "country doctor" became president of the North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians and a powerful voice for the need for a new medical school to serve eastern North Carolina.

When East Carolina University opened its medical school in the mid-1970s, Jones developed the family medicine program and served as founding chair of the department and associate dean for rural health for two decades. Friends funded a distinguished professorship in family medicine at the ECU Brody School of Medicine in his honor earlier this year.

Jones also was president of the American Academy of Family Physicians and executive director of the North Carolina Health Planning Commission. He helped found the North Carolina Albert Schweitzer Fellowship program for health-profession students to address health disparities. He chaired the board of trustees and received an honorary degree from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, not far from where he grew up.

Jones finished his career as he started it, as a humble country doctor. "I've had a blessed life," he said. "Who would have thought a little boy abandoned on a little farm in nowhere, North Carolina, would have had a chance to do all this? I owe a lot of that to Wake Forest."

**Richard "Dick" Allen ('59)**, Jan. 14, 2023, San Francisco. He was a nurse who worked in the AIDS unit in the 1980s and '90s at California Pacific Medical Center.

**Charles Massey Blanton ('59)**, Sept. 21, 2022, Woodstock, VA. He retired as a high school administrator in Fairfax County, VA.

**Ann Griffin Driggs ('59)**, July 4, 2023, Vestal, NY. She was a tax preparer and delivered Meals-On-Wheels for more than 30 years. She was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society. She and her husband established the Barry and Ann Griffin Driggs Scholarship at Wake Forest.

**Elaine Anderson Motley ('59)**, Feb. 10, 2023, Raleigh. She was a teacher.

**Charles L. Paul ('59)**, Aug. 3, 2023, Warrenton, VA. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He taught history and geography at Chowan University for 39 years and was an ordained minister.

**Sylvia Cheek Brady ('60)**, July 2, 2023, Upper Marlboro, MD. She helped organize a statewide association for home and hospital teachers and was recognized as the 2006 outstanding home and hospital teacher in Maryland.

**Edward Walter Cichewicz ('60)**, June 21, 2023, Doylestown, PA. He was an independent sales representative in the health care industry.

**James Richard "Dick" Crompton ('60)**, June 5, 2023, Manassas, VA. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and worked for the Fairfax County (VA) recreation department for 28 years.

**Anna Ruth King Hester ('60)**, May 22, 2023, Elizabethtown, NC. She taught middle school French and raised eight children. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Worth Hester ('49, JD '50)**.

**William Wallace Aycock Jr. (JD '61)**, April 7, 2023, Elgin, SC. He served in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. He practiced law in Tarboro and Fayetteville, NC.

**Elaine Byassee Bailey ('61)**, Aug. 8, 2023, Columbus, NC. She was an elementary school teacher. Survivors include her husband, **Donald Bailey ('61)**.

**Eva "Lou" Smith Burns ('61)**, March 3, 2023, East Palatka, FL. She worked for the U.S. Department of Defense in Washington, DC, in administrative positions.

**William Douglas "Doug" King Sr. ('61)**, July 18, 2023, Columbia, SC. He played golf at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Army. He was president of South Carolina National Bank and executive vice president of Wachovia Bank. Survivors include son **William Douglas King Jr. ('86)**.

**Nan Johnson Parker ('61)**, June 27, 2023, Denton, NC. She was a guidance counselor in Davidson County (NC) and director of elementary guidance for Davidson County Schools.

## JOSEPH O. MILNER

### Professor Emeritus of Education



Joe Milner's legacy lives on in the lives of countless English teachers across the country and around the world whose classrooms have been shaped by his teaching. Milner taught at Wake Forest for 45 years and chaired the education department for 28 years before retiring in 2014.

Former students and colleagues remember Milner, who was 6 feet 6 inches tall, as a giant in education. "I am forever grateful for all that he taught me about the noble art of teaching," wrote

Jill Snyder Kerr ('00, MAEd '01) in an online tribute. He continues "to influence the lives of all students who are taught by (his) students," she added.

Milner died May 27, 2023, in Winston-Salem. He was 85. He is survived by his wife, Lucy Morcock Milner (MAEd '86); sons Jonathan Milner ('90) and his wife, Cary Clifford; Benjamin Milner ('93) and his wife, Margie Morgan Milner ('93); and Peter Milner ('95, MAEd '97); and five grandchildren. His family endowed an academic excellence fund in his name at Wake Forest.

"To the end, Joe Milner was funny, kind and optimistic," his family wrote in his obituary. "Students often mention his humility, kindness, open mind and warm heart. Joe considered himself lucky to have worked with outstanding colleagues, gifted administrators and eager students."

A native of Atlanta, Milner led his high school basketball team to a Georgia state championship. He attended Davidson College on a basketball scholarship and earned a master's degree and Ph.D. in English from UNC-Chapel Hill.

He joined the Wake Forest faculty in 1969 and, over the next four decades, prepared hundreds of college students to teach high school English. He chaired the education department from 1978 to 2006. He created the Master Teacher Fellows program, a national model for teacher training, and directed the Advanced Placement Summer Institute at Wake Forest.

Milner and his wife, Lucy, were heavily involved in North Carolina Governor's School, a residential summer enrichment program for high school students. They were called the "power couple of Governor's School" and received the Jim Hart Champion Award in 2018 from the North Carolina Governor's School Foundation. As president of the foundation, Milner helped save the school during a budget crisis.

Milner wrote, co-wrote and edited books on teaching English, children's literature and a textbook, "Bridging English," with his wife. They received the Ragan-Rubin Award for Literary Achievement from the North Carolina English Teachers' Association, and Joe Milner also received the association's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Former students remembered Milner online as a wonderful teacher and mentor. Christie Straube Masinick ('00) shared a common thought on the Wake Forest Magazine Facebook page: "Dr. Milner helped me become the teacher that I am today." Theodora Drozdowski ('83) wrote, "I first knew him as an amazing teacher at Governor's School and was always happy to share a smile later at WFU." *More on page 112*

**Hal D. Townsend Sr. ('61)**, Dec. 27, 2022, Lake View, SC. He was a school administrator for 60 years, including as principal at Lake View High School and headmaster at Pee Dee Academy in Mullins, SC.

**Richard Ray Whiteheart ('61)**, June 25, 2023, Hayes, VA. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was a Baptist pastor in North Carolina.

**Robert "Bobby" Miller Allen ('62)**, May 9, 2023, Theodore, AL. He was a farmer and businessman.

**Thomas Edmond "Ed" Efind II ('62)**, July 30, 2023, Wilmington, NC. He and his brother formed Cardinal Moving & Storage Co.

**Howard Lee Furches ('62)**, April 4, 2023, Peach Bottom, PA. He was a retired high school science teacher.

**Joe Michael Helms ('62)**, March 18, 2023, Charlotte. He worked in banking and commercial real estate.

**Terry Mason Herndon ('62)**, April 13, 2023, Bunnlevel, NC. He played football at Wake Forest and owned several businesses. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Judy McCrary Herndon ('62)**, and his brother, **George Burbank Herndon Jr. (JD '59, P '89)**.

**Richard D. McNeely ('62)**, April 24, 2022, Reno, NV. He served in the U.S. Army and started a mining company.

**Brenda Davenport Rivenbark ('62)**, June 3, 2023, Burgaw, NC. She was a public school and college and university teacher for six decades and mentored student-teachers at East Carolina University.

**Karen McKinnon Wilson ('62)**, July 30, 2023, Pineville, NC. She was a home health manager and an accountant.

**Lynda Vannoy Higgins ('63)**, July 14, 2023, North Wilkesboro, NC. She was a guidance counselor, social worker, teacher and school psychologist. Survivors include daughter **Melissa Higgins Twaroski ('90)**.

**David Charles LeCount ('63)**, July 23, 2023, Jacksonville, NC. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 21 years, including two tours in Vietnam, and was commanding officer at Air Station New River in Jacksonville. He was a middle school social studies teacher and basketball coach in Swansboro, NC, for 23 years.

**Warren Randolph McGraw (JD '63)**, June 14, 2023, Pineville, WV. He spent five decades in public service, including as chief justice of the West Virginia Supreme Court, a state senator and House of Delegates member. He retired in 2021 as a county circuit judge. Survivors include daughter **Helen "Suzanne" McGraw Dimlich (JD '91)**.

**Charles "Charlie" Ewing Clement (JD '64)**, June 15, 2023, Boone, NC. He was a lawyer for more than 60 years and a longtime trustee of the North Carolina Natural Heritage Trust Fund.

**Robert Battle Hocutt ('64, JD '67)**, July 20, 2023, Hilton Head Island, SC, and Atlanta. He was a lawyer with the law firm Nall & Miller in Atlanta for more than 30 years. Survivors include son **John Hocutt ('98, JD '01)**.

**Frank "Terry" Kemp ('64)**, April 11, 2023, Raleigh. He provided services to deaf people through the North Carolina Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

**William "Bill" Oliver King Sr. (JD '64)**, Oct. 5, 2022, Durham, NC. He was president of the Student Bar Association at Wake Forest and practiced law in Durham for 50 years. He was president of the North Carolina State Bar and the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers and an adjunct professor at Campbell University's law school. He was inducted into the North Carolina Lawyers Hall of Fame in 2018.

**Sandra Harris Marley ('64)**, Jan. 6, 2022, Ocracoke, NC. She was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**Jerry Barden Attkisson ('65)**, July 2, 2023, Atlanta. He was consul of Sigma Chi fraternity at Wake Forest. He started a real estate investment company, the FJB Corp., an early investor in Midtown Atlanta. Survivors include his wife, **Sylvia Strickland Attkisson ('67)**. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**Nell Hoyle Donadio ('65)**, May 2, 2023, Raleigh. She collected miniatures, starting with a one-twelfth-inch scale miniature of an Old Salem house, built miniature structures and furnishings and was a lifelong member of the International Guild of Miniature Artisans. Survivors include her husband, **Don Donadio ('65, JD '67)**, and son **Andrew Donadio ('93)**.

**Durwood "Dee" Wilson Martin Jr. ('65)**, Feb. 19, 2023, Liberty, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was retired from Diversco.

**Ralph Paul Smith ('65)**, June 12, 2023, Winston-Salem. He was a pianist.

**Dale Rush Walker ('65)**, July 13, 2023, San Francisco. He was a George Foster Hankins scholar and a member of Sigma Chi fraternity at Wake Forest. He was an executive vice president and board chair at Wells Fargo. He was a member of the Legacy Society and established the Ashley and Whitney Walker Scholarship, named for his daughters, who survive him.

**Gerald V. Boyles ('66)**, May 12, 2023, Myrtle Beach, SC. He taught at Coastal Carolina University for more than 30 years.

**James "Jim" Gwyn Gambill ('66)**, July 31, 2023, Jefferson, NC. He was in Sigma Pi fraternity at Wake Forest and worked at Gambill Oil Co. He served in the U.S. Army and the Army National Guard. Survivors include his wife, **Janis Vince Gambill ('70)**, and son **Jon Gambill ('00)**.

**Lance Monroe Middleton ('66)**, June 7, 2023, Kannapolis, NC. He was a high school teacher for 30 years in Rowan County, NC.

**Michael J. Sepaugh ('66)**, June 17, 2023, Shelby, NC. He was a Baptist pastor in North Carolina.

**John "Sandy" Allan Acton ('67)**, May 23, 2023, Raleigh. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and spent 50 years in commercial real estate. His family will miss having him watch the Deacs play football every fall and asking anyone with Wake Forest attire on, "When did you graduate?" Survivors include son **Allan Acton ('94)** and daughter **Laura Acton Patton ('98)**.

**Alexander Dermot "Roo" McConnell ('67)**, April 16, 2023, Lynchburg, VA. He served in the U.S. Navy in Vietnam.

**Douglas Branch Horner ('68)**, April 22, 2023, Arlington, TX. He played baseball at Wake Forest and was a doctor for four decades.

**Charles "Charlie" Benjamin Parker ('68)**, March 8, 2023, Winston-Salem. He was in Kappa Alpha fraternity at Wake Forest. He worked in sales and management at HD Supply Co.

**Douglas "Doug" Dwight Stokes ('68)**, July 12, 2023, Albemarle, NC. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Air National Guard. He owned Stokes Construction Co. for more than half a century.

**Richard "Rick" Lee Honeycutt ('69)**, March 20, 2023, Flat Rock, NC. He was a city and county manager in several North Carolina communities for more than 30 years.

**Anthony "Tony" Liner ('69)**, June 30, 2023, Durham, NC. He served in the U.S. Army. He owned and operated Broad Street Optical.

**Larry Deck Pegram ('69)**, Aug. 7, 2023, Melbourne, FL. He was an elementary school teacher in Brevard County (FL) for 41 years.

**Janet Carolyn Parker Sink ('69)**, April 20, 2023, Apex, NC. She was an elementary school guidance counselor.

**Pamela Lee McDonald Byrtus ('70)**, May 31, 2023, Southern Pines, NC. She was a retired registered nurse at Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst, NC.

**Richard "Dickie" Walker ('70)**, July 15, 2023, Myrtle Beach, SC. He was co-captain of the basketball team and a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity at Wake Forest. He played professionally in Europe for seven years before beginning his career in sales.

**John Gray Currin Jr. ('71)**, April 28, 2023, Burlington, NC. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity at Wake Forest and a U.S. Army veteran. He was retired president and CEO of Alamance Regional Medical Center in Burlington.

**Jerry Michael Fouts Sr. ('71)**, May 21, 2023, Myrtle Beach, SC. He was a veteran and a professional dancer.

**William "Bill" Drake Gebert ('71)**, May 31, 2023, Perkiomenville, PA. He played football at Upper Perkiomen High School and Wake Forest and was inducted into the high school's Football Hall of Fame. He worked for Green Lane Tool & Die Co.

**John Harvey Nicholson III (JD '71)**, April 9, 2023, Wadesboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Army in the Judge Advocate General's Corps and practiced law in Statesville (NC) and Wadesboro.

**Pauline Parker Badgett ('72)**, April 11, 2023, Mount Airy, NC. She worked in Surry County (NC) Schools for 25 years and helped publish two volumes of "The Heritage of Surry County, North Carolina."

**Gerald Thorne McKoy ('72)**, March 30, 2023, Winston-Salem. He retired as an analyst at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

**Roger Edward Tompkins ('72)**, June 2, 2023, Kernersville, NC. He retired as a sales manager from Graybar Electric Co. after 38 years. Survivors include his wife, **Maria Waters Tompkins ('75)**.

**Larry Grant Reavis (JD '73)**, May 28, 2023, Yadkinville, NC. He was a lawyer in Forsyth and Yadkin counties (NC) and former president and secretary of the 23rd Judicial District Bar.

**Susan Francis Braswell (MT '74)**, April 5, 2023, Winston-Salem. She helped establish the Kevin H. Braswell Philosophy Academy Retreat Fund at Wake Forest in honor of her son, **Kevin Braswell ('04)**, who preceded her in death.

**Larry Hazen ('74)**, July 28, 2023, Cary, NC. He was executive vice president of Broyhill Furniture Industries. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Cylinda Shull Hazen ('75)**. Survivors include daughters **Heather Hazen Parton ('00)** and **Melissa Hazen Carroll ('03)**.

**Laura Antoinette "Toni" Kratt (JD '74)**, Feb. 26, 2023, Charlotte. She worked in the city attorney's office in Charlotte. She was preceded in death by her brother, **Jim Kratt ('58, JD '61, P '84, '85)**.

**Leon "Drew" Holloway ('75)**, March 18, 2023, Nashville, TN. He was a pastor, including at First Presbyterian Church in Effingham, IL, for 25 years, and owned a pottery business, Poor Preacher Pots. Survivors include daughter **Anna Holloway (JD '07)**.

**John Moseley Banks ('76)**, April 22, 2023, Arlington, TX. He managed financial advisers in Fort Worth, TX, for many years. Survivors include his wife, **Nancy Johnston Banks ('75)**, and brother **James Banks ('74, MBA '76, P '02)**. He and other family members established the E. Pendleton Banks and Catherine B. Banks Fund at Wake Forest in honor of his parents.

**Jo Ellen Humphries Brewton ('76)**, April 5, 2023, Annapolis, MD. She was a medical social

worker, diabetes preventionist and owner and executive vice president of R.G. Brewton Inc. Survivors include her husband, **Steve Brewton ('76)**.

**David Robert Tanis (JD '76)**, Aug. 1, 2023, Hampton, VA. He served in the U.S. Army in the Green Berets and received a Purple Heart after he was seriously wounded in Vietnam. He spent 35 years as a lawyer, assistant district attorney and District Court judge in and near Winston-Salem.

**Harold Vaughn Vannoy ('76)**, April 10, 2022, Randolph County, NC. He worked at VF Corporation (Wrangler) for 30 years.

**Richard Olen "Dick" Wasson ('76)**, May 8, 2023, Seaford, DE. He worked in probation and parole for 34 years.

**Walter "Emmett" Gladstone III (MBA '77)**, April 19, 2023, Hendersonville, NC. He was part owner of the Winston-Salem Thunderbirds ice hockey team and founder of Architectural Products and Installation.

**John Alley McCarthy ('77)**, April 23, 2023, Elk Creek, VA. He was a retired actuary for an insurance company.

**John R. Puckett (MBA '77)**, May 26, 2023, Dunwoody, GA. He served in the U.S. Navy and retired as an engineering manager after 36 years with Western Electric and AT&T.

**Chester Wilbert Roberts Jr. ('77)**, May 9, 2023, Sandston, VA. He was a retired detective in the Richmond (VA) Police Department.

**George G. Brown ('78)**, Nov. 26, 2022, Jamestown, NC. He served in the U.S. Army. He was a radio broadcaster and started a digital typesetting business.

**John Wood Kiser (JD '78)**, March 24, 2023, Statesville, NC. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam. He practiced law in Statesville and taught negotiation classes at the Wake Forest School of Law. Survivors include son **John "Craig" Kiser (JD '02)**.

**Leslie Lamb Rhodes ('78)**, July 1, 2023, Asheville, NC. She worked at a Christian counseling center in Burlington, NC.

**Richard Sterner Bloom (MBA '79)**, Sept. 30, 2022, Apex, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and the U.S. Army Reserve. He worked for IBM for 41 years and was chair of the Coastal Credit Union Board of Directors for 44 years. He received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest civic honor.

**John B. Ross (JD '79)**, May 31, 2023, Baltimore. He served in the U.S. Navy and was an attorney in the Baltimore area.

**Barbara Helms Dortch ('80)**, Aug. 8, 2023, Mooresville, NC. She was in the S.O.P.H. society at Wake Forest and worked in telecommunication sales. Survivors include her husband, **Robert C. Dortch, Jr. ('80)**.

**Michael "Mike" W. Stubeck ('80)**, May 17, 2023, Warwick, NY. He started Stubeck Properties with his brother and was a partner in Total Office Interiors.

**Douglas Steven Wells ('80)**, June 17, 2023, Clemmons, NC. He was a sales forecasting analyst at Sara Lee in Winston-Salem for 21 years. He was preceded in death by his father, **Harold Wells ('52)**.

**Wayne Thomas Arceneaux (JD '81)**, June 28, 2023, Dallas. He was a lawyer for more than 40 years.

**John Davisson Williams ('81)**, June 16, 2023, Southbury, CT.

**Craig Edwin Wolff ('81)**, April 25, 2023, Thomasville, GA. He was in the concert choir at Wake Forest. He was a physician in internal medicine, pulmonary care, critical care and sleep medicine. Survivors include son **David Wolff ('20)** and daughter **Caroline Wolff ('23)**.

**Brian Jeffrey Hansel ('82)**, June 6, 2023, Winston-Salem. He volunteered with Rural Hall Friends of the Library, the Kiwanis Club and the Salvation Army.

**Sherrie Lynn Roland Hodges (JD '82)**, Aug. 2, 2023, West Jefferson, NC. She was a lawyer in Ashe County (NC).

**Thomas "Tom" Matthew Fryar ('83)**, April 11, 2023, Columbia, SC. He practiced bankruptcy law in Columbia and Myrtle Beach, SC, for more than 30 years. Survivors include daughter **Sarah Margaret Fryar Hedlund ('13)**.

**Jeffrey W. Gjerde ('83)**, March 6, 2023, Port Charlotte, FL. He was a truck driver.

**John William Ormand III ('84)**, July 14, 2023, Knightdale, NC. He was a trial lawyer for 36 years with Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard LLP. Survivors include his wife, **Angie DeMent ('85, JD '88)**, son **John William Ormand IV ('19)**, daughter **Rachel Ormand Laughery (JD '22)** and sister **Lisa Ormand Taylor ('86)**.

**Mack Nathaniel Barnes III ('85)**, June 24, 2023, Birmingham, AL. He was a gynecologic oncologist at Alabama Oncology. Survivors include son **Mack Nathaniel Barnes IV ('17)** and brother **Garret Taylor Barnes ('87)**.

**Arthur William Blackstock Jr. ('85)**, June 18, 2023, Winston-Salem. He was a member of Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity at Wake Forest and played French horn in the bands. He was a clinician and professor of radiation oncology and cancer biology at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist. He was one of the first Black department chairs in his field. He served as interim director of the Comprehensive Cancer Center and was a nationally recognized researcher. Survivors include daughters **Jessica Blackstock ('18)** and **Ansley Blackstock (MA '23)**.

**Peter Daniel Copeland ('85)**, July 29, 2023, Stone Mountain, GA. He was a lawyer.

**Mark Evans (MS '85)**, April 24, 2023, Bear Lake, MI. He managed the radiation oncology research lab at East Carolina University's medical school.

**Bryant William Galbaugh (JD '85)**, April 8, 2023, Clemmons, NC. He was a sports copy editor and assistant sports editor at the Winston-Salem Journal.

**Robyn Meyer Dupont ('86)**, March 30, 2023, Centreville, VA. She was an attorney for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

**Angela Moore Fleming ('86)**, May 15, 2023, Lynchburg, VA. She was volunteer coordinator at Centra Hospice in Lynchburg.

**Cheryl "Cherie" Ellen Flynn (MAEd '86)**, July 3, 2023, Wilmington, NC. She was in pharmaceutical sales at Parke-Davis, Pfizer and Abbott. She was also a real estate agent.

**Cynthia L. Harnett ('86)**, Oct. 22, 2022, Canandaigua, NY. She attended Wake Forest and graduated from the University of Kansas and the University of Wyoming College of Law and was a volunteer with 4-H.

**Timothy Mark Hendrix ('86)**, July 16, 2023, Raleigh. He was a drum major at Wake Forest. He was a mathematics professor at Meredith College and executive director of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators.

**Frances H. Dillender (MAEd '89)**, March 30, 2023, Winston-Salem. She was a retired high school teacher in Winston-Salem.

**Carolyn Brockman Hooper (MA '90)**, June 7, 2023, Winston-Salem. She received a master's degree in English from Wake Forest and acted in community theatre productions.

**Timothy Austin Jackson (MBA '92)**, April 20, 2023, Winston-Salem. He was the No. 1 underwriter in the Southeast 10 years in a row while at Wachovia Bank. He later worked at Legg Mason and Baird.

**Richard "Rick" S. Mairone (JD '94)**, May 25, 2023, Linwood, NJ. He was a lawyer and past member of the New Jersey Supreme Court District 1 ethics committee. He was a board member of the Greater Atlantic City (NJ) Chamber.

**Tracey Glenn Tankersley (JD '94)**, March 11, 2023, Greensboro, NC. She was an artist.

**Jill Ann Cratsley (MBA '96)**, April 2, 2023, Sunset Beach, NC. She retired after 35 years at Inmar Intelligence in Winston-Salem.

**Thomas Earl Ingram (MALS '97)**, July 11, 2023, Clemmons, NC. He was director of facilities, planning and construction at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist.

**Nancy Jarvis Thomas (MALS '00)**, June 22, 2023, Martinsville, VA. She was a teacher and International Baccalaureate program coordinator at Carlisle School in Martinsville until retiring in 2016.

**Vilia Wood Matthews Marshall (MALS '01)**, May 14, 2023, Winston-Salem. She worked in cytology for nearly 50 years and was an artist.

**Chrissy Davis Hardy ('03)**, June 20, 2023, Clemmons, NC. She was director of children and family ministry at Knollwood Baptist Church in Winston-Salem. Survivors include her father, **Lee Davis (JD '77)**, and brother **Trey Davis (MDiv '05)**.

**Michael Alan Davignon (MBA '07)**, May 23, 2023, Key Largo, FL.

**Brendan Kilduff Duckett ('07)**, March 11, 2023, Charleston, SC. He worked in information technology and finance.

**Andrew Wagner (MSA '12)**, Aug. 9, 2023, Nashville, TN. He was a senior manager in the transaction advisory services division of LBMC, an accounting, advisory and business consulting firm.

**Nebiyou Samuel Talley ('18)**, May 9, 2023, Salisbury, MD. He was chair of philanthropy in Chi Psi fraternity at Wake Forest and a volunteer coach for Let Me Run, a nonprofit running program for boys. He was a senior executive account manager at Procter & Gamble.

## Friends, Faculty, Staff, Students

**William "Will" Warner Branch**, May 7, 2023, Winston-Salem. He was a third-year student in the Wake Forest School of Divinity.

**Mickie Sue Ashburn Burrow**, Aug. 4, 2023, King, NC. She retired from Wake Forest School of Law in faculty administrative support.

**Beth Anne Clinch**, July 1, 2023, Winston-Salem. She was a registered nurse at Wake Forest's Student Health Service.

**Henry B. Cooper Jr. ('53)**, Aug. 15, 2023, Charlotte. After a career in sales, he joined with the late University Chaplain Ed Christman ('50, JD '53, P '84, '85) in the late 1980s to start the Volunteer Service Corps at Wake Forest. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society and endowed an undergraduate scholarship and a history department fund. Survivors include his wife, **Elizabeth Isbell Bulla Cooper ('51)**, and sons **Henry Moreland Cooper ('85)**, **William Owen Cooper (MBA '89)** and Kent Burwell Cooper. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Virginia Anne Maddox Cooper, and brother **Bailey Owen Cooper ('53)**.

**Sherman Funderburk**, March 15, 2023, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. National Guard, U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserve and was a custodian at Wake Forest for 22 years.

**Louise Young Gossett**, May 14, 2023, Winston-Salem. She was an English professor at Salem College for 19 years and developed Salem's first course in Southern literature. She was preceded

in death by her husband, Thomas Gossett, professor emeritus of English at Wake Forest.

**Mary Ann Beam Huffstetler**, Aug. 5, 2023, Cherryville, NC. She was secretary to Lewis Aycock (1926) and William "Bill" Starling ('57) in the admissions office at Wake Forest from 1958-1961. Survivors include her husband, **Palmer E. Huffstetler Sr. ('59, JD '61)**, and son **Palmer E. Huffstetler Jr. ('84, JD '87)**.

**Ralph A. Peeples**, May 12, 2023, Winston-Salem. He was professor emeritus of law at the Wake Forest School of Law. He taught business law, dispute resolution, torts and other subjects for nearly 40 years until retiring in 2018. He was chosen by the Class of 2018 to speak at that year's hooding ceremony. He was also associate dean of academic affairs from 1995 to 2000. He received the school's Excellence in Teaching award four times and was known for his rapport with students and camaraderie with fellow faculty members. A native of Charleston, SC, he graduated from Davidson College and New York University School of Law. He worked for a law firm in Ohio before joining the Wake Forest law faculty in 1979.

**Bob D. Shepherd**, April 30, 2023, Morganton, NC. He was a Baptist pastor, former chair of the general board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and vice president for advancement at Gardner-Webb University. He served on the Wake Forest Board of Trustees and on committees related to Wake Forest Baptist Hospital, Wake Forest athletics and the formation of the Wake Forest School of Divinity. He received an honorary degree from Gardner-Webb, and a chair in biblical studies in the Gardner-Webb divinity school was established in his honor. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society. Survivors include sons **B. Dale Shepherd Jr. ('77)** and **Noel Shepherd ('90)**.

**Rodney Lee Tucker**, March 16, 2023, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army as a culinary specialist. He was a custodian at Wake Forest School of Medicine and the Reynolda Campus.

**Linda Jo Crawley Ward**, May 20, 2023, Winston-Salem. She was a special events assistant at Wake Forest and development director and station manager for WFDD in the 1990s and early 2000s. After leaving Wake Forest, she was the development director for the YWCA of Winston-Salem and Leadership Winston-Salem before retiring in 2015.

# A North Carolina Teacher of the Year lauds a Wake Forest mentor

By Kimberly Jones ('05, MAEd '06)

*I wrote this essay before the May 27 death of Dr. Joseph Milner (P '90, '93, '95) and join in mourning his passing. The sentiments expressed in this piece have only become truer and more valued as we live in the legacy of his exceptional life and contributions.*

**F**ROM INCREDIBLE faculty members to foundational learning experiences, Wake Forest with its guiding principle of Pro Humanitate has been a huge motivator and inspiration in my life and career.

I first met Joseph Milner, then-chair and professor of English, in the summer of 2000. I was 17 years old, attending the North Carolina Governor's School East program on the campus of Meredith College. From my earliest encounters with him, as a visitor in my English classes, I knew he was a man of great intellect, but even greater insight and kindness. Dr. Milner was the first person to encourage me to apply to Wake Forest. At that time my heart was set on Duke, and I wasn't entertaining any other options. Dr. Milner in his typical manner was supportive and encouraging of my "dream school" pursuits. However, in a conversation I'll never forget, he told me: "Kim, Duke is a fine school, and you'll certainly do well there, but Wake Forest could benefit from a great mind like yours. ... I hope you'll consider us."

Without knowing it at the time, Dr. Milner had unlocked a new sense of self for me. He made me see myself not only as a student with a strong transcript and good test scores but as a "great mind" with a unique perspective and insights that could benefit and influence the "thought life" of an academic community.

Thankfully, his influence did not end with my admission to Wake. He went on to be my graduate program director and English adviser in the Master Teacher Fellows program and in

doing so influenced my life for decades to come.

When I was named the 2023 Burroughs Wellcome Fund North Carolina Teacher of the Year in April, I called Dr. Milner's wife, Lucy (MAEd '86, P '90, '93, '95), an incredible educator in her own right, to let her know how vital they were to my success and to express my profound love and respect for them as exceptional teachers and people. Dr. Milner will forever hold a special place in my heart. He has a profound ability to make people see and believe in their greatest potential and foster the very best of their talents. While he is no longer teaching courses, he has built a legacy of hundreds of educators like me. I am the teacher and person I am today because of his investment and support. His educational legacy is the epitome of Pro Humanitate, and I can only pray and endeavor to be a Joe Milner in the lives of my students.

My undergraduate student experience has also had a tremendous impact on how and where I've chosen to build my career. As an undergrad, I remember discussing educational backgrounds with many of my friends. One of the most impactful facts these conversations revealed was that most of my white peers had had few, if any, Black educators in their entire academic experience. I firmly believe "who you learn from" directly influences "who you believe you can learn from." When students, even the brightest of the bright like those who attend Wake, only have teachers of a singular background, it deprives them of the critical and beneficial experiences that come with learning from diverse instructors.

Patterns create norms, and experiencing and appreciating the pedagogy,



Jones with North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper

perspectives and insights of diverse teachers are critical for all students who want to succeed in an ever-diversifying world. With these experiences in mind, I chose to work in a college town with a legacy of investment in its public schools and academic achievement, but also one in need of greater diversity in its teaching population.

For 17 years, I've sought to unlock, enrich and employ my skills as the "thought leader" Dr. Milner believed I could be. I've had the great fortune to teach and invest in the lives of countless, incredible students and in doing so enhance their vision of what an education and an educator can look like.

—  
*Kimberly Jones ('05, MAEd '06), who was a Joseph G. Gordon Scholar at Wake Forest, has taught English with a focus on world literature at Chapel Hill High School in North Carolina for 17 years. She lives in Danville, Virginia, with her husband, Joshua Norris, a political consultant who owns the Organize Virginia firm, and her two stepsons, Trent, 18, and Cameron, 14.*

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# NCAA CHAMPS: We're celebrating women's golf!

The women's golf team took home the 2023 National Championship trophy, the first in program history, following its match play win over the University of Southern California in May in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Women's golf became the sixth Demon Deacon program to win a national title, the first since men's tennis in 2018 and the 10th overall for the University.

Head coach **Kim Lewellen (P '25)** was named 2023 Women's Golf Coaches Association National Coach of the Year for the third time and agreed to a long-term contract extension. The championship is just the most visible highlight of Lewellen's "tremendous impact" in her five-year tenure, Director of Athletics **John Currie ('93)** said. She has led the Deacs to 17 tournament titles, 15 individual titles, two ACC titles, a national runner-up finish and a national title. All five of the championship starters were academic All-ACC performers.

Four-time All-American **Rachel Kuehn ('23, MA '24)** won back-to-back ACC Women's Golf Player of the Year awards and was ACC Women's Golf Scholar-Athlete of the Year in 2023. She won Wake Forest's Marge Crisp Award (Female Athlete of the Year) for the second time.

**Kuehn, Emilia Migliaccio ('21, MA '23), Lauren Walsh ('23), Carolina Chacarra ('25) and Mimi Rhodes ('24)** all earned spots on the All-ACC Team, the first time in program history that all five lineup players took All-League honors.

More at [bit.ly/43Lf5cN](https://bit.ly/43Lf5cN)

**Top:** Legendary retired women's golf head coach Dianne Dailey, left, with Ryan Potter, the Lyons Family Associate Head Coach, and head coach Kim Lewellen. **Middle:** Rachel Kuehn

