

WAKE FOREST

MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2024

Remembering Provost Emeritus
EDWIN GRAVES WILSON
1923-2024



Editor's note: When word arrived that Provost Emeritus Edwin Graves Wilson ('43, P '91, '93) had died on March 13 at age 101, Wake Forest Magazine team members abandoned five months of work already done for the summer issue. It was time to tear out pages and start anew in a quest to pay tribute to one of the great figures in Wake Forest history.

This issue seeks to honor Wilson and his legacy of virtues and values that anyone who knew him recognized as prized at any time in history but especially during our turbulent era. The magazine features essays by friends, former colleagues and alumni, among others. The writers reminisce about how Wilson inspired them to see the beauty and timelessness of poetry and, most of all, provided an example of a life lived with curiosity, integrity and joy.

While as an English major I took Wilson's poetry classes and delighted in knowing the provost emeritus better when I returned to work at Wake Forest in 2010, I did not realize how his singular and remarkable approach to life was evident in childhood. A newspaper clipping celebrated him when he was 5 years old! In what must be the longest headline with multiple subheads, it proclaimed: "Can You Name All States And Capitals by Groups? You Can't? Shame on You. a Five-year-old Leaksville Boy Can Do It. A Smart Child. You Can't Stump Him on Auto Names, Either."

The 1928 article described how Wilson could name and spell the states and their capitals "without a bobble" and foreign countries and their capitals as well. "As a student of the Bible,"

he was "often able to astonish older persons with his knowledge of the Scriptures." He apparently was no nonsense about the facts. How chagrined must have been the unnamed "older person" who was unfamiliar with a biblical passage and had to endure the commentary of the 5-year-old Wilson: "You don't know much about the Bible." I laughed out loud reading that in the news clipping.

I learned that Wilson was otherwise a

"regular boy with the regular boy's love for fun." He didn't go barefoot, though, and he didn't wear short sleeves. He found study entertaining and, the article noted, was perhaps more contemplative than most children. "He has ... a certain dignity of person that is not to be flouted," the article reported. "Old people shake their heads after hearing him talk, as if to imply that he knows too much to remain here long, but his chances of continuing to live and learn appear to be exceptionally good."

Nearly a century after the Leaksville newspaper marveled at the wonder of Edwin Graves Wilson, we at Wake

Forest can agree that the little boy's chances were indeed exceptionally good, and it was our own good fortune to have known, and loved, the man he became.

— Maria Henson ('82)



Read more at edwilson.wfu.edu

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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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[facebook.com/wakeforestmagazine](https://www.facebook.com/wakeforestmagazine)
[instagram.com/wakeforestmagazine](https://www.instagram.com/wakeforestmagazine)

Send address changes or cancellation requests to:
Wake Forest Magazine Alumni Records
P.O. Box 7227
Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7227
alumrec@wfu.edu
1.800.752.8568

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Class years: Alumni have years of graduation in parentheses. A "P" indicates a parent of a graduate.

ON THE COVER

Painting by Hayes Henderson

FROM *The* PRESIDENT

WHILE TRAVELING AROUND the country for the University over the past three years, alumni have often asked me, "Do you know Ed Wilson?" And I was always pleased to say yes, while asking a question in return: "What is *your* connection to him?" The answers taught me so much about Dr. Wilson's life, his legacy and his impact on generations of Wake Foresters.

For so many of you, Dr. Wilson ('43, P '91, '93) was a teacher, adviser and mentor. In his rich Southern accent, you heard stanzas of poetry from the British Romantics. Because of the way he inspired your curiosity, some of you named your children Dylan or William or John. You saw his handwriting scrawled across the chalkboard in Tribble Hall or in the margins of your



exams. He sat on the sidelines of your athletic events and in the front rows of your theater performances.

After he retired from his administrative and faculty roles, Dr. Wilson remained very present on the Reynolda campus. When he wasn't

walking the Quad, he could be found in his office in Z. Smith Reynolds Library, where he enjoyed visits when you came to campus, taking phone calls to catch up on life or exchanging letters with you about book or movie recommendations. His love of Wake Forest — and his love for people — never faded, never faltered. Well into his 90s, he mentored students curious to learn from him and shared his incredible life experiences when asked about them.

Gratefully, I met Ed Wilson on my second day at Wake Forest. Almost immediately, I saw his depth of love for this place and its people. In our meetings over the past couple of years, I watched curiosity sparkle in his eyes as we talked. Through his words and actions, he extended a hand of friendship and kindness, inviting me into the Wake Forest community and helping me make this my home, too — among the bricks, magnolias and spirit of Pro Humanitate that had called to him so many years ago.

While Dr. Wilson wasn't my professor or colleague, I feel fortunate to consider him a friend. And I know across his 101 years, he was such a wonderful friend to so many of you.

In this issue, we celebrate a Wake Forester who taught us what it means to live a life of friendliness and honor. We recognize the many ways he contributed to shaping this community. And we remember a man — a husband, father, grandfather, colleague and friend — who left an indelible mark on all those fortunate to cross his path.

Warmly,
Susan R. Wente, Ph.D.



EDWIN GRAVES WILSON
WING



Ode to

EDWIN
GRAVES
WILSON



1923-2024

*For nearly a century, he elevated hearts and minds at Wake Forest
and leaves a legacy of goodwill toward all.*

By KERRY M. KING ('85) and MARIA HENSON ('82)

Photography by Ken Bennett



THE STORY

of PROVOST EMERITUS

ED WILSON IS *the* STORY *of a* LIFE
WELL LIVED, *an* ODYSSEY *of* 101 YEARS
of a SELF-PROFESSED ROMANTIC
WHO ONCE PROCLAIMED
“WHAT COUNTS IN LIFE” ARE
“FAMILY FIRST,” *a* COMMITMENT *to*
ONE’S IDEALS *and a* LIST *of* RICHES:
POETRY, MOVIES, FICTION, LITERATURE,
VISUAL ARTS *and* THEATRE.

THE STORY OF THE LATE ED WILSON
IS INSEPARABLE FROM THE STORY OF WAKE FOREST.

A few years ago, in his deep, mellifluous voice, Wilson ('43, P '91, '93) addressed students in a first-year seminar about the University's history. He recalled a simpler time when, like them, he was a student — but on the magnolia-lined original campus 100 miles away in the town of Wake Forest, North Carolina.

“Do you know what an epiphany is?” he asked them.

“In my junior year, I went one winter night to a basketball game — I love basketball, by the way — in the gymnasium on the Old Campus. We won the game. I walked home, and the moon and the stars were out. ... And I felt so good. Walking down that dirt road, looking at the sky, remembering the basketball game, I said to myself, ‘Wouldn't it be wonderful to come back here someday and stay?’”

Eventually, he went to war and on to graduate school, but he did return to Wake Forest in 1951 for good. For the rest of his life, until his death on March 13, 2024, he became known as a paragon of excellence, first on the original campus and then, after the college's move to Winston-Salem, in 1956, on the Reynolda campus of what would become a university.

Wilson's epiphany to “come back here someday and stay” proved a blessing to Wake Foresters, no matter from which campus they graduated. At some point, others bestowed on Wilson the title “Mr. Wake Forest,” but he was much too modest to be comfortable about it. He once told students he'd prefer to be remembered as a devoted husband, loving father and grandfather.



Ed Wilson, at right, speaking on the original campus in 1989

His family graciously shared him: his wife, Emily Herring Wilson (MA '62, P '91, '93), poet, author and scholar in her own right; three children, Edwin G. Wilson Jr. (JD '93), Sally Wilson ('91) and Julie Wilson, and their spouses, respectively, Laurie Turnage Wilson ('93, MAEd '94), Carolyn Stevenson and John Steele, and four grandchildren.

From the time Wilson enrolled as a 16-year-old freshman in 1939 until his death at his home in the Faculty Drive neighborhood beside campus, he was associated with Wake Forest for 77 years. During those decades, Wake Forest awarded 93.4% of all degrees bestowed in the institution's history — reflecting the profound changes from Wake Forest's founding as a manual labor institute in 1834 with only 16 students.

In those nearly eight decades of modern Wake Forest history, Wilson was an undergraduate student, professor, dean, provost, vice president and, always and until the end, encourager and confidant to alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends.

He appealed to humanity's better angels, urging those who listened to remain constant and true to values most important to him: friendliness, honor and integrity. Wake Forest, he believed, was at its best when combining head and heart.

Wilson was known for elevating virtues in the many eulogies and tributes he delivered for friends and colleagues. He published a book of those remembrances called "Songs of Wake Forest." At the funeral of President Emeritus James Ralph Scales in 1996, Wilson praised his friend as a noble soul with a noble heart. The words Wilson selected that day from Ralph Waldo Emerson were meant to honor Scales, but they ring true all these years later for Wilson himself: "Wherever there is knowledge, wherever there is virtue, wherever there is beauty, he will find a home."



WILSON'S DEATH has prompted countless heartfelt tributes and an examination of how one man of generous spirit reflected the quintessence of the highest ideals of humanity and an institution.

"It's impossible not to be sentimental about Ed Wilson — he evokes in us both our fondest memories of a special time in our lives and also, by virtue of his personal integrity and humanity, a call to our best selves," said Jeanne Whitman Bobbitt ('79, MBA '87), Wilson's former student and a Wake Forest trustee. "But to stop there in either the





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“WHEN I BEGIN TO THINK OF
THE WAKE FOREST I KNOW AND LOVE,
TWO WORDS COME AT ONCE TO MY MIND:
FRIENDLINESS AND HONOR.

*I heard them for the first time as Wake Forest words
on the night of my own freshman orientation.”*

— Ed Wilson



JOE MARTINEZ (06)

Binkley Chapel on the original Wake Forest campus



E **DWIN GRAVES WILSON** was a man of February, as he liked to say, born Feb. 1, 1923, two days before Wake Forest College celebrated its 89th anniversary. His values were rooted in a mill town called Leaksville, North Carolina, about an hour north of Winston-Salem. Founded in the late 1700s on a bluff overlooking the Dan River, Leaksville merged with neighboring communities in 1967 to form Eden.

Wilson grew up on Hamilton Street with his parents and his three older brothers and older sister. Neither of his parents went to college, but one brother went to the University of Virginia, his sister to Woman's College of the University

of North Carolina (now UNC Greensboro). Wilson's father was Baptist, his mother an Episcopalian who took the children with her to church. Wilson's father was an auditor for the textile mill.

Wilson, by his own account, was a quiet, bookish boy who fell in love with movies and literature. Several times a week, he walked the three blocks from his house to the Grand Theater to see whatever was playing — except Mae West movies, forbidden by the Wilson patriarch. The theater's owner was a neighbor, and he shared the latest movie magazines with young Wilson.

As a boy, Wilson walked along the railroad tracks to the library in nearby Spray. There, he read Thomas Wolfe,

sentimental or aspirational falls far short of the role Ed Wilson has played as one of the most powerful forces in shaping the Wake Forest that today ranks among the best universities in the country.”

Wake Forest President Susan R. Wentz acknowledged his place in history, remembering him as “a man of extraordinary character, grace and wisdom, ... a beloved and influential figure at Wake Forest for many decades both as a professor and an administrator.”

MR. WAKE FOREST THROUGH *the* DECADES

1923: Born Feb. 1 in Leaksville, North Carolina

1939: Enters Wake Forest College

1943: Graduates summa cum laude and joins the U.S. Navy

1946: Discharged and returns to WFC to teach English

1947-52: Enrolls in Harvard's graduate school, earning a M.A. in 1948 and Ph.D. in 1952

1951: Joins Wake Forest faculty

1957: Named assistant dean

1959: Named acting dean

1960: Named dean of the college

1963: Supports founding of what is now the Mark H. Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art

1964: Marries Emily Herring (MA '62); they would have three children and four grandchildren

1966: Esquire deems him a U.S. "superprof"

1967: Named University's first provost and continues in that role through 1990

1971: Helps start University's first residential study abroad program in Venice

1975: Supports founding of Wake Forest University Press

1977: Helps start residential program in London

1990: Steps down as provost and becomes vice president for special projects through 1993

1992: Addition to Z. Smith Reynolds Library named the "Wilson Wing"

1993: Honored with Distinguished Alumni Award

1993: Ten former students publish a volume of scholarly essays in his honor titled, "English Romanticism: Preludes and Postludes"

1998: Called back to administration as senior vice president, handling academic matters for Provost's Office until 2002

2002: Receives the North Carolina Award for Public Service, the state's highest civilian honor

2002: Named president of Atlantic Coast Conference

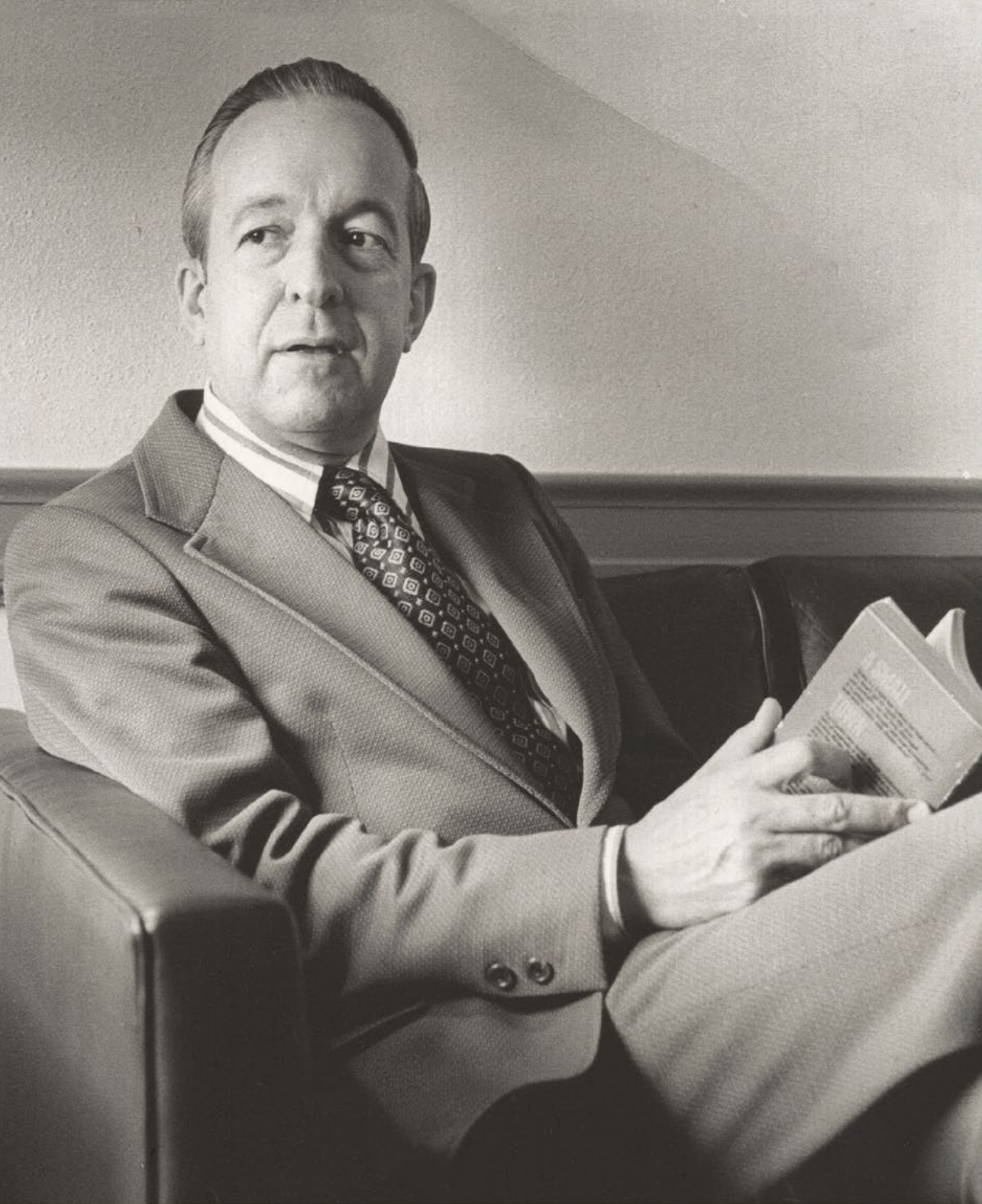
2004: Honored with Medallion of Merit, University's highest award for service

2010: Publishes "The History of Wake Forest University, Volume V, 1967-1983"

2012: Inducted as part of inaugural class into the Wake Forest Writers Hall of Fame

2020: Publishes "Songs of Wake Forest"

2024: Dies on March 13 at age 101



“Even now when I read a Yeats poem,
I can still hear Dr. Wilson’s voice.”

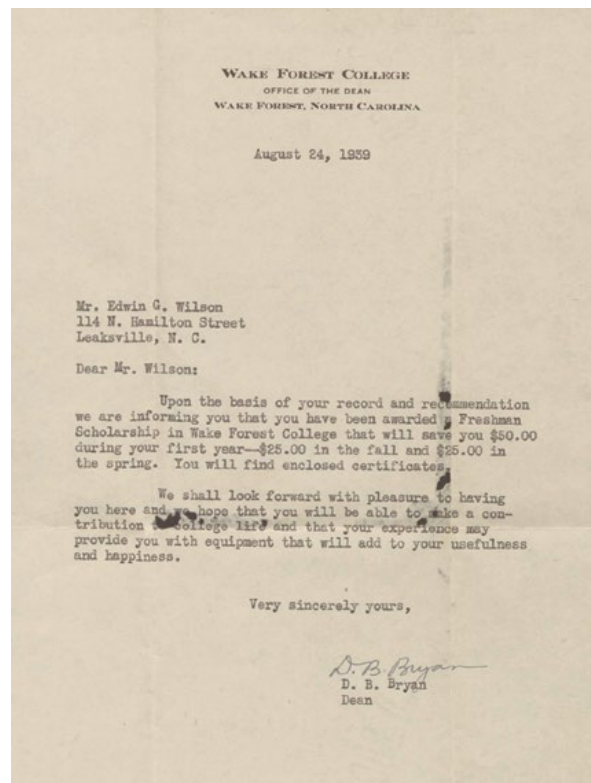
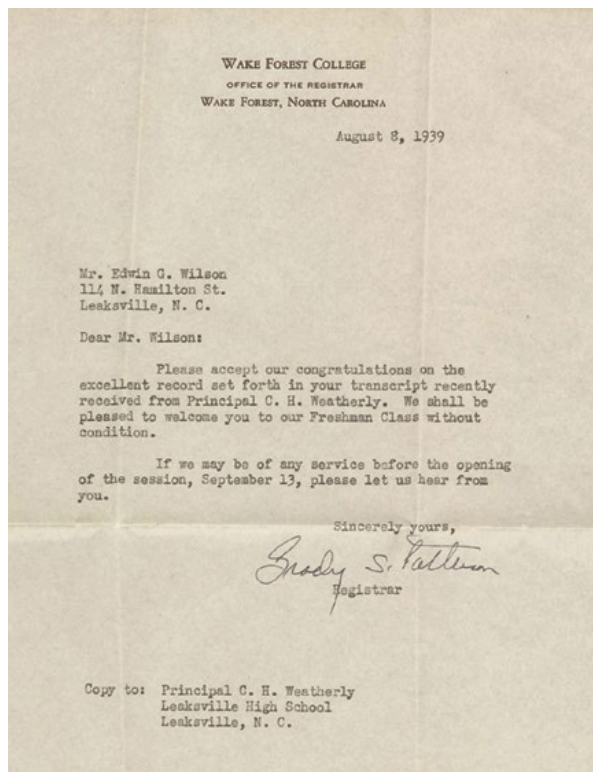
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LAURA LYONS BAILET ('79)
GUESTBOOK

Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald. He eagerly read adventures about the sea, from Robert Louis Stevenson's "Treasure Island" to Howard Pease's "The Ship Without a Crew" and "The Tattooed Man." At Leaksville High School and later Wake Forest College, he discovered his passion for poetry and Charles Dickens, George Eliot, Alfred Tennyson and Emily and Charlotte Brontë.

Wilson traveled the world, for the most part then, only in his imagination. He had been to Washington, D.C., Charleston, South Carolina, and Nashville, Tennessee. A family trip one summer to the Outer Banks for "The Lost Colony" play changed everything. The Wilsons decided to stop by Wake Forest at the suggestion of a Leaksville Baptist minister. Even with no students or professors around, Wilson fell in love with the campus.

"There was splendor in the grass that day," he recounted decades later. "I was captured — for life, as it turned out — by the name and the place alone."

What joy that young boy must have felt when he received a simple letter from the registrar welcoming him to the freshman class of 1939. Two weeks later,



Dean D.B. Bryan wrote to offer a \$25 scholarship toward each semester's \$50 tuition.

Wilson, quoting his favorite movie, later recalled how his arrival that first semester was, "in the immortal words of Humphrey Bogart in 'Casablanca,' the start of a beautiful friendship."

EVEN IDYLIC WAKE FOREST at that time grew increasingly attuned to the war brewing in Europe. On the day Wilson left for college, news hit about Germany's invasion of Poland. "I saw the beginning of World War II that very day," Wilson said. On a large map pinned on the wall of his bedroom in Mrs. Lillian Brewer's boardinghouse, Wilson traced the Nazis' march across Europe. In 1941, a friend burst through the door and interrupted Wilson's studies with news that Japan had bombed Pearl Harbor.



*“I don’t believe in learning as something
that is cold and isolated.”*

I BELIEVE THAT LEARNING AND
FRIENDSHIP AND LITERATURE AND
THE ARTS OUGHT TO BE INTERTWINED
INTO THE FABRIC OF OUR LIVES.”

– Ed Wilson

In those years, classmates answered the draft or volunteered, and professors left for war. As more male students left, women enrolled, which created a true coeducational Wake Forest. The U.S. Army finance school and more than 1,000 officers and soldiers took over many of the campus buildings. The Old Gold & Black ran stories about drives to sell war bonds and collect scrap metal and published regular updates on “the boys in the service.”

DESPITE THE WINDS OF WAR, Wilson savored his life at college. He was one of 412 freshmen in 1939 as total enrollment on campus reached nearly 1,100 students. “Life in this place was sweet and good, and ... no man anywhere really needed much more than what we had,” he wrote. Those years were “full of hope and expectation” and spent “in the company of colorful and faithful friends.”

Students on the
“bumming corner” on
the original campus





HOWLER EDITOR

Wilson majored in English and history and distinguished himself as a scholar and campus leader. For the rest of his life, he remembered and discussed the influence of his teachers, especially Broadus Jones (1910, P '44) and E.E. Folk Jr. (1921, P '47) in the English department. He listened to the sounds of a Beethoven symphony wafting from the windows of Thane McDonald's music room, and he heard his first aria, "Che gelida manina," from "La Bohème," played on a turntable in a physics professor's office. (Wilson would become a regular opera-goer and later serve on the Piedmont Opera board in Winston-Salem. One alum recounted how Emily and Ed Wilson, the provost in black tie, stopped by on the way to the opera for a visit at a casual party thrown by former students in the West End. Wilson appeared comfortable in any social circle.)

In college, he spent much of his time writing for the *Old Gold & Black* and *The Student* literary magazine. As editor of *The Howler* in 1943, in a hint of what was to come, he penned a dedication to Broadus Jones for having taught the "giants of English literature — Shakespeare, Milton, Wordsworth, Shelley, Keats, Tennyson and Browning."

His daily comings and goings confirmed the sweetness of life in a rural North Carolina town. Wilson ate at Mrs. Newsome's boardinghouse — three meals a day for \$22 a month — or he stopped at Shorty's for a nickel hamburger on the way to the post office to check box 208, a number Wilson easily recalled 70 years later. He met friends for ping pong and bridge at the College Book Store and for movies at the Collegiate and Forest theaters. He joined classmates on the "bumming corner" along U.S. Highway 1 to hitchhike to Raleigh, once for the Wake County premiere of "Gone with the Wind" and a meal of Chinese food.

On that small campus, Wilson found what he later described as the heritage of Wake Forest: "discipline and passion, friendship and imagination, wisdom and hope and faith."



*“I have two strong hopes:
one, that all of you who love Wake Forest
will remain understanding and loyal;
and two, that Wake Forest will continue forever
to be what it was when I first saw it
and what it is today:*

A PLACE WHERE
REASON, IMAGINATION AND
FAITH FLOURISH, A PLACE
ETERNALLY AND FEARLESSLY
IN PURSUIT OF THE TRUTH,
A PLACE WHICH IS OPEN,
HOSPITABLE, GENEROUS,
LOVING AND FREE.”

— Ed Wilson







AS HIS GRADUATION APPROACHED and the world was still at war, Wilson did a “very impulsive and spontaneous thing.” He took a bus to Raleigh one morning to join the Naval Reserve. He thought it a better option than what two of his brothers had experienced, fighting on the ground, amid horrors, in Europe. “I’ve always loved stories of the sea,” Wilson once said. “I had never been on a ship. I had never even been in a rowboat. But the idea of going into the Navy had a romantic appeal to me.”

He received a deferment until after graduation, in 1943. Then came four months at Northwestern University’s “midshipmen’s school” and afterward, an assignment as an ensign to a destroyer escort in the Pacific theater.

There, he forged his own war memories, ranging from Okinawa to the Philippines. From his ship he saw

the bloody battle of Iwo Jima. He watched as a Japanese kamikaze pilot crashed into a ship nearby. “We were close enough to see what was going on: ‘the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air,” he recalled in a talk with students.

The ship’s location was secret. As communications officer, Wilson found a task on board especially unpleasant. He had to read the love letters that sailors wrote to their wives and girlfriends back home and censor sensitive information.

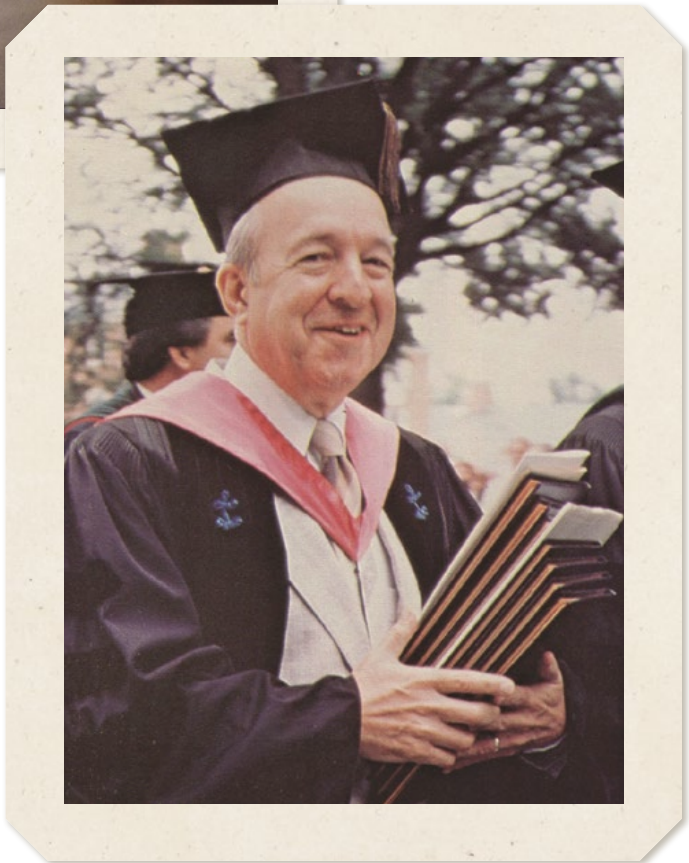
By the end of the war, Wilson was a lieutenant junior grade and executive officer aboard the USS Raymond. The ship returned to San Diego, where officers with more seniority were discharged and sent home. In a curious footnote to his war service, Wilson found himself captain of the ship for “one month of glory.” (A framed flag from the USS Raymond has long hung in the Wilsons’ home.)

It was also in San Diego where a newspaper announced that a small college in North Carolina named Wake Forest



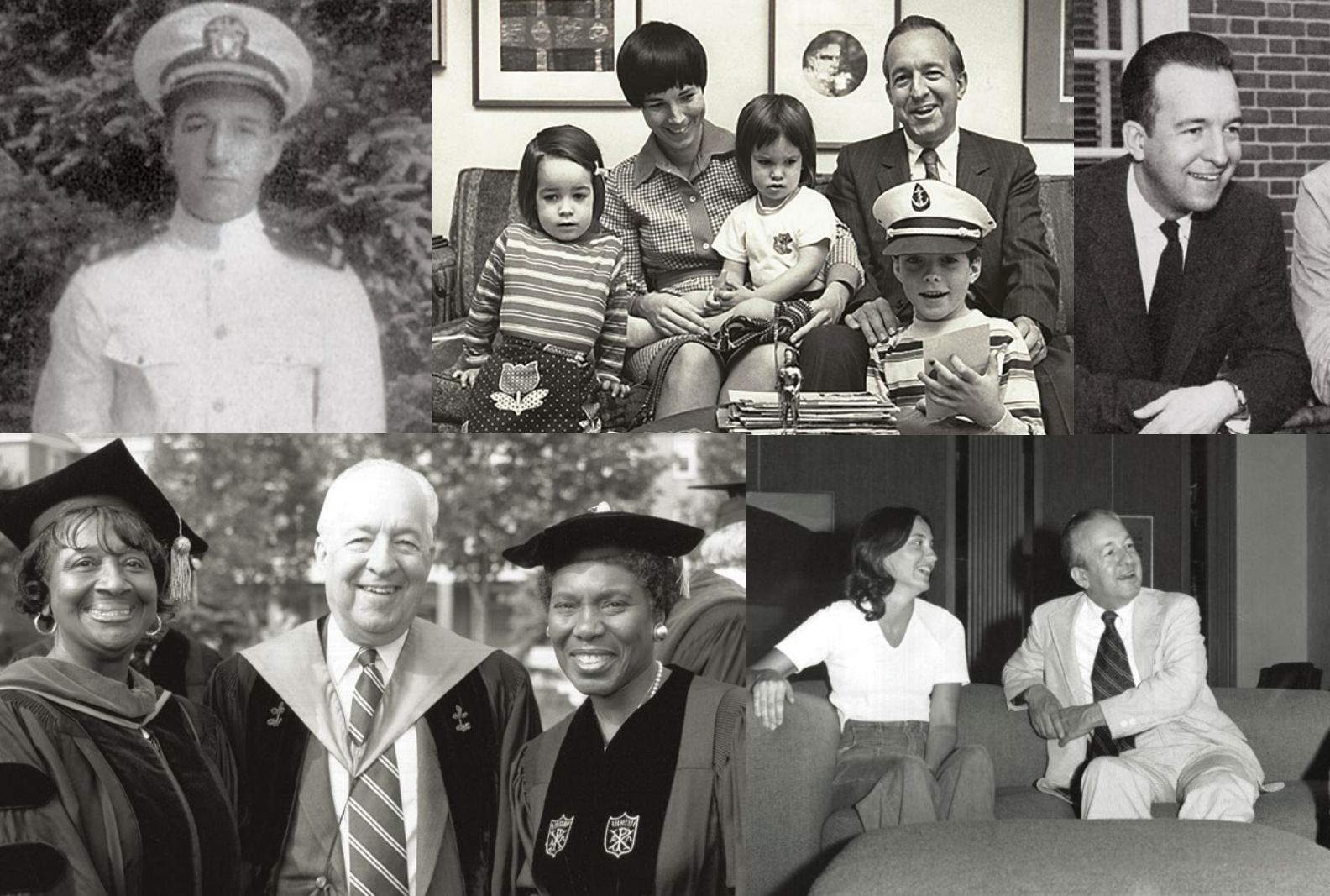
“Getting into Dr. Wilson’s class was a ‘WFU must do,’ and it merited every bit of its hype.”

.....
MARY JO SWEENEY ('77)
GUESTBOOK



had accepted an offer from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation to move to Winston-Salem. Far away from the place he held dear, Wilson was heartbroken at the news.

AFTER HIS DISCHARGE from the Navy in 1946, Wilson joined the masses of veterans figuring out what to do next. English professor Broadus Jones laid out a path, inviting Wilson back to the original campus to teach the throngs of GIs returning to school. Wilson taught for a year before going to Harvard on the GI Bill to earn his master’s and doctorate in English.



*“I am, admittedly, by temperament and by education,
a Romantic, and I tend to be sentimental and elegiac about the past.”*

I KNOW THAT NOT EVERYONE
WHO STUDIED OR TAUGHT OR WORKED ON
THE WAKE FOREST CAMPUS BETWEEN 1967 AND
1983 WAS AS HAPPY HERE AS I WAS, BUT LET IT
BE SAID THAT MY MEMORIES, EVEN OF BAD
DAYS, HAVE BECOME SWEET, OR AT LEAST
ACCEPTABLE, THROUGH THE PASSAGE OF TIME.”

– Ed Wilson in “The History of Wake Forest University, Volume V, 1967-1983”



He said of his time studying at Harvard with Keats scholar Hyder Rollins: “Since I was already a Romantic and already an Anglophile, I was drawn to what I think is the purest expression of literary form — that is to poetry.”

Like Jones, Wilson found happiness in sharing his love of the greats of English literature. With his freshly minted Ph.D., he returned to Wake Forest in 1951 to teach English literature — but not for long. The College, including its faculty and students, would be moving west in 1956. The 100-mile move became a seminal event for all concerned.

Wilson felt a deep sense of responsibility to ensure that the atmosphere and friendliness of the original campus be transplanted to the new home in Winston-Salem. As sentimental as Wilson was about the original campus of his youth, he also knew that education was about the future, and he had a part to play. “Seldom can anyone say with assurance, ‘This is it — the beginning of a new era!’” his mentor Broadus Jones said at the September 1956 convocation on the “new campus.”

Wilson helped usher in that era. In 1958, he became acting dean of the College and in 1960 was named dean at the dawn of a tumultuous decade on U.S. college campuses,

marked by Civil Rights marches, Vietnam War protests and challenges to societal and cultural norms. In the early 1960s, unlike some faculty, students, trustees and alumni, Wilson supported ending racial segregation at the College. One campus poll showed 55% of students voting against integration. Other students felt differently, organizing the African Student Program to raise money to bring an African student to campus to enroll. In 1961, the faculty approved a resolution encouraging trustees to allow Black students to be admitted. In 1962, the trustees agreed, and Ed Reynolds ('64), from Ghana, became the College's first Black student. He found allies on campus, including Wilson, who, as Reynolds recalls and a photograph on page 83 documents, participated in a fundraiser on Reynolds' behalf: Wilson collected money by waiting tables in the Magnolia Room. In those early years of the 1960s, despite racial tensions on campus and in the city, Wait Chapel hosted the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and contralto Marian Anderson. When students marched on then-President James Ralph Scales' house in 1970 to protest the Vietnam War, Wilson and other faculty members sat down with the students to hear their concerns.





*“Treasure this moment, treasure Wake Forest. ...
To me, one of the happy facts about Wake Forest
is that on that day, way back when I heard about
the new school for the first time (in 1939), the two
words that leaped out were ‘Wake’ and ‘Forest.’*

THERE IS SOMETHING
WONDERFUL ABOUT THAT
NAME, WAKE FOREST.
IT SUGGESTS WAKING UP TO
LIFE ITSELF AT ITS BEST,
AND IT SUGGESTS SOMETHING
GREEN AND VERDANT
THAT LASTS AS FAR AS TO
THE YEARS TO COME.”

— Ed Wilson



Wilson's love for the arts showed in his support of the founding of what is now the Mark H. Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art. Wilson accompanied students on the first art-buying trip to New York in 1963.

In 1967, the same year Wake Forest College became Wake Forest University, Wilson became Wake Forest's first provost. With President Scales and later with President Thomas K. Hearn Jr., he helped Wake Forest gain recognition beyond the regional excellence the school had long enjoyed.

He shaped the University's academic curriculum, programs and faculty. As an academic leader, he expanded graduate programs, including the graduate School of Business, and started an interdisciplinary honors program. He attracted potential faculty members who first had to pass what some called "the Ed Wilson test" — they needed to enjoy teaching and be committed to the well-being of students.

He hired women and Black faculty members and supported their promotions, including Elizabeth Phillips and Mary Frances Robinson, the first women in the College to become full professors. In 1974, Herman Eure (Ph.D. '74, P '23) and Dolly McPherson became the first Black tenure-track professors. In the 1980s, Wilson hired the first Reynolds Professors, including poet Maya Angelou (L.H.D. '77), who became a longtime friend.

The University's residential houses for study abroad bear Wilson's mark of promoting exceptional opportunities for students: Casa Artom in Venice, established in 1971, and Worrell House in London in 1977. Wilson had a special fondness for Worrell House, funded by his friend and former classmate Gene Worrell ('40, L.H.D. '79).

During the 1970s, campus was "alive ... with a creative passion," Wilson once wrote. Prominent politicians, authors, journalists and musicians regularly visited campus, and the Wilsons entertained many of them in their home.

Those who knew Wilson speak of how comfortable he was with anyone from any station in life, no matter how famous. Wilson told a story of how Harold T.P. Hayes ('48, L.H.D. '89, P '79, '91), then editor of *Esquire*, encouraged his circle of New York friends to become involved with the University. One of them was National Book Award winner Ralph Ellison, author of "Invisible Man." Ellison joined the University's board of visitors in 1972 and later accompanied Wilson on a fundraising visit to the Henry Luce Foundation in New York. Two-time National Book Award winner and renowned poet A.R. Ammons ('49, D.Litt. '72) was a dear friend of the Wilsons — Ed Wilson taught him freshman



“Absolute legend. Mr. Wake Forest was one of the greatest men I ever got the pleasure to meet. He lived life to the fullest, and inspired so many students, including myself.”

.....
BEN WEEKLEY ('18)

X, FORMERLY KNOWN AS TWITTER @BIGBEN_96



With the late Russian professor Billy Hamilton (P '94, '98)

Wilson with the late Chaplain Emeritus Ed Christman ('50, JD '53); With the late Reynolds Professor of American Studies Maya Angelou (L.H.D. '77); Friends celebrate Wilson's 100th birthday.



— ❖ —

“I WAS AN ANGLOPHILE
FROM AN EARLY STAGE.”

— Ed Wilson



English on the original campus. Ammons was always a welcome visitor at the Wilsons' home.

It's no surprise that — with Emily Wilson as a successful poet and Ed Wilson as a beloved professor of British Romantic Poets and Blake, Yeats and Thomas — Wilson backed a daring idea endorsing poetry writ large. As provost in the mid-1970s, he became the original benefactor of Wake Forest University Press, now the major publisher of Irish poetry in North America.

None of the advances in Wake Forest's new era can be attributed to any one person. Wilson would be the last person to claim credit, let alone sole credit, for anything. Throughout his tenure as dean and provost, Wilson worked with a cadre of trusted colleagues — many of whom lived near him in the Faculty Drive neighborhood — including Tom Mullen (P '85, '88), John Williard, Lu Leake, Mark Reece ('49, P '77, '81, '85), Bill Starling ('57), Ed Christman ('50, JD '53, P '84, '85), Russell Brantley ('45, P '72), Henry Stroupe ('35, MA '37, P '66, '68) and Gene Hooks ('50, P '81). They were mostly fellow alumni and all of them his friends.

Wilson retired as provost in 1990 to become vice president for special projects and traveled around the country to tell Wake Forest's story during a capital campaign. He returned to the administration in 1998 as a senior vice president in the provost's office. Though he officially retired in 2002, he continued, for years, dressed smartly in coat and tie, to go to his office in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library. Alumni popped in to see him there or wrote him long, newsy letters. Homecoming and events around the country were occasions for alumni to mob "Mr. Wake Forest" and stand in awe of his uncanny ability to remember names and faces and treat all with kindness and respect.

Friends and alumni often trekked to the home the Wilsons built in the 1960s in the woods on Timberlake Lane. They arrived with gifts of homemade cookies, cherry jam, pound cake, cinnamon rolls and ice cream. Drawing chairs close to Wilson's in a den filled with books and family photos, the visitors and Ed Wilson talked about family, former students, literature, film classics, politics and the latest basketball game.

Marcus Keely ('10) once asked Provost Emeritus Ed Wilson which books would comprise his "ideal bookshelf."



Dr. Wilson's
IDEAL BOOKSHELF



Alumni, professors, staff and others wished Wilson a happy 100th birthday in 2023. Students tied gold ribbons around trees on campus to celebrate Wilson's 101st birthday. Photos by Lyndsie Schlink

“I loved Ed Wilson. Who didn’t?”

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MARK HILPERT ('93)
GUESTBOOK



WILSON TURNED 100 IN 2023, an occasion that warranted celebration, blog posts and social media tributes. A line of people who wished to greet the provost emeritus in the library stretched into a hallway. This year, to

mark his 101st birthday, students tied gold ribbons around trees on campus.

Forty-one days later, Wilson would die at home, according to a family member, “peacefully.”

Wilson is no longer here physically, but he is here in ways that will last. Younger graduates did not have the pleasure of taking his classes, but they gaze up at his portrait in the Wilson Wing of the library, arguably the most popular building on campus. Older graduates share their memories and stories of having known a true son of Wake Forest who stood for the best of the ideals of the original campus and the new.

There are Ed Wilson’s words. They live on.

Wilson spoke at the Founders Day convocation in 1992, before the dedication of the Wilson Wing. He recalled people in history who had inspired him with ideals and imagination: the poets John Keats and Emily Dickinson, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, Nobel winner Elie Wiesel and Rev. King. Wilson quoted King: “One day we will learn that the heart can never be totally right if the head is totally wrong. Only through the bringing together of head and heart — intelligence and goodness — shall man rise to a fulfillment of his true nature.”

And then Ed Wilson shifted from the lofty to the humble by quoting from the wisdom of a children’s book. In “Charlotte’s Web,” a dying spider addresses Wilbur the pig. “You have been my friend,” Wilson recalled. “That in itself is a tremendous thing. I wove my webs for you because I liked you.”

“I would conclude this morning,” Wilson continued, “by saying with Charlotte, to all of you: my family, my colleagues, my students — you have been my friends. That in itself is a tremendous thing. I wove my webs for you because I liked you.”

“Ed Wilson’s legacy must rest most on that generosity of spirit for the concentric worlds — family, colleagues, alumni/ae, Wake Forest, North Carolina — through which he walked with confidence made humble, with complexity made simple by love.”

.....
TOM PHILLIPS ('74, MA '78, P '06)
RETIRED ASSOCIATE DEAN AND DIRECTOR
OF WAKE FOREST SCHOLARS PROGRAM





EDWIN GRAVES WILSON
PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH
DEAN OF THE COLLEGE, 1947-1952
PROVOST, 1951-1952

*As
They
Remember
Him*





Jeanne
WHITMAN
BOBBITT
(’79, MBA ’87)

GENERATIONS OF Wake Foresters came to know Ed Wilson — Provost Wilson, as decades of alumni will forever refer to him — not in his administrative roles but as the sonorous voice spinning from memory the opening lines of “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” on a warm April afternoon. In his tiered Tribble Hall classroom, its windows standing open to the scent of early magnolias, we were spellbound. Those times — and all the times he spoke, either his own words or the lines of one of the poets he admired — were mesmerizing.

He was teacher, eulogist, historian of Wake Forest, lover of literature and cinema, and most of all, lover of his family and his North Carolina home. He was also one of the chief strategists of a University built on intelligent and humane principles. His wisdom and values helped propel a small, somewhat underfunded North Carolina institution into the ranks of one of the nation’s most respected universities.

Ed Wilson knew that ideas and people build great institutions, and he sought and attracted both — and built an environment that valued both. He would interview a candidate for an appointment in accountancy, and the two would talk about the career of filmmaker John Huston. With a candidate in French language and literature, the topic might be W.J. Cash’s “The Mind of the South.” A budding law professor might be invited to tell of her relationship with the grandmother who reared her.

Ed Wilson looked for intellect, powers of imagination, character and heart. He sought for our Wake Forest those whose values put students first, community second and personal career

ber

third. Profoundly decent, he respected women and men equally and was disgusted by those who were dismissive of the frailties of others. He reveled in complex and accomplished minds. Ed Wilson brought Germaine Brée (D.Litt. '69), Maya Angelou (L.H.D. '77), James Dodding to campus. He sought people whom he would enjoy around a dinner table at his Timberlake Lane home. Before “personnel” became “human capital” or “talent management,” Ed Wilson treasured people as the center and the engine of the enterprise.

His occasionally maddening habit of procrastination was more often than not a conscious strategy. He once told me that if one has the equanimity and, I would add, strength of mind, to wait out the first waves of response to a problem, better information will likely emerge. Emotions will shift. Solutions will disassemble and re-assemble themselves. And the community will likely become more prepared to accept the solution that shapes itself and is shaped by its leadership. Ed Wilson had a preternatural calm in the face of a crisis and, usually, exquisite timing for the implementation of resolution. Whether that discipline would have thrived in our 24-hour news cycle and the voracious maw of social media we will never know. But that practiced discipline saved the dignity and sometimes the

careers of many over the years. Ed Wilson gave people time to come around to the positions that their “best selves” would espouse — because that “best self” was the one he was generous enough to recognize as the “real” self.

Finally, he had the heart of an idealist and the mind of a pragmatist. His instinct was to guard the well-being of the individual, especially those perceiving themselves ranged against the powers of traditional structures. But his pragmatic eye saw that safeguarding the institution could require canny compromise for the greater good. He was not a man to die in ditches. He lifted our eyes to the hilltop and urged us up together — but if the hilltop were unassailable, he had a Plan B in mind. Pyrrhic victories were not his way — nor were one-sided ones. Although he always took the moral high ground, he often found a

“One of my fondest memories is of sitting on Provost Wilson’s living room floor one evening, after a spaghetti supper delivered from the Pit, and reading Dylan Thomas’s play, *Under Milk Wood*, aloud with classmates.”

.....
MOLLY WELLES LINEBERGER ('82, MA '15, P '15)
GUESTBOOK



way to accommodate a variety of interests. His first duty, even when it grieved him to act against the interests of an individual, was the strength and well-being of the institution.

And therein lie the lessons that have stayed with me every bit as strongly as the memory of “The Song of Wandering Aengus” recited, incongruously, by a smallish man in a business suit, hands thrust in pockets, rocking occasionally to the balls of his feet as the wash of language overtakes him and his listeners. Wake Forest awarded me degrees. Ed Wilson prepared me for life. His

days were lighted by unexpected moments of whimsy and anchored in his love for his family and his joy in his friends. He was the same man at home, at work, in the classroom. He was, and remains forever, my North Star.

∴ Jeanne Whitman Bobbitt ('79, MBA '87) worked as Ed Wilson's assistant for about four years after completing her graduate studies at the University of Virginia. She is vice chair of the University Board of Trustees.

Thomas E. MULLEN

(P '85, '88)

EDWIN G. WILSON was more like an older brother to me than a “boss,” even though as acting dean of the College in 1958-59 and in his various leadership roles afterward, he was in every way my academic and administrative superior. This relationship continued with me as dean and Ed as provost until 1990, when he retired from the provost’s position. Throughout the years, he was my superior but also my very close friend, one who did not offer his advice but who would always give it when asked.

When Ed married Emily Herring in 1964, it happened that my wife, Ruth, and I were spending the summer in a student apartment in Paris, where we had more room than we needed. So, the honeymooners paid us a most welcome visit, and we four adults, with Renee, our 20-month-old daughter, drove to Chartres to visit the cathedral. Enjoying a picnic on the way, Ruth and I saw Ed without a coat and tie for the first time in seven years. He gave up much of his formality under the influence, I think, of Emily and later their three children. He had always been approachable for colleagues and students but, thanks to family, he became even moreso.

As dean and then through his many years as provost, Ed protected and preserved many of the academic and moral values he and others brought with them from the Old Campus in Wake Forest, North Carolina. At the same time, he took advantage of the opportunity to help expand Wake Forest’s library from 95,000 volumes in 1956 to 1 million volumes in 1989. The introduction of honors programs, interdisciplinary and departmental, was achieved through a



committee he appointed in 1959-60. Some years later it was he, supported by President James Ralph Scales, who created an art department and sought out its first faculty members.

So far as I recall, he did not name planning committees but engaged in a great deal of planning with the help of other members of the faculty and administration. Much of the planning in the Scales administration took place in the brain of Ed Wilson, who neglected to take credit for himself. In the area of planning and bringing changes to his alma mater, as in so many other ways, Ed devoted all his efforts and talents to making Wake Forest a better undergraduate college and a stronger university. I doubt that anyone in the future, no matter how long Wake Forest lasts, will ever deserve more than he the informal title of “Mr. Wake Forest.” Should, however, a woman be called “Madame Wake Forest,” Ed’s generous spirit would give that step his happy approval.

∴ Thomas E. Mullen (P '85, '88) succeeded Wilson as dean of the College in 1968 and served until 1995, and he was a history professor from 1957 until 2000.



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*“What will future students find at Wake Forest?
What students have always found, I hope:*

A PLACE WHICH MEN AND WOMEN OF
GOODWILL EVERYWHERE MIGHT, IF THEY
KNEW IT, BE HAPPY TO CALL HOME.”

– Ed Wilson





Jenny
ROBINSON
PUCKETT
(’71, P ’00)

*He was a man; take him for all in all,
I shall not look upon his like again.*

.....

HOW WELL Ed Wilson knew those words from “Hamlet.” Of course, Ed would never ascribe Shakespeare’s princely tribute to himself. Humility was a defining mark of this extraordinary man. In his later years, he always seemed a bit reticent and uncomfortable when people called him “Mr. Wake Forest.” He would smile and nod graciously, but one wondered if he might be imagining someone else he had known, to whom he would gladly bestow such a title.

Ed was much more at ease when others took the center stage. His interest in all people, and their stories, never ebbed. He loved to teach. For him, it was the highest calling. He wanted younger generations to experience an intellectual awakening to the power and beauty of language. He wanted students to understand that great literature belongs to us all, in any age or at any age.

I met Dr. Wilson when I finally secured a spot in his Romantic poets class. Immaturely, I had some initial doubts about the relevance of the subject matter, but everyone said that it was the class to take.

Poetry? Really? I was from the mountains. I already knew how to hike, camp, snow ski and read stacks of books during winter storms or rainy summers. Books of poetry were notably absent from those stacks.

But in the spring of my junior year, Ed’s class amended that viewpoint.

Each day that Ed stood in front of us, he talked to us as if we were his equals. He looked at us, one by one, as he spoke from the heart. We could see Wordsworth’s blazing yellow daffodils on the English hillsides. We could feel the wretchedness of Shelley’s *Ozymandias* as his statue languished on that lonely stretch of sand: *Lo, how the mighty have fallen.*

We learned from Ed Wilson that no generation is better or smarter than any previous one. As centuries pass and the world changes, forms of expression will evolve. But the human heart will always want to express the same fears, longings and hopes. We learned that poetry from any age or place can come alive for us if we only pay close attention.

Many years later, when it was my turn to teach at Wake Forest, Ed was my mentor. I often sought his advice on many subjects, which he gladly gave, over lunch or coffee, or in his library office. When he visited my classes, those were great days. I watched as Ed Wilson drew young listeners into a large and comfortable forum of thoughtful learning that was always uniquely *his*.

Ed was a gentle man, unfailingly kind and welcoming. In his lifetime the world around him changed radically, and sometimes terribly, but nothing could ever shake his kindness nor his optimism that things will probably turn out all right.

Ed Wilson enriched all of our lives with his intellect, affection, guidance and devotion. We, his Wake Forest family, shall remain in his debt for these gifts that we have cherished for so many years — and that cannot be repaid.

We shall not look upon his like again.

∴ Jenny Robinson Puckett (’71, P ’00) is a retired lecturer in Spanish who also taught a first-year seminar called Modern Wake Forest: A Living History. Puckett is the author of books about the University’s history; in 2016 she received the Medallion of Merit, the University’s highest honor.

Sandra COMBS BOYETTE

(MBA '95)

KNOWING ED WILSON as colleague and friend was a happy, instructive privilege. Early in my Wake Forest career, I understood why he was regarded with such profound respect. He was welcoming and treated all with kindness and openness.

He instructed me and many others in the language of his beloved alma mater. One example: As a young foundations officer, I found it helpful to have an academic administrator or faculty member accompany me on calls. Having Provost Wilson on a visit with a foundation director was the greatest asset imaginable. He articulated, eloquently, Wake Forest's history and place in higher education. His phrases informed my own vocabulary about the University. His presence, too — that rich baritone voice, his friendly poise and his academic gravitas — made his message memorable.

I was fortunate to share an office suite with Ed Wilson for my last seven years of service. Interacting with him on a daily basis was delightful.

Conducting research for the fifth volume of Wake Forest's history, he read every issue of the Old Gold & Black and every Howler from the James Ralph Scales years. Occasionally, he would emerge from his office and ask, "I recognize everyone in this picture except this one. Do you know who it is?" If I could identify the student, he would always exclaim, "Of course!" and instantly recount an anecdote about that person as an undergraduate.



Once, I mentioned a medical lecture I had attended in which the speaker advocated coffee as perhaps the best antioxidant in the American diet. Thereafter, around 3 p.m., Ed would say, "I'm going to Starbucks for my antioxidant. May I bring you one?"

And on the morning after the election of a presidential candidate whom we both supported, he arrived at the office, stood in front of my desk and sang "Happy Days Are Here Again."

May all of us who learned so much from Edwin Graves Wilson honor and emulate his powerful example of a life wonderfully lived.

∴ Sandra Combs Boyette (MBA '95) was the University's first female vice president and a recipient, in 2019, of the Medallion of Merit, the University's highest honor.



LYNDIE SCHLINK



— ∴ —

“Wake Forest has been the center of my life.

ASKING WHAT I THINK ABOUT
WAKE FOREST IS LIKE ASKING ME
WHAT I THINK OF MY FAMILY.”

— Ed Wilson

Wake Forest friends arrive to wish Ed Wilson a happy 100th birthday at the Wilsons' home in the Faculty Drive neighborhood.



“When I think of Dr. Wilson, I think of Chaucer’s line ‘And gladly would he learn, and gladly teach.’ Thank you for showing us all the way.”

.....

BETSY JENSEN CHAPMAN ('92, MA '94)
GUESTBOOK



Herman EURE

(Ph.D. '74, P '23)

MY FIRST real encounter with Ed Wilson was in spring 1974. I met with both Ed and then-Dean of the College Tom Mullen (P '85, '88) for my job interview. My first impression was that Ed was a gentle, thoughtful man who had a clear sense of what he wanted in a faculty member and that he was committed to changing the faculty's ethnic makeup. His questions were direct, thought-provoking and showed a genuine interest in who I was and what I could bring to Wake Forest. I decided to accept the University's job offer in fall 1974.

I didn't have many interactions with Ed again until 1976. The Black faculty wanted to create an office on campus to address the needs of Black students, who felt they were not being heard by the administration about biased treatment from some faculty and students. I worked almost exclusively with Ed, explaining why I felt the office was necessary to address these concerns and how it might affect students if they saw that Wake Forest was interested in their welfare by creating an office.

To make a long story short, Ed — I am sure with the blessings of President James Ralph Scales, himself a minority as a member of the Cherokee Nation — in 1977 created the Office of Minority Affairs. The office hired Larry Palmer

as its first director. He served three years. At that time, Wake Forest was changing administrations, and my thought, along with that of the three other Black faculty members on campus, was that without a director, the office might be deemed unnecessary. Ed asked me if I would direct the office and continue as a biology professor. I agreed.

We worked together to make the office an integral part of the University's administrative structure, and its creation and success owe a lot to Ed Wilson. That office changed how we taught, what we taught and whom we hired as faculty.

My relationship with Ed grew as I advised him on many issues dealing with race and gender, laying the foundation for a decades-long professional and personal relationship. I cherish that time. Ed had a commitment to fairness and equity that set him apart. He was the embodiment of what is good and right about Wake Forest. His genuine interest in making the University a more diverse place with respect to race, gender and socioeconomic equity owes a lot to his willingness to see a much different Wake Forest than the one he attended. He was the personification of our motto, and all of us who worked with him are richer because of that association.

∴ Professor Emeritus of Biology Herman Eure (Ph.D.'74, P '23) was the University's first Black graduate student on the Reynolda campus, the first Black graduate student to earn a doctorate and the first full-time Black faculty member. He has been a University trustee and, in 2017, received the Medallion of Merit, the University's highest honor.

Marybeth
SUTTON
WALLACE

(’86)

I ONCE TRIED to explain to a friend why students never wanted to miss one of Professor Ed Wilson’s classes; why it was that at 2:45 p.m. on a Friday afternoon, a classroom in Tribble, 216-C, was filled from front to back with students thoroughly enchanted, and except for one deep resonant voice reading “The Song of Wandering Aengus” or “Kubla Khan,” not a sound or shuffle could be heard.

“You could have been on your way to the beach — or the mountains,” my friend exclaimed, “or throwing a Frisbee on the Quad.”

But how could the beach or mountains compare with the dizzying lake country of Wordsworth’s boyhood, the lush green of Yeats’ Sligo or the romance of Byron’s Italy, Greece and Spain?

“You just couldn’t skip Dr. Wilson’s class,” I protested, “because you couldn’t bear to disappoint him.” And you couldn’t bear to disappoint yourself, either. “Young and easy under the apple boughs,” we had that feeling that what we were learning was nourishing our souls and fortifying us for the years to come.

We left his classroom believing we could be better people. We left his classroom believing we could do something to make the world more beautiful. And we were merely one generation of students that Dr. Wilson touched in a teaching career that spanned more than a half-century.

When I was teaching high school English in Raleigh, a fellow teacher at Enloe, Sally Rigsbee Humble (’61, P ’91), recalled that same feeling of being swept away by Dr. Wilson’s classes. As she prepared her own lesson on Keats’ “The Eve of

St. Agnes,” she remembered Dr. Wilson’s riveting lecture, the brilliant imagery, the rich language, pages of notes. When she gleefully retrieved the dusty notebook from the attic, eager to impart this wealth of knowledge to her students, she was stunned to find one sentence under “The Eve of St. Agnes.” Spellbound, she had written simply, “Dr. Wilson read the poem.”

One of the first things Dr. Wilson would do in the course of a semester was to invite each of his students by his office — just to talk — about hometowns (he loved the names of hometowns), families, favorite books, recent movies, plays — on Broadway or at the Stevens Center — perhaps even ACC basketball or Eastern North Carolina barbecue.

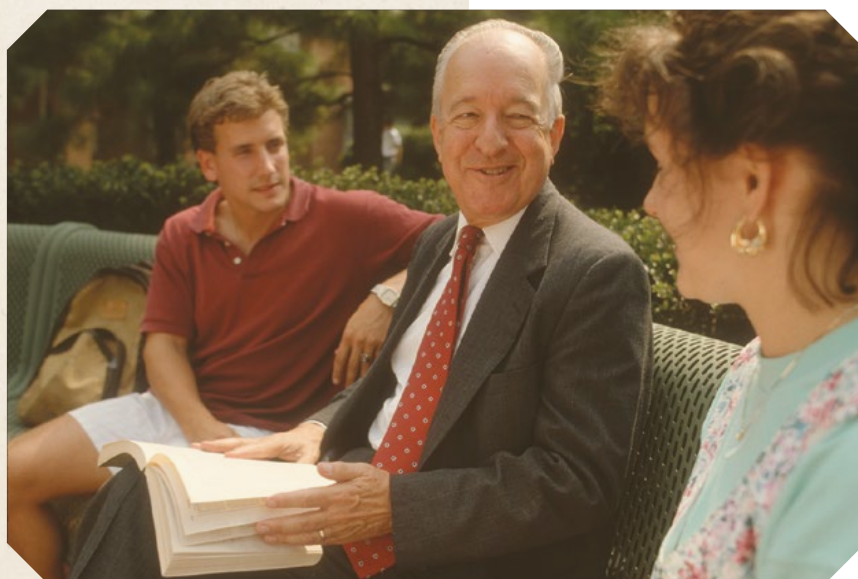




Though his life was anchored at Wake Forest, Dr. Wilson's life's work has extended to every town across this state, every corner of the country and beyond as his students everywhere, with the force of Shelley's West Wind, carry forward that torch for the humanities, that acknowledgment that we are more alike than we are different.

He showed us that in the most difficult times in our lives, "all hatred driven hence, the soul recovers radical innocence..." and that we can, "though every face should scowl and every windy quarter howl, or every bellows burst, be happy still."

∴ Marybeth Sutton Wallace ('86) coordinates the Wake Forest Fellows program. She first met Ed Wilson in 1982 as a freshman in De Tamble Auditorium after a College Union film showing and took his classes as an English major in 1985 and 1986. After graduate school, she returned to work for him as assistant to the provost in the late 1980s.



Nathan O. HATCH

(L.H.D. '21)

E D WILSON REGULARLY described Wake Forest as a place of hospitality, a community in which anyone of goodwill could find acceptance, affirmation and intellectual engagement. My wife, Julie, and I felt that kind of embrace from Ed, and many others, when we came to Wake Forest, and I will always believe that quality lies at the heart of a Wake Forest education.

Ed took people seriously. His brilliance as scholar and teacher was coupled to a deep understanding of his colleagues and his students. He embraced them, took interest in them and longed that the community of learning at Wake Forest would serve, in the words of John Henry Newman, as “an Alma Mater, knowing her children one by one, not a foundry, or a mint, or a treadmill.” Ed embodied the conviction that intellectual rigor should be linked to deep personal relationships.

He knew how to see people deeply and make them feel seen.

Ed's presence — his teaching, his mentoring, his leading and his words — worked to define the essence of Wake Forest for generations of students. Ed worked hard at the task of widening the University's embrace to include many who had been previously excluded. For him, hospitality was never sentimental, just hanging out with friends. It meant extending welcome to those who, for whatever reason, may have felt like strangers.

In the current age, which knows a scourge of loneliness and of smash-mouth partisanship, Ed Wilson has a powerful legacy. It reminds us to know each other deeply, to build strong friendships, to engage those with whom we disagree and to go the second mile to make Wake Forest a place of deep human connection for everyone.


∴ *President Emeritus Nathan O. Hatch (L.H.D. '21) was the University's president from 2005-2021. He received the Medallion of Merit, the University's highest award, in 2022.*

LAUREN MARTINEZ OLINGER ('13), RED CARDINAL STUDIO





Ed Wilson with
Julie Hatch



“No one other than my
parents made a greater
impact on my life. He was
a teacher, a mentor, a
friend. I’m going to miss
him terribly.”

.....
ED SOUTHERN ('94)
INSTAGRAM





LYNDSE SCHLINK

Margaret “Peggy” SUPPLEE SMITH

(P ’86)

FIRST MET Ed Wilson when I interviewed for a job in Wake Forest’s art department in 1979. In those days, candidates met with Provost Wilson and Dean Mullen as part of the interview process. They were Wake Forest’s secret weapons. Tom Mullen (P ’85, ’88) was charming and wry; Ed Wilson was gracious and erudite. Both men, clearly smart, imbued civility.

Ed recently had secured grants from the Mellon and Rockefeller foundations to develop a visual arts program commensurate with the new Fine Arts Center. He was committed to bringing the arts to Wake Forest — along with more mid-level faculty women. Educated in the Leaksville, North Carolina, public schools (and then Wake Forest College and Harvard University), Ed had a deep knowledge of history and literature. He embraced the arts with the enthusiasm and openness with which he approached life. Ed regularly attended concerts, plays, lectures, poetry readings and gallery openings, a practice he continued after his retirement.

Through the years, I realized that Ed’s philosophy was “yes,” which was great when his

colleagues approached him with a project or proposal. He was inevitably curious and amazingly nonjudgmental. He liked British Romantic poetry and *Vanity Fair* magazine. He liked “Casablanca” and “Brokeback Mountain.” He liked the Winston-Salem Symphony and Bob Dylan.

Ed genuinely liked people, and they liked him. People approached him, saying, “Remember me?” At basketball games, everyone walking up and down the steps stopped to say hello. Ed was a fervent Deacon fan, and his induction into the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame delighted him since he was famously unathletic.

He had a sense of humor, which those who attended President Thomas K. Hearn Jr.’s inauguration in 1983 will remember. When President Emeritus James Ralph Scales forgot to introduce Governor James B. Hunt (LL.D. ’82, P ’88, ’90), to the consternation of the audience, Ed sprung to the microphone to rectify the oversight, adding that, yes, this was the job of a provost.

∴ Harold W. Tribble Professor Emerita of Art Margaret “Peggy” Supplee Smith (P ’86) arrived at Wake Forest in 1979 and taught art and architectural history, served four terms as art department chair and helped establish the women’s studies program (now the women’s, gender and sexuality studies department). She received the University’s Medallion of Merit in 2014.

“Dr. Wilson’s ‘Essence of Wake Forest’ was the inspiration for my Senior Oration back in 2018. No one has “loved what Wake Forest stood for” — or shaped what that phrase could mean — more than Dr. Wilson. It was an honor to know him. Rest in peace, Mr. Wake Forest.”

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KYLE TATICH ('18, JD '22)
X, FORMERLY KNOWN AS TWITTER @KTATICH

AI HUNT

(’65, D.Litt. ’91, P ’11)

WAKE FOREST has been blessed with great leaders, distinguished scholars, superb students and world-class athletes.

In a 190-year history, however, there has been only one Mr. Wake Forest: Edwin Graves Wilson, revered teacher of English literature and poetry, dean of the College, University provost, the school’s athletic representative.

Ed Wilson was so much more.

Arriving on the old Wake Forest campus, a place he always called “the holy land,” as a 16-year-old freshman in 1939, he stayed, except for several years in the U.S. Navy during World War II — he served during the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa — and then getting a Ph.D. at Harvard.

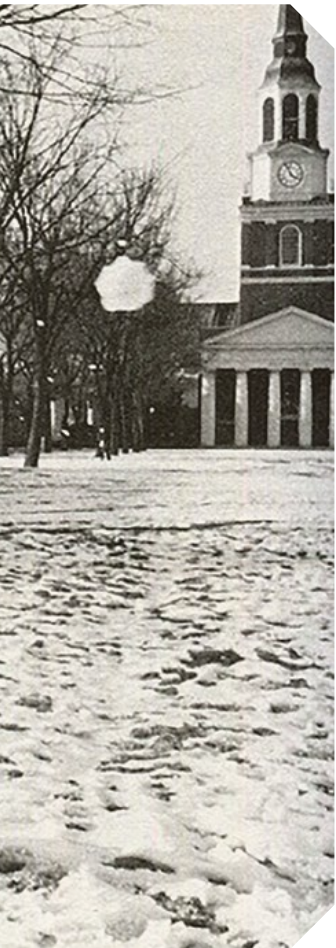
An extraordinary nearly 80 years, a gift to all those touched by him right up until he passed away at 101 in March.

I’ve never known a kinder, more caring person. I’ve never known anyone with more intellectual breadth and genuine strength. There’s an old observation that “nothing is so strong as gentleness and nothing is so gentle as real strength.” That’s Ed Wilson.

He could be remarkably prescient.



President James Ralph Scales; Gene Lucas, vice president for business and finance; and Ed Wilson in 1970



He was on the dean's committee that kicked me out of Wake Forest for throwing a wild party. (It was so tame by today's standards that my kids want to know what really happened.) During this hiatus I went to work as a copy boy for a Philadelphia newspaper and fell in love with journalism, returning to college in September.

A couple of days later, I ran into Dr. Wilson in Reynolda Hall. He wanted to hear all about my experience and to make sure I would write for the Old Gold & Black. He knew what I didn't: that suspension could be the jolt my care-free life needed.

The next year was a seminal change in his life. He married Emily Herring (MA '62, P '91, '93), also a professor and writer. For 59 years she has brought a zest to the Wilson home with three marvelous children and four grandchildren.

Mr. Wake Forest loved literature, theatre, movies, ice cream and Wake Forest students to whom he always was accessible.

On campus, casual attire was a jacket and tie. Once I invited him to Washington's Gridiron dinner, a white-tie gathering of the political and journalism elite. No one looked more distinguished that evening than Ed Wilson.

He conversed comfortably with prominent political figures. He also had engaging conversations with two of my close friends: Dick Flavin, a Boston television anchor and political satirist, and Steve Sabol, president of professional football's legendary NFL Films.

The man had range.

Whenever I came back to Wake Forest in recent years, I tried to see Ed. (It always was hard not to call him Dr. Wilson.) He was a big fan of my wife, Judy Woodruff (LL.D. '95, P '11), who anchored the PBS NewsHour. She always wanted



to make sure a visit with Ed and Emily was on the agenda. He wanted to talk about the NewsHour; Judy just wanted to listen to him.

I keep three books on my nightstand: one I'm reading, another I want to read but am procrastinating and Ed Wilson's "Songs of Wake Forest," more than 50 tributes to colleagues; they're beautifully crafted and tell the story of our modern history. What a treasure he was.

We won't see his like again.

∴ Al Hunt ('65, D.Litt. '91, P '11) writes a weekly column on Substack and is a co-host of the "Politics War Room" podcast. He is the former executive editor of Bloomberg News and previously served as reporter, bureau chief and Washington editor for The Wall Street Journal. For almost a quarter century he wrote a column on politics for The Wall Street Journal, then later for the International New York Times and Bloomberg View. He is a Life Trustee on the University Board of Trustees.

Michele GILLESPIE

WE MET DURING my on-campus interview in his Z. Smith Reynolds Library office. I was nervous about meeting this preeminent teacher-scholar-administrator, who had helped transform Wake Forest into a renowned national university. But he was so warm and witty, and our exchange about our favorite historians and writers was so much fun, that I almost forgot why we were there. What I experienced that afternoon was by no means unique. Ed Wilson made everyone he ever met feel welcomed, and he invited everyone he ever met to engage with him in what it means to be human.

Since that interview a quarter of a century ago, we have talked about books, plays, poetry and all things Wake Forest. We have shared a special affection for Professor Emeritus of History James Barefield. We served together on the search committee that brought us Nathan Hatch (L.H.D. '21) to become president. I walked beside him when he toured the World War II monu-



ment in Washington, D.C., for the first time, and he teared up at the memories of the men lost in the Pacific theater. I have been at readings, celebrations, performances and lectures with Ed. I have attended too many brilliant eulogies that he has given in honor of so many wonderful Wake Foresters. My children have trick-or-treated at his house and sat mesmerized at his knee during his readings of Frost and Yeats. Some of my happiest, most meaningful memories are of special times spent with Ed, and I know I am one of thousands of Wake Foresters who have had similar experiences and feel exactly the same way.

As sad as I am at his passing, I am so grateful to Ed for all that he has bequeathed each of us and Wake Forest. He loved Wake Forest because it spoke to the values he believed in most deeply: friendship, honesty, integrity, beauty and justice. He never wanted us to forget that the humanities and arts are our core, our moral compass, our differentiator, and when aligned with our outstanding graduate and professional schools and powerhouse STEM and social science programs, can move mountains.

I have learned so much from Ed. I hope I can help pass on that learning to the next generation of Wake Foresters. For me, Ed's legacy is about the transformative power of friendship and the transformative power of education, in its broadest, humanist sense, on behalf of Pro Humanitate.

∴ University Provost Michele Gillespie serves as Wake Forest's chief academic officer. She is the Presidential Endowed Professor of Southern History and from 2015 to 2022 was dean of the undergraduate college. She arrived at Wake Forest in 1999.



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Papers in Ed Wilson's office from the research for Wilson's WFU history book



At regular Unbroken Circle gatherings of Wake Foresters who enjoyed potlucks and old-time music, Wilson read a few poems for the occasions.



Mary DALTON (’83)

I F WE CONSIDER what is best about the essence of Wake Forest, surely Edwin Graves Wilson reflected those values in his unflappable integrity, his commitment to friendliness and honor and his quiet belief in the enduring value of learning for its own sake.

Our friendship did not develop in the usual way. I never had a class with Ed or worked with him on a Wake Forest project until after I became friends with his wife, Emily. This gave me the opportunity to meet him not as Dr. Wilson or Dean Wilson or Provost Wilson or even as “Mr. Wake Forest.”

For me, he has always been Ed.

Seeing him at his home as well as in the public spaces of our campus, I was always struck by how Ed presented the same genuine persona to the people he encountered in all of those spaces. Yes, he brought friendliness and honor but also insight and wisdom.

Our friendship solidified over our shared love of the movies. I continue to marvel at his recollection of films he had seen over the years, starting

from the time he was a boy in rural North Carolina, and continuing throughout his life, a period that covers a significant chunk of film history.

In 2016, I invited him to my introductory film class to talk about his favorite film, “Casablanca,” before the students saw it, and the following year recorded a talk with him about that movie for my students taking the same course in Copenhagen.

What a gift he had for connecting with people of all ages and how very generous he was with sharing that gift.

Ed, like me, enjoyed seeing all types of films. Periodically, we would sit down together and compare notes, and at Christmas he grew into the habit of selecting a book for me, most often a volume on some aspect of our shared passion for film.

Once Ed told me that if he were a student today, he would probably study film. Why not? Movies and, increasingly, television in its second golden age, are powerful engines of cultural transmission that tell us about our place in the world and what it means to be human, sometimes in an indelible currency.

In the later years of our friendship, Ed grew particularly fond of pound cakes I made from my grandmother’s recipe. I started making them for Wilson family events after his oldest grandchild developed a severe peanut allergy. Emily trusted me to provide something sweet that would be safe for everyone to eat.

Ed once said to me, “I’m always happy to see you coming, Mary, but doubly so when you are carrying a pound cake.” I will never again make a pound cake without thinking of Ed, and I will never think of my friend Ed without smiling and feeling happy inside.

∴ Mary Dalton (’83) is professor of communication and film and media studies.

“Wake Forest and the world
just lost a truly beautiful soul.”

.....
CHRISTOPHER GARNER ('86)
GUESTBOOK



Debbie BEST

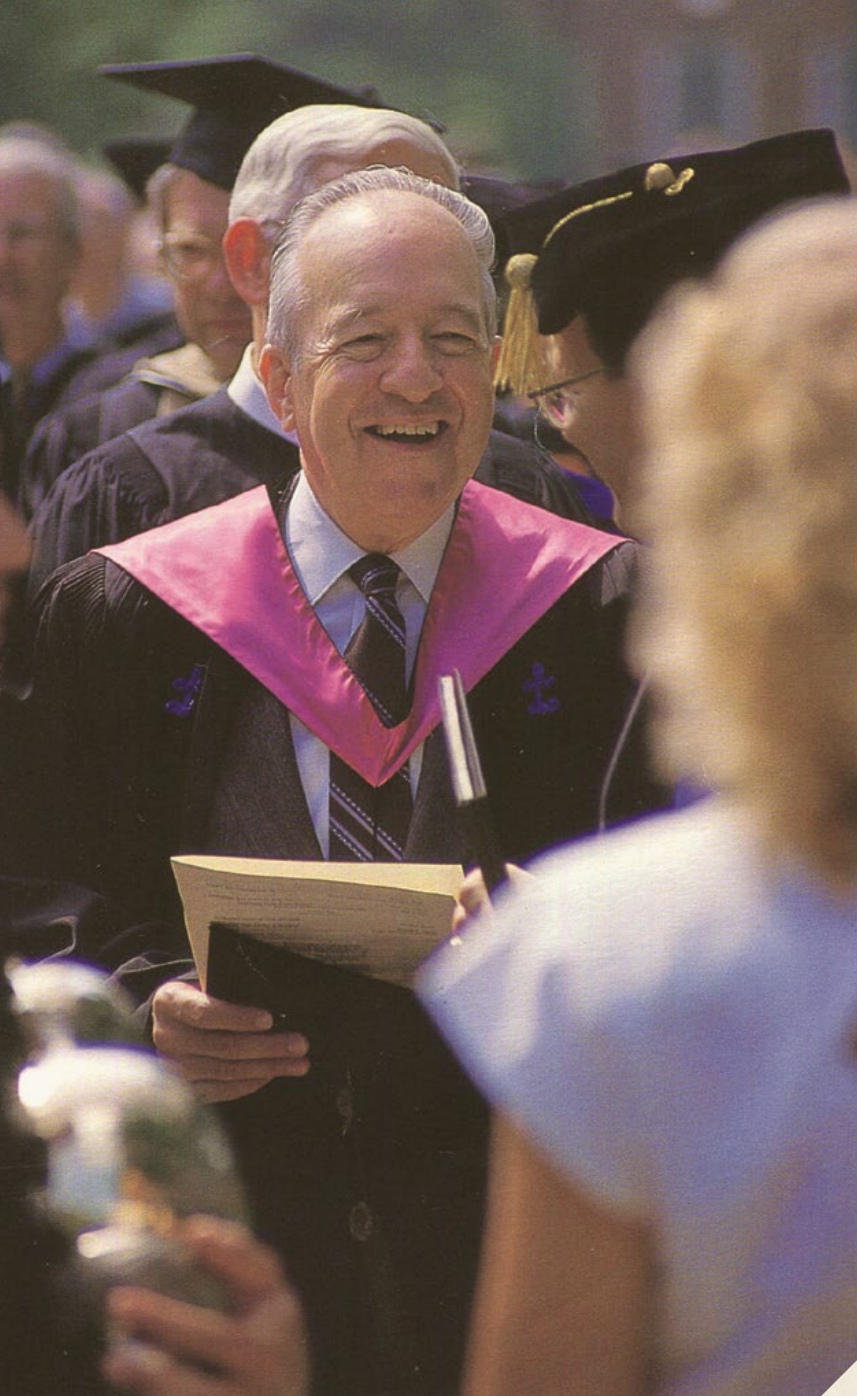
(’70, MA ’72)

MY EARLY MEMORIES of Ed Wilson begin when I was an undergraduate, then a graduate student and a young faculty member. Across my 57 years at Wake Forest, Ed was a role model, teaching me how to be a faculty member, leader and administrator. Bob Beck, Ed’s back-door neighbor, was my departmental mentor, and on many occasions, the two of us would go to Ed, particularly when serious difficulties arose. Ed’s calming voice, insightful problem-solving and kind support showed me how to be a good listener and to care for others and their problems.

During the Heritage and Promise capital campaign, Ed and I were on the campaign trail together, and I always hated following his eloquent speeches and melodic voice. When I became the first woman dean of the College, Emily gave me a lovely luncheon with women faculty friends, and Ed became my most ardent supporter and secret adviser. One day, when I was dean, I had a group of women students swoon as they told me



LYNDSIE SCHLINK



“I will always remember when a student came in late to class and said ‘better late than never’ and Dr. Wilson told him ‘but better never late’. He will be missed.”

.....
BARBARA SAIN ('60)
INSTAGRAM @BJSAIN2017

about a wonderful faculty member whom they could “listen to all day” — Dr. Wilson. When I relayed their praise to Ed, he gave me that familiar bashful smile we’ve all seen.

Over the years, Ed and I did many things together, but perhaps the hardest was speaking at our dear friend Bob Beck’s memorial service. In all that Ed did, it was obvious that he cared so deeply for his friends and family.

As he became less able to visit campus and attend events, I visited Ed and Emily at their home, learning about what their grown-up kids were doing, what Ed and Emily had been reading and whom they had heard from recently. Ed often wanted to talk about the Wake Forest things we loved to do — how we loved our students, teaching them, watching the wheels turn — what I called their “aha” moments. Several times, Ed recounted a magical story — when he first saw and then fell in love with Emily, his lifelong heart’s delight. I was never permitted to leave these visits without giving Ed a goodbye kiss on the cheek! I will miss those wonderful kisses and the man we all loved.

∴ William L. Poteat Professor of Psychology
Debbie Best ('70, MA '72) retired last year after
51 years on the faculty and with the distinction of
having been the first female dean of the College.



LYNDSIE SCHINK

Barry MAINE

ANYONE WHO HAS read Ed Wilson's book, "Songs of Wake Forest," must admire Ed's remarkable gift for recognizing the best in people. He could only have developed this gift by taking an interest in people, especially people of Wake Forest. I feel blessed that he took an interest in me. I came to Wake Forest as an assistant professor of English in fall 1981. When, as provost, he interviewed me, he asked me what I wanted to teach, and I replied it was William Faulkner's novels that most captured my interest at that time. He asked me several questions about "Absalom, Absalom!" I was surprised and delighted to talk with him about my literary interests. I soon learned that Professor Wilson was the most sought-after professor in our department, filling all 63 seats of Tribble Hall C-216 for his lecture courses every semester. Students were mesmerized by his learning and love of poetry.

Over the years, we found another basis for friendship in our love of cinema. My friend Doug Bland ('73, MAEd '76) and I would often take Ed to the movies. He would see anything, from sci-fi blockbusters to art house films. We

sometimes made up the entire audience at the a/perture cinema downtown. Doug and I soon developed a foolproof way of reviewing the quality of films we watched. If Ed looked at his watch during the screening, we knew it was a flop! In more recent years he had trouble getting himself out of movie seats without our help, but he loved to go regardless.

Edwin G. Wilson loved Wake Forest, from the moment he arrived as a student at the Old Campus, to his final days at home. His contributions to this institution of higher learning cannot be tallied. No one has given so much. But Wake Forest also gave something to Ed Wilson. If I may borrow a metaphor from a cinematic classic, Wake Forest was his "Field of Dreams." It provided him with something commensurate with his capacity for dreaming of an institution that he and other campus leaders and faculty could shape to his vision of what a university should be. And we are all grateful for the place they have bequeathed us.

∴ Professor of English Barry Maine has taught American fiction and literature and film.

Rogan KERSH
(’86)



MY MOST MEMORABLE moment as a Wake Forest undergraduate came outside a classroom — literally just outside, in a Tribble hallway. Several of us seniors gathered secretly during the final session of Blake, Yeats and Thomas to hear Dr. Wilson recite Dylan Thomas’ “Fern Hill.” Most of us had already taken Dr. Wilson’s legendary course, yet our departure from this singular place was not complete without that benediction and farewell.

My Wake Forest education, interrupted by a quarter century, continued when Dr. Wilson generously indulged a rookie provost in hours of conversation. We met at Emily and Ed’s welcoming Timberlake Lane home or Ed’s office in the (ahem) Wilson Wing of Z. Smith Reynolds Library. We walked the Reynolda campus and the original campus, where I can give a passable Ed Wilson tour, including all boardinghouses he inhabited as an undergraduate. Here are two of many lessons Dr. Wilson conveyed.

On our first walk, three weeks into the job, I nervously recited for a patient Dr. Wilson the heap of challenges I sought to swiftly “solve.” Eventually we had wandered most of campus and were standing in the lee of Wait Chapel. “I often found it helpful,” he mused, “to allow some matters to mature on my desk.” Do no administrative harm; avoid action for action’s sake; focus on one or two priorities at a time: these vital lessons were all there in that gnomic Wilsonian utterance.

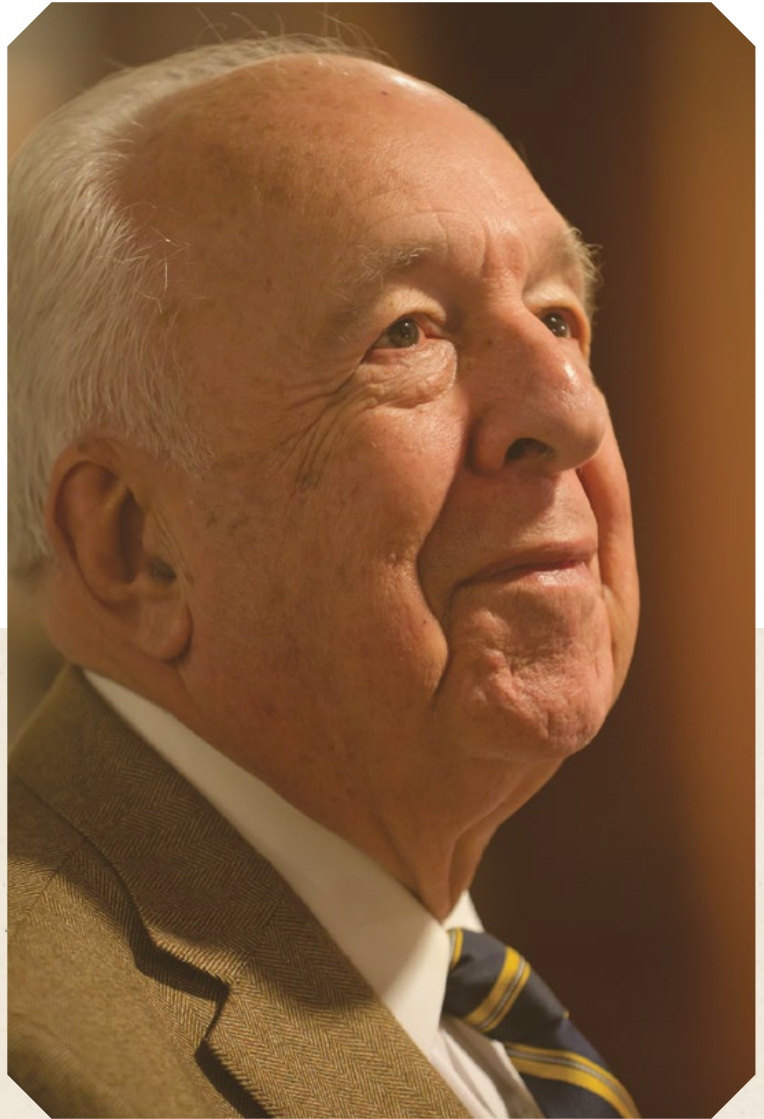
Soon again I was carrying on to Ed, this time about the University budget — a fiendishly complex machine, replete with amortizations and

ROGAN KERSH *(cont'd)*

accrued liabilities, all magically kept aloft by Hof Milam ('76, MBA '91, P '00, '04), then executive vice president and chief financial officer, and a heroic team of budgeteers. Dr. Wilson smiled and reached into his shirt pocket. Displaying an index card with a few lines of figures — had he anticipated my queries? Did he carry it daily still? — he said, “I always kept the budget here, referring to it as needed.” Again, message absorbed: simplify, while never losing sight of the greater whole.

Two among dozens of invaluable pointers about fulfilling a sacred trust: supporting students' learning and development and faculty members' research and artistic creations. All who are dedicated to serving that trust owe an indelible debt to Ed Wilson, who did more than anyone to shape a Wake Forest culture of service to education, discovery and the intentional difference-making we term Pro Humanitate.

Dr. Wilson's own service to Wake Forest outshines the brightest diamond. As a young faculty member, he helped persuade colleagues — including his former professors — that the move to Winston-Salem was the right one. As dean of the College, he did everything from leading a



historic overhaul of the undergraduate curriculum to convening the faculty committee that voted to end racial segregation at Wake Forest. As our first and longest-tenured provost, he shepherded our transformation into a nationally renowned university while working to preserve its finest aspects. As “Mr. Wake Forest,” he delivered addresses that affirmed the mystic blend of elements that mark this institution as truly, enduringly distinctive.

At the heart of that distinction is, as Dr. Wilson so memorably described, a community marked by friendship and by goodness. Ed's astonishing range of accomplishments did not

“Ed’s leadership sprung from his belief in the inherent goodness of human beings. For him the definition of education was friends seeking happiness together. And happiness was to be found in the pursuit of all that was good, true, and beautiful in life.”


.....
KENNETH A. ZICK (P ’03), RETIRED VICE PRESIDENT
AND DEAN OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
GUESTBOOK

owe only to his superhuman abilities. Instead, his special gift for connecting with Wake For-esters of all persuasions, helping build a circle of friends (with his wife, Emily, ever at its center) and willing collaborators, has sustained Wake Forest as a place where so many do not merely study or hold a job, but find a meaningful and rewarding home.

As we honor Ed Wilson, our own golden spirit, a few lines from his semester-closing “Fern Hill.” Fellow Blake, Yeats and Thomas alumni will also conjure up our teacher’s inimitable voice:

*And as I was green and carefree, famous among the barns
About the happy yard and singing as the farm was home,
In the sun that is young once only,
Time let me play and be
Golden in the mercy of his means,
And green and golden I was huntsman and herdsman, the calves
Sang to my horn, the foxes on the hills barked clear and cold,
And the sabbath rang slowly
In the pebbles of the holy streams.*

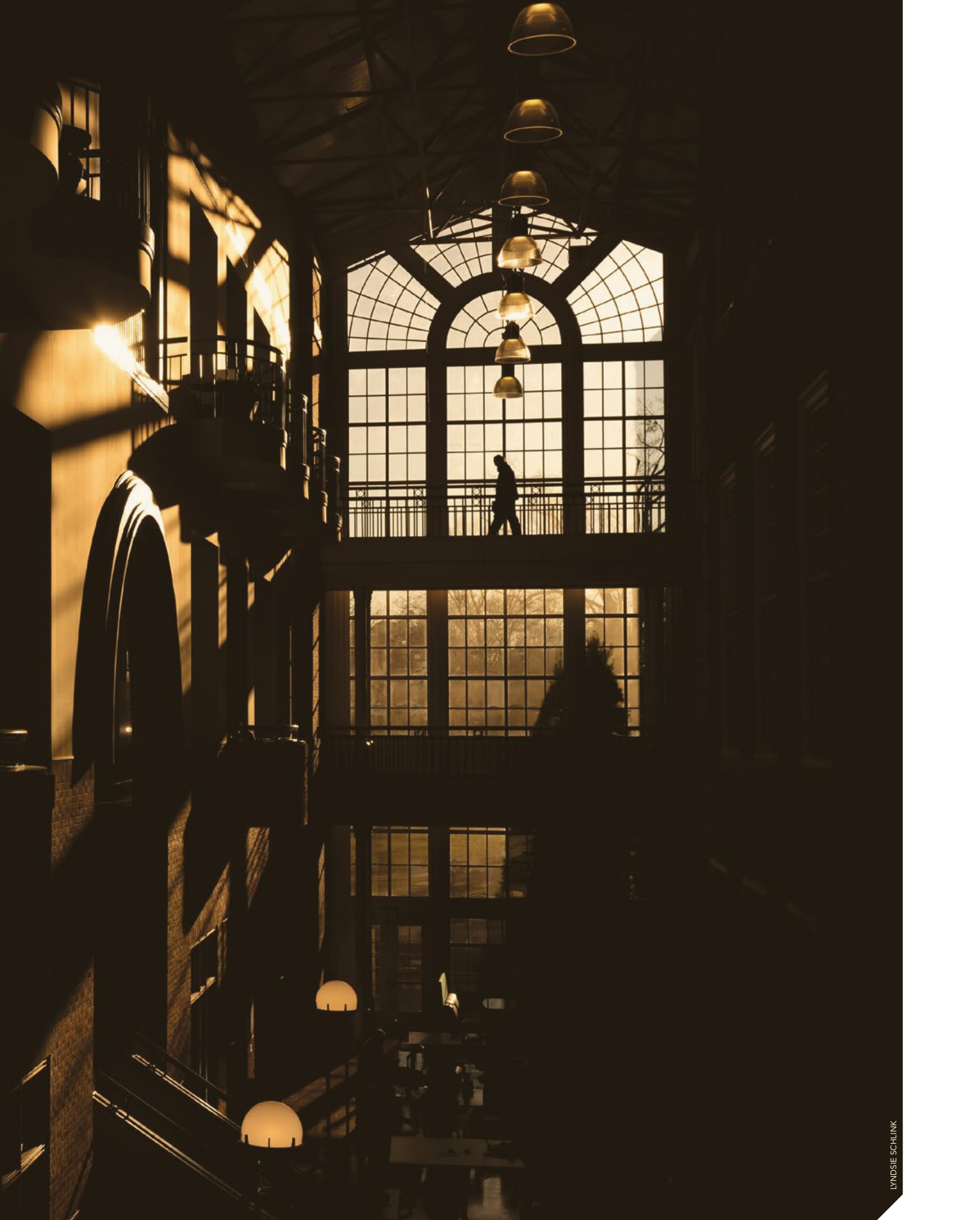
∴ Distinguished University Professor of Politics
& International Affairs Rogan Kersh (’86) was
Wake Forest’s provost from 2012 to 2022.



“Let us raise a glass of the
finest to our once & forever
‘Mr. Wake Forest.’”

.....
ROGAN KERSH ('86)

X, FORMERLY KNOWN AS TWITTER @RTKERSH



LYNDSIE SCHLUNK

For Edwin Wilson

Did wind and wave design the albatross's wing,
honed compliances: or is it effrontery to
suggest that the wing designed the gales and

seas: are we guests here, then, with all the
gratitude and soft-walking of the guest:
provisions and endurances of riverbeds,

mountain shoulders, windings through of tulip
poplar, grass, and sweet-frosted foxglove:
are we to come into these and leave them as

they are: are the rivers in us, and the slopes,
ours that the world's imitate, or are we
mirrorments merely of a high designing aloof

and generous as a host to us: what would
become of us if we declined and staked out
a level affirmation of our own: we wind

the brook into our settlement and husband the
wind to our sails and blades: what is to
be grateful when let alone to itself, as for

a holiday in naturalness: the albatross, ah,
fishes the waves with a will beyond the
waves' will, and we, to our own doings, put

down the rising of sea or mountain slope: except
we do not finally put it down: still, till
the host appears, we'll make the masters here.

— A. R. AMMONS

Two-time National Book Award winner and renowned poet A.R. Ammons ('49, D.Litt. '72) was a dear friend of the Wilsons. Poetry magazine featured this poem in its June 2008 issue.





The Song of Wandering Aengus
BY WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS

I went out to the hazel wood,
Because a fire was in my head,
And cut and peeled a hazel wand,
And hooked a berry to a thread;
And when white moths were on the wing,
And moth-like stars were flickering out,
I dropped the berry in a stream
And caught a little silver trout.

When I had laid it on the floor
I went to blow the fire a-flame,
But something rustled on the floor,
And someone called me by my name:
It had become a glimmering girl
With apple blossom in her hair
Who called me by my name and ran
And faded through the brightening air.

Though I am old with wandering
Through hollow lands and hilly lands,
I will find out where she has gone,
And kiss her lips and take her hands;
And walk among long dappled grass,
And pluck till time and times are done,
The silver apples of the moon,
The golden apples of the sun.



ACCLAIM

for a

COMPASSIONATE, PRINCIPLED LIFE

A May 3 memorial service drew hundreds to pay their respects.

BY MARIA HENSON ('82)
PHOTOGRAPHY BY LYNDSIE SCHLINK

THE CELEBRATION of Provost Emeritus Edwin Graves Wilson's life proved an affirmation of old-fashioned virtues that never go out of style and of heartfelt devotion to a family man, university leader and professor of Romantic poetry. In keeping with the most sacred of rituals, Wake Foresters found solace and joy in a memorial service to share appreciation for having known such a man as Ed Wilson.

"If you were a student of Dr. Wilson, ... please stand," said Laurie Turnage Wilson ('93, MAEd '94), Dr. Wilson's daughter-in-law. All around Wait Chapel and representing myriad generations, the former students rose and turned to acknowledge one another. Then Wilson treated

those alumni in particular to a reminder of "days in Tribble Hall, when you were young and perhaps a bit more carefree."

She recited "The Lake Isle of Innisfree" by William Butler Yeats. At one point, another former student, Marybeth Sutton Wallace ('86), did the same, reciting Yeats' "The Song of Wandering Aengus." She said after the service that memorizing the poem "was my way to honor Dr. Wilson," because Dr. Wilson, who taught generations of students of English literature, could recite lines of poetry until nearly the end of his life. He died March 13 at 101 years old.

Poetry. Scripture. Hymns. Stories of kindness and finding the best in others. The homily by The Rev. Douglass M. Bailey III ('60) likening Dr. Wilson to "The Lion King." A specially prepared chapbook, "Selected Poems From The Teachings of Dr. Edwin G. Wilson," for every attendee.

These were the fitting elements of the 90-minute service. So, too, were the trappings of a luncheon that felt like an old-style picnic on the Quad: barbecue with sides, ice cream, guestbooks to sign and magnolia garlands draped around lamp posts and the famous arch.

"You must remember this / A kiss is just a kiss / A sigh is just a sigh / The fundamental things apply / As time goes by." From Wait Chapel's tower, the carillon's

bells pealed out the melody. It was from "Casablanca," Dr. Wilson's favorite movie.

Below are excerpts from memorial service eulogies. You can listen to the speakers, and at bit.ly/EWservice you can view the service in full.

Edwin G. Wilson Jr. (JD '93)

Son and special superior court judge in North Carolina

I do want to take a minute and tell you a little bit about my father, in particular, his kindness, his sense of honor, his courage and what he was like as a father. I was in court in Wilkes County one time, and a lawyer said to me, "Your father once told me something that I've never forgotten. He told me to be kind and be honorable."

Be kind and be honorable. That's pretty good advice.

My father was kind. I bet almost everyone here could tell a story of how he spoke at your wedding or came to your concert or wrote you a note. Maybe he got you into Wake Forest. Maybe he kept you in Wake Forest. But today I'm going to talk a little bit more about being honorable.

I remember being a young boy and saying to him one time, "Have you ever lied?" And he said, "Yes. It was 1943."



Laurie Turnage Wilson



Edwin G. Wilson Jr.

(The audience laughed at the thought. “Well, that wasn’t meant to be funny. I mean, I think he told a few small ones since then,” Wilson Jr. said. His father wanted to go off to World War II but didn’t answer naval recruiters truthfully about having had asthma as a child. His request to enlist in 1943 was accepted.)

He cared little for money and, in fact, firmly believed that the love of money was the root of all evil. I doubt he could tell you the price of gas. You would have never discussed with him buying a car, opening an IRA or making a down payment on a house. And yet, once I found a set of 24 volumes of Theodore Roosevelt’s writings, and the volume was signed by Roosevelt’s wife, and it was \$1,500, and I called my dad and said, “What do you think?” And he said, “Well, you have to buy it, of course.”

I know many of you went to him seeking career advice. I’m willing to bet he never said about a job: “How much does it pay?”

My father got to be 101 by enjoying the little things in life. It helped that he never had a cell phone or did his own email, or, heaven forbid, used social media. He lived each day visiting with you, reading on the porch or in front of the fire, enjoying a movie or playing charades and watching a

basketball game with my mother. And he also lived that long because he had been kind to people, and they, in turn, had been kind to him. Most importantly, he also had a pretty clear conscience knowing that he had tried to live a life of honor.

**Jeanne Whitman Bobbitt
(’79, MBA ’87)**

Longtime friend and trustee



His unimpeachable character helped shape Wake Forest, and his joy in his friends marked his life and us indelibly. ... And let it not be forgotten that while he was “Mr. Wake Forest,” whose words inspired and delighted, he was also one of the chief strategists of a university built on intelligent and humane principles. He proved time and again that great leaders can be kind, empathetic and honorable and, indeed, should be.

Ed Wilson knew that ideas and people build great institutions, and he sought and attracted both.

Ed and Emily Wilson's family includes a son, Edwin G. Wilson Jr., and daughters Sally and Julie. From right, John Steele and spouse, Julie Wilson; Carolyn Stevenson and spouse, Sally Wilson; Emily Herring Wilson; and the Wilson Jr. family: son Harry; Wilson Jr.; daughters Ellie and Maria; and spouse, Laurie Turnage Wilson. (The other Wilson Jr. son, Edwin G. "Buddy" Wilson III, watched the livestream from his study-abroad program in Botswana.)

Below, Emily Wilson sits after the service with Logan Healy-Tuke ('14), who grew close to the Wilsons when he was a student.



Before the term “personnel” became “human capital” or “talent management,” Ed Wilson treasured people and their relationships as the center and engine of the enterprise. He worried about external forces at work on the University, particularly about what he called the corporatization of the academic world. He saw in that a threat to the power of relationships and to human kindness.

Reid Morgan ('75, JD '79, P '14, '19)
Friend and retired University senior vice president and general counsel



At every opportunity under Dr. Wilson’s leadership, the University became more inclusive, welcoming and affirming to all. ...

On occasion, Dr. Wilson could also challenge Wake Forest to live up to its ideals. He entitled a speech made on Founders Day in 1992 “To Honor the Legacy.” It was a kind of valedictory address made in this chapel upon his retirement as provost, after 23 years.

The new wing of the Reynolds Library was being named for him. It was a time nine years into the Hearn administration, when Wake Forest was prospering in the midst of what was called a rebuilding of the campus. But Dr. Wilson’s words hearkening to scripture were meant for all times when he urged the University to maintain due perspective on its growth and be “certain that as Wake Forest grows in wealth, prestige and success — as Wake Forest, so to speak, gains the whole world — it will not lose its own soul.”

I have often thought about the power of his words, but especially in recent weeks, my mind has turned also to the abundant joy at the center of his life. Whether it was in class, where, three days a week, time stood still as he exhibited the jewels of literature to an overflowing class or at a University event, where every person with whom he spoke felt his keen interest in them and in their lives. Or with Emily and the family, where he could relax into his most cherished role as husband, father and grandfather.

It was his joy that illuminated his face and enlivened his resonant voice. His joy captured our hearts. Through his words and example, we learned great truths. Through his joy, we made them our own.





‘The Heritage of Wake Forest’

EXCERPTS FROM ED WILSON’S SPEECH DELIVERED AT
THE ORIGINAL CAMPUS ON MARCH 30, 1996

∴ *Listen to these speeches
at edwilson.wfu.edu*

AFTER ALMOST forty years the memory has not faded. I walk across this beautiful campus and into this wonderful and so friendly town, and once again I am sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty years old, full of hope and expectation, rejoicing in the day and in the company of colorful and faithful friends. Everywhere I look, my imagination stirs.

There, by the Old Well, in the twilight hours of a spring evening, I lie on the grass, listening to the sounds of a Beethoven Symphony coming from an upper room of Wait Hall, where Thane McDonald has placed on the music department’s turntable a set of worn 78 rpm records. Never again will Beethoven seem more alive or more powerful.

Over yonder in the Social Science Building, in the hall outside the College Book Store, three

or four students gather to watch Connecticut Yankee John Conley serve a ping pong ball to an already defeated opponent, giving with his paddle such a twist to the ball that every time, seemingly, the ball hits the very rim of the opposite side of the table. Around the corner, inside the store, Everette Snyder or one of the Cole brothers serves up a “black cow,” and I wander to a rack of newly created PocketBooks, where James Hilton’s “Lost Horizon” and Pearl Buck’s “The Good Earth” are available for twenty-five cents apiece. At a nearby table four Lambda Chis get ready for yet another hand of bridge.

In the rotunda of Wait Hall, a place of unexpected grace and beauty, Thurman Kitchin or D.B. Bryan or Elliott Earnshaw or Grady Patterson looks out from his office to say hello. These are all quiet and

gentle men who seem not to have heard of pomp and circumstance. They speak, in an unhurried way, of enrollments and budgets — and, maybe, golf. Edith Earnshaw, one of the gallant Taylor sisters, comes out of the Bursar's office, bringing to the group of men a welcome touch of poetry.

On the “bumming” corner by Miss Jo's I take my place among

the students waiting for a ride to Raleigh. Maybe I am tenth or fifteenth in line, but I know that eventually a car will stop. We are, after all, on U.S. Highway No. 1, and the traffic is steady. It is beginning to snow. I am going to the State Theatre in Raleigh for the Wake County premiere of “Gone with the Wind” and, afterwards, I will have Chinese food at the Canton Restaurant on

Hillsborough Street.

Across the street from the place where Faculty Avenue meets the rock wall on the north side of the campus is a brick building where Mrs. Newsome's boarding house staff serves meat, vegetables, desserts, and iced tea — all of excellent quality — to a dining room full of students. Music is being played while we wait for the meal: “Moonlight Serenade,” “Star Dust,” “I'm Getting Sentimental Over You,” “In the Mood,” “My Prayer is to linger with you / at the end of the day / in a dream that's divine.” The songs all speak wistfully of romantic love on this all-male campus, and we look ahead to that rare weekend in Raleigh or Durham when, for a change, we will not be alone.

The first home football game of the season is about to begin, and I join hundreds of students coming out of Bostwick and Hunter to make their way past the Gymnasium down the little street that leads toward Gore Field. Even by the standards of 1939, the setting is not impressive — seats built into the sides of a hill, no amenities, no hotdogs, not even (I think) an announcer — but the spirit is contagious and cleansing, and Wake Forest wins. By chance I walk home with Phil Utley, my physical education teacher, who will later that year try — in vain — to show me how to use the parallel bars.

Every day I go to the Post Office, down the steps that cross the railroad tracks, past Mr. Brewer's store, and into the center of town. If I am hungry, I stop — out of deeply





engrained habit — at Shorty’s for a nickel hamburger. I take a look at the posters in front of the Collegiate Theatre, cross the street to look at what’s happening at the Forest Theatre, stop at the College Soda Shop to say hello to Fred or Ben or “Smut,” and at the post office (in later years) am greeted from the service window by Lib Greason, who apparently knows us all. On the way back, I may get a haircut from Barney Powell, buy a tube of toothpaste from Tom Holding, cash a check at Mr. Satterwhite’s bank, or linger at Hardwicke’s Drug Store to watch a train go by. Beyond the tracks appears the arch, gateway to the campus, a familiar invitation to learning.

On one of those Sundays when I wake up in time, I attend services at the Baptist Church. The speaker is Everett Gill, a returned missionary from Eastern Europe. His text is the parable of the Good Samaritan, and he likens the man who fell among thieves to the many Europeans now being killed by the Nazis. America should be the Good Samaritan, he says. It is a role we are not yet ready for, but when December 7, 1941, arrives, and Bob Lide comes running up the steps at Mrs. Richard Brewer’s house to tell us about the attack at Pearl Harbor, we understand what Dr. Gill had meant. A year later, on another December day, I go to Raleigh — this time on a bus, for I wish to remain neatly dressed — to join the Naval Reserve. My last term as a Wake Forest undergraduate is about to begin. ✨



THE BRITISH ESSAYIST G.K. Chesterton once said that half of education is “atmosphere.” Well, we at Wake Forest had “atmosphere,” and it enveloped the whole community — created not out of wealth or possessions or social standing but out of simple trust, good will, camaraderie, and a sense of belonging. At our best we reached not outward for what the world might give us but inward for what we might find within ourselves to give the world. In this place, comforting and challenging, we absorbed — almost, as it were, from the air — both friendship and purpose. ✧

AND SO TODAY we celebrate the heritage of Wake Forest: discipline and passion, friendship and imagination, wisdom and hope and faith. We remember who we were “once upon a time,” and we honor those who helped and inspired us. But we do not live in memories. The present — and the future — are still ours, at least for a while. The gift of Wake Forest is not the courses we took or the degrees we received or even the pleasures of these reunion recollections. Nor is the gift of Wake Forest limited to this campus, how-

ever hallowed, or to us “old campus” alumni, however loyal. Wake Forest is not a place or a generation. It is an idea, an ideal, and it is to this idea, this ideal, in its transcendence, that we commit ourselves. To remember the Wake Forest that we knew is to remember youth and joy and freedom, and to continue to love Wake Forest is to honor youth and joy and freedom where they most often reside: that is, in the young and the joyful and the free. College is, then and now, for the young. We were young once; others are young now.

Together — in union and in friendship — let us with them, today and in the years to come, sing of Wake Forest as we have always sung of Wake Forest:

*Thine is a noble name;
Thine is a glorious fame,
Constant and true.
We give thee of our praise,
Adore thine ancient days.
Sing thee our humble lays,
Mother, so dear. ✧*

‘To Honor the Legacy’

EXCERPTS FROM ED WILSON’S SPEECH
DELIVERED AT FOUNDERS DAY CONVOCATION
ON FEB. 6, 1992

FOR ME — in 1939 — coming to Wake Forest, registering, and going to my first classes were, in the immortal words of Humphrey Bogart in “Casablanca,” the “start of a beautiful friendship.” Except for three years in the Navy and four years in graduate school, I have lived nowhere else, and the “beautiful friendship” has endured. I cannot pretend that every student, every teacher, every person working here has found at Wake Forest the “friendship” I have found. Some have instead experienced loss and disillusionment and, whether they have remained here or left, been deeply skeptical about Wake Forest’s proclaimed good intentions. Some of you in this Convocation audience may understandably dismiss my praise of Wake Forest as the natural, self-centered response of one student-teacher-administrator who is being especially honored today and who must therefore be thankful.

I will admit to being thankful. Thankful for more than forty-five happy years at Wake Forest. Thankful because it was on this campus, just a few minutes away from where

I now stand, that I met the winsome and talented — and forthright — young woman who became my wife. Thankful because my much-loved three children were born and grew up here. Thankful because I learned at Wake Forest to embrace those certainties that John Keats proclaimed: “the holiness of the heart’s affections, and the truth of Imagination.” Thankful, especially, today to President Tom Hearn and to the Wake Forest Trustees for giving my name to one of the most creatively beautiful University buildings I have ever seen. Thankful because that building is a library, and because books have been the intellectual center of my life, and because they are, for me, not only the center of the university but also, in Emily Dickinson’s words, the chariots that, more than any other instruments of our imagination, “bear the Human soul.”

But my thankfulness today is not circumstantial. The events of this day, however heart-warming, are illustrative of what I have found at Wake Forest ever since my first registration day in September 1939. ❖

Emily Herring Wilson, far right, greets guests after the memorial service on May 3.



LYNDIE SCHLINK



***THE GENIUS OF** Wake Forest, I believe, has been created in the particular environment in which we have sought and transmitted intelligence and in which we have exalted man and woman “thinking.” From our “founding” we have been a place which has honored teaching — teaching defined not only through the familiar processes of lecture and seminar and laboratory but through those conversations between teachers and students, in and after hours, which bring to the developing mind illumination and insight and a new, unfolding awareness which is a kind of joy. ✨*

'The Essence of Wake Forest'

EXCERPTS FROM ED WILSON'S SPEECH
DELIVERED AT THE UNIVERSITY'S SUMMER
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN JULY 2010

TODAY, "PRO HUMANITATE" is still Wake Forest's much cherished motto, and the original interpretation is still being heard by some who wish to "proclaim" the good news of the Gospels, but it is no longer for most Wake Foresters an invitation to proclaim and to convert. Rather it tells us to be friends to all humanity with honor, to teach, to help, to serve. And nothing is more encouraging to me than to know students and alumni who hear the words "Pro Humanitate" and then, with friendship and honor, put those words into practice.

As we look to the future, I hope that we will remember "friendliness" and "honor" and "Pro Humanitate" as cornerstones of what I think of as the uniqueness of Wake Forest as a university. I do not like to talk about "peer institutions," and may I say that for me national rankings of universities are invariably shallow and partial and not to be trusted. Wake Forest really has no "peers." There is no other school quite like us. We stand alone. We are what we are. We do not exist in relation to other schools; we succeed or we fail only in so far as we are true to our commitments, to our own ambitions, to our own destiny, to friendship and honor. ❖



BECAUSE I HAVE talked at length about friendliness and honor and may seem to have ignored the academic purposes, which, after all, give substance to a university, I want to end with a tribute to

learning itself. It comes from T.H. White's "The Sword in the Stone," a retelling of the legend of King Arthur. (You may have read it when you were a boy or a girl.) The wise old magician Merlin is giving

his student, the once and future King Arthur, some farewell advice about how he should use his time.

"The best thing," says Merlin, "is to learn something. That is the only thing that never fails. You may grow old and trembling ... you may lie awake at night ... you may miss your only love, you may see the world about you devastated by evil lunatics, [you may see] your honor trampled in the sewers of baser minds. There is only one thing for it then — to learn. ... That is the only thing which the mind can never exhaust, never alienate, never be tortured by, never fear or distrust, and never dream of regretting. Learning is the thing for you. Look at what a lot of things there are to learn — pure science, ... astronomy ... , natural history ... , literature, ... biology and medicine and [religion] and geography and history and economics." And Merlin continues. At the end of his discourse Merlin says to the young and future King Arthur, "Do you think you have learned anything?" To which Arthur replies, "I have learned and been happy."

My hope for each graduate of the Wake Forest of our future is that he or she, if asked the question on Commencement Day, "Do you think you have learned anything?" will be able to say "I truly love what Wake Forest stands for. I have made friends, I have conducted myself with honor, I have learned, and I have been happy." ❖





10

THINGS

you might not

KNOW

ABOUT

ED WILSON

*What happened when we asked Ed Wilson ('43, P '91, '93)
questions about himself? He answered every one.
Graciously and delightfully, of course.*



IN APRIL 2016, CHERIN C. POOVEY (P '08), THEN OF WAKE FOREST MAGAZINE, SAT DOWN WITH ED WILSON IN HIS Z. SMITH REYNOLDS LIBRARY OFFICE TO ASK HIM 10 QUESTIONS. REPRINTED BELOW IS THE 2016 PIECE ABOUT THEIR CONVERSATION. ✨

An extra fact not widely known about Wilson is that he and University Chaplain Ed Christman ('50, JD '53, P '84, '85) waited tables in the Magnolia Room and pooled their tips for a fundraiser to help Wake Forest's first Black student, Ed Reynolds ('64), of Ghana.

Poovey: Your ability to remember students' names is legendary. How do you do it?

Wilson: When I was much younger I did, I think, remember the names of people I met. Whenever I had a new class, when I was in my 30s, 40s and 50s, I would make a point to try to get to know them all. As time goes by, ... it is harder to remember the names and faces of the people I had met.

In fact, I sometimes remember students from 50 years ago more vividly than I remember students that I met last week. And it bothers me that, walking around campus every day as I do, I see these young people, boys and girls who maybe I met last week, and

I can't quite remember who they are and I have to be reminded. Because I like to know people. I think it's very important to know people. So I must admit I'm not quite what I used to be in that area. And I regret that.

CP: Is it true you were once a foreign correspondent?

EW: I was never a foreign correspondent, although when I was a student in the college on the Old Campus I thought I wanted to be a foreign correspondent. I think anybody who lived as I did, as a boy in the 1930s and as a young man in the 1940s, became fascinated and concerned about what was going on in Europe. It was a time, obviously, of great change — I don't need to say that — the years before and during the Second World War.

I read newspapers regularly, and I thought about what was happening in Europe — in Germany, Russia, Spain, all those countries. And I read one book that probably no one else has ever heard of but strangely it had a great impression on me. It was a book called the "Days of Our Years" by a man named Pierre van Paassen, who was European. And I still remember reading that book about Europe, thinking to myself I would like to go there, and I would like to see what was going on.

I was taking all the journalism courses that were available. I was an English major, but I thought I was pointed toward journalism as a career, not teaching. That came later. I said



to myself how great it would be to move around the world and report on the world's events. At that time a man named Edward R. Murrow was broadcasting from Europe, and I thought to have the kind of job he had would be almost ideal. But instead of becoming a foreign correspondent I went into the Navy and was in World War II, then came back and began to

teach. I've been teaching ever since. So being a correspondent like that was a dream rather than a reality.

CP: What is your fondest memory of growing up in Leaksville, North Carolina?

EW: I have many fond memories, of course, of my family. I had three brothers and a sister, our father and



“You touched thousands of us in many ways. Me by the freedom you gave me as editor of the *Howler*. And that included the freedom to make mistakes.”

.....

STEPHANIE COLEMAN ('78)
INSTAGRAM @STEPHCOLEMAN3773

mother, all of us lived together in a house right near downtown. I have many good memories of things we did as a family.

I suppose, to be honest about it, what I remember most is that the movie theater was downtown about three blocks from where we lived, and my parents were very generous about letting me go to the movies. I used to go at that time for about 10 cents when we were young. Many of my fondest memories from the time I was 6 years old are of going down the street just before 7 o'clock at night to see movies. And I guess I saw three or four movies every week.

The only movies that my father would not allow me to go to were the movies that starred Mae West. He associated her with sin. So I didn't get to see Mae West, but I saw everybody else. So I had a chance to see all the movies of the '30s and early '40s and remember them. I remember

the faces of the actors and actresses better than I remember the faces of today's actors and actresses. Of course there was no television, and that gave me a kind of grounding in movies that I've never lost.

I also went regularly to baseball games. I love baseball. I followed all of the major league baseball teams and learned the batting averages of the players. We had a Class D minor league team in Leaksville, and I often went to see the games. Life in a small town, and many people would realize this, life in a small town in the 1930s was glamorous in its own way.

CP: What is a sentimental item you keep in your office?

EW: Most of the sentimental items — my office is cluttered with many things — but most of the sentimental items that you would notice if you looked around are pictures of my wife and family. I have pictures of them at almost every age. To look upon them gives me pleasure, even on a dark day. And I must have about 10 to 12 pictures right in front of me.

There's a lot of other stuff too, but mainly I think memories of my family. I have, for example, a picture of when the five of us took a vacation in France; this turned out so nicely. Eddie is in Leaksville where I grew up, Sally is in Durham and Julie is in Asheville, so they're all in North Carolina. And we see a lot of them.

CP: Which book do you always have nearby?

EW: I guess if I were to mention two books that I always have nearby, one would be the poems of William Butler Yeats and the other would be the plays of Shakespeare. And I think I turn to Yeats and Shakespeare more often than I do any other writers; Yeats for the sheer beauty of his poetry, and Shakespeare, this is obvious to say, for his incomparable literature and insights into the human condition. I began to love Shakespeare so much as a fairly small boy when I tried to memorize as many of the passages as I could. Yeats came along a little later.

CP: Do you have a favorite poem that you like to recite?

EW: I think perhaps in some ways my favorite poem is Wordsworth's "Immortality Ode" (from) "Ode: Intimations of Immortality from Recollections of Early Childhood." I think perhaps that's my favorite poem, but it is a rather long poem so I would tend not to recite that, except in part. I think the poem I like most to recite is a poem by Yeats called "The Song of Wandering Aengus." "I went out to the hazel wood, Because a fire was in my head, And cut and peeled a hazel wand, And hooked a berry to a thread; ..." It's easy to recite.

CP: What is a place or activity that brings you peace?

EW: I think I am most peaceful when I listen to classical music. I

went to hear the symphony downtown at Stevens Center night before last, and the symphony played and the chorale sang Brahms' "Requiem," which is a beautiful and majestic piece. To be there for an hour or so in the theater, hearing the requiem, was to experience the kind of peace that is almost like no other. And I treasure so many memories from Secret (Artists) Series concerts through the years. I think it is in music that, for me at least, a sense of well-being most likely comes.

CP: If you could invite six people to dinner, who would they be?

EW: I should say my family, but that's pretty obvious. And then I say, "Well,



“Ed’s Blake, Yeats, and Thomas class was like being in a beautiful dream.”

DEVRA LYNN RAFELD ('90)
GUESTBOOK



I would invite six of my favorite colleagues,” but then how would No. 7 and No. 8 feel about being left out? Or six of my favorite former students, but I wouldn’t dare make that kind of selection. So I would invite people from history.

I would invite Franklin D. Roosevelt, the first American president I voted for, and John Keats, the poet whom I taught for many years and who had an incomparable spirit. And Leo Tolstoy, who wrote the fiction that I most admire. And lest I forget, I would invite Helen of Troy, and I would invite Joan of Arc. So there I am with two remarkable women and three remarkable men, and then I think, just in case the conversation got too heavy, just to lighten things up, I would invite Groucho Marx.

CP: Where might someone be surprised to run into you?

EW: A person who might have known me as a teacher might be surprised to see me at every home basketball game. I’ve been sitting in the same seats in the coliseum since the coliseum was built. It would take an emergency at home for me not to go. I really think that the life of a college ought to be experienced in its totality, and as I’ve indicated, I love literature and music and movies, but I also love sports. I am not an athlete myself, but from the outside I have been able to admire great athletes in the same way I admire a great pianist.

CP: In what moment were you most proud of Wake Forest?

EW: One time I remember with special fondness and appreciation is when we were awarded the Meiklejohn Award. To be at Yale University with President (James Ralph) Scales and Mr. (James) Mason (JD ’38, LL.D. ’96, P ’67), who was chairman of the board of trustees, and have Wake Forest recognized at another important university with a national honor for what was substantially our academic freedom, was very thrilling.

Because Wake Forest had stood its ground against criticism. Wake Forest had taken a stand. It had accepted the idea of what Dr. Scales called an “open platform” where people were free to speak even if they were people that you had no admiration for.

I think to be there that day in New Haven and for Wake Forest to get that award made a great difference to me, as someone who had lived at Wake Forest all his life, and who thought that academic freedom was the very basis of life at a college.

I think it means all the more to me now because there has been so much in the newspapers in the last year or two about denial of academic freedom at different colleges all across the country. And for the college that I loved and believed in to be honored for that kind of freedom was thrilling. ✨



Commencement 2024

A resilient class with 'superpowers'

By **KELLY GREENE ('91)** | Photography by **LYNSIE SCHLINK**

When Commencement speaker Dr. Mandy K. Cohen, now director for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), was finishing her training as a primary care physician, she failed to diagnose a patient for eight weeks because “I didn’t do a good enough job learning about the person in front of me,” she told graduates at the May 20 ceremony.

Cohen’s patient, a seemingly successful graduate student, was losing her hair and experiencing fatigue. The doctor

ordered two rounds of tests that showed nothing unusual. Finally, a nurse tech suggested that Cohen ask the patient if she had enough to eat; it turned out that she was living out of her car after leaving a relationship that suddenly turned abusive.

“I was horrified,” Cohen said. “For eight weeks, she had gone on being hungry and in unstable housing because of me.”

That experience became “fundamental to who I am and how I show

up — both professionally and in my personal life,” said Cohen, who led the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services through the COVID-19 pandemic.

She urged the Class of 2024: “Show up and see people — all people. Listen. Seek understanding — and not just with those who think like you. Take the time to understand the other person’s why. And focus on making a difference, not just making a point. And build trust by demonstrating your trustworthiness.”



Dr. Mandy Cohen’s hooding

Ceremonies honored more than 2,000 graduates, including 1,226 undergraduates, under cerulean skies following a wet weekend. Earlier hooding ceremonies conferred degrees for the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, the Graduate School of Business and the law, divinity, medical and professional studies schools.

President Susan R. Wenthe welcomed everyone and told the Class of 2024 that they were graduating “with a set of superpowers earned through your experiences. ... Your adaptability, your strong relationships and your ability to find joy,” she said. “I hope that you will share them with the world.”

The traditional ROTC commissioning occurred when Lt. Col. John Flach called to the stage 11 graduating cadets to be sworn in as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army.

Student Government President Jackson Buttler ('24) paraphrased the late Provost Emeritus Edwin G. Wilson ('43, P '91, '93), telling his fellow graduates: “It is my most sincere hope ... that as you walk across this stage in one short moment, and look back at the last four years that you have spent here at Wake Forest, that you can say you faced the challenge, you made friends, you learned and you have been happy.”

The Rev. Dr. Gary Dorrien, the Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary and religion professor at Columbia University, gave the Baccalaureate Address on May 19 in Wait Chapel. A prolific author on subjects ranging from social ethics and philosophy to cultural criticism and religious theory, Dorrien is considered a rigorous theological ethicist.

He did not shy away from discussing vexing issues that were commonplace as the graduates were coming of age: political unrest, inequality, the COVID-19 pandemic, protests against the murder of George Floyd, climate change, the conflict in Gaza and democratic self-governance “in peril.”

But Dorrien, also an Episcopal priest, leaned on 1 Corinthians in times such as these. He told the Class of 2024 that faith, hope and love abide despite the evidence not being in their favor: “Faith is trust and commitment. Hope keeps you in the struggle, gives you courage, helps you face another day. Love makes you care, makes you angry, throws you into the struggle.”

At Commencement, Dorrien received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree and Cohen a Doctor of Humane Letters degree. In earlier ceremonies, Wake Forest granted an honorary Doctor of Business Administration degree to Cathy Pace (P '17), the retiring CEO and president of Allegacy Federal Credit Union. It granted an honorary Doctor of Science degree to Dr. Jean Rawlings Sumner, dean of Mercer University School of Medicine.

Commencement activities during the weekend gave families of this class, deprived of high school graduations, the opportunity to gather en masse for this year's ceremony. “It feels surreal to see her experience this for the first time,” said Brigitte McBee, one of 15 family members who traveled from Atlanta and Washington, D.C., to watch her niece, Kennedy Tate ('24), graduate.

Lyndie Reining ('24), waiting in line to process onto Hearn Plaza, reflected: “It's one of those days that you know is coming, but you don't quite anticipate it until it's here, and then all the feelings happen.”

Retiring Faculty

FROM THE REYNOLDA CAMPUS

George R. Aldhizer III (P '15), Ph.D., Associate Professor of Accountancy, School of Business, 23 years

David J. Anderson, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, 32 years

Sharon M. Andrews, M.F.A., Professor of Theatre, 30 years

Terry D. Blumenthal (P '17), Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, 37 years

Derrick S. Boone Sr., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Marketing, School of Business, 28 years

James F. Curran (P '09, '14, '20), Ph.D., Professor of Biology, 36 years

Dale Dagenbach, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, 34 years

Sandra Dickson, Ph.D., Professor, Documentary Film Program, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, 15 years

Frederick H. deB. Harris (P '00), Ph.D., Professor of Economics and Finance, School of Business, 35 years

Kenneth G. Hoglund (P '10, '13), Ph.D., Professor of Religious Studies, 34 years

Peter D. Kairoff, D.M.A., Professor of Music, 36 years

Anthony S. Parent Jr. (P '09), Ph.D., Professor of History, 35 years

Brantly Bright Shapiro, Associate Professor of the Practice, Dance, 40 years

William K. Smith (P '03, '07, '09), Ph.D., Professor and Reynolds Babcock Chair of Biology, 25 years

Mark E. Welker, Ph.D., William L. Poteat Professor of Chemistry, 37 years

FROM THE MEDICAL CAMPUS

William B. Applegate (P '07, '08), M.D., MPH, MACP, Professor of Internal Medicine, Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine, 24 years

Thomas A. Arcury (P '03), Ph.D., Professor of Family and Community Medicine, 25 years

Donald W. Bowden, Ph.D., Professor of Biochemistry, 35 years

David F. Crudo, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Endocrinology, 10 years

Carlos M. Ferrario, M.D., FAHA, FASH, FACC, Professor of Surgery, 32 years

Stuart S. Howards, M.D., FACS, Professor of Urology, 11 years

Frederic Kahl, M.D., FACC, FAHA, Professor of Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular Medicine, 48 years

Nancy M. P. King, J.D., Professor of Public Health Sciences, Social Sciences and Health Policy, 17 years

Mark Knudson (P '16, '17), M.D., MSPH, Professor of Family and Community Medicine, 36 years

Kenneth L. Koch (P '07, '10), M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine, Gastroenterology, 20 years

Peter Lichstein (P '11), M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine, General Internal Medicine, 22 years

Drew A. MacGregor (P '07, '18), M.D., FCCP, Professor of Anesthesiology, 33 years

Timothy Martin (P '10, '12, '17), M.D., Professor of Ophthalmology, 33 years

J. Wayne Meredith (MD '78), M.D., FACS, MCCM, Professor of Surgery, 38 years

John Moskop, Ph.D., Professor of Internal Medicine, General Internal Medicine, 14 years

Sara Quandt (P '03), Ph.D., Professor of Public Health Sciences, Epidemiology and Prevention, 30 years

Derek Raghavan, M.D., Ph.D., FACP, FRACP, FASCO, FAAAAS, Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine, Hematology and Oncology, two years

David C. Slawson, M.D., Clinical Professor of Family Medicine, three years

Ramon Velez (P '13), M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine, General Internal Medicine, 33 years

Lawrence X. Webb (P '05, '06, '08, '15), M.D., Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation, 40 years

Deborah M. Whelan (P '03, '04), M.D., Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology, 30 years





1 **Dianne Dailey**, retired women’s golf coach, and **Claudia Kairoff**, professor emeritus of English, received the **Medallion of Merit**, the University’s highest honor for service, at Founders Day convocation in February. Dailey, ACC Coach of the Year four times in 30 years, led her team to win four ACC championships and to appear in 15 NCAA tournaments. Kairoff taught English from 1986 to 2022 and won the 1993 Reid-Doyle Prize for Excellence in Teaching. She is internationally recognized for her groundbreaking scholarship on 18th-century British women poets. *More at bit.ly/MedallionofMerit*

2 Provost **Michele Gillespie** named Professor of Business **Stacie Petter** the University’s first **associate provost for faculty affairs**, starting July 1. Petter conducts research on human trafficking with scholars in computer science, criminal justice and industrial and systems engineering. Professor of Physics **Keith Bonin** and Professor of Dance **Christina Soriano** are stepping down as vice provosts and will take one-year research leaves before

returning to teaching. Bonin, vice provost for research and scholarly inquiry, oversaw a 35% increase in grant funding and helped start research centers for African American life and literacy education. Soriano, vice provost for the arts and interdisciplinary initiatives, helped secure more than \$10 million in arts funding and broaden the arts’ reach through Wake the Arts and the Interdisciplinary Arts Center. *More at bit.ly/ProvostMoves*

3 This year Wake Forest says goodbye to two prominent community members. University Chaplain **Tim Auman** retires June 30 after 25 years at Wake Forest. He started as United Methodist campus minister in 1999, then succeeded Ed Christman (’50, JD ’53, P ’84, ’85) as chaplain in 2003. Auman created the MindfulWake Initiative in 2015, reflecting his multifaith approach. Past honors include the University’s Administrator of the Year. *More at bit.ly/AumanRetirement*

University Photographer **Ken Bennett** retired in March after 27 years of capturing stunning photos, producing an archive

of nearly 200,000 images and helping to build Wake Forest’s recognition as one of the nation’s most beautiful college campuses. *More at bit.ly/KenBennettRetires*

4 **The Department of Health and Exercise Science** will conduct a two-continent study to determine whether the most common treatments for osteoarthritis — weight loss and exercise — also help with prevention. The National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, Arthritis Foundation and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provided \$17.1 million in funding. *More at bit.ly/HESOsteoarthritisStudy*

5 **David Furr (’80, JD ’82)** committed \$2 million to establish an endowed scholarship for students at the School of Law based on merit and their intent to practice in specific areas, including transactional law, tax, mergers and acquisitions, business, intellectual property, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity. The scholarship’s goal is to help recipients graduate without debt. *More at bit.ly/FurrScholars*

6 **Syd Kitson ('81, P '08, '09)**, a football player on the 1979 Tangerine Bowl team and in the NFL before his pioneering work in sustainable real estate development, received the Gene Hooks Lifetime Achievement Award. Time magazine named Kitson its 2023 Dreamer of the Year for Babcock Ranch, his Florida community powered by solar energy. *More at bit.ly/SydKitsonGrateful*

7 Three faculty members received National Science Foundation CAREER Awards, five-year research grants worth at least \$500,000 apiece. **Minghan Chen**, an assistant professor of computer science, is using artificial intelligence to study Alzheimer's disease. **Ajay Ram Srimath Kandada** and **Stephen M. Winter**, both assistant professors of physics, are researching more accurate ways to predict how properties of materials behave, which could lead to more efficient technologies. *More at bit.ly/ChenAIAIAlzheimers and bit.ly/KandadaWinter*

8 History major **Oscar Bray ('24)** was named a Yenching Scholar at Beijing's Yenching Academy of Peking University and will join a prestigious postgraduate program focused on global interdisciplinary graduate education. *More at bit.ly/BrayYenching*

9 The **Andrew Sabin Family Center for Environment and Sustainability** officially opened in its new space in Worrell Professional Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the \$5 million gift from the Andrew Sabin Family Foundation to further the center's work confronting complex environmental challenges, including biodiversity loss, environmental contamination and water scarcity. *More at bit.ly/SabinCenterOpening*

10 The Atlantic Coast Conference named President **Susan R. Wente** vice chair of its board. She will also continue as a member of the conference's executive committee. *More at bit.ly/WenteACC*

11 Wake Forest ranked No. 30 on **Forbes' 2024 ranking of best U.S. midsize employers**, chosen through a survey of more than 170,000 U.S. workers. *More at bit.ly/ForbesBest2024Employers*

12 The 2024 12-hour **Wake 'n Shake Dance Marathon** raised more than \$313,000 for the **Brian Piccolo ('65, P '87, '89) Cancer Research Fund**. *More at bit.ly/WakenShake2024*

13 The School of Business placed **No. 10** in TechGuide's 2024 ranking of **Business Analytics MBA Programs**. *More at bit.ly/BusinessAnalyticsRanking*

14 **Rute Ayalew ('24)** and **Deb Marke ('16)**, assistant director of advocacy and social justice education, won the University's Martin Luther King Jr. "Building the Dream" award. As a student, Ayalew advocated for expanding inclusion of women and people of color in computer science and for increasing low-income housing. Marke oversees social justice initiatives in the Office of Civic and Community Engagement, coordinating the Deacs Decide election engagement project and Wake Alternative Break. *More at bit.ly/BuildingDreamWinners*

15 Researchers at Wake Forest and nine other university, business, state agency and research partners received a \$1 million National Science Foundation Regional Innovation Engines grant to develop a 42-county **Agricultural Tech Innovation Corridor** to help farmers develop new approaches to produce high-quality food and mitigate climate impact. *More at bit.ly/AgTechNSFGrant*

16 The student Emergency Medical Services team saved a life on Jan. 25. After seeing a person thrown from a vehicle, they identified an arterial hemorrhage and provided aid. The responders included **Aidan Smith ('24)**, **Nate Bozeman ('25)**, **Hank Laxton ('25)**, **Anna Munro ('24)**, **Anna Topmiller ('26)** and **Zeph Hollenbeck ('26)**. *More at bit.ly/StudentEMS*

17 **Couriyah Stegall ('26)** won the Community Impact Student Award from North Carolina Campus Engagement, a group working to prepare students for civic and social responsibility. Stegall helped expand Campus Kitchen's delivery sites and organized volunteer groups to assemble 300 period packs for schools and shelters. *More at bit.ly/CStegall*

18 Former U.S. Rep. **Liz Cheney** and presidential historian **Jon Meacham (L.H.D. '17)** engaged in a conversation about democracy in front of a sold-out Wait Chapel on Feb. 22 as part of the Face to Face Speaker Forum. Comedian **Trevor Noah** closed out the third season at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum. *More at [facetoface.wfu.edu](https://bit.ly/facetoface.wfu.edu)*

19 The **women's golf team** won its eighth Atlantic Coast Conference Championship. **Rachel Kuehn ('23, MA '24)** won the individual title, joining her mother, **Brenda Corrie-Kuehn ('86, P '23)**, as an ACC Women's Golf Individual Champion. They are the first-known mother-daughter duo to do so in ACC history. **Michael Brennan** captured his second ACC Individual Championship in men's golf after a 5-hole playoff.

20 **Carl Tucker ('68, P '95, '97, '04)** and **Linda Ball Tucker (P '95, '97, '04)** were recognized as 2023 Deacon Club Members of the Year for five decades of support of Wake Forest Athletics. The Miller Center's academic center, under renovation, will be named in their honor. *More at bit.ly/TuckersDeaconClub*

21 The School of Divinity named **Stacy W. Smallwood ('01)** executive director of its Faith COMPASS Center, which helps faith communities in the South address HIV/AIDS. *More at bit.ly/SmallwoodFaithCenter*

22 **Laura Ware Adlington ('10)**, a materials scientist who created an innovative process for analyzing medieval stained glass, gave the keynote address at TechX, Information Systems' annual academic technology showcase. She highlighted the intersection between technology and historical research. *More at bit.ly/TechXAdlington and bit.ly/lwadlington*

23 Wake Forest and partners received a **National Science Foundation Regional Innovation Engine** award to create breakthrough therapies in regenerative medicine. The grant provides \$15 million in the first two years and up to \$160 million for 10 years. *More at bit.ly/GrantRegenerativeMedicine*

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

REFLECT

The Spirit of Wake Forest



Wake Forest and the Alumni Council named **Kendra Beard Graham ('85)** and **Mit Shah ('91)** to receive the 2024 Distinguished Alumni Awards. They were honored for their service to the University and for exemplifying Pro Humanitate at a gala April 19 in the Sutton Center.

Kendra Beard Graham

fell in love with golf — and became an Arnold Palmer ('51, L.L.D. '70) fan — growing up in New Jersey. She came to Wake Forest to play golf for coach Marge Crisp, leading to a pioneering career overseeing and teaching the rules of golf and breaking down barriers for women golfers.

"Because of the education I received, the experiences I had, the friends I made, I'm the luckiest person in the world to have used Wake Forest as my springboard as I've gone on in life," says Graham, who lives in Vero Beach, Florida, and is a past member of the Wake Forest Alumni Council.

Graham worked for the United States Golf Association in Rules and Competitions from 1987 until 2003. For the past 30 years, she has been a highly respected rules official at more than 50 men's and women's major championships and international competitions. She was one of the first women to work as an official at the Masters and the first American woman to officiate at The (British) Open Championship.

She is on the USGA national committee and is a past member of the executive committee and past chair of the rules of golf committee. She has put her communication major to good use as a longtime instructor at PGA/USGA workshops. Retired Wake Forest Women's Golf Coach Dianne Dailey calls Graham "probably the premier authority on rules in the world."

A breast cancer survivor, Graham is an



avid fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, the Susan G. Komen organization and the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade. A Fideles society member as a student, "I still think of this as home," Graham says. "If I can shine a light on this great University in what I do, then that means a great deal to me."

Mit Shah grew up a mile from Wake Forest's Reynolda Campus, in a neighborhood where cheering for the Demon Deacons was "kind of in your blood," he recalls.

As the oldest child of immigrant parents, he chose Wake Forest for the "safety and security" of staying close to home and its pre-med track but soon found himself drawn to economics, to learn "how the world works" and to the wisdom

of Reynolds Professor of American Studies Maya Angelou (L.H.D. '77). He recalls her telling the class that "people won't remember what you said or what you did, but they'll always remember how you made them feel," he says.

Shah quickly applied those lessons as the founding CEO of Noble Investment Group LLC in Atlanta in 1993, only two years after he graduated. For three decades, Shah has led Noble to make more than \$6 billion in hotel investments. He is widely recognized as an industry leader, one of the most influential South Asians in the United

States and one of Atlanta's most prominent business leaders.

Through his meteoric rise, Shah never neglected his support for Wake Forest. In addition to serving five terms on the board of trustees, he became a board member of the Roll the Quad collective and made the lead investment in 2017 for the \$12 million Shah Basketball Complex, followed by a multimillion-dollar gift in 2023 to support scholarships and the fan and student experience at basketball games.

"This is home," Shah says. "It's always been home, it will always be home, and the fact that I grew up here and then I could also go to Wake Forest, it has a very special place in my heart."

For more on these Distinguished Alumni Award recipients, see bit.ly/DistinguishedAlumniAwards2024

They've got game

Female student-athletes are the focus of a new athletics fundraising drive

AS ANY ROWDY DEMON DEACON KNOWS, momentum in sports excites a crowd. Witness what happened after Wake Forest celebrated 50 Years of Women's Athletics during the 2021-22 academic year. Nearly 800 donors committed more than \$4.1 million toward women's athletics initiatives, including creating 20 new scholarships.

The next academic year, athletics raised \$21 million more for the cause.

On the heels of all that momentum comes In Her Wake.

On Feb. 7, National Girls & Women in Sports Day, Wake Forest athletics announced a \$100 million goal to create more opportunities for female student-athletes. The plan is for enhanced scholarship support; new opportunities in personal, leadership and career development; and strategic investments in areas that create a competitive advantage for individual sport programs. Supporters also will be encouraged to consider the legacy they leave by exploring "Forever Deacs" endowments, which make permanent the impact of donors' contributions on generations of student-athletes to come.

As one of seven schools in the Atlantic Coast Conference with 10 NCAA Championships, including a title by the women's golf program in May 2023, the University has a proud and storied tradition of intercollegiate athletics. According to the



TIM COWIE/TODD DREXLER PHOTOS

athletics department, women's athletics and the broad-based success of those programs have helped Wake Forest become the fastest-growing brand in the Power 5 since 2019 with 2.7 million fans worldwide.

Truist Financial Corp. and other lead investors have already committed over \$21 million to the In Her Wake endeavor this past year. Wake Forest athletics aims to surpass \$100 million by 2029. For more about supporting In Her Wake, go to bit.ly/InHerWake2024

What They're Saying

President Susan R. Wentz

"Support for women's athletics has advanced tremendously over the past few years, and we are aiming even higher. We know that the experience of being a student-athlete can have a transformational impact on the leadership trajectories of young women. In Her Wake will enable Wake Forest to further harness and accelerate leadership development by enhancing Wake Forest's investment in women's athletics."

Dianne Dailey, women's golf coach 1988-2018, Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame member and 2024 recipient of the University's highest honor, the Medallion of Merit

"My favorite moments during our celebration of 50 Years of Women's Athletics were listening to stories of success from women who benefited from the sacrifices of those who came before them. Their understanding of these experiences and subsequent desire to pay that forward encourages me in knowing the foundation is being laid for future success."

Director of Athletics John Currie ('93)

"Thanks to tremendous leadership from our head coaches and the dedication of thousands of student-athletes over the last 50-plus years of women's athletics, and with the support of Deacon Club members, the board of trustees and many friends, Wake Forest has become synonymous with excellence in women's intercollegiate athletics. Buoyed by incredible support from Truist — the Presenting Partner of Wake Forest Women's Athletics — our current and future female student-athletes will benefit from the more than \$21 million in new commitments over the past year. We've enjoyed celebrating the impacts of these gifts through named coaching positions, endowed scholarships and facility naming recognition. The public launch of In Her Wake beckons the greater Wake Forest and Winston-Salem communities to consider current, multiyear and estate commitments, which can further elevate Wake Forest as an elite destination for future generations."

Dear alumni,



We lost a great man with the passing of Provost Emeritus Ed Wilson ('43, P '91, '93). I can't imagine anyone who will be remembered more fondly than "Mr. Wake Forest."

Dr. Wilson was an Old Gold & Black columnist and wrote an editorial in his final issue his senior year, "Columnist States Hope for Future of College: Some Changes Would Benefit Wake Forest."

He offered suggestions about improving student life and addressed the dancing ban on campus: "This suggestion has been worked on until it is almost dead, but dancing comes closer every day, what with the high school gym and the community house, and there seems to be less need than ever to ban it from college grounds."

He called for the construction of a "Student Union with ping pong tables, bowling alleys, handball courts and billiards tables." He wanted "a larger library of readable fiction books, including the best modern novels ... even at the risk of eliminating certain volumes which find appeal with professors and one or two students and no one else."

Dr. Wilson also weighed in on the curriculum. He advocated for the "requirement of one semester of philosophy for every student ... a course in truth which

no Wake Forest man should miss." He lobbied for a C requirement for all students, including football players. "Those who can't make the grade must either drop outside activity or stop school."

He supported limiting enrollment to 1,300 "regardless of desire to build a university." During an era when "coeds" were first welcomed to Wake Forest, he suggested limiting female enrollment to 300.

What I appreciate most about his column is how invested he was in Wake Forest even at that young age. His final wish was for, "whatever happens, a continuation of the spirit and the character of Wake Forest. It is my own personal wish for the many students who will follow the class of 1943 that they will enter, as I did, into a college where scholarship and Christian principles prevail, and that they will graduate, as I hope to do, into a world where the teachings of Wake Forest and the tenets Wake Forest holds most dear will have their justly high place."

What were those tenets for a young Ed Wilson? In his college days, he saw them as friendship and honor. Later, he explained the University motto, Pro Humanitate, in this way. "... it tells us to be friends to all humanity with honor, to teach, to help, to serve. And nothing is more encouraging to me than to know students and alumni who hear the words Pro Humanitate and then, with friendship and honor, put those words into practice."

I can't think of a better way to revere his memory than to take up his charge.

Best wishes,

Jane Owens Cage ('78)

Joplin, Missouri

President, Wake Forest Alumni Council



The old well on the original campus

1950s

David "Pat" Patterson Mast Jr. ('53, JD '55) practices law from his home in Winston-Salem. He was an alumni representative for the class of 1953 at the inauguration of Wake Forest President Susan R. Wenthe in 2022. He has three children, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren and will celebrate his 93rd birthday in August.

William W. Hedrick ('54, MD '57, P '09) hung up his stethoscope at age 91 after practicing family medicine in Raleigh for 61 years to spend time with his wife, Merrie, seven children, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Hedrick said he always enjoyed treating patients, going to the office and answering calls at any hour. He helped establish the family practice departments at UNC School of Medicine and East Carolina University Brody School of Medicine in the 1970s. He received The Order of the Long Leaf Pine from **Gov. Jim Hunt (LLD '82, P '88, '90)** and the Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians. He was honored by the City of Raleigh with the declaration of Dr. Bill Hedrick Day and was inducted into the Raleigh Hall of Fame.

1960s

J. Taylor Ryan ('62, P '96) leads work to stave off erosion and pollution along the Intracoastal Waterway in St. James, NC. Twice a year, about 100 volunteers move bags of oyster shells to extend what has become known as a living shoreline, which protects the coast from the effects of continuous boat traffic and climate change. *More at bit.ly/RyanLivingShoreline*

Dallas Clark ('65, JD '68) wrote "The Mind of Dan MacAvoy," his third Woody White legal thriller. MacAvoy returns from Vietnam, scarred by a horrible combat event, and then is charged with murdering his father. Clark's first two novels were awarded honorable mentions in the Los Angeles Book Festival.

Robert "Bob" E. Campbell (JD '67) retired after practicing law in Gettysburg, PA, for 56 years. He practiced for 51 years at Campbell & White and the last five years at Salzmann Hughes PC. He was also a public defender in Adams County (PA). He and his wife, **Catherine Hanna Campbell ('67)**, live in Gettysburg and have four adult sons, including **Thomas Campbell ('92, JD '95)**, and 11 grandchildren.

Monty Hogewood ('67, P '90) received Samford University's John C. Pittman Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2024 Samford Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony. Hogewood worked in development at Samford for 25 years, including a decade as director of development at the McWhorter School of Pharmacy. He and his wife, **Connie Hogewood (P '90)**, live in Birmingham, AL.



Hedrick
('54, MD '57)



Highsmith
('74, MBA '78)



Kent
('79)



Leonard
('79)



Craig
('81)

1970s

Bart A. Charlow ('70, MAEd '73) wrote a memoir, "A Catskill Carnival: My Borscht Belt Life Lived, Lost and Loved," about his years growing up in the Catskills as a self-described "hotel brat." His family owned hotels in the Catskills for generations, providing him with an insider's view into the culture of the resorts during their golden era. Charlow is a retired CEO, licensed family therapist and educator. He and his wife live in the San Francisco Bay area.

Alan D. Falk (MA '73) was a senior research associate for 33 years at the University of Miami medical school, including 27 years working on an early study of pediatric HIV. In retirement, he plays racquetball and golf three times a week. He says, "Hello to my fellow graduate student friends who had such a strong bond at Wake."

R. Lee Farmer (JD '73, P '00) was honored by the North Carolina State Bar for practicing law for 50 years. He practices in Caswell County, NC.

Edward "Ted" Waller ('73) published his 100th research report for Seeking Alpha, a widely read web resource for investors. Waller began as a generalist in 2013 and now specializes in research on the emerging legal cannabis industry. He lives in Raleigh.

Johnny Highsmith ('74, MBA '78) retired in 2018 after a career with a credit union and in banking in Winston-Salem. He continues to coach the varsity girls' tennis team at R.J. Reynolds High School and drives activity buses for athletic teams, cheerleaders and the Dancing Boots to sporting events.

Paula Pfeiffer Tignall ('74) is co-owner of Liquid-ity Aleworks in Mt. Airy, MD, which won the Maryland Craft Beer Association's 2023 Best-in-Show prize for its cream ale, "Three Minutes Later." She invites any Wake Forest alumni and students in the Baltimore area to come enjoy a craft beer.

Marianne Guy Pendlebury ('77) hosted her friend of 50 years from Wake Forest, **Vicky Allen LeGrys ('77, MT '02)**, at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. They recently retired from careers in academia.

Carolina Lehoczyk Fernandez ('79, P '09) founded flourFLOWER, a for-profit social endeavor that helps women in Rwanda create and sell tote bags, jewelry and art. She and her husband,

Ernie Fernandez (P '09), also fund bakeries in Rwanda that feed people and provide job skills. *More at bit.ly/flourFLOWER*

Cameron Kent ('79) wrote his sixth novel, "The Oak Island Book Club." He is an author, screenwriter and playwright who was an anchor and reporter for 33 years at WXII in Winston-Salem. He and his wife, **Sue Satrom Kent ('78)**, live in Winston-Salem.

Ed Leonard ('79) retired from Tulane University. For the past 17 years, he was senior administrator and executive director for orthopaedics in Tulane's School of Medicine. During his long career, he was also assistant athletic trainer and adjunct lecturer in physical education, head athletic trainer, orthopaedic clinic manager and director, and medical group IT analyst. He and his wife, Melissa, live in Foley, AL, and he focuses on "the three Gs of retirement — golf, gardening and good food!"

Bill Miller ('79, P '10) is a professor of marine science at the University of Georgia. He was named co-chair of the Scientific Steering Committee for the Surface Ocean-Lower Atmosphere Study, a global research project to understand and quantify ocean-atmosphere interactions in the regulation of climate and global change.

1980s

Niki Whitley Craig ('81) wrote a collection of anecdotes, "Humor in the Emergency Department: Or You Can't Make This ____ Up." She and her husband, **Ken Craig ('82)**, live in Boone, NC, where she is a nurse.

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



STANDARD MAIL:

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



EMAIL:

classnotes@wfu.edu



ONLINE:

magazine.wfu.edu/class-notes/submit/



Warren
(’81, JD ’84)



Regan
(’82)



Daggett
(JD ’85)



Blaylock
(’86)

Syd Kitson (’81, P ’08) was named Time magazine’s 2023 Dreamer of the Year. He is chair and CEO of Kitson & Partners, a Florida-based real estate company. He founded Babcock Ranch in Florida, the first solar-powered town in the country. He sold 73,000 acres of surrounding land to the state of Florida for a nature preserve, the single largest land conservation deal in Florida’s history. Kitson also received Wake Forest athletics’ Gene Hooks Lifetime Achievement Award. He was a tight end and offensive lineman on the Wake Forest football team, including on the 1979 Tangerine Bowl team, and played in the NFL. *More at bit.ly/SydKitson*

John Martin (’81) was honored in the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America as Lawyer of the Year in his region and practice areas, medical malpractice law (defendants) and personal injury litigation (defendants). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Wilmington, NC.

Emily Neese (’81, P ’13, ’16) retired as vice president of finance, strategy and planning after almost 18 years at Wake Forest. She returned to her alma mater in the University Advancement office in 2006 before moving to the Financial Services office in 2013. She helped develop a new campus master plan, academic space at Wake Downtown and the University’s operational responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. She and her husband, **John Babcock (JD ’85, P ’13, ’16)**, live in Winston-Salem.

Ted Smyth (JD ’81) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for bet-the-company litigation, commercial litigation, insurance law, personal injury litigation (defendants) and personal injury litigation (plaintiffs). He was named Lawyer of the Year for insurance law in his region. He is of counsel at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

David M. Warren (’81, JD ’84, P ’13) was inducted into the Order of the Eagle by Rocky Mount (NC) Academy for more than 30 years of volunteer service. He is a 1977 graduate of the school. Warren is chief judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina and an adjunct law professor at Wake Forest and Campbell University. He is a director of DiabetesSisters Inc. and a trustee for the Kappa Alpha Order Educational Foundation.

Andy Avram (’82, JD ’90) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for workers’ compensation law (employers). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

Maria Henson (’82), a Pulitzer Prize winner and associate vice president and editor-at-large of Wake Forest’s University Advancement, was elected to the North Caroliniana Society, which recognizes individuals who have contributed significantly to their state. The society “elects to membership North Carolinians who meet the strict criterion of ‘adjudged performance’ in service to their state’s heritage in and support of North Carolina’s historical, literary and cultural strength.” Members include former **Gov. Jim Hunt (LLB ’82, P ’88, ’90)**, potter Ben Owen III, journalist Gene Roberts, musician and author Bland Simpson and novelists Ron Rash, Wiley Cash, Charles Frazier and Jill McCorkle.

Thomas Penn Johnson (MA ’82) wrote “AMIAS,” a play set in London in 1594 that, while not a historical account, examines the life of Francis Bacon. Johnson retired in 2009 after teaching English and humanities for 26 years at Edison State College (now Florida SouthWestern State College) in Fort Myers, FL.

David Lennon (JD ’82) retired as Revenue Section head at the North Carolina Attorney General’s Office and received the Old North State Award from the governor. He is also a recipient of The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina’s highest award for service. Lennon is an award-winning artist and president of Clayton Visual Arts and a board member of the Johnston County Arts Council. He is a retired U.S. Navy Reserve captain. He and his wife, Maria Limmen, live near Clayton.

Melissa Rhame Regan (’82, P ’15) is a physician assistant at the University of Maryland Center for Diabetes and Endocrinology in Baltimore. She loves to run, read and travel. She and her husband, **Mike Regan (P ’15)**, live in Towson, MD.

Eric R. Spence (JD ’82) was named to the 2024 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in commercial real estate law. He is of counsel at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Marcia Armstrong (JD ’83, P ’10, ’11, ’12) received the 2023 Chief Justice’s Professionalism Award from North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul Newby. She is a partner at The Armstrong Law Firm PA in Smithfield, NC, and a past president of the North Carolina State Bar.

Becky Garrison (’83) wrote “Distilled in Washington: A History,” a book that covers the early days of distilling in Washington state to the modern craft distilling boom. Garrison is an author and journalist in the Portland, OR, area.

Robert Griffin (’83, JD ’86) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for litigation (insurance). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

William “Bill” Pollock (’84) was named to Business North Carolina magazine’s 2024 Legal Elite list in construction. He was also named to the 2024 North Carolina Super Lawyers list. He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

David Daggett (JD ’85) is the leadership development chair of the board of directors of the American Heart Association in the Triad. His son, Riley, had open-heart surgery. Daggett says that “early detection, follow-up and timely intervention led to his story ending well.” Daggett is managing partner of Daggett Shuler Attorneys at Law in Winston-Salem.

Deryl Davis (’85) wrote “Robert Pollok’s The Course of Time and Literary Theodicy in the Romantic Age: The Rise and Fall of a Christian Epic,” which traces the fortunes of a blockbuster epic poem across the 19th century. He also wrote a stage play, “Charlie’s Year (Bliadna Thearlaich),” a comic drama about legendary Scottish figure Bonnie Prince Charlie. Davis is adjunct faculty in religion and the arts at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, and a producer with Journey Films, which creates independent documentary films on religion and spirituality for public television. Its latest film is “SABBATH: An Ancient Practice Meets the Modern World.” Davis and his wife, **Whitney Warren (MAEd ’97)**, live in Silver Spring, MD, with their three children.

Lee W. Gavin (’85, JD ’89) retired as a superior court judge after serving 24 years in the North Carolina judiciary. He lives in Asheboro, NC, with his wife, **Roberta Wood Gavin (JD ’88)**. He enjoys reading, painting, golfing and spending time with his new grandson.

Joe Hemsley (’85) was named to the Ameriprise Circle of Success Hall of Fame in 2021. He has been a financial planner and private wealth adviser since graduating from Wake Forest. He lives in Bethesda, MD, and enjoys staying connected with fellow alumni.

Reginald Blaylock (’86) is president of the American Society of Parasitologists, an international scientific organization. His expertise is in the ecology of marine pathogens. He is director of the Thad Cochran Marine Aquaculture Center at the University of Southern Mississippi’s (USM) Gulf Coast Research Laboratory. He is also a research professor in the USM School of Ocean Science and Engineering’s Division of Coastal Sciences. He lives in Ocean Springs, MS.

Robert B. McCormick (’86) wrote “Founding the ACC: The Origins of a Major Collegiate Athletic Conference, 1951-1953.” One chapter covers Wake Forest’s 1952-53 season with star **Dickie Hemric (’55)**, culminating in the Deacons’ win over NC State University in the 1953 Southern Conference championship game, which solidified Wake Forest’s position as a founding member of the ACC. McCormick is a professor of history at

University of South Carolina Upstate and host of the podcast, "McCormick on History."

Lisa Stockton ('86) retired after 30 years as head women's basketball coach at Tulane University. She compiled a 591-344 record at Tulane and won five conference tournament championships and four regular season titles. In 2020, Silver Waves Media named her one of the top 100 most impactful people nationally in women's basketball. In 2022, The (Baton Rouge, LA) Advocate named her one of the top 25 most influential women in Louisiana sports history. She played basketball for four years at Wake Forest, set a number of school records at the time and still holds the record for consecutive games started.

Mike Darrow (MBA '87) received the Outstanding Fundraising Professional Award from the North Carolina Triad Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. He is the executive director of Feeding the Carolinas, a network of food banks in North and South Carolina, based in Clemmons, NC. He has 30 years of experience as a nonprofit professional, including as annual fund director for Wake Forest's School of Business and School of Law.

Ernest "Ernie" A. Osborn ('87, P '18, '19, '21) is a managing director of The Osborn-Berrier Group at Morgan Stanley, which was named to

Forbes Magazine's 2024 list of Best-In-State Wealth Management Teams. The group, based in Winston-Salem, advises clients on comprehensive wealth planning and investment strategies.

David Rhoades (MBA '88, JD '89) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for workers' compensation law (employers). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

Julie Groves ('89, MALS '03) received the inaugural Excellence in Risk Management Award from Marsh, a global insurance broker and risk adviser owned by Marsh McClellan. She is director of risk services at Wake Forest and immediate past president of the University Risk Management and Insurance Association.

Carol F. Polk (MBA '89) was inducted into the Marquis Who's Who biographical registry for her outstanding contributions to the nonprofit sector. She is executive director, founder and site coordinator at Pivot Ministry Inc., which helps low-income women achieve better life and work opportunities. She lives in Winston-Salem.

Nick Valaoras ('89, JD '92) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for workers' compensation law (employers). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.



Osborn
('87)



Groves
('89, MALS '03)

1990s

Pat Flanagan (JD '90) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for civil rights law, employment law (management), litigation (insurance), litigation (labor and employment) and litigation (municipal). He was named Lawyer of the Year for civil rights law in his region. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

David W. Johnson (JD '90) became a special education teacher after working as an attorney for two decades. He also coaches the mock trial team and swim team at BASIS Chandler School in Chandler, AZ. He lives in Tempe, AZ.



WAKE WOMEN

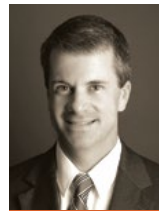
with Mary Tribble

"Wake Women" is a podcast for, by and about the women of Wake Forest. In each episode, fifth-generation alumna Mary Tribble ('82, MA '19) sits down with a successful female Wake Forester to share intelligent, thought-provoking reflections that will inspire you to be your best self.



Episodes drop biweekly on Fridays • Listen wherever you get your podcasts • go.wfu.edu/wwpod



**Beagle**
(JD/MBA '91)**Collins**
('91)**Trojanowski**
('91)**Palecek**
(JD '92)**Snyder**
(MS '92)**Bullock**
('93)**Huitt**
('94, MBA '97)**Taylor**
('94)

Matthew E. Beagle (JD/MBA '91) was named executive vice president and chief wealth management officer of Journey Bank in Bloomsburg, PA. He is a certified financial planner and chair of the board of Geisinger Bloomsburg Hospital and GateHouse transitional housing. Beagle is also an adjunct instructor at Bloomsburg Commonwealth University, and he writes about sabermetrics for the fantasy baseball site BaseballHQ.com.

Walter P. Collins III ('91) was named executive vice chancellor for academic and student affairs and associate provost at the University of South Carolina Palmetto College. He was campus dean of USC Lancaster, one of the campuses that make up USC Palmetto College. He also teaches French and English. He received the 2023 Volunteer of the Year award from the Lancaster County (SC) Chamber of Commerce.

Jeff Malarney ('91) was elected to a three-year term as chair of the North Carolina Real Estate Commission. He was named to Business North Carolina magazine's 2024 Legal Elite list in real estate law. He is founder of Malarney & McCown, PLLC, Attorneys at Law, in Kitty Hawk, NC.

Darren Phillips ('91) was named the 2023 Director of the Year by the New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. He has been director of athletics at Southampton Union Free School District for 24 years. His impact has included garnering support for a boxing fitness program, integrating mindfulness and wellness into the elementary school curriculum and adding high school programs in yoga, self-defense and CPR training.

Amy Peacock Trojanowski ('91) was named vice president and chief financial officer at TW Metals in Exton, PA.

Ursula M. Henninger (JD '92) was named a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. She is a partner at King & Spalding in Miami.

Diana Palecek (JD '92) received the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Award from the Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Network's Charlotte chapter. She is a partner in Fox Rothschild LLP's real estate department and a member of CREW Charlotte and its DEI taskforce.

Robert "Bob" J. Ramseur Jr. ('92, JD '95, P '23, '24) was named to Business North Carolina magazine's 2024 Legal Elite list in real estate law. He was also named to the 2024 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in real estate law. He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Scott Snyder (MS '92) was named vice president for Research & Economic Development at the University of North Dakota. He was dean of the College of Science and Engineering at Idaho State University. He has also been chief research officer and a biology professor at the University of Nebraska Omaha.

Donn Bullock ('93) was named CEO of VSSL, a music streaming hardware and software company. He leads all sales, product marketing, product development and go-to-market channel activities globally. He and his family live in St. George, UT.

Jen Wallace Dowda ('93) started Dowda Senior Consultants in Richmond, VA, three years ago to provide comprehensive, ongoing support to older adults — free of charge. She and her team of a dozen employees visit and support clients in homes or senior living communities, counsel families and provide dementia-care training. *More at bit.ly/DowdaSeniors*

Jonathan Hall (JD '93) joined Phelps Dunbar LLP as a partner in the firm's Raleigh office. He is a product liability lawyer and has handled more than 100 bench and jury trials.

Lisa Sponcler Norman ('93) wrote a children's book series, "Ellie Asks," about hope, love, respect, joy, grief and gratitude. Norman, a surgical pathologist, donates a portion of proceeds from the books to Children's Cancer Support Services at Brenner Children's Hospital in Winston-Salem. She and her husband, **J. Keith Norman ('93)**, live in Winston-Salem and have four children, Ellie (21), Jack (17), Hamilton (13) and Mary Claire (11). *Read more at bit.ly/WritingPromise*

Timothy Rooks (JD '93) and his wife, Jeri Simpson Rooks, celebrated 30 years of marriage, "news that will shock classmates," he says. They live in Morganton, NC, have three adult children and are expecting their first grandchild. Tim enjoys home improvement projects, hiking and swimming. Tim says Jeri enjoys "being awesome, keeping me in line and making me a better person."

Randolph Childress ('94, P '20) was inducted into the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame. He was an All-American basketball player at Wake Forest and was named the ACC Tournament MVP in 1995 after leading the Deacons to their first conference title in 33 years. After playing professionally, he was an assistant basketball coach at Wake Forest. He and his wife, Tabettha, live in Winston-Salem.

Razan J. Faye ('94) was appointed a Fairfax County (VA) juvenile and domestic relations court judge. She is the first Arab American and the first Muslim judge appointed in Virginia.

Parker Huitt ('94, MBA '97) was named president and CEO of Richardson Properties LLC, a private real estate company in Greensboro, NC. He joined the company in 2015 as a vice president and has 26 years of real estate experience. He and his wife, **Anne Breuer Huitt ('96, MSA '97)**, have three children.

Ashley Ray ('94) was named to Business North Carolina magazine's 2024 Legal Elite list in real estate law. She is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Eric J. Taylor ('94) was reelected to a second six-year term as the magisterial district judge covering West Reading and Wyomissing, PA. He lives in West Reading.

Erica Bergman Lewis (JD '95) joined civil litigation firm Goldberg Segalla as a partner in the firm's North Carolina workers' compensation group. She has more than 25 years of experience in workers' compensation, employment law and appellate advocacy.

Ward Griffin ('96), Jake Farver ('01) and **Josh Portnoy ('06)** worked together to redevelop several historic houses in the South Slope district near downtown Asheville, NC, into a boutique hotel. Griffin is owner and president of Griffin Realty & Construction in Asheville, the general contractor for the project. Farver, who lives in Washington, DC, is senior managing director with Somera Capital Management, a real estate investment firm. Portnoy is general counsel for Hatteras Sky, a commercial real estate development company based in Atlanta. The hotel, the Zelda Dearest, is part of Hatteras Sky's F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Estate hotel portfolio.

Paul Griggs ('96, MSA '97) was elected to a four-year term as PwC's senior partner. He has been at PwC for nearly 30 years and was most recently vice chair of U.S. Markets. He and his wife, **Hope Lake Griggs ('95)**, live in New York. Their son, Will, is a rising sophomore at Wake Forest.

Graham Honaker ('97) co-authored "A Blessing Not a Burden: My Parents' Remarkable Holocaust Story and My Fight to Keep Their Legacy Alive," with his friend Dr. Alex Kor. The book tells the life story of Kor, the son of Holocaust survivors, and his fight against global antisemitism. Honaker is executive director of principal gifts at Butler Uni-



Lewis
(JD '95)



Honaker
('97)



C. King
('98)

versity. He is also the co-author of “Unbracketed: Big-Time College Basketball Done the Right Way” and “The Cinderella Strategy: The Game Plan Behind Butler University’s Rise to Prominence.”

Craig Joseph ('97) is the literary director at Cleveland Play House, the oldest professional regional theater in the country. He’s also the founder and artistic director of Seat of the Pants, an ensemble-based professional theater company that performs throughout Northeast Ohio. Joseph also acts and directs and curates art exhibits in the Midwest and New England.

Dan Katzenbach (JD '97) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for construction law, litigation (construction), product liability litigation (defendants) and professional malpractice law (defendants). He was named Lawyer of the Year for professional malpractice law (defendants) in his region. He was also recognized in the 2024 Legal Elite listing in Business North Carolina in construction law. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

Aimée Mackovic ('97) wrote “Contains Recycled Parts: My Triple Organ Transplant Journey and the Science of Gratitude,” an inspiring and humorous memoir about her heart, liver and kidney transplants. She is an English professor and poet in Austin, TX.

Charles “Charlie” King ('98) was named to Forbes’ list of Best-in-State Wealth Management Teams. He is a member of King Nett Wealth Management with Merrill Lynch in Charlotte. He celebrated 23 years with the firm.

Todd King ('98, JD '02) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for personal injury litigation (defendants) and product liability litigation (defendants). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

Kate T. Crowley Parker ('98) released her newest book, “Force of Nature: A Celebration of Girls and Women Raising Their Voices.” She is the author and photographer of New York Times best-sellers “Strong is the New Pretty: A Celebration of Girls Being Themselves” and “The Heart of a Boy: Celebrating the Strength and Spirit of Boyhood.”

Amie Fonville Sivon ('98) was certified by the North Carolina State Bar as a specialist in appellate practice. She was named to Business North Carolina magazine’s 2024 Legal Elite list and to the 2024 North Carolina Super Lawyers list, both in appellate law. She is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

ALUMNI Q&A



Katherine “Kathy” Salisbury Pretzer ('95) is president of WAKERaleigh. She is a community volunteer and a former event planner and pediatric speech-language pathologist.

Being close to three of our biggest athletic rivals, I imagine there are opportunities for events around football and basketball games?

Being in the heart of ACC country, we love to make sure that Demon Deacons in the area have a number of ways to cheer on our teams. We have restarted watch parties for most away football games. We had a great showing at the Duke football game last fall with a tailgate complete with Krispy Kreme doughnuts! A bus trip to Joel Coliseum for the Clemson basketball game in March was a new event that we hope will grow in popularity in future seasons.

What are some other events that WAKERaleigh has sponsored?

In April, we sponsored several events for Pro Humanity Days. Some alumni volunteered with StepUp Ministry in Raleigh and read to young children while their parents attended life skills classes. Other alumni collected and packed supplies to give to homeless people.

What’s coming up in the fall?

We will once again welcome new graduates to the Raleigh/Durham community in early September. This fun night is a great opportunity for all alumni to get re-energized for the year ahead. Our football watch parties will be back in full swing, and we hope to host another tailgate when Wake Forest plays at Carolina or State. We love to hear from alumni about things they would like to see offered.

How did Wake Forest influence your life?

Wake Forest instilled in me a deep desire to connect to my community. I loved being a part of many organizations, and I’ve taken that passion for involvement and volunteerism into my daily life. Randall Rogan and Jo May in the communication department were a special part of my academic time, and their ability to personally connect with students shaped my drive to connect with people today.

What’s your favorite memory as an alumna?

Homecoming. The University has done an amazing job making this weekend a standout experience, from the Friday night “Party So Dear” and reunion class parties to the huge tailgate on game day.

I was at Wake Forest when: the library still had a card catalog.

Wake Forest gave me the opportunity to: make lifelong friendships that I still treasure and nurture today.

When I come back to campus, I always visit: the Mark H. Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art in Benson and Reynolda. It’s an incredible collection that boasts works by Keith Haring, Jasper Johns, Roy Lichtenstein and others.

For more information on WAKERaleigh and other WAKECommunities, visit wakecommunities.wfu.edu

FACE TO FACE

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Doyle
(JD '00)



Mersey
('00)



Lee
('02)



Abbott
('03, MAEd '04)

James Black (JD '99) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for workers' compensation law (employers). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

Ryan Shurman (JD '99) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for medical malpractice law (defendants) and product liability litigation (defendants). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

2000

Brian C. Doyle (JD '00) was appointed to the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct. He is co-managing shareholder of the Long Island, NY, office of Greenberg Traurig LLP. He represents clients in real estate transactions and land use applications.

Jason R. Harris (JD '00) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for admiralty and maritime law and personal injury litigation (defendants). He was named Lawyer of the Year for admiralty and maritime law in his region. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Wilmington, NC.

Rachel Davis Mersey ('00) was appointed dean of the Moody College of Communication at the University of Texas at Austin. She is also the Everett D. Collier Centennial Chair in the School of Journalism and Media. Before joining Moody College as associate dean for research in 2020, she was a professor and an associate dean for research at Northwestern University. She and her husband, **Jason Mersey ('00)**, live in Austin.

Sona Tatoyan ('00) is a writer and actor who lives in Los Angeles. She was an artist-in-residence at Wake Forest last semester. She presented her multimedia theatrical experience "Azad (The Rabbit and the Wolf)" in Scales Fine Arts Center. She created "Azad" after she discovered her great-great-grandfather's 100-year-old Karagöz shadow puppets in her family's abandoned home in Aleppo, Syria, in 2019. The production weaves together her family history, the Armenian genocide and the Middle Eastern folktales of "One Thousand and One Nights." *More at bit.ly/SonaTatoyanAzad*

2001

Jake Farver ('01), **Josh Portnoy ('06)** and **Ward Griffin ('96)** worked together to redevelop several historic houses in the South Slope district

near downtown Asheville, NC, into a boutique hotel. Farver, who lives in Washington, DC, is senior managing director with Somera Capital Management, a real estate investment firm. Portnoy is general counsel for Hatteras Sky, a commercial real estate development company based in Atlanta. Griffin is owner and president of Griffin Realty & Construction in Asheville. The hotel, Zelda Dearest, is part of Hatteras Sky's F. Scott and Zeld Fitzgerald Estate hotel portfolio. Farver and Portnoy also are part of the ownership and development team that redeveloped a 1920s warehouse in Asheville's River Arts District into The Radical hotel.

2002

Alicia Lee ('02) earned a master's in healthcare administration at the University of Houston-Clear Lake. She is director of Maternal & Child Health Collective Impact at March of Dimes in Houston.

Claiborne Heilman Linvill ('02) was elected to the Pickens County (SC) Council. She is only the second woman on the six-person council since its founding in 1976. Linvill lives in Clemson with her husband, **Darren Linvill ('99, MA '02)**, who was recently promoted to full professor at Clemson University, and their two daughters.

John "Bo" Walker ('02) was named to Business North Carolina magazine's 2024 Legal Elite list in litigation and to the 2024 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in civil litigation defense. He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

2003

Scott Abbott ('03, MAEd '04) is a policy scientist in the Institute for Public Administration in the Joseph R. Biden Jr. School of Public Policy & Administration at the University of Delaware. He is also assistant director of the Delaware Center for Civics Education. He lives in Newark, DE, with his wife, **Kristin Marvel Abbott ('05)**, and their two children.

Ryan Eanes ('03) opened Huxley & Hiro bookstore in Wilmington, DE, with a friend, and they were named to Delaware Online's 2024 list of Most Influential People in business. They hope to give the Wilmington community chances to interact with neighbors. Eanes, a professor of advertising at Temple University, works on the store's marketing and outreach strategies.

Virginia A. Gilbert (JD '03) was named director, global site agreements, at Merck, Sharp & Dohme LLC, a global health care company. She negotiates clinical research agreements with a focus on Latin America. She lives near Doylestown, PA.

Kevin Nunley (MBA '03) was promoted to chief credit officer at HomeTrust Bancshares, the holding company of HomeTrust Bank, based in Asheville, NC. He was senior vice president and director of commercial credit. He and his wife, **Julee Keyple Nunley (MBA '03)**, live in Asheville.

Jonathan Morgan Willingham ('03) joined the Biden administration as chief of staff to the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation, helping to lead a first-of-its kind office. The office leverages two federal departments to deploy a network of electric vehicle chargers, zero-emission fueling infrastructure and zero-emission transit and school buses.

2004

Tierney Kraft ('04) was named vice president of sales for the Institute for Integrative Nutrition, a health education platform. She previously worked for the College Board for nine years. She lives in New York.

2005

Brad Clark (MBA '05) was named executive vice president and chief financial officer of Advocate Health, the parent company of Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist. He has worked at Advocate Health and predecessor organizations for more than 13 years, most recently as senior vice president of financial planning and treasurer of Atrium Health.

Bradley Kline (JD '05) was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for workers' compensation law (employers). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

Christian Hart Staples ('05) was appointed chair of the retail and consumer business sector at Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick LLP, where he has practiced law since 2009. He and his wife, Jennie, and sons Evan (7) and Graham (5), live in Charlotte.

Josh Traeger ('05) founded True North Legal Group, a community-centered law practice in Traverse City, MI. He remains a reserve officer in the U.S. Air Force and spent two months in the United Kingdom supporting active duty operations in Europe.

2006

Josh Portnoy ('06), **Jake Farver ('01)** and **Ward Griffin ('96)** worked together to redevelop several historic houses in the South Slope district



Traeger
('05)



Reuben
('06, JD '11)



Hunter
('08)



Gibson
('09)



Simmons
(JD '10)

near downtown Asheville, NC, into a boutique hotel. Portnoy is general counsel for Hatteras Sky, a commercial real estate development company based in Atlanta. Farver, who lives in Washington, DC, is senior managing director with Somera Capital Management, a real estate investment firm. Griffin is owner and president of Griffin Realty & Construction in Asheville. The hotel, Zelda Dearest, is part of Hatteras Sky's F. Scott and Zeld Fitzgerald Estate hotel portfolio. Portnoy and Farver also are part of the ownership and development team that redeveloped a 1920s warehouse in Asheville's River Arts District into The Radical hotel.

Annie Reuben ('06, JD '11) was promoted to shareholder in law firm Littler Mendelson PC in Seattle. She represents employers and companies in trade secret and noncompete litigation.

2007

Vince Drader ('07) is director of communications and development for Casey Trees, an urban forestry nonprofit that restores, enhances and protects the tree canopy of Washington, DC, known as the "City of Trees." *More at bit.ly/VinceDraderTrees*

2008

Ben Hunter ('08) was named chief medical officer of Skyland Trail, a nonprofit mental health treatment organization in Atlanta. He completed his medical training at Emory University School of Medicine and joined Skyland Trail in 2017. He is a Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and treasurer and president-elect of the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association.

William H. Parrish V ('08, MSM '10) was named vice president of corporate development & treasury at healthcare logistics company Owens & Minor Inc. He lives in Richmond, VA, with his wife, **Alison Boy Parrish ('10)**, and their two children.

Heidi Urness ('08) was named to the 2023-24 edition of the Global Top 200 Cannabis Lawyers by the Cannabis Law Report & Cannabis Law Journal. She is a member in McGlinchey Stafford's Seattle office and co-chair of the cannabis practice group.

2009

Charles E. Gibson III ('09) was named chief diversity officer and director, Office of Diversity, Identity, Culture & Inclusion at Randolph College in Lynchburg, VA.

Andrew Richardson Karr ('09) was named a vice president in Gartner consulting firm's human resources research and advisory practice. He and his wife, Sarah Fuller, live in Washington, DC.

Ashleigh Parker ('09) received the 2023 Chief Justice's Professionalism Award from North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul Newby. She is a district court judge in Judicial District 10, which encompasses Wake County. She is the lead child support judge in Wake County and one of two abuse, neglect and dependency judges.

Katie Pierucci (MSM '09) was named partner at law firm Eisner LLP in Los Angeles. Her practice focuses on commercial litigation, with an emphasis on entertainment disputes. She earned her law degree from the University of California, Irvine School of Law.

Sarah Walker ('09) was named global chief operating officer of Slack at Salesforce after four years as the founder and general manager of Salesforce's global private equity practice. She relocated from London to Washington, DC.

2010

David Sage ('10) was named a managing director in the global markets and banking division of Goldman Sachs in Seattle. He joined Goldman Sachs after graduating from Wake Forest and has worked in the New York, Sydney and Seattle offices. He and his wife, **Morgan Clark Sage ('10)**, have two young sons.

Jerri Simmons (JD '10) received the 2023 Distinguished Leader in Diversity and Inclusion Award from Cranfill Sumner LLP, where she is a partner in the Charlotte office. She was named to the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for workers' compensation law (employers) and to the 2024 North Carolina Super Lawyers list of Rising Stars for workers' compensation.

**Garnett**
(MDiv '12)**Rigsby**
(JD '12)**Smith**
(MSA '12)**Mannankara-Cabrera**
(13)**Murray**
(13)**Adams**
(JD '15)**Gibson**
(JD '15)**Hodson**
(MFA '15)

2011

Jason Benetti (JD '11) was named the television play-by-play announcer for the Detroit Tigers. He was the television play-by-play announcer for the Chicago White Sox. He also announces college football and basketball games and NFL and MLB games.

Marc Benjamin Langston (JD '11) released "Dupont Investigations," an audio drama that Washingtonian magazine ranked as a top podcast series to listen to on holiday travels. The plot follows a pair of private detectives as they investigate the suspicious death of a tobacco baron's heir in a fictitious North Carolina city, a veiled homage to Winston-Salem and the R.J. Reynolds tobacco empire. **Kenneth Patterson ('78, JD '81)** provides the voice of the tobacco baron.

Calais Zagarow Schroeder ('11) wrote "A Life in Between," a memoir about her sister's four-year cancer battle, which began just a few months after Schroeder's graduation from Wake Forest. The book shares Schroeder's experience of loving, losing and grieving.

2012

Stephen Bell (JD '12) was named a Rising Star in business litigation in the 2024 edition of North Carolina Super Lawyers. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner in Wilmington, NC.

Andrew Garnett (MDiv '12) wrote "Christians & the Roman Army: Lessons for Today." He is pastor of Hampton Baptist Church in Hampton, VA.

Marc Rigsby (JD '12) was promoted to member in the national law firm Bass, Berry & Sims in Nashville, TN. He focuses his practice on health-care transactions.

Ryan Smith (MSA '12) joined CapinCrouse LLP, a national CPA and consulting firm that exclusively serves nonprofits, as partner. He leads the firm's growing healthcare industry practice.

Winslow Taylor ('12) was named to Business North Carolina magazine's 2024 Legal Elite list in litigation. He practices with his father, **Dan Taylor (JD '76, P '12, '15)**, at Taylor & Taylor Attorneys at Law PLLC in Winston-Salem.

2013

Chris Hewitt (JD '13) was promoted to partner at Womble Bond Dickinson LLP, where he practices in the firm's Charlotte and Winston-Salem offices. He is a private wealth and tax-exempt lawyer, focusing on generational wealth transfer planning, trust and estate administration and tax-exempt planning.

Ruby D. Mannankara-Cabrera ('13) graduated from Baylor University with a Doctor of Education degree in learning and organizational change. She and her husband, **Josh Cabrera ('13)**, live in Boerne, TX.

Caroline Murray ('13) was promoted to vice president of SMB (small- and medium-sized business) payments at Daxko, a software company that provides integrated technology and services to the fitness business industry. She lives in Golden, CO.

2014

Linda E. Boss (JD '14) was promoted to partner at global law firm Mayer Brown. She practices banking and finance law in the firm's Charlotte office.

John "Jordan" Tippett (MBA '14) was named chief operating officer for Corinthian Foods, a wholesale food distributor based in St. Simons Island, GA. He and his wife, Katie Tippett, have four young children.

2015

Joshua "Josh" Adams (JD '15) was promoted to principal in the Charlotte office of employment law firm Jackson Lewis PC. He focuses on collective/class action wage and hour litigation and complex, single-plaintiff wage disputes.

Robert Daniel Gibson (JD '15) joined Davis Hartman Wright LLP as a partner in the firm's appeals and civil litigation practice groups. He lives in Durham, NC.

Diane Hodson (MFA '15) was story editor of "Think Twice: Michael Jackson," an audio docu-series that investigates the life and influence of the "King of Pop." The New Yorker named it the best podcast of 2023, and The New York Times included it on the list of Best Podcasts of 2023.

Alexis M. Iffert (JD '15) was promoted to shareholder at Robinson Bradshaw in Charlotte. Her practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, employment and labor issues, health care and general corporate law.

Andrew R. Parrish (JD '15) was elected partner at McGuireWoods LLP in Charlotte. He specializes in debt financing and sports financing.

Brinson Taylor (JD/MBA '15) was named to Business North Carolina magazine's 2024 Legal Elite list in real estate. He practices with Longleaf Law Partners in Raleigh.

Alex Telarik (JD '15) joined GableGotwals as of counsel in the law firm's Tulsa, OK, office. He advises clients in complex commercial litigation, oil and gas matters and appellate law.

2016

Abrea Armstrong (MSM '16) was named executive director of Triad Cultural Arts in Winston-Salem. The nonprofit multidisciplinary organization raises awareness of Black history and culture through festivals, heritage tours, arts programming and special events. Armstrong is a Winston-Salem native and has more than a decade of business, marketing and philanthropic experience. She is a former president of the Winston-Salem Urban League Young Professionals.

Alan H. Bowie Jr. (JD '16) joined Simon & Schuster as senior legal counsel. Previously he was senior legal counsel for a global consumer products manufacturing company and a litigator and advisor for a Connecticut law firm. He lives in New Haven, CT.

Taylor Ey (JD '16) was promoted to partner at Womble Bond Dickinson LLP, where she practices in the firm's Research Triangle Park office in North Carolina. She focuses on data privacy and data security issues and commercial transactions involving technology, software and related intellectual property.

Lauren Formica ('16, MSBA '18) earned a master's in public health from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She was named a 2024 Emerging Leader in Biosecurity Fellow through the Johns Hopkins' Center for Health Security. Formica is a strategy senior consultant at Deloitte.



Parrish
(JD '15)



Armstrong
(MSM '16)



Bowie
(JD '16)



Shan
('17)



Cure
(MBA '19)



Brazier
('20, MSBA '21)



Jester
(JD '20)



Strelzer
('20)

Shawn Mihill (JD '16) joined real estate software company Yardi Systems Inc. as corporate counsel in the Boston office. He and his wife, **Vini Sharma Mihill ('10, MSL '16)**, and their young daughter live in New England.

Hailey Hershberger Rutledge ('16) starred in "Silent Night, Fatal Night," a mystery thriller on Lifetime Movie Network. She is also a recurring character on INSP's "The Tall Tales of Jim Bridger," a TV show set on the western frontier. She and her husband, **Blake Rutledge ('16)**, live in Pasadena, CA.

2017

Branden Cook ('17) starred in "Masters of the Air," a World War II series produced by Steven Spielberg, Tom Hanks and Gary Goetzman on Apple TV+. Cook graduated from the London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art in 2019.

Meghan Holland (JD '17) was promoted to deputy general counsel for the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. She joined the committee in 2022 as senior counsel.

Nicholas A. Presentato (JD '17) joined Brinkley Walser Stoner PLLC in Lexington, NC, as an associate attorney. His practice focuses on family law, business and corporate law and general civil litigation.

JiaJun Shan ('17) joined Certilman Balin Adler & Hyman LLP, in Long Island, NY, as an associate in the corporate/securities group. He previously founded SmarTech Consulting LLC and Winner Enterprise Inc. He earned his law degree from Hofstra University. He lives in Woodmere, NY.

2018

Alex de la Torre (JD '18) has summited the highest point of every state in the continental United States. He climbed Gannett Peak in Wyoming in August to complete the goal and was listed as a "48 Finisher" by the Highpointers Club. He hopes to climb Denali in Alaska in the next five years. When not climbing mountains, he practices law in King, NC.

Sarah Mulloy ('18) earned a PhD in neuroscience from the University of Minnesota. She studied the neurobiological mechanisms underlying alcohol use disorder.

2019

Taylor York Cure (MBA '19) was promoted to senior vice president at Bank of America in Charlotte.

2020

Callum Brazier ('20, MSBA '21) was promoted to strategy insights and planning associate consultant at ZS Associates, a global management consulting and technology firm. He lives in New York.

John N. Hutson III (JD '20) joined Young Moore as an associate on the law firm's business and estates team. He focuses on estate and fiduciary litigation, occupational licensing boards and administrative law. After earning his law degree, he was a clerk to **Judge Richard Dietz (JD '02)**, then on the North Carolina Court of Appeals.

Phillip Jester (JD '20) joined Fox Rothschild in the Charlotte office as an associate in the taxation & wealth planning department.

Samantha Strelzer ('20) earned her Master of Public Health from Emory University Rollins School of Public Health in 2023. Last summer, she published research that she conducted as a student at Wake Forest. She is a student at Quinnipiac University Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine in North Haven, CT.

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AND CHANGE MAKERS
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Cabiness
(‘21)



Hamilton
(JD/MA ‘22)

2021

Parker Cabiness (‘21) joined Wake Forest’s undergraduate admissions office as an admissions counselor. He lives in the Winston-Salem area.

Lilli Cooper (‘21) was promoted to vice president of U.S. sales at Picturae Inc., a leader in digitizing and preserving culturally significant historical collections. She lives in Washington, DC.

Tiayé Wooten (‘21) is an analyst in the U.S. Government Accountability Office. He lives in the Washington, DC, area.

2022

Samantha E. Hamilton (JD/MA ‘22) joined Davis Hartman Wright LLP in New Bern, NC, as an associate in the firm’s environmental practice. She was sworn in to practice in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

Chris Lewis (‘22, MSA ‘23) returned to Wake Forest as the baseball team’s director of data analytics. He developed the role as a student and continued through the team’s run to the Men’s College World Series in 2023.

Ashley Julianne Williams (JD ‘22) joined Smith Anderson in the law firm’s banking and finance practice group in Raleigh. Previously, she was assistant vice president in the general counsel’s office at Credit Suisse.

Marriages

Alice Bracey (‘75) and John H. Hodges Jr. (‘75), 10/21/23 in Raleigh, where they live.

Patrick R. Murphy (‘99) and Nicole Kern, 10/07/23 in Greenville, DE. They live in Wilmington, DE. The wedding party included Jeffrey A. Vanderslice (‘97).

James LaRonde (‘08) and Alexander Tulowiecki (‘14), 10/14/23 in Spokane, WA. They live in Burlingame, CA. The wedding party included Megan Bute (‘07), Mike Christatos (‘08, MSM ‘10), Taylor Kitz (‘08), Erik Risendal (‘08), Carrie Stephens (‘08), Chris Wood (‘08, JD ‘12), Paige Horton Iglesia (‘14), Akina Anand (‘15), Deepthi Menon (MBA ‘16) and Sajant Anand (‘18).

Zachary Kenneth Dunn (JD ‘15) and Emily Catherine Jeske (JD ‘17), 3/4/23 in Winston-Salem. They live in Raleigh. The wedding party included Davis Phillips (JD ‘15) and Kendra Stark (JD ‘17). The bride is the daughter of Michael Jeske (‘81).

Austin Allee (‘16) and Katelyn Solari (‘16), 10/7/23 in Wayne, PA. They live in New York. The wedding party included Tanner Brusko (‘16), Jake Cunningham (‘16), Hannah Dabagian (‘16), Madison Hamblett Dillon (‘16), Nicole Gaziano Glover (‘16), Alyssa Norton O’Mara (‘16), Wilson Powell (‘16), Annie Hull Yarborough (‘16) and Bryan Allen (‘17).

Adam Richardson (‘16) and Greta Hiestand, 9/30/23 in Richmond, VA, where they live. The wedding party included Scott Richardson (‘13), Jack Hickman (‘16), Thomas Keshian (‘16) and Andrew Ward (‘16).

Joseph Max Domo (‘17) and Sara Elizabeth Greene (‘17), 9/15/23 in New Canaan, CT. They live in New York. The wedding party included Tucker Bartholomew (‘17), Frances Blanchard (‘17), Jack Dobrich (‘17), Preston Hill (‘17), Caroline Keller (‘17), Anne-Levert Lederer (‘17), Annie Wheat Morgan (‘17, MSM ‘18), Allison Koscielniak Musselman (‘17), Sam Sabin (‘17), Catherine Simon (‘17), Donald Templeman (‘17), Dan Tomany (‘17) and Christopher Greene (‘21).

Katherine “Katie” Nelson (‘18) and Robert “Robby” Shavel (‘18), 10/14/23 in Greenwich, CT. They live in New York.

Shawna M. Abbatiello (JD ‘19) and Jordan A. Castroverde (JD ‘20), 10/28/23 in Winston-Salem. They live in Jacksonville, FL. The wedding party included Kelsey Hyde (JD ‘18) and Jaclyn Malmel (JD ‘19).

Jake Charles Mueller (‘19, MSM ‘20) and Jessica Joy Clifford (‘20), 12/2/2023 in Charlotte, where they live. The wedding party included John McCarren (‘17), Drew Loepprich (‘18), Drew Freedman (‘18), Bella Lin (‘19), Cody Baumann (MSM ‘20) and Mary Catherine Coltrane (‘20).

James Frederick “Eric” Davis IV (‘20) and Audrey Beaussart, 6/17/23 in Charlotte, where they live. The wedding party included Spyros Skouras III (‘10, MBA ‘16), Hope Davis Skouras (‘12), Jake Fowler (‘19) and Reid Huckabee (‘19). The groom is the son of Rick Davis (‘79, MBA ‘84).

Maren MacPhail Morris (‘20) and Hugo Hernandez Villagra (‘21), 10/21/23 in Winston-Salem. They live in Williamsburg, VA. The wedding party included Alex Ross (‘20). University Chaplain Tim Auman officiated. The bride is the daughter of Andrea Herring Morris (‘87) and William Castlen Morris Jr. (‘88) and the granddaughter of Jean Hurst Herring (‘57) and Dan Herring (‘59, JD ‘62).

Births

Patrick Jonathan Walsh (‘05) and Christina Lynne Walsh, Damascus, MD: a daughter, Felicity

Maeve Walsh. 12/18/23. She joined her brother, James (7), and sister, Margaret (4).

Brenton Christopher Hartman (‘06) and Stephanie Jean Fridley Hartman, Gastonia, NC: a son, John “Jack” Dalton Stephenson Hartman. 3/30/23. He joined his brother, Samuel (3).

Kate Landis Bashore (‘07) and Efren Caballes Jr., Lafayette, CO: a daughter, Cora Landis Caballes. 9/14/23. She joined her brother, Logan (3).

Byron James Wyche (‘07, MSA ‘08) and Madison Kerry Benedict Wyche (JD ‘16), Austin, TX: a daughter, Kerry Clayton Wyche. 11/2/23

Christine Holcombe Budasoff (‘08) and Natalio Daniel Budasoff (‘08), Chester, MD: a son, Landon Raphael Budasoff. 2/7/24. He joined his sister, Riley (10), and brothers, David (8), Sidney (6) and Hillel (2).

Ashley Marie Jones Newcomb (‘08, MSA ‘09) and Nicholas Scott Newcomb (‘08), Charlotte: a son, Alexander Scott Newcomb. 11/2/23. He joined his sisters, Natalie (5) and Danielle (3).

Katie Miller Frost (‘10) and Dylan Frost, Alexandria, VA: a daughter, Molly Michelle Frost. 1/12/24. She joined her brother, Henry (3). She is the granddaughter of Bill Miller (‘79).

Meredith Lisle Goebel (‘10) and Michael Goebel (‘10), Cincinnati: a daughter, Morgan Lynn Goebel. 12/26/23. She joined her sister, Lillian (5), and brother, Lincoln (2).

Michael Blair Crouse (‘10, MS ‘12) and Ashley Snead Crouse (‘11), Seattle: a daughter, Palmer Jean Crouse. 3/1/24. She joined her sister, Collins (2). She is the granddaughter of Kathy McMurtry Snead (‘76).

Grant Emerson Moraven (‘10) and Marcy Pomeroy Moraven (‘11), Brooklyn, NY: a son, Winston Grant Moraven. 2/3/24

Courtlyn Reeves (‘11) and Sarah Reeves, Charlotte: a son, Callahan Marin Reeves. 1/9/24. He joined his sister, Hadley Calais (5).

Emily Lutz Sanfelippo (‘11) and Jonathon “Jon” Michael Sanfelippo, San Antonio: a daughter, Anne Marie Sanfelippo. She joined her brother, Charlie (3).

Charles Alexander “Alex” Dann (‘12) and Lauren Hojnacki Dann (‘12), Charlotte: a daughter, Harper Olivia Dann. 10/31/23. She joined her sister, Madeline (2).

Ansley Byers Tallant (‘14) and Rob Tallant, Advance, NC: a daughter, Sarah Katherine Tallant. 12/25/23. She joined her brother, Brooks (4).

Lacey Worsham Jamison (‘17) and Matt Jamison (‘17, MD ‘22), Charleston, SC: a son, Jack Thomas Jamison. 1/4/24. He is the grandson of Jim Jamison (MD ‘90) and the nephew of Kellyn Jamison (‘21).

Cameron Blake Silverglate ('17) and **Sarah "Allie" Neal Silverglate ('18)**, Fort Thomas, KY: a son, Samuel Hawthorne Silverglate. 7/4/23. He joined his sister, Lillian (2).

Deaths

Emmett Wesley Richardson ('46), Nov. 25, 2022, Riverside, CA.

Frank T. Shafer ('47, MD '51), Dec. 4, 2023, Salisbury, NC. He was a physician in the U.S. Army and practiced medicine in Rowan County for more than 50 years. He was preceded in death by his brother, **Irving Shafer Jr. ('45)**.

Dorothy Freeman Clayton ('48), Dec. 16, 2023, Wilmington, NC. She worked for Cameron Brown Co. and its successors in Raleigh.

Ann Elizabeth Lominac Kanoy ('48), March 11, 2024, Durham, NC. She assisted her late husband, **Burrell Edmond Kanoy Sr. ('49)**, in his dental practice. Survivors include son **Kenneth Kanoy ('79)**.

Keith Gordon Lay ('48), Feb. 15, 2024, Tabor City, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and taught high school biology.

John Tumblin ('48), Nov. 8, 2023, Burlington, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy. He was a college professor for 40 years and retired from Agnes Scott College. Survivors include his wife, **Alice Puryear Tumblin ('49)**.

Rufus M. Fisher ('49), Aug. 11, 2023, Arden, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He worked in the social work department at the VA hospital in Oteen, NC.

John Dalton Phillips Sr. ('49), Dec. 4, 2023, Raleigh. He was ad manager for The State Magazine (now Our State). He was a founding member of the Travel Council of North Carolina and was awarded the Charles J. Parker Award for his contributions to the travel industry. Survivors include grandson **John Winslow ('13, MSM '14)**. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

Calvin Edison Powers ('49), Oct. 22, 2022, Bennett, NC. He was an associate superintendent of schools and retired after 37 years in education.

Marshall "Burns" Willis ('50), Feb. 17, 2024, Thomasville, GA. He was a United Methodist pastor in Georgia and Texas. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Rose Bullard Willis ('51)**.

F. Eugene Hester ('51), Jan. 15, 2024, Wendell, NC. He was associate director of the National

Park Service and deputy director of the National Biological Service before retiring from the U.S. Department of the Interior after 33 years. He was a member of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation's Conservation Hall of Fame.

Rebecca "Becky" Futrell Greene Markham ('51), Sept. 20, 2022, Vass, NC. She was the retired owner and operator of Futrell Brothers Lumber Co. in Vass. Survivors include daughter **Sandy Greene Patterson ('74, JD '77)** and granddaughter **Nicole Patterson Smiley ('03)**.

Cecil Lee Porter (JD '51), Feb. 7, 2023, Wilkesboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and in Korea. He was an attorney.

William James "Billy" Wiggs ('51), Jan. 5, 2024, Fayetteville, NC. He was a member of the track team, Monogram Club, symphony orchestra and band and Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity at Wake Forest. He was a dentist in Fayetteville for 43 years.

Oscar Edmond "Mick" Bergendahl Jr. ('52), Dec. 15, 2023, Erwin, TN. He was CEO of the YMCA in Toledo, OH, before retiring and opening Happy Hour Clock Shop in Johnson City, TN.

John Howard Dixon ('52), Feb. 5, 2024, Charlotte. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and was a dentist for more than 40 years.



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The way we honor *Pro Humanitate* is unique to each of us, yet it will forever include all of us.

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OurMottoMeansMore.com.

Earl Ray Parker ('52), Nov. 6, 2023, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was a principal in Winston-Salem area high schools for 31 years. He was preceded in death by his first wife, **Neta Lee Parker ('53)**, and his second wife, **Mary Kirby Parker ('65)**. Survivors include daughter **Elizabeth Rae Parker Horton (MDiv '02)**.

Peggy McDaniel Richardson ('52), Oct. 29, 2022, Dudley, NC.

Doris Clemmer Spivey ('52), Feb. 3, 2024, Gastonia, NC. She was a retired biology teacher.

Martha Whitehead Wilson ('52), Dec. 26, 2023, Lenoir, NC. She was a church and community volunteer. Survivors include her husband, **Hugh Mal Wilson ('51, JD '56)**, daughters **Karen Wilson ('82, JD '85)** and **Lynne Wilson Chambers ('84)**, son **Robert Wilson ('87, MBA '91)** and grandchildren **Michael Chambers ('13)** and **Alison Chambers ('17, MDM '23)**.

Wayland Lawrence Jenkins Jr. ('53), March 2, 2024, West Palm Beach, FL. At Wake Forest, he was a member of Sigma Pi fraternity and a columnist for the Old Gold & Black. He served in the U.S. Army. He and his brother formed Jenkins Investments. Chowan University named the school's fine arts center in his honor.

Grady Parker McKeithan ('53), June 23, 2022, Fayetteville, NC.

Peggy Ann West Scroggs ('53), Nov. 24, 2023, Elon, NC. She was a teacher for 40 years.

Harold Neal Wilson ('53), March 8, 2024, Danville, VA. He worked at Goodyear for more than three decades.

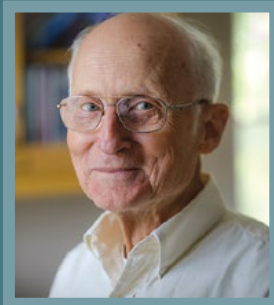
Leslie E. Browder (JD '54), Jan. 6, 2024, Holly Springs, NC. He was an attorney for 68 years, including 50 years at Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice in Winston-Salem, where he was a partner. At Wake Forest, he was general counsel and an adjunct professor in the School of Law. Survivors include son **Chris Browder (MBA '86)**.

Jack Franklin Coffey Sr. ('54), Dec. 4, 2023, Raleigh. He was pastor emeritus of New Hope Baptist Church in Raleigh. He received The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest award for service. Survivors include daughter **Sarah Catherine "Cathy" Coffey Bolen ('84)** and son **Jack F. "Chip" Coffey Jr. ('83)**.

Charles Howard Duckett ('54, MD '57), Dec. 25, 2023, Winston-Salem. He served as a medical officer in the U.S. Air Force. He was a physician and professor emeritus in the Family Medicine Residency program at East Carolina University. He helped establish the Family Medicine Residency program at Wake Forest University School of Medicine and received the school's Distinguished Alumni Award. He also received The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest award for service. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society; he and his wife established the Charles H. and Carolyn

GEORGE M. HOLZWARTH

Professor Emeritus of Physics



George Holzwarth, who taught physics for two decades at Wake Forest, died March 13, 2024, in Winston-Salem. He was 86.

Holzwarth joined the faculty in 1983 and retired in 2004. "George greatly enjoyed teaching his undergraduate and graduate students, and especially prized opportunities to help young scientists publish their first papers and present their first posters," said his wife, Wake Forest Professor of Physics Natalie Holzwarth.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two children, Edward Holzwarth and Clara Holzwarth Cahill, and three grandchildren.

A native of Düsseldorf, Germany, Holzwarth and his family emigrated to the United States in 1939 and settled in New Jersey. He graduated from Wesleyan University and earned his doctorate in biophysics from Harvard University. He previously taught at the University of Chicago before coming to Wake Forest.

Holzwarth worked with physics colleague Howard Shields to expand the University's biophysics program. He continued collaborating with colleagues and students after retiring. He finished revising and resubmitted his last journal article with colleagues just before his death.

"George was a role model for me when I arrived at Wake Forest in 1996," said Dany Kim-Shapiro, professor and chair of physics and Harbert Family Distinguished Chair for Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship. "He showed me how to balance teaching and research. He was happiest in the lab performing an experiment with students or tinkering with a novel instrument he was developing."

G. Duckett Family Fund. Survivors include son **Ralph "Chip" H. Duckett (MD '86)**, daughter **Deborah Duckett Strickland ('78)** and grandson **Charles Duckett (MBA '20)**.

Hervy B. Kornegay Sr. ('54, MD '57), Feb. 15, 2024, Calypso, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He practiced family medicine and was a past president of the North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians. He was also a clinical professor of family medicine at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University. He received The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest award for service.

Lena Laws Little ('54), Jan. 4, 2024, Thomasville, NC. She was an elementary school teacher for 24 years.

William R. Savage ('54), Feb. 6, 2024, Canton, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was an elementary and junior high school principal. Survivors include his wife, **Marian Cabe Savage ('54)**.

Tillman Byrd Smith ('54), Dec. 7, 2023, Kenly, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and worked at Raytheon Technologies.

Franklin Reynolds Adams ('55), Jan. 24, 2024, Altavista, VA. He was a member of the 1955 Wake Forest baseball team that won the National Championship. He served in the U.S. Army and was assistant treasurer of The Lane Co. Inc.

Sara Minta McIntyre Bahner ('55), Oct. 28, 2023, Signal Mountain, TN. She worked for Signal Mountain Social Services. She was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

Tommie Lee Canipe ('55, MD '59), Jan. 14, 2024, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army and was a general and thoracic surgeon. Survivors include daughter **Allison Canipe Roehrenbeck ('00)**.

James "Jimmy" Thomas Johnson ('55), June 28, 2022, Wrightsville Beach, NC. He was in Kappa Sigma fraternity at Wake Forest and was a medic during the Korean War. He worked at the U.S. Department of Agriculture for 25 years.

Gerald Dodson Mathias ('55), Nov. 27, 2023, Davidson, NC. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard and retired from First Union National Bank.

Jim Mims ('55), Dec. 6, 2023, High Point, NC. He retired as chair and CEO of Triad Bank.

Berkley "Buck" Lamont Rish ('55, MD '58), Dec. 27, 2023, Lexington, SC. He was a flight surgeon in the U.S. Navy. He practiced neurosurgery and was a professor of clinical neurosurgery at Eastern Virginia Medical School.

Donald Claybourne Roberts ('55, MD '59), Feb. 28, 2024, Anderson, SC. He served in the U.S. Army and was a cardiothoracic surgeon. Survivors include son **Mark Roberts ('81)**.

Kenneth Mack Smith ('55), March 17, 2024, Greensboro, NC. At Wake Forest, he was a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity and served in ROTC. He served in the U.S. Army and the U.S. Army Reserve and retired as a lieutenant colonel after 30 years. He spent 19 years with Burlington Industries before leaving to start his own textile company. Survivors include son **Kenneth Mack Smith Jr. (MBA '91)**.

Gregg Winn Pappendick Sullivan ('55), Feb. 20, 2024, Burlington, NC. She worked at the Wesley Center at UNC-Chapel Hill and co-taught leadership classes with her husband, John Sullivan, at Elon University. She was preceded in death by her first husband, **George D. Pappendick ('55)**.

Jacquelyn Bunch White ('55), Nov. 6, 2023, Elizabeth City, NC. She worked for Cigna Healthcare.

Bobby Gene Bridges ('56), March 3, 2024, Shelby, NC. He was a retired engineer and owner, with his wife, of a florist shop in Shelby.

James Franklin Elam Jr. ('56), March 2, 2024, Black Mountain, NC. He served in the U.S. Army.

John Hatcher Jr. ('56), Jan. 3, 2024, Cary, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and in the North Carolina National Guard. He was a retired commercial real estate broker and banking executive. Survivors include his wife, **Blair Tucker Hatcher ('55)**, and daughter **Candy Hatcher Gregor ('81)**.

T. Ruffin Johnson Jr. ('56), Dec. 30, 2023, Smithfield, NC. He was in ROTC and Kappa Sigma fraternity at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Army and operated an insurance agency.

Portia Vann Mitchell Newman ('56), Nov. 27, 2023, Fuquay-Varina, NC. She worked for Camp Seagull for 14 years.

Jimmy Truett Harris ('57), Dec. 16, 2023, Greenville, NC. He worked in contract sales at Lowe's Home Improvement and Garris Evans Lumber Co.

Malcolm "Bruce" Nunnally ('57), March 13, 2024, Henrico, VA. He played football at Wake Forest and owned a business, Quality Meats.

R. Paul Caudill Jr. ('58), Dec. 1, 2023, Jackson, TN. He served in the U.S. Navy, retiring as command surgeon with the rank of rear admiral. He was vice president of medical affairs and medical director at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital.

James Roba Fowler Jr. ('58), Jan. 2, 2024, Raleigh. He served in the U.S. Army and worked for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for 30 years.

Paul Martin Kelly ('58), Jan. 23, 2023, Sanford, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force, writing and arranging music for the Airmen of Note jazz ensemble. He was band director at Sanford Central High School and a general contractor for 40 years.

Barbara Ann Howell Loftin ('58), Nov. 18, 2023, Asheville, NC. She was a teacher. Survivors include son **Jeff Loftin ('82)**.

Jack Lewis Powell ('58), Dec. 31, 2023, McLean, VA. He served in the U.S. Army and founded a temporary personnel services company.

Ray William Benfield ('59), Dec. 10, 2023, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard. He was founding pastor of Peace Haven Baptist Church in Winston-Salem when he was a student,

and he went on to be a minister at several other churches. He and his wife, Evelyn, were missionaries in Austria, Greece and Denmark. Survivors include sons **Kamron Benfield (PA '81, MALS '12)** and Kent Benfield.

Ronald Phillips Stone ('59), Dec. 10, 2023, Charlotte. He was a salesperson at Georgia Boot.

Cornelia Jane Huskins Garbee ('60), Dec. 14, 2023, Asheville, NC. She volunteered at Mission Hospital and with a group feeding homeless people. Survivors include her husband, **Henry Wesley Garbee Sr. (MD '67)**, son **Henry Wesley Garbee Jr. ('91)**, daughter **Joanna Garbee Brumsey ('93)** and son-in-law **Bill Brumsey ('92, JD '99)**.

Wayne Alden Johnson ('60, MD '63), Jan. 6, 2024, Schertz, TX. He served in the U.S. Air Force, including as a chief flight surgeon and director of medical services at Columbus (MS) Air Force Base, and received the Air Force Commendation Medal.

STANLEY W. MANDEL

Associate Professor Emeritus of Business



Stan Mandel, who built the entrepreneurship program into one of the best in the country during his 20 years at the School of Business, died Dec. 24, 2023, in Louisville, Colorado. He was 81. He is survived by his wife, Patti Mandel, children Stacey Mandel and Marc Mandel, and two grandchildren.

Mandel taught undergraduate and graduate students from 1998 until retiring in 2018 and was the founding director of what was then the Angell Center for Entrepreneurship. He received several national awards for his

work, and the entrepreneurship program regularly ranked among the top programs in the country. At one point, 90% of MBA students took an entrepreneurship elective course.

He also created the Wake Forest Elevator Competition, which, for more than a decade, brought in student entrepreneurs from across the nation and other countries to pitch their business ideas to venture capitalists during short elevator rides.

Mandel was a native of San Antonio, Texas, and a U.S. Army veteran. After working at Texas Instruments and Ernst & Young, he joined his father-in-law running a one-priced clothing chain that grew to 15 stores in Texas. He was in his 50s when he earned his Ph.D. in business at Texas Tech University. He started his teaching career at the University of South Dakota.

The hardest part of teaching entrepreneurship is the "front end and the back end," he once said. "It's not too hard to teach planning and finance, but it is hard to teach a person to recognize an opportunity and to have the heart to see it through. But if it were easy, we wouldn't hold entrepreneurs in the high regard we do."

Clarence "Richard" Tate Jr. ('60, JD '62), Dec. 2, 2023, High Point, NC. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was a trial attorney in High Point and Guilford County (NC) for more than 50 years. He was chair of the Guilford County Board of Elections and president of the High Point Bar Association. Survivors include daughters **Sarah Tate Warren ('84)** and **Beth Tate Hondros (JD '93)**.

George Manley Bell II ('61, JD '66), March 13, 2024, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserve. He was a retired attorney with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. He was preceded in death by his brother, **Berdon M. Bell Jr. ('56)**.

Joe Swicegood Byerly ('61), Dec. 27, 2023, Greensboro, NC. He was a founding member of the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts in Old Salem and owner of Byerly's Antiques in Greensboro.

Judy Parker Ballance Edwards ('61), Feb. 11, 2024, Beaufort, SC. She was a teacher. Survivors include daughter **Anne Parker Ballance ('85)** and granddaughter **Walker Newman**, a junior at Wake Forest.

Jo Ellen Brooks Godfrey ('61), Jan. 31, 2024, High Point, NC. She was a physical education teacher.

Nancy Sue Spry McNally ('61), Feb. 6, 2024, Pinehurst, NC. She was a middle school teacher and a small-business lender.

Norm Snead ('61), Jan. 14, 2024, Naples, FL. He was an All-ACC and All-American quarterback at Wake Forest and set more than a dozen ACC records. He was the second overall pick in the 1961 NFL Draft by Washington. He played in the NFL for 16 years and was a four-time Pro Bowl selection. He was a past member of the College Board of Visitors and was inducted into the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame in 1977.

James "Jim" Raymond Vaughn ('61), Feb. 7, 2024, Greenville, SC. He retired from The Lubrizol Corp.

Charles Walter Brewer III ('62), March 11, 2024, Edisto Island, SC. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and retired as a textile executive.

David Mikell Chiles ('62), Nov. 15, 2023, Jamestown, NC. He worked in the apparel industry for more than 50 years and was vice president of the Men's Apparel Club of the Carolinas Inc.

Samuel Jerome "Jerry" Crow (JD '62), Nov. 6, 2023, Asheville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army in the Judge Advocate General's Corps and was a lawyer in Asheville. Survivors include son **Sam Crow Jr. ('87)**.

Paul B. Nickens Jr. ('62), Aug. 10, 2023, Spotsylvania, VA. He worked for the U.S. Army and the Department of Defense.

William "Bill" Leslie Ruby ('62), Nov. 22, 2023, Charlotte. He played football and was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity at Wake Forest. He played football professionally for Washington and

served in the U.S. Army in Korea and the Dominican Republic. He retired from Duke Power Co.

Michael Vick Starling ('62), Feb. 21, 2024, Charlotte. He was president of Kappa Sigma fraternity, a cadet leader in ROTC and a member of the National Society of Scabbard and Blade at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Army and was executive vice president and COO of Mary Washington Healthcare in Fredericksburg, VA. Survivors include his wife, **Rebecca Stone Starling ('65)**. He was preceded in death by his brother, **William G. Starling ('57)**, director of admissions at Wake Forest for more than four decades.

Gilmer Warren Blackburn ('63, MA '68), Feb. 10, 2024, Wise, VA. He served in the U.S. Navy. He was former vice president and dean of academic affairs at Gardner-Webb University and retired as provost and senior vice chancellor from The University of Virginia's College at Wise. Survivors include his wife, **Martha Burke Blackburn ('63)**.

James Randolph Elrod Sr. ('63), Dec. 3, 2023, Luray, VA. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a staff sergeant and in the U.S. Army as a chaplain with the rank of captain. He was an ordained minister.

Joseph Milton Higdon ('63), Dec. 9, 2023, Bainbridge, GA. He was in ROTC at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Army. He was president of Stone's Inc.

David Vernon Liner ('63, JD '69), Dec. 9, 2023, Advance, NC. He was a retired lawyer.

Judith Raine Crumpler Lyon ('63), Jan. 18, 2024, Morehead City, NC. She retired as a helicopter mechanic at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point.

Bobby Reginald Miller ('63), Dec. 5, 2023, Charlotte. He was senior vice president of Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity at Wake Forest. He was in human resources with the Celanese Corp. and was chair of the Charlotte Urban League.

Leon Harrell "Pete" Smoak ('63), Jan. 8, 2024, St. Augustine, FL. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He taught and coached football, baseball and basketball at Gates County High School (NC).

George Johnston III ('64), Nov. 11, 2023, Mountain Brook, AL. He served in the U.S. Army and worked in broadcasting and the printing business.

Tamra Stout Steffen ('64), Oct. 6, 2023, Cary, NC. She was a member of the Fideles Society at Wake Forest and worked at the National Science Foundation, AC Nielsen and Nationwide Insurance. Survivors include her husband, **Eugene Steffen ('63, JD '65)**.

Richard Allen Taylor ('64, MD '69), Feb. 27, 2024, Monroe, NC. He was a pediatrician.

Thomas Farmer Taylor ('64), March 7, 2024, Mount Pleasant, SC. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard. He was the first recipient of the Arnold Palmer golf scholarship at Wake Forest. He retired from Atotech chemicals company and Chrome Deposit Corp.

Samuel Baggett McLamb Jr. ('65, MD '75), Jan. 30, 2024, Kenly, NC. He was in the University Choir and ROTC at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Army and flew helicopter medical and casualty evacuations in Vietnam and received the Army Distinguished Flying Cross. He practiced internal medicine in Goldsboro, NC, for 32 years.

Julius Arthur Woodward ('65), Nov. 19, 2020, Gresham, OR. He was a professor at UCLA and the University of California Merced.

Julian Bunn Wray ('65, JD '68), Dec. 26, 2023, Shelby, NC. He was a trial lawyer, assistant district attorney and Cleveland County (NC) county attorney during his 50-year legal career.

George William "Bill" Burke Jr. ('66, MT '66), Nov. 6, 2023, Winston-Salem. He was assistant director of laboratories in the pathology department at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center for 41 years.

Sheila Ann Johns ('66), Nov. 30, 2023, Flemington, NJ. She had a long career in real estate.

Robert "Bob" Keller Leonard ('66, JD '70), Jan. 18, 2024, Winston-Salem. He was a two-time first team All-American basketball player at Wake Forest and is in the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame. He practiced law and was the youngest elected judge in North Carolina at age 27. Survivors include daughter **Shannon Leonard McGehee ('98)** and sons **Jonathan Leonard ('96)** and **Christopher Leonard ('00)**.

Paul Robert Snell ('66), Feb. 27, 2024, High Point, NC. He was a Presbyterian minister.

Ronny Lloyd Staley ('66), Jan. 6, 2024, Concord, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserve. He retired as vice president of operations at Wells Fargo. Survivors include son **Brad Staley (JD '02)**.

Ronald Green Dennis ('67, MD '71), Dec. 26, 2023, Mooresville, NC. He was an ear, nose and throat physician in the Charlotte area for more than 35 years. Survivors include son **Drew Dennis ('00)**.

James Yewell "Jay" Reed Jr. (JD '67), Dec. 25, 2023, Greensboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force as an intelligence officer in Vietnam. He worked in insurance in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

Jon Martin Wilson ('67), Dec. 22, 2023, Los Angeles. He played quarterback on the Wake Forest football team. He practiced law for decades in Los Angeles and Orlando, FL. He was preceded in death by his daughter, **Kimberly Wilson ('97)**.

Henry Hawes Bostic Jr. ('68), Dec. 18, 2023, Charlotte. He was co-editor of the Old Gold & Black at Wake Forest. He oversaw marketing and communications for then-Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte and the hospital's foundation. He retired from Premier Inc., a healthcare company. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

George Emmitt Carter Jr. ('68, MA '70), Nov. 25, 2023, Greenville, SC. He was a retired professor and associate dean for undergraduate studies at Clemson University. He was preceded in death by his first wife, **Martha Heckerman Carter ('70)**. Survivors include his wife, Jean Carter.

Herbert August Grote ('68), Oct. 19, 2023, Huntington, NY.

Thomas William Jones (JD '68), Jan. 7, 2024, Sylva, NC.

Nancy Lee Dorman ('69), Jan. 12, 2024, Baltimore. She worked for the U.S. government and a venture capital firm. She was a philanthropist and longtime trustee of the Baltimore Museum of Art.

Norbert John Pail Sr. (JD '69), Dec. 27, 2023, Ligonier, PA. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a trust officer at a bank in Pittsburgh.

Jerry Eugene Sipe (PhD '69), Dec. 9, 2023, Anderson, IN. He was a biology professor at Anderson University in Indiana for 30 years and an adjunct professor at Ivy Tech Community College.

Sarajane Oakley Hall ('70), Feb. 23, 2024, Farragut, TN. She was an active member of her church for more than 40 years. Survivors include her husband, **Don Hall (MD '71)**, and sons **Jonathan Hall ('03)** and **Jason Hall ('98, MD '02)**.

Andrew "Andy" Wallace Heck ('70), Feb. 29, 2024, Pawleys Island, SC. He played football at Wake Forest and in the Canadian Football League. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam, earning two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star. In 1968, after he was seriously wounded in Vietnam, Wake Forest students, faculty and staff signed a 100-foot-long get-well scroll for him. He carried the American flag into the dedication of then-Groves Stadium in 1968. He had a long career at International Paper Co. and retired as president of Sylvania Lighting US. Survivors include son **Dylan Heck ('98)**.

Noel D.M. Lehner (MS '70), Nov. 19, 2023, Salem, SC. He served in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps and was on the faculty of Bowman Gray School of Medicine. He was director of Emory University's Division of Laboratory Animal Resources.

William "Bill" Clarence Moose ('70, MA '73), Jan. 6, 2024, Statesville, NC. He taught history and science for 30 years at Mitchell Community College (NC). He received The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest award for service.

Kristin King Ashford Delp ('71), Dec. 25, 2023, Rural Retreat, VA. She was the librarian at Sugar Grove (VA) Elementary School for three decades.

James "Jim" R. Gadd ('71), Dec. 24, 2023, Oviedo, FL. He played baseball at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Army Reserve. He worked at BellSouth for almost 35 years, retiring as CEO of Telecom Pioneers. He was a past president of the Wake Forest Alumni Council. He and his wife, Elisabeth Gadd, established a scholarship fund at Wake Forest. Survivors include daughter **Kristen Gadd Williams ('97)**.

MARCUS B. HESTER ('60)

Professor Emeritus of Philosophy

For more than four decades, Marcus Hester introduced generations of students to Aristotle, Plato and logic. Hester, who retired in 2006, died March 31, 2024, in Winston-Salem. He was 86.

He is survived by his wife, Anne Lashley Hester, son Marcus Hill Hester, stepchildren Brandon Carr and Lisa Carr, and step-granddaughter E'va Weber.

Hester joined the Wake Forest faculty in 1963 and spent his entire teaching career at his alma mater. His 1967 book, "The Meaning of Poetic Metaphor," was a pioneering philosophical work.

A former student, Jeff Muday ('93), remembered Hester as an enthusiastic teacher who was always willing to devote time outside class "to explore the finer points of logic with us or the simple pleasure of listening to Doc Watson's music. He instilled in me the invaluable lesson to always courageously challenge conventional wisdom, encouraging a mindset where questioning and critical thinking are not just permitted but celebrated," Muday said.

Hester grew up in Raleigh. After graduating from Wake Forest, he earned a Ph.D. in philosophy from Vanderbilt University. While at Vanderbilt, he met another philosophy student, Thomas K. Hearn Jr. In the early 1980s, Hester recommended Hearn to the search committee seeking a new president of Wake Forest. Hearn was president from 1983 until 2005.

Hester volunteered at the Samaritan Ministries soup kitchen in Winston-Salem for 25 years. His prized possession was a 1966 red Porsche 912, bought directly from the factory and still running nearly 60 years later.

Frances Sprinkle Harris ('71), Dec. 25, 2023, Elkin, NC. She was a seventh grade teacher and wrote stories about growing up in Elkin for the local newspaper.

Paul Victor DiSantis ('72), Feb. 22, 2024, Pinehurst, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He owned Delta Financial Advisors.

Michael Andrew Schlosser (JD '73), Feb. 6, 2024, Greensboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam. He was a lawyer and a former district attorney in Guilford County (NC).

William V. Scholl Jr. ('73, JD '76), Feb. 27, 2024, Elizabeth Township, PA. He was a lawyer.

Clyde Franklin "Frank" Stanley Jr. (JD '73), Jan. 13, 2024, Tabor City, NC. He practiced law for nearly 50 years.

Gary Franklin Stanley ('74), Dec. 13, 2023, Greensboro, NC. He was a member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity at Wake Forest. He was a post office clerk in Greensboro for 25 years.

Aaron Neal Clinard (JD '76), March 7, 2024, High Point, NC. He was a lawyer and received The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest award for service.

James Henry Dooley Jr. (JD '76), Dec. 28, 2023, Salisbury, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force for 20 years, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was an attorney and an assistant district attorney in Cabarrus and Rowan counties.

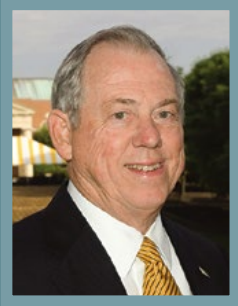
Henriette von Kerczek Holoman ('76), Jan. 25, 2024, Geneva, IL. She escaped Nazi Germany before immigrating to the United States and worked at Wake Forest.

John Warren Steen III ('76), Feb. 26, 2024, Winston-Salem. He was sports editor of the Old Gold & Black and was involved in student government at Wake Forest. He held leadership positions at the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce and Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina and was known for his philanthropic efforts in North Carolina. He founded and was president of the Rye Foundation, which funds programs in religion, youth and education in North Carolina. Survivors include his wife, **Kathryn Dorr Steen ('77, MAEd '82)**, and sons **Bart Steen ('06)** and **Matthew Steen ('10)**.

Cindy Chesnut Corpening ('77), Jan. 29, 2024, Wilmington, NC. She worked for AT&T and the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles. Survivors include her daughter **Katie Corpening ('09)**.

DR. JAMES L. BECTON ('56)

Life Trustee



Life trustee Jim Becton ('56), whose family hosted a reception for Wake Forest golfers and other alumni at the Masters Tournament for years, died Jan. 21, 2024, in Augusta, Georgia. He was 89.

He is survived by his wife, Pamela Palmer Becton, and children Beth Becton ('86), Lou Becton, Brooke Shull and Palmer Hummel, and seven grandchildren.

Becton dedicated his life to medicine and education. He was an orthopedic surgeon specializing in hand surgery and a professor of orthopedic surgery at the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University.

He served two terms on the board of trustees between 1995 and 2004 and was named a life trustee in 2005. He and his late first wife, Mary Beth Conrad Becton, established the Becton Family Scholarship for students interested in pursuing a medical career.

A native of Georgia, Becton earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia. After serving in the U.S. Army in a military hospital in Korea, he settled in Augusta and founded Augusta Orthopedic Clinic. He was a member of the Georgia Orthopedic Society Foundation's Hall of Fame.

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CELESTE MASON PITTMAN ('67)

Life Trustee



Longtime former trustee and past Alumni Council president Celeste Mason Pittman ('67) died Jan. 10, 2024, in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. She was 78.

She is survived by her husband, William B. Pittman Sr., children Nell Pittman Sutlive ('97) and William B. Pittman Jr. ('00, JD/MBA '05) and their spouses, and four grandchildren.

Pittman was an active volunteer in Rocky Mount and at Wake Forest. She

was a charter advisory board member and former vice chair of the Futrell-Mauldin Community Foundation for Greater Rocky Mount and a past president of the Nash County Medical Society Auxiliary.

She was a past member of the Wake Forest Alumni Council and was president in 1993-94. She served four terms on the board of trustees between 1994 and 2013 and was named a life trustee in 2014. She and her husband created the Mason-Pittman Scholarship for students in the School of Divinity.

Pittman grew up in Laurinburg, North Carolina. Her late father, James W. Mason Jr. (JD '38, LL.D. '96), served on the board of trustees for six terms between 1961 and 1989. As chair of the board in 1978-79, he negotiated a new relationship with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina that led to Wake Forest's governing autonomy in 1986.

Leonard Michael "Mike" Dodd (JD '77), Nov. 15, 2023, Raleigh. He served in the U.S. Army in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. He was a retired criminal defense attorney and special deputy attorney general. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

Joseph "Jay" Alphonsus Kuhn III ('77), Jan. 5, 2024, Birmingham, AL. He was a member of Theta Chi fraternity at Wake Forest. He worked in sales and technology at Hewlett Packard and PricewaterhouseCoopers. Survivors include daughter **Elizabeth Naylor Kuhn (MD '14)**.

Dean Insley Langrall ('77), Feb. 1, 2024, Ocean City, MD. He was special projects director and sales and marketing consultant for Jolly Roger Amusement Park in Ocean City.

Willie "Lee" Lumpkin III (JD '77), March 6, 2024, Morehead City, NC. He was a retired district court judge.

James Blackmon Cook Jr. ('78), Dec. 23, 2023, Fort Mill, SC. He was a retired regional sales manager for Wacker Neuson construction company.

John Tyler Cox ('78), Dec. 18, 2023, Winston-Salem. He worked at Reynolda House Museum of American Art and in communications and marketing at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, American Express and Old Salem Museums & Gardens.

Gregory "Greg" Lee Goodman ('78), Jan. 27, 2024, Rock Hill, SC. He was president of Kappa Sigma fraternity at Wake Forest and a budget forecaster for a paper company in Charlotte before retiring in 2017.

Ned Allen Stiles (JD '79), Feb. 26, 2024, Charlotte. He was a lawyer for more than four decades and a founding partner of Stiles Byrum & Horne LLP in Charlotte.

Andrew John Witherell ('79), Feb. 22, 2024, Arlington, VA. He worked in finance and real estate.

Stanley Lee Allen ('80), Dec. 27, 2023, Rockingham County, NC. He practiced law in Rockingham County for decades and was a superior court judge and a past district court judge. He was preceded in death by his father, **J.W. Allen Sr. ('43)**. Survivors include nephew **Thomas Allen ('05)**.

Joseph "Joey" Edwin Bullock Jr. ('81), Jan. 3, 2024, Kannapolis, NC. He was a strength coach at Wake Forest in the 1980s and early '90s and a personal trainer in California.

Richard Lee Bjarnesen ('82), Dec. 29, 2020, Irmo, SC. He was a nurse and behavioral health director at Kershaw Health and Regional Medical Center in Orangeburg, SC.

Allison Bare Moise ('83), Nov. 23, 2023, Franklin, TN. She was a math teacher and assistant principal in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools before moving to Tennessee.

Charles "Chuck" Richard Gordon (MBA '84), Jan. 31, 2024, Spicewood, TX. He was retired president and CEO of Aegion Corp.

Susan Whittington (MBA '84), Dec. 17, 2023, North Wilkesboro, NC. She worked for New York Life Insurance Co. She was a past chair of the Wilkes Community College Board of Trustees and was inducted into the Wilkes County Hall of Fame.

Ronald Kilgore Sr. (MBA '85), Dec. 26, 2023, Winston-Salem. He was a respiratory therapist.

Eric Franklin Schell ('85, JD '88), Jan. 26, 2024, Oakton, VA. He was a trial lawyer.

James O'Kieffee Stables Jr. (MBA '85), Jan. 1, 2024, Clemmons, NC. He served in the U.S. Army. He retired from Hanesbrands Inc. as a financial executive.

Robin Beeson Morrison ('86), Feb. 24, 2024, Fuquay Varina, NC. She was a majorette and feature twirler at Wake Forest. She was a licensed speech pathologist and coordinator of outpatient specialized therapies in the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. Survivors include her husband, **Scott Morrison ('86)**, and son **Glenn Morrison ('14)**.

Stephen "Steve" Gregory Poole ('87), Jan. 2, 2024, High Point, NC. He was marketing director for The Salute Uniforms in Archdale, NC.

Henry R. Boer (MBA '88), Feb. 27, 2024, Louisville, KY. He was a neonatologist and hospital medical director.

Brian Dale Woodrick ('88), Jan. 7, 2024, Plano, TX. He was a member of Chi Psi fraternity at Wake Forest. He worked for Blockbuster for 18 years.

Mark Edward Gleason (JD '90), Jan. 7, 2024, Fernandina Beach, FL. He served in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps and was counsel at the U.S. Navy Office of General Counsel at the Trident Refit Facility at Kings Bay (GA) for 18 years.

Channing Leon Crane ('91), Dec. 19, 2023, Etowah, NC. He worked in the food and wine industry.

Elizabeth Daniels Goode ('92), Dec. 9, 2023, Winston-Salem. She was a member of Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity at Wake Forest. She was an auditory technician at Piedmont Ear, Nose & Throat.

James S. Caldwell (PhD '93), Nov. 30, 2023, Danville, VA. He was a retired professor and chair of the Department of Biological Sciences at Averett University, where he taught for more than 20 years.

Elizabeth "Beth" Fay Dierauf (JD '94), Nov. 11, 2023, Pisgah Forest, NC. She was a longtime district attorney in western North Carolina and received the 2023 Courthouse Employee of the Year Award from the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism.

Matthew "Matt" Riddick Hagen ('95), Dec. 4, 2023, Morehead City, NC. He owned and operated a car dealership, Matt Hagen Motors LLC. Survivors include his wife, **Jennifer Pruitt Hagen ('94)**, and brother **Jeff Hagen ('93)**.

Corey D. Buggs (JD '97), Feb. 1, 2024, Lexington, NC. He was a lawyer and a former assistant district attorney.

David Hall Hammett ('97, MD '01), Jan. 12, 2024, Columbia, SC. He was a neurologist.

Karen Grogan Kimberly (MALS '97), Dec. 30, 2023, Canton, GA. She was associate director of admissions at Wake Forest and director of admissions at Salem Academy before serving as director of college counseling at Porter-Gaud School in Charleston, SC, for 18 years. Survivors include her husband, **George Kimberly ('84, JD '87)**.

Matthew Joseph Lempner ('98), Feb. 24, 2024, Tigard, OR. He had two decades of financial and consulting experience.

Brent Starling ('99), Jan. 24, 2024, Danville, VA. He was a traveling senior operations manager for Marriott Hotels. Survivors include his father, **James Starling (MD '67)**, and brother **Jeff Starling ('96, JD '03)**.

Landon Scott Bellavia (PhD '13), Nov. 10, 2023, Findlay, OH. He was an assistant professor of physics at the University of Findlay.

Friends, Faculty, Staff, Students

Marlyse Emilie Bach, Feb. 4, 2024, Chapel Hill, NC. She taught French at Wake Forest in 1996-97 and at Duke University.

David Johnson Cannady Sr., Dec. 31, 2023, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army. He was a power plant mechanic at Wake Forest and owner of Cannady & Sons Heating & Air.

Edward L. Felton Jr., Dec. 16, 2023, Scottsdale, AZ, and Crested Butte, CO. He was dean of the Babcock Graduate School of Management at Wake Forest from 1980 to 1982. He also taught at Harvard, the University of Virginia, Samford University and the College of William & Mary. Felton graduated from the University of Richmond and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and was an ordained Baptist minister. He later earned a master's degree and Ph.D. in business administration from Harvard. He was an expert on international marketing and agribusiness management and was a consultant to numerous businesses and government agencies. He also helped establish international business schools in Iran, the Philippines and Pakistan.

William Michael Fulk, Jan. 14, 2024, Winston-Salem. He was a mechanic at Wake Forest and Willow Creek golf course.

Marion Gist, Jan. 11, 2024, Winston-Salem. She retired from Graylyn Estate and Conference Center after nearly four decades of service.

Henry S. Miller Jr. ('51, MD '54), Dec. 31, 2023, Mount Pleasant, SC. He served in the U.S. Army

and was assistant chief of internal medicine at Fort Jackson, SC. He was a professor of internal medicine (cardiology) at the Wake Forest School of Medicine from 1960 until retiring in 1999 and section head of cardiology from 1984 until 1990. He helped establish the first outpatient cardiac rehabilitation program in North Carolina on the Reynolda campus in 1975 with the health and exercise science (HES) department and was medical director of the program for 25 years. The program was the precursor to the Healthy Exercise and Lifestyle Programs (HELPS). The HES department named a cardiovascular function laboratory in his honor in 2016 in the department's new building. He received the Distinguished Faculty Award from the medical school's Medical Alumni Association. A fund in HES and a professorship in cardiovascular medicine at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist are named in his honor. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society. He was preceded in death by his son, **P. Scott Miller (MBA '93)**.

Nancy S. Moore, Jan. 17, 2024, Winston-Salem. She worked at Wake Forest for 40 years in the School of Law, the University legal office and President's Office and retired as executive assistant to President Nathan O. Hatch (LHD '21).

Faye Callahan Reece, Nov. 25, 2023, Clemmons, NC. She retired from Wake Forest after 13 years as an administrative assistant in the psychology department.

Jane "Janey" McAdams Thompson, April 9, 2024, Winston-Salem. She was a sophomore biophysics major and a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority and the pre-dental health professional society. She was awarded both the Randall D. Ledford Scholarship in Physics and the Porter B. Byrum Scholarship and was consistently named to the dean's list. Thompson was a Wake Forest super fan. She graduated from Myers Park High School in Charlotte, where she was an all-conference basketball player and Female Athlete of the Year in 2022. Survivors include her parents, Bo Thompson and **Scottie Stone Thompson ('97, MSA '98)**, and her brother, Hank Thompson, of Charlotte.

Heiko Wiggers, April 10, 2024, Winston-Salem. He taught at Wake Forest for 19 years and was an associate professor of German when he retired for medical reasons in 2023. He led the Business German program and managed summer internships in Germany. A native of northern Germany, he loved sharing his language with students. Wiggers moved to the U.S. at age 23 and earned a Ph.D. in Germanic linguistics from the University of Texas at Austin. Survivors include his wife, Kate McFarland, and sons Jack Wiggers and Henry Wiggers.

James Daniel Williams, Feb. 28, 2024, High Point, NC. He was an office assistant at Reynolda House Museum of American Art.

Bobby Willis, March 3, 2024, Winston-Salem. He worked in Facilities & Campus Services at Wake Forest.

A legacy of truth and joy

By Reid Morgan ('75, JD '79, P '14, '19)

DURING MY YEARS as an undergraduate student at Wake Forest, I knew Ed Wilson only through his prominent duties at programs such as convocations and Commencement. During my third year of law school this changed as I came to know Dr. Wilson while assisting President James Ralph Scales. In the fall of 1979, after I began working at Wake Forest, a regular pattern began of lunches, meetings and trips to away ball games together (often with the Wilson children). Later on, there was a good number of group trips with him to Europe, and we continued meeting regularly for lunch or cheese nachos. I am deeply honored and grateful to have been his friend across these decades.

Edwin Graves Wilson — We could not be who we are without his being who he was.

Lover of family, beauty, language, literature, art, movies, music, history; lover of Wake Forest, of people and of life. How do we express our gratitude for this man whose legacy and words inform the highest ideals that Wake Forest proclaims today? How do we honor this man who inspired us to be our better selves and to understand what is worth living for? How do we remember this man whose joyful life gave us the confidence to believe that the price we might have to pay for our principles would be worth it? How can we firmly settle in our minds, now that he is physically gone, the lessons that he taught so well, and go on, knowing that we have been his worthy students?

Certainly, his own words can help us.

My mind goes back to a trip he and I made alone to a football game at Duke in the '80s. He drove, and we talked about everything going to and from. On the way over we got into a conversation about his job as provost, which was not a usual topic. I knew that as dean of the College beginning in 1960 and provost



RILEY HERRIMAN ('21)

since 1968, he had interviewed almost all current faculty members before they were appointed. And so I asked him a question, trying to understand how he had translated his ideals into the selection of faculty: “Dr. Wilson, what is the most important single quality in a faculty member?” He answered quickly: “To serve others above themselves.” I needed no follow-up.

On another occasion, though I was not there at the Homecoming banquet in 1978, Dr. Wilson made a speech that must rank among the greatest ever given at Wake Forest. Some of you will remember the controversy with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina that arose in the '70s and culminated in Wake Forest's separation from the convention in 1986. In 1978, the first question was whether Wake Forest would remain an “agency” of the convention, and the second question was what would Wake Forest be without the convention — what was our institution's independent identity?

Dr. Wilson answered the latter question in a way that not only provided answers for that moment,

but also became a ringing, timeless statement of the essence of our motto. The ideal of Wake Forest, he said, was “to stand up ‘for humanity’ in all its diversity and richness, to be a place of learning which men and women of goodwill everywhere might, if they knew it, be happy to call home.”

He went on to say that his strong hope was “that Wake Forest will continue forever to be what it was when I first saw it almost 40 years ago and what it is today: a place where reason, imagination and faith flourish, a place eternally and fearlessly in pursuit of the truth, a place which is open, hospitable, generous, loving, and free.”

Through his words we learned great truths. Through his joy we made them our own.

—
Reid Morgan ('75, JD '79, P '14, '19) retired last year as University senior vice president and general counsel. He served four presidential administrations at Wake Forest, starting in 1979. He will be completing his role as secretary of the board of trustees at the end of June.



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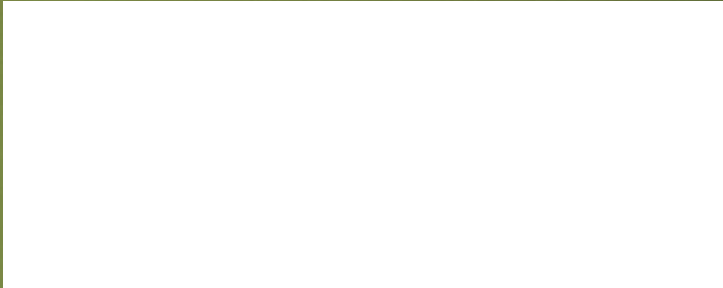
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“I have loved Wake Forest since I came as a sixteen year-old from a small North Carolina town to the historic campus of Wake Forest, graduated, served in the Navy during World War II, attended graduate school, and came home to move with the college to Winston-Salem, where I and my beloved family have lived a block from the campus, happy ever after. For anyone to be able to say that at age 100 is a miracle in itself. But what is real is all of you, every Wake Forester who ever called Wake Forest home.”

**“I WAS YOUR TEACHER,
NOW YOU ARE MINE. YOU
HAVE SHOWN ME THE WAY
TO GROW OLD. MAY THE
BELLS RING FOR ALL OF
US. YOU ARE THE REASON
I HAVE LIVED SO LONG,
AND SO WELL.”**

— ED WILSON, THANKING THE Z. SMITH
REYNOLDS LIBRARY STAFF FOR HIS
100TH BIRTHDAY RECEPTION