LETTERS OF NOTE: AN ILLUSTRATED TREASURY
Compiled by Cherin C. Poovey (P ’08) and Maria Henson (’82)
Illustrations by Woodie Anderson

THE LITERARY MAVEN OF HUB CITY
By Maria Henson (’82)
How Betsy Wakefield Teter (’80) sparked a celebrated movement to nurture writers and cultivate readers in her hometown.

FLASH FICTION REDUX
Wake Forest Magazine had big fun a few years ago sharing the very, very short stories professors submitted when our editors gave them a creative challenge. “Star Wars” has had more sequels than space rocks. Why shouldn’t “Flash Fiction”?

PROFESSOR ERIC G. WILSON’S QUEST TO CREATE HIS ‘OWN SWEET RUSE’
By Ed Southern (’94)
Eric G. Wilson, the Thomas H. Pritchard Professor of English, is not himself these days.

CONSTANT & TRUE
By Dhonielle Clayton (’05)
How one alumna reclaimed her passion for a literary life, honoring her childhood memories of reading under her grandmother’s table.
THIS SPRING, AS IT DID for the inaugural event in 2012, Wake Forest welcomed home alumni writers and cheered the aspirations of students at the Words Awake! conference. This edition of Wake Forest Magazine, in the same spirit, reminds us of the literary tradition vital to the University’s heritage and its future.

When I meet with alumni, I hear that our students know how to express themselves, whether the communication is written or oral. Being in small classes helps. In the big picture of higher education, our students do quite a bit of writing. The repetitive practice is critical. To be a better writer, one has to write. The writing courses offered by Wake Forest help students express their creativity, and I hope our expectation for writing is high for any class across the curriculum.

I never took a writing course, but somewhere along the line I learned that writing should be good. I loved it and set a high mark for my own writing. It was pivotal that in junior high I had a very good Latin teacher and a very good English teacher who taught us to diagram sentences. I did not know it at the time, but those together helped me understand how language works — how writing should be in the active voice and boast strong verbs, for example. I came to understand why certain writing is good and other writing isn’t.

I did a post-doc at Johns Hopkins University with historian Timothy Smith, a brilliant writer, and participated in his seminar. He would beat academic jargon out of his graduate students. Time and again, a student would have a convoluted sentence and he would say, “Could your grandmother understand that?” It was not a case of dumbing down. He asked us to state things simply. When I went on to edit my articles and books, I would go through and try to shorten sentences. I’d say, “This makes sense, but how can I make it more readable?”

At colleges across the country we see an appropriate interest in providing courses that help students learn about the rest of the world and other cultures. But that goal should not come at the expense of teaching students how to use their language well. It should be both and — a worthy pursuit in the liberal arts.

Warm regards,

[Signature]
How Betsy Wakefield Teter ('80) sparked a celebrated movement to nurture writers and cultivate readers in her hometown.

By Maria Henson ('82) | Photography by Travis Dove ('04)
not that Betsy is a Southern novelist. She did win two fiction prizes as an undergraduate history major at Wake Forest with a plan to become a fiction writer, “until I went into journalism, which will beat that out of you.” She spent 16 years working at newspapers in South Carolina, in the end serving as a columnist and business editor of the Spartanburg Herald-Journal, where she occasionally — and naturally — thumped heads with the city’s business leaders. She left the newspaper job in 1993. Two years later, she would co-create a venture whose success was unimaginable 21 years ago but now has authors of place-based literature highlighting the Southern experience beating a path to Betsy’s door.

On a January afternoon I find her across the street from her old newspaper office, presiding over a literary epicenter that sits in the renovated Masonic Temple on the western stretch of Main Street, bordered by Daniel Morgan Avenue and Honorary Teter Lane, named by the city council in praise of Betsy and her husband, John Lane, it must be noted, years after Betsy left the notoriously non-boost-erish newspaper business.

She settles herself onto a couch beside the sunny front window of the rarest of treasures these days — an independent bookstore and, in this case — even rarer — a nonprofit independent bookstore called Hub City Bookshop that she founded in 2010. A plaque on a wall beside her lists the many donors who rallied to the cause. This is where Betsy oversees Hub City Press, which has offices in the back of the bookshop and 74 titles in print, and where she and her team of three full-time and three part-time

Flannery O’Connor had Andalusia outside Milledgeville, Georgia. Eudora Welty had Jackson, Mississippi. Betsy Wakefield Teter (’80) has the place where she was born: Hub City, an old moniker for Spartanburg, South Carolina, which she helped revive, both the nickname and the city.
employees sells books, hosts authors’ Q&As, sponsors writing workshops, examines manuscripts from aspiring authors and, with an advisory committee, typically selects five to six manuscripts a year to publish. Revenues from the little bookshop on the corner help pay for a summer writers conference, a writers-in-residency program, college scholarships, writing prizes and donations of books to local schoolchildren for summer reading. Wiley Cash, a New York Times best-selling author based in Wilmington, North Carolina, told Publisher’s Weekly last year the bookshop has been “a huge support to writers like me” and is “single-handedly holding down the arts” in what is now a flourishing arts scene in Spartanburg.

In size and décor with its huge windows, industrial-style ceiling and artwork, the store reminds me of Book Passages in San Francisco’s Ferry Building without the view of the Bay. The smell of fresh-brewed coffee wafts in from The Coffee Bar, and so do the customers, steaming cups in hand. The bookshop rents the adjacent space to the owners of the coffee house and Cakehead Bakery. In and out of the first-floor shops wander city visitors, families, business people and artsy teens. The vocals of Norah Jones and the Dixie Chicks play in the background. Customers are eyeing New York Times best-sellers and books published by Hub City Press, which have won 13 Independent Publisher Book Awards. I find it comforting if bittersweet in this digital age to meander among shelves of books I never knew I needed, whose heft I’ve missed and whose pages feel as sacred as conservators’ parchment. The word “Temple” minus “Masonic” on the outside of the building seems apt for the book reverence inside. So many of us miss the independent bookstores that signal a thriving downtown. This is Spartanburg’s literary green light.

Betsy calls her own books “trophies,” and I can relate. She treasures and admires them for the beauty of their covers and the possibility each new volume will rank as “that one perfect book” she is always seeking. In them is the invitation for transformation through poetry and prose. At home she and her husband have collected 5,000. By her count, she reads a novel a week. What better person to run a nonprofit bookstore, a publishing house and a literary movement?

“Our mission statement says that we nurture writers and cultivate readers,” Betsy says. “We’re a nonprofit organization, and if we are helping convince people to read a book we’ve done our job.” To understand the model, think of museum stores. “This is what in the nonprofit field is called ‘earned income,’” she says, which is plowed back into supporting the mission. She figures there are fewer than five bookstores like this “literary center” in the country, and this one, she says, is growing.

“If you can describe the ambition, it would be Algonquin crossed with Square Books in Oxford,” she says, referring to the renowned literary publishing house founded in 1983 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and the Mississippi bookstore of national acclaim. “They are so good for their community. They’ve changed their community, and I know we’ve changed our community. We’ve sort of married those two ideas.”

THE GENESIS OF all things Hub City modern began downtown at a now-defunct coffee shop in 1995. Three writers bent over a napkin and devised a plan to publish one book, emphasis on one. Besides Betsy, who by this time was raising two boys and working as a freelancer, at the table were her newspaper colleague Gary Henderson and John Lane, a poet and Wofford College professor. (Years later, John and Betsy would marry.) Spartanburg had a proud history but was down and out after the textile industry collapsed, its downtown dried up. “We were still here because we liked living here. Maybe there was not a lot going on, but we all had this deep tie, maybe because of the way we had been raised, … to care deeply about our community,” Betsy says. She was a third-generation Spartanburgian. Her parents were civic-minded; her dad owned the Buick dealership, just as his father before him, and he always rooted for downtown progress. Betsy inherited his business acumen and practical ability to take a creative idea and run with it. But the three writers believed economic development and a tax base didn’t define a community fully. “The soul is in its stories,” John says. “We wanted to show this community that we had a soul.”

John dug into Spartanburg’s history, discovering it had been widely known in the early 1900s as Hub City thanks to its many railroad tracks. “(C)onfident of whatever else happened to me,” the essayist E.B. White once wrote,
In the bookstore she founded, amid the books Hub City Press has published and with a portrait of Flannery O’Connor overseeing the enterprise, Betsy says, “We paired ourselves with our community, and we’ve hustled, and that’s how it’s worked.”
“WE WANTED TO SHOW THIS COMMUNITY THAT WE HAD A SOUL.”

– JOHN LANE
“the railroad would always pick me up and carry me here and there, to and fro.” Long ago, his sentiments might have been shared by residents of Spartanburg with her passenger lines radiating outward and her grand pronouncement: “A glimpse at the map will show the city of Spartanburg to resemble the hub of a great wheel with spokes running in five directions. … Spartanburg is emphatically the gateway to the Western World.” The coffee klatch writers named their fledgling organization the Hub City Writers Project and decided to produce the book, complete with the “hub” quote and a title: “Hub City Anthology.” They modeled themselves after the Federal Writers’ Project in which the federal government employed writers, historians, librarians and teachers to document the nation’s culture during the Great Depression.

John says the echo was intentional: “A community can be in a great depression and not even know it. To say it is to admit you’re defeated.” They envisioned a book that would give Spartanburg a literary identity. They planned to feature essays by 12 writers and works by local artists. “Black writers, white writers, older, younger, natives, newcomers — everybody wrote a little piece about Spartanburg,” Betsy says. With no money or experience, Hub City Writers Project designed a brochure Betsy laments “looked like something you’d make in the fourth grade.” They mailed the brochures to wealthy donors, who were promised a collectors’ hardback edition of the anthology with their names in the front and a tax deduction if they contributed $100. The group hoped for 100 checks and received 120. “We were early crowdsourcers, absolutely,” says Betsy.

They held the book launch in the old train depot in April 1996. There was a traffic jam. So many people showed up and spread along the train tracks, the writers couldn’t conduct the reading. “I think we sold 700 books that first day. It was incredible,” Betsy says. “I think people had a deep longing for some way to celebrate their community and understand it and bring people together around the idea of Spartanburg. You know, it’s a town in the shadow of Greenville. We’ve made mistake after mistake here. So we struggle, and we want to feel great about ourselves. We are good people in our town.”

Betsy’s essay, “Magnolia,” was featured in the book. Of Spartanburg, she wrote, “I believe it is a place of consequence.” Of herself, she wrote, “I am no pioneer. I am a root seeker, a nest clinger.” Fellow citizens in this city of 37,647 would disagree. They see Betsy as a pioneer, a woman of consequence. “It’s fun to watch her,” former Spartanburg Mayor Bill Barnet tells me. “It’s fun to watch someone be successful.” When he prepared to retire in 2010, he urged people to support the vision for establishing the bookstore, not a retirement party. “She’s really attracting attention and deservedly so. … She’s the Energizer Bunny, always plugging along doing good things,” he says.

SOUTHERN NOVELS EVERYONE SHOULD READ:
“Wise Blood” by Flannery O’Connor
“Lie Down In Darkness” by William Styron
“The Color Purple” by Alice Walker
“Edisto” by Padgett Powell

RECENT SOUTHERN FICTION:
“Something Rich and Strange: Selected Stories” by Ron Rash
“All I Have In This World” by Michael Parker
“The Tilted World” by Beth Ann Fennelly and Tom Franklin
“Fallen Land” by Taylor Brown
“Byrd” by Kim Church

HUB CITY BEST-SELLERS:
“The Iguana Tree” by Michel Stone
“Minnow” by James McTeer
“Carolina Writers at Home” edited by Meg Reid
“The Whiskey Baron” by Jon Sealy
Todd Stephens, director of the Spartanburg County Public Libraries, says, “Clearly, she’s had an impact on downtown Spartanburg and its development without a doubt.” In what was a part of downtown lagging in revitalization, the bookshop opened and has welcomed new neighbors: a restaurant, a fancy wine shop, a brewery and a 10-story boutique hotel under construction. Betsy has made it “her life’s work” to improve the city, he says, and she has done that by “connecting people to the written word.” Chris Jennings, executive director of the Spartanburg Convention & Visitors Bureau, calls her “our hometown hero.” She is the recipient of the bureau’s 2016 tourism award. “Betsy has the big picture,” he says.

When it came to selecting her college, she had only one picture in mind: Wake Forest. She applied early decision, intent on writing and pursuing her love of ACC basketball. Tall and lean to this day, she’s built like an athlete, but she wasn’t good enough at hoops to play in college. She moved into Bostwick 2-B and formed close ties with her hall mates. “Thirty-five years later most of us are still seeing each other.” As first-year students, she and her friend Catherine Woodard (’80, P ’13) plopped down on the floor in Reynolds Gym so they could claim the first student tickets for the ACC basketball tournament. Their friends stood in for them while the two superfans went to class. “We took our sleeping bags, and the line formed behind us all four years,” she says proudly. She remembers her favorite history professors, David Smiley (P ’74) and Howell Smith (P ’84, ’91), and her fascination with people “coming and going” in historic movements, from the South to the North with the rise of the automobile industry, from Appalachia to the mill villages in textile towns like hers.

There is some irony that she says, “I’m a Southern girl and don’t think I’ve ever imagined a moment in my life leaving
“I think people had a deep longing for some way to celebrate their community.”

– Betsy Teter
the South.” No out-migration for her. Instead, she is content to stay and shepherd Hub City Writers Project, the big tent for Hub City Press, the Hub City Bookshop and, for a while, HUB-BUB, a cultural organization backed by the city and devoted to promoting art, music and film. “It was a real renaissance in this town, but it just about killed me,” Betsy says of her time overseeing Hub City Writers Project’s work and HUB-BUB. With HUB-BUB alone, “we were doing 100 to 150 events a year.” Eventually, Betsy decided to run only one organization: Hub City, and HUB-BUB went out on its own.

Through these 21 years, her enthusiasm for literature and community hasn’t waned nor has her devotion to helping writers at any stage of development. Michel Stone of Spartanburg is one of them. “I was a mom who had never published anything,” she says. For years she attended the annual writing conference at Wofford College sponsored by Hub City Writers Project. Then she won a Hub City writing fellowship to attend a summer program at Wildacres Retreat in North Carolina. A short story she was crafting became a novel, and the publisher was Hub City Press. With Betsy as a publicist displaying the deal-making skills befitting a car dealer’s daughter, “The Iguana Tree” sold 15,000 copies, won a 2012 Independent Publisher Book Award and launched Stone on a book tour around the country.

“It has opened up the world for me, and now I’m sitting at my kitchen table emailing Nan Talese,” Stone says. Her second novel, “Border Child,” will be published by Nan A. Talese/Doubleday in 2017. “Betsy was as excited as I was,” Stone says of her contract with Talese, a revered editor and publisher in New York. Stone says Betsy “has never lost sight of how she wanted to nurture emerging writers and establish writers who have a sense of place.” Stone has nominated Betsy for South Carolina’s highest arts honor, the Elizabeth O’Neill Verner Award. (Hub City Writers Project won in 2002, but it was time for Betsy as an individual to be honored, Stone and other recommenders told me.)

Betsy once said of Hub City Writers Project: “We reflect our community, and that’s what makes us successful.” In Spartanburg, Betsy is all about community, calling her team her biggest asset and making sure to bestow credit on a long roster of citizens promoting writing and reading. Still, it’s not too much of a stretch to call Betsy Wakefield Teter the hub of Hub City — the visionary who never loses sight of her city’s soul, its storytellers or her personal goal to be the best publisher in the South.

**TRIBUTES**

On Mother’s Day in 2015, former writers in residence returned to Spartanburg to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Hub City Writers Project, which sponsored their residencies. They honored the project but also toasted their patron saint, Betsy Wakefield Teter (’80). Following are excerpts:

“I came to Spartanburg because of Betsy and I stayed here because no one person, save for my family, has ever invested so much in me and asked for so little in return. She’s taught me a kind of generosity that I will aspire to always, to give so brilliantly and passionately that you inspire the rest of the world to give along with you.”

— poet Eric Kocher, formerly of Baldwin, New York.

“If Hub City Bookshop isn’t the place where everybody knows your name, it’s at least the place where everybody knows Betsy Teter. ... I’ve gotten to know this community, and one fact has become very obvious: it’s not just that the literary scene in Spartanburg would be lesser without Betsy; it wouldn’t exist.”

— poet and teacher Casey Patrick of Minneapolis.

“I want to say that if I could be a superhero my answer would be Betsy Teter — but I think what makes her even more heroic is that she didn’t come from space or wasn’t bestowed powers but has an innate understanding of her personal power: what it means, and how to use it. We can see how clearly she has used it for Spartanburg, out of joy and love, and how that spread to writers and artists not just throughout the South but nationally.”

— Corinne Manning, writer, editor and teacher in Seattle.

“Betsy gave me the best year of my life, and she taught me what it means to truly find home.”

— Jameelah Lang, whose Ph.D. is in creative nonfiction from the University of Houston.
Let the games begin — again! “Once the obscure little sister of the conventional 2,000-word story, flash fiction has shrugged off that obscurity to accept its new position: the intellectually challenging blurb,” notes Writing-World.com. Legend has it that Ernest Hemingway penned the most famous flash fiction story, a six word masterpiece of the genre — “For sale: Baby shoes, never worn.” This time our request — to members of the Writing Program in the English department and a special guest — was for a story of precisely 25 words. Writers needed to use at least one of these words:

CARILLON • TRIBBLE • FRIENDLINESS • LEAF BLOWER • DEACS • FOREST
DODGING A DOGGED LEAF BLOWER, PROSPECTIVE DEACS ON AN AUTUMN CAMPUS TOUR TROOP PAST TRIBBLE TOWARDS THE CHAPEL CARILLON’S SOUND, LOOKING FOR FRIENDLINESS, FINDING HOME.

THE THOUGHT OF TRIBBLE MADE HER TREMBLE, ITS LABYRINTHINE HALLS AND STAIRWELLS A FORBIDDEN FOREST. UNTIL THE CARILLON RANG AND CALLED HER BACK FROM SILENCE.

1 PHOEBE ZERWICK is an associate professor of the practice and teaches in the Writing Program.

2 RYAN SHIREY is an associate teaching professor in the Writing Program and director of the University’s Writing Center.
Lost in the forest, a leaf blower buzzing in his brain. “Meet me in Tribble,” she’d said. So many stairs. The carillon soundtracks his defeat. The carillon once warned of forest fire, flood. Today, its friendliness descends on Deacs, trips over Tribble as flora dance in the leaf blower’s breeze.

3, 4 — Two from special guest Aimee Mepham, who has taught creative writing workshops at Washington University in St. Louis, Salem College and Wake Forest. She is the program coordinator of the University’s Humanities Institute and has lectured on “microfiction.”

5 — Eric Stottlemyer is an assistant teaching professor in the Writing Program, and most of the time he’d rather be wearing hiking boots.
A Little Mermaid carillon recovers above a conversation snippy with capitalism’s normal pinch already. Remaining friends when twenty is harder in some ways I think.

Do you remember that night I found you in the room in Tribble that looks like Hogwarts? We woke up to the leaf blowers screaming.

The carillon thief had taken just one bell. In his cubicle at five each day for a while, he grinned while the devil’s interval rang.

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6 — **ERIC EKSTRAND** (’07) is an assistant teaching professor in the Writing Program.

7 — **JIMMY BUTTS** is an assistant teaching professor of English and in his third year teaching writing at Wake Forest. His research involves rhetoric, strangeness, and digital media. As you can see ... he also prefers the Oxford comma.

8 — **LAURA GIOVANELLI** is an assistant teaching professor in the Writing Program.
Five alumni with exemplary careers as journalists and authors were named to the Wake Forest Writers Hall of Fame at the Words Awake 2! Conference in April. They join the 15 alumni honored in the 2012 inaugural class of inductees.

BY KERRY M. KING ('85)
ILLUSTRATIONS BY KYLE T. WEBSTER
NEIL MORGAN was an award-winning journalist, author and San Diego icon for six decades. He was an old-school journalist with an unwavering commitment to the truth and a champion for those whose voices were not often heard. “He was the chronicler of the city,” former California Gov. and U.S. Sen. Pete Wilson once said, calling him a cheerleader and a critic, “a loving but uncommon scold to San Diego.”

A native of Smithfield, North Carolina, Morgan fell in love with San Diego while serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was a popular columnist for several San Diego newspapers before being named editor of the Evening Tribune in 1981. Under his leadership, the Tribune won a Pulitzer Prize in 1987 for editorial writing on U.S. immigration policies. He later served as associate editor and a senior columnist for The San Diego Union-Tribune. His columns won the Ernie Pyle Award.

In 2005 he co-founded an online news organization called Voice of San Diego. Voice of San Diego later created the Neil Morgan Fund for Investigative Reporting to continue his legacy. Morgan wrote or co-wrote a dozen books, many about San Diego and the American West. He co-authored with his wife, Judith, a biography of their longtime friend Theodor Geisel (Dr. Seuss).

Morgan received the first Chancellor’s Medal from the University of California San Diego and was named “Mr. San Diego” in 1999 by the San Diego Rotary Club. He received Wake Forest’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 1964. He died in 2014 at the age of 89.
Penelope Niven (MA '62, D. Litt. '92)

**PENNY NIVEN** was a high school English teacher when she finally pursued her dream of being a writer. She became an award-winning biographer of writers and artists. “When I was 5 years old I dreamed of being a writer,” she once said. “When I was 40, I finally did something about it.”

She was 52 when her first biography, “Carl Sandburg: A Biography,” was published in 1991. She followed with an autobiography of James Earl Jones, “Voices and Silences” (1993), that she co-wrote with the actor, and two more biographies: “Steichen: A Biography” (1997) and “Thornton Wilder: A Life” (2012). She was a “late-blooming biographer of the nearly lost voices of an era,” The New York Times wrote.

A native of North Carolina, Niven graduated from Greensboro College and received a master’s in English literature from Wake Forest. She began her writing career after volunteering to help organize Sandburg’s papers at his home near Flat Rock, North Carolina. That led to her acclaimed work on Sandburg; writing biographies, she said, was a “daunting effort to do justice to another life.” She also wrote a children’s book on Sandburg and her 2004 memoir, “Swimming Lessons.”

Niven received a number of literary awards, including the North Carolina Award in Literature and three fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities. She was writer-in-residence at Salem College for a dozen years. Niven died in 2014 at the age of 75.

William McIlwain Jr. (‘49, P ’94)

**BILL McILWAIN** was editor of some of the most important newspapers across the country and in Canada during a journalism career that spanned the last half of the 20th century.

He began his career as a sportswriter in Wilmington, North Carolina, when he was only 17. After serving in the U.S. Marines, he graduated from Wake Forest and was a reporter for several newspapers. He joined the Long Island newspaper Newsday in the 1950s and eventually became editor-in-chief. During his tenure, the paper won a Pulitzer Prize for public service in 1970. He was writer-in-residence at Wake Forest in 1970-71. He also edited newspapers in Toronto, Boston, Washington, D.C., and Little Rock, Arkansas. He returned to Newsday in the early 1980s and founded New York Newsday. After retiring, he moved back to the North Carolina coast, where he mentored young writers.

McIlwain wrote several books including “The Glass Rooster” (1960), about segregation in the South, and “A Farewell to Alcohol” (1972), a frank account of his alcohol addiction and recovery. He also co-wrote, with Newsday colleagues, “Naked Came the Stranger” (1969), a satire of the overwrought, sex-filled novels of the time.

McIlwain served as a Pulitzer Prize juror and was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University. He received Wake Forest’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 1969 and was inducted into the N.C. Journalism Hall of Fame in 2004. He died in 2014 at the age of 88.
Helen Tucker Beckwith (‘46)

HELEN BECKWITH was a prolific writer and novelist known as a great storyteller. Under the name Helen Tucker, she wrote 18 novels and 27 short stories, published in more than two dozen countries. Her most critically acclaimed novel, “The Sound of Summer Voices” (1969) — described as a North Carolina evocation of “To Kill a Mockingbird” — was serialized in German newspapers and adapted for broadcast by the BBC.

A native of North Carolina, Beckwith was one of the earliest female writers along Pub Row when she was a student at Wake Forest. After graduating, she took graduate courses at Columbia University and embarked on a long career as a journalist, editor and novelist. She was a reporter for newspapers and radio stations in Burlington and Raleigh, North Carolina, and in Idaho and Utah, as well as director of publicity and publications for the North Carolina Museum of Art.

In 1971 she was the first woman to receive Wake Forest’s Distinguished Alumni Award. She also was honored by the Franklin County (North Carolina) Arts Council for “outstanding service in the field of literary arts.” She died in 2014 at the age of 88.

G. Maria Henson (‘82)

MARIA HENSON, who grew up in Raleigh, North Carolina, has forged a reputation for excellence as a reporter, editor, editorial writer, and statehouse and Washington correspondent at newspapers across the country, and most recently, as a magazine writer, editor and teacher at her alma mater.

Shes the first and (so far) only Wake Forest graduate to win a Pulitzer Prize. As an editorial writer at the Lexington Herald-Leader in Kentucky, she won the 1992 Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing for her series about battered women, which led to significant new legislation and policies to address domestic violence. As deputy editorial page editor of The Sacramento Bee, she edited the series about Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park that won the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing. She was also a journalist at newspapers in Little Rock, Arkansas; Austin, Texas; Tampa, Florida; and Charlotte, North Carolina.

Henson has served as a Pulitzer Prize juror four times and was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University in 1993-94. She received the Mary Morgan Hewitt Award for lifetime achievement in journalism from the East-West Center in Hawaii in 2007. She was named Wake Forest’s Woman of the Year in 1992 and served on the College Board of Visitors in the 1990s.

After living in Botswana for a year and a half, she returned to Wake Forest in 2010 as associate vice president and editor-at-large. She oversees the University’s flagship alumni publication, Wake Forest Magazine, which, under her leadership, has won numerous national awards for writing, design and overall quality. She also teaches news literacy in the journalism program and mentors students interested in pursuing writing careers.
INAUGURAL CLASS 
OF WAKE FOREST WRITERS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

A.R. Ammons ('49, D. Litt. '72)
Wrote nearly 30 collections of poetry. First Wake Forest poet-in-residence.

Maya Angelou (L.H.D. '77)
Published more than 30 best-selling works of fiction, nonfiction and verse, including “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.” Served on the Wake Forest faculty as the first Reynolds Professor from 1982 until her death in 2014.

Elizabeth Jones Brantley ('44)
A newspaper and magazine writer. Worked in the news offices at Wake Forest and Salem College.

Russell H. Brantley Jr. ('45)
Served as the University’s director of communications for 34 years. Poet and author of the controversial novel “The Education of Jonathan Beam.”

Will Davis Campbell ('48, P '81, L.H.D. '84)
Civil rights leader. The author of 17 books, including his autobiographical work, “Brother to a Dragonfly,” a 1978 National Book Award finalist.

W.J. Cash ('22)
Heralded for his iconic book about Southern culture, customs, beliefs, contradictions and violence, “The Mind of the South.”

Edgar Estes Folk Jr. ('21)
Taught literature and journalism at Wake Forest from 1936 to 1967. Created the Wake Forest journalism program.

Harold T.P. Hayes (48, L.H.D. '89, P '79, '91)
One of the most influential and visionary magazine editors in American literary history. Editor of Esquire during a golden age in the 1960s and early 1970s.

Albert R. Hunt Jr. ('65, D. Litt. '91)
Reporter, columnist, bureau chief and executive Washington editor for The Wall Street Journal for 35 years before moving to Bloomberg News. Member of the Wake Forest Board of Trustees.

Gerald W. Johnson (1911, D. Litt. '28)
Founded the Department of Journalism at UNC-Chapel Hill and had a long career as a journalist in Baltimore and as an author and magazine writer.

John Charles McNeill (1898, MA 1899)
Widely acknowledged as North Carolina’s unofficial poet laureate. Published 467 poems in The Charlotte Observer.

Bynum G. Shaw ('48)

Laurence T. Stallings (1916)
A prominent novelist, playwright and screenwriter whose most acclaimed works, “Plumes” and “The Doughboys: The Story of the AEF, 1917-1918,” reflected his experiences in World War I.

Edwin Graves Wilson ('43)
Known to many as “Mr. Wake Forest,” he has served Wake Forest as English professor, dean of the College, the University’s first provost, senior vice president and now provost emeritus. Author of “The History of Wake Forest University: Volume V, 1967-1983.”

Emily Herring Wilson (MA '62)
Poet and author of several books, including “No One Gardens Alone” about Elizabeth Lawrence, and co-author of “North Carolina Women: Making History.”
Shy, poor and lonely, alumnus A.R. Ammons arrived at Wake Forest “invisible” but destined for greatness through the grandeur of words.

By Emily Herring Wilson (MA ’62, P ’91, ’93)
IN THE SUMMER of 1946, the campus of Wake Forest College in Wake Forest, North Carolina, awakened to the voices of young men returning from war and finding their way paid to go to school on the government’s G.I. Bill. Most were native sons, the first in their families to attend college, many from humble farms on the edge of going under; and they had grown up quickly, having lived close to death.

As survivors, they felt a sharpened sense of purpose, even when they did not know what it might be. They could not take anything for granted: they needed to act, to accomplish something and to better themselves. Only a few families — lawyers, doctors, landowners with vast property — were secure enough to provide entry for their sons into the ranks of the well-to-do. Most Wake Forest students had to make it on their own.

If there were a letter for him? He was Ammons, a tall red-haired 21-year-old from Columbus County in the eastern part of the state, where peanuts, cotton and tobacco were grown, and where there were fewer people in downtown Whiteville, the county seat, than on the small Wake Forest campus. The most successful man in his family was the sheriff of Whiteville, his father’s brother, but back in the pinewoods on a subsistence farm, Archie and his father plowed with a mule, later lost to a chattel mortgage. They were self-reliant and lived to themselves. When the farm failed, they moved into town, converting an old gas station into a house. Archie respected only what he himself earned. His English teacher at Whiteville High School encouraged his poetry writing, and he never forgot her.

Among the few things Archie carried with him to college were the journals and poems he had written over 19 months on a Navy destroyer in the South Pacific, both contraband in a different way (it was against military rule to keep the journal, and he had not told his family about his poetry writing: his father wanted him to be a boxer). As he traveled home by train across the country, he wrote in his diary, “And now to face the future — puzzling, undecided, and with little self-confidence. … what now?” He sent off letters to three colleges (he later forgot the other two), and the first to answer was Wake Forest, about three hours from Columbus County if he could catch a ride. He was accepted. “Without further deliberation,” he explained, “I made arrangements to join that fair company.”
“And now to face the future — puzzling, undecided, and with little self-confidence. ... what now?”

- A.R. AMMONS
Although at Wake Forest he was self-conscious about his clothes — he did not have a suit or an overcoat — he was proud of his books: in San Diego he had purchased a complete set of Shakespeare and the philosophy of Plato, and he ordered others from the Book-of-the-Month Club. The only books in his house were a Bible and the first 11 pages mysteriously torn from a copy of “Robinson Crusoe,” which he read over and over. He was fiercely proud of his parents and his two older sisters, but the death of a younger brother haunted him — he could neither talk nor write about it for many years, and, then, obliquely. His application to Wake Forest showed his high school transcript, for which he had been named valedictorian, and his honorable military discharge. But it did not reveal the loss of the mule or the little brother or hint that poverty, pride, anger and anxiety defined him and would fuel some of the strangest, strongest, most enduring poetry in contemporary literature, poetry which has helped many readers live their lives.

In Wake Forest Archie rented a room in a local home, visited the bursar’s office to arrange to pay his fees with his $75 monthly government check (which also had to cover his room and board), registered for classes and looked around.

In time Ammons declared a major in general science and studied hard, often afraid of failing, though he did well in his courses. He was too shy to call much attention to himself, never joined writers on Pub Row and made few friends. He had spent many of his shipboard hours reading and writing poems with a Navy buddy, and he continued to keep a journal of his daily activities. Reading, writing and keeping a journal became the disciplined ways by which he was to survive for the rest of his life. In the Navy he had been surrounded by men who lived under the same Spartan conditions and who sought out his company. Now that the war was over, he had a more difficult time finding a place where he felt as secure.

On June 8, 1946, he had arrived at Wake Forest, feeling “lost — as usual.” Within weeks, however, he found what he wanted: without hesitation he began dating his Spanish teacher, Phyllis Plumbo, an exotic beauty from New Jersey, whose father was an international businessman.

She accepted his invitations for campus walks, followed by listening to music and stolen kisses. At the end of the semester, Phyllis went back to work for her father in New Jersey, and she and Archie began an exchange of letters and poems, which he later remembered “deepened the life in words for me.” Over the course of his four years, including summer school, he worked toward his degree. He was graduated May 31, 1949, earning a B.S. degree in biology with honors (He was Miss Plumbo’s A student). “It’s done now and bloody,” he wrote in his diary, on his way to his first job as a school principal in coastal North Carolina. In November he and Phyllis married and went to Hatteras. The next year, encouraged by his wife, they moved to the University of California at Berkeley, where he studied with the poet Josephine Miles, but he did not stay to finish a graduate degree. He was too far from home — his father was unwell, and he felt he was needed. He took a job with Phyllis’ father in New Jersey, wrote poems and sent them out for rejections and occasional acceptances, but he felt anxious and alone. In 1955 he self-published his first book, “Ommateum.” In 1964, invited to give a reading at Cornell University, he made such an impression that the English department hired him to teach creative writing. When he retired in 1998, he was one of the best known and beloved professors on an elite faculty with an elite student body, and he won all the most prestigious national poetry prizes.
WAKE FOREST INVITED

Archie back in 1972 to receive an honorary degree. He was surprised; he remembered that as a student at Wake Forest he had felt “invisible.” He had never seen the campus in Winston-Salem, and the occasion was also a chance to see his sisters, both living in North Carolina. At an English department reception at Professor Elizabeth Phillips’ house, he was overcome by shyness again and wandered off to talk with Sally, my and Ed Wilson’s 4-year-old daughter. It settled him down, and he made a lasting friendship with us and with many others. He returned later to teach various times as visiting writer, becoming the Pied Piper of poetry. During those times he and Phyllis and their young son John lived in the faculty neighborhood — once in the home of Meyressa Hughes (’62, JD ’68) and Don Schoonmaker (’60) and later at Josie and Harold Tedford’s (P ’83, ’85, ’90) during sabbaticals. Archie enjoyed reading poetry with Louise and Tom Gossett (and their cat, Napper Tandy). In subsequent years he came back for special occasions and in 2010 the library held a seminar in his honor and inaugurated the Ammons gallery, where 20 of his original watercolors are displayed. When he died Feb. 25, 2001, services were held at Davis Chapel and at Reynolda House Museum of American Art, with Helen Vendler giving the memorial lecture. The English department named its faculty lounge for Ammons, where his old upright Underwood manual typewriter is on display. The A.R. Ammons poetry contest is held annually in Columbus County. Associate Professor of English Robert M. West (’91)
at Mississippi State University has edited “Complete Poems,” the forthcoming two volumes of Ammons’ poetry.

Wake Forest was important to Archie Ammons. Here he met the woman he would marry and depend upon for the rest of his life. Renewing his connection to the campus in Winston-Salem gave him a way of keeping faith with North Carolina, which he always thought of as home. Phyllis believed that Wake Forest provided for him the bridge to the future, giving him the confidence to go to Berkeley to work at a nationally known university.

But it is still painful to think about how lonely Archie felt as a student at Wake Forest. Beyond bragging rights that he is one of our most distinguished graduates, how can we in other ways honor his legacy today?

A few years ago, Vendler, one of Ammons’ greatest admirers and a faculty member at Harvard, advised the Harvard undergraduate admissions office to look in its application pool for “the lonely and highly individual path” that students in the arts usually take. She pointed out that artists may not reveal themselves on their high school transcripts, and they may not come across well in an interview. In his

“STILL”

I said I will find what is lowly and put the roots of my identity down there:
each day I’ll wake up and find the lowly nearby,
a handy focus and reminder,
a ready measure of my significance,
the voice by which I would be heard,
free as my own:
but though I have looked everywhere,
I can find nothing to give myself to: everything is

magnificent with existence, is in

surfeit of glory:
nothing is diminished,
nothing has been diminished for me:
I said what is more lowly than the grass:

ah, underneath,
a ground-crust of dry-burnt moss:
I looked at it closely

and said this can be my habitat: but

nestling in I

found

below the brown exterior

green mechanisms beyond the intellect

awaiting resurrection in rain: so I got up

and ran saying there is nothing lowly in the universe:

I found a beggar:

he had stumps for legs: nobody was paying
him any attention: everybody went on by:

I nestled in and found his life:

there, love shook his body like a devastation:

I said

though I have looked everywhere

I can find nothing lowly

in the universe:

I whirled through transfigurations up and down,
transfigurations of size and shape and place:

at one sudden point came still,

stood in wonder:

moss, beggar, weed, tick, pine, self, magnificent with being!


Emily Herring Wilson (MA ’62, P ’91, ’93) is a poet and biographer.
Professor Eric G. Wilson’s quest to create his ‘own sweet ruse’

By Ed Southern (’94) ILLUSTRATIONS BY HEADS OF STATE
Eric G. Wilson, the Thomas H. Pritchard Professor of English, is not himself these days. Or any days. Ever.

In fact, he claims to have no “himself” to be. Neither do you, nor do any of us.

Isn’t college — especially a “life of the mind” liberal arts college like Wake Forest — supposed to be where we go to find that essential self we have been all along?

Does the English department know, then, that its Thomas H. Pritchard professor instead professes, in his classroom and in his latest acclaimed book, that we all are self-created (or, worse, self-accepted) characters, playacting our way through life, faking it?

Does the University know? Does Thomas H. Pritchard?

Wilson (MA ’90) argues for the reality of unreality in “Keep It Fake: Inventing an Authentic Life,” published in May 2015 by the Sarah Crichton Books imprint of the August publisher Farrar, Straus and Giroux. Like his three previous books of creative nonfiction, “Keep It Fake” has garnered national and international attention. The New York Times Book Review, Publishers Weekly and Kirkus Reviews are among those who have praised it on their pages. The Daily Beast, National Public Radio, even “The Art of Manliness” podcast all interviewed Wilson about the book and the claim he uses it to make: that we are better off when we quit trying to “be ourselves.”

To be clear: Wilson is, and is advocating for, faking it — not lying. Lies, he writes, are “deliberate put-ons that either harm others or help you or both together.” Even if Wilson admits “the possibility that both truth and lie are arbitrary antinomies — as are good and evil, rebellion and conformity, even, strange to say, life and death — in the collective narrative we have chosen to call reality,” he holds that lying is immoral because it is inauthentic — unlike playacting.
Playacting — choosing a role, an identity, from those available, and performing that role with grace and commitment and generosity — can be a profoundly moral act (pun intended), if we use our fakery to form as many genuine connections as possible.

We live in an age of reality TV, plastic surgery, performance-enhancing drugs, genetically engineered foods, a society in which we “trust Jon Stewart, the host of a mock news show, more than the serious anchors of the big four networks,” as Wilson writes in the book. “To be a fake in this dreamy universe is to believe in actual authenticity and behave accordingly, and to be in tune with the real is to know it’s all phony and create, with a generous heart, your own sweet ruse.”

“Keep It Fake,” Wilson said, was inspired by “my own struggle with questions about authenticity,” and the struggles with depression and bipolar disorder he wrote about in three of his previous books: “Against Happiness: In Praise of Melancholy,” “The Mercy of Eternity: A Memoir of Depression and Grace,” and “Everyone Loves a Good Train Wreck.”

“I’ve been in and out of a lot of psychotherapy over the years,” he said. “Early on, some psychotherapists I had were saying that, to be mentally healthy, you have to go through all the layers of fakery, all the different roles you play in life, and find this ‘real self,’ to get to this primal consciousness that is ‘you,’ and when you find that, well then, you’ll be happy and healthy.

“But I just found that so frustrating, and so limiting, over time. Finally I saw a psychotherapist who said, ‘There’s no such thing as a self. If you try for that, you’re going to be endlessly frustrated.’ It’s so liberating to think about constructing an identity and not being fake, if you inhabit that identity. That’s what authenticity is — constructing the role that you want, constructing the role that makes your life as vibrant as it can be, and inhabiting that role, and of course constantly revising that role as need be. Then life can become art.”

“Yes, reality is a construct, but not all constructs are created equal. Some fictions are truer than others.”

— Eric G. Wilson at the Porter Byrum Welcome Center in fall 2015

Long before he was Thomas H. Pritchard Professor of English, Wilson was “the boy whose first word was ‘ball,’” the coach’s son, the golden boy quarterback for his hometown team and — almost — for Army.

“But my mind,” he writes in his latest book, “from the first five minutes I was there, whispered over and over, like a prayer, ‘I’ve got to get the (ahem) out of here.’”

“Only when I … questioned quarterbacking and everything else did I doubt my parents’ honesty. There was no way I really blurted that word. Surely the coach wanted so much for my first word to be ‘ball’ that he translated my blubbery random b’s and l’s into his favorite sound. … (H)e thrust me into a narrative … by the time we become aware of ourselves we are already trapped in fictions not of our making, and our only hope of escaping the text is to write our way into stories of our own.”
ilson began writing his own story by reading someone else’s.

Unable to leave West Point for 30 days, unable to sleep well at night, Wilson — no longer the quarterback, not yet a professor of English, still a teenager — tried to soothe his looming identity crisis by reading in his bunk after lights-out. By the combined glow of a sliver of moonlight and his Casio watch, he started “The Razor’s Edge” by W. Somerset Maugham — a book his mother had bought, and Wilson had brought, for no other reason than its cover photo of Bill Murray, his favorite actor (it was the tie-in edition to the 1984 movie, a flop).

Maugham’s novel tells the story of a traumatized World War I veteran who gives up the shining life waiting for him at home to go questing after Truth.

“I projected myself into his character: lived out my own struggles in his, explored a new identity as he fashioned one for himself,” Wilson writes. “(T)here in that West Point barracks bed, I concluded, for the first time, that I was interested in philosophy. … I said to myself, ‘I love poetry.’ ”

The story of his self that he began, there in his bunk by the light of the moon and his Casio, had the plot twists and digressions that any good story should. This new Eric Wilson he was creating (and daily creates) was neither stock nor static. He returned to his hometown of Taylorsville, North Carolina, to figure out his next steps, ending up at Appalachian State University in Boone, where he earned his bachelor’s degree. He followed that with a trip down the mountains for his first stint at Wake Forest, earning his master’s degree in English in 1990.

During these years, Wilson operated in the guise of the Serious Scholar. “I was quite staid,” he writes, “applying the inflexible discipline to my studies that I had once applied to football.

“It wasn’t until I reached graduate school that I mustered the guts to get weird.”

In the doctoral program at the City University of New York, he discovered a fascination for “the uncanny, the melancholy, the traumatic, the outlandish, the sublime,” which fueled his scholarly work on the Romantics.

He also came across the concepts and qualities that first he admired, then incorporated into his developing self, and now uses as the moral basis of “Keep It Fake” — “labyrinthine,” “capaciousness,” an openness to as many connections as the world will allow.

Referencing the work of the French philosopher Paul Ricoeur, Wilson writes that “some narratives are ethical, and some aren’t. Unethical stories are those unresponsive to the heterogeneity of the network, while ethical ones are sensitive to as many strands as possible. To create a narrative of such rich variety is not only good; it is beautiful, as the novels of Woolf, Faulkner, Proust and Joyce are: capacious, multiple, polyvocal, rhythmical, generous. The fading of fact into fiction generates an ethic that is aesthetic.”

Wilson returned to Wake as an assistant professor of English in 1998, becoming a full professor in 2006 and the Thomas H. Pritchard Professor of English the following year. He served as the chair of the English department from 2003 – 2007 and as director of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program from 2008 – 2010.

Nowadays the 48-year-old Wilson teaches mostly undergraduate courses on topics such as “The Gothic” and “American Romanticism,” filled with digital natives who, on social media, have been choosing and curating their own personae for most of their lives.

“The notion that there’s no ‘true self’ is not such a shocking idea now,” Wilson said. “They’ve experienced, and have
accepted, that there’s a fluidity to identity, that identity is a process. You’re not meant to conform to who you were at 16."

The danger in accepting the fluidity of identity is when the identity you create is “not one that will enrich your life.”

“There are realities; things happen. There are givens,” Wilson said. “If you create an identity that is at odds with the givens, that’s an unsatisfying life.

“The best identities are those that are able to accommodate those givens, and make them meaningful. Some identities are more meaningful than others.”

In class Wilson often illustrates this idea with what he calls “the metaphor of the cliff”:

“Just as gravity will throw us into the sea if we leap from a coastline cliff, our genes and a multitude of other factors will force us into actions over which we have no control,” he put it in a blog post for Psychology Today. “But we can decide how to fall — flail wildly and smack the water in a bellyflop, or arc into a swan before entering the blue with nary a splash.”

He may not be able to create himself out of whole cloth — he can never not be “the boy whose first word was ‘ball’” — but he can stitch together his “givens” into new, more vibrant patterns.

“The past is a constant, as much as the present and future. If you fall into a depression or a crisis, though, you can focus on other parts of your past,” Wilson said. “There’s always a space for creativity. We have the ability to swerve from our past. We can interpret those past acts in different ways.”

"Keep It Fake" is Wilson’s fourth book of creative nonfiction (he also has published nine scholarly books), and in many ways this one intersects the most with his work in the classroom.

“The ideas that show up in the book are ideas I constantly talk about in my classroom. If I can make my ideas clear to 19-year-olds, if I can turn them on to those ideas, then I’ve got something.

“I’m still profoundly formed by the major ideas of Romanticism. If I can sum them up, it’s ‘the redemptive power of the imagination,’ the idea that we can shape our lives by how we imagine our lives, that we can turn life into art.

“The voice that I tried to capture in 'Keep It Fake', the voice that excites me the most, is precisely my teaching voice. I think I’m livelier during those moments when I’m teaching. The voice that I have when I’m teaching is very sensitive to others.

“I really like myself when I teach.”

Ed Southern (’94) is the executive director of the North Carolina Writers’ Network and the author of “Parlous Angels” and “Voices of the American Revolution in the Carolinas.” He lives in Winston-Salem.

Compiled by
CHERIN C. POOVEY (P ’08)  
and MARIA HENSON (’82)  
Illustrations by
WOODIE ANDERSON

From the personal correspondence of alumni and presidents, a treasure trove of which is to be found in the Special Collections and Archives of Z. Smith Reynolds Library, to a loving note handwritten by Katharine Reynolds to her ill husband, R.J., preserved at Reynolda House Museum of American Art, to a North Carolina boy’s eloquent account of evening on the Old Campus found in G.W. Paschal’s “History of Wake Forest College,” these engaging letters, presented as they were originally written, offer glimpses into people and places, illuminating perspectives we may have never imagined — nor enjoyed.

Read the lines, then read between the lines. Things written, as well as things inferred, reveal the everyday and the extraordinary.
“There is no place like Wake Forest at night. The stillness of the graveyard possesses the whole outdoor establishment. It is now night — the pale face moon is shining beautifully, and all without is absolute solitude — save when a solitary student is heard winding his way with a pitcher in hand to the well — soon again all is silence. O what a place for meditation! — how calm, how still — nothing but the gentle breeze stealing among the dead leaves as they hang upon the trees. But hark there sounds the deep notes of the bell — ’tis nine o’clock. Now listen — how soft and melodious are the tones of those flutes — how beautifully do they harmonize with those of the violin — the sharp hissing sounds are from the Dulcimo. Moonlight and music! — but enough. There’s no place like Wake Forest. Good night.”

“My field of labor was in the midst of lofty and towering mountains, and often I was compelled to follow the old Indian trails while the wind and rain beat upon me, and in many places I had to lead my horse over such bad ground that I felt it would not be safe to ride on horseback.”

“What we need in North Carolina is to arouse the spirit of education. There are enough boys in the State to whom their parents are able to give collegiate education to double the number at Wake Forest, Trinity and Davidson, and besides fill the recitation rooms of the University. … Virginia is giving higher education to four times more of her male children than North Carolina. There are a thousand boys staying at home who ought to go to college. Let us work to get them to go somewhere.”

Dear Dr. Poteat,

I’m writing you confidential concerning the conduct of our boy G.Y. Jolly. We heard that he was associating with a group of boys who drink and play poker.

Wish you would please look into the matter and let us know as soon as possible.

Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely yours,
Mr. and Mrs. W.O. Jolly

My dear Mrs. Jolly:

I have waited to answer your inquiry of some weeks ago in order to learn something about your son’s manner of life at Wake Forest. I have so far been unable to find anything to his discredit. He is in one of my classes and is evidently a bright, young man and seems to be attentive to his work.

Very truly yours,
William L. Poteat

Back in the day on the Old Campus of Wake Forest, William Louis Poteat Sr.’s (1877) job included the presidency, preaching, teaching — and occasionally reassuring concerned parents. Dr. Billy’s “status report” about young Mr. Jolly was surely a comforting response to Mom and Dad’s handwritten plea.

AYDEN, N.C.
NOV. 28, 1927

DR. W.L. POTEAT
WAKE FOREST, N.C.

MRS. W.O. JOLLY
AYDEN, N.C.
DECEMBER 19, 1927

My dear Mrs. Jolly:

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HELICOPTER PARENTS

Back in the day on the Old Campus of Wake Forest, William Louis Poteat Sr.’s (1877) job included the presidency, preaching, teaching — and occasionally reassuring concerned parents. Dr. Billy’s “status report” about young Mr. Jolly was surely a comforting response to Mom and Dad’s handwritten plea.
This correspondence between the Rev. J.P. DuBose Jr. and President Harold W. Tribble occurred following the 1962 publication of “The Education of Jonathan Beam.” The novel, written by then-University Director of Communications Russell Brantley ('45), was set at fictional “Convention College.” The title character, a young Southern boy experiencing college for the first time, ultimately rejected his Baptist ways and, through trial and tribulation, learned to think for himself. The book ridiculed Baptists’ efforts to prohibit “sinful” dancing at the school and touched a nerve with many Baptists, who expressed outrage and demanded Brantley’s dismissal. Tribble took no such action, and, in this instance, invited the writer to experience campus climate firsthand.

**Come for a visit**

**VIA TELEGRAM APRIL 27, 1962**

I register protest to Brantley’s book and administrations approval of it Also lack of Christian Baptist spirit on campus with drawing all defense of Harold Tribble and Wake Forest College until change effected in atitude toward Christian ethics, admission of Baptist students, attitude toward Baptist

Rev. J.P. DuBose Jr, First Baptist Church, Marion NCAR

**APRIL 30, 1962**

Dear Brother DuBose:

This will acknowledge receipt of your telegram last Friday and renew my invitation to you to come to our campus for a visit.

Cordially yours,
Harold W. Tribble
President
Journalist and social critic

WILBUR JOSEPH "W.J." CASH

(1922) was an editor and writer at various Southern newspapers including his own paper in Shelby, North Carolina, the Charlotte News and The American Mercury. An inductee of the Wake Forest and North Carolina Writers Halls of Fame, his seminal "The Mind of the South" is an enduring text of the history and psychology of the region. Cash, who attended Wake Forest School of Law before turning to journalism, won a Guggenheim Fellowship and was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize for his reporting on World War II.

Dear Dad:

Just a note to say that Mary and I are going down to Clayton, Ga. Saturday to a literary gathering. Monday we are going to Atlanta where I am to be given a luncheon by the bookstore in Rich's, the big department store there, meet the local writers, be interviewed by the papers, etc.

I'll be back at work Tuesday morning.

Mary and I enjoyed being at home, and we'll see you all again before long.

I enclose the other $15 for February.

Love to Mama.

Love,

Wilbur
After a visit from a group of Reynolds Tobacco employees resulted in a worsening condition for R.J. Reynolds, his doctors took the drastic course of denying him access to visitors, including his wife and children. In a letter dated 21 November 1917 and found in the archives of Reynolda House Museum of American Art, Dr. Thomas R. Brown explained that the reason for the prescribed isolation was that R.J.’s “worry in regard to his business was so definitely inhibiting his recovery, that ... he must have complete mental rest.” And, Katharine because of her “great knowledge of his business ... could not fail to keep his mind more or less active along business channels.” Dr. Brown requested that Katharine restrain her contact to “short, very cheerful letters, without any reference to his business affairs.” As evidenced by this handwritten note, she did just what the doctor ordered.

My precious one, I know not what to say to you in so few words, only I am ever thinking and praying for you — that the time may soon come when we shall no longer be separated. With a heart overflowing with love and a thousand kisses from the children,” Fondly and devotedly, Katharine
One of the first inductees to the Wake Forest Writers Hall of Fame, Harold T. P. Hayes (’48) was an esteemed writer and editor of Esquire magazine from 1963 to 1973. Recognized as the main architect of the New Journalism movement, he appreciated bold writing and points of view. He favored writers with a flair for ferreting out the spirit of the time such as Gay Talese, Tom Wolfe, Norman Mailer, Nora Ephron and Gore Vidal. It brings a smile to one’s face, then, to imagine the spirit of his reaction to a 1966 query letter from John Haddad, a California-based writer yearning to see his byline alongside those of towering talents of the time. Haddad held nothing back, making his pitch for employment in 89 lines of verse, typed in ALL CAPS. Hayes’ reply, presumably a bit less emphatic in upper and lowercase, was no less entertaining. It took him just 11 lines to say “No.”
MR. HAROLD HAYES
ESQUIRE MAGAZINE
NEW YORK CITY

DEAR MR. HAYES, THIS IS A CRAZE
THAT WILL DESCRIBE ME BEST.
THIS IS A LETTER I’M WRITING,
TO YOU, I LEAVE THE REST!

I’M NOT REALLY A POET,
BUT DAMMIT I MUST LAFF –
IF ALL THIS STUFF I’M WRITING
WILL PUT ME ON YOUR STAFF,
THEN I WOULD SURELY LOVE IT,
FOR I’M A REAL CRACK-POT.
I USED TO BE A CHEF OF SORTS,
BUT NOW I’M IN A KNOT
FROM BEING SO FRUSTRATED
IN LIFE’S MAD, CRAZY SEA.
I WRITE MOST ALL MY LETTERS
IN STUPID POETRY!

I THOUGHT THAT PERHAPS ‘ESQUIRE’
WOULD LIKE TO SHARE THIS FUN,
IT’S NUTTY AT ITS BEST-EST,
THEN WHY MAKE LIFE MORE GLUM?

I WRITE LIKE MAD EACH MORNING,
AND WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN
I WRITE A BOUT A PO’M A DAY
IN VERSE – JUST LIKE A CLOWN

WHO TOSSES LIKE A BOUNCING BALL,
THAT’S WHAT I DO WITH WORDS –
I WHIP THEM IN A MUDDLE
AND GATHER THEM IN HERDS!

THERE’S NO END TO THIS LETTER,
FOR ONCE I START, WATCH OUT –
I KEEP THE PACE A-ROLLING
UNTIL I’VE SHOT MY SPOUT!

NOW, IF YOU LIKE MY LOGIC
ON POETRY AND GOOP,
THEN LET ME MAKE A STEW FOR YOU
AND CALL IT ‘ESQUIRE SOUP’!

PERHAPS YOU THINK ME INSANE
FOR WRITING IN THIS WAY,
(YES, THERE’S MORE!)
BUT MY POOR SENSE OF HUMOR HAS GOT TO PLAY AND PLAY!

EVERYTHING KEEPS ME LAFFING –
MOST PEOPLE THAT I SEE HAVE SOMETHING IN THEIR MAKEUP THAT MAKES ME LAUGHINGLY
RUN TO MY OLD TYPEWRITER AND RUSTLE OFF A PO’M –
I MAY NEVER SEE THEM AGAIN,
BUT IN MY THOUGHTS THEY ROAM AND SHOW UP EVERY NOW AND THEN.
I STORE THEM ALL AWAY
AND KEEP THEM LOCKED UP IN MY MIND FOR THE PROVERBIAL DAY
WHEN I CAN GAILY USE THEM TO BRIGHTEN UP A LINE

IN SOME OLD ZANY STORY
I’M RATTLING OFF IN RHYME!

MY METER AND MY LICENSE IS OFF BEAT AT ITS BEST,
AND LITERARY I AM NOT.
THO’ COLLEGE WAS MY NEST
OF HORDORS, STUDY AND LATE NIGHTS,
I ONLY LIKE TO LAFF
AND STORY TELL UNTIL THE DAWN –
THEN GIVE MY AUTOGRAPH TO OTHER NIT WITS SUCH AS I
ALL DESTINED TO BE BUMS.
BUT I KEEP WRITING STUFF LIKE THIS THAT BRINGS ME ENDLESS SUMS
OF DOUGH-RE-MI AND WHAT YOU SEE IN THIS LETTER TO YOU –
I HOPE YOU’LL KEEP ON READING UNTILL (?) THIS MISSIVE’S THROUGH!

YES, MR HAYES, IT ALWAYS PAYS FOR A BIG NUT LIKE ME TO TELL THE TRUTH – BUT NOT UNCOUTH,
SO YOU MAY TRULY SEE THAT AT YOUR DOOR ANOTHER BORE IS MANUSCRIPTING YOU
WITH POEMS IN FUN, SO YOU WON’T RUN – BUT LAFF – I HOPE YOU DO

IMAGINE WRITING POEMS FOR ‘ESQUIRE’ MAGAZINE?
THE VERY THOUGHT ENTHRALLS ME,
AND MAKES ME WANT TO SCREAM!
I USED TO WRITE ‘RHET-O-RIC’
BUT THAT’S FOR OTHER SQUARES;
I’D RATHER PLUCK WORDS AS THEY COME
NOT FROM UN DICTIONNAIRE!

I SIMPLY CAN’T STOP WRITING,
THERE’S NO END TO THIS CHAT.
SO, LET ME OPEN UP THE DOOR
AND GRAB MY COAT AND HAT
AND BID YOU A ‘GOOD DAY, SIR’ –
PERHAPS WE’LL MEET ONE DAY;
AND IF YOU LIKE MY POEMS,
WE’LL MEET REAL SOON – I PRAY!

OCTOBER 24, 1966

Mr. John Haddad
North Hollywood, California

You never need fear
that your letter brought cheer;
and your goal throughout life
To proceed without strife
Is good news to hear.

But your hope for a job
as another Esquire slob
I must lamentably pass.
There’s no opening, alas
in return for your corn,
I can’t even offer a cob.

Sincerely,
Harold Hayes
SOPHIE STEVENS LANNEAU (1881-1963), an educational missionary, was born in Lexington, Missouri, and at age 8 moved with her family to the town of Wake Forest, North Carolina, when her father joined the faculty of Wake Forest College. She attended Wake Forest Academy and Franklin (Virginia) Female Seminary before enrolling at the Baptist Female University (now Meredith College) where she graduated in 1902.

While in college Lanneau decided to devote her life to foreign missions work for the Southern Baptist Convention, and in 1907 she accepted an assignment to establish and manage a small girls’ school in Soochow, now known as Suzhou, in Jiangsu Province of East China. (Currently 17 students with a Jiangsu address are Wake Forest undergraduates.) The school opened in February 1911, and she had decided to name it “Wei Ling” (renaissance).

Over the years Lanneau weathered financial strain brought on by building repairs and providing facilities for a large number of students, coping with the Communists and pressure from the Chinese government, resulting in the school becoming largely secular. By the time this letter excerpt was written, she had been on furlough in America to take graduate courses in education, appointed a Chinese woman as principal of Wei Ling and assumed the honorary title of founder, serving as dean of students and instructor until 1937. In 1950, after the United States entered the Korean War, Lanneau attempted to keep Wei Ling open but the presence of Americans was putting their Chinese colleagues in danger. She departed China in August 1950, retired and spent most of her remaining years back in the town of Wake Forest.
SOOCHOW, CHINA
FEB. 25, 1931

Dear Auntie Mae,

In the minutes before my next class I want to write a little to let you know I am thinking of you. You would be interested in many things here, I’m sure, if only I could tell you enough about them. The years since I left America in January 1925 have been, as you know, momentous years for mission work in China. I have lived through one crisis after another in the life of this girls’ school. That situation has absorbed me, and caused me to neglect almost all of my relatives and friends. Let me tell you the good news that the school itself has grown steadily and prospered right through all the dangers and difficulties confronting it. Once I asked relatives and friends for any money they could share to help our school pay its expenses. The Board in Richmond could not give us any extra. A few friends and some relatives sent me gifts from ten dollars up. The largest was a gift of one hundred dollars from dear Cousin Jessie.
From President THOMAS K. HEARN JR. to friends Dewey and Hazel Houston of Conover, North Carolina. The Houstons had visited campus and met with business students.

Dear Dewey and Hazel,

We were delighted to have you visit last week. It was a special occasion for all of us. As if the evening were not gift enough, when the package arrived from Twin City Knitting, I felt as if a spring Christmas had arrived. I was down to my last pair of tattered tennis socks, and I have already put your products to good use. I must say there is an evident difference in the quality of your products and those I have been wearing. We are deeply grateful for your generosity. It has been something of a lesson to me about the quality and character of sports wear hosiery.

Sincerely yours,
Tom Hearn
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES  
of America  
JANUARY 16, 1982

Dear Dr. Scales,

Thank you very much for your congratulatory letter of December 18th, which I recently received here in Bucharest. It was a tremendous honor to have been selected as Ambassador to Romania, and I will do all that I can to live up to the trust which has been placed in me.

I first became interested in Romania while studying history under Dr. Keith Hitchins at Wake Forest in 1962 and 1963. During the decade of the 1970’s I had no success in my efforts to fulfill my then vocational dream of returning to Wake Forest as a professor of history. The five years spent at Wake Forest (1962-67 for B.A. and M.A. degrees) were among the most meaningful in my life, both academically and personally (my wife and I were married by Ed Christman in Davis Chapel). I am especially proud to be a Deacon and to call Wake Forest my alma mater.

Yours sincerely,

David B. Funderburk  
American Ambassador
Dear Mr. Stallings:

We were out on a cruise in 28-ft. tub and ran into a blow that held us 10 days overdue at Dry Tortugas — so just now gotten your letter. I’m awfully sorry to have been delayed answering it.

About the play — the best way is to act as though I’m dead — you’re making the play and you have the responsibility. I can’t give permission to anything except to you to make the play. God be with you.

You see I don’t know a damned thing about the theater. So you take the book and as though it were by some citizen that is dead all ready and let all your responsibility be to the book.

I would like to go in with you and help on it and learn something about the theatre — But I’m trying to write another book. So it’s your show.

Ernest Hemingway

Laurence Stallings (1916), a decorated World War I veteran, reporter, critic, novelist, dramatist and screenwriter, was an integral part of the burgeoning Broadway and Hollywood cultures of the 1920s through ’50s. His last major work was “The Doughboys: The Story of the AEF, 1917–1918,” a nonfiction account of World War I and those who paid the price, yet triumphed. After graduation Stallings became a reporter at the Atlanta Constitution; two years later he enlisted in the Marines and was sent to France, where he participated in some of the bloodiest campaigns of the war. In June 1918 he was wounded at the Battle of Belleau Wood and spent eight months recovering in France before being shipped home after the armistice was signed. Once home he married his college sweetheart, Helen Poteat, the daughter of Wake Forest’s seventh president, William Louis Poteat Sr. (1877), from whom he was divorced after 17 years. Stallings worked at the Washington Times as a reporter before relocating to New York, where he joined the World. His novel, “Plumes,” was a finalist for the 1925 Pulitzer Prize. A member of the legendary Algonquin Round Table, Stallings always had one subject to tackle: wartime experiences. This letter of correspondence, handwritten by author Ernest Hemingway, concerns Stallings’ request to write the stage adaptation of “A Farewell to Arms,” published in 1929 and recalling the Italian campaign of World War I.
Justin St. Pierre ('07) spent his 2005 spring semester at Casa Artom with fellow students and faculty director Professor of English James Hans. At the end of their stay, the group created a scrapbook of memories now digitally immortalized in the Special Collections and Archives of Z. Smith Reynolds Library. St. Pierre offered memorable bits of advice to those who might one day visit Venice.

Years later he says the experience gave him the confidence to live outside the United States. "During my time abroad, I was able to experience an alternative to the American lifestyle," said St. Pierre, who lives in Bondi Beach near Sydney, Australia, and manages market development for Datacom, a privately owned IT organization based in New Zealand. "I got a teaser of what life abroad could be like, and I was able to start developing skills that I would need in the future. I've visited Casa Artom a few times since studying abroad, and I couldn't recommend it more. Wake Forest is incredibly fortunate to possess such a gem, and I can't imagine any Casa Artom alumni disagreeing."

To Whom It May Concern:

You may find yourself searching for the advice of an experienced resident of Casa Artom. If you find yourself in this position, read on. I suggest you take part in the following actions:

- Ride the Vaporettoes without a ticket
  (If you look suspicious, you will get caught)
- Lose money at the casino
- Buy a painting from Mauro
- Go to dinner with a true Italian
- Drink spritz of your choice
  (don't drink "Bitter" if you dislike it)
- Sleep on the Dock
- Go to Croatia
- Get a Billa Card
- Picnic in Lido
- Hug the Cleaning Ladies

Don't Look Now,
Justin St. Pierre ('07)
cleaning ladies
You are at a jazz age in your lives.

BY CHERIN C. POOVEY (P ’08)
PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEN BENNETT
MOTHER NATURE brought the chill, but celebratory Demon Deacons brought the cool as 1,954 undergraduate, graduate and professional school students received diplomas at Commencement on May 15. Savoring clear skies and morning temperatures among the coldest on record, Class of 2016 graduates were blessed with a gorgeous day on which they actually appreciated the warmth of ceremonial robes.

Eboo Patel, a leading voice for interfaith cooperation and the founder and president of Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC), spoke to graduates about their burden of uncertainty — of believing that they leave with a set definition of what treasure or genius looks like, and a clear road map for how to find it. “It’s a view that looks at elite education as a classical music score,” said Patel, a Rhodes Scholar who served on President Barack Obama’s inaugural Faith Council and wrote “Acts of Faith,” “Sacred Ground” and the forthcoming “Interfaith Leadership.” “You’ve done the hard work of putting the notes on the page, now all you have to do is play them — go to the right grad program, get the right first job, and presto, the music of the good life.” The bad news, he said, is that the world is even more insecure than graduates have been led to believe. “All of this makes your Wake Forest education even more valuable,” he said. “This, by the way, is the good news.”

Citing stories of jazz icons Louis Armstrong and Wynton Marsalis, Patel encouraged graduates to follow those musicians’ leads and improvise. “You are at a jazz age in your lives, and we are at a new jazz age as a nation.” Your liberal arts education has given you the eyes to read the road signs along the way and change directions when the original plan goes sideways, said Patel, who received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. “There is something to be said for reaching the milestones you set for yourself. There’s a lot more involved in recharting your course when you miss them.”

Julian Gilyard (‘16), a mathematical economics and computer science double major from Raleigh, North Carolina, was featured in a New York Times article on the job-hunting experiences of the Class of 2016. He plans to work for UBS in New York City. Wake Forest prepared him “to go out into the world,” he said, while providing a close community of friends and professors. “Some of my best friendships have come from Wake Forest. It will be sad to see friends go, but I know they’re going to go change the world.”

At the Baccalaureate service on May 15, the Rev. Dr. M. Craig Barnes, president and pastoral ministry professor of Princeton Theological Seminary, told students, “There is a glorious mission for your life. You weren’t brought here by accident, but by a God who has dreams for you. Don’t try to get your life just right before taking up that mission. Leave the garden better than you found it. That’s your mission. Leave our society better than you found it.” He received the Doctor of Humane Letters honorary degree.

In addition to Patel and Barnes, honorary degree recipients were Vivian H. Burke, Doctor of Laws; Richard I. Levin, Doctor of Science; and Michael F. Mahoney (MBA ’96), Doctor of Laws.

OPPOSITE PAGE (center): Speaker Eboo Patel
Three Deacons received the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Awards for their service to Wake Forest and their communities. They were recognized at a gala dinner April 15. The Executive Committee of the Alumni Association selects the recipients each year.

By Kerry M. King (’85)

### Jocelyn Burton (’80)
**Oakland, California**

Jocelyn Burton has spent her life as an advocate, first for her classmates at Wake Forest and, more recently, for children and victims of discrimination.

She still remembers a formative experience when she was a student. During a protest over the flying of the Confederate flag outside the Kappa Alpha lounge, Burton, a member of the Afro-American Society, set fire to a flag. As tensions rose, Chaplain Ed Christman (’50, JD ’53) offered a suggestion: go talk to the fraternity members. It wasn’t what she wanted to do, but she took his advice.

“That was my very first mediation,” said Burton, who has had a distinguished legal career in private practice and public service for 27 years, mostly in California. “That was my first experience talking to people that I didn’t think I had anything in common with. You have to find a way to find the humanity in the other person, and they have to see the humanity in you.”

Burton grew up in Youngstown, Ohio, and Richmond, Virginia, and was one of only about two dozen African-American female students at Wake Forest in the late 1970s. It was challenging, she said, but she made friends across campus and was an RA in Efird dormitory and a member of the Strings society. “Because of the size of Wake Forest, you forged a community. My closest friends from Wake Forest are still my closest friends, 40 years later,” she said.

After graduating with a degree in history, she earned a master’s degree in public policy from the University of Texas at Austin and a law degree from the University of Chicago. Early in her career, she defended the United States in a number of cases as an assistant U.S. attorney in San Francisco, including a stint as chief of the civil division. The Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice recognized her work on behalf of victims of discrimination. After serving as chief attorney for the Superior Court of California, Santa Clara County, she opened the Burton Employment Law Firm in Oakland in 2011.

Burton serves on the Board of Trustees and is a past member of the Alumni Council. She also serves on the board of Saint Vincent’s Day Home, a nonprofit child development center in Oakland, and is a past board member of several other community and education programs.

“One thing that I got out of Wake is, it’s easy to complain, but you need to figure out is there some way that I can make something better?”

### Bob McCreary (’61)
**Newton, North Carolina**

It’s been 55 years since Bob McCreary suited up to play football for coaches Paul Amen and Bill Hildebrand. But his passion for Wake Forest athletics has never been greater.

The former offensive and defensive lineman has given more than $20 million to Wake Forest, making him one of the University’s most generous donors as well as the largest donor to athletic programs. In the last decade, he’s helped fund the construction of Deacon Tower and the video board at BB&T Field. The video board is named in honor of McCreary and the Class of 1961.

Most recently, he gave $12.5 million toward the $21 million McCreary Field House, the indoor practice facility that opened in February. Walking into the completed building for the first time with the football team was an emotional experience, “one I’ll never forget,” McCreary said. “Seeing the reaction of those young men was greater than the gift.”

McCreary was inducted into the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame in 2013. In 2008, he received the Gene Hooks Achievement Award, which honors former athletes for their integrity, charity and leadership. He’s twice been
named Deacon Club Member of the Year. He’s also served on the Board of Visitors. “Bob personifies the success brought by hard work and dedication and the generosity inspired by passion and Pro Humanitate,” said President Nathan O. Hatch.

The oldest of four boys in a family of modest means, McCreary grew up in rural Caldwell County, North Carolina. Football was his ticket to higher education. He credits Professors Franklin Shirley and James Walton with helping him major in communication, and athletic trainer “Doc” Martin for instilling in him toughness and determination.

After a brief professional football career, McCreary worked for 20 years in sales and marketing in the furniture industry. In 1986, McCreary and his wife, Michele, founded McCreary Modern, a top manufacturer of upholstered furniture. He has given 30 percent of the company to employees through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan.

“Coming from where I came from to have what I have today, I am so incredibly blessed to give back to the University that gave so much to me,” McCreary said.

David Dupree (MBA ’78)
Washington, D.C.

Long before he became a successful businessman, David Dupree spent the summer after he graduated from college sitting in a lawn chair in the back of a pickup truck. Working for the Department of Transportation, he spent his days — and some nights, too — counting cars at intersections along North Carolina roads.

He had applied to several business schools, including what was then the Babcock Graduate School of Management, but he wasn’t sure how he would pay for it. One day he received an unexpected call from Frank Schilagi, dean of the Babcock School. Come to Wake Forest and we’ll find a teaching-assistant position to help pay your tuition, Schilagi told him.

Dupree still marvels that the dean took the time to call him. He parked the pickup and enrolled at the Babcock School. He credits Professor Bob Carlson with instilling in him a philosophy that still guides his business decisions today as CEO and managing director of The Halifax Group, a private equity firm based in Washington, D.C.

After graduating in 1978, he launched a successful career in corporate finance and investment banking that’s taken him from Washington to Baltimore to San Francisco and back to Washington. He was a managing director and partner with The Carlyle Group before founding The Halifax Group in 1999.

Dupree has never forgotten Schilagi’s call or his professors’ support. “I discovered a whole new world where people cared how you did and didn’t want you to fail. If Wake ever asked me to do something, I was going to do it.”

He got his chance when he joined the Babcock School Board of Visitors in 1998. As chair of the board, he helped set the school on a more stable financial footing and later worked with then-Dean Steve Reinemund to combine Babcock and the undergraduate Calloway school. Dupree and his wife, Marijke Jurgens-Dupree, are founding donors to Farrell Hall and generous scholarship donors. Dupree was named to the Board of Trustees in 2005. As chair of the Investment Committee, he led the transformation of the investment office into Verger Capital Management.

With daughter Miriam set to enroll in the fall, he intends to continue his involvement with Wake Forest as a parent and trustee. “It’s a chance to work inside an organization that I admire and with people that I admire,” Dupree said. “And it gives me a chance to give something back to an educational institution that gave me a chance.”

For videos and more about the honorees, visit bit.ly/1SvvxYJ.
To read more about Around the Quad items, search highlighted terms on the Wake Forest website.

1 New academic programs in biomedical sciences and engineering will anchor the University’s undergraduate presence, referred to as Wake Downtown, in Wake Forest Innovation Quarter beginning in 2017. Last fall, Wake Forest announced plans to lease space in the rehabilitated former R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company 60 series building in the Innovation Quarter, adjacent to what will become the home of the medical education programs of Wake Forest School of Medicine this summer. Now, newly approved courses of study in engineering, biochemistry and molecular biology, and biomaterial science will extend the exceptional faculty-student engagement that is a hallmark of the Reynolda Campus to one of the fastest-growing urban-based districts for innovation in the country. The proximity of the 115,000-square-foot facility also will make it possible for undergraduates to take classes taught by medical school faculty. “The frontier of science and technology has rarely been as exciting as it is today,” said President Nathan O. Hatch. “Wake Downtown presents a wonderful occasion to rethink how science is taught and how learning is best achieved.”

2 The Wake Forest debate team brought home the ACC Debate Championship for the second year in a row in April. Freshman Adam Tomasi and junior Jack Manchester were undefeated, winning over University of Miami in the finals. The topic was “Resolved: That the United States should adopt substantially stricter gun control regulations, including a prohibition on carrying firearms at college and university campuses.” Jarrod Atchison (’01, MA ’03), associate professor of communication, is director of debate.

3 “Organizing is fundamentally about two things: building relationships and deep listening,” said Alicia Garza, co-founder of the Black Lives Matter movement, during a weeklong visit to campus last spring. Garza led a three-evening seminar covering the origins and success of the movement and strategies for building sustainable social
moves. "My academic work is what got me engaged with social justice and fighting against racism, patriarchy and other systems of power," said Hannah Dobie ('17), a politics and international studies major. "I am so grateful to learn from someone who took from her personal experiences and what she learned in the classroom to create an entire movement and an entire community."

The Wake Forest community commemorated 182 years since the University's founding at Founders' Day Convocation in Wait Chapel Feb. 18. The University's highest honor for distinguished service, the Medallion of Merit, was awarded to two members of the community: Jenny Robinson Puckett ('71, P '00) and Life Trustee James T. "Jim" Williams ('62, JD '66, P '89, '92). Williams enrolled as a first-generation college student on a football scholarship nearly 60 years ago and has seen the University from every possible angle: as a student, parent, alumnus, die-hard fan and trustee. A corporate trial attorney, Williams served on the Alumni Council, College Board of Visitors, Law Board of Visitors and on the boards of Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, Wake Forest Health Sciences and the Wake Will Campaign Cabinet. Puckett, a Spanish instructor who retired in 2013, has gained legendary historian status as she travels from coast to coast, telling alumni, parents and friends about the people, places and circumstances that have made the Wake Forest community what it is today.

Several faculty awards were presented: Professor of Mathematics Ken Berenhaut, URECA Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentored Scholarship in the Sciences; Assistant Professor of English Laura Aull, Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentored Scholarship in the Arts and Humanities; Associate Professor of Health and Exercise Science Jeffrey Katula, Award for Excellence in Research; Professor of Music David Levy, Donald O. Schoonmaker Faculty Award for Community Service; Associate Professor of Romance Languages Linda Howe, Jon Reinhardt Award for Distinguished Teaching; Professor of Law and Associate Dean W. Jonathan Cardi, School of Law Joseph Branch Excellence in Teaching Award; Dean of Wake Forest College and Presidential Endowed Professor of Southern History Michele Gillespie, Kulynych Family Omicron Delta Kappa Award; and Assistant Professor of German Tina Boyer, Reid-Doyle Prize for Excellence in Teaching. Winners of the Senior Orations were Sarah Fine, Robert "Tripp" Maloney and Aishwarya Nagar.

When people think of the word security, they usually think of the physical sense of safety. Wake Forest students explored a broader concept of security, one that takes into account such issues as informational data, quality education and the existence of modern slavery, at TEDxWakeForestU in February. Mark Hurd (P '18), CEO of Oracle Corporation, talked about data, how it’s threatened and how it’s secured. Oracle is an information technology company that works with businesses to secure personal and professional data. His advice to students? Read before you click and think before you post. “The Internet forgets nothing. No one is looking out for you. You decide what you want to put in the public domain.”

For the period from Fall 2014 through Summer 2015, 903 students reported internship experience to the Office of Personal and Career Development. That’s up 19 percent from the previous year’s total of 758. Students reported internships in 35 states and U.S. territories, 23 foreign countries and 246 cities worldwide.

A new School of Business program designed to educate professionals in the high-demand field of business analytics will welcome its first class in July. The 10-month Master of Science in Business Analytics (MSBA) program is designed with input from corporate partners to ensure the school is exceeding industry demands and delivering performance-ready professionals who are driven to achieve results with integrity. MSBA students will analyze large data sets, master technological skills such as data mining and predictive modeling, and formulate actionable insights to corporate partners through hands-on experiential learning.

The Health and Exercise Science (HES) Department has more room to stretch and grow, thanks to a new addition to the Worrell Professional Center. The 29,000-square-foot addition, which opened last spring semester, houses state-of-the-art research space, classrooms, labs and academic and administrative offices. Department Chair Michael Berry said faculty input into the building’s design was integral in developing the collaborative space. “Functionality was the key,” Berry said. “We didn’t gain that much square footage, but the layout and design is making all the difference which is fantastic for our department in all respects.”

S. Jay Olshansky, an expert on aging whose research focuses on the upper limits of the human life span, spoke in March as part of the Voices of Our Time speaker series. “We are not going to like it if we live longer without a health extension,” said Olshansky, whose talk was titled “A Matter of Time: Aging, Health and Longevity in the 21st Century.” Olshansky was also the keynote speaker for “Aging Re-Imagined,” a comprehensive and interdisciplinary symposium that addressed the topic of aging in our society.

In April Ricky Van Veen (’03) co-founder of CollegeHumor, a popular comedy brand/website, and the video-sharing site Vimeo, received the University’s Excellence in Entrepreneurship Award from the Center for Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship. The award recognizes an alumnus, parent or friend who has demonstrated outstanding entrepreneurial spirit, creativity and social responsibility.

Freshman Dennis Uspensky’s victory in a third-set tiebreaker at No. 6 singles lifted the seventh-ranked Demon Deacons men’s tennis team to its first-ever ACC Tournament title on April 24. The Deacons ousted top-ranked Virginia, 4-3, to end the Cavaliers’ nine-year run as conference champions. The Deacs received an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.
Major Mellon Foundation grant promotes path-breaking work in humanities

By Kerry M. King (’85)

A $650,000 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is the latest boost to Wake Forest’s efforts to strengthen the humanities.

A vibrant “engaged humanities” program — making humanities disciplines relevant to today’s world — is the “cornerstone of a liberal arts education,” said Dean of the College Michele Gillespie. “Humanities are at the heart of a Wake Forest education, at the heart of what it means to be an educated citizen in the world, and at the heart of what it means to lead lives that seek to make a difference.”

The Mellon Foundation is one of the country’s leading supporters of what it describes as path-breaking work in the humanities in higher education. “For Mellon to recognize Wake Forest for the quality of the humanities faculty and the quality of our teaching and research means an inordinate amount,” Gillespie said.

Inside Philanthropy has written that the New York-based foundation is “at the cutting edge of efforts to fuse digital resources with the age-old mission of universities to deepen critical thinking through the humanities. While the humanities and technology are often posited as mortal rivals, Mellon’s been on a quest to help schools integrate the two.”

Mellon’s grant to Wake Forest reflects that focus. The three-year grant will help develop team-taught and interdisciplinary courses that address real-world problem-solving; expand humanities research, teaching and programs; and use technology to share student and faculty initiatives with the public.

Mary Foskett, director of the Humanities Institute, said the grant would build on innovative work already being done by faculty to use digital publications and websites. For example, Assistant Teaching Professor Laura Giovanelli has created a digital publication, “We Wake, We Write,” that showcases writing and video projects completed by first-year students in her writing class. Associate Professor of English Jessica Richard developed “The 18th Century Common,” a website for scholars to share research in 18th century cultures with the public.

The grant also seeks to expand the number of courses that connect students’ classroom work with community involvement. In one such existing course, students in Associate Professor of History Lisa Blee’s class, “Issues in Public History,” studied the history of incarceration in the South and then heard firsthand perspectives from offenders. That led to a traveling public exhibit and a faculty-student symposium. “That brings humanities disciplines to life for students,” Foskett said. “It helps them not just understand, but experience the relevance of their humanities education in very keen ways.”

In addition, the grant will pay for a new digital humanities research designer and a web developer to expand digital research, scholarship and teaching. A digital design studio — to be funded through Wake Will: The Campaign for Wake Forest — planned for the Z. Smith Reynolds Library will offer space for students and faculty to collaborate on digital projects.

The grant also will strengthen ties between Wake Forest and Reynolda House Museum of American Art with humanities programs and conferences at Reynolda House. It also will support new humanities initiatives for pre-health undergraduates, and students, residents and faculty at the School of Medicine and in the Physician Assistant Program.

The Mellon grant follows a pivotal $500,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities in 2010 to support interdisciplinary programs in the humanities. That led to an additional $1.5 million for humanities research and education through Wake Will: The Campaign for Wake Forest.
REMEMBER WHEN?

David Hills’ whimsical cartoons promoted campus life

By Kerry M. King (’85)

Two historical items in “Object Curiosity” in the Spring 2016 issue of Wake Forest Magazine shared a jocular artist: the late Professor of Psychology David Hills.

The orientation brochure “You’re Going to be a Deacon?” from 1964 featured illustrations by Hills but without his name on the artwork. His humorous drawings depict fictional classmates Carl Confidence, Albert Average and Perry Panic as they adjust to the challenges of college life. Hills also did the lettering for the “Save the Seal: Protect Endangered Species” button for a 1984 campaign to preserve the Pro Humanitate seal on University stationery.

“I was thrilled to see my dad’s cartoons and orientation booklet so prominently featured,” Hills’ daughter, Karen Hills (’83, PA ’99), wrote Wake Forest Magazine. “My dad always had a deep passion and talent for cartooning. … Others from bygone eras have said how fun it was to see his work and revisit fond memories from the past.”

Hills, who died in 2007, was an associate professor of psychology from 1960 to 1996. He also served as assistant director for the Center for Psychological Services and coordinator of student services.

He was a prolific cartoonist whose drawings captured a feel-good vibe of campus life in the 1960s, ’70s and ’80s. His cartoons enlivened brochures for Freshman Orientation, Homecoming and Parents’ Weekend, theatre programs, even cookbooks. He often included himself in his cartoons as the modest, bespectacled man in the corner.

In his illustrated booklets for January term classes in the 1970s and early 1980s, he turned what otherwise would have been a dull listing of courses into a sketchbook, using simply-drawn characters and a clever word or two to describe each class. For the last booklet in 1981, he drew a bittersweet cover with some of his recurring characters bidding farewell to the January term.

Hills had “rare gifts” as a cartoonist, wrote Provost Emeritus Edwin G. Wilson (’43) in “The History of Wake Forest University, Volume 5.” “With a few exact strokes, he could create … faces and scenes, and he would then give to the speaking characters words of insight and wit such as one would seldom see outside of, for example, a New Yorker magazine.”

For more drawings, see bit.ly/1UcYi27.
From Wake Will campaign events to Pro Humanitate Day service activities, we’ve taken the Wake Forest message of service to humanity around the country. Thousands of alumni have joined their classmates at a variety of events, from Deacs in Love to a Wake on Wall Street panel discussion. About 200 alumni enjoyed a day on the Old Campus in April, seeing old friends and enjoying remarks by Ed Wilson (‘43) and Jenny Puckett (‘71, P ’00). I hope you’ll join us at Homecoming, Oct. 28 – 29, or at an event near you this summer.

Sarah Young Taylor (‘79)  // President, Wake Forest Alumni Association

Pro Humanitate Day

Nearly 600 alumni in 39 cities fought hunger in their communities during the annual Pro Humanitate Day on April 9. Alumni volunteered at food banks in Austin, Denver, Los Angeles, Nashville, Palm Beach, Winston-Salem and in Atlanta, where they sorted and packaged more than 8,000 meals.

Alumni in Charleston, S.C., volunteered at the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge in honor of Matthew Tsun (‘08), who is battling acute myeloid leukemia. San Diego alumni served with the USO Mobile Food Pantry for Service Members and Military Families.

Alumni efforts were boosted by Betsy Bridges Babcock (‘80), founder and co-CEO of Handsome Brook Farm, who donated 282,000 eggs to City Harvest in New York City.

Dallas alumni volunteered in a community garden during Pro Humanitate Day.

San Diego alumni volunteered with the USO Mobile Food Pantry.

FROM THE HEART

Can you spare 30 minutes to help a child? About 50 alumni in Charlotte tutor elementary school children once a week with Heart Math Tutoring, a nonprofit that places math tutors in high-poverty schools. Alumni make up about 10 percent of the volunteers. “I enjoy making a difference,” said Brian Tolleson (MBA ‘08), above. “I think it’s important to give back.”

LIONS AND TIGERS AND DEACONS

Do you live close to the North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro? Bring the kids and join alumni, parents and friends for Deacs Day at the Zoo on Saturday, Aug. 6.

More information: Visit alumni.wfu.edu or contact Laura Crump Harrell (‘92), harrellc@wfu.edu

ALUMNI ADMISSIONS FORUM

Because of the popularity of the annual Alumni Admissions Forum, a second forum has been scheduled for the fall. If you have high school-age children, join the admissions and alumni engagement offices for an introduction into the college search and admissions process on Friday, Sept. 16.

More information: Visit alumni.wfu.edu or contact Laura Crump Harrell (‘92), harrellc@wfu.edu
1940s

William Simpson (‘49) recounts his wartime service in Italy, France and Germany in a new book, “William H. Simpson: World War II.” He had a long career at NC State University as assistant to the chancellor and provost, assistant secretary to the board of trustees and secretary of the university before retiring in 1990.

1950s


Edie Hutchins Burnette (‘58) published a book, “Mountain Echoes” (Jan-Carol Publishing Inc.), that is a compilation of many of her columns from the Asheville Citizen-Times about Haywood County in western North Carolina.


Eddie Ladd (‘59) is a retired Army colonel living in Potomac Falls, VA. He gained fame as the barefoot kicker on the football team when he was a student. Read more at bit.ly/1pB3i42.

1960s

Sidney S. Eagles Jr. (‘61, JD ‘64, P ’91, ’95) is an attorney with Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP in Raleigh, NC. He was chief judge of the N.C. Court of Appeals from 1983 to 2004 and is a retired colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. He received the John B. McMillan Distinguished Service Award, one of the highest honors given by the N.C. State Bar.

Nancy Tuttle May (‘61) was commissioned to create a painting, “Scherazade,” that was installed in the summer of 2014 for the Duke University Medicine Pavilion. She wrote that she has been making a living with her art for 40 years (nancytuttlemay.com).


Jim Williams (‘62, JD ‘66, P ’89, ’92) is chair of the Wake Forest Board of Trustees. He received the Medallion of Merit, Wake Forest’s highest honor, at Founders’ Day Convocation. He is with Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard LLP in Greensboro, NC, and was named a permanent member of Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite Hall of Fame.

William K. Davis (JD ’64) is with Bell Davis & Pitt PA in Winston-Salem. He was named one of the Top 100 lawyers in North Carolina.

Joseph Overby Jr. (‘66, MD ’71) was described by the Sun Journal in New Bern, NC, as an “Unsung Hero” for his work with MERCI Clinic, HOPE Clinic and First Baptist Church. He served on the Board of Trustees of N.C. Baptist Hospital for 20 years and several terms on the WFUBMC Board. He and his wife, Gretchen, established a scholarship at the Wake Forest School of Medicine in memory of their grandson.

Alfred Adams (‘68, JD ’73, P ’01) represents Sigma Chi on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Richard V. Bennett (‘68, JD ’74) is a partner with Bennett & Guthrie PLLC in Winston-Salem. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

J. Nick Fountain (JD ’68) is with Young Moore & Henderson PA in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Mike Hammond (‘68) is pastor of Jones Crossroads Baptist Church in Lancaster, SC, and an adjunct professor in the mathematics department at Wingate University. He wrote a book, “Two Hundred Years of Missions and Ministries: A Partial History of the Moriah Baptist Association.” With the assistance of a “bicentennial team,” this writing was in lieu of the 2015 Bicentennial Celebration by Moriah.

Kathryn Hocutt Hamrick (‘68) published a book, “The Farmer’s Wife,” in December 2015. The book contains nearly 100 humor articles written over a 30-year period about life on her family’s dairy farm and then adjustments to when there are no longer cows to be milked (kathrynhamrick.com).

Mike Queen (‘68, P ’94) represents Lambda Chi Alpha on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Jeff Mackie (‘69) retired from practicing law in Hickory, NC. He received the Old North State Award from Gov. Pat McCrory, and Mayor Rudy Wright presented him with the key to the City of Hickory and declared March 1 “Jeffrey T. Mackie Day.”

1970s

Robert L. Bingham (‘70) published “Growing Up Lansdowne” (AuthorHouse), a photo-illustrated account of his childhood in the 1950s and the eventful 1960s in Lansdowne, PA.

Carl Keller (’70) was named U.S. Tennis Association League Men’s Tennis Captain of the Year for Southeastern North Carolina. He has captured 35 different teams operating out of Holly Tree Racquet Club in Wilmington, NC.

John A. Fagg (MD ’71) was reappointed by Gov. Pat McCrory to a four-year term on the N.C. Medical Care Commission. He is chairman of that commission.

Walter W. Pitt Jr. (JD ’71) is with Bell Davis & Pitt PA in Winston-Salem. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Jenny Robinson Puckett (‘71, P ’00) retired from teaching at Wake Forest in 2013 but never really left. She travels coast to coast speaking at Wake Will campaign events about what made the community of Wake Forest what it is today. She received the Medallion of Merit, Wake Forest’s highest honor, at Founders’ Day Convocation.

M. Cristina Rapela (’71) is founder and director of Connecting Schools to the World, a program that places recent college graduates in schools in her native Argentina to teach English. Thirteen Wake Forest alumni have participated in the program in the last two years. Read more at bit.ly/1lXhb4I.
Kathie de Nobriga ('72, MA '74) recently completed her term as mayor of Pine Lake, GA. She is project manager for the Arts & Democracy Project, a senior writer for the North Carolina Network in New Orleans and a consultant at the Georgia Center for Nonprofits. She is married to Alice Teeter.

Mike Ford ('72) represents Sigma Chi on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Carolyn Burnette Ingram (JD '72) and her husband, Charles, are attorneys and members of the Duplin County (NC) Historical Society. They spearheaded the effort to identify and honor 99 Duplin County servicemen and women who died during World War II. The Ingrams completed a similar project in 2009 that identified and honored those who died during the Vietnam War. The monuments are on the grounds of the Duplin County Courthouse.

David D. Ward Sr. ('72, JD '75, P '05, '08) is with Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Douglas Malcolm ('73) published an historical novel, "The Virginia Valley," a story of cross-cultural servitude that urges readers of all races to look beyond present-day prejudice.

Edward "Ted" Waller ('73) received Meredith College’s President’s Award for his outstanding service. He has been head of technical services at the Meredith library since 1986.

Bill Wells ('74) represents Sigma Chi on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Jim Apple ('75, P '05) received Columbia College’s highest honor, the Medallion Award. He served three terms as a trustee for Columbia College, including one term as board chair. He retired in 2015 as CEO of First Citizens Bank.

Kathleen Brewin Lewis ('75) published her second chapbook of poetry, "Judy’s Thick Kingdom" (FutureCycle Press).

James W. Narron (JD '75) is with Narron O’Hale & Whittington PA in Smithfield, NC. He was named one of the Top 100 N.C. Super Lawyers.

Steve Webb ('75, P '03) retired as region manager, strategic partnerships from GE Healthcare. He and his wife, Paula, and two spaniels plan to split their time between Asheville and Holden Beach, NC.

Amy McAlpine Deaton ('76) and her husband, Paul, practice medicine with Roper St. Francis Healthcare. They live in Mount Pleasant, SC.

Bruce Dickerson ('76) is a financial adviser with Edward Jones in Fayetteville, GA. He was named a principal with The Jones Financial Companies LLP, the firm’s holding company.

A. Holt Gwyn (JD '76) is president of the American College of Construction Lawyers for 2016-17. He has been a fellow since 1999 and was editor-in-chief of the semiannual Journal for seven years.

James K. Dorsett III (JD '77) is with Smith Anderson Blount Dorsett Mitchell & Berning LLP in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer and is chair of the N.C. Fellows of the American Bar Foundation.

J. David Walsh (JD '77) retired as a Florida circuit judge after 15 years on the bench presiding over the civil, felony and child dependency division in Volusia and Flagler counties. He was elected chief judge of the Seventh Judicial Circuit for two terms and before taking the bench practiced civil litigation for 24 years. He and his wife, Stephanie, live in Ormond Beach, FL.

Harold G. Colson Jr. ('78) is a subject librarian at the University of California, San Diego. He discovered volumes of Wake Forest history in an unexpected place. Read more at bit.ly/24pc8M4.

Joseph W. Williford ('78, JD '81, P '16) is with Young Moore & Henderson PA in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

James P. Cain ('79, JD '84) was elected to the board of directors of Alexandria Real Estate Equities, a developer of life science and technology clusters in the United States.

Gerald F. Roach ('80, JD '82, P '09, '12) is with Smith Anderson Blount Dorsett Mitchell & Berning LLP in Raleigh, NC. He was named to a three-year term as managing partner and named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Tony Cahill ('81) appeared in a January episode of the CBS television show "The Inspectors," filmed in Charleston, SC.

David S. Jonas (JD '81) has been named a partner at the Virginia law firm of Fluet Huber + Hope PLLC.

John D. Martin ('81) is with Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Wilmington, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Theodore B. Smyth (JD '81) is with Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer Rising Star.

John T. Wagner ('81, P '15) is senior vice president of the Greater New York Division of Young Life. He wrote an inspirational book, "Perfect: Sacred Stories from the Heart of a Dad" (Koehler Books), about his son David, who has Down Syndrome. Read more at bit.ly/1YqOlK6.

David M. Warren ('91, JD '84, P '13) represents Kappa Alpha Order on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.
D. Anderson Carmen (JD ’82, P ’09) is with Bell Davis & Pitt PA in Winston-Salem. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Michael W. Flannelly (JD ’82) was elected to a 10-year term on the York County Court of Common Pleas. He and his wife, Peggy, live in York, PA.

Grovetta Nelson Gardineer (’82) was appointed senior deputy comptroller for compliance and community affairs, a newly created position at the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, an independent branch of the U.S. Treasury Department that regulates, supervises and charters national banks and federal savings associations.

Leslie Danese Kammire (’82, MD ’86) represents S.O.P.H. on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Elizabeth Hamrick LeBrun (’82) is senior script and story coordinator for a daytime drama on CBS. She spent years in copywriting and advertising before landing her “dream job,” in which she ensures that storylines, characters and history track from one show to the next. Read the story at bit.ly/1Nilw7S.

Molly Welles Lineberger (’82, MA ’15, P ’15) represents Fideles as chair of the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Jill Wilson (JD ’82) is a partner with Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard LLP in Greensboro, NC. She was named a member of the management committee.

Neal R. Jones (’83) was installed in April as senior minister of Main Line Unitarian Church in Devon, PA. He also serves as president of Americans United for Separation of Church & State.

John D. Madden (JD ’83) is with Smith Anderson Blount Dorsett Mitchell & Jernigan LLP in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Jaye Powell Meyer (’83) is a partner practicing family law with Tharrington Smith LLP in Raleigh, NC. She was elected chair of the N.C. Board of Law Examiners.

David M. Duke (JD ’84) is with Young Moore & Henderson PA in Raleigh, NC. He is the first North Carolina attorney to be elected to the American College of Transportation Attorneys. He was also named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Betsy Bagwell Kemeny (’84, P ’16) is a faculty member in the recreational therapy program at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania. She integrates recreational therapy service-learning programs for veterans with disabilities, older adults with developmental disabilities and young adults with autism. She received an equine-assisted therapy grant for veterans with disabilities from U.S. Veterans Affairs, a professional development grant for stress management techniques from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and a grant from the President’s Council on Fitness, Sport and Nutrition.

Jim Phillips (JD ’84) is with Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard LLP in Greensboro, NC. He was named one of Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite.

Brent Shaffer (’84, JD ’87) is a partner with Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor LLP in Wilmington, DE. He was elected a fellow of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers and to the council of the ABA Section of real property, trust and estate law.
Your ability to remember students’ names is legendary. How do you do it?
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, and I think this is the result of age that anybody experiences, 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.

Is it true you were once a foreign correspondent?
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 “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.

What is your fondest memory of growing up in Leaksville, North Carolina?
I have many fond memories of course, of my family. I had three brothers and a sister, our father and 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 Reidsville, 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.
What is a sentimental item you keep in your office?
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 10-12 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 Leakesville 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.

Which book do you always have nearby?
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.

Do you have a favorite poem that you like to recite?
I think perhaps in some ways my favorite poem is Wordsworth’s Immortality Ode, “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.

What is a place or activity that brings you peace?
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 Secrest Series concerts through the years. I think it is in music that, for me at least, a sense of well-being most likely comes.

If you could invite six people to dinner who would they be?
I should say my family, but that’s pretty obvious. And then I say well, I would invite six of my favorite colleagues, but then how would number seven and number eight 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.

Where might someone be surprised to run into you?
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.

In what moment were you most proud of Wake Forest?
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), who was chairman of the board of the 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 has stood its ground against criticism. Wake Forest has 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.
David Daggett (JD ’85) has been elected chair of the board of directors for Insight Human Services.

James Ivory (’85) represents Theta Chi on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Kim Boattwright Shirley (’85, P ’13, ’13) represents S.O.P.H. on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

George M. Cleland IV (’86) is in a private practice with his father, George M. Cleland III (’62). He is president of the Forsyth County Bar Association and the 21st Judicial District Bar.

Ron Dempsey (’86) is vice president for university advancement at Winona State University in Minnesota. He oversees development, alumni relations, marketing and communications and governmental relations.

Michael W. Mitchell (JD ’86, JD ’89) is with Smith Anderson Blount Dorsett Mitchell & Jernigan LLP in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Ronald L. Hicks (JD ’87) is with Meyer Unkovic & Scott LLP in Pittsburgh. He was appointed to the Allegheny County Bar Association Committee for Diversity and Gender Equality.

Jeff Richardson (’87) represents Delta Kappa Epsilon on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Steven C. Wright (’87) is pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Jackson, TN.

Jan Yarborough (JD ’87) is with Wall Babcock LLP. She will continue to work from Chapel Hill, NC, practicing health law, particularly managed care issues.

John Chinuntdet (’88) represents Chi Psi on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Warren K. Lail (JD ’88) is an associate professor of anthropology and dean of graduate studies at New Mexico Highlands University. He led a group of students on an archaeological research exchange project with Université Blaise-Pascal, Clermont-Ferrand, France. He and his wife, Linda, live in Santa Fe, NM.

Rodney T. Powell (’88) is a chemistry instructor at Central Carolina Community College in Holly Springs, NC, where he has been since 2009. The college named him Instructor of the Year, and he placed in the top 10 of community college instructors for the State of North Carolina.

Joe E. Austin Jr. (JD ’89) is with Young Moore & Henderson PA in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Sean Jones (’89, P ’16) was promoted to colonel in the U.S. Air Force at a ceremony at UNC Pembroke. He is strategy chief for the Chairman’s Office of Reintegration on the Joint Staff in Washington, D.C. His daughter, Sara (’16), plans to serve a two-year tour in the Peace Corps in Paraguay.

Caryl Weisbecker Riley (MBA ’89) is in development with the NPR affiliate at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL.

Joe Saffron (’89) is vice president/general manager of the storage and workspace systems business of Stanley Black & Decker. He lives in Mechanicsburg, PA.

Richard S. Eiswirth Jr. is president and chief financial officer of Alimera Sciences Inc., a pharmaceutical company headquartered in Alpharetta, GA.

Dean Phillips lives in South Lyon, MI, and works for IBM at Ford Motor Company focusing on smart mobility technologies. He completed a three-week pro bono project in Athens, Greece, with his IBM Smarter Cities Challenge team, putting together a plan for the mayor on how to revitalize the historical and commercial center of the city.

Gabri Smith (MA) received her PhD in social psychology from Iowa State University. She has been an active volunteer in the county’s school system for more than 10 years. She and her husband, Todd, and daughter, Kate, live in Princeton, WV.

Gabri Smith (MA) received her PhD in social psychology from Iowa State University. She joined the faculty of Elon University in Burlington, NC, in 2000, was chair of the psychology department, associate dean and interim dean for almost two years. After a national search, she was named dean of Elon University, the College of Arts and Sciences.

Jacinda Santon Smith (MBA ’94) was appointed to the board of education for Mercer County, WV. She has been an active volunteer in the county’s school system for more than 10 years. She and her husband, Todd, and daughter, Kate, live in Princeton, WV.

Dean Stansel is a research associate professor at the William J. O’Neil Center for Global Markets and Freedom in the Cox Business School at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. He was the primary author of an annual report ranking the states, “Economic Freedom of North America.”

Michael Baron is the producing artistic director of Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma and vice president for the National Alliance for Musical Theatre. He directed the world premiere musical “Mann... and Wife.” He was thrilled to be back on campus directing “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum” when the stage was named in honor of Dr. Harold Tedford (P ’83, ’85, ’90). Read more at bit.ly/1Tr1Wxd.

Tricia Williams Goodson (JD ’96) is with Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard LLP in Raleigh, NC. She was named one of Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite.

Anil Rai Gupta (MBA) is chairman and managing director of Havells India Ltd., a company his...
father built from scratch. It is an electrical goods company with 12 manufacturing plants. He wrote a book, “Havells: The Untold Story of Qimat Rai Gupta.” The book is not just his tribute to his father but also to an astute business leader’s entrepreneurial journey and a template on how a father and son could work together in business.

Shannon Bozoian Mihalko represents Strings and Pi Beta Phi on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board Executive Committee.

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Nate French represents Alpha Phi Alpha on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Camille Wilkerson French represents Delta Sigma Theta on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board Executive Committee.

J. Gregory Hatcher (JD) is a managing partner and family law attorney with Hatcher Law Group PC in Charlotte, NC. He has been named one of Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite.

Andrew Snorton III represents Alpha Phi Alpha on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

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Lucy Anderson (MBA ‘99) represents Alpha Delta Pi on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Bonita Hairston Brown (JD ‘97) is director of higher education practice with The Education Trust in Washington, D.C.

Donny C. Lambeth (MBA), Forsyth County State Representative (District 75), was named Legislator of the Year by the North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors. The award recognizes significant contributions to the advancement and promotion of public health in North Carolina.

Diron Reynolds (MALS ’99) was named defensive line coach for Stanford University. He and his wife, Emon McMillian Reynolds (’98, MALS ’02), live in Palo Alto, CA. He has coached at the University of Oklahoma, the Minnesota Vikings, the Miami Dolphins, the Indianapolis Colts, Indiana University and Wake Forest.

How did the Greek experience impact your Wake Forest experience?

Being a member of Fideles impacted my experience in a number of ways. Initially, as a freshman, it gave me a sense of belonging. I was included in this wonderful group of intelligent, fun and kind young women who loved Wake Forest and accepted each other as friends across all four years. It really was a sisterhood. We experienced a bond that extends even today.

Why was the GAAB formed?

In August 2015, the Office of Alumni Engagement and the Office of Campus Life brought together a group of alumni representing various Greek organizations to hear about what is happening in Greek life at Wake Forest and across the nation, and to talk about ways that the Greek experience here can be strengthened and celebrated. One of the suggestions was that an advisory board be created to positively influence the Greek experience.

What is the GAAB?

The board is 25 to 30 fraternity and society/sorority alumni from across the years. (See members’ names throughout the Class Notes section.) We are an advisory group, not a governance board. The group was formed proactively, not as a reaction to a problem. We want to be a bridge between alumni and the University in order to educate alumni about Greek life today and to positively influence the Greek student experience. We also want to support and strengthen the role of Greek chapter advisers. Those Greek organizations with strong advisers tend to make better decisions.

Why did you join the board?

High moral ideals, scholastic advancement, friendship — these are the ideals upon which the first Greek organizations were built, and I believe those ideals are still relevant. The national media love to report bad behavior by members of Greek organizations. Wake Forest does try to manage/limit risky student behavior across all groups, but by no means is the University out to put an end to fraternities and sororities. It is really just the opposite; the University wants to enable Greek life to thrive. That is what this board is about — working with alumni, students and administrators to enhance the Greek experience. Our mission is “Connecting yesterday’s and today’s Greeks to strengthen the spirit of Pro Humanitate.”

How can alumni be involved with the GAAB?

All alumni are invited to a presentation/panel discussion during Homecoming, on Oct. 28, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Our goal is transparency. We will talk about strengths and successes as well as weaknesses and challenges, and discuss ways that alumni can be involved.

Molly Welles Lineberger (’82, MA ’15)
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Molly Lineberger is chair of the new Greek Alumni Advisory Board (GAAB). Her husband, Steve (’80, MBA ’82), was a Sig Ep; son John (’15) was a Sigma Chi.
In an age when almost anything is a click away, leave it to entrepreneurial Wake Forest grads to deliver the goods that will make your at-home happy hour even happier. Thirty3Club is a new subscription-based venture that boxes up everything needed to make perfect craft cocktails — the spirits, the recipes, the stories behind the drinks — and delivers it once a month to your personal pub.

“I frequent trendy restaurants and bars but I knew practically nothing about craft cocktails and spirits in general,” said Josh Jacobs (’12), who along with his fiancée, Lisa Prentis (’12), and two other partners launched their San Diego-based business last November. “Between my day job, two startups and wedding planning, we barely have time to breathe, let alone learn a new hobby like bartending. We thought it would be a cool product to bridge the gap between bars and restaurants, and your kitchen.”

Jacobs, who works in big data for ID Analytics, said the idea for Thirty3Club came to him in the wee hours of wakefulness and stemmed from two successful startups he and his colleagues admired: Blue Apron and Birchbox. “We love the experience of discovering tasty recipes, learning new cooking techniques and creating something ourselves from the Blue Apron meal kit boxes. Birchbox, on the other hand, offers sample sizes, an element of surprise and an online store to complement the monthly subscription,” he said.

“Thirty3Club is the Blue Apron for craft cocktails combined with Birchbox’s forced exploration and comprehensive online store. We do not just want to offer education, but also house a repository of recipes, tools, glassware and spirits online, creating a single hub for all things cocktail.”

Monthly subscribers receive a box with two recipes, step-by-step directions, all the ingredients required to mix four drinks at home, recommendations on how to serve, plus links to instructional videos. Technology drives the business, said Jacobs. “Our generation is exposed to so much, and we want it all. The only way we can get our hands on these things is to get our hands on a convenient box. This makes it so easy for people who are constantly looking for new things to learn.” Thirty3Club has a website and active presence on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

On the spirit side, Thirty3Club collaborates with area bartenders and distilleries to develop recipes. On the produce side, they reap the benefits of their Southern California location, selecting from an array of locally grown items such as oranges, from farmers who grow 50 types instead of just one.

“If we’re working with a chocolate old-fashioned, we can ask, ‘What kind of orange would you pair with this?’ These things add an extra touch to the experience and elevate the flavor of the cocktail,” said Jacobs, who notes that making craft cocktails with poor ingredients is analogous to putting an average car’s engine in a Ferrari.

Jacobs, who is originally from Andover, Massachusetts, said Wake Forest taught him a strong work ethic, and also that asking for help was OK. In one of his first English classes the professor reminded students to make sure and utilize the resources Wake offered. “We ended up meeting a bunch of times, working through my ideas, critiquing my paper, and I received the best grades I’d ever received. From then on I knew my professors and other students were a phenomenal resource.”

In a mathematical business seminar his team had to take a problem to idea to final product. “This experience, in a nutshell, is how a startup works,” said Jacobs, whose group developed a cinnamon roll-flavored hangover-remedy sucker. “I never lost that entrepreneurial itch.”

The first, unofficial, signature Wake Forest cocktail created by Thirty3Club is the “Old Gold and Black,” a twist on the Gold Rush topped with black walnut bitters. Get the recipe at bit.ly/1UfwnZW.
Bradley Ringeisen was hired in 2002 as a research chemist and is now head of the bioenergy and biofabrication section of the chemistry division at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. He was named the Department of Defense’s Lab Scientist of the Quarter in November for his development of 3D bioprinting technologies for the Navy.

Jennifer Van Zant (JD) is with Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard LLP in Greensboro, NC. She was named a permanent member of Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite Hall of Fame and named one of Triad Business Journal’s 2016 Outstanding Women in Business.

1995

Ross Atkins is general manager and vice president of baseball operations for the Toronto Blue Jays.

Curtis C. Brewer IV (JD) is with Smith Anderson Blount Dorsett Mitchell & Junkin LLP in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Daniel C. Bruton (JD) is with Bell Davis & Pitt PA in Winston-Salem. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Kathryn M. Seni (MAEd ’98) was named general manager of the Raleigh-Durham, NC, office of Keystone Partners, a career management firm.

Lisa Snodgrass represents Kappa Alpha Theta and Thymes on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Ed West III (JD) is with Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard LLP in Wilmington, NC. He was named one of Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite.

Jay Williams (JD) is special counsel in the structured finance and derivatives group of Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP in New York.

1996

Jason James practices litigation, construction law and commercial tort law with Bell, Davis & Pitt PA in Charlotte, NC.

John J. Reinert received his JD from the St. Louis University School of Law. He is a shareholder with Carmody MacDonald PC in St. Louis practicing banking, finance and commercial real estate law.

Hunt Wofford (JD) is a partner with Dozier Miller Law Group in Charlotte, NC. He was certified as a specialist in family law.

1997

Anita Case is executive director of Affinity Health Center in Rock Hill, SC. She led the transition from an HIV/AIDS service to a community health center for those without affordable healthcare. She serves on the board of directors for the S.C. Association of Nonprofit Organizations.

John B. Comegno II (JD) is serving a fourth three-year term as chairman of the Burlington County Bridge Commission in Palmyra, NJ.

Daniel Katzenbach (JD) is with Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Raleigh, NC. He was named one of Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite.

Robert King Latham (JD ’02) is a partner with Bennett & Guthrie PLLC in Winston-Salem. She was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Andrew H. Ralston Jr. is with White & Williams LLP in Lehigh Valley, PA.

Tycely Williams represents Delta Delta Delta on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

1998

Reagan Holliday (JD) joined Hilltop Securities Inc. as a managing director in public finance investment banking.

Todd A. King (JD ’02) is with Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Charlotte, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer Rising Star.

Will Rikard was named executive director for Phoenix Hometown Hires, a nonprofit for the Wilmington, NC, and Cape Fear community.

Rob Wall represents Kappa Alpha Order on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board Executive Committee.

Kevin G. Williams (JD) is with Bell Davis & Pitt PA in Winston-Salem. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

1999

Martin Baker represents Kappa Alpha Order on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

2000

Alisha Tomlison DeTroye (PA ’04) is director of transitional and supportive care at Wake Forest Baptist Health. She is a primary care clinician in neuro-oncology and an adjunct assistant professor in PA studies.

Brenda Mock Kirkpatrick (MAEd ’01) was named the 2015-16 Big South Conference Coach of the Year. Her UNC Asheville women’s basketball team won the Big South Conference Championship crown and played in the NCAA Tournament.

Jemi Goulian Lucey is counsel with Greenbaum Rowe Smith & Davis LLP in Woodbridge, NJ.

Stephen A. Oberg (JD) was elected managing partner of Council Baradel Kosmerl & Nolan PA in Annapolis, MD. He continues his business law and commercial finance law practice.

Jessica Jackson Shortall is co-founder of Home Run and The Campus Kitchens Project and founder of Texas Competes. She delivered the keynote address at the WFU Women’s Leadership Symposium in March. Read more at bit.ly/1Zo6sCd.

2001

James Adams’ memoir, “Waffle Street,” was adapted into a feature film starring James Lafferty and Danny Glover. The comedy/drama depicts Adams’ transition from asset management to waiter at a 24-hour diner in the wake of the
global financial crisis. The film adaptation of “Waffle Street” (MarVista Entertainment) won Best Narrative Feature at the 2015 Hollywood Film Festival and received the Screenwriting Award from the Coronado Island Film Festival.

Cameron Williard Hogg completed her doctorate of nursing practice from The George Washington University. She is an assistant professor in the family nurse practitioner program.

Gavin Parsons (JD) is a partner with Troutman Sanders LLP in Raleigh, NC. He was named a Chambers USA: Commercial Litigation Up and Coming.

Patrick Swanson received his JD from the University of Memphis in 2008. He was named acting district attorney of Chautauqua County, NY, and is the Democratic candidate in the fall election. He and his wife, Natalie, have two children, Josephine (5) and John (3), and live in Fredonia, NY.

Arlene M. Zipp (JD) is a partner with Wyatt Earp, a U.S. Navy Reserve judge advocate, and her husband, Patrick, and two children, Brendan (7) and Reagan (4), live in Morristown.

Matthew J. Gray (JD) is with Young Moore & Henderson PA in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Kody Kleber was named a partner with Baker Hostetler LLP in Houston, TX, where he practices with the litigation group.

Abby Bowman Monclova is senior human resources consultant at Forsyth County Government. She was elected 2016 president of the Winston-Salem Society for Human Resource Management.

Matthew J. Gray (JD) is with Young Moore & Henderson PA in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.


depth notes

“...the more I look back, the more I realize that Wake has always been home. So excited to officially be a Demon Deacon!”

Katherine Laws, Class of 2020. Her parents are Kippi and Kevin (’89) Laws of Concord, NC, and she’s been a Wake fan since she was a little girl. We love those family ties!

2002

Adrienne Myer Bohannon represents Delta Delta Delta on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Matthew T. Dockham was named director of external affairs and community relations for Appalachian State University. He previously served on the staffs of Congresswoman Sue Myrick, U.S. Senator Richard Burr (’78) and N.C. Gov. Pat McCrory.

Jennie Leake Hemrick (MDiv) is serving her seventh church, First Presbyterian Church in Thomasville, NC, as intentional interim pastor.

Elizabeth Parker Horton (MDiv) is designated pastor of First Reformed United Church of Christ in Lexington, NC.

Alicia Lee represents Kappa Alpha Theta on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Melissa McGhie Proctor is executive vice president, chief marketing officer for the NBA’s Atlanta Hawks. She is married with one daughter and lives in Atlanta.

Bryan Starrett is with Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard LLP in Greensboro, NC. He was appointed to the Community Partners Board for the City of Greensboro.

2003

Ellen Mooney Acero is a partner with Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP in New York. She was named a N.Y. Metro Super Lawyer Rising Star.

J. Boyd Camak III (JD) is in technology sales with Appian Corporation in Ashburn, VA.

Kim Doyle (JD) is senior counsel at Barnes & Noble College in Basking Ridge, NJ. She is on the board of the N.J. Women Lawyers Association and is co-chair of the in-house committee. She and her husband, Patrick, and two children, Brendan (7) and Reagan (4), live in Morristown.

Matthew J. Gray (JD) is with Young Moore & Henderson PA in Raleigh, NC. He was named a N.C. Super Lawyer.

Kody Kleber was named a partner with Baker Hostetler LLP in Houston, TX, where he practices with the litigation group.

Abby Bowman Monclova is senior human resources consultant at Forsyth County Government. She was elected 2016 president of the Winston-Salem Society for Human Resource Management.

Anna Warburton Munroe (JD ’09) is with AllmanSpry Davis Leggett & Crumpler PA in Winston-Salem. She is a certified family law specialist and a N.C. Super Lawyer Rising Star.

Scott M. Seedorf (JD ’06) represents international and local labor unions with O’Donoghue & O’Donoghue LLP in Washington, D.C.

Chris Smith and Chris Brandt (’04) are majors in the U.S. Marines and part of the small cadre of pilots flying the F-35B Joint Strike Fighter. Brandt is assigned to VMFAT-501 in Beaufort, SC.

2004

Katherine Lee Buck (MBA ’10) and her husband, Greg Buck (MBA ’08), a U.S. Navy Reservist, wanted to give back to their community and military veterans so they opened a JDog Junk Removal & Hauling franchise in Charlotte, NC. The company hires and supports veterans and their families. Read more at bit.ly/1UC3UvL.

Dee Dee Porter Carson is an associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Waco, TX.

Heather Elisabeth Lanthorn was an evaluation specialist for International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) in New Delhi, India. She received her Doctor of Science in March 2016 from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and is a senior manager for Idinsight in New Delhi.

Kristen McCauliff (MA) was promoted to associate professor at Ball State University in Muncie, IN.
and received the Ball State University Outstanding Teacher Award for 2015-16. She returned to Wake Forest in April as part of Jarrod Atchison’s Great Teachers class in the communication department.

**2005**

Jill Bader was named to the American Association of Political Consultants national 40 Under 40 list for her work in political advertising.

Scotty Candler IV is the managing partner of a law firm in Decatur, GA. His wife, Lauren Pressley Candler (’05), is taking time off from teaching to look after their son, Stephen.

Jane Choate Jacobi represents Delta Zeta on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

**2006**

Catherine Gatewood Easley is deputy chief of staff for external affairs for the Governor of Kentucky. She and her husband, Brian, live in Louisville.

John Stanifer received his MD from the University of Tennessee in 2010 and went to Duke University Medical Center as a resident in internal medicine before changing his interests to nephrology and kidney disease. While pursuing his MS in global health, he and his wife, Molly, moved to Tanzania in 2013. He is back in North Carolina conducting research with the Lumbree in Robeson County. He is a fellow in the division of nephrology and the Duke University Clinical Research Institute.

**2007**

Justin Barnes (JD) is a principal in the Atlanta office of Jackson Lewis PC. His practice focuses on defending collective wage and hour class and collective actions.

Christopher W. Collins and Rachel E. Waters (’07, JD/MBA ’12) plan to be married in Santa Barbara, CA, in July.

Lauren Henn is helping keep the memory of her friend Seth Yetter (’08) alive. After Seth died in 2011, her mother helped fund Seth’s Social Center at the Touch a Life Care Center, a home to about 70 formerly trafficked children in Kumasi, Ghana. Lauren has helped raise money to support the children and is making her third trip to volunteer at the center this summer. She lives in New York City and works for Runkeeper, a fitness-tracking app and subsidiary of ASICS. Read more at bit.ly/1RbGSMg.

**2008**

Justin St. James was appointed assistant city attorney in Burlington, VT. He was previously associate general counsel for the state employees’ union in Vermont.

Greg Buck (MBA), a U.S. Navy Reservist, and his wife, Katherine Lee Buck (’04, MBA ’10), wanted to support their community and military veterans so they opened a JDog Junk Removal & Hauling franchise in Charlotte, NC. The company hires and supports veterans and their families. Read more at bit.ly/YUC3Uv.

Christine Holcombe Budasoff and Natalio Daniel Budasoff are pursuing JDs at the University of North Carolina School of Law.

James Jolley (MAEd) has joined the corporate group of Smith Anderson Blount Dorsett Mitchell & Kernigan LLP in Raleigh, NC.

Anna Laakman received her MAEd from the University of Missouri. She is director of education and training at the University of California, Irvine Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders in California.

Kelsey H. Mayo (JD) was elected a partner with Poyner Spruill LLP in Charlotte, NC. She practices employee benefits and executive compensation.

Patrick Quay plans to move to Philadelphia in the fall to attend The Wharton School at The University of Pennsylvania.

Bryce Carlton Stallings is a surgical PA in Columbia, SC.

**2009**

Nathan A. Chrisawn (JD) is a partner with Wyatt Early Harris Wheeler LLP in High Point, NC.

Jennifer Faig (MD ’13) is completing an internal medicine residency at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. She starts a fellowship in hematologic oncology this summer.

Ryan McManus (MALS ’14) was a member of the ACC championship football team in 2006 and a graduate assistant for the team from 2012 to 2014. He coached high school football at South Brunswick High School the fall of 2015 in Southport, NC, and is now the quarterbacks coach at Winston-Salem State University.

Zeke Strawbridge (MBA) is a registered professional engineer in the State of North Carolina with S-E-A Limited in Charlotte, NC.

Rick Sullivan received his MBA from Boston University and works in the pharmaceutical industry.

**2010**

Rory P. Agan (JD ’13) and Laura M. Esseesse (’10, JD ’13) met their freshman year in Collins Residence Hall. They are engaged to be married in October.

Andrew A. Freeman (JD) is with Bell Davis & Pitt PA in Winston-Salem. He was named a N.C. Rising Star.

Amber Kirby Talley (JD) was senior associate in tax at PricewaterhouseCoopers in McLean, VA, before taking a job on Capitol Hill in 2014. She worked for Chairman Jason Chaffetz as counsel for the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform before joining his personal office as legislative director. She and her husband, Kip, live in Falls Church, VA.

**2011**

Jason Benetti (JD) is the TV play-by-play voice for Chicago White Sox baseball home games at U.S. Cellular Field.

Brittany Inman Jimenez is a teacher at Empower Charter School in Brooklyn, NY. She works to break the generational cycle of poverty in her first-grade class named “Wake Forest.” Read more at bit.ly/1TrfZ83.

Ryan Andrew Newson (MDiv) received his PhD from Fuller Theological Seminary and is an adjunct professor of religion and philosophy at Campbell University. He published a book, “The Collected Works of James Wm. McClendon Jr. Volume 3” (Baylor University Press, 2016).

Elizabeth Bost White (MA ’15) is the trauma survivors network coordinator/counselor at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. She is in the counseling service of the surgery department and collaborates with other healthcare providers to...
“BE YOUNG, BE FOOLISH, BE HAPPY” STILL HOLDS

By Caitlin Herlihy (’17), Wake Forest Magazine intern

Whether it’s Otis Redding crooning from the loudspeaker, The Embers playing live or the feel-good atmosphere among magnolia trees, spring lures Wake Forest students to the dance floor for a night of Carolina Shag dancing at Shag on the Mag. Its founders marvel that the 11-year Student Union tradition, like an old beach music band, keeps swinging.

Dr. Joseph Bumgarner (’06) conceived of Shag on the Mag during a semester abroad at Worrell House in London. Attending the movie premiere for “Big Fish,” he felt inspired by the film’s ideal town of Spectre, where simple white lights glowed overhead for a community of friends. Determined to recreate this scene for his peers, Bumgarner recruited his buddy Patrick Brennan (’06), and together they began planning the first Shag on the Mag as a way to unite the campus.

With Bumgarner as Student Union president and Brennan as vice president of marketing, the pair led SU to partner with Greek and non-affiliated organizations to launch Shag on the Mag. It would serve as the capstone to the weeklong Springfest. Students turned out en masse to dance in the big tent, and Bumgarner and Brennan showed up with their friends from Polo Residence Hall.

“Shag on the Mag is a magical experience, and I am so glad to know it’s going on today,” Brennan told Wake Forest Magazine.

This year’s Shag on the Mag had 1,000 students, faculty and alumni walking past white hydrangeas to enter the big tent to dance to The Embers. There were elbows flying and feet stepped on, as dance partners did their thing, offering understanding, apologetic smiles as couples bounced through a sea of swaying students. Dip, turn, spin around the back. The dancing was the same as it ever was. The crowd, like the students of yore, belted out “Under the Boardwalk” and “Be Young, Be Foolish, Be Happy,” with “Uptown Funk” thrown in for modern measure.

Hannah Padrnos (’16) danced and had a brief appearance onstage with the band. “Shag on the Mag is my all-time favorite event on campus,” she said. “It perfectly combines the culture of North Carolina and our love for tradition here at Wake Forest.”

Volunteers helped all week and into the night to produce Shag on the Mag “for the love of this school and the diverse student body,” said SU President Megan Gruber (’16). “This event is created by students for other students to enjoy.”

That sounds exactly like what founders Bumgarner and Brennan had in mind more than a decade ago, launching a tradition that has had lasting benefits. “Working with a guy like Joseph showed me that if you have an idea, Wake Forest will support you,” Brennan said. “The experience solidified what would become a lifelong friendship today.”

Although post-graduation life led them apart in miles, the two remain close. Bumgarner is a chief cardiology fellow in cardiovascular medicine at the Cleveland Clinic. Married to his college sweetheart, he has two daughters who love to visit Wake and play on the Quad.

“It’s wonderful to see your kids love the place that you loved so much,” Bumgarner said. “I grew up a Tarheel. It took me about three months to become a Demon Deacon, and I’ve never looked back.”

Brennan works as the senior manager of federal government relations for Reynolds American in Washington, D.C.

“Because of Student Union, we got to be a leaders,” Bumgarner said. “It set a foundation that helped me recognize opportunities. Today, we have confidence in ourselves because of it.”

Wake Forest Magazine intern Blythe Riggan (’16) contributed to this story.
improve patient care and recovery, provides continuing education for hospital providers and customizes marketing and informational materials.

2012

Sammy Bandy received his MBA from the global program at Case Western Reserve University and has studied in China and India. He and two classmates started DRAGO allure, a clothing company founded on efforts to help children’s education around the world. A portion of the proceeds contribute to under-served primary schools in India. They also have an after-school business program at an inner-city elementary school in Cleveland to teach and mentor students (dragoallure.com).

Stephen J. Bell (JD) joined the litigation firm of Duffy & Young LLC in Charleston, SC. He represents individuals and businesses before state and federal trial and appellate courts.

Katherine T. Heath (JD) is a shareholder with Blanco Tackabery & Matamoros PA in Winston-Salem. She represents renewable energy developers in project development and finance.

Lauren Hojnacki is an associate with Hodgson Russ LLP in New York City.

Josh Jacobs and Lisa Prentis are Wake Forest entrepreneurs and sweethearts. They have resolved to help humanity celebrate better. Their startup, Thirty3Club, is a subscription service delivering unique recipes, instructional videos, spirits and fresh produce required to mix craft cocktails at home, including the first, unofficial, signature Wake Forest cocktail, the “Old Gold and Black.” Read more on page 78 and at bit.ly/1UfwnZW.

Jasmine M. Pitt (JD ’15) is an associate attorney with Bennett & Guthrie PLLC in Winston-Salem.

Kathleen Rose Rodberg (JD) is an associate attorney with McGuire Wood & Bissette PA in Asheville, NC. She practices elder and special needs law.

Padgett Vaughan Sullivan is a program coordinator for Heart Math Tutoring, a nonprofit that recruits, trains and supports more than 450 tutors in eight high-poverty elementary schools in Charlotte, NC. WakeCharlotte helps recruit tutors; alumni make up about 10 percent of the volunteers.

Stuart M. Tucker is assistant director of development for the WFU School of Business in Charlotte, NC.

Talley Wood received her JD in 2015 from Duke University School of Law. She is a corporate and securities associate with Bass Berry & Sims PLC in Nashville, TN.

2013

Robert Yelverton Bennett Jr. (JD) is a lever-aged finance associate at Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson LLP in New York City.

Daniel Kreyman practices insurance and investments with New York Life in Washington, D.C.

Mara McCaffray debuted in January as “Natalie,” a feisty computer whiz, on the CBS daytime drama “The Young and the Restless.” She said Wake Forest was the perfect place for her because of the small theatre department that offered opportunities for acting, directing, lighting and set design. She is excited to be acting on a soap opera. “How juicy everything is always intrigues me,” she said. Read more at bit.ly/1Ni1w75.

Andrew Rodgers (MBA) was executive director of the RiverRun International Film Festival in Winston-Salem for 11 years. He left to be executive director of the Denver Film Society.

Alex Wulfeck, of Jacksonville, FL, won the PGA TOUR Volunteer Challenge at the Arnold Palmer Invitational in Orlando, FL. A donation in honor of Wulfeck was made to Arnie’s Army Charitable Foundation on behalf of Astellas Pharma US.

Kessiah Young (MDiv) is director of hunger and nutrition services at Greater Hickory Cooperative Christian Ministry in Hickory, NC.

2014

Brian Kay (MBA) is senior director of sales for InfoScout, a market research technology start-up in Charlotte, NC.

Aaron Lazarus (MAM ’15) is CEO and co-founder of EncepHeal Therapeutics in Winston-Salem. After suffering a personal loss to drug addiction, he put his degrees to work promoting a treatment for cocaine and methamphetamine addiction.

Patti Parker (MDiv) has a lifelong passion of feeding people healthy food, supporting local businesses and providing spaces where all are
welcome to eat and interact. She is starting Peace Café, a pay what you can, pay partially or volunteer if you cannot pay café. She is searching for the perfect home for the nonprofit café.

2015

Ryan Hanson (JD/MBA) is an associate focusing on general business matters with Williams Mullen in Virginia Beach, VA.

Blanca Linnet Henkkens-Cruz received her U.S. citizenship and is a receptionist and translator for a law firm in Tucson, AZ.

Reid Nickle represents Kappa Alpha Order on the Greek Alumni Advisory Board.

Marriages

Richard "Ric" Wilson ('63, MA '65) and Mickey Irwin Betts. 9/19/15 in Atlanta.

Amy McAlpine Bethea ('76) and Paul McNeely Deaton. 10/18/15. They live in Mount Pleasant, SC.

Chris Van Dyke ('96, MBA '02) and Alston Robertson ('01). 10/3/15 in Charlotte, NC, where they live. The groom’s father is Allen Van Dyke (MD '71). The wedding party included Amanda Juergens Armstrong ('01), John Davis ('96), Alexandra Williams Flynn ('01), Paige Hunt Gialanella ('01), John Kenneth Moser ('96, JD '00), Brian Price ('96), Christina Horton Pristera ('01), Will Walker ('96), Jay Ward ('96) and Jason Zaks ('96, MBA '00).

Lauren Anne Klopacs ('01) and Glenn Matthew Johnston. 5/15/15 in Farmingdale, NJ. The wedding party included Courtney Sellars Pepper ('01).

Ellen Mooney ('03) and Alexander Acero. 8/15/15 in Charlotte, NC. They live in the New York City area.

Anna Elizabeth Warburton ('03, JD '09) and John Corry Munroe (MBA '11). 9/12/15 in Winston-Salem.

Sarah Crisler Clore ('05) and Peter Colin Brown. 7/18/15 in Brighten, MI. They live in Brooklyn, NY.

Brandon Smith ('05) and Katherine Shaul. 11/7/15 in Dallas. They live in San Francisco. The wedding party included Mark Arinci ('05) and Charlie McCurry ('05, JD '08).

Catherine Gatewood ('06) and Brian Easley. 9/12/15 in Louisville, KY. The wedding party included Erin Hower Hoyes ('06), Leslie Dickens Lennergard ('06), Kelly McManus ('06), Christine Moxley ('06), Laura Herndon Neill ('06) and Caroline Rabbitt ('09).

Meredith Benson McCrea ('07) and Stuart Frank Whetzel. 10/17/15 in Lexington, VA. They live in Lynchburg, VA. The bride’s mother is Mary Kay Meredith McCrea ('75). The wedding party included the bride’s sister Katherine Hunter McCrea ('15, MAEd '16), Alexis Rollins Dunton ('07) and Mary Taylor Carroll Setliff ('07).

William Christopher Sinclair ('07) and Brooke Suzanne Botsford. 8/29/15 in Newport, RI. They live in New York.

Jennifer Lynne Adams ('08) and Andrew Nicoll. 11/21/15 in Captiva Island, FL. The wedding party included Katie Adams ('06) and Mackenzie Ring Botz ('08).

William Laurence Brown ('08) and Jessica Whitney Vogel ('08). 2/28/15 in New Orleans, where they live.

Patrick Quay ('08) and Kelly Anderson ('10). 5/30/15 in Washington, D.C. They live in Chicago and plan to move to Philadelphia. The wedding party included the bride’s brother Charlie Anderson ('13), her sister Emma Anderson ('15), Tyler Gately ('08), Ryan Hartley ('08), Frank Kelso ('08), Geordie Pierson ('08), Harley Sisler ('07) and Ryan Taylor ('08).

Bryce Carlton Stallings ('08) and Sarah Elizabeth Asman. 12/19/15 in Greenville, SC.

Ryan McManus ('09, MALS '14) and Hannah Baxter. 2/6/16 in Rural Hall, NC. The wedding party included the groom’s father Jerry McManus ('78), his sister Kelly McManus ('06), Lee Malchow ('10), Geoff Wissing ('10) and Matt Woodlief ('10).

Rick Sullivan ('09) and Jennifer Faig ('09, MD '13). 5/23/15 in Boston, where they live. The wedding party included Brian Conroy ('09), Amanda Harper Cox ('09) and Nic Fulmer ('09).

Zach Wexler ('09) and Perry Del Faverio ('09). 10/3/15 in Nashville, TN. The wedding party included Megan Connolly Davies ('09), Keonya Davis Dryden ('09) and Caroline Rabbitt ('09).

Eric Bader ('10) and Jessica Carroll. 3/5/16 in Montgomery, AL. They live in Nashville, TN. The wedding party included the groom’s sister Jill Bader ('05), Michael Baranovic ('10), Evan Bergelt ('10), Eric Bihl ('10), Spencer Cuddy ('10), Kennon Jones ('10), Patrick Riordan ('10) and Elliot Salmon ('10, MAM '11). Zack Saffa ('10) played the piano.

Jonathan Keenan Sullivan ('10) and Sara Lynn Harris. 12/12/15 in Wake Chapel. They live in Saint Robert, MO. The wedding party included Geoffrey Edmonds ('10) and Brian Lee ('10).

Ian Gray ('11, MD '15) and Katherine Sakmann ('11). 4/25/15 in Winston-Salem. The wedding party included Elizabeth Hartley ('11), Justin Herzig ('11) and Alexandra Taft ('11).

Anthony Minloong Tang ('11) and Megan Laura Massey ('12). 12/5/15. The wedding party included Lindsay Cook ('11), Dana Mayer Fox ('12), Bryan Goolsby ('10), Kaitlyn Hudgins ('12), John Lucas ('11, MSA '12) and Allison Owen ('12).

David Thomas Trautmann ('11, MSA '12) and Caroline Reinert ('11). 9/19/15 in Highlands, NC. They live in Charlotte, NC. The wedding party included Katherine Belchere ('11), Glenn Blackmon ('11), Daniel Dumas ('11, MSA '12), Christine Nader Groner ('11), Melissa Miller Hughes ('11, MSA '12), Logan Hanby Kreefer ('11), Taylor Leibson ('11), Albert McKay ('11, MAM '12), Bailey Turner Schwartz ('11), Erik Spangenberg ('11, MAM '12) and Wake Forest junior Krishen Reinert.

Daniel Dale Holst ('12) and Carrie Rebecca Stokes ('12). 11/7/15 in Asheville, NC. They live in Seattle. The bride’s parents are Wade ('83) and Tare Raines ('83) Stokes. Dr. Bill Leonard, founding dean of the School of Divinity, officiated, and Mike Lee (MDiv '07) was the photographer. The wedding party included Tyler Chase Haertlein ('11), Andrew Michael Imboden ('11), the bride’s sister Anna Raines Stokes King ('10) and the bride’s brother Bradley Wade Stokes ('15).

Conner J. Sherwood ('12) and Molly B. Ronayne ('12). 9/19/15 in Charlottesville, VA. They live in Richmond, VA. The wedding party included Katherine Doria ('12), Sara Edwards ('13), Daniel Kreyman ('13) and Amogh Venkat Prabhakar ('13).

John Reid Sidebotham ('12) and Greyson Carmichael Kane ('12). 11/14/15 in Raleigh, NC. The wedding party included Devon Butterfield ('12), Drew McAvoy ('12), Shannon McGorry ('12), Lisa Ottensmeyer ('12), Peter Sarrazin ('12), Helen Sidebotham ('13) and Jenny Spiel ('12).

John Turner ('12) and Samantha Perrotta ('12). 10/24/15 in Augusta, GA. They live in Winston-Salem. The wedding party included Ashton Astbury ('12), Spencer Cook ('12, Grant Forstall ('12), Patrick Kelly ('12), John Nugent ('12), Madeline Smith ('12), Emily Spurlin ('12) and Carrie Stokes ('12).

Noma Katherine Blake ('13) and Daniel Thomas Vogelsang ('14). 12/19/15 in Lexington, KY. They live in Arlington, VA. The wedding party included Paige Bosworth ('13), Jonathan Garcia ('14), Allie Gruber ('12, MAM '14) and Emily Snow ('13).
Births and Adoptions

Sherrry Lynn Snelson (’91) and Andreas Lim, London: twins, Peter Mitchell and Savannah Grace. 3/24/15

Anita Case (’97) and David Meeler, Rock Hill, SC: a daughter, Gillian. 9/5/14. She joins her sister, Audry (3).

Keeley Patricia Chorn (’99) and David Miller, Dallas: a son, Lawther James. 12/14/15. He joins his brother, Pierce Thomas (2).

Jonathan Derby (’99) and Jennifer Smith, Boston: a daughter, Clementine Anne. 11/11/15

Alisha Tomlinson DeTroye (’00, PA ’04) and Chad DeTroye, Clemmons, NC: a son, Garrett William. 7/20/15. He joins his sister, Caylen Elizabeth (5), and brother, Gavin Michael (4).

Robert Phillips (’00) and Elke Fuesmann Phillips (’00), Charlotte, NC: a daughter, Lena Alexandra. 7/23/15. She joins her brother, Karsten (4).

Joseph Wallace (’00, MSA ’00) and Sarah Wallace, Charlotte, NC: a daughter, Emily Matilda. 10/28/15. She joins her brother, Wade (6), and sisters, Reagan (4) and Maggie (1).

Bradford William Davis (’01) and Tiffany Hill Davis (’02), Dallas: a daughter, Chandler Harden. 10/7/15. She joins her brothers, Bennett (5) and Ford (3).

Ann Chenery Gapper (’01) and Stuart Gapper, Richmond, VA: a daughter, Grace Evelyn. 10/1/15. She joins her brother, Adam (4).

Janine M. Jacob (JD ’01) and Robert Lackey, Martinsville, VA: a son, Samuel Hartley. 12/10/15. He joins his brother, Tate (2).

Catherine Barr Mc Lester (’01, MSA ’02) and Jonathan Mc Lester, Charlotte, NC: a son, George Barr. 2/2/15. He joins his brother, Henry Cardine (7).

David J. Samuel (’01) and Ridgley Blue Samuel (’03), Winston-Salem: a daughter, Claire Ridgely. 7/30/15. She joins her sister, Mary Rives (3).

Matthew Brennie (’02) and Evelyn Brennie, Pleasant Valley, NY: a son, Lucas Edward. 10/27/15. He joins his brother, Matthew (2).

Matthew T. Dockham (’02) and Kelly Dockham, Raleigh, NC: a daughter, Charlotte Kelly. 3/14/16

Chad Pugh (’02) and Jessamine Buck (’03), Brooklyn, NY: a son, Remsen Van Glider. 9/2/15. He joins his brother, Jonah.

Maggie Shihadeh Townsend (’02) and Andrew Townsend, Arlington, MA: a son, Luke Samuel. 7/7/15. He joins his brother, Graham Steven (3).

Boyd Camak (JD ’03) and Sara Camak, Ashburn, VA: a daughter, Charlotte Elizabeth. 12/5/15

Dean Taylor Cleveland (’03) and Phil Cleveland, Atlanta: a daughter, Julia Willoughby. 10/22/15

Danielle Binder Passingham (’03) and Kent Passingham, Raleigh, NC: a daughter, Harper Lynne. 1/14/16

Robert Bingham Powell (’03) and Christine Zeller-Powell, Eugone, OR: a son, Emanuel Bingham. 6/3/15

Christopher Vogel (’03) and Jennifer Vogel, Charlotte, NC: a daughter, Madeline Grace. 12/14/15. She joins her brother, Carter (3), and sister, Avery (2).

Constance Fleming Wright (’03) and Andrew MacNaughton Wright, Charlottesville, VA: a son, Wilson Iredell. 10/19/15. He joins his sisters, Sidney Fleming (5) and Sloane MacNaughton (3).

Dee Dee Porter Carson (’04) and Jordan Carson, Waco, TX: a son, Porter David. 7/22/15

Marc Gillis (’04, MD ’08) and Laura Smith Gillis (’04), Winston-Salem: a daughter, Morgan Ann. 1/13/16. She joins her sisters, Heidi (6) and Clare (3).

Joshua R. Helms (MDiv ’04) and Betsy Helms, Cashiers, NC: a daughter, Georgia Leigh. 10/29/15. She joins her brother, William Owen (3).

Will Townsend Lloyd (’04) and Catherine Alley Lloyd (’05), New York: a son, Wyatt Townsend. 8/28/15

Erin Hershey Serrate (’04) and Robert Serrate, Lexington, KY: a son, Walker Davis. 10/6/15. He joins his brothers, Landry (3) and Hays (1).

Courtney Suzanne Johnson Werner (’04) and David Werner, Atlanta: a daughter, Reese Madeleine. 12/23/15

Scotty Candler IV (’05) and Lauren Pressley Candler (’05), Decatur, GA: a son, Stephen Scott. 2/2/15

Sarah Jensenius McGee (’05) and Grant McGee (JD ’06), Dallas: a daughter, Olivia Reese. 12/4/15

Michelle Bettin Stoler (’04, MSA ’05) and Josh Stoler, Charlotte, NC: a daughter, Addison Marie. 11/24/15

Stephanie Strader Carson (’06) and Daniel Carson, Portland, OR: twin sons, Theodore Strader and Cameron Strader. 9/17/15

Kyle Collins (’06) and Karen Collins, Charleston, SC: a daughter, Olivia Rae. 12/11/15

Payton Deal Dockery (’06) and Mark Dockery, Winston-Salem: a daughter, Allison Renee. 10/14/15. She joins her sister, Emma Claire (4).

Stephen Liadis (’06) and Casey Watkins Liadis (’06, MSA ’07), Davidson, NC: a daughter, Margaret Dagney. 10/22/15

Stephen Phillips (’06) and Katie Simpler Phillips (’07, MAM ’08), Raleigh, NC: a son, Elijah James. 1/22/16. He joins his brother, Andrew Rice (2).


Patrick Phelan (’08) and Maggie Reddington Phelan (’09), Brewster, MA: a son, Holden Reddington. 7/17/15. He joins his sister, Hadley Faith (2).

James McFall Pearce (’09, MBA ’16) and Sarah Kropp Pearce (’09), Winston-Salem: a daughter, Claire Allerton. 2/15/16

Anna Raines Stokes King (’10) and David Gilman King, Beaufort, NC: twin daughters, Evelyn Raines and Charlotte Reid. 9/10/15. The proud grandparents are Wade (83) and Tara Raines (83) Stokes.

Joe Murnane (JD ’10) and Linda Murnane, Columbus, OH: a daughter, Lucy Renee. 1/15/16
A few Deacs in Love stories through the decades:

**The 1940s:**
The Gulleys (P ’74, ’76, ’80) describe their campus courtship as a magical time despite rules and regulations enforced by the college. Sally recalled a time she got a demerit from Wake Forest, thanks to an incident during the couple’s date at a baseball game. After the team hit a home run, Marc and Sally jumped up and down and hugged each other, a case of public display of affection. They lost dating privileges for a week.

Dating became even more difficult after Marc enrolled in med school in Winston-Salem and Sally was at the Old Campus finishing her senior year. “One time, I convinced the band director to let me travel with them to Winston-Salem so I could visit Marc,” she said. “The director let me borrow a uniform and ride on the bus, even though I couldn’t play a single instrument. When it came time for the band to perform at halftime, I just remained seated.”

**The 1950s:**
Jack (’58, P ’88) and Ruby Hickman Gentry (’59, P ’88) first met in Wait Chapel outside of University Chaplain Ed Christman’s (’50, JD ’53) office, as they were preparing to attend a missions
conference on the Old Campus. Jack remembers swooning at the first sight of her.

“I just liked being with her,” Jack said. “I thought she was engaged to another student, and when I learned she wasn’t, I floated across campus to tell my best friend that ‘Ruby baby’ wasn’t engaged!”

He went on to become a full-time pastor, with girlfriend Ruby supporting him as he balanced academics and a new job. Their favorite date spots: walking in Reynolda Gardens and eating at the Grill on Polo Road.

“We still walk in Reynolda Gardens all the time,” Ruby said. “It brings back memories.”

The 1960s:
Back when he was a freshman and living on a hall that he said had telephones for the first time at Wake Forest, Walter Wiley ('63) was intimidated to ask out someone his suitemate wanted him to date: Florence Gray ('63). “I’ll be frank with you — it scared me to death! I had to build up my courage to ask her for a date,” he said. “But I did, and she agreed.”

He need not have worried. “Walter was just a Southern gentleman. He opened the door and did all of the attentive, appropriate Southern amenities. He was so thoughtful,” Florence said. “He still is … most of the time.”

“You can see why I was attracted to her — the way she carries herself, the way she talks,” Walter said. “You’re not afraid of me anymore, are you?” Florence said.

They have been married 50 years.

The 1970s:
Amid late evenings poring over the Howler and take-out lunches in Babcock basement, Kathie Amato ('77, P '08, '11) and Al Rives ('76, P '08, '11) fell in love. (He was a photographer, she an editor.) Their relationship continues on campus today; Rives teaches chemistry.

“He is the kindest person I’ve ever known,” Kathie says. “Last year he was nominated for an Award in Excellence in Advising. One of his students talked about his kindness at the nomination, so I know I’m not the only one who thinks so.”

While in school together, Kathie and Al spent their Friday nights at Pizza Garden, an Italian restaurant near campus. “We’d go pretty much every Friday night,” Kathie remembered. “He was a very good boyfriend and is an even better husband.”

The 1980s:
“We met @WakeForest in 1980! Fell in love at a Football game and got married after we graduated. Still #DeacsInLove,” tweeted Wade White ('83) about his sweetheart, Carol Bishop White ('83).

The 1990s:
Brent ('95) and Stacy Saladin ('95) Wooten never anticipated their arbitrary bowling course would initiate a lifelong romance. They signed up for the class as an extra credit to fill their schedules. It didn’t take them long to realize they were both Piccolo residents and could ride to class together.

As the two grew close, Stacy appreciated Brent’s wit, while he valued her ability to stay focused and on task. They spent late nights camping out in Brent’s dorm room to study for their tests.

“Deacs in Love is a really neat concept,” Brent says. “It’s cool to see couples who have been together for close to 70 years and to think it started here on campus.”

The 2000s:
A tweet summed up the path of one couple. “We met in 2005 at @wakeforest — 11 years, 3 cities and 2 kids later, here we are,” said Christine Books McCarthy ('06) on Twitter.
Deaths

Robert Burchell Roach (‘40, MD ‘41), March 6, 2016, Lenoir, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy and began practicing medicine in Lenoir in 1951. Roach was a surgeon at Blackwelder and Caldwell Memorial hospitals until he retired in 1997.

Benjamin Sherwood Staton Sr. (‘40), Feb. 16, 2016, Charlotte, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the Korean War. Staton had a career in sales, marketing and manufacturing with WA Schaeffer Pen Co., Elgin National Watch Co., Ingraham Clock Co. and Jamesbury Valve Co. He retired as president of Quartrol Corporation. Staton was preceded in death by his first wife, Boots; his mother, Addie Mae; his father, Oscar (1923); and his brother, Bill (‘38, JD ‘41, P ‘75). He is survived by his wife, Marti; three children, Anne Albing, James (JD ‘77, P ‘07) and John (JD ‘80); a stepdaughter, Renee; five grandchildren, including Benjamin II (MBA ‘07); and five great-grandchildren.

James William Weedon (‘40), Feb. 24, 2016, Jacksonville Beach, FL. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Weedon owned Weedon Engineering Co., consulting marine engineers and a provider of maritime propulsion services.

Herbert Jackson Green (‘41), Feb. 25, 2016, Los Angeles. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps. Green’s son, Rick, notes “he ... was extremely proud of being an alum and a Demon Deacon.”

Glenn Houston Miller (‘42), Dec. 30, 2015, Albuquerque, NM. He was a professor at Iowa State, the University of Virginia and the University of Denver. Miller was retired from Sandia National Laboratories.

James Pierce Blackwelder (‘43), Dec. 18, 2015, Winnsboro, SC. He graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and was in the ministry for 42 years. Blackwelder retired after more than 26 years as pastor of Stephen Greene Baptist Church in Winnsboro. He is survived by two sons, James (‘69) and Joseph; a daughter, Betsy; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Paul Emanuel Brunner (‘43), Feb. 5, 2016, North Wilkesboro, NC. He taught homiletics for two years at Luther Rice College and was a senior pastor in Florida, North Carolina and Virginia from 1947 to 1992. Brunner retired from First Baptist Church of Blowing Rock, NC, and then served as an interim pastor in Wilkes County.

Derald Jackson Cleckley (‘43), Dec. 16, 2015, Sugar Land, TX. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II with the 335th Ordinance Battalion. Cleckley worked in the chemical industry in Houston and was active in the laboratory glassware industry. He owned Specialty Glass Inc. of Houston.

Charles Augustus Froneberger (‘43), Dec. 31, 2015, Gastonia, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy as a ship’s engineer during World War II. Froneberger worked at Rankin Armstrong Furniture Store and at Matthews Belk.

Fletcher Vernon Pate (‘43), Nov. 19, 2015, Raleigh, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Pate worked in sales and owned Bud Pate Printing for 30 years.

Wyche Hillman Ray (‘43), Jan. 10, 2016, Kinston, NC.

Henry Moore Rogers Jr. (‘43, MD ‘47), Dec. 18, 2015, Norfolk, VA. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a physician at Portsmouth Naval Hospital and an officer aboard the USS Fremont. Rogers completed a pediatric residency at St. Louis Children’s Hospital and practiced pediatrics for 37 years in Norfolk.

Manley William Tobey Jr. (‘43), Dec. 21, 2015, Tappahannock, VA. He was a pastor for churches in Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Pennsylvania...
nia and Virginia for more than 57 years. Tobey was preceded in death by his wife, Mary; and a brother, Thomas ('51). He is survived by two daughters, Margaret Taliaferro ('69) and Mary Ann; a son, Manley III; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

John Richard Williams ('43), Jan. 5, 2016, Winston-Salem. He served in Korea and at the U.S. Naval Air Station in Pensacola, FL. Williams received his DDS from the Medical College of Virginia.

Wesley Dean Willis ('43), March 27, 2016, Dallas. He served in the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps during World War II. Willis was town manager of Black Mountain, NC. He was the business administrator for First Baptist Church of Dallas and in 1966 became the CFO for Buckner International. Willis retired in 1983 and helped establish the Buckner Associates Credit Union and served as its president until the merger with Lone Star Credit Union. He was preceded in death by his first wife; a brother; and a sister, Iris Burnett ('44, P '70, '81). Willis is survived by his wife; two daughters; stepchildren; and grandchildren.

Jerome A. Bohland ('44), Dec. 16, 2015, Pebble Beach, CA. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Bohland retired as executive vice president in 1989 after 43 years with Owens-Illinois.

William Harrell Johnson ('44), Feb. 2, 2016, West End, NC. He graduated from the Medical College of Virginia and opened a dental practice in Weldon, NC. Johnson served in the U.S. Air Force and in 1953 opened a dental practice in Southern Pines, NC. He is survived by his wife, Mary; three children, Julie, Barbara and William ('78); four grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

James Raymond McDaniel Jr. ('44), Dec. 20, 2015, Richmond, VA. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. McDaniel worked for 41 years in sales and product management at IBM in California, Connecticut, Florida, New York and North Carolina. He is survived by three daughters, Wynn, Lee and Susan; two grandsons; and four siblings. Memorials may be made to the Golf Program, Wake Forest University Deacon Club, 499 Deacon Blvd., Winston-Salem, NC 27105.

Durward Felton Reed Jr. ('44), Nov. 28, 2015, Hertford, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Reed was owner of Reed Oil & Gas Co. for more than 60 years and finance officer for Perquimans County for 33 years.

Nancy Sanford Crowder ('45), Nov. 17, 2015, Richmond, VA.

Allen W. Draughon Jr. ('45), Dec. 24, 2015, Warsaw, NC. He taught and coached football at Warsaw High School from 1949 to 1952. Draughon was owner of Aubrey Cavenaugh Insurance Agency until he retired.

Della Lindsay Lockhart ('46), Feb. 23, 2016, Valdese, NC. She was preceded in death by her ex-husband, Isaac ('46). Lockhart is survived by a daughter, Emily; a granddaughter; and two great-granddaughters.

Spurgeon Douglass Overton ('46), Sept. 22, 2015, Ahoskie, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Forces during World War II. Overton retired as an inspector after 35 years with the N.C. Department of Transportation. He was preceded in death by a brother, Dutch ('47). Overton is survived by his wife, Jean; four children; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Leta Hamilton Rosser ('46), Dec. 16, 2015, Fayetteville, NC. She was preceded in death by her husband, John ('50). Rosser is survived by a son, Terry; two daughters, Ann and Laura; a brother, H.H. Hamilton Jr. ('50); a sister, Hilda; eight grandchildren, including Carly Rosser ('09); and five great-grandchildren.

John Elias Carter ('48), Feb. 3, 2016, Louisville, KY. He graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and was pastor of Okolona Baptist Church from 1951 until his death. Carter served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and was retired from the Army Reserves.

Mary Arden Liles Harris ('48), March 7, 2016, Charlotte, NC. She was a teacher and administrator for 31 years in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg schools and a trustee at Gardner-Webb University. Harris was preceded in death by her husband, Dave ('46). She is survived by two children, Arden Browder ('69) and Andy; four grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and four step-great-grandchildren. She was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

Wildred Smith Poe ('48), Jan. 13, 2016, Durham, NC. She was preceded in death by her husband, Horton Jr. ('49). Two of her survivors are grandchildren Shannon Michael Poe-Kennedy ('98) and Colin Alexander Poe-Kennedy ('05).

Margaret Baucom Talton ('48), Feb. 19, 2016, Raleigh, NC. She was a teacher, homemaker, librarian, and real estate agent.

Elizabeth Shearon Ferneyhough ('49), Jan. 18, 2016, Raleigh, NC. She worked in darkfield microscopy with the State Laboratory of Public Health. Ferneyhough was preceded in death by her parents, Harriett and Edgar Shearon ('06); her husband, Richard Henry Sr. ('50); and three brothers. She is survived by two daughters, Rena and Jeanne; a son, Richard Jr.; and two grandchildren.

Stratton C. Murrell ('49), Jan. 29, 2016, Jeanerette, LA. He formerly lived in Jacksonville, NC.

Ruby Orders Osborne ('49), Jan. 5, 2016, Roanoke, VA. She taught senior English for the Chesterfield County public schools while completing her master’s in 1973 from Virginia Commonwealth University and her PhD in 1981 from The College of William & Mary. Osborne published her thesis, “The Crisis Years: The College of William & Mary in Virginia 1800-1827,” in 1989. She is survived by her husband, Scott Jr. ('49, MA ‘51); two sons, Scott III and James; and four grandchildren.

Herbert Wilton Powers ('49, MA ‘51), Dec. 7, 2015, Asheboro, NC. He was a retired teacher in the Moore County schools and a poultry and cattle farmer.

George William Waddell ('49), Nov. 17, 2015, Saxeville, WI. He served as a radioman in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Waddell received his MD in 1955 from Crozer Theological Seminary and was manager of the Chicago Baptist Camp (Camp Grow) in Green Lake, WI. He was pastor of Saxeville Baptist Church for 25 years and pastor of Wild Rose Presbyterian Church for 13 years. Waddell is survived by his wife, Eloise Fowlkes Waddell ('50); five children; 14 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Elven Wright Watkins Jr. ('49), Feb. 19, 2016, Fort Worth, TX. He served in the U.S. Army and received a degree in petroleum engineering from the University of Texas. Watkins started Quanah Oil Co. and later developed and built nursing homes.

Robert Stancell Howell ('50), Jan. 25, 2016, Lake Wylie, SC. He served in the U.S. Navy.

Joseph Steele Larrimore ('50), Feb. 9, 2016, Wingate, NC. He was a veteran of World War II. Larrimore’s daughter, Donna, notes he took the advice of a beloved Wake Forest professor to continue his studies at Andover Newton Theological Seminary in Massachusetts. He was pastor of five churches, including First Baptist churches in Monroe, New Bern and Tarboro, NC. Larrimore volunteered with Hospice for 25 years. He is survived by his wife, Edith Bivens Larrimore ('49); five children; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

William Titus Mills ('50), Jan. 2, 2016, Apex, NC. He graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Mills was a senior pastor for more than 55 years in North Carolina, Oklahoma and Virginia and an interim pastor for 18 years after retirement. Mills was chaplain for the N.C. House of Representatives in 1995. He was preceded in death by his parents, Electa and G.T. Mills (1917); two brothers, Metrie ('33) and Leon; and four sisters, Reba, Mary, Wilba Beavers (P '67, '78)
and Clara. Mills is survived by his wife, Dorothy; four children; six grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and a sister.

William Wallace Mullen (*50). Dec. 2, 2015, Oxford, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II in the 357th Searchlight Battalion. Mullen worked for Holowell’s Grocery in Wake Forest, NC, and for the Franklin and Wake County Departments of Social Services. He was director of the Granville County Department of Social Services from 1956 to 1989. Mullen received the 1983 Employee of the Year award from the NCSSA North Central District. He was preceded in death by his wife, Frances Winston Mullen (*44); and eight siblings, including Benjamin Jr. (*52, P ’71). Mullen is survived by two daughters; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Leroy Robinson (*50, JD ’51). Dec. 30, 2015, Charlotte, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II in the 102d Infantry Division. Robinson joined Belk Stores Services in Charlotte in 1951 as assistant general counsel before being called to serve in the JAG Corps during the Korean War. He spent 17 years in the legal department of Belk before being named executive vice president and supervising partner of Belk Brothers Company in 1968. Robinson retired in 1988 and was a consultant to Belks, but in 1989 he became general counsel, staying in that position until 1995. He served on many boards, educational and community service organizations. Robinson received the Excellence in Management Award in 1989 from the Charlotte Chamber, Rotary Club and Business Journal. In 1993, he and his wife established the Leroy and Teresa Robinson Scholarship Fund at Wake Forest for students from his home county, Montgomery. Robinson was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

Alvis Hulan Black (*51). Feb. 1, 2016, Spring Lake, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Black taught and coached high school and summer camps for 50 years in Harnett County at Anderson Creek, Boone Trail, Topsail Beach, Overhills schools and Campbell University. One of his basketball games in 1964 took 13 overtimes to win and is said to be listed by the National Federation of State High School Associations as the longest high school game ever played. In 2006 Black was named to the N.C. High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.


Elwood Dale Davis (*51). March 10, 2016, Richmond, TX. He was a pastor for three churches, a teacher, a principal and a basketball coach. Davis worked at Southern Methodist University for 36 years and retired in 1995. He is survived by his wife, Luella Nowell Davis (*51); three children; three granddaughters; and one great-granddaughter.

Ruth Caudill Haggard (*51). Dec. 29, 2015, Durham, NC. She was a retired teacher in the Durham public schools. Haggard was preceded in death by her husband, Carl Jr. (*51). She is survived by a son, Jim (MBA ’86), and a daughter, Janet Llewellyn.

Ray Simpson Jones Jr. (*51). Nov. 26, 2015, Elizabeth City, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Jones received his MAEd from East Carolina College (now University) and worked in education the next 10 years. He joined Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Co. and represented them in Elizabeth City for 26 years. Jones received the N.C. Order of the Long Leaf Pine in 2011.

Dean Lincoln Minton Sr. (*51, PA ’83). March 23, 2016, Charlotte, NC. He was an ordained Baptist minister, served in the U.S. Air Force, had a second 16-year career as a physician assistant and was a chaplain for 25 years. Minton received his MDiv from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kentucky and retired in 1981 as a lieutenant colonel from the U.S. Air Force. His second retirement was in 1999 as a physician assistant for the Department of Psychiatry at Carolinas Medical Center. Minton was preceded in death by his wife, Patsy Hawkins Minton (*51). He is survived by three sons, Dean Jr. (*74), John and James; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Blan (*62) and Nick (*63).

Johnny H. Alford (*52). Feb. 7, 2016, Zebulon, NC. He served in the U.S. Army, was a teacher and coach at Bunn High School and a principal at Bunn, Edward Best and Wakelon high schools and Zebulon Elementary School. After retiring, Alford worked in real estate with Olde Heritage and Howard Perry & Walston realtors. He served eight years on the Franklin County Board of Education.

Clarence John Belch (*52). Nov. 23, 2015, Portsmouth, VA.

Wiley C. Guthrie (*52). Jan. 4, 2016, Clemmons, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II as a paratrooper for the 11th Airborne and in post-war Japan. Guthrie was one of the first students to enroll at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1952. He served 22 years as a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force and retired in 1976. Guthrie served as pastor of Union Hill Baptist Church in Clemmons for 10 years. He and his wife, Margaret, established the Martha Joyce Guthrie Scholarship Fund in the School of Divinity in memory of their daughter, Joyce. Guthrie is survived by three children, Elizabeth Sides (*70), Faye Simmons and David; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a brother. Memorials may be made to the Martha Joyce Guthrie Scholarship Fund, Wake Forest University School of Divinity, PO Box 7227, Winston-Salem, NC 27109 or to Knollwood Baptist Church, 330 Knollwood St., Winston-Salem, NC 27104. He served on the Divinity School Board of Visitors and was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

Samuel Arthur Sue Jr. (*52, MD ’56). March 15, 2016, Greensboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a flight surgeon and chief of orthopedics at Webb Air Force Base Hospital. Sue was a founding member and orthopedic surgeon at Greensboro Orthopedic Center from 1962 until 2002. He was medical director of Lorillard Tobacco Co. and a staff orthopedist at Western Rockingham Family Medicine. Sue was a past president of the Wake Forest Alumni Association, served as a clinical assistant professor of orthopedic surgery at the medical school and was a member of the medical school’s alumni council. He served on the board of presidential advisors and the board of trustees of Campbell University. Sue received the 1989 Outstanding Alumni Award from Campbell University and the 2015 Distinguished Service Award from the Wake Forest School of Medicine Medical Alumni Association. He received an Honorary Letter from Wake Forest’s Athletic Department for his boundless support for more than 60 years. Sue is survived by his wife of 60 years, Cecelia; a daughter, Melissa S. Vaughan (’85); two sons, Samuel “Art” III (’80) and Gary (’81); a brother, William; and four grandchildren. Memorials may be made to Campbell University, PO Box 567, Bues Creek, NC 27506; Wake Forest School of Medicine, PO Box 571021, Winston-Salem, NC 27157-1021; or Wake Forest Athletic Department, PO Box 7265, Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7265.

Charles Herman Wellons (*52). Dec. 19, 2015, Moyock, NC. He graduated from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and was a retired minister. Wellons was a minister at Peach Tree Baptist in Spring Hope, NC, for eight years, Providence Baptist in Shawboro, NC, for 31 years and Coinjock Baptist in Coinjock, NC, for 16 years. He is survived by his wife, Alice Williams Wellons (*53); a daughter, Susan; two sons, Frederick and John; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and a sister.

Harold Mills Edwards (*53, JD ’59). Jan. 6, 2016, Charlotte, NC. His law career led him to be judge pro tempore of Mecklenburg and Charlotte Municipal criminal courts. Edwards was counsel for N.C. Sen. Robert Morgan (JD ’50) and later U.S. Attorney for the Western District of N.C., where he received the Outstanding Service Award.

Anthony Zack Gurganus (*53). Nov. 25, 2015, Hampstead, NC. He was a Baptist minister in North Carolina and an interim pastor in North
THE KEEPER OF HISTORICAL TREASURES
By Kerry M. King ('85)

Allen Blevins ('80) never knows what he’ll find in old vaults and forgotten storage rooms at banks around the country.

Linen funeral banners for George and Martha Washington. A note from Thomas Jefferson pleading for more time to pay off a loan. A 1780s bank ledger with the accounts of Paul Revere and John Hancock. Photographs of Abraham Lincoln by famed photographers Matthew Brady and Alexander Gardner. A red, white and blue streamer from a Potomac River steamer where Lincoln plotted Civil War strategy with U.S. Grant.

Blevins, whose official title is senior vice president and director of Global Arts and Heritage Programs, also oversees Bank of America’s impressive corporate art collection. As Bank of America has acquired other banks across the country, it has assembled an art collection that has been called one of the finest in the world by Forbes magazine. The collection contains mostly post-World War II American paintings, prints and photography.

It’s Blevins’ job to conserve everything from contemporary artwork and sculpture to historical artifacts. There are things you’d expect a bank to have, such as banking records dating back to the 1780s and checks from presidents and first ladies. But then there are the unexpected and downright curious items — muskets from the Battle of Bunker Hill and a piece of the Golden Gate bridge — saved by Bank of America’s predecessor banks over the last 200-plus years.

In a storage room in Charlotte — its location kept secret for security reasons — tables overflow with portraits, handwritten notes and banking documents from every U.S. president. Notes from Lincoln, written on Executive Mansion and War Department stationery, lie beside handwritten notes from George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton. There’s a $100 promissory note from James Madison, a note from Dolley Madison agreeing to pay $121 on her account, and an 1836 check from Andrew Jackson. An Alexander Gardner photograph of Lincoln, taken just days before Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address, is haunting. “Look into his eyes,” Blevins said. “You can see the weight of the whole nation on his shoulders and the sadness in his eyes.”

Blevins, 59, grew up in Ronda, North Carolina, and was the first in his family to attend college. Smiley and Hadley sparked his passion for history, but it was a semester at Worrell House, with Professor of English Bob Lovett, that opened his eyes to the larger world. He had never been farther from home than South Carolina, or flown in a plane, when he went to London. “That was my first exposure to art, theatre and dance,” he recalled.

After graduating, Blevins worked in advertising and earned an MBA from UNC Wilmington. He joined Bank of America in 1988 and worked in traditional banking roles in sales, marketing and human resources before being tapped 10 years ago to lead the Global Arts and Heritage Programs.

“I’m in the most liberal arts job that you can have in a financial institution,” he said. “I love the liberal arts — history, religion, literature,” he said. “I’ve been able to focus on what I’ve loved. People often tell me that I have the best job in the world, and I agree. I’m very fortunate.”

For a longer version of this story and more photographs, see bit.ly/24nOPT3.
John Henry Hoots (JD ’55), Feb. 11, 2016, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Navy and was stationed in Guam during World War II. Hoots was an insurance adjuster and regional claims representative in Winston-Salem for more than 30 years.

James A. Privette (’55), Jan. 19, 2016, Newport, NC. He graduated from the UNC School of Dentistry and was a dentist in Kinston, NC, until his retirement.

Joe Freeman Britt (’56), April 6, 2016, Lumberton, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was a colonel in the Army Reserve. Britt received his MS from the University of Tennessee and JD from Stetson University and served four terms as district attorney for Robeson and Scotland counties from 1974 to 1988. He received the Lecturer of Merit Award in 1984 from the National College of District Attorneys at the University of Houston Law Center and was named to the College’s Distinguished Faculty in 1985. Britt received The Order of the Long Leaf Pine from N.C. Gov. Jim Hunt and was named a N.C. Senior Superior Court Judge. After retiring, he served as of counsel and defense attorney with a firm until retiring again in 2006. Britt is survived by his wife, Marylyn; two children, Joe Jr. and Natalie (’93); and four grandchildren.

Jasper Durham Memory (’56), Dec. 23, 2015, Raleigh, NC. He was a retired professor of physics at NC State University. Memory was vice president for research for the UNC system from 1986 to 1998. He received Wake Forest’s Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1980 and served on the Alumni Council and the College Board of Visitors. Memory was preceded in death by his grandfather, Jasper Lutterloh Memory (1884); and his parents, Margaret and Jasper Livingston Memory (1921). He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; two children; and three grandchildren.

Fern Harrington Riggs (’56), Nov. 14, 2015, High Point, NC. She was a caseworker at Baptist Children’s Home in Thomasville, NC, before becoming a homemaker and substitute teacher. Riggs was also a real estate agent for more than 20 years. She is survived by her husband, John (’52, JD ’56); two daughters, Beth Batchelor (’82) and Rebecca Lockhart (’84); and four grandchildren.

John Lee Thompson Jr. (’56), Feb. 18, 2016, Shelby, NC. He attended Bowman Gray School of Medicine and transferred to the University of Tennessee College of Dentistry. Thompson served in the U.S. Army Dental Corps and received his master’s in 1964 from Baylor University College of Dentistry. He established a private practice in Shelby. Thompson is survived by two children; a sister, Jane Stalkup (’60); and four grandchildren.

Terence Arthur Whitehurst (’56), March 23, 2016, Charlotte, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War on the USS Hornet and the USS Lake Champlain. Whitehurst was a Rear Admiral and established Whitehurst Realty in 1972.

Carroll Owen Ferrell (’57), March 17, 2016, Portsmouth, VA. He was a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserves. Ferrell received his JD from the University of Richmond’s T.C. Williams Law School. He practiced law for 50 years and was assistant city attorney for Portsmouth and commissioner of accounts for the court. He retired from Ferrell Sayer & Nicolo.

Wilbur B. “Buck” Fichter (’57), March 23, 2016, Williamsburg, VA. He was on the Wake Forest team that won the 1955 NCAA Baseball Championship. Fichter received his master’s in engineering mathematics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1966 and his PhD from NC State University in 1969. He was a retired aerospace engineer for NASA. Fichter was also an adjunct professor at Christopher Newport College and the Graduate School of Engineering at The George Washington University. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ann. Fichter is survived by two children, Bryan (’83) and Lee Ann; and three grandchildren.

C. Franklin Jones Jr. (’57), March 6, 2016, Fayetteville, NC. He was in ROTC and commissioned a second lieutenant. After his military service, Jones had a career in banking and 49 years in insurance and investments.

William Frederick Lee Jr. (’57), Oct. 27, 2015, Rocky Mount, NC. He was co-owner and operator of Peacock Meat Co. and Edgmont Meats of Rocky Mount for more than 30 years. Lee was preceded in death by a son, Rick; and a sister, Leah Wimberley (’59). He is survived by his wife, Carol; three children; and two grandchildren.

Tony J. Siceloff (’57), March 20, 2016, Graham, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and the Army Reserves from 1957 to 1970. Siceloff retired from Burlington Industries in 1999 as group vice president in the fabric formation area, Burlington House. He was a member of the Wake Forest Deacon Club for 51 years, supported the Tony J. Siceloff Athletic Scholarship and donated a group study room in the Miller Center on the Reynolda Campus.

Jack Stewart (’57), Feb. 7, 2016, Charlotte, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Stewart was an avid woodworker, wood turner and Biblical historian. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marlene; a son, Alan; and a brother, Frank (’52, LLB ’58). Stewart is survived by two children and four grandchildren.

Michael Frederick Williams (’57), Nov. 10, 2015, Greensboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force and worked at Kennedy Space Center as a member of the launch countdown team on the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo programs. Wil-
liams returned to Greensboro to work with his dad selling and servicing power boats. He later worked for the U.S. Postal Service and finished his career as a design engineer at AMP Inc.

James Carroll Adams (’58). Jan. 22, 2016, Charlotte, NC. He served in the U.S. Army. Adams had a career in sales and marketing, was director of membership at the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, executive director of the Carolina Carousel and director of public relations for the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas. He was vice president of marketing and director of personnel training for First Federal Savings and Loan and founder of Adams Promotional Products and the Oasis Shrine Golf Club.

Richard Troy Brittain (’58). April 6, 2016, Gastonia, NC.

Martin Castelbaum (MD ’58). April 12, 2016, Bondville, VT. He practiced internal medicine in Caldwell, NJ, for 30 years. Castelbaum was the medical staff president and director of education at Montclair Community Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Sandra; four children, including Amy Benedikt (MD ’89); and 10 grandchildren.

Lloyd P. Collier Jr. (’58). March 16, 2016, Whiteville, NC. He worked in the family business, Collier’s Jewelers, for 56 years. Collier sponsored beginner sports in Columbus County. He and his wife, Nancy, enabled 85 students to further their education beyond high school.

Robert Pitt Craft (’58). Feb. 17, 2016, Greenville, SC. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Cecil Lloyd Crayton (’58). Dec. 21, 2015, Sumter, SC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Crayton was retired from the S.C. Department of Disabilities and Special Needs.

James Edward Livengood (’58). Dec. 25, 2015, Winston-Salem. He worked for Archier Aluminiun, a division of R.J. Reynolds, for 10 years. Livengood and his wife opened The Bicycle Shop in Clemmons, NC, in 1972 and worked there until 2007. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Williams Livengood (’61); three daughters; and seven grandchildren.

Lois Taylor Sawyer (MD ’58). Nov. 30, 2015, Williamsburg, VA. She was an anesthesiologist at Riverside Hospital for 35 years.

John Cristwell Stroupe Jr. (JD ’58). Feb. 11, 2016, Hickory, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Stroupe practiced law with his father, John Sr. (1923), in Hickory for more than 35 years. He was president of Hollar Hosier Mills.

Joann Cass Dixon (’59). Jan. 3, 2016, Charlotte, NC. She was a former medical transcriptionist with Durwood Medical Clinic, Charlotte Plastic Surgery, Metrolina Nephrology and Samaritan’s Purse.

Charles Alexander Horn Sr. (’59, JD ’61). Feb. 4, 2016, Shelby, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and joined his father’s law firm, Horn West & Horn. Horn became district court judge in 2001 for the 27th N.C. District. He is survived by his wife, Jeri Jolly Horn (’60), three children; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Mary Farris Zinn (’59). Feb. 16, 2016, Oberlin, OH. She received her PhD in organic chemistry from Duke University. Zinn taught in the chemistry department at Cleveland State University. In 1978 she became head of sciences at Lake Ridge Academy before retiring after 24 years.

Joe David Barton (’60). March 3, 2016, Plafttown, NC. He was an avid golfer and loved to dance.

Martha Williamson Bruhn (’60). Dec. 28, 2015, Bluffton, SC.

John Edward Crutchfield Jr. (’60). March 12, 2016, Charlotte, NC. He was in commercial and industrial real estate. Crutchfield was named Most Outstanding Broker of the Year twice.


Jean Hunt Jordan (’61). Dec. 1, 2015, Southern Pines, NC. She was a medical technologist and had a passion for children. Jordan was instrumental in starting preschool programs at three different churches. She is survived by her husband, Wayne (’60, JD ’63); two children; and five grandchildren.

Harold Dean Moser (’61, MA ’63). April 4, 2016, Knoxville, TN. He was a retired historian from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. Moser taught in the Winston-Salem city schools and at Chowan College in Murfreesboro, NC. His 30-year career as a historian was under the National Historical Publications Records Commission, publishing papers of national political figures, including Daniel Webster, President John Tyler and Andrew Jackson. Moser is survived by his wife, Carolyn French Moser (MA ’64); his children, Andrew and Anna; four grandchildren; and a brother, Ken (’65, JD ’68, P ’91, ’94, ’96).

Winford Lee Nelson (’61). Feb. 8, 2016, Raleigh, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and received his master’s from UNC-Chapel Hill. Nelson retired after 30 years with the administrative office of the courts for the State of North Carolina.


George P. Davis Hudnor (’62). Nov. 7, 2015, San Diego. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Hudnor worked in the Cincinnati, Houston and San Diego divisions before retiring in 1993. He was preceded in death by his brother, Frank (’63). Hudnor is survived by his wife; a daughter; three stepdaughters; and two granddaughters.

Leonard Jay Levine (’62). March 4, 2016, Orlando, FL. He received his MD from the University of Bologna and trained in general and plastic surgery at Orlando Regional Medical Center. Levine served in the Medical Corps of the U.S. Air Force Reserves. He was department chair at Lucerne Hospital and retired from active practice in 2008.


Jerry Lamar Austin (’63). Nov. 30, 2015, Sun City Center, FL. He served in the U.S. Army and was the retired owner of G.F. Electro and Power and Control Inc.

Gene Richard Byroade (’63). Dec. 2, 2015, Orange County, FL. He worked in the financial sector and was a budget officer at Naval Air Station Jacksonville until his retirement.

William Marshall Mackie Jr. (’64, MAEd ’73). Dec. 4, 2015, Chapin, SC. He was associate director of admissions and financial aid at Wake Forest until 1974. Mackie founded the South Carolina Student Loan Corporation and served as its president and CEO until he retired in 2005 and began serving on its board of directors. He received South Carolina’s highest civilian honor, Order of the Palmetto. Mackie’s survivors include a brother, Jeff (’69).

John Alderman Freeman Jr. (’65, MD ’70). Jan. 17, 2016, Osprey, FL. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves as a leader of a MASH unit. Freeman was a diagnostic radiologist for five years in Ft. Myers, FL, and with Radiology Associates of Venice and Englewood, FL, for almost 30 years. He was preceded in death by his parents, Grace and John Sr. (’38, MA ’40). Freeman is survived by his wife, Barbara; a son, John III (’90); a daughter, Christine Ryan (’92); and four grandchildren.

Nicholas Allen Page (’65). Feb. 5, 2016, Charlotteville, VA. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam before becoming a stockbroker in Cleveland. Page received his MDiv from Chicago Theological Seminary and worked in California. At the age of 40, he became a professional jazz musician, playing saxophone and clarinet. Page had a band, The Red Hot Smoothies, that played in the Charlotteville area, and he was a DJ with WTJU. He is survived by his wife, Arlene, and a daughter, Emily (’99).
Day is slowly breaking on a March morning in the port city of Piraeus, Greece, as a burly red-headed figure stands dockside with luggage bags filled with 200 soft-sided baby carriers. James “Woody” Faircloth ('90), alongside fellow volunteers with the U.S. grassroots organization Carry the Future (CTF), waits for the arrival of ferries transporting hundreds of refugees seeking asylum.

Each day the volunteers wait at the dock for the 5 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. ferries, with rolling luggage bags in tow, prepared to hand out, fit, and instruct refugee families with the donated baby carriers. That’s how Faircloth, 49, a national account manager for Comcast in Denver, Colorado, describes the scene and how he got to that dock in Greece after becoming involved with non-profit CTF only six months prior.

A father of four with his own two sons, Ehret and Stowe, committed to the U.S. Army, Faircloth was accustomed to keeping a close eye on the news unfolding overseas. He was immediately moved when he saw the gut-wrenching image of Alan Kurdi, a 3-year-old Syrian refugee whose body was found washed up on a Turkish beach in September 2015.

Shortly after seeing the heartbreaking image, Faircloth came across a story about CTF founder Cristal Munoz-Logothetis, a California mother who collected used baby carriers and supplies for refugee families. That night, Faircloth sat up in bed and abruptly reached out to Munoz-Logothetis on Facebook, volunteering his help.

“After going back to bed, I remember asking myself, did you really just agree to help a bunch of moms collect baby carriers for Syrian, Afghan and Iraqi refugees?” he reflected in a CTF fundraising post. “I can’t explain precisely why I felt compelled to contact Cristal at that late hour of the night. I just did.”

Faircloth would go on to become the CTF Colorado state coordinator and now the Midwest regional director, regularly storing up to 300 baby carriers in the guest room of his home. Finally, in March, Faircloth traveled to Athens, Greece, with a group of CTF volunteers who brought with them 1,200 baby carriers.

In Greece, Faircloth split his time between handing out more baby carriers dockside and assisting volunteers in the Hellinikon Olympic sports complex. Walking around what was once the site of the 2004 Athens Olympic Games, Faircloth helped distribute relief supplies to the 3,000 refugees calling the venue home. Between volunteering at the...
dock and sports complex. Faircloth took the time to connect with each refugee family he met.

Among the luggage bags filled with carriers, Faircloth brought with him a baby carrier that held special significance. Shortly after he began volunteering with CTF, he read about the loss of a friend’s baby, Carwyn, in utero. After reading about how the parents said goodbye to their stillborn daughter, Faircloth reached out to the couple, who didn’t hesitate to mail him the baby carrier intended for their child.

Faircloth would later write a post to them, explaining the journey of this particular baby carrier, as it traveled from his home in Colorado to Piraeus. “While you were never able to get the chance, I wanted to share with you the smile of a grateful mother who is now using your carrier to carry her child to safety,” wrote Faircloth, who had fitted Carwyn’s baby carrier to a young mother, arriving via ferry around midnight with her baby, born just weeks before in a refugee camp.

The mother and baby took a five-hour journey in a rubber raft, filled with both vacationers and refugees, to the Greek island of Lesvos before boarding the ferry to Piraeus, where Faircloth was waiting at the dock. “I also know without question that you both made a difference by donating your carrier,” he wrote, “and that you brought a mom and her baby closer together on an uncertain journey.”

“Each of his stories had us fellow volunteers in tears, not because they were tragic, but because of the human connection that he was able to make with each family and child that was fitted with a baby carrier,” notes volunteer Rachna Bosci in a pitch to Denver news media. “He didn’t share a common spoken language, but he made raw human connections through the simple expression of humanity and compassion.”

Faircloth’s passion for human connection and compassion that Bosci and the other volunteers so admire dates back to his understanding of his alma mater’s guiding motto, Pro Humanitate. “When I think of Pro Humanitate, I picture standing face to face with another human being,” Faircloth said. “Language is just a barrier to verbal communication, but when you stand in front of another human and look them in the eye, you can communicate compassion.”

Below in the Deacon baseball cap is Woody Faircloth, holding a refugee named Zada, with whom he bonded over their red hair. Also below: the mother holding a child received the baby carrier Faircloth delivered from his friends who had lost their baby.
Margaret Wolff Lemmons Rooks (‘65), July 11, 2015, Asheboro, NC. She taught mathematics and computers for 25 years at Eastern Randolph County High School. Rooks was a charter member of the Randolph County Mental Health Association and its first recipient of the President’s Award. She received the W.W. Rankin Memorial Award for Excellence in Mathematics Education.

David W. Southern (MA ‘65), Dec. 5, 2015, McMurray, PA. He served in the U.S. Air Force and taught at North Carolina Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, NC. Southern received his PhD in 1971 from Emory University and spent his career teaching, researching and authoring books at Westminster College in Fulton, MO. He was also chair of the history department for a time and retired in 2005. Southern’s research and publications included the American Civil Rights Movement and his first book, “The Malignant Heritage: Yankee Progressives and the Negro Question 1901-1914” (Loyola Press), that won the William P. Lyons Master Essay Award in 1967.

John Gary Doble (‘66), Sept. 2, 2015, Springfield, TN. He served in the U.S. Army. Doble retired from the criminal investigation division of the Internal Revenue Service and was in real estate sales with his wife in Springfield. Doble was inducted into the Martin Football Hall of Fame at the University of Tennessee.

Rex Norman “Skip” Gribble Jr. (‘66), Dec. 3, 2015, Charlotte, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves and joined the family business, Charlotte Machine Company, which merged with Powerhouse Mechanical in 2007. Gribble is survived by his wife, Nancy; two sons; two grandchildren; and a sister, Mary Eshet (‘78).

Charles Cadmus Lamm Jr. (‘66, JD ‘69), March 27, 2016, Terrell, NC. He practiced law from 1969 to 1979 in Boone, NC, and was a N.C. Superior Court Judge from 1979 to 2004.

Janet Lemons Nelson (‘66), Jan. 14, 2016, Columbus, GA. She received her master’s from UNC Greensboro. Nelson was an information technologist with Burlington Industries and Network Systems and a systems analyst for IBM.

William “Billy” Louis Poteat (‘66, PhD ‘71), April 4, 2016, Columbia, SC. He taught at the Medical College of Virginia and helped establish the University of South Carolina’s School of Medicine, where he taught until retiring. Poteat received seven Outstanding Teacher Awards. He loved golf and after retiring established a golf business, Pro’s Yardage Caddy. Poteat became a golf rules official and worked with the City Golf Tournament and South Carolina Golf Association. He was preceded in death by his great-grandfather, namesake and former Wake Forest president William Louis Poteat Sr. (1877, MA 1889); his mother; his father, Hubert M. Poteat Jr. (‘36, MD ‘38); and a son, Will. Poteat is survived by his wife, Cheryl; a sister, Barbara King; and a brother, Robert M. Poteat (‘58, P ‘98, ‘02).

Edward Russell White Jr. (JD ‘66), March 4, 2016, Demorest, GA. He was a veteran of World War II and fought at the Battle of the Bulge. White received his MD from the University of Wisconsin and had a general practice in Winston-Salem for 15 years. He was chief of pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology at Walter Reed Medical Center in Silver Spring, MD, and practiced medicine in Roswell, GA, until his retirement.

Sammie L. Reavis (‘67), March 20, 2016, Winston-Salem. He retired after 40 years with R.J. Reynolds.

Everette Leonard Richardson Jr. (‘67), Jan. 9, 2016, Raleigh, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and retired as a colonel after 23 years and many awards and commen-dations. Richardson’s service included the U.S. Army Reserves. He was an independent representative at Capital Investment Companies and president of R&D Benefit Designs. Richardson is survived by his wife, Fran; three daughters; four grandchildren; and a sister, Barbara Hammers (‘64).

Joe Earl Biesecie (JD ‘68), Dec. 6, 2015, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Navy before his legal career with Duke Power Company. In 1970 Biesecie began practicing law with what is now Biesecie Tripp Sink & Fritts LLP in Lexington, NC. He is survived by his wife, Gail; a daughter, Wendy McNeill; a son, Eric (‘93), and five grandchildren.

Homer Woodrow Brookshire Jr. (‘68), Jan. 27, 2016, Advance, NC. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War, rising to the rank of captain. After the military, Brookshire worked in the poultry industry. He served on the College Board of Visitors, Alumni Council and Deacon Club Board of Directors at Wake Forest. Brookshire is survived by his wife, Jane; a son, Jeff; and a sister. Memorials may be made to the Annie Jo and Homer W. Brookshire Sr. Scholarship Fund, Wake Forest University School of Divinity, PO Box 7227, Winston-Salem, NC 27109 or Clemmons Presbyterian Church Building Fund, 3930 Clemmons Road, Clemmons, NC 27012. He was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

George Wright Findlay (‘68), March 18, 2016, Dover, DE. After graduation he enrolled in the U.S. Air Force pilot training program and was operations officer and commander of the 9th military airlift squadron and director of command and control at 21st Air Force in support of Operation Desert Storm. Findlay retired from the USAF in 1994 and launched the JR ROTC program at Caesar Rodney High School and taught at Flight Safety International for 14 years. He received the Best of the Best Flight Safety Award in 2013.

Charles Roger Allen (‘69), Nov. 20, 2015, Mt. Pleasant, SC. He served 10 years in the U.S. Army Reserves during his banking career. Allen owned various start-ups and franchises and later owned a Charleston, SC, Great Clips franchise.

Jerry Ray Hemric (‘69, MD ‘73), Feb. 27, 2016, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a retired dermatologist. Hemric is survived by three children, Kristin Bacich (‘00), Karin Rubesh and Justin; three grandchildren; three sisters; and three brothers.

Marshall Elliott Vermillion (‘69), Nov. 28, 2015, Winter Park, FL. He served in the U.S. Navy before graduation and received an MBA from UNC-Chapel Hill. Vermillion joined First Union Bank in Charlotte and then moved to Winter Park. He retired in 2008 after 32 years with First Union and worked six years at Orange Bank. Vermillion was senior vice president with United Legacy Bank at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Black Vermillion (‘74); two children, Ashley Harris (‘99) and Jeff; and two granddaughters.

Larry Wayne Hicks (‘70), Dec. 14, 2015, Claymont, DE. He served in the U.S. Air Force. Hicks was a system database programmer and administrator. He is survived by his wife, Karen; a daughter, Elizabeth, a senior web developer at Wake Forest; a son, Jeff; two stepchildren; and six grandchildren.

Andrea Beth Coleman (‘71), March 16, 2016, Chattanooga, TN. She was a lifetime member of Girl Scouts USA and worked for nonprofit agencies.

Donald S. Richardson (‘71), Feb. 3, 2016, Memphis, TN. He served in the U.S. Army Military Police Corps. Richardson worked for computer software stores, in marketing and as a reporter. He was a conservationist and advocate for sustainability, environmental justice and public parks.

Nancy Lynn Alderman (‘72), Jan. 25, 2016, Ponte Vedra, FL. She was divisional merchandise manager for Belk Stores, senior vice president of Belk Stores Services in New York City and director of product development and fashion retailing for Stein Mart in Jacksonville, FL. Alderman worked in fashion for 30 years and retired in 2009. She served on the Calloway Board of Visitors. Alderman was preceded in death by her mother, Bette, and her father, Allison Monden-ville Alderman Jr. (‘44, MD ‘46). She is survived by two sisters.

Peggy Frye Brittle (‘72), Feb. 20, 2016, Mount Airy, NC. She taught sixth grade at Franklin Elementary School and was the 1986 Surry County School Teacher of the Year. Brittle retired in 1989 to pursue her passion for quilting.

Bruce Cameron Fraser ('73, JD '73), Jan. 15, 2016, Winston-Salem. He was an attorney. Fraser was preceded in death by a brother, Geoff ('69). He is survived by his wife, Cindy; a stepson, Michael; and two brothers, Mark ('84) and Alan.

Robert William Kelly Sr. (MD '73), March 11, 2016, Cabot, PA. He served in the U.S. Army before opening a solo general surgery practice at Allegheny Valley Hospital. Kelly rejoined the Army and served as a trauma surgeon in Iraq and Afghanistan before retiring as a colonel. He joined Allegheny General Hospital as a trauma surgeon and then became a burn surgeon at West Penn Hospital, from which he retired in 2015.

Bonnie Sapp Poindexter ('73), Feb. 4, 2016, Winston-Salem. She worked at Summit School and was the regional director of the March of Dimes for 22 years. After retirement, Poindexter worked with the Arts Council, the Piedmont Opera and Dr. M. Scott Peck’s Foundation for Community Encouragement.


Pamela Smith Huffman ('74), Dec. 7, 2015, Akron, OH. She retired from the accounting department of Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.

Susan Joan Test-Moreth ('74), July 17, 2015, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Harvey Lindenthal Cosper Jr. (JD '75), Dec. 19, 2015, Charlotte, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves for six years. Cosper was an attorney with Golding Meekins Holden Cosper & Stiles for 25 years before becoming a partner and head of the medical malpractice defense team of Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP. He was inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers in 2007 and received the J. Robert Elster Award for Professional Excellence in 2014.

Mark Stanton Thomas ('75, JD '78), March 14, 2016, Raleigh, NC. He served in the U.S. Army JAG Corps. Thomas was a partner with Maupin Taylor & Ellis PA. He is survived by his wife, Sally; a daughter, Elizabeth ('11); his mother, Vivian; and two brothers, James and Michael ('79). Memorials may be made to Edenton Street United Methodist Church, North Carolina Master Chorale, Wake Forest University Theatre or the National Park Service.

Fred Grady Church (MA '76), Dec. 26, 2015, Kannapolis, NC. He taught at Iowa State University and worked at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine. Church also taught communications at Morehead State University in Kentucky, worked at The Charlotte Observer and Luwa Corp. in Charlotte, NC, and at the Cherry Point Marine Base in Havelock, NC. In 1991 he transferred to Quantico, VA, where he completed 23 years of civil service as director of business reform at Marine Corps Base Quantico.

Jerry Allen Hauser ('78), Dec. 20, 2015, Advance, NC. He received his DDS from UNC School of Dentistry and was a dentist for 26 years in Advance.

John D. Poe ('78), Feb. 23, 2016, Roanoke, VA. He was a volunteer for the Roanoke League of Older Americans, the National Alliance on Mental Illness and Brandon Oakes Retirement Community. Poe was recognized by the Virginia Governor as a Virginia Volunteer of the Year for his work at Catawba Hospital. He volunteered for a National Institutes of Mental Health study to better understand the causes of his illness to help improve the lives of others. Poe was preceded in death by his father, William ('40, MD '43). He is survived by his mother, June; and four siblings, Martha ('75), Thomas, William and Nancy.

Sallie Rehder Serosky ('78), Feb. 29, 2016, Clemmons, NC. She worked for Booke & Company and was retired from Aon Consulting Company.

James Truett Sledge (MBA '79), Jan. 14, 2016, High Point, NC. He worked in management in Dallas, Connecticut and Illinois and retired from Hatteras Yachts in High Point.

Peyton Thomas Hairston Jr. (JD '80), Feb. 13, 2016, Knoxville, TN. He was an attorney in labor relations in Cincinnati and held other positions in the South and Midwest, including the Tennessee Valley Authority, where he was senior vice president of communications and ombudsman to the public.

Sheri Lynne Samuels (PA '80), Jan. 11, 2015, Edmonton, AB. She received her MD from the University of Alberta in 1994. Samuels was a physician at Boyle McCauley, Hy’s Center and Canadian Blood Services.

Peter Hall Detweiler (MBA '81), Jan. 21, 2016, Lexington, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy and was retired from IBM. Detweiler taught yoga and tai chi at the J. Smith Young YMCA.

Daniel Kent Thomas ('81), March 29, 2016, Louisburg, NC. He was a mortgage banker at NewBridge Bank and enjoyed antiques, art and history.

Wayne Anthony Baumgardner ('82), Jan. 10, 2016, Woodstock, GA. He was on the football team that played in the Tangerine Bowl in 1979 and tried out for the Dallas Cowboys. Baumgardner was cut in the final round so he returned to Bluefield, WV, and became a sportscaster at WVVA-TV. He moved to Atlanta and worked with CNN, ESPN, Alcorn State University, InTouch Ministries and Primerica. Baumgardner was a videographer for Georgia Public Broadcasting, where he won two regional Emmys for documentaries in 2005 and 2010. He had a video/production company named after his daughters, The Brooke and Hannah TV Inc.

Jennifer Jane Allen ('83, JD '86), March 31, 2016, Winston-Salem. She taught at Davidson County Community College for 26 years.

Jill Cermak Pence (MD '84), Jan. 7, 2016, Winston-Salem. She was a primary care physician at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center’s Highland Oaks medical clinic.

Frank Joseph Hester (MBA '85), Nov. 12, 2015, Savannah, GA.

Charles Edward Lyons II (JD '85), Feb. 4, 2016, Mooresville, NC. He was an assistant U.S. attorney during the Reagan administration from 1985 to 1989 and received a Special Achievement Award from the U.S. Attorney General. Lyons practiced community association law, bankruptcy, creditor’s rights and construction law. He was a member of the Iredell County Board of Elections since 2007 and was chair in 2013.

Jack Walden Owen II ('85), April 1, 2016, Annapolis, VA. He was an engineer for Cutlass Systems Engineering at the Naval Research Lab. Owen is survived by his wife, Amy Sanborn Owen ('83); four children, Jack III ('11), Courtney ('14), Lindsay and Mark; his mother, Charlotte; and two sisters, Linda Hanson ('81, P ‘12, ‘15) and Lisa Veale.

J. Alan Trivett III ('86), March 13, 2016, Roanoke Rapids, NC. He taught at East Mecklenburg High School in Charlotte, NC, for several years.

Merris Anthony Hollingsworth (MAEd '91), Dec. 17, 2015, Newark, DE. She received her PhD from the University of Maryland, College Park. Hollingsworth joined the University of Delaware Center for Counseling and Student Development in 1999. She was a senior psychologist and the recipient of the 2011 Outstanding Training Director Award by the Section for Supervision and Training of the Society of Counseling Psychology of the American Psychological Association.

William Franklin Johnson Jr. (JD '92), Dec. 26, 2015, Charlotte, NC. He was a senior executive with Morgan Stanley and founder of the Johnson and Cooper Investment Advisory Group. Johnson had previous positions with Merrill Lynch, UBS Financial Services, Paine Webber, J.C. Bradford and Company, Bank of America, PricewaterhouseCoopers and was an intensive care unit nurse at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

Charles Scott Rowley ('93, MS '96), Feb. 29, 2016, Seattle. He worked for Boeing, Cascadia College, Amazon and most recently Microsoft.
Douglas Duane Wall (MBA ’93), March 5, 2016, Richmond, VA. He was a native of Elkin, NC. Wall was senior vice president for Wachovia Bank in Winston-Salem before moving to Virginia as a corporate executive specializing in credit risk management, strategic planning and financial analysis.

Harry E. Bailey (MBA ’96), March 9, 2016, Southport, NC. He served as a captain in the U.S. Marines for more than 31 years from Vietnam to Desert Storm.

Matthew James Mazzola (’97), Nov. 25, 2015, Washington, D.C. He received his MBA from Duke University and had a consulting business in Washington, D.C. Mazzola is survived by his wife, Coretta, and his parents, Joseph (MA ’75) and Peggy Mazzola.

Meri Finanser Benezra Bryant (MALS ’02), Jan. 31, 2016, Mount Pleasant, SC. She was an artisan/craftsman of embroidery and knitting and a jeweler, writer and chef.

Andrew Douglas Gregory (’02), Dec. 8, 2015, Odessa, FL. He served in the U.S. Army and had three tours in Iraq.

Caroline Jean Stalker (JD ’02), Dec. 31, 2015, Richmond, VA. She began her law career with McGuire Woods LLP. Stalker staffed the transportation committee with the Division of Legislative Services and then took a position at the Department of Motor Vehicles. She returned to Legislative Services to staff the House Courts of Justice Committee.

Julie Kristen Schroeder (MBA ’04), Feb. 10, 2016, Travelers Rest, SC. She managed the Sherwin Williams in Travelers Rest and was active with The Greater Travelers Rest Chamber of Commerce and TEDxGreenville.

Chad Randall Crawford (MDiv ’07), Jan. 22, 2016, Houston. He hiked the Appalachian Trail in 2007 from Maine to Georgia in four and a half months. Crawford was ordained a minister at Knollwood Baptist Church in Winston-Salem. He served as a youth pastor at Woodland Baptist Church in San Antonio and worked for Interfaith Power and Light, a nonprofit in San Francisco.

Bradley Douglas Cardwell (MBA ’08), March 22, 2016, Davidson, NC. He had worked and lived in the Charlotte area for more than 20 years. Cardwell was a land development manager for Shea Homes. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Athel P. Phillips (1931), and is survived by his mother and two daughters.

Cynthia Lea Frazen Good (MDiv ’11), March 29, 2016, Kernersville, NC. She received her master’s of library science from UNC Greensboro. Good was a librarian for the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, a law firm and the Greensboro Public Library.

Erin Michele Levitas (’15), Jan. 16, 2016, Pikesville, MD. She majored in psychology but developed cancer during her last semester.

Robert B. Brehme, Feb. 23, 2016, Belleair Bluffs, FL. He joined the physics faculty in 1959 and retired in 1995. With colleagues Thomas J. Turner, Howard Shilds and George P. Williams (P ’86), he helped develop an undergraduate program which won national recognition for excellence in 1964 from the American Institute of Physics. Shortly before retiring, Brehme received the University’s Jon Reinhardt Award for Distinguished Teaching. A native of Washington, D.C., he graduated from Roanoke College, received a master’s and PhD from UNC-Chapel Hill and served in the U.S. Army. For 36 years, Brehme taught introductory physics, undergraduate mechanics, graduate electricity and magnetism and graduate relativity. He continued to teach a physics course without pay for three years after he retired. One of his most notable accomplishments was the development of the Brehme diagram to explain how special relativity works. He is survived by his wife, Sue; four daughters, Katherine, Linda Epstein (’82), Ruth Key and Susan Park; and five grandchildren, Tracy Epstein (’05), Ethan Epstein (’08, MSA ’09), Michael Epstein (’10), Jay Key (’11, MA ’16) and Rachel Key (MAEd ’15). Memorials may be made to the Wake Forest physics department, PO Box 7507, Winston-Salem, NC 27109.

Sandra Claire Brisendine, Dec. 9, 2015, Pflaumtown, NC. She was a protection officer at the Reynolda House Museum of American Art.

Frank Ross Campbell, March 22, 2016, Danville, VA. He was on the Wake Forest Board of Trustees from 1984 to 1987 and a former chairman and member of the N.C. Baptist Hospital and Bowman Gray School of Medicine Board of Trustees. Campbell received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Wake Forest in 1980. He was a Baptist pastor, president of Averett University from 1985 to 2002, interim president of Gardner-Webb University from 2002 to 2005 and executive director of Stratford House from 2006 to 2013. Campbell was a professor of religion at Averett, adjunct faculty at Gardner-Webb and a supervisor for doctoral students at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was named Father of Averett Football and construction began in 2015 on the Frank R. Campbell Football Stadium at Averett University. Campbell received the Citizen of the Year Award from the Statesville Citizen Club and from the Danville Kiwanis Club. He is survived by his wife, Janet; two daughters, Catherine Burgess and Donna Burki (’83); four grandchildren; and a sister.

Ann Fields Francis, Nov. 22, 2015, Winston-Salem. She retired from Wake Forest in 1992 as a secretary after 30 years in the religion department. Francis was preceded in death by her husband, Marvin (’42). She is survived by a son and grandson.

Fairfield Goodale, Dec. 27, 2015, Duxbury, MA. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II. Goodale taught academic medicine at Dartmouth College, Albany Medical College, the Medical College of Virginia, the Medical College of Georgia and Bowman Gray School of Medicine. He was a dean of the Bowman Gray School of Medicine. Goodale retired from academic medicine in 1986.

Rowilla B. Horn, April 6, 2016, Winston-Salem. She was a retired custodian.

Thomas W. Slater Jr., Feb. 14, 2016, Mocksville, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force. Slater was with the Wake Forest University Police until 2005. He helped develop the RAD: Rape Aggression Defense program. With the assistance of the RAD Team, an Annual Tom Slater RAD Instructor of the Year Award will be presented each year. Slater was with the Mocksville Police Department for 10 years and was a reserve officer with the Davie County Sheriff’s Department.

Thomas J. Turner, Feb. 5, 2016, Greenville, SC. He taught physics from 1952 until 1978 and chaired the department from 1958 until 1974. A native of Albany, GA, he earned his PhD from the University of Virginia and taught briefly in New Hampshire before joining the Wake Forest faculty. With colleagues Robert Brehme (P ’82), Howard Shilds and George P. Williams (P ’86), he helped develop an undergraduate program which won national recognition for excellence in 1964 from the American Institute of Physics. In 1968, Turner served on a committee that recommended the elimination of the mandatory twice-weekly chapel service. He also served on a curriculum study committee that led to the popular (but short-lived) four-week winter term in the 1970s. After leaving Wake Forest in 1978, Turner was vice president and dean of the college at Stetson University and later vice president for academic affairs at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkansas. After retiring, he became an ordained Baptist minister and served as a chaplain with the N.C. Department of Corrections. Turner is survived by his wife, Marie; four children; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Richard Lee Wolk Jr. (MBA), March 15, 2016, Charlotte, NC. He was in the Charlotte Evening Working Professional MBA Program. He is survived by his wife, Yolanda, and three children.
My father was a many-faceted individual: a world renowned scholar, an exemplary teacher, an activist, a community leader, a perceptive editorial writer and a man of deep humanity and gentle humor.”

Those words are how Wake Forest Law Professor Jaya Gokhalé ('67) describes her late father, B.G. Gokhalé (P '67, ’72), as she sits in his personal library on Faculty Drive.

B.G. Gokhalé established the University’s Asian Studies Program in 1960, published 17 books and more than 100 articles, and continued to receive letters from students long after his 1990 retirement.

Now, more than a decade after her father’s passing at age 85, Jaya seeks to celebrate her father’s passion for scholarship in her own writing, preparing an article to highlight the groundbreaking nature of his contributions at Wake Forest.

“When writing about my father, I try to combine the perspective of an objective evaluator of his ideas with my own love for him as his daughter,” she explains.

Gokhalé adored being with his students and, Jaya writes, was never at risk of becoming an “ivory tower individual.” Emphasizing teamwork, his Asian Studies Program initially began as collaboration among the University, Salem College and Winston-Salem Teachers’ College, now Winston-Salem State University. “The general aim,” according to a report after the program’s first year, “is to stimulate interest among students and faculty … in Asia, its history, culture and role in the world of today.”

In 1965, the Association of American Colleges recognized Wake Forest as one of 18 U.S. colleges that offered non-Western studies. The program helped usher in today’s era at Wake Forest, when more than 60 percent of its students study abroad and the University’s goals include global relevancy and understanding.

Recounting her father’s impressive accomplishments, Jaya balances on a ladder and pulls copies of her father’s books from the shelves. Amid his published works is a copy of Jaya’s book, “From Concessions to Confrontation: The Politics of an Indian Untouchable Community,” a social and political history of a major Indian Untouchable (or Dalit) community. Thumbing through the pages, Jaya shows how traces of Gokhalé’s notes linger in the margins.

There is no denying Jaya’s own multiple dimensions are as varied as her father’s. Graduating from Wake Forest in 1967, at 19, she majored in political science. Like her father, she was a scholar, earning a doctorate in Asian Studies from McGill University, publishing the “Concessions” book and later attending Columbia University’s School of Law. Her career took an unexpected shift, into corporate law.

Her father supported her through it all. And through it all, father and daughter continued to engage in spirited intellectual discussions about such subjects as Buddhist legal philosophy. Honoring her father’s influence, Jaya plans to write an additional article on the “Concept of Law in Early Buddhist Thought,” which the pair originally planned to co-author.

“He was very proud of me,” recalls Jaya. “Although, ultimately, he always wanted me to teach. He would have been happy that I’m back teaching at Wake Forest.”

Jaya continues to leaf through the pages of her father’s books, with classical music from a nearby radio punctuating the pause between each recounted memory of her father. B.G. Gokhalé is present everywhere — in the longhand notes across his published pages, the Buddhist figurines he collected and the prints decorating the library of the home designed by him and his wife, Beena — the home in which he died in 2005.

The happiest periods of her father’s life were spent on the Wake Forest campus, Jaya says, a sentiment she hopes to capture in her essay. Gokhalé declined offers from other universities, choosing to stay at Wake Forest “because of what it is and what it is going to be.”

As Jaya talks about her father’s legacy, there is a sense of loyalty and melancholy, and a writing process both satisfying and saddening because it is personal. “This piece is a question of my own identity,” Jaya says. “There is a sense of self being involved in it. My father will continue to live in the memories of all who were fortunate enough to encounter his presence.”
A pre-med path not taken awakened an old love

By Dhonielle Clayton ('05)

“All she ever wanted to do was read under her grandmother’s dining room table,” my dad always says when asked about my childhood. “But she went to Wake to be a doctor.”

I grew up in the Maryland suburbs outside of Washington, D.C. As a small reader, I used to gather provisions — my favorite blanket, a glass of lemonade, a handful of pink-frosted animal cookies — then hide under my grandmother’s mahogany dining room table draped with a lace tablecloth. The sun would trickle in through the pattern, warm the space and scatter the perfect amount of light over the pages of my book. The nook transformed into my own private cave — a refuge from a hyperactive little brother — where I could find quiet, disappear into stories and experience the magic of reading. I would sniff each book, stack them in order by length and write reviews in my trusty journal. I preferred fantastical stories where characters went through wardrobes into alternate worlds or took spaceships to faraway planets or found wrinkles in time that allowed them to travel through dimensions. These books became part of my tiny life force.

The moment I stepped on Wake Forest’s campus I knew I was supposed to be there. One of my first memories is of the magnolia trees and imagining how a clever person might tuck herself inside them with a book. It made Wake Forest feel magical. When I moved into Johnson Residence Hall as a freshman, I was adamant that I would be pre-med, the first doctor in the family. Both my parents were math and computer geeks. I imagined myself with a stethoscope and a slew of patients. Then, Chemistry 101 happened. I struggled. Despite all the effort and stress, I failed the class. The only reprieve I had from balancing chemical equations and talk of valence electrons occurred during my freshman literature seminar.

I fell in love with reading again. In high school, books had become things to be quizzed on and written about for grades rather than portals to other worlds and experiences. While under the duress of Chemistry 101, I returned to books as a place of comfort. I proudly became an English major.

But it wasn’t until I studied abroad with Professor of English Mary DeShazer at the Worrell House in London that I homed in on my passion. Her syllabus contained children’s literature. Reading fiction for children filled me with a sense of purpose. That sheer wonder led me to London’s beautiful children’s bookstores and inspired me to write creatively that semester, drafting stories for the child version of myself who had been unable to see her little brown self as the heroine in the books I treasured as a young reader.

This set me on the path to becoming a published children's book author, a children’s librarian and the vice president for librarian services for We Need Diverse Books, a nonprofit focused on making children's literature.

We get to know people outside of our own communities. We gain knowledge others don’t expect us to have. We discover new and surprising passions. Reading is critical to our growth, both as individuals and as a society.”

I love the work of We Need Diverse Books. Its mission is identical to mine: “To increase the visibility and necessity of diverse representation in children’s and young adult literature through initiatives to increase the hiring of diverse publishing staff, the acquisition of diverse manuscripts by diverse authors, the discovery of published books with diverse content and the collaboration between publishers and the public to promote books that reflect the vast and diverse world for children.”

My work with We Need Diverse Books aims to make his words tangible and produce librarian initiatives that can help children find mirrors of their own diverse experiences as well as windows into others’ experiences. Wake Forest ignited this flame, helping me find my spirit as a writer, reconnecting me to my love of books and reminding me of the wonder I found underneath my grandmother’s table.

Dhonielle Clayton (’05) is a librarian at Harlem Village Academies in New York City and co-founder of CAKE Literary, a literary think tank whipping up packaged books for children, teens and women fiction readers with a decidedly diverse bent. She is the co-author, with Sona Charaipotra, of “Tiny Pretty Things” and “Shiny Broken Pieces” and author of the forthcoming series “The Belles.”
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Professor of Counseling Sam Gladding (‘67, MAEd ’71, P ’07, ’09) explores two decades of transformational growth and change in “The History of Wake Forest University, Volume 6.” The book covers the presidency of Thomas K. Hearn Jr. from 1983 to 2005. For much of that time, Gladding was assistant to the president for special projects and later associate provost. “Except for the removal of Wake Forest College to Winston-Salem, there has never been a more exciting or impactful time in the history of the institution than during the 22 years of the Hearn administration,” Gladding writes. “Wake Forest went from being a strong regional, Baptist-affiliated university to a top 30 national, independent, institution of higher education.”