



50 Year Club Newsletter

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Class of 1964 Reunion By J. J. Lauer and Gene Julian

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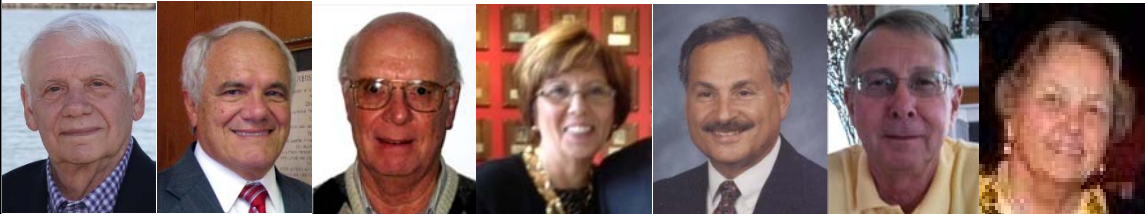
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Thanks to the exceptional efforts of our planning committee and the extraordinary assistance of Kelly and Janet we are prepared for a memorable weekend in Wheeling on the occasion of our graduation from Wheeling College (May 17, 1964). The Friday night festivities will be highlighted by the 50 Year Diploma ceremony starting at 5:00 PM with Frances (Frankie) Panneton Onaitis and Pat O'Brien acting as moderators. Pat and Frankie will honor our 22 departed classmates during the ceremony, Jim Smith will present Father Fleming with the symbolic check reflecting the current amount in the Ignatian Fund, then John Aluise will announce the first award of the Ignatian Scholarship, Dylan Onderko. Dylan is a rising senior philosophy major from Fairmont, WV. Following the Diploma Ceremony we will have a reception hosted by Fr. Fleming. Dinner follows in the Benedum room with food catered by the Alpha.

The night will be capped off with social time at about 8:30 PM in the Troy lounge where we may indulge in sharing memories and possibly join in song with such memorable tunes as

"The Wheeling College Polka, "Carolina In The Morning" and the "Alma Mater" We will have the defibrillators and oxygen bottles for those who want to attempt the Infamous Carolina Kick that current WJU students have probably never seen. Jeanne Henry Neff has generously offered to accompany as we harmonize. Time permitting we may show the John Aluise produced DVD "Sentimental Journey Class of 64". Copies are available for sale and the proceeds will go to the Ignatian Fund. On Saturday morning at 10:30 we will have the 50 Year Club Lecture/Discussion with Dave Haddad on the panel and later in the day at 4:00 PM there will be the traditional memorial mass where all WC/WJU deceased will be remembered. Geno and I would like to express our sincere gratitude to those members on the planning committee who helped us with ideas and in contacting classmates to attend the reunion. Geno, Amy Potesta Weber and Bill Bresnahan represented our Class at the 2014 Commencement, which coincidentally was the same date as ours in 1964, May 17. Finally, we would like to thank all those classmates who have supported the Class of 1964 Ignatian Scholarship Fund over the last 5 years. As of this printing the fund stands at about \$225,712. The fund will continue to grow with interest and continued donations.

Thanks to the planning committee for their hard work and dedication. Members of the committed pictured below from L-R are: J. J. Lauer, Gene Julian, Dick Brandt, Amy Potesta Weber, John Aluise, Bob Sladek and Marty Buckley Shields, (Dave Haddad not pictured.)



50 Year Club Diplomas

Today members of the classes of 1959 and 1964 will join the classes of '60, '61, '62 and '63 as members of the 50 Year Club. Each member will receive a 50 Year Club diploma from WJU President Fr. Jim Fleming. This will be the fifth formal diploma ceremony. For 50 Year Club information, see page 12.

Fourth Annual 50 Year Club Lecture Discussion

Time: Sat., June 21—10:30 AM

Location: Troy Theater

Title: Catholic Social Thought and Positions on Issues of Social Justice

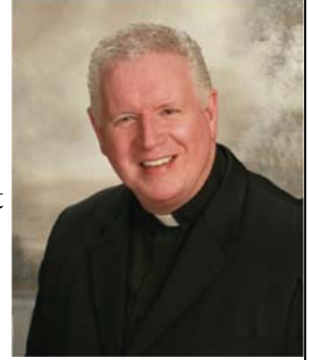
Panel Participants
Moderator - Dan Haller '61

Jessica Wroblewski, Ph.D. Professor Wheeling Jesuit

Dave Haddad, Ph.D. '64

A Message from Rev. James Fleming, SJ, Ph.D. WJU President

June is a wonderful month. So often folks assume that commencement is the only high point of the year - and it is, along with the start of school in late August and Alumni Weekend in June - three yearly mountaintop experiences here in our beautiful home in Appalachia. Alumni, especially those graduates from the early days (1959 – 1965), are so excited when they return to campus to rekindle friendships and relive adventures. Now in my fourth year at Wheeling Jesuit University I can see how much and why you love this place. The 50 Year Club allows alums to stay in touch in an organized and helpful manner. This newsletter, yearly gatherings, and organized phone conversations help to keep us all connected. The school benefits from the work of the members of the 50 Year Club and the generosity of its membership has been astonishing during its first five years. This year alone members of the 50 Year Club Senior Ambassadors were successful in raising \$185,527 for the University. And the Class of 1964 – this year's Golden Graduates – have raised \$225,712 (as of 6-5-2014) of their \$250,000 goal by Alumni Weekend. God bless them all!



I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the remarks I offered to the graduating seniors at our 2014 commencement. I hope these will give you a sense of what is important to us here on campus.

We have prayed for this day. No, I really mean it. We - everyone here around you – we have prayed for this day to come, and now, our prayers are answered. You have made it through four years (or five or six) and are about to graduate. In a way, therefore, you've taught us to pray. You have taught us many lessons. You've taught us that patience, though it may be tough at times, pays off in the end; that we need to be able to receive comfort, as well as offer it; and that when friends-in-need ask us to do something for them and we accept, their happiness becomes our first priority.

Some lessons I learned in my first four years here at WJU were not new but were reinforced – strengthening lessons learned many years ago. These are lessons I learned from our commencement speaker, my sister, Patti Quigley as she has grown into her role as international activist and aid worker. Mother of a 5-year-old daughter and pregnant with her second child, her tranquil life was shattered on September 11th 2001, when her husband was tragically and publicly ripped from their lives – murdered by foreign terrorists.

She may have some light to shed on our lives this year –especially this year as we experienced Kevin Figaniak's death together at the start of our academic year. We also 'experienced life in ways that we never thought possible – not after the darkness, as one might suppose, but in the darkness. We did not go through pain and come out the other side; instead, we lived in it and found within that loss the grace to survive and eventually grow'. As Jerry Sittser tells us in his book, A Grace Disguised, 'You taught us how to absorb evil and good, to die and live again, to suffer abandonment and find God. In choosing to face the night, we took our first steps toward the sunrise.'

As you face a world with fewer required courses and more electives. I think our choices are not unlike those faced by our commencement speaker 10 years ago. When given a choice between violence and love — she chose love. When given a choice between retribution and treating others with dignity – she chose human dignity and solidarity with the marginalized. When given a choice between death and life — she's chosen life.

During your years at Wheeling Jesuit University we have prayed for you. The question that raises, is, "Did that prayer matter?"

When I was a young Jesuit - early in my formation - before I was ordained a priest, one question that perplexed me for a period of time was, "Does prayer matter?" Since I often saw my mother praying when I was a child, I decided to ask her about the efficacy of prayer. It is her wise answer with which I will leave you today.

*I asked my mother if prayer was just a waste of time. She said, "**Jim, prayer is love and love is never wasted.**"*

Class of 2014, you leave here today with our prayers and our love. Congratulations

Class of 1964 we welcome you back with our prayers and our love

Class of 1964 Gift- The Ignatian Scholarship

One of the greatest leaders of the 20th Century, Sir Winston Churchill, once said, "We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give." The members of the Class of 1964 placed a high value on their Wheeling College education, and considered the need to "*pay it forward*" by creating a scholarship fund to provide similar future opportunities for young people.

In 2009, during their 45th reunion, the class of 1964 set a goal to raise \$250,000 by their 50th anniversary in 2014. The objective was to establish an endowment to leave as a legacy of their class. As of June 4, 2014, 55 classmates, including a few non-graduates and one other individual have committed or donated \$225,712 to the scholarship fund. This amounts to an impressive 58% of classmates who could donate given that 22 of the 109 graduates passed away, most before the initiative started. While the fund has yet to reach the \$250 K goal, the initial scholarship will be awarded at the 50th Reunion thanks to a generous \$2,500 anonymous donation.

There was also another anonymous matching challenge up to \$30,000 for new monies donated before the reunion which generated a quick \$15,500 in new dollars. We still have \$14,500 in the matching funds available. Another \$12,000 in new monies will enable realization of the ultimate goal. It would be unfortunate to waste this unique and generous opportunity when the desired objective is well within reach. Regardless, the fund will continue to grow from interest on the principal and anticipated continuing donations from classmates to reach the \$250,000 target. Over the past 5 years, **through individual donations of time, talent and treasure, the Class of 1964 will leave a valuable and lasting legacy to the future of Wheeling Jesuit University.** A symbolic check will be presented to Father Fleming at the Friday night reunion festivities by Jim Smith the last president of the Class of 1964 and proposer of the Ignatian Fund. By JJ Lauer

Memories from Jim Smith

My Wheeling College years were the most important time in my life. Thanks to the outstanding Jesuits, both as teachers and men, and the terrific people who were those early Wheeling pioneers with me, I developed into an educated, happy and confident young man. Believe me, that's not how I started out.

Luckily for me, I stayed in touch with Wheeling over the years, visiting friends in Wheeling & Pittsburgh, and visiting Wheeling during the time my three daughters attended. They got the same great education and growing up that I did. Now I'm still involved serving on the Wheeling Board of Trustees. The way I figure it, I'll never be able

to give back all Wheeling gave to me.

I'm really excited about our class' reunion and our Class of 1964 Ignatian Scholarship. We are so close to our goal of \$250,000. Can you believe that we will present our first \$2500 scholarship at the Friday night party. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

A Tribute to James F. Muldowney, S.J.

by Joe Polka

I was introduced to Wheeling College and the Jesuits by Rev. Andrew Zapora, Pastor of Saint Hilary Church, after graduation from Washington High School in "little" Washington, PA. My thought after graduation was the U.S. Navy, not college, despite a lifetime of savings by my parents to have a first generation college graduate in the family. I altered direction in August 1960 and fulfilled my parents' dreams. I recall Father Zapora saying to my parents not to worry about the accreditation of the college because of the Jesuit founders.

I began life in higher education with a fear of not being college material. No one from my family ever graduated from high school. Confidence soon replaced fear with help from faculty, staff and classmates. It was a surprise for my former high school teachers to learn that I finished Freshman year with nearly a 4.0. The bubble burst in my Sophomore year. I barely earned the necessary quality points to maintain a 2.0. Enters the Rev. James F. Muldowney, S.J. No one in the Class of 1964 can ever forget Father Muldowney to whom we dedicated *The Manifest*. He was an outstanding sociology teacher, Chairman of the Sociology Department and Dean of the College, and most importantly my life support. His constant belief in me, friendship, and support made a real difference in the life of this Wheeling College graduate. I went on to earn a Ph.D. in Sociology at Fordham University and spent 38 years in higher education as a university professor. While working towards a M.A., an American anthropologist from Harvard, Dorothy Lee, asked me how I became a sociologist. Now you know how the spirit of one man can influence a lifetime, particularly mine. Thank you, Rev. James F. Muldowney S.J.

There were many lay faculty and Jesuits who contributed to our development: Laut, R. O'Brien, Hanzely, Hartung, Curran, Orr, J. O'Brien, Lewis, Troy, Fournier, Grammen, and others. They executed a balanced program of theology (18 credits), philosophy (24 credits), major concentration (32 credits), and free electives. A difficult program to discover in today's world.

My summary recollection of Wheeling College was the work of the entire college community toward balancing body, soul and mind. The work kept us focused on the path of why we were there.

More memories from 64 Patrick O'Brien

My most significant memories involve travelling with my good friend, Jim Hobbs. Our first adventure was hitchhiking from Wheeling to Washington, DC to attend the inauguration of JFK. There was a severe snowstorm the day before the inauguration and we spent the night stranded in a car in the mountains of Maryland. We tried to sleep but it was freezing and the driver had to keep shutting the car off because he was running out of gas. We finally reached Washington around noon on inauguration day and did not even get to watch it on TV.

Our second traveling adventure also involved hitchhiking. In our junior year, Farther Gordon Henderson, Tim Phillips, Ed Henderson, Jim and I went to Mexico in Tim Phillips' car. We went from Charleston to New Orleans, then down to the Tex-Mex border, on to Mexico City and Acapulco, up the West Coast of Mexico to L.A., on to San Francisco and then nonstop across country to Charleston, South Carolina.

At that point, Ed Henderson was home, Father Henderson and Tim Phillips drove north to Wheeling, and Jim and I hitchhiked home, outfitted in our Mexican serapes. We got stranded someplace in Virginia where the police and local residents were on the lookout for two hitchhikers who had mugged a local driver two days earlier. It took us forever to get a ride out of there and we wound up spending the night sleeping in a lumber yard. When we reached Washington, Jim went home and I continued on to New York. My final ride was up the New Jersey Turnpike with a truck driver taking swings from a bottle of Tequila I was bringing back from Mexico and confessing to a murder he purportedly committed a few years earlier.

Our third traveling venture occurred after we graduated. Jim was helping me move my sailboat from Annapolis, Maryland to Washington, DC and we encountered a line squall as we left the Chesapeake and started up the Potomac. Jim was suffering from multiple sclerosis at the time and all I could do was have him go below, take down the sails, put on a life jacket and tie myself onto the boat.

The winds were recorded in excess of 85 mph as a waterspout went down the Potomac and the seas lifted our boat onto a sandbar, then off the sandbar and back on and off. It only lasted about 20 minutes but was the scariest 20 minutes of my life. I thought we handled it quiet well till we got back to Virginia and started to tell the story to my wife, Gail. We both just started crying and could not even complete the story. I really miss Jim - we had a lot of good times together in college and after.

I cheated 51 years ago! Judy Glaser Carroll

In the fall of 1960, Frank Carroll was one of the first guys I danced with at the Freshman Mixer. It was logical.....we were both tall. However, he was a history major and I was a Biology major so we saw each other mostly in passing for the next four years.

Fast forward to the fall of 1963. My best friend Amy and I were speculating on whom we could ask to the Sadie Hawkins dance. We settled on Frank for me, but then heard through the grapevine that someone else (sorry, Mary Jo) was going to ask him. That's when I stepped over the line.....I cheated and asked him the day before Sadie Hawkins day. Am I remorseful -- no! Would I do it again -- yes! It was one of the best moves I ever made. We'll be celebrating our 48th wedding anniversary on June 25th.

Where have you been these past 50 years and what are you doing now?

The following are stories from members of the class of 64 answering the above question.

John Aluise

"John and Barbara Aluise began their married life in the Akron-Canton Ohio area, and then moved to Chapel Hill, NC in 1977. John's employment history included BF Goodrich, Akron City Hospital, University of North Carolina, and Interim HealthCare. Barbara worked as an elementary teacher at St. Thomas More School in Chapel Hill. Their three children live in New Orleans (son and 3 granddaughters), Charlotte, NC (son and 2 grandsons), and Chattanooga, TN (daughter and 2 grandsons)."

Dave Dorsey

After graduating from WC spent 5 years in the Air Force. Married Celeste in 69 then moved around the US finally landing in Alaska where I have lived for 39 years. Have 2 children and 4 spoiled grandchildren all Alaska sourdoughs. Spend summers in Paradise (a.k.a. Alaska) and recently Winters in Paradise 2 (a.k.a. Arizona i.e. no snow). Cannot make the 50th reunion but plan to come for the 75th.

Art Schmitt married Francine in July of 1964. Art started his career with Wheeling Steel and they moved to Steubenville, where they lived for fifteen years. Francine's father retired. They moved to Wheeling so Art could run and eventually own her family's business. They stayed in Wheeling for thirty-five years until Art retired in 2013 and they moved to Phoenix, AZ. They have three children: Lisa-a lawyer living in Wheeling, WV. Carla-a retired kindergarten teacher, living in Warren, Ohio. Artie Jr.-a pharmacist living in Phoenix, AZ They have two grandsons: Corey 18 (freshmen at OSU) and Connor 16

Where have you been these past 50 years and what are you doing now?

The following are stories from members of the class of 64 answering the above question.

Jean Ivins Lively-Wow so much has happened since 1964 WC graduation. Married Martin Lively in August 1964. Moved to San Francisco. Marty entered USF Law School. We moved to a suburb Daly City. He worked at night as a Daly City Policeman. Classes were at night. We had three children boy, girl, boy while living in the tiny house. He graduated, passed the California Bar exam, got a job as deputy Public Defender in Sonoma County in 1969. We moved to Sonoma (wine country) and our third son was born 1971. Moved to McLean Virginia 1973 to the house I grew up in. Our children went to the same schools that I did. In high school, her biology teacher asked my daughter if she was Jeannie Ivins' daughter! We sound alike but do not look alike.

Marty got a job with the government in the Office of Personnel Management. I took a part time job with H&R Block as a tax preparer of "foreign" state tax returns (states other than Virginia). In 1978 I was diagnosed with MS, entered a new masters program in accounting at Georgetown University night school. 1981 Graduated with MSA in Accounting and sat twice for the VA CPA Exam. Marty was head hunted for a job as personnel manager with Martin Marietta in Maitland Florida. We moved. Budget cuts at the company "last in, first out"! Back to Virginia. 1982 More volunteer work for me. Bookkeeper at nonprofit, then AARP free Income Tax Assistance for Elderly and Disabled. Our daughter was a single mother a son 1991, she has since married and has a second son 2002. Our youngest son married and they have a beautiful daughter. Our other two boys are still bachelors! Marty decided to take an early out and retired.

We sold McLean house and built a home in Atenas Costa Rica. 2005. We had vacationed in CR for many years and stayed in all parts of the country. The beach is too hot for us. Atenas has perfect weather. It is in the hills outside of San Jose. 65-85 F and lovely flowers and birds. When we moved in we gave each other a royal palm. One is planted in the front yard, the other in the back. They are now very large. I volunteered here for several years with an English for young Spanish speaking adults. The Instructor is a Costa Rican who speaks perfect English. The classes were conversational. The first assignment the students had when I was there was to analyze Elvis Presley's "Jailhouse Rock" line by line. Classes were from 8:00AM to 12 Noon. No tardiness allowed. They were held in an old wooden school building and I found the heat buildup intolerable and had to stop attending. One of the students that I

helped with pronunciation got a job with Marriott. Marty did lots of fishing. River, lake, streams and Pacific Ocean. We had a very social "gringo" community and had monthly "potlucks". Marty asked our Costa Rican attorney to recommend a housekeeper. She said that her's had a day available. She came to our house attacked the refrigerator first thing. Then started laundry and cleaning the floors. The following week she quit one of her other jobs to give us another day. Marty's sister was living with us so Mari decided we needed more help. Before we knew it she was working for us 5 days a week. The attorney accused us of stealing her. She is still with us me I should say. Marty has a stroke in 2013. He was in intensive care for many weeks. Then in a regular room but with intensive pt. He was released and came home. The physical therapists came to the house twice a week. Our daughter came down. She and I took notes about the exercises and put Marty through his paces. Mari took over grocery shopping and fixing meals.

Our son Geoff located a stroke rehab facility in Rockville near his home. And with much effort was able to collect all the necessary paperwork to qualify Marty for long term disability aid. And so he is very comfortable and improving a bit. I'm getting the house cleaned out so we will be able to rent it. And then I'll be heading to Maryland. That is how it is right now. Looking forward to our next few decades!!

Pat O'Brien first worked as an engineer in Stanford, Conn and gave that up for a career in law enforcement. He became a Customs Special Agent and worked for Customs for 26 years, retiring as Special Agent in Charge in Miami in 1991. He went to law school at the University of Miami at night, graduating in 1990 and spent most of his legal career with Greenberg Traurig in Miami, Florida, semi-retiring as a senior partner in 2010. He is now self-employed as an attorney in Ft. Lauderdale. He met his wife Gail in New York and they lived in South Carolina, Virginia, New Jersey and Florida. They have a son, William, who lives in Plantation, Florida, and a daughter, Caroline, who lives in Atlanta with their two grandchildren, Samuel and Benjamin.

Donald Finney-Don and Pauline Finney began their married life in 1968 in Providence, RI area. They moved to the Saratoga Springs, NY area in 1974. Don was Marketing Programs Manager for GE Silicones for 30 years. Pauline was an insurance executive for 25 years. Don currently is a SCORE counselor. SCORE is sponsored by the SBA. SCORE is an organization of volunteers that help clients start a small business or grow an existing business. Don also plays tenor saxophone with an 18 piece dance band in the NY Capital Region.

Where have you been these past 50 years and what are you doing now? (continued)

Pete Goewey-The summer after graduation gave me two life changing events; the first, I became engaged to June Boyle and we married in October the following year. The second event was my joining the Air Force, in August and commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in November. I started my 28 year Air Force Air National guard career at the Pentagon in Washington DC. Served as an intelligence officer, missile launch officer and a personnel officer. Retired in 1992, as a Lieutenant Colonel. I finished my government work as a civilian working for the National Guard Bureau. We lived in Virginia, Colorado, Texas, Arizona, and Idaho during our sojourn to retirement. When June retired from the CIA, in 2002, we moved to Southport, North Carolina. We are enjoying the laid back life style of living in coastal North Carolina. We have two children and a granddaughter, twin grandsons and twin granddaughters.

JJ Lauer-After graduating from Wheeling College, I took the oath of office for the US Navy. I received basic training in Pensacola, Fl where I was harassed by Cadet Battalion Commander Tom Benek. Following commissioning it was off to Denver and San Francisco for advanced military courses. I made two deployments to SE Asia on the aircraft carrier Constellation during the Vietnam conflict. Upon transfer to Norfolk in 1968, I made my way back to Wheeling for a Gambol and while there I met my bride to be, Ann Harrington a WVU graduate. In the next 45 years we lived in Norfolk, Frankfurt Germany, Manassas, VA, Jacksonville and Key West Fl, Virginia Beach, Yokosuka, Japan ending up in Colorado Springs, CO in 1991. I retired from the Navy after 30 years in 1994. I worked for two Defense Contractors for about 10 years and retired-retired in 2005. We have two children and two beautiful grandchildren, They all live in Colorado as does our son JJ who also lives in the Springs. We are blessed with good health allowing us to enjoy retirement. We divide our time among traveling, volunteering, keeping nature from reclaiming our house and savoring our good fortune to live in such an incredible location in the foothills of the front range of the magnificent Rocky Mountains.

Joe Polka-in Kansas City with my wife, Jean-I have been doing a lot of celebrating since my graduation from Wheeling Jesuit. Graduation from Wheeling was the start of a series of celebrations of advanced degrees from Duquesne University, Fordham University, and Northwestern University. A teaching career of 38 years at Southern Connecticut State University until my retirement in 2008. Two marriages and the birth of two children, Julie Ann and Charles and nine grandchildren. A favorite memory of my Freshman year was living with the Jesuits in Whalen Hall, setting and clearing the alter tables every weekday morn-

ing. A special treat was emptying those wine cruets on winter mornings. Tomorrow, I will continue celebrating with Mass and giving thanks for so many blessings.

Mary Jo Clarke Bierer-1964-1966-5th grade school teacher; 1966-1976-worked for TWA in Pittsburgh-took many trips including an around the world flight; 1971-1987 married, had 2 children; moved to Cleveland Ohio in 1976 with my husband and 2 daughters...1977-started working for United Air Lines an again did lots of traveling--became a widow in 1987--furloughed from United airlines in 1990 became a travel agent from 1991-1995; remarried in 1992-1995-annulled; rehired at United Airlines in Detroit and worked for them at the Cleveland airport till I retired in 2003...been volunteering at local hospital since then working in sales at the flower shop—watch my 7 grandchildren grow up ever so quickly ages from 22 years down to 4 months.. That's the highlights....!!!!

Frank and Judy Carroll were married in Wheeling in June 1966 and settled in Rockville, MD. After a 30+ year career as a research specialist in print media at the Library of Congress, Frank retired in 1996. Judy is a medical technologist and worked at NIH, spent 36 years as laboratory supervisor at Washington Internal Medicine Group, and is still working part-time for Associates in Oncology/Hematology. They have a son (at home) and a daughter (Frederick, MD).

Eugene (Geno) Julian Since graduating from Wheeling College, Geno received his J.D. degree from the University of Pittsburgh Law School of Law. Served in the US Army in 1968 and 1969 (13 ½ months in Korea.) Returned from Korea and joined the law firm of Patrono, Ceisler and Edwards. In 1971, became a solo practitioner, and a part time assistant Public Defender. Worked as a solicitor for the Washington-Greene Mental Health/Mental Retardation Program and an attorney for Children and Youth Services. Created the Julian Law Firm, where my areas of practice include personal injury, workers compensation, social security disability, family law, wills and estates, contract law. Admitted to the PA Supreme, Superior and Commonwealth Courts as well as the U.S. District Court for the Western District of PA and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit, and the Supreme Court of the United States of America. Former elected council member for East Washington Borough. A member of several charitable organizations. Been on the board of World Series Tournaments, Inc., which sponsors the Pony League World Series, for 16 years, and served as president for 6 years. Father of 7 children, Gina, Mario, Kristy, Jennifer, John, Ryan and Justin and the grandfather of 11, so far. Married to Evelyn and recently celebrated our 46th anniversary. Lived in the Washington, PA area since childhood.

Dr. Wilhelmus Van Eekeren by Dr. Paul Orr

When the Jesuit "Old-Boys" network was asked to recommend someone to teach Political Science, it outdid itself. The result: in the Fall of 1957, Dr. Wilhelmus Van Eekeren, a native of the Netherlands, became Wheeling College's Assistant Professor of Political Science. By the end of his first week, it was clear to almost all that he was a "Keeper."

First, he was perhaps the most broadly qualified member of the faculty. In addition to his native Dutch, he spoke English fluently and clearly, with a concreteness and colloquial directness rare in foreign speakers. His painfully acquired command of German was almost as good. He had a working knowledge of French. For some years he had been a reporter and columnist for the newspaper in his native city of Bergen Op Zoom. He held a Law Degree from his national University, a Masters in Journalism from The University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in Political Science from Georgetown University. In D.C. he had worked briefly for the Burmese Embassy before starting his teaching career at the University of Maryland.

Father Cliff Lewis, the College's P.R. and Development officer, realized that this educational breadth, and in particular his life experiences, were exploitable gold. Wim ("call me "Wim" he would say to everyone on first meeting") had grown to young manhood in war-ravaged Holland. From 1940 to 1944, his native town, Bergen op Zoom, had suffered under German occupation and he had acted as a courier for the local underground. Perhaps his most bitter memory of that time was his failure to persuade some leaders of the Jewish Community to heed his communicated warning not to report to the railroad station the following morning. Only a handful returned after 1945. After Canadian forces liberated the city, Wim went forward with them as an interpreter.

Father Lewis publicized all this variously widely, and often His efforts harvested almost immediate requests from the many groups always hungry for new persons to talk to them at upcoming meetings. To his many talks over the years Wim brought a sophisticated and informed European view of the world, supported in spades by his experience, his reporter's relish for the vivid fact, his scholar's knowledge of the political history of Europe, and his immigrant's wide-eyed excitement about this new "homeland," the United States. All this was delivered in attractively accented but fluent English. Requests for his insights and commentary flowed in, for a few months he even had a six minute week-end spot on the local T.V. Station, His audiences were charmed and, since he was always introduced as "Professor of Political Science at Wheeling College," so was Father Lewis.

Paradoxically, Van Eekeren was an outspoken Republican in politics in spite of the fact that his doctoral work had been on the implications and validity of the Papal social Encyclicals *Rerum Novarum* and *Quadragesimo Anno* which proposed very unRepublican behavior. Wim theoretically disapproved of Senator Ted Kennedy, but his actions suggested he was a Kennedy disciple. He had a Dutch rather than the more formal, even reverent Irish-American attitude towards the clergy. Meeting Archbishop Swint he shook his hand in a friendly way and, if he bent a knee, no one could have noticed.

He and his wife, Cootje, were wonderfully social beings. Every Saturday night during their first semester, to get to know the college community, to have fun, and, possibly, to demonstrate Dutch hospitality, they invited four or five colleagues to dinner. Thus, every Saturday for several weeks, at least one Jesuit, one married couple and one or two others, usually unmarried women, enjoyed a lavish East Indian dinner (Tandoory plus other unspellable delicacies, introduced by cocktails, accompanied by wine, and completed by coffee and a choice of liqueurs.) There were always leftovers, so every Sunday night the Orrs would be asked to come over and help finish things up. They never refused. That was just their beginning. They went to the College's formal dances, to its picnics, to the Gambol. (Wim denied that Cindy Carr's singing of "Everyone knows my name" moved him to real tears. Cootje knew otherwise and, somewhat characteristically, urged him to stop talking nonsense.) In the spring of '59, on the pretext of needing help to pick apples on their recently acquired farm, they had a picnic for the senior women, Wim made them listen to his reading of Robert Frost's "After Apple Picking." Not, perhaps the highlight of the day, but memorable.

In his teaching, in mixed gatherings and in private conversation, when stating a conclusion, pointing out a failure of logic, asking a question or objecting to a plan of action, Wim was clear, brief, blunt to a degree that, to an American ear, verged on rudeness. At a monthly faculty meeting when Dean Troy proposed a new faculty responsibility, Wim immediately, in his carrying voice, objected "That's all very well for you Jazzuits," but he wondered, "What about the rest of us?" When Connie Voight, defended her classroom position by saying that she had read it in the newspaper, Wim's patient instruction was, "Connie, never, never, accept anything you read as the Gospel truth... except the Gospel." A reflective pause, then "and even then? well, not always." After an address to the D.A.R., an auditor rebuked him. "Why had he not put his hand to his heart while reciting the pledge of allegiance? " She was not appeased by learning that she had been addressed not, as she thought, by an unpatriotic citizen but rather, even worse, by a foreigner. Wim's attempt to reassure her probably failed.

Dr. Van Eekeren (continued from page 7)

Remember," he reminded her, "Except for the Indians, we are all immigrants." On another occasion, listening to the views on education by the owner of the city's biggest department store, Wim commented "In Wheeling, you think teachers are only baby sitters and pay them accordingly." All these qualities, the keen mind, the breadth and depth of knowledge, the international rather than the parochial view, the gift for friendship and fellowship, the direct, sympathetic approach to students on terms of a common bond in their commitment to thinking and learning, made Wim VanEekeren an outstanding teacher. He attracted students to his general courses and many of these, like Dennis Keogh, Dan Haller and John Egan McAteer, chose to major in his discipline. Keogh and McAteer later went on to have distinguished Foreign Service careers.

In the spring of 1959 Wim asked to renew his teaching contract but only if he was paid on a par with the members of the natural sciences. This was a deal breaker. Like most faculty, Wim was paid in line with the College's salary scale, which was competitive, if marginally. But some at least of the natural science faculty were remunerated modestly outside the scale on the very understandable grounds that because of their disciplines they could ask for and get a much larger remuneration than they got from W.C. Impasse. Wim, unmindful of the fact that the authors of those social encyclicals had never had to meet a payroll, wished to be paid without any reference to market demand. The school's official position was that market forces, at least for the coming year or two, had to prevail. Regrettably (perhaps the bargaining had become heated), the school's final answer was "Science teachers are very hard to attract but Political Scientists are a dime a dozen. Van Eekeren did not consider himself one of that "Dozen". He signed a new contract but "under protest" because of his financial needs. He warned that should he find more gainful employment he would leave the faculty at once. Two Weeks later he had found one.

Many years later, after retirement from a very well paid, high level position with the State of New York under Governor Nelson Rockefeller, he campaigned for the mayor of his rural community of Schoharie, N.Y. His slogan was, "Win with Wim". He won. As promised, so did Schoharie. As did just about every person who knew him either in business or in social circles. And, for two memorable years, so did the students and faculty of Wheeling College

Career Advice for Students at WJU Dan Haller

Early last fall, thinking that the WJU Alumni Association might be able to lend an assist in the Career Services effort, Alumni Council President, Dick Riley, approached Dr. Rob Phillips, WJU Academic Dean, with an offer of help. With

that go-ahead from the University's administration, Riley next broached the idea to 50 Year Club President, Dan Haller and to Vince Kascievich, chair of the Alumni Council's committee on Career Services. The group met in two phases. During the first phase, Christine Ohl-Gigliotti, Dean of Student Development, and members of her staff - Residence Hall Directors and Residence Hall Assistants - discussed their roles with respect to student career development. In addition to their many duties centering on dorm life and management, the directors and their assistants have been helping seniors and juniors prepare their resumes. It was apparent that, more needs to be done.

Dick Riley pointed out that at WVU students are assisted in starting their career planning as early as their freshman year. Resume building, practice interviews and on-campus employer interviews are all part of the WVU process. There are virtually no on-campus interviews at WJU by prospective employers. During the second phase Riley, Kascievich and Haller met with a number of faculty members. Dr. Kate Voorhees, chair of the English Department, gave an example of a gifted English student with a concern expressed by her parents that she would be unable to find a job, except perhaps in teaching, with a major in English. At that point someone mentioned a very useful web site called, "What can I do with this major?". Dean Phillips suggested that the university would subscribe to it as a potentially student resource.

The 50 Year Club will be lending its own support to this effort, in two ways. First, through the Senior Scholar in Residence Program that has already brought three distinguished alumni - Dr. Ed Shahady '61 (medicine), Dr. Joan Davison '67 (political science) and Dr Richard Riley '84_ to spend 3-5 days on campus during the academic year to meet with students, faculty and administrators. The coming academic year will feature Jim Smith '64, a former Maryland judge, Baltimore County Executive and present Maryland Secretary of Transportation as our Scholar in Residence. As an English major Smith will be able to recommend career opportunities for English majors. Dan Haller was able to enlist Thomas Harvey, Human Relations Director for Schneider Down, a large Pittsburgh-Columbus accounting firm, to spend a day on campus with Professor Greg Shepherd and a sizeable number of his students majoring in business and accounting. He addressed the group about his role as a recruiter, what he is looking for in a resume and an interview. Harvey later spent time interviewing many of the students individually. He also suggested that students start career planning as freshman. Harvey offered to return to campus next year for a repeat session with juniors and seniors in the Business Department

Riley, Kascievich and Haller plan to develop more ways to assist students with career development.

Cardinal Alumni Cruise Planned for 2015

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Let's try something new!

Members of The Wheeling Jesuit University Alumni Association invite you to be a part of a seven night Eastern Caribbean Cruise aboard Princess Cruise Line's Caribbean Princess. The ship departs from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on Saturday, April 11th, 2015 at 4 PM and returns Saturday, April 18th at 7 AM. (Note: Easter Sunday in 2015 is April 5.) Please consider this a personal invitation for you to attend.

Ports of call include St. Thomas (USVI), St. Maarten and Nassau (Bahamas), along with the Princess' Cruise Lines' private island of Princess Cays in the Bahamas.

Cabins begin at \$749 per person (double occupancy) for an interior cabin, plus taxes, port fees, etc. Other accommodations are certainly available.

There will be several group activities including breakfast the first morning at sea, dinner as a group the second 'formal' (business attire) night, and an alumni meeting one day while at sea.

Shore activities are at the selection/cost of individual travelers.

Our hope is that if enough people book, incentives offered by the cruise line will pay for a Jesuit or two to be a part of this 'first ever' event at no cost to them. With a Jesuit on board we hope to celebrate daily Mass.

For those traveling to Fort Lauderdale the day before, inquiry is being made to secure favorable hotel rates for Friday the 10th of April.

Please consider this as your personal invitation to join us for a week of fun in the sun. There is nothing more enjoyable than sunning one's self by the pool in the Caribbean as a steel drum band plays, "Take Me Home, Country Roads."

Group No.: TQ3

Voyage Code: B523N

Group Name: Wheeling Jesuit University Alumni Group, 2015

Princess Cruise Representative: Mary Reza (1-800-901-1172 ext. 41695)

Visit www.princess.com for additional information

The deposit, per passenger, will be 20% of the cruise fare. Then, final payment for the balance is due on 26 January 2015. Deposits are fully refundable up to the final payment date of 26 January 2015, without penalty (the only exception to this refundable deposit policy is if a special promotion is booked with a non-refundable deposit.)

Welcome Aboard!

Michael Moran, '92

Denny & Mary Platten Fallon, '73

Cardinal Alumni Cruise Planned for 2015

Senior Ambassadors raise \$ 185,527-set future goal of \$350,000 and encourage Planned Giving

Ed Shahady and Dan Haller

From November 14 2013 through March 29 of 2014 the WJU Senior Ambassadors (first 10 classes) raised \$185,527 for the University. The process started with a conference call moderated by 50 year club President Dan Haller and included several alums from the first 10 classes, University president Fr. Fleming and fund raising officer Noah Mull. The call energized all of us to call and or email at least three members of our class asking them to donate to the university. Reminders were sent to all ambassadors via email every month. Thanks to all the members of the first 10 classes for their generosity.

As a result, the classes of 60 and 61 pledged or gave over \$22,000 each, and the class of 64 led the pack with \$60,345. The following is a list of amount given and number of donors for each of the first 10 classes.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u># Donors</u>
1959:	\$ 2,000	7
1960:	\$22,831	14
1961:	\$23,198	19
1962:	\$12,075	16
1963:	\$17,625	17
1964:	\$60,345	23
1965:	\$ 5,250	18
1966:	\$ 6,040	16
1967:	\$18,775	18
1968:	<u>\$17,388</u>	<u>15</u>
Total	\$185,527	163

For the coming year, the time of giving is being increased to a full year (365 days) from the current alumni reunion June 2014 until the alumni reunion of June 2015. We have set a goal of \$350,000. The University’s fund raising goal for 2015 is \$3 million, The Senior Ambassadors have set our most ambitious goal to date, but one that will inspire our members, and more importantly, our fellow alumni to step up and give back to Wheeling Jesuit. The Senior Ambassadors stand ready to help the University reach its \$3 million dollar goal.

Planned Giving

Planned giving is not just for the wealthy. Many of us with modest means will have remaining assets when we leave this world. With proper planning, you can provide for your loved ones and Wheeling Jesuit University. The most common planned gift is a bequest in your will or a living trust. Other planned gifts include:

Charitable Gift Annuity

Charitable Remainder Trust

Charitable Lead Trust

Retirement Plan Assets

Life Insurance Policies

Remainder interest in your home

Please contact Sarah Kelly, the Vice President for Advancement at Wheeling Jesuit at 346-623-3866 to learn more about making a planned gift to WJU.

It is never too early to plan... but it can be too late!

50 Year Club Web Site

Go to www.wju.edu/alumni/50yearclub



50 Year Club

50 Year Club Home

- Newsletters
- Class Gift
- 50 Year Club Clothing
- Historical Documents
- Annual Lecture
- Senior Ambassadors
- Alumni Scholar
- Yearbooks

Reunions

- Class of 1960
- Class of 1961
- Class of 1962
- Class of 1963

50 Year Club



class gift from each graduating class. For more information, read our [50 Year Club Bylaws](#).

The Club conducts a yearly ceremony at the time of the reunion to honor the 50 year graduates. The President of the University provides certificates to each member of the class. Explore the links to the left to read recent newsletters and see great memories of recent reunions. Members of the class who are unable to attend will receive a certificate by mail.

The 50 Year Club lecture provides an opportunity for alumni to hear from faculty and an alumni member about a topic of general interest. Visit the Alumni Scholar in Residence page to learn more about past speakers. Past topics include "What's new about [educational programs](#) at WJU" and "Jesuit values at WJU - are they still here?" and "Value of a [liberal arts education](#) - is it important".

Being a senior ambassador is an honor and a responsibility. Ambassadors volunteer to aid the university with fundraising, enrollment and student mentoring.

The Alumni Scholar in Residence is a visiting professor program where an alumnus/a spends a week on campus [teaching classes](#) in his/her discipline. Several newsletters have been published. These newsletters contain some excellent stories from alumni about their time at WJU (Wheeling College). Some are serious and many contain some very humorous memories. Take a look at the [newsletters](#) to bring back many of these memories.

Assisting the 50 year class with their reunion and planning of their class gift is available if desired by the reunion planning committee.



Email: alumni@wju.edu

Phone: 1-304-243-2297

[Job Opportunities](#) | [Calendar](#) | [President's Welcome](#) | [Virtual Campus Tour](#) | [Services](#) | [Financial Aid](#) | [Campus Directory](#) | [Apply Online](#)

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For 50 year club clothing go to <http://sites.google.com/site/carolinaprintworks>

50 Year Club

The following individuals were elected as Club officers and board members to serve June 2013-June 2015. President-Dan Haller '61, 1st Vice President-Al Reed '60, 2nd Vice President-Don Mercer '60, Secretary-Carolyn Cannon '60, Past President-Ed Shahady '60, Members at Large - Barbara Creamer Yeager '59, John Eagan McAteer '61, Fr. John DiBacco '62, Terri Haid '63. Geno Julian is nominated as representative of '64

By-Laws: Active Membership: (1) All graduates of Wheeling Jesuit University upon the 50th anniversary of the graduation of his or her class. (2) All former members of the class who have attended at least one semester. **Charter Membership:** indicating the original or founding members shall be open to all members of Classes of 1959 and 1960 who are qualified for Active membership.

Honorary Membership: shall be extended to the President of Wheeling Jesuit University and to any other friend of the university.

Posthumous Membership: shall be open to those who were otherwise eligible for active membership but are deceased prior to the 50th anniversary of the class.

Annual Meeting: Conducted at the time of the 50 year reunion.

By-Law Changes: Recommended by the executive committee and approved by the members at the annual meeting

Executive Committee: Consists of all four officers, members at large, and the immediate past president, the alumni director and a representative of the Alumni Council, will serve as the governing body of the organization. The president of the organization will serve as chair of the committee. The executive committee shall meet periodically by conference call or in person if needed. These meetings will be called by the Chair. The committee will meet in person at least one time a year at the time of the 50th reunion.

Committees: Committees and task forces can be appointed by the President and or Executive committee as needed.

Senior Ambassadors: Senior Ambassadors are part of the WJU 50 Year Club. Inaugural nominees will be graduates from the classes of 1959 through 1968 who have distinguished themselves through one or more of the following: volunteer community service, humanitarian efforts, academic accomplishments and a successful career.

Being a WJU Senior Ambassador is both an honor and a responsibility. Ambassadors are asked to commit their time, dedication and expertise to the school that helped lay the foundation for their successful careers. This **commitment will include one or more of the following: Recruit potential students to WJU, Aid current students with career advice, Cultivate interest in WJU and its projects, Encourage fellow alumni and others to support WJU fund raising activities.** The first Senior Ambassadors group met June 24, 2011 to discuss their future activities. There are 54 individuals who have volunteered from the classes of 59 through 63. The group meets yearly at the time of the reunion and then by conference call during the year. Senior Ambassadors have been very dedicated fund raisers for WJU. In November of 2012 the ambassadors from the first 10 classes contacted classmates and were able to obtain \$70,000 in pledges and donations. The goal for 2013-2014 in November was \$150, 000. \$185, 000 was raised. The goal for 2014-2015 is \$300,000.00

Alumni Scholar in Residence: This program, initiated by the 50 Year Club in 2011, represents a partnership with the university faculty and administration. A committee representing all three groups selects the scholar and coordinates the campus visit. **The scholar will be a visiting professor to the University for up to one week and all expenses will be donated by the scholar.** The initial scholar was Ed Shahady, M.D. '60, was on campus in the fall of 2011. Joan Davison Ph.D. '78 was the second scholar and was on campus in the fall of 2012. The third scholar was Dick Riley, Ph.D. and he was on campus in the fall of 2013. Jim Smith '64 is the scholar for 2014. The Alumni Scholar Program has been very successful and demonstrates the quality of WJU graduates to the students and faculty of WJU. Anyone with teaching experience and a desire to **pay it forward** is invited to submit their resume to eshahady@att.net.



Jim Dissen '63 receiving his 50 Year Club diploma from President Rick Beyer