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Also inside: My life as a woman · A cast of heroes · Her place in the Church · The solace of friendship · The mentor · Still dancing with COVID

S U M M E R 2 0 2 2 \$ 8 .

# NOTRE DAME

## M A G A Z I N E



Sisterhood

## A WOMAN'S POINT OF VIEW

In the earliest days of coeducation, I cringed whenever a male professor asked the one female in a class of two dozen men for “the woman’s point of view” on *Sons and Lovers* or *Macbeth* or B.F. Skinner’s *Beyond Freedom and Dignity*. I lived in fear of being called on in class. So I felt especially bad for any target of such an intellectual ambush — getting called out to speak for one’s gender, always in impossibly broad terms. “What would a woman say to Skinner’s denying the existence of free will and attributing human behavior to stimulus-response conditioning?”

Putting a student on the spot like that seemed thoughtless and unfair (although I also recall some astute answers that turned heads and brought smiles). In hindsight, I wonder if such questioning was a well-intentioned but clumsy attempt to encourage the woman to join in, to feel included, to participate in this new educational adventure that now offered her a seat.

Over time, we realize how little we knew back then — about most everything. About women and their perspectives, about human sexuality, social inequities and workplace improprieties, about power and the grip of technology and the effects of global warming. Seeing how much we have learned since “back then” should remind us how little we know now.

In the future we will discover a new supply of ignorances.

In the meantime, it is wise to listen and learn. It is all an education. Getting nailed by a woman’s kill shot in a friendly game of volleyball behind Farley. Being one of four guys who ventured into a sea of women at Saint Mary’s College one night for dinner. Listening to Marianne O’Connor’s valedictory address during our commencement in 1974, when she outlined her career ambitions as an engineer.

I was in Lyons Hall on Thursday night, September 20, 1973 — one of 50 million Americans watching ABC on prime-time television — when Billie Jean King defeated Bobby Riggs in the “Battle of the Sexes” tennis match. Minutes later, hundreds of women marched across campus singing, “I am woman, hear me roar,” belting out with gusto the popular Helen Reddy song, “I Am Woman.” Our first-floor window was open, and we heard the proclamation: “I am strong, I am invincible, I am woman.” The eruption of defiant self-determination made an impression. It said so much.

We all knew so little 50 years ago. We have been learning ever since. Part of that learning is to listen to people and pay close attention to what they are saying. That was the intention here, with this issue by and about women.

One unifying refrain across these particular and singular voices is the steadfast sense of female solidarity, of sisterhood. At least — to me — that seems to be one central, recurring theme. There are more, I’m sure; I am still listening and learning.

— Kerry Temple '74

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# NOTRE DAME MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2022, VOLUME 51, NUMBER 2



*Friendships were renewed and dreams realized as 2,000 graduates and 7,400 family members and friends convened May 29, 2022, for the Class of 2020 commencement, delayed by two years by COVID-19.*

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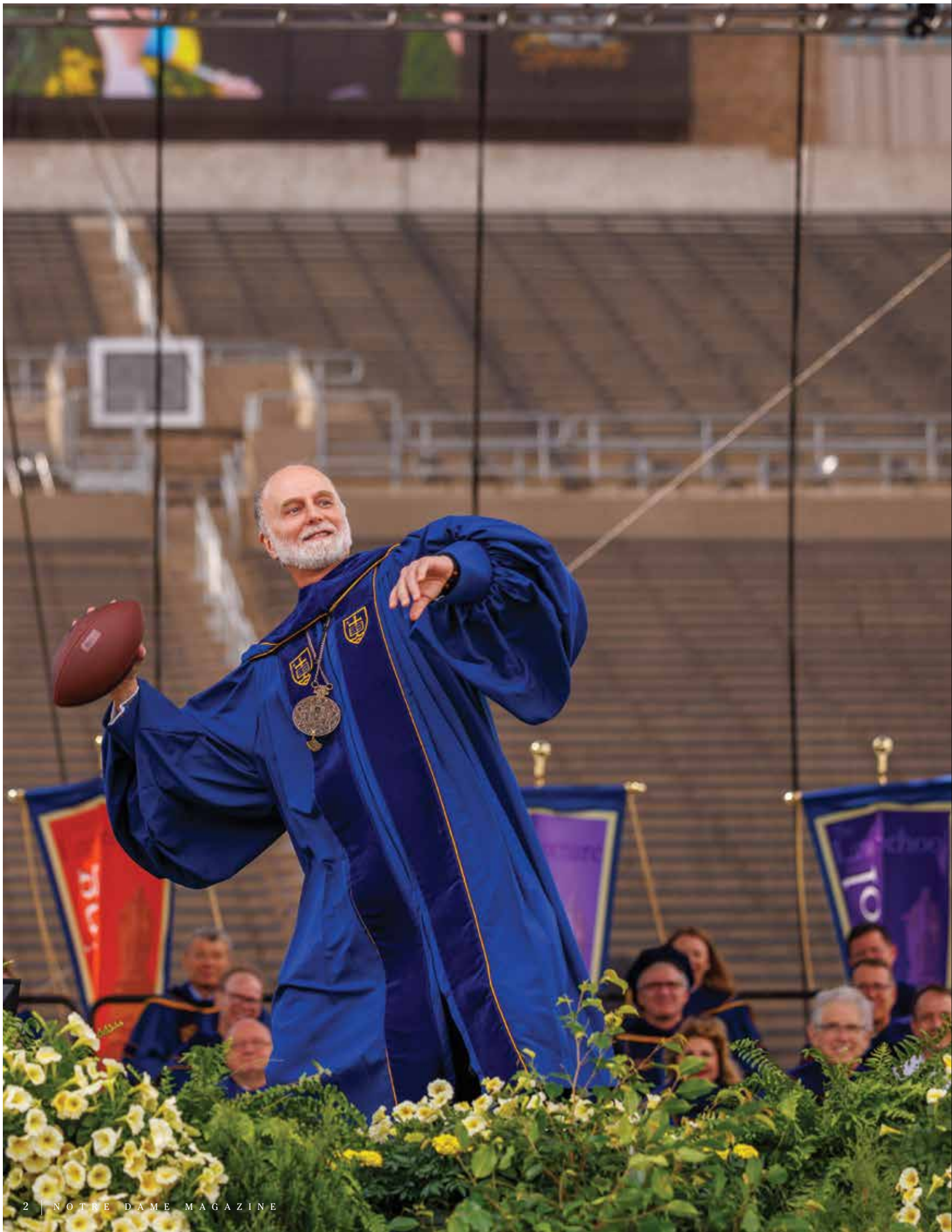
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## STILLPOINT

### **HAVING LONG DREAMED OF THROWING A PASS IN NOTRE DAME STADIUM,**

Archbishop Borys Gudziak hurled the pigskin toward the cheering Class of 2022 at the beginning of his commencement address on May 15. Edie Uebelhor, a water polo player and chemical engineering major from Encinitas, California, made the grab and celebrated the completion. Born to Ukrainian parents in Syracuse, New York, Gudziak would serve the Church in Ukraine for decades, eventually becoming president of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, which has close ties to Notre Dame. Recipient of the 2019 Notre Dame Award, Gudziak, lately based in Philadelphia, was greeted by students waving Ukrainian flags in solidarity with a nation invaded. Photographs by Peter Ringenberg.





## At 50 years

A half-century after the start of coeducation, how Notre Dame has changed — and not changed — for women

BY MARGARET FOSMOE '85

**I**n an iconic photograph from *The Observer* of September 15, 1972, a large banner proclaiming “We’re Glad You’re Here” hangs above the doors of South Dining Hall while students gather for a campus picnic to celebrate the beginning of coeducation.

Some 365 female undergraduates enrolled at the University of Notre Dame that first autumn, and their arrival on a campus that for 130 years had served men almost exclusively could hardly have felt natural. Not only were those pioneers an obvious and distinct minority in an undergraduate student body of 6,722, but the tradition-laden institution had been converted for their arrival in a hasty nine months. Notre Dame had determined to pursue coeducation on its own only after merger plans with neighboring,

*Margaret Fosmoe is an associate editor of this magazine.*

all-female Saint Mary’s College fell through the previous November. Had the welcome of women been unanimous — which it wasn’t — the task of getting campus and classroom ready would hardly have been seamless.

The change took some getting used to.

Today, campus life has largely normalized for female undergrads, but not as fully as one might expect after a half-century. In some ways, Notre Dame still feels like a men’s institution. Much of this could be attributed to the disproportionately low number of women on the faculty and in the upper levels of the University’s administration, although each college and the Law School have had female deans. Less measurable is the sense that women have had to find their place here, to make room for themselves at an institution steeped in male legacies.

Still, female students excel in the classroom, hold leadership roles in all areas of campus life and win their share of victories

and national championships in athletic venues. Women have embraced and adapted many Notre Dame traditions — see the Baraka Bouts, in existence since 1997, a women’s boxing competition modeled on the men’s Bengal Bouts.

There were, of course, women at Notre Dame before 1972. Female students, mostly religious sisters, had earned degrees as far back as 1917.

Edwina Scanlan O’Toole ’64M.S. enrolled for her master’s degree in mathematics at the urging of one of her college professors, a nun who had earned a Notre Dame doctorate in the 1950s.

It was rare to cross paths on campus with another woman in those days. Female students and employees were required to wear skirts or dresses — no slacks. O’Toole’s classmates and professors were all men. One professor told her that women only attended college to find a husband.

After graduating, O’Toole worked at Notre Dame for several years as an associate research professor. One day, she went to a campus office that offered small loans to students and employees. She was told the program didn’t serve women, and she would need to return with her husband.

Despite such impediments, she says, “I had no regrets. I loved attending Notre Dame.”

Mary Davey Bliley ’72 was the sole woman who received a Notre Dame bachelor’s degree at commencement the spring before coeducation. After the collapse of the planned merger of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s, Bliley was granted permission to complete her ND degree.

She was the only female student in her business classes. Most of her male classmates were welcoming, but one male professor greeted the class each day with, “Good morning, gentlemen.”

“I didn’t really care, because I knew I was going to get that Notre Dame degree,” she recalls. Bliley’s experiences prepared her for challenges she later faced during a long career in investment banking, where she found herself educating her bosses about the need to accept women in the workplace. One manager told her he didn’t hire women on the trading desks, because they were too distracting. Bliley says Notre Dame taught



her a lasting lesson: “Believe in yourself, work hard and you can do it.”

In the fall of 1972, Congress had sent the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the states for ratification. Title IX, the landmark gender-equity law that assured women equal access in education and expanded opportunities for girls and women in sports, had taken effect that summer.

In the early years of coeducation, the number of female students was restricted while the University converted residence halls to accommodate their growing numbers. Admission was more selective for women than men. The higher hurdle meant Notre Dame women were often considered brainier than their male counterparts. They were also stereotyped as more athletic and less feminine than women at Saint Mary’s and other women’s colleges.

“Little did I know by applying that I was going to be one of the lucky ones to get in,” recalls Carol Latronica ’77, who retired in May after eight years as rector of Welsh Family Hall.

As a student, Latronica lived in Farley Hall. The bathrooms still had urinals, which the women decorated with flowerpots. During freshman phys ed, she and one other female student found themselves in swimming suits in the Rockne Memorial pool with about 70 male classmates. She didn’t have a female professor until her junior year.

Latronica also faced the discomfort of the dining hall, where men sometimes held up number signs rating women on their looks. After the “Battle of the Sexes” — a nationally televised 1973 tennis exhibition

match between Bobby Riggs and Billie Jean King, which King won — some female students decided to turn the tables on the men’s traditions of streaking and panty raids and conduct a “jock raid,” pilfering jock straps from a men’s residence hall. The men ended up tossing the women into the library reflecting pool.

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‘You always had to prove yourself, and you had to always work a little bit harder to get recognized and get the same things that the men got.’

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Such obstructions helped Latronica forge a strong commitment to women’s leadership, which she applied in a long career as a teacher and counselor. “You always had to prove yourself, and you had to always work a little bit harder to get recognized and get the same things that the men got,” she says.

When Latronica returned to Notre Dame as an employee in 2014, campus had changed dramatically. Women made up nearly half of the student body, a far cry from her undergrad days. They’re now involved in every aspect of campus life, she says, which makes for a vibrant student experience.

As a rector, Latronica dedicated herself to helping her residents set aside “imposter syndrome” — the notion that they aren’t suitable for a certain job or leadership role. Women tend to feel they must be perfect to qualify, the theory goes, while many men simply assume themselves to be qualified.

While some aspects of coeducation evolved smoothly, progress was hard-fought in other arenas. In 1981, Notre Dame reached an out-of-court settlement of a class-action federal lawsuit involving more than 60 female faculty members who claimed gender discrimination in hiring and tenure decisions. The agreement established an appeals process for professors who felt they had been unfairly treated.

Some men who initially opposed the idea of a coeducational Notre Dame changed their minds after their daughters — or granddaughters — were admitted and enrolled as students.

“After 10 years, genuine coeducation appears within reach,” *Notre Dame Magazine* reported in 1982. That year, women composed 28 percent of the freshman class. A decade later, 44 percent of first-year students were female. Today, the undergraduate student body is 48 percent female and 52 percent male, a ratio determined by the University’s residence hall capacities. Balancing the number of men and women has dramatically improved campus life.

Still, women attending at the same time have sometimes had very different experiences based on their field of study, their



professors, their extracurricular activities and their friendships.

When Molly Kinder '01 was chosen to serve as the first female member of the Irish Guard, she was shunned by the nine other guardsmen, and her selection was harshly criticized by some alumni. Standing 6-foot-3, Kinder had met the Guard's height requirement — since eliminated — and she passed the rigorous tryout.

Her struggles were only beginning. She received negative comments from strangers and read chat room messages and letters to the editor of campus publications claiming that her presence forever marred the Guard's image. "It exposed that this issue of gender at Notre Dame in the year 2000 was a very touchy subject," revealing truths the University was still grappling with, she says. "How does Notre Dame change and be inclusive . . . and what does that mean for the men on campus — or the men alums — in terms of how open they were to accepting those changes?"

Kinder has since spoken about her time on the Guard and the institutional challenge — and importance — of evolving cherished traditions. "Otherwise we're just ossified. We don't progress," she says.

Since Kinder, a dozen other women have served on the Irish Guard. Current students find her story bewildering: The Guard has included women since before many of them were born.

Kinder's contemporary, Brooke Norton Lais '02, was Notre Dame's first female student body president. It had taken nearly three decades of coeducation before a woman was elected to the top student government position.

Lais had served as student body vice president as a junior and Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, CSC, University president emeritus, encouraged her to run for the top job. "He said bringing women to Notre Dame was

his greatest achievement, but it wouldn't be totally fulfilled until there was a woman student body president," she says.

Lais experienced no pushback to breaking a significant gender barrier. "I felt very supported. It was a great place to become a woman leader," she says.

There's still room for improvement today. Men and women seem integrated in the classroom, but less so when it comes to social life. The attitude that college fun must intertwine with alcohol persists, which doesn't necessarily encourage healthy and respectful friendships between women and men. The system of single-sex residence halls prompts perennial student gripes — from a disparity in the enforcement of rules to the effects of segregation by gender. But no plans are afoot for coed dorms.

The faculty needs more women to mirror the growing diversity of the student body and American society. Women are underrepresented on the faculty of some academic departments, particularly in the sciences and engineering. Today's students notice when a course syllabus draws primarily — or exclusively — on the work of male scholars. The mostly white, mostly male Notre Dame central administration is another topic of discussion. University leaders recognize and are actively working to improve this lack of representative diversity.

Julianne Downing '22 doesn't feel she was ever treated as less than a male student in her classes. Still, some memories endure, such as the time a male professor called her

writing "sassy" — an adjective that likely wouldn't be applied to a man. She recalls, on her first day as a student, a professor introducing himself to the class with the claim of being "known as the sexist professor on campus," He added: "If you're going to have a problem with that, you should probably leave." Downing left. "That was the first impression I had of the University," she says, "which luckily did not come to be characteristic of my experience."

Downing served as president of FeministND, a student group that educates and advocates for gender equality, consistent with Notre Dame's mission. The group provides a space — via social media and in-person events — for peers and University employees to join in conversation and advocacy regarding equality of the sexes.

To students of this generation, Downing says, the single-sex residence hall system "is impressively outdated." Parietals and other rules, she adds, are strictly enforced in women's dorms but not in many men's halls.

"I would love to see a woman president of the University," she says, noting that Fordham University — a Jesuit institution — is inaugurating a woman as president, the first noncleric in the school's history. Notre Dame's bylaws stipulate that the University president must be a Holy Cross priest.

Zakiya George '22 majored in computer science, where most of her instructors and classmates were men. She never felt marginalized in a classroom, she says. "We're treated as equals. I think my opinion is valued just as much as my male counterparts' in class."

George served as president of Shades of Ebony, a student organization formed 20 years ago for women of color to empower themselves and build community. She notes the largely male and white University leadership. "We're very rarely exposed to people that look like us," she says. "You just don't see yourself in those positions, so you internalize the fact that they're not made for you."

Still, when these students hear about the rating of women in the dining halls or the disdain Molly Kinder faced, they recognize progress is occurring — albeit more slowly than they would like.

"It's so easy to feel like your problems are the worst of it," George says. "And then when you hear stories about other decades and other generations, you're like: 'Wow. I'm experiencing nothing comparatively.'" □



COURTESY MOLLY KINDER '01

## The great Lyons Hall pachyderm caper

Fifty years ago this spring, during *An Tóstal*, some of my dormmates and I (and of course our R.A.) masterminded one of the most unbelievable victories in Lyons Hall history.

BY JIM SHERER '76

I remember it as a typical overcast day sometime in February 1972. We were sitting around in our quad on the third floor of Lyons Hall, looking forward to the eventual return of warmer weather, when somebody mentioned an annual lighthearted spring festival called *An Tóstal*. It sounded like fun.

One of the planned events was a tug of war at the festival mud pits. Each residence hall could sign up 10 people to represent it in the competition. We had only one varsity football player in Lyons — we weren't the most athletic of dorms.

We could only imagine the team a hall like Dillon would enter. Prospects weren't looking too good for the men of Lyons.

As we brainstormed our problem, an idea arose. A television commercial at the time featured a driver behind the wheel of a Buick-Opel trying to pull a live elephant across a stage.

I recall my roommate, Tom Matthews '76, saying: "Wait a minute. . . . Maybe we could enter an elephant to represent Lyons Hall!"

Oh, OK. Now what?

I remember calling Brookfield Zoo



ROBERT LANE '72

near Chicago the next day and asking if by chance they rented out their elephants. They did not, of course. But the person on the phone told me about a business called Animal Kingdom, based in Peru, Indiana, that might be able to help me.

I called the Indiana number and talked to a gentleman whose name I remember as Franz. He said he had an elephant. I explained our predicament. I stressed that there was a chance that 10 Notre Dame football-type athletes might be trying to pull his pachyderm into a 10-by-15-foot mud pit. We did not want to proceed if there was a chance the elephant could be hurt — or worse, LOSE.

I remember Franz chuckling and telling me that he would bring Babe, a powerful and spirited elephant he relied upon when asked to pull tractor-trailers out of ditches.

Babe was our girl!

Then it was time to see if the *An Tóstal* committee would allow an elephant to enter the tug of war. The committee members basically said it would be allowed.

Next: Would our hallmates back us up financially? We needed about \$300 to rent the elephant. Lyons residents responded enthusiastically, to the point where only about \$1.50 per person was needed.

And third: We needed to keep our entry a secret. Advance publicity might discourage other halls from entering the competition.

All three of these conditions were met. Game on!

Saturday, April 22, 1972 was a partly sunny day, the third and final day of the festival. I received a phone call around 8:30 a.m. from a security guard at the University's main gate. No vehicles were allowed on campus without permission. The guard informed me of a tractor-trailer

driver who was asking how to get to Lyons Hall.

I told the guard that the truck contained supplies we needed to unload. Fortunately, that was good enough. Babe was on her way.

We were excited and a bit anxious to meet her. We went to the Lyons' parking lot and watched the truck pull in. Franz, the driver and trainer, jumped out and introduced himself. He was decked out in a red, circus-type jacket and carried an elephant "training stick" of some sort. He walked to the back of the trailer and opened the doors.

We stood there in awe, looking at Babe. She was big, beautiful and looking down at us just as calm as could be.

Franz signaled Babe with the stick, and she majestically stepped from the trailer onto the parking lot. By now, most Lyons residents had come out to see the elephant and join in the parade across campus. Someone draped two bedsheets over Babe, with "Lyons" spray-painted on each one.

We were ready!

The march to the mud pits started on South Quad. Franz led Babe using only the training stick and an occasional gentle verbal command. Many Lyons Hall men followed proudly along. Walking past other dorms, I remember windows opening and passersby gaping — wondering what the heck was going on.

We turned north near Walsh Hall and headed toward the Main Building when Babe decided to relieve herself of her digested breakfast, to the crowd's delight. We borrowed a couple of large shovels





from maintenance the next day to clean that up.

We turned again near Sacred Heart Church and headed for the mud pits that were located in a field along Saint Mary's Road between Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College.

Once we arrived, Franz got to work. He put a harness on Babe that wrapped around her body with a hook at her back end for the tug-of-war rope. Lyons Hall had garnered a bye, then headed to the finals to face off against powerful Dillon Hall. Quite a crowd had gathered to witness the contest.

Franz tied the rope to Babe's harness as she faced away from the mud pit. The rope was then tossed over the pit to the 10 warriors from Dillon.

Little did we know that in addition to being an elephant trainer, Franz possessed a bit of the circus performer in his soul. A whistle blew, and the competition started.

The rope grew taut as the Dillon boys began to pull. Babe didn't move until I heard Franz whisper in her ear: "Back, Babe."

Babe took one large step back toward the pit then stopped, as if she was posing. The Dillon gang thought they were making progress, and they exerted even more

effort. But Babe was not moving. To my surprise, Franz whispered in her ear again: "Back, Babe."

I got concerned when Babe took another step backward, putting one foot on the edge of the pit. Again she struck her pose.

The Dillon crew was now fully extended, to at least a 150-degree angle. Veins were popping from necks, muscles were straining, the groans of expected victory were heard.

It was then Franz raised his training stick to Babe's shoulder and commanded sternly: "GO, Babe!"

Babe raised her trunk high and let out a loud and unforgettable trumpeting sound. She charged forward with such a lurch that the first man of the Dillon crew just about flew across the pit.

Babe had done it. Lyons Hall won the *An Tóstal* tug of war. Cheers rang out from the crowd.

Accompanying Babe, we marched back to the hall in triumph. And Franz had one more surprise for us before loading Babe into the trailer for their ride home. He approached me in the parking lot and said, "Just follow my instructions." He called Babe over and said, "Down, Babe." Babe proceeded to bow down and extend her trunk across

the pavement. Franz then told me to grab the handle of the harness on Babe's forehead and place my right foot onto the crown of her trunk.

The instant my foot touched her trunk, Babe stood up and raised it above her head, dumping me onto her back for a photo-op. The men of Lyons lined up to pose for a photo with Babe.

It was quite the farewell to Franz and Babe, after one of the greatest upsets in *An Tóstal* tug-of-war history. □



## Loyal sons and daughters are cheering a change to the "Notre Dame Victory March."

More than a century after its debut, the fight song has undergone a bit of fine tuning to make it more reflective of the demographics of the student body.

The University made a slight — but significant — edit to the words of the song. The second verse traditionally reads:

Cheer, cheer for old Notre Dame.  
Wake up the echoes cheering her name.  
Send a volley cheer on high.  
Shake down the thunder from the sky.  
What though the odds be great or small.  
Old Notre Dame will win over all.  
While her loyal sons are marching  
Onward to victory.

The University changed the last lines to:

While her loyal sons and daughters  
March on to victory.

The famous tune, which is in the public domain, was written by Rev. Michael J. Shea of the Class of 1904 and his brother John F. Shea '06, '08M.A. The first public performance of the newly arranged song took place June 2 during a daylong celebration of the 50th anniversary of the enrollment of female undergraduates. □



**Two years after** the coronavirus pandemic prompted a virtual commencement, graduates of the Class of 2020 returned to campus May 27-29 to celebrate a long-awaited in-person commencement weekend. Joy was evident at the gathering that drew nearly 2,000 returning graduates and 7,400 relatives, friends and other guests. The weekend included a commencement ceremony in Notre Dame Stadium and a well-attended traditional last class trip to the Grotto.

**Having coffee with...**

**Mary Ellen O'Connell**

## Ukraine and the quest for peace

BY MARGARET FOSMOE '85

**O**n the mid-April day when I spoke with Mary Ellen O'Connell, eight weeks into the war in Ukraine, Russian forces launched airstrikes on a sprawling steel plant in the Black Sea coastal city of Mariupol, where 3,000 Ukrainians — some 2,000 troops and about 1,000 civilians — were holed up.

A member of the Notre Dame faculty since 2005, O'Connell has been following the situation in Ukraine closely since 2014, when Russia invaded and seized the Crimean Peninsula. It's clear Russia felt no compunction at the time, "and now, invading again and attempting to take the rest

conflicts, says O'Connell, the Robert and Marion Short Professor of Law at Notre Dame. She's an expert in international law, theory and the use of force as well as in arms control and dispute resolution.

Russia's war in Ukraine, she says, is about much more than the future of one nation. Everything that happens on a global scale — from trade to international travel to honoring national sovereignty — depends on countries adhering to international law.

The only time since World War II that has seen a comparable act of aggression designed to eliminate a sovereign nation was the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, an act condemned by all major world powers, O'Connell points out. Coalition forces led by the United States launched an assault on Iraq's armed forces and quickly liberated the country's small, southern neighbor.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine hasn't produced a similar world reaction. About 50 nations — including China, India and South Africa — declined in early March to vote in support of a United Nations

to begin designing a new international organization that in 1945 became the U.N. The first sentence in the preamble to the U.N. Charter includes the prescient phrase, "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war."

Since the end of the Cold War, some nations have taken actions in violation of the charter that have weakened the organization's authority, O'Connell says. Those actions include drone strikes outside conflict zones — by the U.S., France and others — some of which have killed civilians.

Killing people with missiles in peace zones violates international law, she notes. "We started misreading the charter because nobody was going to call us to account that we really needed to respect," she says. Today's world has a dearth of leaders who stand for the rule of law and the promotion of peace.

Here in the U.S., she continues, "we've had presidents from both parties, and they all misread the charter, ignored it, helped weaken it and weakened respect for it. While we may have thought in the United States that we were above the rules, [we felt] everyone else should obey them."

The Cold War ended in 1991 with the dissolution of the Soviet Union. The three decades since should have delivered a peace dividend, because the U.S. was no longer in existential conflict with another superpower, says O'Connell, who holds a joint appointment as a research professor in the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.

"We should have been able to draw down, if not completely eliminate, nuclear weapons. We should have been able to defend the climate and the environment," she says. The period offered opportunities to build up international institutions and improve world health and human rights.

"We squandered the peace dividend, sometimes with good intentions. But I think the fundamental flaw was hubris," she says.

At the end of the Cold War, O'Connell believes, the U.S. should have crafted something like the Marshall Plan that helped Europe recover from the devastation of World War II. It would have required a major investment of funding, time and talent to help former Soviet satellite countries build democracies from the ground up — teaching them about economic controls, electoral systems and party politics. "We might be in a better place ourselves in



*O'Connell: 'The fundamental flaw was hubris.'*

of the country, shows how far we've fallen in supporting the rule of law," she says.

International law — rules and norms that are based on treaties, international custom and legal principles and accepted as binding by most nations — saves lives and helps prevent and end deadly

resolution denouncing the invasion.

The point is not simply to defend Ukraine as a sovereign country, but to stand up for the rule of law and the future of a peaceful and orderly world, O'Connell says.

Our conversation turns to lessons the world has failed to learn since World War II. As early as 1938, she says, President Franklin D. Roosevelt had the foresight

*Margaret Fosmoe is an associate editor of this magazine.*



our own democracy right now if we had made the commitment to teach democracy," she says.

Some of Russia's hostility toward Ukraine is born out of anger toward the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Russian President Vladimir Putin claimed that he needed to prevent Ukraine from joining NATO, the 73-year-old U.S.-European military alliance, as a pretext for war, O'Connell says.

She believes it would have been prudent to dismantle NATO after the Cold War and shift some of its responsibilities to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, a regional security organization co-founded in the 1970s by the U.S. and the Soviet Union. OSCE is an institution for negotiation and discussion of provocations, for clarifying mistakes and for building cooperation toward security.

The best hope for peace — a Russian withdrawal and Ukraine's continued existence as a nation — O'Connell says, is diplomacy by negotiators who are well versed in international law. She sees OSCE as the natural venue for those talks.

O'Connell worked as a civilian educator for the U.S. military for several years in Germany, a job that included teaching students from former Soviet satellites as they built fledgling democracies. Her husband is a combat veteran of the Gulf War.

No U.S. president elected since the end of the Cold War has served in the military, she notes. She sees a correlation with America's perpetual involvement in global conflict. "We've got a whole new crop coming up now, politicians who were in wars, and who understand the futility and the immorality of sending people into an armed conflict that is not lawful," she says.

Still, O'Connell remains a person of

faith and hope. The people of the world must stand with and support Ukraine, and "we can make sacrifices ourselves," she says. She is urging European friends and colleagues to call for cutting off all oil and gas purchases from Russia as a way to force an end to the war. "We will save Ukraine. We'll save the rule of law. We'll save the planet. It seems like a small price to pay," she says.

Enforcing international law through means such as sanctions and formal censures remains her greatest hope for saving the Ukrainian people and Ukraine as a sovereign nation from Putin's goal of absorbing the country into Russia. "We have bedrock law that is ancient, that has been given to us from the great world cultures," O'Connell says. "All world religions, all great philosophies start from the premise that human beings need peace." □

## BY THE NUMBERS: NOTRE DAME WOMEN THEN AND NOW

Female undergraduates in fall 1972: **365** (5.4 percent of the undergraduate student body) • Female undergraduates in fall 2021: **4,346** (48.8 percent of the undergraduate student body) • Women enrolled in fall 2021: **6,160** (46.9 percent of total student body) • Undergraduate residence halls for women in 1972: **2** • Undergraduate residence halls for women in 2022: **15** • Women studying abroad in fall 2021 and/or spring 2022: **435** (56 percent of total studying abroad) • Year first master's degree awarded to a woman: **1917** • Year first bachelor's degree awarded to a woman: **1922** • Year first honorary degree awarded to a woman: **1918** (Ellen Ryan Jolly) • Living female graduates: **50,528** (33 percent of the current living alumni base of 151,415) • Women on full time teaching faculty: **408** (33 percent of total) • Tenured women on full-time teaching faculty: **180** (26 percent of total) • Year first Holy Cross sister started work on campus: **1843** • First female professors hired on the faculty: Josephine Massynbaerde Ford (theology) and Sister Suzanne Kelly, OSB (history of science), **1965** • First female faculty member granted tenure: Josephine Massynbaerde Ford, **1968** • First female dean appointed: Isabel Charles '60M.S., '65Ph.D., College of Arts & Letters, **1976** • First female Rhodes Scholar: Teresa Doering, **1986** • First women's varsity sports team established: tennis, **1976** • First female valedictorian: Marianne O'Connor, **1974** • First female student commissioned in ROTC program: Candy Kelly, Naval ROTC, **1974**

SOURCES: OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH, NOTRE DAME INTERNATIONAL, NOTRE DAME ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, OFFICE OF THE PROVOST, NOTRE DAME ARCHIVES

**CONDOLEEZZA RICE '75M.A.** *knew long before the invasion of Ukraine in February that Russian President Vladimir Putin dreamed of restoring his nation to its imperial past. "It really is this kind of nostalgia for empire. It's hard for us to understand because we thought people stopped thinking that way 100 years ago," Rice said during a conversation on campus April 28 with University President Rev. John I. Jenkins, CSC, '76, '78M.A. Rice, an expert on Soviet/Russian and Eastern European affairs, served as U.S. secretary of state under President George W. Bush and now directs Stanford University's Hoover Institution. "[Putin] told me once, 'You know, Condi, you know us. Russia has only been great when it's been ruled by great men like Peter the Great and Alexander II,'" Rice told the audience. "Those are his heroes. He once told President Bush that the greatest tragedy of the 20th century was the collapse of the Soviet Union, because 25 million Russians were left outside of Mother Russia." Rice's visit was among a series of campus events to celebrate 50 years of coeducation at Notre Dame.*



MATT CASHORE '94

# A homecoming for Nikole Hannah-Jones

BY MARGARET FOSMOE '85

**N**ikole Hannah-Jones '98 says she became a newspaper reporter because she understood the power of journalism to bolster democracy and help citizens hold their elected leaders accountable.

"I wanted to be an investigative reporter. I got into journalism to do substantial reporting and accountability reporting, but I didn't see anyone who looked like me doing this reporting," the inaugural Knight Chair in Race and Journalism at Howard University told an audience March 15 at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Hannah-Jones won the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for commentary for the lead essay of *The 1619 Project*, a *New York Times* interactive series focused on the 400th anniversary of the first arrival of enslaved Africans in what would become the United States. The series was expanded and published last year as a book, *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story*.

Her work on the project has made Hannah-Jones a frequent target for complaint among conservatives, some academic historians and others. She hasn't hesitated to answer these critics — verbally, in print and on Twitter.

"Journalism is a profoundly important profession in a free society, in a democratic society. And yet, we are at a very pivotal moment. We have record low numbers [regarding] trust in journalism as an institution," she told the campus audience.

"My biggest fear about journalism is that [Americans] are totally ill-equipped for the danger that our democracy is in right now," she said. "We have a class of



PETER RINGENBERG

political reporters who really think that this is about a horse race. Who have been indoctrinated into this belief that fairness means treating both sides equally — even if both sides are not behaving in the same way. And who — because our political reporting class tends to come from upper class families, tends to be white, tends to be male — they actually believe that our democracy will hold."

Jones' appearance at Notre Dame took the form of a conversation with Mark Sanders, a professor of English and Africana studies and director of the Notre Dame Initiative on Race and Resilience.

The former history and Africana studies major reflected on public reaction to *The 1619 Project*, how experiences at Notre Dame influenced her career and the need for journalists who help the profession more accurately represent the demographic diversity of the U.S.

Since its publication, the project has drawn enormous public reaction, both positive and critical, from historians, political commentators and the general public. In some states, legislators or school boards have taken steps to ban the book from schools or stop teachers from presenting lessons related to its contents.

"If the work didn't matter, if it wasn't unsettling power, I would've failed. Because you don't get into journalism to make powerful people comfortable." History is not just a record of what happened; "history is interpretation, and human beings are doing the interpreting," she said.

Hannah-Jones has focused her journalism on racial inequality and injustice. In addition to the Pulitzer, her reporting has earned her a MacArthur Fellowship, a Peabody Award, two George Polk Awards and three National Magazine Awards.

Hannah-Jones described herself as a "very, very nerdy child" growing up in a Black, working-class family and attending public school in Waterloo, Iowa. Her father subscribed to two newspapers, and she recalled how reporting on Black people in those days was mostly limited

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'If the work didn't matter, if it wasn't unsettling power, I would've failed. Because you don't get into journalism to make powerful people comfortable.'

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to news about crime. "But I also knew that Black people were doing all kinds of other things that didn't involve crime. And that our community had lots of stories that didn't involve crime, and yet we never saw them in the newspaper," she said. "That erasure, of course, matters."

She chose to apply to a selective

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Margaret Fosmoe is an associate editor of this magazine.



school like Notre Dame, she said, because she felt she needed to have a certain credential to succeed. "I knew that it wouldn't matter how smart I might be, how hard I might work. If I could have this credential, it would signify to certain people that I was worth it," she said.

She didn't always feel welcomed as an equal on campus and has cited acts of overt racism she experienced as a student. During her freshman year, she stopped going to classes for a while and received several F grades on a report card. At one point, an academic dean encouraged her to withdraw from school but never asked her what was wrong or how the University could help, she said. She stayed in school and graduated on time.

"What this place taught me was resiliency," Hannah-Jones said. "That there would never be a point where I wasn't going to have to prove myself. And that I was going to always use people's low expectations of me to prove them wrong."

In June 2020 — after the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer, and amid protests across the nation against police brutality and racism — Hannah-Jones wrote "What Is Owed," an essay in the *Times* making the argument for financial reparations for Black Americans who can trace a family line to American slavery.

"I really wanted white readers to question why they have such a visceral negative reaction to the idea of reparations," she said.

In addition to her work as a professor and as a staff writer for *The New York Times Magazine*, Hannah-Jones has founded Howard's Center for Journalism and Democracy. In 2015, she co-founded the Ida B. Wells Society for Investigative Reporting.

The weekend before her campus visit, Hannah-Jones posted on Twitter about the trip: "TRUE STORY: I owed ND \$ when I graduated so have never received my diploma."

During her visit, she was presented with her Notre Dame diploma.

After her talk, she posted a photo of it on Twitter. "What a homecoming tonight," she wrote. "After 24 years, I finally have my diploma. I was more emotional about it than I thought. Thank you, @Notre Dame." □

## DEATHS IN THE FAMILY

**DAVID LADOUCEUR's** interest in ancient languages began in childhood when he was captivated by Hollywood mummy movies on late-night television. The boy devoured books about ancient Egypt, teaching himself how to read the pictorial writing.

"I started memorizing all of the hieroglyphs and writing them out," he told a reporter in 2006.

An associate professor emeritus in the Department of Classics, Ladouceur knew seven foreign languages: Greek, Latin, Classical Egyptian, Sanskrit, French, German and Hebrew. During his 39 years on the Notre Dame faculty, the expert in ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome taught courses on topics as varied as Greek orators, children in antiquity and medicine in the ancient world.

Born in Ogdensburg, New York, Ladouceur earned a bachelor's degree from Cornell University and a doctorate in classics from Brown University before arriving at Notre Dame in 1976. Genial, levelheaded and a good storyteller, he served as department chair for nine years, leading the Department of Modern Classical Languages and then the Department of Classical and Oriental Languages at a time before regional language groups were separated into their own departments.

Ladouceur published multiple works on Greek, Latin and biblical literature. He had a keen interest in history and was a collector of antiques and fine art. Known as "Mr. Fun" to his children and grandchildren, he was also a self-taught painter and sculptor, winning awards in regional art shows.

Ladouceur died May 8 at age 73. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, and their two children.

**REV. DREW CHRISTIANSEN, S.J.**, a former associate professor of theology best remembered at Notre Dame as an indispensable partner in the creation of the Kroc Institute of International Peace Studies, died April 6 at the Jesuit community attached to Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. He was 77.

Christiansen's late-career reputation as "the brainiac," an affectionate and admiring moniker, took as much cognizance of his personal interests in the Holy Land, the legacy of the Second Vatican Council, outdoorsmanship and nature as

it did of his profound contributions to his areas of scholarly expertise: nuclear disarmament, just war theory, Catholic moral theology and social teaching, Middle East diplomacy, Jewish-Christian relations and peacebuilding.

Such wide-ranging passions contributed to Christiansen's success as editor-in-chief of *America*, the Jesuit review, between 2005 and 2012, the most high-profile chapter of his life as a public intellectual and trusted adviser to Congress, the American bishops and the Holy See, among others. But as Rev. James Martin, S.J., wrote in his tribute to Christiansen for that magazine, "Drew's vast knowledge was worn lightly." Martin described his friend and mentor as "mild . . . peaceable, self-effacing, generous" and above all, "kind."

"He was far ahead of his time in understanding the inseparable relevance of peace research to Christian theology and of theology to peacebuilding," said Robert Johansen, the professor emeritus of political science and peace studies who, along with Christiansen, Anne Hayner and peace scholar George Lopez, launched Kroc in 1986. "Even if this was not appreciated by disciplinary purists, his interdisciplinary worldview reinforced, at the moment of the Kroc Institute's origin, the foundation that shaped our entire undergraduate and master's level curriculum."

Christiansen, who joined the Notre Dame faculty in 1984, "further developed the regular conversations between peace studies and ROTC faculty," Johansen said. He left the University in 1990, later led the bishops' Office of International Justice and Peace and finished his academic career at Georgetown. But his affiliation with Notre Dame continued through 20 years' participation on the steering committee of the Catholic Peacebuilding Network, coordinated by his former student, Gerard Powers '86J.D., '88M.A., and headquartered at Kroc.

"The world has lost a leading Catholic peace-builder," said Powers, director of Catholic peacebuilding studies at Notre Dame. "I have spent two decades as a professor trying to be for my students what Drew was for me."



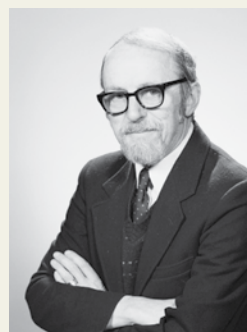
**JOSEPH BLENKINSOPP**, a leading scholar of the Hebrew Bible, advocated the importance of scholarly immersion in Scripture. He advised first-year doctoral students to spend less time reading biblical scholarship and more time reading the Bible itself.

Blenkinsopp, the John A. O'Brien Professor Emeritus of Biblical Studies, died March 26. He was 94.

A lifelong Catholic born in Durham, England, Blenkinsopp earned a bachelor's degree in history at the University of London, a licentiate in Sacred Scripture from the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and a doctoral degree in biblical studies from Oxford University. He joined the Notre Dame faculty in 1970 and served as rector of the University's Tantur Ecumenical Institute in Jerusalem in 1978.

In 1980, he directed a five-week archeological dig in the ancient village of Capernaum, located on the shores of the Sea of Galilee in present-day Israel, a site chosen for its important role in the life of Christ. "Nothing is better than learning from firsthand experience how Jews lived in their country," he said of the experience.

The author of more than 25 books, including *A History of Prophecy in Israel*, he also served terms as president of the Catholic Biblical Association of America and president of the



Society for the Study of the Old Testament.

Blenkinsopp retired from Notre Dame in 1999 but continued his academic research for many years. His last book, *Luke's Jesus: Between Incarnation and Crucifixion*, was published in 2021.

He had a gift for learning new languages and was known to read a major work by a modern author in a foreign language each year. Blenkinsopp also enjoyed gardening, opera, art, poetry, travel and feeding the local bird population. He is survived by his wife, Jean Porter, the John A. O'Brien Professor of Theology at Notre Dame, and two sons.

**JIM LANGFORD '59** was a man of the Word. He was the author of 12 books and the director of Notre Dame Press for 25 years, publishing 50 to 60 academic and general-interest titles annually. After his retirement from the University in 1999, he became a consulting editor for Rowman & Littlefield and co-founded Corby Publishing in South Bend, which produced



hundreds of books, he explained, that "reflect the values cherished" by Notre Dame. Adding in his early years at Doubleday and as the executive editor of the University of Michigan Press before he returned to his alma mater in 1974, Langford had a hand in publishing thousands of books.

In keeping with his lifelong commitment to the written word and the power of writing to enrich personal lives and sow human understanding, Langford put his ideals into practice. Inspired by journalist Alex Kotlowitz's 1991 book, *There Are No Children Here*, the story of two boys struggling to survive in a Chicago public housing project, Langford and his then-wife, Jill '80, established *There Are Children Here*, a day camp on 16 acres near Lakeville, Indiana. For 17 years the camp brought many underprivileged children into the countryside for carefree sports, games, reading, theater, hikes and campfires.

Acknowledging the many happinesses he had found personally and professionally, Langford said, "None of these experiences could rival the happiness I discovered working on a daily basis with the children and volunteers at *There Are Children Here*. Those were and will always be the happiest years of my life. And I know the reason this is so. It is simply the paradox that you must lose yourself to find yourself, and empty yourself to be filled with joy."

Langford also taught in Notre Dame's core curriculum program, won teaching awards and brought students to the day camp as volunteers. A native of South Bend, he overcame a stroke at birth to become a state tennis champion. "In the long run," he once wrote, "what really matters is who and what you loved, the example you set for others, the way you accepted the good and not-good in your life. And above all the grace that God sent through you to those who needed your embrace, your words, your inspiration . . . and your love."

Langford, an indefatigable Chicago Cubs fan, died March 3 at age 84. He is survived by his companion, Nimbilasha Cushing, and four children.

**DAVID KIRKNER**, an associate professor emeritus of civil engineering, knew how to draw out the talents in others. Described by a younger, foreign-born colleague as a "father figure," Kirkner often served as a faculty mentor, helping junior colleagues navigate course planning and best practices for serving their own students.

He was "demanding but in a good way. He brought out the best in people," said Brian Smith '01, '13Ph.D., an associate teaching professor of civil engineering. Kirkner helped Smith realize he wanted to specialize in structural engineering, and the two shared an office for years.

A native of Youngstown, Ohio, Kirkner studied at Youngstown State University and earned his doctorate in structural engineering from Case Western Reserve University. He arrived at Notre Dame in 1979, and his 32 years on the faculty included a stint as department chair and the creation of the campus chapter of Habitat for Humanity. He continued to teach after formally retiring in 2011.

As an expert in advancing finite element analysis and stochastics, Kirkner was awarded a Fulbright grant in 2000 for research at the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. His work there used mathematics to predict the occurrence and location of thermal cracks in pavement.

A former faculty senator, Kirkner was a passionate advocate of free speech on campus, which he said was fundamental to the definition of a university. Fluent in Spanish, he enjoyed learning new languages and spent some winters in San Miguel de Allende and Querétaro, Mexico, mentoring and teaching engineering students. He liked coaching and playing soccer, swimming, and biking, and he completed several marathons.

Kirkner died February 19 at age 74. He is survived by Carol '86M.S., his wife of 53 years, and three children.







# Sistering

We have nurtured each other  
throughout our lifetimes,  
bound by a simple truth —  
women understand.

BY SHEILA WELLER

**A few years after** I moved to New York after college — a ridiculously too-many years ago — I made friends with the two women who would become, among a number of amazing female friends I have, my two what-they-call-now “besties.” I first met Eileen — a tall, strikingly black-haired woman from New Jersey — and, later, Carol: petite like me, fast-talking, from Ohio. I was from West Los Angeles.

I’d had best friends before, as we all did, from childhood through college, and each friendship had its distinctive flavor and reason for being. But this three-way friendship between Eileen, Carol and me has survived for over 45 years, ups and downs notwithstanding. When we first met, I don’t think I was aware that what appealed to me most was the sense that they would be nurturing to me. And they have been. For this I am extraordinarily grateful. And I hope I have given a bit of nurturance back.

Though she probably doesn’t remember this, Eileen and I agreed, during an early coffee-break conversation at the office of the “hippie” magazine where we both worked, that we were the kind of girls that kids’ parents liked. We were secret pleasers. We were safe with each other, I felt.

As for Carol, I had heard her described, by a mutual friend, as someone who had been married to a major avant-garde

composer, a man who had employed me intermittently as a typist. I expected a cool, possibly snobbish young woman. Instead, when I climbed the five flights of stairs to her apartment, and she opened the door, and I said, “I knew your ex-husband a tiny bit,” she pulled me into the apartment and insisted: “Tell me!” Her humorous vulnerability and utter refusal to be cool won me over. I felt I was safe with her, too.

I introduced Carol to Eileen, and we became three-way best friends. We got into a habit of meeting at a local diner on Sunday mornings, since we all lived in the same neighborhood. Over gallons of coffee and plates of bacon and scrambled eggs, we would detail what had happened the night before, and with whom. As we giggled happily over our exploits or agonized about what might happen next, we did our level best to be sounding boards for one another. And despite our being in our early 20s, we also did our level best to give one another the smartest possible feedback and advice. “Women understand,” Gloria Steinem has said. “We share experiences, make jokes, paint pictures and describe humiliations that mean nothing to men. . . . Women understand.” That remark describes how we felt at the end of each Sunday morning breakfast.

But it wasn’t all about our dating lives. We also spent plenty of cozy Saturday nights

cross-legged on the floor of my apartment, eating the elaborate salads I made and watching *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, loving the characters of Mary Richards and Rhoda Morgenstern and kidding that we wanted to be a combination of the two of them.

We made a pact to have dinner together on our birthdays and, with few exceptions (and a few imperfect evenings), for all these decades we have done so. At these three-times-a-year occasions, we make a reservation at a fancy restaurant, dress up for one another, give flowers as gifts accompanied by birthday cards in which we scribble heartfelt messages. One of these occasions took place just two or three days after 9/11, when we sat in a nearly empty restaurant and mourned together for New York.

Of course, our friendship reached into all parts of our lives. When Eileen wanted to adopt a child, I drove her to Carol’s weekend house in a Connecticut lake community to meet a woman who had adopted a wonderful daughter from an orphanage in Lithuania that Eileen just *had* to check out. Eileen and her husband contacted the orphanage and were sent a photo of a little girl, Masha. Eileen called me, urgently wanting to meet so she could show me the photo. Masha looked serious and slightly uncomfortable in her too-tight clothes. “I think that’s a sign of strength,” Eileen said, and I loved her for her optimism and spot-on accuracy. I affirmed this by saying, “This is your daughter!” We laughed and clinked our wine glasses. (Today, Masha is an extraordinary young woman, a jewelry designer and homeowner who has conquered learning differences and a brain tumor.)

I made a present for Masha — a calendar with hearts — so she could mark the happy occasion of her adoption. “That meant a lot to her,” Eileen told me just the other day.

The three of us have continued to be friends over all the years. Being writers, we have read, edited and championed one another’s short stories, books and articles. When Carol was dreaming of writing a novella about the three most important loves of her life, I introduced her to the publisher who ultimately published it, and I have always been heartened when Eileen has asked me for advice, respecting my track record as an author.

*Sheila Weller is a New York Times-bestselling author and award-winning magazine journalist.*

ILLUSTRATIONS BY JULIETTE BORDA





Over the last several years, I feel I have gotten more from my friends than I have given. I've been in the position of the friend who "owes" — health and personal issues have demanded so much of my bandwidth, and I haven't been able to give to my friends as much attention as I wished. I am writing this essay to honor and thank them and to look at what friendship between women and girls — my friendships and others' — has been and can be, even taking notes, when relevant, on ways I might be a better friend to the friends who've been so good to me.

**Ah, girlhood!** When you are young, having a quirky history together — a font of private jokes and a private language, a feeling of us-two against the world — is central to friendship. My childhood best friend, Phyllis, and I shared a sense of humor. We did pranky things — at least they were pranky for 10-year-old girls in an upper-middle-class suburb of Southern California. We climbed to the top of the fence behind Phyllis' house to spy on the neighbors. (This was Beverly Hills, so it may not be surprising that the neighbors were a sultry Spanish movie star and his glamorous movie-star wife.) We braved going to a new gourmet cafeteria without our purses, and we had to wait at a special table for our parents to come and pay our bill and bail us out. We felt giddily like outlaws.

In high school my best friend was Jamie. We lived around the corner from

one another and walked to school together every day. She was a stunningly beautiful girl (massive blue eyes, high cheekbones, rosebud lips) who didn't care about her looks and had gained weight partly to flout her mother, the top hair stylist at the top Beverly Hills salon — which made Jamie appealingly rebellious. We both had crushes on the handsome jocks, and we drove past their houses to "spy" on them through their open windows, wondering if they were talking to other girls and pretending we could read their lips and see what they were saying. We wrote messages about them in our yearbooks, all in initials and codes so no one else would know who we were talking about. In those long-pre-internet days, we had marathon phone calls: dialing up one another after dinner, then talking until we fell asleep and leaving the phone off the hook while we slept, then reviving in the morning — thrilled at how long we had talked.

Jamie had a boyfriend named Cliff, a senior when she and I were sophomores. Driving cross-country during a semester-break trip, he fell asleep at the wheel and crashed and died. It fell on me to tell Jamie what had happened, and I remember every slow step I walked around the block to her house to deliver that message. The wetness of my shoulder after she collapsed on it was testimony to how bonded we were in her grief. She spent several nights in my bedroom; she slept on my bed and I on the

floor beside her; we held hands until she fell asleep, and I was grateful for whatever consolation I could give. I tried to push my teenager melodrama — I was helping my friend through this tragedy! — past the almost unbearable, genuine horror of this painfully young and random death.

My college best friend was a sultry, sensual bohemian intellectual named Jean: out of place in our rah-rah sorority and as different from me — a pretending-to-be-sunny-blond high school cheerleader who really visited Black churches on weekends to hear gospel music — as two girls could be. But we had an inner *click*, and she, a pouting loner, clung to me with a touching dependence. We shared a secret language — making up soulful terms like "ethnosensuality" as we listened to R&B on a record player in our minuscule bedroom. She seemed blissfully self-absorbed — like a sensual cat — while I was always talking to her, earnestly, about the civil rights movement I followed so avidly.

We had very different boyfriends: a sophisticated philosophy professor for her, a wholesome architecture student for me. After we slept with them for the first times, we madly searched the phone book for a doctor who would prescribe contraception without our parents' permission — an unforgettable pre-feminism ordeal and rite of passage.

Over time I lost touch with Jean, though I thought of her often, and when the internet entered our lives I Googled her and read the notice I should have thought to search for years earlier. She had become a distinguished philosophy professor, known for her social consciousness (had my avidity about the civil rights movement affected her after all?) and had died of breast cancer at 45. A philosophy department building had been named in her honor.

Why hadn't I raced to find her earlier? I felt guilty and selfish, though I knew she also could have raced to find me. Perhaps our friendship was meant to be a magical one, encased in a special time. I contacted her widower — the philosophy professor, now remarried — and he and I started an email friendship. I heard about their daughters and their travels from one college to another. I told him that everyone in the sorority was fascinated by Jean's and my friendship. "We were so different!" I said. "Yes, I could tell you were," he replied. "Sometimes that's what it takes."

**Friendship between women today** has no higher champions — or more sensitive analysts — than the pioneering writer and blogger Ann Friedman, 40, and the tech guru Aminatou Sow, 37. They started their highly successful podcast, *Call Your Girlfriend*, in 2014, and together they wrote the book *Big Friendship: How We Keep Each Other Close*, which was published last year. Friedman is white and from Iowa. Sow is Black, from Guinea.

Worldly, bold and politically active, Sow arrived in the United States to study at the University of Texas alone, without her family. She organized Iraq War protests, volunteered at a health clinic and taught women in prison how to read.

They met in Washington, D.C., in their 20s. Friedman knew immediately she wanted to be friends with the charismatic Sow. “Ann began developing a narrative about Aminatou,” they write, in third person, in their book. “Her new friend was a woman of global experience, able to thrive in any situation and impress any crowd, emotionally resilient and possessed of a firm, unwavering opinion about almost everything.” Energetic doers, they both soon discovered they liked to laugh together and to initiate social activity among their wide swath of mutual friends.

Their book is particularly good on the subject of interracial friendship. At one point, “Aminatou let Ann know that throughout their friendship she has had to modulate her emotions so as to never appear too annoyed or to be honest about something upsetting her.” The social cost of expressing anger as a Black woman had affected their intimate friendship, even though Friedman had come into the friendship thinking of Sow as her much-respected superior in sophistication, and even when the women were so close that they wore matching clothes and sported matching tattoos. “We call it frog-and-toading,” they wrote.

The book traces their friendship over many job and city and romance changes and develops a concept they call shine theory. They seized upon it one day when Friedman started “wailing, gratefully, ‘I never could do it without you!’” after Sow had helped her master the skills of budgeting and hiring she needed for a new job. Sow responded, “I don’t shine if you don’t shine.” They were business partners by way of their podcast by then, so the fact that their fortunes were

linked made that motto true and pragmatic. But even between friends who have no mutual business self-interest, Sow’s line is a wonderful course correction for the biggest women-friendship killer of all: jealousy. It’s a reminder that women should be “refusing to give in to comparison and competition and trying instead to forge a bond and a connection,” they write.

(I have just typed out “I don’t shine if you don’t shine” and taped it to my computer screen, in case I ever feel a pang of envy toward either of my two best friends, along with a valuable quote from Simone Weil: “Attention is the rarest and purest form of generosity,” a reminder to never look at my phone when I am talking to either of them.)

‘Look at  
these years!’  
we have said  
at our  
birthday  
celebrations.  
‘We are  
each other’s  
memory.’

“We are really deeply embedded in each other’s lives,” Friedman tells me in a phone conversation. So admirably fine-tuned has their sensitivity to one another been that several years ago they noted, with grief, that they had started “to keep certain parts of ourselves secret and separate from the friendship.” So they did something that mates often do but friends almost never do: They went into therapy together. They took it so seriously that Sow even flew from her home in New York to Los Angeles, where Friedman lives, so they could make the first sessions in person. They strongly recommend it. “Friendship takes work,” Friedman says.

“There’s an expectation that friendship is the easy part of life. All support, no strife,” they write. “It gets hard? Well, it wasn’t meant to be. Acknowledging friendship’s potential to be one of the deepest and most powerful relationships of our lives also means acknowledging something far more difficult: that its end can cut so deep that the scars might never fully heal. . . . You’re taking an emotional risk. And it’s an even bigger risk than people take when they fall in romantic love, because there are so few rules to guide you through the difficult times.” Earnestly, they pondered whether their miscommunication had gotten so deep that it was time to break up. Both were racked with anxiety. But “despite feeling like we’d repeatedly failed to fix things between us, we weren’t ready to break up yet,” they write. “We each had our own reasons we felt our friendship was worth fighting for.”

That a friendship is worth fighting for is a loving and inspiring idea. Over the years my best friends and I have felt that way. After flare-ups and miscommunications, we’ve made dates to talk things out — and talk things out we have. I can’t say that every such effort has been successful, and there have been periods of weeks and more when two of us have not talked, causing pain. But somehow we have always snapped back, always felt a compelling need to stay together. “Look at these years!” we have said at our birthday celebrations. “*We are each other’s memory.*”

**Sometimes you hear** a women’s friendship story that makes you smile, it has such vibrant, funny characters. This exchange I elicited via a Facebook group would qualify.

Caroline Leavitt and Jo Fisher met at Brandeis University in Boston, where both were students in the 1970s. They were fascinated by one another. “Jo was wearing red rubber boots and a sweater with a big N on it, and she said it stood for Nothingness and Nihilism,” writes Leavitt.

“I was scared to approach her at Brandeis,” recalls Fisher. “She was so pretty, so thin — and always had boyfriends. But when we both worked at the college library and stole cookies from the cookie jar, we were bonded. Cookies are a theme” of the friendship, she writes.

Theirs has largely been an epistolary friendship, Fisher says. They have never lived close to one another since college,



but, for them, letters do the trick. Like 19th-century correspondents, they started trading intimacies through letters, then by email. “We have been there for each other for 40 years,” says Leavitt, a novelist and co-founder of the literary platform, A Mighty Blaze, “and I cannot imagine life without her. We live in letters and phone calls and the huge birthday boxes we send to each other each year.” They’re “massive cartons of cool earrings, toys and socks,” adds Fisher, who works in a bookstore in Santa Fe, New Mexico. One time Leavitt sent her half a carton of mint Milanos because she didn’t want to devour the whole box.

“We grow closer,” Leavitt says, “because we live in each other’s lives.”

Well aside from these funny gifts, the friendship has had serious meaning and value. Decades ago, when her then-fiancé died, says Leavitt, who has long been happily married to music writer Jeff Tamarkin, “Jo said, ‘Come here,’ and I flew to Santa Fe. Jo took care of me, and when I left a week later, we both cried. Jo can call me day or night and I am there, and we’ve helped each other through breakups.”

Another time, when Leavitt had a manipulative boyfriend who monitored her meals and read her emails, Fisher blew up at her, “and that stunner made me break up with him,” she writes. Fisher tells this story: “When my boyfriend of 19 years left me for some chippy last year, Caroline wrote him a brilliant, cutting letter, which helped alleviate my pain. She will listen to and read my meanderings and love me even more, as well as giving me affirmations and advice.”

The widely regarded platonic ideal of a best-friendship between women may well be that of Oprah Winfrey and Gayle King. As Winfrey said of King: “She is the mother I never had. She is the sister everybody would want. She is the friend that everybody deserves. I don’t know a better person.” But while I print those words on a card and tape them to my mirror, I can’t help but think there are two other sentences — in the ideal of a best-friendship world — that move and inspire me just as much, and those come from Fisher and Leavitt.

“You saved my life,” Fisher says of Leavitt.

“No,” Leavitt replies. “You saved mine.” I’ll take that. □

## My Warm Spot

BY GENEVIEVE REDSTEN '22

**S**erendipitous, Mom supposed, that I left my phone at Grandma’s house. And I suppose it was.

To be free from my phone for a few hours meant having the freedom to read without distraction. I struggled with Virginia Woolf’s *To the Lighthouse* for an hour or so before deciding I didn’t much care for her modern angst. It was distant to me, unimportant. Instead I was left with *Angela’s Ashes*, a much more accessible read, mostly because it’s Irish. Frank McCourt writes of his childhood, “Above all — we were wet.” By virtue of their geography, the Irish suffer. It’s no wonder so many Irish immigrants chose Wisconsin as their new home: Midwestern snow is a close cousin of torrential Irish rain.

April, but it was snowy out. Made for easy small talk:

“How ‘bout this weather, huh?”

“I’ve had enough.”

Outside, the dim streetlamp shone like a spotlight on my car, covered in the kind of snow that clings *hard*. That kind of snow — mostly ice — called for a good window scraper. Only after long, deep, rhythmic scrapes would the thick coating of winter begin to reveal the windshield. Even after that scraping, small pieces of ice remained, speckled across the glass.

The drive over was quiet, and when I arrived at Grandma’s, her street was quiet, too. Small cookie-cutter houses stood still, obscured by steady snowfall. I paused to appreciate it all and reflected that it’s rather concordant that she lives on this street: quiet, still, unassuming.

“Oh, don’t take your shoes off,” she muttered as she beckoned me inside. “After you left, I was thinking, and I thought I just



had to give you this.” She guided me to her room. I should probably note that, although she lives alone, Grandma has chosen to live in the smallest room in her three-bedroom house. She leaves the other two vacant “for Monie,” her daughter who visits from Spain about once a year. She sleeps in a twin-sized bed with cotton sheets, all she needs. On the wall hangs a small crucifix.

“Here,” she said, handing me a blanket. “Remember, I used to make these.”

It was fleece, one of those blankets you make by cutting strips along the edge and tying them into knots.

“It’s shamrock patterned. And I thought, ‘Notre Dame, shamrocks, Irish’ so I wanted you to have it,” she explained. I smiled and cried a little, and then we walked back out of her room. In the hallway, I saw her picture of Pope Francis.

“I can’t believe they let you drive here all by yourself in this weather,” she said as I put my shoes on. She stood in the doorway while I scraped my windshield a little more before taking off.

I doubt I’ll ever finish *To the Lighthouse*, but I did manage to read the introduction, written by novelist Margaret Drabble, which provided a nice summary and analysis of the book. Drabble writes of the character Mrs. Ramsay: “She does not aim to leave a mark. Her triumphs are transitory, and she is content with that. She ponders the riddle of permanence but forgets it for rabbits and flowerbeds and the view of the bay.”

Snow in April is all right. Bad weather brings you closer to the hearth. □

*Genevieve Redsten, a former editor-in-chief of Scholastic, studied English and journalism at Notre Dame.*

ILLUSTRATION BY JESSIE LIN



# WHO DO I SAY I AM?

**A woman who has reached her middle years confronts an age-old question.**

BY MARAYA STEADMAN '89, '90MBA

**I** keep buying clothes, failing at Wordle and seeking beach glass that is the perfect shade of blue. The clothes that I keep thinking will make me look fitter and younger — or maybe just like who I am supposed to be, my undefinable self — instead reflect the truth, undefined. Every Wordle guess reminds me that I can't win the game in two tries. I read an article that claims COVID-19 survivors lose up to 2 percent of their memory; maybe the pandemic scars I can't see are etched into the gray matter of my brain. The biological spark of energy transfer inside my brain cells, hopping over these scars and my faulty dopamine receptors, ends up at the five-letter word "splat."

Whoever I am, I'm at an age where I accept this lack of perfection, this inability to attain my unattainable self. I will never be who I imagine I want to be. At this age, I find my kids don't want my advice, yet they watch every move I make and every bond I break, making me the personification of a Police song, a rock hit of my youth becoming the flashing red and blue warning lights of a teenager-parenting journey.

From the beginning, my parenting journey has been so profound, consuming and joyful that I must acknowledge that the best 25 years of my life are probably ending. I am not sure I will ever be as happy as I have been raising our children. Still, I wonder if it's possible to

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*Maraya Steadman is still going to the gym, still trying to lose the weight, drinking way too much coffee, wanting to be a better writer and seeking beach glass. She enjoys using -ing words, playing Wordle, wearing jeans and making fun of her editor.*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KAREN MORGAN



give too much. Did I give too much of myself away? Maybe I overdid it; in trying to be a perfect mom, I eroded the cornerstone of who I am. I question whether I may have read the Prayer of St. Francis one too many times, trying to validate my choices with the words, “for it is in giving that we receive.”

If you ask me who I am, and I am honest, I am tired of caring about everyone else so much that I no longer care about me. I am tired of trying to keep some semblance of family around a dinner table no one wants to eat at anymore. I am tired of absorbing punches like a punching bag, of being a person who never gets to answer the question, “How are you?”

Descent is not a place I want to be. My oldest child, a daughter, left for college almost three years ago. My son leaves in a few months. I have been embracing these losses of motherhood for a while now. I reached a point in my descent where it was time for growth and reclamation, time for me to climb out. I am still tired, but I am tapping into the power of the feminine, climbing the ladder of transformation rung by rung, punch by punch.

My first step was a pivot move away from my obvious choices: going back to work, volunteering or suffocating the daughter who is still at home by continuing to be a full-time, stay-at-home parent. After the pivot, I took the shot. I don’t know if it went in or not; I may never know. I have no idea what will happen next, but I do know that “you will always miss 100 percent of the shots you never take.” This quote has been attributed to both Michael Jordan and Wayne Gretzky, so you can’t use it in a sophomore writing seminar. I know that not because I remember anything from my classes at Notre Dame, where I majored in accounting, but because I am now an undergraduate English major at a college close to my home in the Chicago suburbs. I tried to include a quote in a paper without citation — “Education will make you free.” My professor advised me to take it out.

My oldest is a biochemistry major at Notre Dame. She reminds me that every living thing is composed of cells, that all cells contain some form of instructions like DNA, that proteins are foundational to life. What she is trying to teach me, in terms I can understand, is the role of protein in energy transfer. She spends a long time explaining the “instructions” coded in DNA. They don’t instruct the cell how to make energy directly. The DNA doesn’t say, “To make energy, do

this and this and this”; rather, it’s a list of things: “flour-egg-flour-flour-sugar-sugar-sugar-egg-vanilla.” Throw everything in a bowl in that order and you get a cookie.

She left for Notre Dame, the pandemic hit and — after more than a year of being locked down with teenagers, enduring e-learning and other restrictions, tolerating a spouse we voted off the island in the first week, being sick and pounding cherry Danishes from Costco; a year of not going to the gym because it was closed, not doing Zoom classes because I was lazy and feeling sorry for myself, and not running around the neighborhood because I hate running — I got fat. So last summer I hired a trainer and started pounding protein.

English is my trainer’s second language. He tells me I’m a “tough *kooky*.”

“You are one tough *kooky*; you can do this.”

The last time he called me a tough *kooky*, I told him it was a dumb saying, it made no sense, and he wasn’t pronouncing it the right way, so I kept after him to practice saying “cookie” correctly. I was mad, and I wasn’t kind. I didn’t like being called a tough cookie. Who wants to be a tough cookie? I’m not even sure that being tough is a compliment, although I suppose it is in a boxing gym.

**Still, I wonder if it’s possible to give too much. Did I give too much of myself away? Maybe I overdid it; in trying to be a perfect mom, I eroded the cornerstone of who I am.**



Once you start working out in a gym, you get bombarded by motivational posters. An Everlast poster over the kettlebells says, “Greatness is within.” When I read that, my brain cells went straight to my abdomen, which at the time was beneath a weighted barbell. By the second set, I realized the slogan was about mindset: We don’t have to conquer the mountain; we just have to conquer ourselves. The climb is within us.

I’m still not sure anything is within me except organs and cells madly utilizing protein to release energy. The cells in my brain must be the champs of my cellular structure, because they have both to do all that protein conversion and to convince me that I can be a better version of myself. A self that after almost 40 years is emerging as weirdly similar to my 17-year-old self: the athlete who loved American literature, reading books and writing short stories that were so horrible their author became an accountant.

My decision to go back to school and walk into a boxing gym was about transformation. I was at a crossroads. I didn’t want to go back to my career, my kids were going to college, I needed to figure out what was next. I needed to make choices about where to direct my energy. At this point in the semester, with so much due in the next four weeks and training sessions where I’m forced to listen to electronic dance music while doing side planks and sumo squats, this growth mindset I’m trying to exercise feels more like self-hate than self-love. Quote: “Everything worth having in life involves sacrifice.” (That one is me. I tell my kids that all the time.)

This is not the first time in my adult life I’ve had to pivot, redirect, transform. When I was in my 20s and 30s, spending my energy doing everything society told me to do — go to college, get a degree, get a job, have a career — I mattered. I mattered to my bosses and to the managers and staff who worked for me. My self-worth was dependent on promotions and paychecks. I carried designer handbags and wondered if maybe I should get a bigger diamond because a woman in human resources had just gotten an engagement ring bigger than mine, and I made twice as much money as she did.

I stopped wondering about diamond rings, paychecks, promotions and handbags as soon as I got pregnant and started throwing up. I often felt that God walloped me during my pregnancies because I was a self-centered corporate executive who wasn’t focused on what matters most: love. God wanted to make sure I realized it was time for something bigger than me and my career. He wanted to make sure I realized that what I had been doing — all that running around and being fabulous — was something I was going to think about, a lot, as I was creating this child, my future biochemistry major, cell by cell, with my head in a toilet on the 16th floor of the Willis Tower, an office building in downtown Chicago at the corner of Wacker and West Adams.

So, I made a choice. Not while my head was in the toilet but afterward, when my career ended up in the toilet. My choice was to quit working outside the home. After making it, I felt like a “quitter,” like I no longer mattered to society, to LinkedIn or to the notable alumni pages. I will never be invited back to campus as a distinguished speaker. I still answer the question “What do you do?” with “I do laundry.” Not long ago, in an act of defiance, I hung my diplomas in the laundry room.

Twenty years later, the decision to stop working outside the home is probably the only decision about parenting I don’t doubt. I am no longer embarrassed by my choice, but I still cringe at parties when someone tells me, “You know, I think it’s great you’re

a stay-at-home mom.” Typically, the next line is something about what a great sacrifice I’ve made. Americans overuse the word “great” when we don’t know what else to say to each other. I didn’t make a great sacrifice. I just gave my energy away where it was needed most. I was busy. I have always been busy, just like my cells.

I learned from my daughter that transferring energy is something all cells do all the time. Cells transfer energy through cellular respiration, using oxygen to release the energy from the glucose molecules in, say, the cherry Danishes I like to eat. They store that energy in unstable ATP molecules linked by high-energy phosphate bonds. As proteins break the bonds, energy is released. Without protein there can be no broken bonds, no energy release, no biological order, no life. If we are alive, we are constantly releasing energy.

“Processes like cellular respiration and the miracle of conception and birth: The more I learn how perfectly designed and complicated they are, the more I am convinced of the existence of God.” My daughter taught me this.

So, who am I? My identity isn’t gained or earned. I didn’t work for it in an office, a gym, a classroom, at home with my kids or in the laundry room. My identity is made up of action words — learn, love, pray, give, forgive — converted into something I picked up along the way: a rock from the last ice age, a fragment of the universe, of time and erosion; the imperfect rock I will pick up along the shore of Lake Michigan when I’m searching for beach glass that is the perfect shade of blue.

But unlike the rock, identity isn’t static. It can’t be held in your palm, warmed by the sun. Identity is kinetic, moving constantly as we make choices, as we transform ourselves and choose pathways that lead us to what defines us. The energy I receive from God, from the universe, from whatever cosmic, mundane or deity-well it springs, fuels the choices I make. My identity, who I am, is how I spend my energy and how I give it away; it’s the DNA in my cells, instructing the proteins in how to make one tough *kooky*. □



# The Ones Who Came Before

When Notre Dame threw open its doors to women undergraduates in 1972, those who enrolled were actually not the first.

BY ELIZABETH HOGAN '99

**N**otre Dame's commencement in 1917 bustled with celebration. The year marked the diamond jubilee of Notre Dame's founding, the long-awaited Lemonnier Library — the building now called Bond Hall — was dedicated, and two new graduates were cheered when their names were announced in Washington Hall. Sister Mary Lucretia Kearns, CSC, '17M.S., '23Ph.D. and Sister Mary Francis Jerome O'Laughlin, CSC, '17M.A. became the first in a very long line of women to earn degrees at Notre Dame before coeducation fully took hold 55 years later in the fall of 1972.

It is unclear when Notre Dame first opened the door to female students, to how many and why. On November 17, 1916, Notre Dame's president, Rev. John W. Cavanaugh, CSC, wrote to his counterpart at Saint Mary's College, Mother Pauline O'Neill, CSC, to announce that a Notre Dame faculty committee, "appointed to consider the question of granting the Master's Degree to Sisters or pupils of

Saint Mary's for post graduate work," had decided to confer degrees on the following conditions:

1. *Candidates must go through the form of matriculation at the University. This will be arranged conveniently whenever requested by you. The registrar will go to St. Mary's for the purpose, if you so desire.*
2. *The degrees will be conferred for the same quantity and quality of work as that required of students of the University of Notre Dame.*
3. *The post graduate work must be done under the direction of [Notre Dame] teachers.*

Cavanaugh trusted this was satisfactory to Mother Pauline and thus formally established a path for women to earn degrees at Notre Dame.

The first women recorded in Notre Dame's student ledgers were six Sisters of the Holy Cross from Saint Mary's for the

1916-17 academic year. It is likely these women earned their advanced degrees in a similar manner as male students — "under the direction of and by special arrangement with the faculty."

At the behest of Notre Dame's director of studies, Rev. Matthew Schumacher, CSC, the arrangement between Notre Dame and Saint Mary's quickly grew. In April 1918, Cavanaugh announced that Notre Dame would open a Summer School to priests, brothers and sisters from all orders, as well as laypeople of both sexes. This announcement met with resounding support from bishops across the country, and enrollment that summer exceeded 200 students.

Summer School instructors were members of the regular Notre Dame faculty, including William Hoynes in law, Francis Kervick in architecture, Rev. Julius Nieuwland, CSC, in science, Knute Rockne in physical education and Rev. John O'Hara, CSC, in history. At the time, male and female students could earn an advanced degree in three summers and an undergraduate degree in four. By 1921, women were also added to the Summer School faculty, although not to the regular faculty.

Rev. James A. Burns, CSC, the first University president with a doctoral degree, took the helm at Notre Dame in 1919. During his three-year tenure, he began molding Notre Dame into a modern institution by strengthening the curriculum and the quality of professors while expanding academic, residential and athletic facilities. The preparatory boarding school for high school students was dissolved in 1922, and the minimis — boys under the age of 13 — moved out of St. Edward's Hall in 1929. As noted in *The Notre Dame Scholastic* on May 11, 1918, "It is found that the summer sessions



attract a more mature, and certainly a very earnest, class of students, drawn largely from the professions, and many of them graduate students. They create a demand for new and advanced courses, which, once begun, tend to become permanently fixed in the curriculum." As predicted, the Summer School led to the establishment of Notre Dame's Graduate School, which was coeducational from the outset.

While the Summer School was open to all, the sisters were the stars of the show and became synonymous with the program. Most of these women were teachers or administrators in their religious orders looking to bolster their credentials. A Catholic university like Notre Dame was a natural choice.

As the program grew, the women's studies seeped into the regular academic year. Clarence Manion, a former dean of the Law School, noted that he remembered Sister Mary Aloysi Kiener, SND, of Cleveland

in the history classes he taught during the year while he was a law student in the early 1920s. Kiener was in the first cohort of two lay and three religious women to earn bachelor's degrees in 1922. Adding a master's degree in 1923 and a doctorate in 1930, she became Notre Dame's first female triple Domer.

By 1959, some 61 women representing 40 religious communities were working on their degrees throughout the regular academic year. As more women were determined to earn their degrees quicker than the summer session allowed, Notre Dame broke ground on Lewis Hall in 1964 to accommodate about 150 female students. This new residence hall allowed women to earn advanced degrees in 15 consecutive months rather than across five summers. Overall, between 1917 and August 1971, Notre Dame conferred 342 bachelor's degrees, 4,128 master's degrees, 184 doctoral degrees and two law degrees on women.

Acknowledgment of these alumnae as members of the Notre Dame family waxed and waned. In 1927, the women formed an Alumnae Association, and over 100 women attended the first meeting to elect officers to it — the Alumni Association's first affinity group. The Women's Club, as it was sometimes called, was given space in *The Notre Dame Alumnus*, a publication of the Alumni Association, and recaps of the summer session appeared in the *Scholastic*. Many of these women had a strong bond with Notre Dame and were honored to be counted among the alumni.

Occasionally, University publications reminded their readers that, yes, Notre Dame did have female students. In 1955, a

story in *Notre Dame: A Magazine* acknowledged that "the nuns at Notre Dame during the summer school session are as much a part of the University as those husky lads who trod the campus from September to June." Six years later, the magazine again declared that "the University salutes these 'Coeds of the Cloth,' and welcomes them to the Notre Dame family."

The growing presence of women on campus in the late 1950s and '60s prompted Ave Maria Press to publish an identification chart of the habits of the orders of sisters, brothers and priests represented among the student body. The brochure challenged readers, who may have had a full inventory of the birds and flowers on campus, to see how many different orders they could identify.

In 1965 Notre Dame and Saint Mary's established a Co-Exchange Program where students of one institution could take classes at the other, filling Notre Dame's classrooms with even more women. By the time rumblings of full coeducation — in particular a merger with Saint Mary's — came about in the late '60s, the effort spurred a backlash among a small faction of alumni. Notre Dame had been an all-male bastion for over 125 years, they complained. Why change?

Had these men been paying attention, they would have known women had been in the classrooms alongside them for over five decades. Women made up about 10 percent of Notre Dame's living alumni in 1970, when the Alumni Association published a first-in-a-long-time directory of over 30,000 graduates; however, acknowledgment in campus publications of the sisters with advanced degrees was rare, and the laywomen and undergraduate alumnae were almost never mentioned.

In 1971, Notre Dame's Board of Trustees announced that, "In the light of the changing role of women today, particular concern must be exercised for the full and equal participation by women in the intellectual and social life of ND." Women had long been a part of the intellectual life at Notre Dame, but full integration into the social life was yet to be accomplished. The fall of 1972 marked the beginning of true coeducation at Notre Dame, but it is important to continue to salute the thousands of women who preceded those pioneers and to embrace these loyal daughters as members of the Notre Dame family.

*Elizabeth Hogan is senior archivist for graphic materials in the University of Notre Dame Archives.*

**Overall, between 1917 and August 1971, Notre Dame conferred 342 bachelor's degrees, 4,128 master's degrees, 184 doctoral degrees and two law degrees on women.**

*From left: Notre Dame Summer Session 1929; Sister Mary Aloysi Kiener SND, the first woman to earn three degrees from Notre Dame; and graduates, including religious sisters, during commencement exercises in June 1966.*







# A Benevolence of Friends

When Sue's tragic death left a vacuum in our lives, we tried to close the circle with a communal embrace.

BY MARY MCGREEVY '89

**It's 10 a.m., January 11, 2012**, in St. Paul, Minnesota. I'm working from home, my three daughters are at school, my husband is at his office, the sun streams in through my living room windows, the weather is unseasonably warm. My cell phone rings, and I glance at the caller ID.

It's Cathy, a friend from my Notre Dame years whom I haven't seen or talked to in forever. We were Lyons Hall dormmates and good friends, but time and distance and adulting have done their thing, as they do. *Why would Cathy be calling on a weekday morning after all these years?* She lives in the same Michigan city as my closest friend from Notre Dame, Sue. A tiny spark of dread ignites. I pause . . . but pick up.

A worrier's instincts are no joke. Cathy voices my worst fear: Our dear friend Sue is dead, murdered the night before. I'm shattered.

**The facts are tragic:** Susan Pawlecki Jarrell '89 was killed by her ex-husband, who then turned the gun on himself. Their three young children, the same ages as mine, were present when it happened.

Sue's death is part of a narrative about mental illness (his), perseverance (hers) and resilience (her family's). The children's experience of that day and that time is their story to tell, and over the years they've told it well. Sue's parents swooped in from Toledo, Ohio, and from that first day forward made sure the kids were safe, healthy and thriving.

I grieved my friend in 2012, and I continue to grieve her with our close group of college friends now. But at first, in the darkness, I fumbled with what felt like a wrenching plot twist. Our lives — mine and Sue's — weren't supposed to be like this. The story seems like it shouldn't belong to someone I knew and loved. Sue had *just* called me to say she was coming to the Twin Cities the next month for a teacher's conference.

Young death is always stunning. But a death like Sue's, inexplicable and violent: It stops time in its tracks.

**All the pretenders** out there who describe someone's smile lighting up a room never met Sue. Her smile really did shine: dazzling perfect teeth, trust, humor and down-to-earth charm radiating from her beaming face.

As a college student, Sue loved rooting for an underdog. She loved her hometown, Toledo. She loved chocolate-peanut-butter buckeyes, Billy Joel, preppy clothes, late-night study sessions, creative writing of all kinds and prank-calling people from the dorm. (A casualty of caller ID. Sigh.) She had natural beauty, though she was seemingly unaware of it. She had unusual thumbs, aka "toe thumbs," which she never minded pointing out at her own expense. In summer, her skin browned gloriously, a hot commodity in the baby-oil-as-sunscreen 1980s. She liked to roll her eyes and to catch your gaze as she did it.

Being women at Notre Dame in the '80s, we didn't feel the political urgency of those pioneers who started it all in the '70s. Still, our female camaraderie was strong because of the lopsided ratio of men to women. Opportunities abounded, but we knew we'd needed to hustle a bit harder than the men to be admitted to Notre Dame and would need to keep hustling once we were in. Even though the campus had been coeducational for only 13 years when we arrived, the women's dorms already had their own traditions and provided us all with a cozy (think: no air conditioning) place to nurture friendships.

Sue and I met during the first week of our freshman year in Lyons. The icebreaker prompt was "Name your favorite movie"; when I heard her say *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, I sensed a kindred spirit. Old souls know. We lived across the hall from each other that year, then spent sophomore year as roommates in Angers, France, then returned to Lyons as dormmates for another two years.

In Angers, Sue's nickname was "The Pulse" because everyone told her their secrets. (That trustworthy smile, remember?) She had all the gossip. We spent a memorable Christmas in Vienna

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with my sister who was studying abroad in Ireland, the three of us hanging out in our hotel room with a packet of dry bread. (We hadn't realized the whole city would shut down on Christmas.) The house we shared in Angers was more than 500 years old. Our landladies were eccentric, to say the least, which produced endless stories and misadventures. Sue reveled in it all. She adored a good story and—even better—a good storyteller.

On the day after our graduation in 1989, Sue and I went to lunch together in South Bend. She said with tears, "This tastes like sawdust—I don't want to say goodbye. Why does this part have to end?" As usual, she put the perfect words to my feelings. This time it was the despair we felt at having to grow up.

After college, we both joined the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in New York City. Although JVC didn't stick for Sue, and she moved back to Ohio, we stayed as close as we could despite the miles and, well, life. She earned a master's degree in education and began teaching French to a generation of lucky kids. We were in each other's weddings. When our children were young, our families vacationed together one year in South Carolina: a golden and ultimately complicated set of memories, given everything that was to come.

**It's a natural**, ancient human instinct to respond to tragedy by taking care of business. And women, be it genetic or the result of cultural expectations, are experts at getting the word out, organizing meal deliveries, parachuting in to take care of kids and pets, raising money, brainstorming solutions before a problem even appears.

Going back now to reread emails from the frantic days after Sue's death gives me chills, because I'm brought back to the shock and sadness, but also because I can see how our friends clicked back into familiar, urgent, trusted, mobilizing, "got your back" conversations. We came of age when you had to call or write a letter to stay in touch; suddenly we were lighting up the nights with our emails and texts. It was comforting, in a bleak sort of way, reconnecting by email with Lyons and Angers friends who'd drifted apart over the years. I read an email from our legendary French professor, Louis MacKenzie '69, and a series of emails from the Alumni Association offering suggestions for tributes and getting the word out. Looking back on those conversations, I am struck that I remember almost none of it. What stands out acutely is the moment I saw my friends in person again, after so many years, and the moment I saw Sue's parents at the wake.

It's nonsense to compare the sadness of one funeral to another, but let me tell you that in terms of emotion, Sue's was a barnburner. Some 1,300 people gathered at St. Hugo of the Hills in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, to remember her, and the grief was raw. She was a beloved high school French teacher in addition to being an involved mother, a writer, scout leader, runner and parishioner. Singing the "Alma Mater" (which, truth be told, was something College Sue might've found corny) gave new meaning to the phrase, "My heart was in my throat."



Left to right, all '89: Jeanne Hannahoe Mason, Jarrell, McGreevy, Missy Cahill McKnight and Patty Dutile.

**And yet.** Despite a cathartic funeral, the next few years left me feeling like I hadn't done enough to honor our friendship. It was a constant itch, the kind of guilt that goes along with enjoying your life after someone you love dies.

My first attempt to scratch that itch was a solo trip to Angers two years after Sue died. It felt to me that walking those streets would bring back some kind of connection with her and, in whatever hazy way I was imagining it, would do

her some justice. In a different life, Sue would have made the trip with me. Her memory for places and events was far better than mine, and the jolly ghosts of college escapades would have come alive with her there to remind me.

Walking out of the Angers train station into the bright September sun, I had a moment of panic: Nothing looked familiar. I scanned the Place de la Gare—left and right, right and left—looking for familiar landmarks. Nothing. It was a disconcerting start to a trip I'd undertaken as a journey of remembrance. But I walked on with the help of Google Maps, a far cry from the wrinkled city maps we once carried in our backpacks. Back to our campus, which was kind of a dump—and is stubbornly unchanged in the best way. I walked and walked and walked.

I ordered a *kir royale* in a familiar café. I ate bread and Nutella in a park. I reacquainted myself with the path we walked from home to school. And I walked past that 500-year-old house of ours multiple times. When I saw the "new" owners in their yard, I used my fading French to explain why I was there, and they invited me inside to walk around and take pictures. (Thank God for small kindnesses!) The friendly and strange wisps of stories stirred themselves to life. All those stories rest with me now.

**I think Sue would've approved** of my trip. Seeing, smelling and tasting Angers again was important. *And yet.* As the years went on, the itch for a proper tribute didn't go away. I didn't want our memories to float away. I wanted to make sure her family knew Sue wasn't forgotten by the women of Notre Dame. So, in the summer of 2021, I got back on the phone with Cathy.

We cooked up a 10-year anniversary tribute to Sue on campus that October. As a group of friends, we again did what women do so well: We planned, we organized, we built consensus, we had fun. We reached across the years and the miles and pulled together an event that finally felt 100 percent right. Because of the geographic spread of Notre Dame alumni, you don't often get to see if Adult You would be friends with the grown-up version of the faces from your yearbooks and photo albums. Would personalities or politics intrude? Happily, we didn't have to wonder. Not one person had escaped life's humbling turns, and that is always the equalizer. Throw good food and good wine into the mix, and you're bound to get a love fest.

Sixteen of us friends from Lyons gathered on a sunny but chilly Saturday. (More were absent who wanted to attend.) The students

were on fall break, so even though we adapted to COVID-19 protocols inside buildings, the campus was ours to wander. Sue's parents, Dennis and Linda, and her brother and sister-in-law, Mike and Betsy, came in from Toledo. We spent time in the Log Chapel, chairs in a circle, reminiscent of the get-to-know-you activities from decades ago. We brought pictures and trinkets and poems and music. We brought laughter and tears in equal measure. We took turns remembering aloud and reminding ourselves what it had meant to be together as young adults.

Father Bob Dowd, CSC, '87 celebrated an intimate Mass. We said our tearful goodbyes to Sue's family as they headed home to Toledo. And at our South Bend rental houses, we — the college friends — spent a few evenings with '80s music, yearbooks, "dogbooks" (ugh — why didn't we *and* Notre Dame know better?), photo albums, life updates, light humor, dark humor and promises to keep in touch.

I fear it sounds trite, but it's true: The peace I felt after that weekend was profound. After spending time with so many people who loved Sue, that nagging guilt about living your life when your friend didn't get to had finally evaporated.

I attribute it all to friendship. I hadn't felt this way after Angers, and I think it's because I had gone alone. The memories had bubbled up there, but I didn't have anywhere to put them except back in my own head.

There's a French expression that loosely translates as, "Our task is to remember, and through remembering, to lighten our own burden." The beauty of women's friendships is that remembering and sharing the load comes naturally. These friendships, and the remembering, may just save you.

**I know of no way** to derive meaning from Sue's death. I'm not a philosopher. I don't know how a loving God lives in harmony with tragedy and cruelty. Knowing ahead of time that you're marked for tragedy would, obviously, be too much to bear. Being oblivious is a mercy, and so vital to living a vibrant life. Another of our treasured Lyons Hall friends, Missy Cahill McKnight '89, died from brain cancer 10 years before Sue died. While Missy's death was equally heartbreaking, equally bewildering, at the very least cancer gave us a chance at a gentle release. Sue and her family didn't get that chance.

As much as we try to hold on to our dearest ones and their stories, leaves are falling around us all the time. No human is spared.

You might be tempted to wall up your feelings to protect yourself against these heartbreaking truths. Brian Doyle '78, the brilliant essayist, knew better about the particularities of the human heart:

*You can brick up your heart as stout and tight and hard and cold and impregnable as you possibly can and down it comes in an instant, felled by a woman's second glance, a child's apple breath, the shatter of glass in the road, the words I have something to tell you, a cat with a broken spine dragging itself into the forest to die, the brush of your mother's papery ancient hand in the thicket of your hair, the memory of your father's voice early in the morning echoing from the kitchen where he is making pancakes for his children.*

So how to proceed in the meantime? I believe we're fundamentally wired for happiness, and tragedy is still the exception. You may not ever truly get over the big losses in your life. But you put your left foot in front of the right one, and so on. You make a perfect

tart, you run a 5K, you crush a sales goal, you visit Machu Picchu. You slowly gather the courage to look at pictures of the ones you lost. You forge a delicate truce with grief. You breathe.

Some of the prettiest phrases in the English language describe groups of animals: a parliament of owls, a loveliness of ladybugs, an improbability of puffins, a shrewdness of apes, a fever of stingrays. Where's the poetic title for a group of women who help protect and heal when the unthinkable happens? I propose "a benevolence of friends."

I know the power and pure gift of a benevolence of friends, and it's Notre Dame that brought us together in a random, chaotic lottery of residence-hall assignments 37 years ago. Alone, we stumble. Together, we still stumble. But at least together we can laugh and cry with each other. Friendship is benevolent, and friendship heals.

**And now the happy postscript.** Sue's parents push back on the notion that they saved Sue's kids. They insist Sue's kids saved *them*, and that they only truly understood their purpose — raising their daughter's family — after Sue's death. Either way, the kids are thriving: All three received the Chick Evans scholarship, which provides full tuition and housing for golf caddies with special circumstances. Nick teaches English (his mother would've loved that) and coaches cross-country at La Salle High School in Cincinnati while pursuing a master's degree in school administration; he married in 2020. Ellyn '22 is working for Deloitte US in Washington, D.C. Caroline is a rising senior at Ohio State majoring in human resources. Each one has their mother's smile.

Sue's parents are healthy and living with purpose and positivity, sharing their story publicly and reminding people of life's essential goodness.

**In all the emails** I have saved from Sue, she attached a signature block with an excerpt from her favorite poem, "Ithaka," by Constantine Cavafy:

*As you set out for Ithaka  
hope your road is a long one,  
full of adventure, full of discovery.*

The poem is an urgent plea not to let the fear of tragedy prevent you from living a full life — a Greek version of "stop and smell the roses." Its conclusion, a caution to Odysseus as he heads home from Troy, feels like something Sue might've known would be the right words for loved ones worried about moving on after her death:

*But don't hurry the journey at all.  
Better if it lasts for years,  
so you're old by the time you reach the island,  
wealthy with all you've gained on the way,  
not expecting Ithaka to make you rich.*

I want to tell young people to hunker down and be ready. One day you'll see that the solid ground you're on has fissures. Things get rocky. *And yet.* The beauty of youth is that the young probably won't (and shouldn't) listen to me. Machu Picchu is meant to be climbed. Goodness persists. Friends matter.

Stay in touch. I mean really, really: Stay in touch. □





## Still Some Loose Threads

A loyal daughter remembers the men's university she attended 35 years ago and wonders if women have been fully woven into the fabric of this place.

BY MAGGIE GREEN CAMBRIA '88

**I**n my Notre Dame scrapbook circa 1984-88, assorted treasures abound — photos of roommates, photos of SYR dances and one yellowing copy of a bill from the director of student accounts. “Undergraduate Fees and Expenses 1983-84” says tuition is \$6,450. Room and board for women is \$2,105. Men are charged \$2,205 for room, board and *laundry*.

At orientation, I learned that all women's dorms were equipped with washing machines. Women were not given the option to have our laundry done for us. The men were not given the option of doing their own laundry; they were given the luxury of *not* doing it — not sorting, washing, drying or folding any of it. They stashed dirty clothes in big bags with their names on them, had them picked up at their residence halls and then carried them home clean, tightly folded and bundled. Notre Dame girls discovered

early that, no matter how smart we were, those in charge would expect us to find time for laundry. As I recall, we laughed at how ridiculous it was and learned to accept our reality of being women at a man's university.

In my required Arts and Letters core course, we read books and wrote papers on such heady topics as “man vs. man,” “man vs. nature” and “man vs. God.” None of the required books focused on the women who grappled with these questions. Women, I began to realize, were left to converse with each other when trying to find their way in a world of powerful men.

The reading list for the class included many groundbreaking works such as *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe, a novel addressing the influence of European colonialism and Christian missionaries on a community in West Africa and the devastating effect these forces had on the

protagonist, an Igbo clansman. In one class discussion, I commented that the scene depicting the horn-blowing ceremony — the exclusive domain of the male chief of the clan — was eerily similar to the way only male priests consecrate the Eucharist at Mass. My comment was reflexive and obvious, I assumed, yet was met by eye rolls and other signs of contempt from most of my classmates, even some of the women.

My professor, who was a French Jesuit and a chairholder in theology, surprisingly praised my observation and asked me to speak with him after class. The moment initiated a lifelong friendship with an erudite priest who was unafraid of discussions about equality within the Church.

Around that time, after a long day of science classes and cramming for organic chemistry and biology tests on the 13th floor of the 'brare with fellow pre-med students, I walked my tray to the milk station in South Dining Hall. Much to my horror, a group of male students wearing sunglasses and trenchcoats was holding up numbers from one to 10, rating my physical appearance for all to see. Laughs and claps echoed. It was so humiliating that I wanted to crawl beneath a table and die. Occasionally, similarly clad undergraduate men barred access to those women who approached the ice-cream dispenser.

No one stopped this persecution. None of us girls wanted to confront these boys openly and be accused of “not having a sense of humor” or being “too sensitive” or not understanding that it was “just a joke.” It's not likely the culprits realized the damage their “jokes” were doing, or the staggering number of their female classmates

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who struggled with eating disorders.

As the first girl on my father's side to attend college, I was expected to exemplify a good Catholic life for my four younger sisters. I was pro-life and went to Mass more than once a week — or at least that's how I started out at Notre Dame. One day in the spring of my sophomore year, I recoiled when a female professor remarked, "It's so nice to have a feminist in my class."

"I'm not a feminist," I reflexively protested.

"It's not an insult," she said.

"I'm not sure about that," I remember saying, then wanting to leave her classroom as fast as I could. I hoped no one, especially none of my male classmates, had heard her comment. I had been brought up in a family where Phyllis Schlafly — certainly not Gloria Steinem or any of her ERA-professing, pro-choice feminist comrades — was to be emulated.

"Feminist" is a powerful word. It evokes all sorts of emotions and is a polarizing label even among Notre Dame alumnae. It suggests a range of stereotypes, criticisms and divisions. And yet the *Oxford Advanced American Dictionary* defines feminist as "a person who supports the belief that women should have the same rights and opportunities as men."

In 1987, my junior year, I wrote a three-page persuasive essay for a journalism course detailing my first experience of sexual discrimination — in the sixth grade at Holy Trinity Catholic School. I described how a few of my female classmates and I had the honor of being chosen by our pastor to be altar servers. We went through the same training as the boys; we were well regarded by the priests and parishioners as we served at daily and weekly Masses, funerals and the like. Then came the bishop to officiate at a confirmation Mass.

The bishop refused to allow girls to serve at that Mass or at any future Mass, because being an altar boy was the first step toward becoming a priest, and women would never become priests. Some of the boy servers quit to support us; adults apologized to us. Despite letters of protest, our bishop had spoken.

In my Notre Dame essay, I didn't end with the anecdote from the sixth grade. I went on to argue that the time had come when "roles of church leadership should be opened to women." I wrote: "Women should be included in decision-making processes

which dictate new moral and ethical standards and canons," and, "Current religious texts and missals need to be examined and updated to include more Catholic (i.e. universal) language that includes all of God's people, not just the men."

My professor read my paper aloud, and I was beyond embarrassed. I dreaded the backlash. None came. Instead, the class discussed how many of our female relatives and the nuns who taught us were similarly frustrated with the institutional Church's treatment of women. We discussed the failure of certain Vatican II reforms to take hold. My like-minded, forward-thinking male professor encouraged the long view. Thankfully, today, female altar servers are *de rigueur* in most parishes, but too little else has changed in the Church at large.

How could my Church  
and my religion and  
my college — that I so  
loved, that was part  
of my very being — be  
pushing me to accept  
and internalize my  
'lesser-ness'?

Reluctantly, as I became more educated, I saw how my beloved Church had been a party to my subordination, that I was part of a larger culture of entrenched male dominance. How could my Church and my religion and my college — that I so loved, that was part of my very being — be pushing me to accept and internalize my "lesser-ness"?

After considerable internal debate and discernment, I chose to educate my kids Catholic and become a member of a vibrant Catholic parish that prioritizes "radical inclusivity." I don't go to pro-life rallies anymore; they are too polarizing and focus exclusively on outlawing abortion in all instances. Other pro-life matters — war, the death penalty, environmental

degradation — get little support. Similarly, I find so-called "women's marches" polarizing because the organizers don't welcome pro-life women or allow conservative women to speak from their microphones.

Of my four children, all raised Catholic, none have put Notre Dame atop a college wish list. My older son and daughter are now in college. My twins are sophomores in high school. They were baptized by the University's president emeritus, Rev. Edward "Monk" Malloy, CSC, '63, '67M.A., '69M.A., and are on the verge of the college application process. As much I would love the myriad magical connections that their attendance would provide, I never pushed my kids to attend my alma mater, mostly because of the way women like me were treated when I was there . . . and because the institution does not seem to prioritize us much, still.

Let me assure you that one of my proudest accomplishments is my Notre Dame degree. My closest Notre Dame gal pals remain among my best gal pals today. I have also maintained friendships with professors and priests since I graduated. I wear ND regalia wherever I go, eliciting eye rolls from family members and non-Notre Dame friends. I am part of the ND Women Connect network and go to at least one football game a year — and I never miss a televised one. I donate every year and recently joined the Sorin Society, a decision I was hesitant to make because I wanted to give to a society dedicated to the advancement of women-centered causes. There aren't any. As the University marks 50 years of coeducation, it's time to establish a giving society named for a prominent Notre Dame woman, set up for the purpose of advancing women's issues at Notre Dame and beyond.

Despite many positive strides regarding women at Notre Dame, a reluctance, if not intolerance, persists toward discussions of feminism. While I was a student, I was not brave enough to call out patriarchal attitudes. The topic of equality between men and women is complicated. It matters that Notre Dame — Our Lady's university — becomes proudly feminist, in the truest sense of the word, so that when future generations of women consider whether to study or work at the school, a culture of male dominance won't deter them, because it won't exist anymore. □



# Flame Launcher

'You bring together the components of your art, and all kinds of energies are released, and you have to ride the rocket that you've constructed to whatever end it's going to have.'

INTERVIEW BY TESS GUNTY '15

**Joyelle McSweeney** is the author of as many as 10 books, depending on how you count. She writes poetry, plays, novels, short stories and criticism. A recipient of multiple teaching awards, she has been on the English department faculty for 15 years and has served multiple terms directing the Creative Writing Program.

As an undergraduate, I quickly came to think of McSweeney as a neon genius and was often moved by her generosity. In our meetings, she spoke in paragraphs as musical, electric and precise as her poetry, referencing an astonishingly wide range of literature, introducing me to texts that continue to inspire me today and radiating energy that seemed to generate its own light. Recently, as I revised my debut novel — a project that grew from my undergraduate thesis, which McSweeney advised — for approximately the 600th time, I took long walks around my neighborhood while listening to Dylan Thomas's *Under Milk Wood*, a radio play I first encountered years prior when Professor McSweeney recommended it. Whenever I feel trapped in a restrictive scaffolding of concerns in my own writing, I pick up a book of McSweeney's and read until the traps deconstruct.

We spoke by Zoom on April Fool's Day, 2022. Among other things, we discussed McSweeney's most recent collection of

poetry, *Toxicon and Arachne*, published in 2020. In my apartment in downtown Los Angeles, in the blustery psychological weather of that first terrifying lockdown, I read *Toxicon and Arachne* in a trance, struck by the piercing and accurate prophecies launched from every line. Like a firework, each poem detonates in dazzling patterns of light and night, transfixing and transfiguring. The collection, like all of McSweeney's work, produces an electrical storm in the brain. McSweeney is a detective of the "necropastoral" — which she defines as the "political-aesthetic zone in which the fact of mankind's depredations cannot be separated from an experience of 'nature' which is poisoned, mutated, aberrant, spectacular, full of ill effects and affects."

In his glowing appraisal of *Toxicon and Arachne* for *The New Yorker*, the poet Dan Chiasson writes, "As occult ideas about poetry go, McSweeney's is surprisingly grounded: poetry isn't a séance . . . it's a biohazard, teeming with linguistic contagion."

A few days after we spoke, McSweeney became one of seven poets to win a 2022 Guggenheim fellowship, which ranks among the most competitive and prestigious honors in the world.

The following interview has been edited for length and clarity.

**Gunty:** In 2014, when asked, "Why do you write?" you answered, "Rage and exuberance. I can't get my exuberance under control; it's more volatile than my rage. My rage then has to express itself with the items my exuberance has purchased at the mall, like a pair of Adidas and a copy of the *Aeneid*." Is this answer still true? How might you amend it?

**McSweeney:** Well, I think rage has managed to finagle a little more airtime. But exuberance is an interesting thing. Exuberance feels almost chemical. Exuberance is an energy that's released when different elements collide; we might associate it with joy, but it's actually separate. It's the thing that keeps the unicycle upright. It's the thing that keeps Wile E. Coyote afloat when running off the mesa — on the strength of his *exuberance* — and it's not until he looks down and encounters dismay that he falls. So maybe I would add "dismay" to this set of chemicals in the chemical equation that is my art and performance. One thing that's remained is variousness; there's still a variousness to the components, to the ingredients of my poems and my plays, and there's a kineticism when those various things combine, and there's energy that's released to sometimes unpredictable ends. You bring together the components of your art, and all kinds of

*Tess Gunty studied English and creative writing at Notre Dame and New York University, where she was a Lillian Vernon fellow. Her debut novel, The Rabbit Hutch, will be published by Knopf in August.*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BARBARA JOHNSTON



energies are released, and you have to ride the rocket that you've constructed to whatever end it's going to have — in the sea, or on a planet, or just blowing up.

**G:** Another chemical reaction that makes your work feel so alive occurs between the otherworldly and the humdrum; your work engages with the sacred by engaging with the profane. The materials of some of your poems include viruses, Mishawaka, AT&T, the pink soap of public restrooms, the kinetic sand of children's play. You've said you're trying to build a bulwark against the mundane, but it also seems you're weaponizing the mundane as a bulwark against itself. Could you talk about the role of the mundane in your work?

**M:** I am a Catholic, born and raised. I am certainly a heterodox Catholic, I put that right up front, but one thing that I really absorbed at the heart of my faith is Catholicism as an art theory, and vice versa — art theory as a way to think through Catholic faith. Here's this painting, here's this Station of the Cross, here's this important object, and now it's being transformed. Obviously, Catholics believe that to be literally true

of Communion, but I also think it's true of things like saints' imagery. You're contemplating the painting, and something about transfiguration becomes clear to you through the art experience. Being trained as a Catholic child to think about symbols as powerful sites of transformation, to think about the arrival of gods or angels in very mundane sites, opened me up to art's possibility.

Separately: South Bend is my muse. I moved here 15 years ago to take this job. I'd never lived in the Rust Belt before. Everything about the Rust Belt fascinates me, including the word "rust" — rust as both an ecological phenomenon and a visual phenomenon of redness that reminds us that we are the ones on the planet with oxygen. Rust is a process, something that's changing and dynamic. So to look at objects and realize that they're sites where amazing cosmic chemical processes might be happening and *are* happening at all times — suddenly everything becomes electrified. That's why I think that there's no object that art can't make use of. Any object can be the place where art arrives. Something that I ask myself a lot is: How does art arrive? How can we make it arrive?

**G:** It is famously difficult to make art about a crisis as vast as climate change, but your writing attends to ecological collapse — which includes processes of decay that you just referred to — with remarkable exactitude. How do you think about your art, and art generally, in relation to the Anthropocene?

**M:** Geologists isolate different periods to describe when the Anthropocene begins, but one place to begin is the conquest of the Americas, when, in addition to everything else that happened, plants were transferred among continents, and you start to see plant genomes changing. All the crimes are part of one crime. The genocides, the centuries of enslavement, the displacement, the wars and the Anthropocene are all part of the same unfolding cloud of crimes. I truly believe that.

Those processes are consistent with the processes I've been talking about: rust, pollution here in the Rust Belt, the fact that it's not really safe for kids to play outside because they get lead poisoning from the ground, and then the lead finds a home in the brain, changing the brain's structure. There is no border between human





Expanding my sense of how bodies are made, how life is made, to a matter of chemistry and physics was the only way I could survive what had happened to me.

and inhuman, metal and flesh. All of it finds homes in each other and works its deleterious effects. My writing and translating are also like this; art is in the dynamism. Art registers the harm, yes, but then unexpected energies can be released when unlikely things are celebrated and unlikely things come together.

There are species called the extremophiles that live in nitrogen vents — the hottest and coldest and driest places on Earth. They just dry up and suddenly come back to life. They've solved the problem of immortality. And I'm rooting for them. They are my model for art, too — the most ludicrous, microscopic animals that have made the most ludicrous choices about the

shapes of their bodies through evolution. Now they're going to be the survivors.

**G:** You've said before that art is a crime in that it should break something, and all poetry is war poetry. Much of your work takes place in ambient war zones, filled with destruction that is both atmospheric and acute; catastrophe is always nearby. How do you think violence influences your art, and how might art influence violence?

**M:** I think we can grow away from violence on individual and collective levels, and I'm sure there are cultures that have managed to live without violence — maybe not for long — but violence seems to be a fact of human life. The Anthropocene is violence happening all around us. Petrochemicals are violent when they're extracted, when they're burned and when they enter the atmosphere. They *are* violence. They're decomposing life forms from another era — an era that's such a huge span of time away, the human brain isn't even good enough to imagine it. And yet here we are, burning and destroying them, burning and destroying ourselves and all living things in the process.

So if you think of violence as a process, it does seem to be a part of almost every logic. Even if you think about why we're speaking English. Why am I not speaking Irish, which is genetically probably the language I should be speaking? Why do we use so many Roman words? Language itself has empire written all through it. By using words, you're jumping in the stream of these enchained violences. But you can also send a pulse backwards up that stream, and this pulse might hit somebody and send their thinking in another direction. When you send that pulse back out, you don't know where it's going — it's on its own trip to the edge of the universe. It's going to hit someone else's brain or heart or body and go somewhere else. That's exciting to me.

The great Chilean poet Raúl Zurita spoke of the military coup that happened when he was a young man. He was imprisoned and tortured. After he got out, he said that we have to make art that has the force of the military junta; we have to make art that can push back with the same force that has pushed against us. I think that way, too.

**G:** A lot of your work is about mothers and daughters, but the writing pushes back against restrictive, one-dimensional, inherited definitions of female identities, and

you've said that in your experience, motherhood collapsed all binaries. Could you talk more about that?

**M:** Well, I would say that my views about this have become very acute in the last few years. I had a little baby, my third baby, who was born with an unexpected birth defect. She lived 13 days and died. So, I had to think a lot about that birth defect. It was congenital, meaning it wasn't genetic, it wasn't chromosome error, it was just something unexpected that happened when she was gestating. It was a coding error — I think "building error" is how it's usually referred to — and it was against all odds. So, I had to ask: Why did it happen? And I had to expand my scale of cause and event as far as I possibly could — literally to the Big Bang. I had to think: Well, these chemicals were created in the Big Bang, and they behave one way in 99.95 percent of the time, and .05 percent of the time — for reasons we don't fully understand — they behave another way. And that's what happened in this gestation.

Expanding my sense of how bodies are made, how life is made, to a matter of chemistry and physics was the only way I could survive what had happened to me. It at least ran counter to all the guilt I was feeling as I tried to find out why this had happened to me, why this had happened to her. One difficult thing that you often hear is that if a baby survives the NICU, they're usually referred to as a "miracle baby." And my baby didn't. So what's the opposite of a miracle?

That was so painful, for me. Expanding my scale to the cosmos allowed me to step away from all those rhetorics, step out of the boxes that were harming me as I was trying to process what had happened. What could be smaller than a little building error in a baby's tummy that led her not to survive? It's the smallest thing, and yet that story is linked to the biggest thing ever: the Big Bang. Or, if you're Christian, the biggest thing ever: the conception of Christ as a human. Unfortunately, he was a miracle, and my baby turns out not to have been a miracle, which is very hard for me to live with.

**G:** In an essay for *The Yale Review*, you described how you originally intended *Toxicon* to be a standalone collection, but in the spring following your daughter's death, you wrote *Arachne* in a handful of furious weeks. Do you see any relationship between writing, rage and mourning?

**M:** So, to tell this story from the top: I was writing *Toxicon*, my ninth book, my third book of poetry, and I was rushing to get it done because I was about to have this baby. And of course, the baby was born and did not survive. When spring returned and the baby did not, I became full of anger at spring. And spring is a classic trope for Western poetry, especially English poetry — the return of spring is also the return of hope. But here was the return of spring without the baby, and so it was the antithesis of hope.

I wrote in a kind of torrent of anger. The poems are not particularly angry, but anger is what drove them. In a way, these poems were the “easiest” to write, because they seemed to be moving through me, almost as if I received them from some other part of my brain. I was simply assembling them. Some people talk about the “work” of mourning, they say that mourning is a “working through.” I don’t think that was so for me. Instead, it was just another very extreme chemical process. The writing was almost beyond my control. I don’t know what people will find in those poems, and I don’t expect them to feel consoled, but it has been my experience that people connect to them.

But the reason the last poem of the book is the last is because that’s when I turned my anger on myself. I was angry at me for writing. How could you be writing when this terrible thing is happening? What are you doing? How could you be back at your *writing*? So I forced myself to stop. I closed my laptop and just stopped writing. And I really couldn’t write again. More than a year went by before I came up with a way to write again.

**G:** Years before you wrote *Toxicon* and *Arachne*, you wrote *Salamandrine: 8 Gothics*, a collection of short stories that insists on “gothic motherhood” — the bloody, scary, spiky motherhood that Western culture often conceals. In an interview, you discussed how capitalism preys on new parenthood, selling products that are then swiftly recalled because they turn out to be damaging, even deadly.

**M:** I wrote *Salamandrine* after having my first child. Sinead is her name, so Salamandrine is a kind of anagram of her name, made a little more ornate and gothic. I was living in Mishawaka, I had just taken this job at Notre Dame, my family wasn’t here, I didn’t know anybody yet, and I wasn’t even working

— that’s a situation that would happen to a gothic heroine. Isolated in a new location: That’s a gothic set-up. And that’s where all the thoughts creep in. But in most Western, affluent cultures, motherhood is supposed to be the opposite of gothic — lifegiving; *I’ve accomplished something, I’m going to care for this child, keep them safe from everything but give them the best possible future*. Of course, all of those things come with a sponsored product. No More Tears baby wash or whatever it may be, sold to you so that you can somehow interpolate your child into these “life goals” that also serve capitalism.

All of that became kind of unhooked and dislodged, because there I was in this place I’d never lived before, all alone with the baby. So when I was writing, I would ask: What if we were unhooked from this product-driven culture of safety? If we were dislodged and adrift in it, how would things look from the other side of the mirror, the other side of the seam? Rather than trying to block out all these fears with some wallpaper, what if we entered each one?

In a way, it’s difficult to think about that now, because 11 or 12 years later, I had my third daughter, Arachne, and I was not able to keep her alive, and I didn’t even know the threats that were coming because the birth defect was undetected. *Salamandrine* opened the ground for a story that only reached its conclusion 11 years later, when suddenly a baby arrived and could not live. That’s a basic human horror: to have a baby and not be able to protect it. And some cultures — such as ours — put up a *lot* of wallpaper between ourselves and the fact of death. Some people are brought right up against that fact by war, migration, or just by accidents of life. Gothic genres unexpectedly give us a way to think and write through the true textures and climates of these horrors, in a way that other kinds of literatures might not.

**G:** You’ve said that *Toxicon*, the first volume of your most recent collection, turned out to be prophetic of the second volume, *Arachne*. It also turned out to be prophetic of our global crisis, because the collection was published on April 7, 2020 — a month after the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic. Both volumes are filled with viruses, contagion, injustice, destruction, fatality. What was it like to see those forces playing out on a global scale as the book entered the world?

**M:** It was shocking for me and for a lot of people who read it. I’ll say two compatible things that may seem incompatible. I started thinking about the world as toxic. When I looked up the etymology of the word *toxic*, I learned it came from the Greek word for “arrow.” So, in the Greek thinking, a toxin is like a poisoned arrow. I wanted my poems to work that way, too. To be very fleet and fatal and cutting. When I was writing *Toxicon*, I tried to create these superintense poems that would fly and then fall. But also, I was just paying attention to the world because I was always looking for language, I was always collecting. So I was just noticing things, the processes and networks that did eventually enable COVID-19 to spread around the world, and the ways we fail each other when it did.

So that’s one way to answer this question. But another way to answer it is to say that I’m very interested in the classical prophecies, how the Greeks and Romans went about it, how it was gendered, how it even sometimes involved toxic chemicals. Like the oracle at Delphi, the young girls who would sit on these tripods over a crack in the earth, and fumes that they believed to be the fumes of a sacred rotting python would rise up, and the girls would become intoxicated, and they would say things — the prophecies. So all of my pet themes are involved in that model of prophecy. In the book, I called these poems the “toxic sonnets.” I thought: What if the sonnet were a technology of prophecy? Just as in ancient Rome they would look at shapes of flocks in the sky or open an animal’s stomach and examine the innards — they had these very specific ways to frame the world, and then they’d look through that frame and see something about the world, about the future. Could a form of poetry also be that? You set up a frame and observe what passes through it. Then you’ve got a model of the world: where it’s been and where it’s going. Maybe the sonnet could be that aperture for prophetic sight and speech. □





*Palmisano (second from right) and her colleagues on the Minneapolis City Council's Public Safety, Civil Rights and Emergency Management Committee listen to a Minneapolis deputy police chief discuss the use of body cameras during a 2017 meeting.*

## Rider on the Storm

When the Twin Cities erupted in racial turbulence, Linea Palmisano '98 steered the chaos toward reason and stability.

BY JOHN ROSENGREN

**Linea Palmisano '98** didn't aspire to politics. Growing up in Chicago's western suburbs, she wanted to be a physician. But her desire to serve — which carried her through premed classes as an undergraduate at Notre Dame — eventually landed her on the Minneapolis city council, where she's served eight years and is now council vice-president.

"It's about service for me, not politics," she says.

Her ideals have persevered, even as the death of George Floyd under the knee of a Minneapolis police officer two years ago made her chosen hometown Ground Zero for the nation's reckoning with racial injustice. Palmisano remained a voice of reason amid the turmoil in the city and on the council itself and won reelection last fall. She emerged with a renewed commitment to serve. "Now it is about, 'How do we remove racism from our society and government?'" she says. "This is an important opportunity, with Minneapolis in the spotlight, to show the capability of its people to change for the better."

High aspirations have driven Palmisano, now 45, throughout her life. When she was 9, her family stopped to walk Notre Dame's

campus on the way home from a summer vacation, and the young Catholic decided the University would be the place for her.

"Everything I did was toward that goal, to go to that school," she says.

In high school, she drew inspiration from her cross-country and track coach, Mary Ellen Mazza '87. "I became the Rudy of our cross-country team," says Palmisano, with a nod to the film that came out her senior year. She laughs. "I was no good."

But she was good enough as an athlete to run competitively for two years at Notre Dame, where she also found service opportunities in organizations like one that delivered leftovers from the dining halls to homeless shelters. And she met new mentors who pushed her to keep stretching herself.

Palmisano volunteered with the University's First Aid Services Team (FAST), a student-run group supervised by the Notre Dame Fire Department that provides first aid as needed at larger campus events. The woman who ran FAST encouraged Palmisano to become an emergency medical technician. She took that advice

*John Rosengren, a resident of Minneapolis' 13th ward, is a freelance writer whose nine books include the novel A Clean Heart (Mango, 2020).*

and eventually led the unit herself. “Padre Don” — the late Father Don McNeill, CSC, ’58 — then the faculty resident in Knott Hall, was another influence. He often asked the young women who attended Sunday night Mass in Knott’s chapel to offer a reflection on the readings. “He believed strongly in women,” she says. “That started me on the feminist track as a female in these male-dominated worlds.”

By senior year, she had seen enough in her work as an EMT to become disillusioned about shortcomings she saw in the American health care system. She couldn’t summon the motivation to spend eight years in medical school, residency and fellowship. Instead, she took a job with IBM Global Services’ data recovery team. After a stint in Cleveland, she was transferred to Minneapolis, where she helped coach runners at Southwest High School.

At Southwest, Palmisano started to meet undocumented students, who seemed to gravitate toward the cross-country and track teams and — in the days before DACA, the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program — became absorbed in their plight. Even as she was working on her graduate business degree in strategy and entrepreneurship at the University of Minnesota, she began helping these students sign up for ACT tests and apply to colleges or trade schools. She fed them and even gave some money toward tuition. Before long, she founded NAVIGATE, a nonprofit, immigrant college-access program. “I was determined to show these kids there was a way for them to make it,” she says.



TERRY GYDESEN

Overwhelmed city officials scrambled to respond on all fronts. Palmisano herself received 25,000 emails that first week as protesters turned her yard into a graveyard of fake headstones bearing the names of alleged victims of police violence.

Soon the demands of a new job at UnitedHealth Group made it difficult to leave early for the 3 p.m. practices, so she gave up coaching. Instead she volunteered to serve on the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, which — among other things — puts on an annual community festival and supports compost collection. Soon, Palmisano was the council’s board chair, leading discussions with residents concerned about traffic and other issues when a chain drug store proposed to move into the neighborhood.

In 2013, when the city’s Ward 13 councilmember, Betsy Hodges, decided to run for mayor, members of Women Winning, a Twin Cities organization committed to breaking down barriers that prevent women from engaging in the political process, asked Palmisano if she’d consider running for the position. She declined. A self-described shy introvert, she couldn’t see herself campaigning, and she had a young son. But when others pressed her to run, Palmisano relented.

She won that first election and discovered that local government fit her ideal of service. “This is where you get to have an impact more readily,” she says. “How do we change the world to be more fair and equitable in our city?”

There were no easy answers to that question during the summer of 2020, in the days following Floyd’s murder. Protesters thronged Minneapolis’ streets. Radicals — many entering the city from elsewhere — incited violence. Vandals looted stores and torched the police department’s third precinct offices. Fire trucks could not reach all of the burning buildings. Rumors circulated about attacks targeting individual homes. Nervous residents followed city-issued directives to hide garden furniture that could be thrown through windows and to hose down their houses to prevent them from being set on fire.

Meanwhile, tens of thousands of calls poured daily into the city’s 311 information number. Hackers shut down municipal computer systems. Overwhelmed city officials scrambled to respond on all fronts. Palmisano herself received 25,000 emails that first week as protesters turned her yard into a graveyard of fake headstones bearing the names of alleged victims of police violence. “It was hell, like being a 911 operator on my cell phone from my house for a week,” she says. “This was 100 times as big as anything I’d been through.”

Amid the chaos and crisis, nine of Minneapolis’ 13 council members pledged to defund the police department. When Mayor Jacob Frey was put on the spot at a rally and said he did not support defunding, the crowd chanted, “Shame!” Throughout, Palmisano retained her calm, calling for reform guided by deliberate analysis and considerate discourse. The debate continues today, reignited in February when Minneapolis police, acting on a no-knock warrant, shot and killed Amir Locke, a 22-year-old Black man.

Last November, the city seemed to follow the course she’d charted. Minneapolis residents elected seven new councilmembers, favoring more diverse candidates and trending away from the defund-the-police agenda with an emphasis on other measures to improve public safety. They also turned down a ballot referendum to replace the police department with a Department of Public Safety and passed a measure to streamline city government, centralizing authority in the mayor. The latter law enables the city to operate more efficiently.

In the meantime, Palmisano had helped the council prepare itself for the trial of former police officer Derek Chauvin, accused of Floyd’s killing, in spring 2021. Anticipating a possible backlash to the verdict, the council forged closer partnerships with community organizations. “We developed a much better method of two-way communication, to distribute information but also have those groups reach out to us,” she says. When the jury found Chauvin guilty on all three counts of murder, the fear of new riots defused. Nevertheless, Palmisano says, “We were more ready.”

Palmisano retains strong Notre Dame ties, from her relationships with friends to the photo of the Golden Dome on her phone’s home screen. She still runs in the evenings with a group of mothers from her neighborhood. Charlie, the toddler for whose sake she nearly didn’t run for office, is now 11, and Palmisano and her husband, Matthew Hitchin, now have a second son, Oliver, 5. She wants to model for her sons the public service she believes in so deeply. Sometimes she takes them along to council meetings, she says. “Despite the fact I’m an extremely busy mom, I want them to be able to see I’m invested in our community and doing something right.” □



# Under the Long Haul

Dances with her young daughter — and other acts of normalcy — have been curtailed by the lingering effects of COVID-19.

BY ABBY JORGENSEN '16, '18M.A.

## Even in utero, my daughter danced.

When she started kicking, it was in rhythm to music. Maren Morris' voice was her favorite — or her least favorite, who knows? She kicked a lot in response. But the lyrics were comforting to me, as were my daughter's kicks, so we danced together. "Everything's gonna be OK. . . . Everyone's gonna be OK, baby girl."

She was born to music. When we got to the hospital for delivery, a few months after a mysterious pandemic began sweeping the nation, I learned that my husband had thoughtfully purchased a Spotify subscription for the event — so Baby Girl and I wouldn't have to listen to ads while we labored. Sometimes, between contractions, she kicked a lot. What uncertainty! She must have had no idea what was happening to her. I tried to soothe her by dancing. When the first song my husband and I had danced to at our wedding came on, we danced together with her: "Love was made for me and you."

For several months after she was born, as I held her close, we swayed and bounced together to music. We were lonely at home and couldn't go out because of the pandemic, so dancing became our main form of exercise. It brought us joy every day. She quickly learned to associate "We Are the Dinosaurs" with my original, two-part choreography, and we laughed as we moved around the room.

Then, in November 2020, my family got COVID-19.

My husband, a journalist, was covering an election night party. Organizers said everyone would wear masks. Only a dozen people (including him) did. Organizers said there would be social distancing. But photos the next day told a different story — attendees dancing maskless and close together without following the rules set forth (and apparently abandoned) by the organizers. After that night, our family and others got the disease.

I wasn't particularly worried about my husband or me; we were both in our 20s and healthy. Having an active COVID infection wasn't fun. (It was the sickest I've ever been, but that wasn't saying much.) Our biggest concern was the health of our five-month-old daughter. As it turned out, her main symptom was fatigue, which meant she slept through most of our illness. Given how my husband and I felt, this was a gift. She recovered quickly, as did my husband.

By January 2021, though, I still wasn't better; in fact, I was worse. Exhaustion beyond what I'd felt during the early postpartum weeks enveloped me. Brain fog ate away at my verbal and writing skills and my ability to navigate, even within our house. Something would occasionally force my heart to speed up and pound as though it were trying to escape my body. With even the slightest exertion, I would vomit. Dancing with my daughter, holding her close, was impossible. Just singing along to our favorite songs was enough for me to need the steroids my doctor prescribed.

When my daughter turned seven months old, my complicated moves to "Chipmunk at the Gas Pump" were no longer feasible. The

neuropsychological symptoms of my illness worsened; at one point, I couldn't remember how to get from my bedroom to hers. My muscles ached when I moved her arms and legs along to songs, unable to hold her and sway to the beat, and I processed my new, official diagnosis of "long COVID."

I went to the emergency room multiple times for what seemed to be heart attacks. Each time, before I left the house, I held my daughter for a few moments, nursing her to sleep or rocking her to a song, hoping I'd return soon to hold her again. I once refused an ambulance against medical advice because I was terrified of what the bill would look like — for us if I survived and for my husband if I didn't. The nurse who answered the University's after-hours line recorded my refusal over the phone, asking me to repeat that I wouldn't hold the University liable in the event of severe injury or death resulting from my choice. But what I remember most from that night was that when we needed someone to babysit so my husband could drive me to the hospital, a list of names jumped immediately to mind. How lucky we are, not to be alone.

New symptoms kept coming. I couldn't eat anything unless it was covered in barbecue sauce — otherwise it would taste like rotten meat. I lost 20 pounds without meaning to, and my body looked as strange to me as it felt. I started trying the suggestions made by other COVID long-haulers on the internet and approved by my doctor. First it was singing, then meditating; I tried to build up stamina, then to rest as much as possible; I cut out tomatoes, then tried eating more of them. COVID has become my unchosen dance partner, which means twirling all the way out to one side, then all the way out to the other, just hoping something works.

'I went to the emergency room multiple times for what seemed to be heart attacks. Each time, before I left the house, I held my daughter for a few moments, nursing her to sleep or rocking her to a song, hoping I'd return soon to hold her again.'

*Abby Jorgensen is a doctoral candidate in sociology and a Notebaert fellow at the University of Notre Dame.*



BARBARA JOHNSTON

In April 2021, when my daughter was 10 months old, she started dancing when she was happy, not just when she heard music. Hoping to join her, I retried a medicine I had abandoned because it had left me shaking uncontrollably. It was the one thing that gave me the energy to dance, but the attempt would leave me miserable. My shaking made my steps jerky and rough, and my body did things I didn't want it to do. I experienced it all as a drifting, embodied soul who couldn't even hold her child for fear of dropping her. I shook whether I danced or not, watching but also sensing something confusing and scary happen to me.

I wore a heart monitor for two weeks. I had to wear a sweatshirt so my daughter wouldn't touch the equipment. The monitor showed nothing. My doctor submitted my case to a long COVID clinic. I got in. We waited. Then the delta variant hit with full force, and I skipped a trip I had planned to introduce my in-laws to our daughter. We waited for that, too, but not peacefully. Dancing with COVID as an uninvited partner is a constant tumult and a constant waiting, an endless spinning and dipping that never resolves. The song never ends. It's just breathlessness; no break.

When my daughter turned 15 months old, I began massage therapy in hopes that the constant muscle pain would subside. After my first appointment, I walked into our house, picked her up and . . . smelled her hair. I hadn't been able to smell since my active infection; 10 months of being unable to smell that new baby smell, or even to know when a diaper change was necessary. I tried then to make up for the time I'd lost. Every day for weeks after that massage, and most days ever since, I've held my daughter and rocked her, smelling her hair in deep wafts, reveling in this gift I'd received, this small reprieve from the COVID dance.

My daughter turned 17 months old as I passed my first COVID anniversary. I cried daily, mourning the year I had missed. Such a large portion of my life, but a much larger portion of my daughter's. So much time I hadn't spent being the type of mother I thought I could be. Instead I'd bounce her on my knee to Disney songs until I'd throw up, pushing myself to exhaustion so she might have at least one happy memory of dancing with her Mama.

Finally, in the winter of 2021-22, one of the many medical tests I'd taken showed a result that indicated what might be wrong with me. The test was a stress echocardiogram, where you run on a treadmill and technicians take an ultrasound of your heart. You're supposed to jog for about 20 minutes. I threw up so much that they called the test after seven minutes. The diagnosis: dysautonomia. Basically, something tells my heart to beat fast when it shouldn't. The problem was, I'd already been following the treatment plan for over six months: Drink more water. Stand up slowly. Avoid exerting yourself to the point of vomiting.

Meaning, don't dance.

'Sometimes, I sit and watch as my husband takes my place, twirling our daughter and jumping with her in exhilaration. I sit and watch, and if the pangs of envy are strong, I observe them trying to overwhelm me and cheer my family on.'

As I learned to accept my new life and my new body for the foreseeable future, I also realized that I needed to find some way to move about the world that didn't cause me to vomit. I started using a wheelchair to go farther than a block. That became a little light of hope. On campus, I could go from the library to Duncan Student Center without incident. My family and I took walks again. And with the extra energy, I could actually dance.

I started dancing while sitting down or lying on the floor. Where once I had swayed with my whole body, I now articulated movement with my arms. My daughter quickly caught on to this new style and now combines it with everything from deep squats to wild running, a strangely beautiful combination of the things we used to do together and the things I now do instead. Sometimes, I sit and watch as my husband takes my place, twirling our daughter and jumping with her in exhilaration. I sit and watch, and if the pangs of envy are strong, I observe them trying to overwhelm me and cheer my family on.

My daughter just turned 2. We're teaching her how to wear a mask to protect her from the same pandemic into which she was born. We're still waiting for my appointment at the long COVID clinic, which was pushed back eight more months. We try new medicines and new strategies. Sometimes we play with fire: a medicine that might help my brain might also raise my heart rate. We try it anyway — maybe just for the sake of trying, or maybe because we figure that if one thing gets a little better, it might all feel a little easier. When I have heart-attack symptoms — the shooting pain in the left arm, the crushing elephant sitting on my chest, the nausea, the feeling I'm about to pass out, the heartbeat ringing in my ears and pounding in my neck — we don't go to the ER. It's just an expensive way to have someone tell you they don't know what's wrong with you.

We stay home whenever possible. We protect ourselves, because others choose not to. We rejoice every time someone gets vaccinated or boosted. We remind ourselves to accept help. We celebrate the gifts we have been given. We dance to "Wheels on the Bus" and "Donald Duck," and our daughter performs her original choreography to "Baby Shark" what feels like hundreds of times a night. She calls to our dogs, "Bubba! Millie! Watch!" as she lifts her stuffed animals and dolls in the air, just as I want to do with her. When we adults need something different, we all dance to Pitbull (but change the lyrics to make them more appropriate for toddler ears: "Fireball" becomes "Diaper Change.")

We plan for multiple confusing and conflicting futures. In a miraculous future, I get better. Having completed my doctorate in sociology, I enter academia as a research-oriented professor, I write at least three books, I hike the Camino, and I dance with my daughter whenever we want. In a less miraculous future, I remain in the world of long COVID, and those dreams are far less realistic. I wonder what I will be able to do. I wonder how much shorter my life will be. I wonder what kind of mother I can be with the heartbeats I have left.

This disease has impacted every aspect of my life and every experience of motherhood. Not a day goes by when I don't fondly remember when I could dance with her the conventional way and mourn that loss. On good days, I am proud of the adaptations we've made to enable me to dance. COVID has not made this little daily practice impossible; it has just made it difficult.

I'm uncomfortable ending this way, with a lot of uncertainty and not much hope. But that's long COVID. □

## Writing Her Own Script

As a filmmaker in L.A., Charlie Buhler '10 pursues the kind of projects she wishes Hollywood would take on.

BY MADELINE BUCKLEY '11

**A couple sits** in a car stalled on a jammed highway in Los Angeles. The radio is on, and a newscaster announces: "The curfew will go into effect at approximately 10 p.m." With a helicopter whirring overhead and a siren in the distance, the couple listens as the announcer relays government plans to respond to an influenza pandemic.

With a few details changed, this tableau could have played out in any American city in 2020. But the scene from the independent thriller *Before the Fire* was conceived long before COVID-19 upended the world.



Directed by Charlie Buhler '10, the prescient film was released in March 2020 — just as the United States was going into lockdown.

"It was really bizarre to see the ways in which truth is stranger than fiction," says Buhler, who collaborated on the film with Jenna Lyng Adams, a friend who wrote the screenplay and played the lead role. "We never could have predicted how it would feel to have the whole world in lockdown."

A filmmaker living in Los Angeles, Buhler, 34, pursues the kind of projects she wishes Hollywood would take on more often: stories about people and communities that break outworn molds. She draws upon her background growing up biracial in a mostly white part of rural South Dakota, where she rarely

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felt she saw her experiences reflected on movie screens.

She has found success in a white- and male-dominated industry that is notoriously difficult to break into. The secret? Make your own movie, she says.

That's how *Before the Fire* came to be. Buhler and Adams didn't want to wait for someone to greenlight an idea and give them resources to make it into a film. "As a woman and person of color, I knew that I was never going to get the opportunities that I wanted, in terms of being able to direct, unless I made them myself," Buhler says.

She tapped her networks to fund the project with small investments and donations, then worked with Adams to create a script that would use the resources they had at hand. Buhler's grandfather owned a farm in South Dakota, where they chose to set most of the movie. The farm even had a structure her grandfather planned to demolish by burning it down — a ready-made set piece for the titular fire.

Buhler wanted to shoot a film with a post-apocalyptic feel. And the main character would flee L.A. for South Dakota. "What would cause the whole world to come to a standstill but also be invisible, i.e. cheap?" Buhler recalls asking. "What would be safer in South Dakota than Los Angeles?"

They settled on a virus.

During the early days of the coronavirus, Buhler had the eerie feeling of watching Americans follow many of the same beats that occur at the beginning of her film. But the virus also created an appetite for pandemic-related content, and a distributor acquired the movie. The result is now streaming on Showtime and other premier services, an achievement that's helped Buhler get an agent and gain access to resources and people she needs to keep moving forward.

"As long as you put one foot in front of the other and keep making things . . . eventually you find a way to the other side," she says.

The long hustle was not a career path Buhler always envisioned. She entered Notre Dame as a pre-med student. Her medical aspirations lasted one day, she says with a chuckle: She knew she could do the work but didn't love her chemistry class. Meanwhile, a film course she took to fulfill a fine arts requirement captured her heart.

From there, Buhler's is a classic story: She moved to L.A. after graduation, did



PHOTOS COURTESY CHARLIE BUHLER '10

some commercial acting and worked in a Hollywood bar. At times she felt unmoored, wondering whether she was putting her degree to its best use. But, as she puts it, there is "no un-useful job."

"I learned so much about the world and have the best stories from the time I worked at that bar," she says.

With the momentum of her feature behind her, Buhler recently completed *Rosebud*, a documentary that follows hip-hop artists on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota. She heard about the musicians through a stray comment from her father, who is a doctor on the reservation. Hooked, she found several musicians on Instagram and listened to their work on Spotify. She messaged a young artist to see if she could spend some time with him.

The director wants to depict a South Dakota that "defies preconceived notions" about life and communities there, she says. "I think youth culture on reservations is so overlooked."

Looking ahead, she hopes to break some barriers to make it easier for women and people of color to come into the film industry. She tells students to find ways to make their own content and take advantage of resources they have in school.

"The work is hard enough, but when you have to do the work swimming upstream against friction that has nothing to do with the work, that becomes a problem," she said. "If I can pave a path that removes some of that friction, that will be successful for me." □

# Callings Unanswered

Fifty years ago, Pope Paul VI asked whether women could be deacons. With the acute need for such servant leaders in the Church, the faithful still question, why not?

BY ANNA KEATING '06

When I was a lay Catholic chaplain at a secular liberal arts college, an atheist student came to me. She'd had a supernatural experience and had come to believe in God. She began attending Mass and taking classes in the Church's initiation program, and she eventually asked to be baptized and received into the Church. Hers was one of many conversions during my time on campus.

I made an appointment with my bishop to tell him about these students. He didn't smile or nod during my visit. He just stared at me in silence as I spoke. I asked if he would meet with them. He said he was too busy. I asked if he would baptize them — adult converts in the Catholic Church must be baptized by a bishop. "I'm very busy," he repeated, as he opened the door of his office and gestured for me to leave. I would have to find a retired bishop in his late 90s to baptize and confirm my catechumens.

*Anna Keating is the co-author of The Catholic Catalogue: A Field Guide to the Daily Acts That Make Up a Catholic Life (Penguin Random House). She co-owns and lives above Keating Woodworks, a handmade furniture studio. Her essays appear in The Hedgehog Review, Church Life Journal, America, Salon, First Things, U.S. Catholic and elsewhere.*

*This sixth-century pyx (left), used to carry consecrated hosts, depicts women incensing the altar at Christ's tomb in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem. Courtesy Metropolitan Museum of Art.*



Working in the Church as a woman, even in 2022, is a great way to lose your faith. I began to fall out of love with Catholicism. I began to see corners of the Catholic world so misogynistic that their denizens would rather people not hear about Jesus at all than hear about him from a laywoman like me.

The question of ordaining women as deacons in the Church, or rather of restoring the ordination of women as deacons, has been “under study” since before I was born. At the height of the Second Vatican Council, Pope Paul VI restored the permanent diaconate for men. It had fallen out of favor in the Middle Ages, when the Church had a greater need for priests who could celebrate Mass.

Vatican II decreed that, because men were already doing diaconal work — virtually everything priests do save celebrating the Mass and hearing confessions — it made sense to strengthen them by sacramental grace. Catholics believe that a sacrament, in this case holy orders, is a visible sign of God’s presence. The laying on of hands by a bishop at ordination imparts this grace, a real and new way of being in the world.

In restoring the permanent diaconate, Paul VI asked whether women also could be made deacons. More than 50 years later, his question still awaits an answer. Will Francis be remembered as the pope who let Catholic women preach and serve sacramentally in the Church? Or will women’s silence in the sanctuary continue? Because as things stand, from the Church’s point of view, there are no women in official ministry.

Governance is another important matter. During the sex abuse crisis, Catholic women have been notably absent from the rooms where decisions are being made: In 2006, Pope Benedict XVI pointed out that canon law reserves to clergy the power to make *legally binding* decisions within the Church. However, he added, “I believe that women themselves, with their energy and strength, with their superiority . . . with their ‘spiritual power,’ will know how to make their own space. And we will have to try to listen to God so as not to oppose him.”

### What’s a permanent deacon?

The word “deacon” means servant. The Apostles created the diaconate in response to a need: Deacons cared for widows who were being neglected in the distribution of food. Today, deacons can preach at Mass

or prayer services, perform weddings, baptisms and funerals, and care for the poor. The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University reported some 18,000 permanent deacons — and 35,000 priests — in the United States in 2020. Not all of these permanent deacons are active, but they are all men, and most are married.

Because men studying for the priesthood are first ordained as “transitional” deacons, permanent deacons are often confused with priests, but they are not the same. A permanent deacon is, by definition, a deacon for life. Deacons cannot forgive sins or consecrate the Eucharist, but they are clergy. They go through several years of formation in theology and pastoral ministry, make promises to live in a certain way and are obedient to their local bishop.

Permanent deacons share the workload of priests and parish staff and provide much needed continuity in parishes. Priests are typically moved from their parishes every three to six years, but these deacons often stay until they retire or die. It is servant work. And unless they’re otherwise employed by the Church, they’re often not paid for their time — typically about 10 to 20 hours a week.

Their wives often stand in a peculiar position in relation to both their husbands’ recognized vocations and their own callings. In most formation programs, as one explained to me, wives are required to go through several years of training alongside their spouses “so that we could support our husbands in *their* ministry.”

“Our wives took every course with us, did every assignment, took every exam,” says Deacon Manuel Valencia. “At ordination our wives [were] given a piece of paper indicating that they had received a number of academic credits. At that moment, I realized an injustice had been permitted to be done to them because they were not allowed to become deacons. It was my Damascus moment. The scales fell from my eyes.”

The tension is not felt the same way by everyone. Kim Nguyen, a deacon’s wife who does not feel called to ordination, says, “It’s a blessing in so many ways. I am an art therapist, so I have my own form of ministry.” But the supportive role deacons’ wives must play is more challenging for women who feel called to the diaconate.

The official teaching of the Roman Catholic Church is that men and women, though biologically distinct, are nonetheless equal.

The unofficial teaching is that men are called to headship and women to service. Official practice reflects this unofficial teaching, which explains why even a nun — a celibate monastic — with advanced degrees in theology may not preach at Mass.

As a college chaplain, I hosted a weekly community supper at my house. One evening, a student asked the priest eating with us why women could not be ordained. He explained to her that this was so because the male is active and the female is passive. He was referring to sex. Feeling the awkwardness in the room, I tried lamely to smooth things over. “Well, in that case,” I said, “everyone plays an important part.”

### Pope Francis makes waves

Will women ever be made deacons in the Catholic Church? Or is the diaconate for women, like the priesthood, a question simply off the table? Pope Francis has reopened this conversation in a serious way. In 2016, at the request of religious sisters, he created a commission to study the history of women in the diaconate. He named 12 scholars as members, six men and six women. The pope later said in an interview that the commission “found agreement up to a certain point. But each one of them has their own vision, which doesn’t accord with that of the others.”

In the two years leading up to the Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazon region in 2019, more than 87,000 people participated in listening sessions and assemblies, and the issue of women’s leadership kept coming up. Many women in remote Amazonian communities have already been delegated by their local bishops to lead communion services in the absence of a priest, even in some cases performing baptisms, weddings or burials.

In Bolivia, Sister Círia Mees has presided at almost 700 licit and valid baptisms, having received the authority from her bishop. She says, “I prepared myself to officiate the sacrament with immense responsibility.” A Sister of Divine Providence, she travels by boat to serve 300 indigenous and rural communities, some as far as 375 miles away by river. She knows the local languages. “This ministry demands a lot of effort, study, listening, silence, and total dedication and trust in God,” she says.

In 2020, in response to the Amazon Synod’s request to share such experiences and reflections, Francis established a second commission on female deacons. The



world's 1.3 billion Catholics await a final decision from the Holy Father that could have far-ranging implications. Ordaining more deacons would mean that more Catholics around the globe would have access to the sacraments. Catholicism is a sacramental religion, and there are simply not enough clergy to meet the need. How many people died of COVID-19 without receiving the anointing of the sick?

Still, more than 2,000 years of teaching that a woman's nature is essentially fixed and subordinate does not evaporate simply because Vatican II instructed laywomen to take a more active role in the Church. I have to admit that it would shock me to see a woman wearing vestments and assisting at the altar after a lifetime of *not* seeing that, just as it was once shocking for me to see a female lector or altar server.

Meanwhile, women are often blamed for problems in the Church, including the lack of vocations to the priesthood. Cardinal Raymond Burke, an American prelate, has argued that having so many women active in parish ministry has "feminized" churches and driven men away. "Apart from the priest, the sanctuary has become full of women," he said in a 2015 interview. "The activities in the parish and even the liturgy have been influenced by women and become so feminine in many places that men do not want to get involved."

Blaming women is an old trope. In *The Laywoman Project: Remaking Catholic Womanhood in the Vatican II Era*, historian Mary J. Henold writes that between 1948 and 1958, Catholic schools in the U.S. saw an 89 percent increase in pupils but only a 20 percent increase in the unpaid Catholic nuns who taught them. At the time, Catholic media typically blamed mothers for selfishly resisting their daughters' vocations to religious life.

But if Catholics believe in the power of the sacraments, then we should worry about how many baptized Catholics die every year without an opportunity to make a confession or receive communion due to the shortage of priests. Many living on society's margins lack access to baptism and the Eucharist, a situation that should trouble us more than the image of a woman helping a man — an image that, after all, was put forth as an ideal in the early Church and, today, in the family.

Catholics pray for vocations. But what if the answer to their prayers is sitting in the first pew? She is the one taking the Eucharist



The seventh-century altar apse mosaic of the Lateran Baptistery in Rome shows Mary wearing a bishop's pallium and flanked by Peter and Paul. The archaeologist Giovanni Battista de Rossi painted this detail of the mosaic in 1890.

to the sick and homebound, the one already doing diaconal work — only without the sacramental grace or the consecration of her calling through ordination.

"There is a glove somewhere that has been thrown down," Pope Francis has said. "The women have put up a sign and said, 'Please listen to us. May we be heard.' And I pick up the gauntlet." This pledge to listen to the wide range of women's experiences in the Catholic Church is rare.

#### Why the opposition?

Opponents to women in the diaconate say they don't want women in the priesthood, which the Church has said is impossible. They say they don't want to "change" the Church. Part of the comfort of being a Catholic is how the Church preserves an ancient way of life in an ever-changing world. It's reassuring.

For Catholics, the two sources of authority are Scripture and Tradition. Female deacons *are* an ancient tradition. There's no question women cooperated and helped in Jesus' ministry. St. Phoebe, St. Prisca, Euodia, St. Mary and many others played important roles in the early Church. Indeed, Phoebe is the only person explicitly named as a *diakonos* in the Bible.

In *Romans* 16:1-2, St. Paul sends Phoebe to preach a message in Rome that for some reason he cannot deliver himself: "I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae." The New Testament scholar Adela Yarbro Collins of Yale says, "Phoebe not only carried the letter but must have been articulate and theologically knowledgeable, because those who brought letters had to be able to answer questions from those who received them and to elaborate and explain Paul's teachings

and practical instructions.”

So, while the Apostle found it necessary and appropriate to send a woman to preach the good news in the first century, the priests I worked with as a chaplain in the 21st century typically preferred another passage from his epistles, namely that “it is improper for a woman to speak in church.” But Pope Benedict has affirmed that this passage of Scripture “had to be considered relative” or put into context: In the early Church, men and women were separated at Mass, and the service was preached in a language that the women, who were not allowed to attend school, often did not understand. Thus Paul, in the *First Letter to the Corinthians*, chastises them for talking amongst themselves during the liturgy.

Both the councils of Nicaea in 325 and Chalcedon in 451 mention the ordination of women to the diaconate. Chalcedon states, “No woman under 40 years of age is to be ordained a deacon,” suggesting that older female deacons were permitted. As late as the 11th century, the right of the diocesan ordinary to ordain women as deacons was confirmed by three consecutive popes. Pope Benedict VIII wrote in 1017, “We concede and confirm to your successors in perpetuity every episcopal ordination not only of presbyters but also of deacons or deaconesses.”

Some opponents argue that the responsibilities of deaconesses in the early Church were not identical to those of permanent deacons today. This is true. Catechumens in the early Church were baptized nude, so modesty required women to assist other women, and men to assist other men, at the baptismal font. Of course, the responsibilities of male deacons have also changed since the early Church: Living traditions involve change as well as continuity.

Something about a woman in a position of authority still discomfits some Catholics today. Not long ago, many white Catholics in the U.S. were uncomfortable with the idea of Black priests. They had absorbed the world’s categories (black, white) and wanted to impose them upon the Church, where they had no place. Women were only in 2021 allowed to be formally installed as lectors and acolytes, even though in practice women were already serving as lectors and acolytes all over the world. And yet that tension regarding the testimony of women goes back to the first days of the Church. Had St. Mary Magdalene not preached Christ’s resurrection to the Apostles in hiding, there

would be no Church. Imagine an alternate ending to the Passion narrative in which the Apostle to the Apostles, having witnessed the resurrected Christ, says, “Who am I, a woman, to preach the resurrection to the (all male) Apostles? I’ll go live a hidden life of love.”

The fear of women in male spaces is ancient and new. In the story of Martha and Mary in Luke’s Gospel, Martha wants Jesus to rebuke Mary for sitting at Jesus’ feet in the male part of the home instead of helping her in the kitchen. Only men were permitted to study under a rabbi, that is, to become rabbis themselves, but in a surprise twist Jesus instead corrects Martha, saying, “Mary has chosen what is better and it will not be taken away from her.” Father Greg Boyle, S.J., writes in his new book, *The Whole Language*, “What was ultimately treasonous about Jesus was his inclusivity. He ignored boundaries.”

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#### The cloud of suspicion

Many Catholic women feel called to serve Jesus and the Church and do so even if they’re not ordained or recognized. More than 24,000 Catholic women currently work in the American Church, making up more than 80 percent of all lay ministers in the U.S.

And yet, because they are women, they are often held in suspicion, regardless of their orthodoxy. Too many clergy treat them not as faithful collaborators but as clandestine operators with a nefarious agenda. *They want power. They want to get in and change things. They want to feminize the men.* And assuming Paul’s apparent teaching that it’s an abomination for women to speak in church, where does one draw the line? Down in the church basement? Or perhaps that Scripture class, too, should be canceled, because it’s taught by a woman instead of a priest.

I experienced this cloud of suspicion and hostility as I prepared my catechumens to receive the sacraments of initiation. A priest who had never met me circulated a letter to every priest in the diocese in which he argued that it was inappropriate for me, a laywoman, to be teaching in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults program; that RCIA should only be taught by an ordained person. It was a strange argument, because laypeople teach RCIA classes every day. The message I received was, “We don’t need your service.” And when I suggested once that female deacons might help the Church, one priest told me, “We’ve gotten this far without you.”

But that, too, is incorrect. Without women, Catholic schools, hospitals, charities, churches and homes — where future Catholics are formed — would cease to exist. Might not some of these women be called to be deacons?

#### Who is called?

Organizations like Discerning Deacons, led by Casey Stanton and Ellie Hidalgo, are asking such questions about need and vocation. They are taking up Pope Francis’ vision for a more participatory Church in which the faithful are consulted on matters of importance.

Jessica Morel is a 43-year-old Army reservist and Mexican American mother of four who feels called to be a chaplain but discovered that Catholic women are not permitted to serve in this way. “I experienced a calling [to the diaconate] about six or seven years ago,” she says. “I volunteered for organizations that served veterans who had experienced trauma, [and] I began to wonder how I could be more involved in a spiritual capacity to help people who have encountered moral injury, sexual trauma, all of the pain and sorrow that a lot of people experience while serving in the military.”



Morel has been a catechist, a Eucharistic minister and a lector and has completed a two-year program in parish leadership. “When I called the Army recruiter, he asked what denomination I was, and I said, ‘I’m Catholic.’ He said, ‘Oh, I’m sorry we don’t help women in this department.’ That was my first awareness that you can’t be a Catholic woman in ministry in the military. There’s no path for me.”

She notes how vital spiritual needs of female soldiers often cannot be met by men. “I’ve heard over and over from women who say, ‘I did not reach out for spiritual support because I had been violated by a man, and so I could not talk to a man about my trauma.’”

Her pastor offered no empathy. “He wouldn’t even sign my paperwork for the military saying that I’m an active parishioner,” Morel says. “He was telling me that I’m setting myself up for excommunication. Now I just sit in the back at Mass and try to be invisible.”

She cries as she speaks. “I wish people could understand the sorrow that women have. If we didn’t love [the faith] we would just leave, we would go and find another religion. Just become Anglican, just become nondenominational. That’s what people say. I’m Mexican. That’s like saying to me just become another ethnicity. I cannot even process that. I am a Catholic. If people could understand the sorrow of wanting to preach about the love of Christ but not being allowed to — the sorrow is so intense.”

It can be hard to hear God’s voice amid the power struggles that threaten the unity within the Church. People fear that saying “yes” to female deacons means they must check other so-called progressive boxes, when that is not the case. To be religious is to not fit neatly within contemporary American political categories. To be faithful requires believers to assess each issue in light of their traditions and sacred texts.

What’s at stake is enormous. As Jesus said in Matthew’s Gospel, the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. I can think of some women Jesus might send. I bet you can, too. □



## Much More than Baby Talk

Notre Dame alumnae have established a virtual village to share life’s intimate details and allay the isolation and anxieties of motherhood — and other worriments.

BY ADRIANA PRATT '12

**A** cry comes from the room next door. The soft whimper turns into a roar. It’s 4:03 a.m. Not again!

The whining won’t stop and the despair creeps in. My daughter is hungry. Only one thing will make this end. I’ve got to get out of bed.

As we start the late-night feed we both should’ve outgrown by now, I remember what day it is and feel less alone. I open Instagram and go to the account that’s become a lifeline of sorts for new mothers.

Forget *Bridgerton* or *The Bachelor*. This must-see show is better than *Schitt’s Creek*. It’s New and Gold’s “Tuesday Takeover,” and it happens every week.

Each Tuesday, a Notre Dame or Saint Mary’s alumna pulls back the curtain on her life, posting photos and videos that take followers through her day — the good, the bad and the all-too-relatable moments of frustration. But also, the successes. And every step of the way, the New and Gold community is there to cheer her on.

Doctors, lawyers, businesswomen, stay-at-home moms and others weigh in from all over the country. No topic is off limits. Breastfeeding battles? Marital challenges? Overwhelmed by work? Don’t even get me started on sleep schedules. . . .

New and Gold was created by moms for moms in February 2020, just as the pandemic was about to overwhelm and isolate so many

*Adriana Pratt is a senior broadcast producer at Good Morning America.*

ILLUSTRATION BY JULIETTE BORDA



of us. Co-founders Jane McGraw Adler '13 and Rachel Guerrera Creighton '10 launched it to stay in touch with a dozen other women. Now, more than a thousand belong. They say the timing was providential.

"I think that was just kind of God's work," Adler says. "Having this during the pandemic was so huge for us and, as we found out, so many other people."

The group started as a private Facebook account — a "safe space" where mothers or soon-to-be mothers could ask each other questions and get advice. Hundreds of posts now fill the page touting the best baby products, the most comfortable mom jeans, even job opportunities.

The group gets into heavier topics, too.

"We've had moms who've shared about their postpartum anxiety and postpartum depression, and the next thing you know, they're messaging, they've now connected and they're supporting each other outside of this group," Creighton says.

Women come to New and Gold's Facebook page with a shared passion for God, country, Notre Dame — and keeping things real, as the account bio says.

Over the past two years, it's snowballed in popularity. To keep the momentum and connection going, Adler and Creighton added the Instagram account and a monthly newsletter.

In August 2020, that newsletter tackled an issue many women face with feelings of despair, hope, angst and joy: fertility.

As they wrote in their letter from the editors, "There's this unfortunate stigma associated with it, like there is some sense of worth associated with your ability to reproduce. . . . A mom is a mom no matter what way they become one."

The issue included stories from alums who have faced miscarriages. Some who made the tough choice to start and stick with in vitro fertilization. A mother whose journey involved an egg donor. And some who have been blessed with adoption.

The essays got a resounding response.

"That's when we thought, 'OK, this is bigger than we thought it was going to be,'" Adler says.

In April, they launched a website, [newandgold.com](http://newandgold.com), where they hope to inspire, encourage and support mothers with posts about faith and family — even finances. It offers moms the opportunity to connect and gives them a second chance to form friendships with women they may

have seen around campus but have never properly met.

There's no competition, just camaraderie. It's the sisterhood of motherhood.

Maggie Cure, a stay-at-home mother of five, says the community reminded her how lucky she is that she stepped onto the Saint Mary's College campus 14 years ago and is now surrounded by women who are cheering each other on for life.

She did a "Tuesday Takeover" in February showing how she and her husband, Dexter '10, '11 M.S., raise and homeschool five beautiful children.

Moore was honest about the struggle of balancing such heavy emotions with trying to raise a young son, and she got an invaluable gift in return.

"I was interested to see what feedback we'd receive as a homeschool family, since it's not the most common school route to take. However, I was blown away by the amount of sweet responses," Cure wrote in an email.

"It was no surprise that everyone was supportive, but it was a surprise how many moms felt they had been called to homeschool but didn't feel 'good enough,' or had bought into the fear society had sold them on everything their kids would 'miss out on' if their education didn't take place inside of a building. All they needed was one mom to say, 'Hey. I was scared, too, but I took the leap and could have never imagined the graces that came from it.'"

Cure, who was a second grade teacher before she decided to stay home with her children, has become a homeschooling influencer of sorts. Her Instagram account, [CountingCures](https://www.instagram.com/CountingCures), has nearly 55,000 followers.

"Tuesday Takeovers" don't just benefit the people watching from the wings. The mom sharing her life also receives a benefit.

Rachel Pollard Moore '12 knows that well. She did a Takeover of New and Gold's Instagram account in February — seven

weeks before her mother, Laurie, passed away from brain cancer.

She almost backed out of doing it but now is grateful she did it.

"I received so many messages from people that were either going through something similar and were having challenges with how to handle it . . . and then also people that were through it," she says.

"What I heard back from people was so kind and loving, and in the midst of that, we have to be lifted up," she says. "You tend to try to do it alone. . . . I think it's our nature to just figure it out. But we can lean on others."

Moore's Takeover was emotional and raw. She talked about something many of us fear: dealing with impending loss. She was honest about the struggle of balancing such heavy emotions with trying to raise a young son, and she got an invaluable gift in return. One of her biggest fears, she says, was that her 1-year-old son, Christian, wouldn't remember how wonderful his grandmother was after she died.

One follower gave her the idea to record her mother's voice on a device that could be sewn inside a stuffed animal so her son could have it with him the rest of his life.

Moore went to the mall with her mother that weekend. "It was such a 'God moment,'" she says. "The weekend before my mom went in for her scan where they found a tumor, we went to Build-A-Bear. . . . So my mom, despite her brain not totally being there, was able to get a message across.

"Christian still calls it the 'Mimi' bear. It was such a beautiful gift that this person gave me."

While Moore admittedly hates social media, she says New and Gold is different. "There's something empowering about this group in particular," she says. "It's a connected group of people that actually care. And I think there's a power then behind social that we normally don't see."

While members are happy to jump in and offer solutions the moment problems arise, New and Gold offers something more important: solidarity. Sometimes we need to remember we don't have to go at this thing called motherhood alone. It's OK to lean on others. And who better to lean on than the Notre Dame community?

One final pro-tip from the New and Gold moms: If your baby won't calm down in the car, play Imogen Heap's "The Happy Song."

It hasn't failed this mom yet. □

# Undeterred

Meet five women  
who answered tragedy  
with tenacity.

BY ABIGAIL PESTA '91

**“The anger in me** is what is my driving force.”

This is how Sunitha Krishnan has described the root of her life’s work, helping survivors of sex trafficking and their children change their fate.

In my many years of journalism covering women who strive to change the world, I’ve been interested in what motivates them to make a difference. Whether it’s anger, pain or something else, I’ve found a common thread: When these women experience or witness a great sadness or injustice in the world, they don’t retreat from it, but rather run toward it — using their experience to help others, turning adversity into power.

Here are the phenomenal stories of Krishnan and four other world-changing women I’ve had the honor of talking with, and learning from, over the years.

*Abby Pesta, a former intern with this magazine, is author of The Girls: An All-American Town, a Predatory Doctor, and the Untold Story of the Gymnasts Who Brought Him Down (Seal, 2019) and co-author of How Dare the Sun Rise: Memoirs of a War Child (Katherine Tegen Books, 2017).*

## The protector: Sunitha Krishnan

When she was a 15-year-old girl in Bengaluru, India, in 1987, Sunitha Krishnan experienced unthinkable violence — a gang rape at the hands of eight men. Even worse: the stigma she faced afterward. “People blamed me,” she told me during a recent video call from India. “People sidelined me, ostracized me, isolated me for a crime I did not do.”

It was a stunning “fall from grace,” she said. A high achiever, she had sailed through her childhood, excelling in school and spending her spare time teaching special-needs and underprivileged kids. “I would pick my students; I would not teach everybody,” she said. “I would pick only those who were economically weaker, only those who had a very difficult time.” By age 12, she had started a small school for children in slums. She laughed as she recalled her precocious confidence: “I became very righteous. It was very irritating for most people around me. I spoke older than my age; I was the perpetual grandmother.” But she was also roundly admired. “Every parent wanted a daughter like me, every teacher wanted a student like me.”

Her community had high expectations for her, until the assault. After that “crash,” she said, she saw people’s perceptions of her change. “I became the most dishonored person, the most unworthy person. I was made to feel as if I failed,” she said. “I saw both sides by the time I was 16. I saw what it means to be on top of the world, and I also saw what it means to be at the absolute bottom.”

The experience made her angry — and ready to fight.

“I took the next step and said, ‘Why cannot I change this perception?’ For me, it was very clear that even if I’m not going to change it, I’m going to work toward changing it. I’m not going to go to my grave thinking that I never tried.”

But first she needed a strategy. “Anger doesn’t change anything,” she said. “What took time for me was to gain the knowledge, evolve an understanding, and look in a very strategic way at who do I want to reach, and how do I want to reach them? How can it be something that’s not about me, it’s about the world around me?”

I first heard Krishnan speak about the power in her anger at the Women in the World Summit in New York four years ago, and I was

‘For me, it was very clear that even if I’m not going to change it, I’m going to work toward changing it. I’m not going to go to my grave thinking that I never tried.’



COURTESY OF THE AURORA HUMANITARIAN INITIATIVE

struck by her calm demeanor as she described the violence and stigma she had endured. She said her anger had only grown over the years as she saw so many other women being raped and blamed for it. But she channeled that anger into a force for good.

After graduating from college and earning her master's degree in psychiatric social work, she found a kindred spirit in Brother Jose Vetticatil. A Montfort Brother of St. Gabriel, Vetticatil had been running a technical training institute for boys. When he and Krishnan learned about the clearing of brothels in the Indian city of Hyderabad, they asked some of the displaced women how they could help. The women said they wanted to educate their children and protect them from traffickers. Krishnan and Vetticatil started a school in one of the abandoned brothels in 1996. They called their initiative Prajwala, which means "eternal flame."

"When Brother Jose joined me, we belonged to two faiths, he coming from the Christian faith and I a very hardcore practicing Hindu, so it was an interfaith response to the problem," she said. "We also had a very interesting union of our minds; I came from an activist understanding, and he came from an institutional understanding. That was a good blend."

The pair expanded Prajwala into a major nonprofit organization, rescuing, rehabilitating and providing job training for trafficked women while educating their children. When Vetticatil died in 2005, Krishnan continued her work, opening more schools and shelters in India.

In the past quarter century, working with law enforcement, Prajwala has rescued some 25,000 women and girls, she said. Krishnan has been honored many times for her tireless crusade against trafficking, including by the U.S. State Department and by the Aurora Humanitarian Initiative, a foundation that promotes global humanitarian projects. She has also been physically assaulted by people she angered — traffickers whose work she disrupted. But she keeps going. "When I go to my grave, I go with fulfillment that I did not compromise in my efforts," she said. "How much of that actually changed the world or changed the perceptions around me, I don't know. But it will not be because I did not try."

### The advocate: Sandy Phillips

In the moments before her daughter, Jessi, was gunned down at a Colorado movie theater, Sandy Phillips exchanged text messages with her from Texas, happily discussing a planned visit. Jessi told her, "I can't wait for you to come next week. I need my Mama." Phillips replied, "I need my baby girl."

Jessi, a red-haired, hockey-loving senior in college, was busy finishing her degree and looking forward to a career in sports journalism when her life was cut short by six bullets that slammed into her right leg, her abdomen, her left eye. Phillips learned the awful news within minutes of the shooting, when a friend of her daughter called from inside the theater. Phillips could hear screaming in the background. Then she screamed herself and fell to the floor, although she doesn't remember this — the immediate moments following the phone call are lost to her. Her husband, Lonnie, remembers being jolted awake from sleep that night by her cries.

It has been 10 years since the massacre that left 12 dead and 70 injured at the midnight premiere of *The Dark Knight Rises* in Aurora, Colorado, in July 2012. Amid her profound grief the next day, Phillips awoke from a fog of sedatives and told her husband, "We need to get involved." He knew what she meant. A month before Jessi was shot in



CHRISTOPHER WAHL

'Every  
second of  
every day  
is a gift.'

the theater, she had narrowly missed being caught in another mass shooting, at a mall in Toronto. A few minutes after Jessi and her boyfriend had left the food court, a gunman opened fire there, killing two people and injuring several others. Afterward, a shaken Jessi wrote on her blog, "Every second of every day is a gift."

Sandy and Lonnie Phillips not only got involved in the movement for gun safety, they devoted their lives to it. They sold nearly all their belongings, left their home in San Antonio and moved into a camper. Their plan: to travel the country and offer comfort and support to others facing the sudden loss of loved ones to gun violence. They began crisscrossing the United States, helping people navigate the shock and grief from mass shootings. They encouraged other survivors of gun violence to help each other as well, creating a support network that grew into a nonprofit group, Survivors Empowered. They became leading advocates for stronger laws in America, including background checks on all gun sales and limits on the type of gun and the amount of ammunition that can be sold to an individual. A gun dealer had sold some 4,000 rounds of



ammunition to the man who killed Jessi, with no background check required.

I have talked with Phillips many times over the years, and I caught up with her recently while she was in San Antonio, a stop on a 22-city tour she launched this year to help members of grassroots gun-safety groups connect and share wisdom across state lines. “We’ve been meeting these people for years,” she told me. “We want to connect small groups with other small groups in other states, so they’re not reinventing the wheel every time they want to get something done.” She noted that this year marks the 10-year “tragiversary,” as she calls it, of the Colorado theater shooting as well as the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut and a Sikh temple in Wisconsin, among others.

Phillips doesn’t spend her time “living in the past,” she said, choosing instead to live in the moment and honor Jessi by striving to make a difference. Of course, as a survivor of trauma, she feels triggered every time she sees another mass shooting in the news or visits another family suffering from loss. She and Lonnie manage to calm themselves by practicing mindfulness, meditation and deep breathing. “Sometimes we just need to hold each other, sit quietly with one another and just be,” she said.

The past decade has been a wild ride. Among the highlights, she and Lonnie have met presidents Obama and Biden, appeared on *60 Minutes* and befriended musician Jackson Browne, who will donate a chunk of proceeds from a concert in Colorado this fall to their cause. On the other side of the spectrum, they have been harassed by conspiracy theorists, including Infowars host Alex Jones — so-called truthers who spin theories that mass shootings are staged by the government, and that Jessi is alive and well, living it up on an exotic island.

In 2014, the couple sued the gun dealer who sold the ammunition to their daughter’s killer. “We didn’t sue for money; we wanted the dealer to change its business practices,” Phillips said. A judge dismissed the suit — federal law protects gun dealers from liability when crimes are committed with their products. Phillips and her husband were ordered to pay more than \$200,000 in legal fees to the dealer, and the couple filed for bankruptcy. The dealer later sold ammunition to a minor who killed 10 people at a high school in Texas in 2018, and families of the victims are suing; federal law also

prohibits dealers from selling ammunition to minors.

Along the way, the couple have made many friends. Strangers have welcomed them into their homes; church groups have raised funds to support their work. “People often say, ‘You’re welcome to stay with us when you come through town,’” she told me. “We don’t have a lot when it comes to money, but we have a lot in terms of blessings.”

Sometimes Phillips needs to step away from advocacy and social media for a day or two, but she always returns to her mission. “We’re not saying guns are bad,” she said. “We’re saying people are dying; laws can be improved to save lives. We just don’t want to see the suffering that we’ve seen time after time.”

### The visionary: Zainab Salbi

When Zainab Salbi was a girl growing up in Baghdad, her father became the personal pilot for Saddam Hussein — not a job he wanted, but he dared not defy the ruthless dictator. Saddam’s presence invaded her household like a “poisonous gas that leaked into our home,” she has said. The family lived in fear, feigning loyalty to a man who used torture, rape and murder to maintain power. As Salbi grew into a young woman, her parents faced a new fear: Saddam’s overt interest in their daughter.

So in 1990, when she was 20 years old, Salbi was spirited away to an arranged marriage in America. But she found no peace in the abusive marriage. She fled and became driven to help women lead independent lives, launching the nonprofit Women for Women International in 1993 to help women in conflict zones learn skills to escape poverty and support themselves and their families.

“In that moment of thinking, this is it, I am taking my last breath, the first word that came to me was “kindness.””



Over the decades, the organization has helped more than 500,000 women carve out new futures, while Salbi expanded her work, traveling the world to shed light on social issues. She produced a range of documentaries and news shows on PBS, HuffPost and Yahoo! News. In one powerful segment, she met with French families whose sons had joined the Islamic State group, giving insight into how the young men became radicalized. She also hosted a talk show on TLC for women in the Arab world, kicking it off by interviewing Oprah Winfrey. National magazines from *Foreign Policy* to *People* celebrated her as a world changer. Our paths crossed many times, and I was always struck by how her eyes sparkle with ideas. She was always on the go.

Then, in the summer of 2019, Salbi's life took a turn that made her slow down and think about the world in a new light.

It started on what she would've once considered "a perfect New York City day," she said. Fresh off a speech at the Ford Foundation the night before, she had planned to give another presentation that day, followed by a birthday party and a trip to Athens with friends. Her life was a whirl of the "busyness and success that we all value" when crushing pain sent her to the doctor. Soon she was rushed into surgery to drain a quarter gallon of liquid that was pressing on her heart and threatening her life.

"In that moment of thinking, *this is it, I am taking my last breath*, the first word that came to me was 'kindness,'" she said. "The second thought was, did I live my life in kindness to myself and to others?" At the time, she wasn't sure exactly what that meant. "Until that moment, I never thought about myself; I honestly did not know what it means to live in kindness to oneself." She had always thought self-care meant "getting massages, getting manicures, pedicures, going on vacations — things that we all measure as joy, as success."

It was time to look deeper. In "that intimate moment between life and death," Salbi said, she was surprised to realize that accomplishments didn't matter, despite having spent her life as a humanitarian. "I don't think just because I'm a cause-oriented person my measurements are superior to others'," she noted. "The attachment to that notion of success is where the issue is."

Eventually diagnosed with severe Lyme disease, the experience set her on a new path. "I was really disabled from all my capacities; I couldn't walk, I couldn't breathe, and my abilities to think and articulate words also became very hard," she said. Disconnected from "all these tools," she found that "the only thing you can do is to really go into yourself." She moved to a cabin in upstate New York, and, with the help of an innovative doctor, started taking small steps toward recovery such as eating healthful foods and walking forest trails. She found joy in nature and in taking time every day to talk with family, play the piano and create a quiet, reflective moment that she calls an "appointment with my heart."

In the 18 months it took to regain her strength, she found inner peace. "I came out of this experience finding joy, and the joy did not come from travels or busyness or career success. I just found joy from within," she said. "I thought, if I can connect in such a profound way to my heart, to Earth, to God, to others, I want to do everything and anything possible to contribute to showing people that they, too, can feel that joy and that happiness."

To that end, she has co-founded two new initiatives. One, Find-Center, is a platform for personal and spiritual growth where people can share literature, artwork and ideas to help each other navigate life's challenges. They can also attend free classes and listen to

Salbi's podcast, *Redefined*, in which she interviews people from all walks of life about how they transformed their lives. "It's a platform for those who are interested in connecting to themselves, to their hearts and to the divine," she said. "People can curate their own journey."

The other initiative, Daughters for Earth, supports women-led conservation and restoration projects that combat climate change. "It's my contribution to Mother Earth," she said. "We've got to mobilize and put more money in the hands of women who are actively and engagingly doing everything possible to protect and preserve Earth, but no one is paying attention to them." In her most vulnerable time, when she was struggling to walk, she said, the forest was there for her. "I honestly felt that the Earth was my cheerleader. I would go on the trails, slow-walking, and I felt each tree was telling me, 'You can do it.'" She wants to return the favor.

### The witness: Lynsey Addario

Lynsey Addario captured a defining moment of the war in Ukraine when she took a photograph of a mother and her two children who were lying dead on the road after a mortar shell struck a civilian evacuation route. The photo, which ran on the front page of *The New York Times* in the early weeks of the fighting, revealed the reality of life for civilians, countering Russia's claim that it was aiming only at military targets. Addario showed the world the truth.

For more than two decades, Addario has traveled to some of the darkest corners of the planet for her Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalism. She has been held captive twice, once for eight hours by gunmen in Iraq and once for six days by soldiers in Libya, during which time she was punched in the face, groped and threatened with death. After her ordeal in Libya, in 2011, she told me, "I was thinking, 'I need to get out of here alive.' I was also thinking maybe it's time to get pregnant."

She achieved both goals, and today has two children. Back home in London with her kids and husband in April, just a few days after leaving Ukraine, she spoke with me about the circumstances of the haunting photo. To document the war's civilian toll, she had set her sights on Irpin, a small city outside Kyiv, where she had seen images of people walking across a destroyed bridge





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to evacuate. "I saw these civilians crossing, people carrying their loved ones," she said. "I thought, OK, tomorrow we're going to go there." It seemed safe, she said, because many journalists were there, and the bridge was on a widely known evacuation route — which she thought would be respected as part of the "laws and norms of war."

She arrived at the bridge early the next morning. "It was pretty tense from the beginning," she said. "There was small-arms fire right away, artillery close by." Russian fire came ever closer to the bridge. "Finally a round landed maybe 30 feet from where I was standing," she said. "It was chaos. I couldn't really tell if I had been injured myself — my neck got sprayed with gravel; I thought maybe it was shrapnel. Everything was really dusty. I couldn't really see what was going on, so I immediately just started shooting what was in front of me." When her security adviser cleared her to move forward, Addario saw the bodies of the family.

"The first thing I noticed was these little moon boots and puffy coats and the fact that there was a knapsack still on the back of this child," she said. "Everyone was kind of laying in this position as if they had been knocked over by the wind. I was trying to

*'It was chaos. I couldn't really tell if I had been injured myself — my neck got sprayed with gravel; I thought maybe it was shrapnel. Everything was really dusty. I couldn't really see what was going on, so I immediately just started shooting what was in front of me.'*

make sense of this scene. It sounds crazy, because I had been photographing civilians fleeing — that's why I was there — but for some reason I just didn't think they would be targeted. I wasn't really prepared to see a family. I instinctively just started shooting because I felt like I know what I just witnessed and I need to take photographs, but I also was trying to keep my emotions in check because I was pretty shocked at what I was seeing."

Then the mortar fire resumed, and Addario ran for her car. She filed the photos that day, telling her editor she hoped the paper could publish the image showing the family's faces. "I felt it was very important."

After the photo was published, Addario found the father from the slain family and met with him. "That was so hard; I'm the person who captured that horrific moment that will live with him forever," she said. "He said that he would have made the decision to publish the image had we been able to reach out to him, but I think also it must have been really difficult for him; I just can't imagine how difficult it is to see your family laid out there. To me he was so brave, and he was so strong; I was the one who was sort of crumbling in tears, and he was stoic."

It was "fundamentally important to me," she said, that he felt the image wasn't gratuitous but served a purpose and "rallied people around the world to talk about the civilian toll of this war. It certainly meant a lot to me as a mother and as a wife and as a person."

The daughter of two hairstylists in Connecticut, Addario grew up taking photos as a hobby, then moved to Argentina after college to learn Spanish. There, she became interested in photojournalism. "I went into the local newspaper and was like, 'Give me a job,'" she said with a laugh. She loved that she could use her camera "as an excuse to get to know people, to travel, to move around, move in and out of these very intimate spaces." Later she began freelancing, bringing her camera to Afghanistan despite a ban on photography because she had read about women being denied their rights under Taliban rule.

When I asked if her approach had changed over the years, she said, "I think I've grown up. I have a family now; I understand what it's like to be a parent. I also feel like I'm a little more delicate in my approach. I'm always kind of asking permission, not if I'm in combat, but if I'm in a situation where I can introduce myself and talk about why I'm asking all these questions of someone."

"When I was younger, I just assumed that I had a right to be there because it was a war and the world needed to see, but I think people all have the right to say, 'I need my privacy, and this is a really traumatic moment.'"

Her family keeps her grounded when she returns from war. "I don't really have the luxury of just kind of wallowing in what I've seen. I have to just turn around and be a mom," she said. She exercises "fanatically" to stay mentally and physically strong. "The question that I get asked all the time is: Why do I keep going back? How can I do this job? And it's so simple for me. You see the importance of these photographs, you see the importance of having the truth be documented by me and all of my colleagues. And so, how can I not do this?"



### The peacemaker: Leymah Gbowee

Leymah Gbowee was 17 when war broke out in her native Liberia in 1989, transforming her from a college student with dreams of becoming a doctor into an adult responsible for finding food for her family. “Every day, I went out to look for food. I saw bodies, people being shot. My mother had sunk into a state of total traumatization,” she has said. “You’re just existing, you’re alive. There’s nothing to look forward to.”

Gbowee spent more than a decade trying to survive and “waiting for a white knight” before she realized it was up to her to change her life. She began mobilizing women, creating a coalition of Christians and Muslims to demand peace as the country’s civil war persisted. She organized demonstrations where the women dressed in white — as well as a “sex strike” in which women withheld sex from their husbands. The movement, which started with a handful of women, grew to thousands across the small West African country. At one protest, women locked arms outside a conference hall full of male leaders in the capital of Monrovia, barring them from leaving until they made progress toward peace. Security guards threatened to arrest Gbowee, and she issued her own threat in return: to strip naked on the spot. The guards backed down.

Men were “shocked at the tenacity of the women,” she has said, noting that many of the women had been raped and victimized during the war but had gathered the strength to stand up to men and insist on peace. “The men were looking at us and saying, ‘Is this for real?’ They couldn’t believe it. This is a lesson for any women looking for something from men: As long as we continue in a position of weakness, they will never respect us.”

In 2003, the women achieved their goal, ousting the country’s warlord president, Charles Taylor, and paving the way for Africa’s first elected female head of state, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. Gbowee then earned a master’s degree in conflict transformation at Eastern Mennonite University in Virginia and continued her work with women in Africa to build sustainable peace. In 2011, she received the Nobel Peace Prize for her work, sharing the honor with Sirleaf and the Yemeni activist Tawakkol Karman.

But Liberia had a long way to go to recuperate from civil war. Gbowee told me in 2012 that, nearly a decade after the fighting

ended, the country remained devastated and divided, with “damaged people” living next door to people they had once fought. Some were former child soldiers stuck in poverty and despair; all were from different political groups and subgroups. At the time, the government had enlisted Gbowee to lead a reconciliation initiative, and she was visiting villages and talking with local leaders, women and girls. “I found that most people genuinely want to move on,” she said. “They want to reconcile.” To help provide the resources to do so, she founded the Gbowee Peace Foundation, which provides educational and leadership opportunities to women and children.

This year, she was named to the board of advisors of Seton Hall University’s School of Diplomacy, where she will serve as a visiting scholar during the coming academic year. At a university event, I asked her what she hopes to impart to American students. “I’m bringing the reality of life as it is in the peace and security world,” she said, noting that she hopes students “will come off different from a lot of the diplomats that we have in our world today.” She explained, “The real world is different from the theoretical world. The real world is not just about what we’ve seen over time — I can tell you what is happening in a village, something that you may not necessarily see on social media or in a textbook.”

She hopes students will come to see grassroots activists “as experts in their field, and not subjects of research,” she said. To illustrate her point, she tells a story: In 2010, a United Nations official called the Democratic Republic of the Congo “the rape capital of the world,” and the term swirled in the media. Soon afterward, Gbowee traveled to the country to work with women and asked them to name the biggest issue they faced. “Everyone said, ‘Women in power.’ Women in leadership was the number one issue. Most of the women said, ‘We have laws on rape. It’s just that we are not situated in a space and place where we can push for the implementation of these laws.’”

The experience served as a reminder to “take off our arrogant, intellectual hats,” Gbowee said. “It’s so easy for us to talk to some national expert, international expert, and decide that this is the issue that is confronting a group of people. I come from a community where I know that women at the ground level know exactly what they want.” □

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MICHAEL ANGELO

# The Good Place

Jenny Curran Hunsberger '95 has made sure that women have the care and support she once needed so badly that time when she was young.

BY JOHN NAGY '00M.A.

**W**hen she was a Notre Dame undergraduate in the early 1990s, Jenny Curran was like everyone else, figuring things out through her life choices. She lived in Pasque-rilla East and balanced her architecture classes with a work-study job in the University's procurement office.

Mostly she loved volunteering — through the Center for Social Concerns — at the Women's Care Center. She spent hours in the center's little blue house near the old St. Joseph hospital, east of downtown South Bend, where women facing the biggest decision of all could go to get a free pregnancy test, a free ultrasound, unconditional support, information about all of their options and good counsel about their next steps.

She treasured the spirit of that little blue house. From her first day of training in the fall of 1991, her freshman year, she felt it was a place where an unplanned pregnancy wasn't a battleground between a woman and a baby. The center celebrated life, starting with the woman's, by serving and caring for, listening to and loving, each woman who walked through the door.

Curran's own next step, in the summer after sophomore year, was to pack for the School of Architecture's yearlong Rome Studies program.

That's when she discovered she was pregnant.

"So, I grew up in a traditional, big, Irish Catholic family, right? I have nine siblings," says Jenny Curran Hunsberger '95, who is now vice president of the Women's Care Center (WCC) and has never worked anywhere else. Her family was local; her boyfriend's family was local; the shame and embarrassment the two felt was enormous.

Hard as that was, telling her mother was the easy part. Her father had died when Hunsberger was 11, and she and her mother are very close.

"There was never any question that I would somehow be rejected," she clarifies while sitting in her office on Notre Dame Avenue, where she oversees client care for the WCC — now serving over 30,000 women annually in 34 centers across 12 states from North Dakota to Florida. "Or, not even rejected. That she wouldn't love me as much as she always did. That was never a question for me."

As difficult and life-changing as her junior year turned out to be, Hunsberger knew she had support — exactly what each woman

who comes to the WCC most needs as she figures out what *this* pregnancy means for *her*. What will change? What might she lose? "It's not theory," Hunsberger says of the counseling work. "It's the nitty-gritty, being in the weeds with someone, and accompanying people through and in difficulty, challenge and struggle. All of it."

That work has come a long way since philosopher Janet Smith, then a professor in the Program of Liberal Studies, founded the WCC in South Bend in 1984. These days, training for the center's professional counselors requires a minimum of 160 hours. The reading includes *Radical Hospitality*, an introduction to the sixth-century Rule of St. Benedict "and this idea that when a stranger comes to your door, you meet that stranger as Christ," Hunsberger explains.

The center's strengths-based counseling model reacquaints a woman with her "unique and defining strengths" and resourcefulness. And the accompaniment, a principle grounded in liberation theology and embraced by Pope Francis, endures for as long as a client wants it, from the first visit — usually for

*Hunsberger: 'We don't empower. We help people recognize and remember their own power.'*



*John Nagy is managing editor of this magazine.*

PHOTO BY BARBARA JOHNSTON

a pregnancy test — through a child's kindergarten enrollment.

The clients represent no particular demographic. They're our neighbors, Hunsberger says. "They're just the women in the community."

"Women come to us, and we meet them," she says. "We welcome them as they are right now. And you say to someone, 'You are good, and your goodness is your defining characteristic. It is who you are. And it's unchangeable, right? You were good before you were born. Nothing can change your goodness — no decisions you've made, no situation you live in.'"

While Hunsberger speaks of her work as a vocation and explains the Women's Care Center mission in terms informed by Catholic moral and social teaching, the approach rules out evangelization, moral judgment and any effort to steer clients toward an outcome.

"The decisions you make about this pregnancy, about motherhood, about where you're going, what your next step is, are yours alone to make — to live in that goodness, to make decisions that are rooted in that goodness. They're yours," the counselors say. "Nobody else's. Not your boyfriend's or your husband's or your parents'. And certainly not mine."

"What we find is that when women encounter that, when they remember their own goodness — maybe it's been forgotten, maybe no one's ever told them — it is in that space that women make decisions for life," Hunsberger says.

Some women take the pregnancy test and never return. Some start counseling and choose abortion, without losing the unconditional love they encounter at the center.

But over 90 percent of WCC clients choose life, Hunsberger says.

At first, clients meet with their counselors every week. Questions and conversation during the first visit cover how a client is doing, her pregnancy background and medical history, how she feels about the possibility of being pregnant *now*. Hunsberger notes a subtle but important shift away from a prominent therapeutic concept from decades past. "We don't empower," she says. "We help people recognize and remember their own power."

A woman might continue with weekly visits or opt to touch base only once per trimester. When a baby is born, counseling continues, and the center offers parenting classes — and child care for the mothers and fathers who take them. Clients' needs range from breastfeeding training to housing to help finding a school. Meanwhile, Hunsberger says, the WCC distributes millions of diapers and thousands of cribs and car seats every year.

One other statistic speaks to the organization's indelible impact upon communities: "Half of all the babies born in St. Joseph County are born to Women's Care Center clients," she says. Same goes for one in nine babies in Indiana.

Hunsberger, who has "always, always, always" loved babies, likes to say she has the world's shortest resume: that campus job and the Women's Care Center, which kept drafting her talents for leadership in new ways as the organization grew. She still meets with clients. "It's a little bit of a joke in the office that when I get to counsel a woman and I walk out, I'm like, 'This is the most amazing woman I've ever met in my whole life,'" she says, laughing at herself. "Like, 'Jenny, every single person that you've met cannot be the 'most amazing person' that you've ever met.'"

In no unimportant sense, her work — and its hard lessons — began in childhood. At age 12, she babysat for a boy with severe autism whose parents needed volunteers to try a new approach

The accompaniment, a principle grounded in liberation theology and embraced by Pope Francis, endures for as long as a client wants it, from the first visit — usually for a pregnancy test — through a child's kindergarten enrollment.

that involved letting the boy lead and doing everything he did. She was certain her dedication would help him "wake up" to the world. "And of course it didn't happen," she says. Instead, she went home sometimes with bite marks on her arm. Looking back, the experience taught her the "slow work" and "power of just being present to another person without the need for success."

As a student volunteer, she met a client with mental health issues who took several buses en route from her institutional home to visit

Hunsberger every day. Knowing the woman's history, Hunsberger knew she couldn't be pregnant. "She had multiple personality disorder, and her father had hurt her really in profound ways when she was young." Yet the woman brought her flowers she'd pulled from a neighbor's yard. And sometimes, Hunsberger listened as the woman spoke aloud the voices she heard from within her own horror. "That took real trust," she notes. "She really taught me, 'What does it mean when you can't fix?' There was so little I could do for her, and she wasn't even pregnant. But what it means to encounter and trust and love, even where it has been so broken and so diminished."

She first recognized "the raw courage of love" when she began working at the WCC full time during her senior year. In walked a high school student from a prominent local family. Unlike Hunsberger, the girl feared the consequences of telling her parents she was pregnant. Her boyfriend, whom she adored, said he'd leave her if she didn't get an abortion.

"So she moved to a maternity home," left school and delivered the baby, Hunsberger says. "She did all of that for this little one. And then she placed him for adoption. She gave up everything for him, and then she gave *him* up."

Hunsberger kept in touch with the younger woman, who is married and raising four children. When the woman's firstborn contacted her, she got to hold him a second time.

Such highs and lows affirm Hunsberger that the Women's Care Center is where she's "called to be."

She chose to keep her baby. She got on that plane to Rome for her junior year, her due date set for eight days after the program ended the following spring. Soon, though, she couldn't hide her condition. A professor helped her locate prenatal care, but when she returned home for Christmas, she'd left Rome — and architecture — behind her for good.

She spent the spring living with a sister in Virginia and working at a Hallmark store. Her own adoption counselor knew she would keep her baby "months" before she did, she says. She delivered Patrick that May and married his father, Ryan Hunsberger, in December of her senior year. She got used to not being a typical Notre Dame student.

By then she'd switched majors to art history, but it hardly mattered. Jenny Curran Hunsberger already knew what she wanted to do with her life. □



Die Zauberflöte  
(Mozart's The Magic  
Flute), Berlin Opera  
Academy

## Scene Setter

**Camilla Tassi '16** majored in computer science and music at Notre Dame, always searching for connections between the two. But back then, combining her academic interests into work as a professional projection designer — that is, producing the still and video images that accompany theatrical or orchestral productions — didn't register as an option.

"As an undergrad?" she says. "I had no idea this was even a field. Not at all."

Tassi still finds it hard to put her work into words. When people ask what she does, it's easier to point them to [camillatassi.com](http://camillatassi.com), where the audiovisuals — like the images on these pages — illustrate her long list of credits. To name just two that sound cool: a recent performance of composer Osvaldo Golijov's song cycle *Falling Out of Time* at New York's Carnegie Hall and another of Mozart's *Magic Flute* with the Berlin Opera Academy.



This year Tassi received the \$25,000 Burry Fredrik Design Fellowship from Yale University's drama school, where she completed an MFA in May after earning a master's degree in digital musics at Dartmouth College.

You can hear more about Tassi on *The Endless Conversation* at [magazine.nd.edu/podcast](http://magazine.nd.edu/podcast), including the path she took from her native Florence, Italy, to the United

States with her family when she was a child — and then to Notre Dame after her mother found it online.

"I'm not kidding," Tassi says. "I'm pretty sure she Googled 'Catholic colleges in America.'"

— Jason Kelly '95



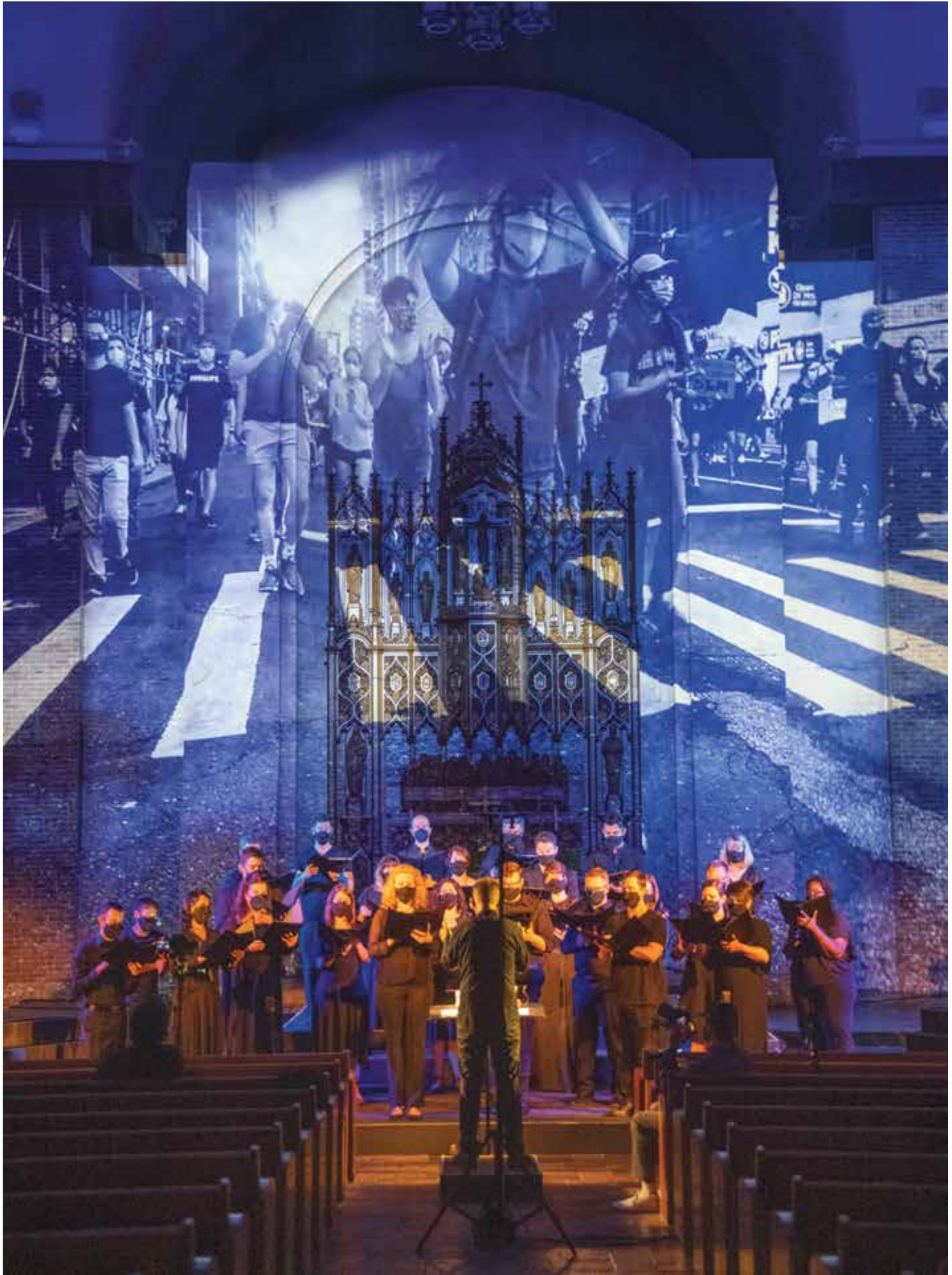
Top: Yale opera scenes  
Bottom: *Fires in the Mirror*, Baltimore Center Stage and Long Wharf Theater  
Right: *Fun Home*, University Theater, Yale





**FACING PAGE CLOCKWISE:** CAMILLA TASSI, PHOTO BY MATTHEW FRIED, *DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE*, BERLIN OPERA ACADEMY; GIDON SAKS, DIRECTOR; PHOTO BY OPERNFOTOGRAFIE DET LEF KURTH, *FUN HOME*, UNIVERSITY THEATER, YALE; DANILO GAMBINI, DIRECTOR; PHOTO BY CHARLES T. ERICKSON, *FIRES IN THE MIRROR*, BALTIMORE CENTER STAGE AND LONG WHARF THEATER; NICOLE BREWER, DIRECTOR; PORSCHE MCGOVERN, LIGHTING; MIKA EUBANKS, COSTUME; UPTOWNWORKS, SOUND; YALE OPERA SCENES: PHOTO BY MATTHEW FRIED.

**THIS PAGE:** *PATH OF MIRACLES* WITH THE AUSTIN, TEXAS-BASED CHORAL ENSEMBLE CONSPIRARE; VIERA BUZGOVA, LIGHTING DESIGN; PHOTO BY SCOTT VAN OSDOL.



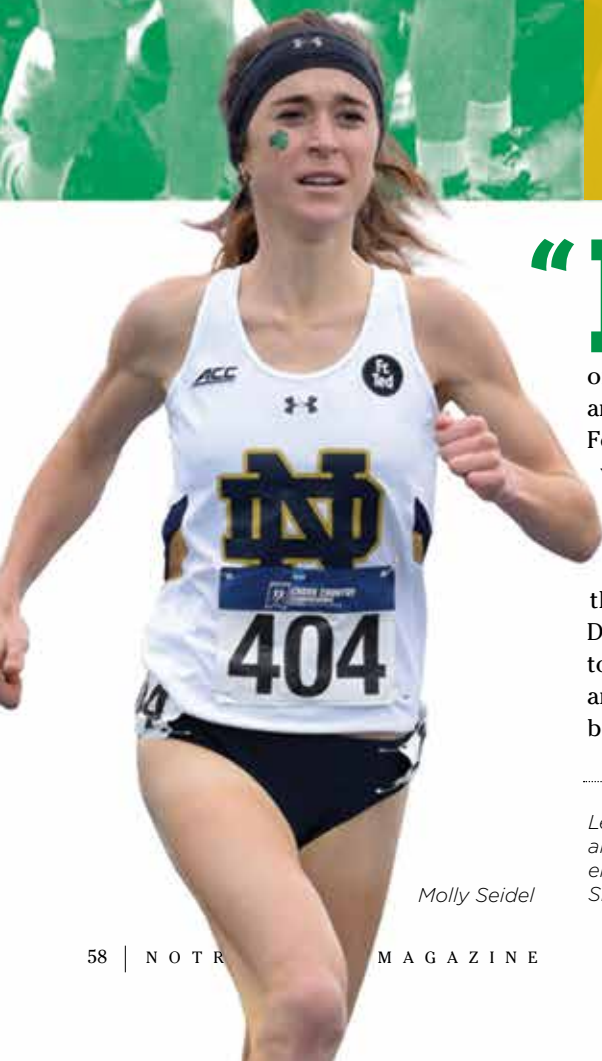




# SHE'S GOT GAME

Title IX gave women the right to compete on level playing fields. When given the chance, Notre Dame's female athletes have soared.

BY LESLEY VISSER



**"N**o person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." Those 37 words, signed into law by President Richard Nixon on June 23, 1972, changed American society. They created the explosion of girls' and women's sports that has taken female athletes at Notre Dame and other colleges and universities to national championships, the Olympics and professional careers. The road has not been easy.

*Lesley Visser is a pioneering sportswriter and sportscaster who was the first woman enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. She is in her 35th year at CBS.*

Molly Seidel

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 has been challenged many times. In 1974, a bill was introduced to exempt revenue-producing sports from the law's requirements regarding equal allocation of resources. That amendment was rejected, as were other like-minded proposals in subsequent years. By 1975, federal law specifically prohibited sex discrimination in athletics and gave institutions three years to comply with the new requirements. Attempts to curtail enforcement continued throughout the decade, but in 1980 the brand-new U.S. Department of Education assumed responsibility for overseeing Title IX compliance. The long, hard road to women's sports equality was being paved with better opportunities.

Under Title IX, every college and university had to demonstrate improvement toward a ratio of male-to-female roster spots equal to its overall student ratio. Women's sports



at Notre Dame and other schools were demanding — and getting — a decent slice of the pie. Young women took to the fields and the courts, the gyms and the pools.

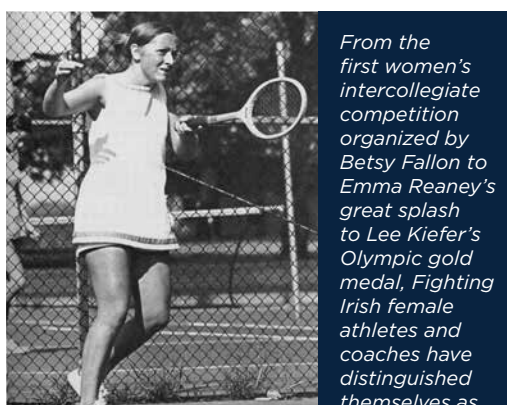
The half-century since has witnessed remarkable progress. This past March, Donna de Varona, the Olympic swimming champion and tireless advocate for women's sports, spoke at the unveiling of postage stamps commemorating Title IX. Pioneers like de Varona, Billie Jean King and many others fought to implement and preserve the law. Every female athlete today owes her gratitude to the women who overcame those obstacles, both on the court and in the courts.

"Title IX has given women and girls so much opportunity," says the iconic former Notre Dame basketball coach Muffet McGraw. "When I first coached at Lehigh, my husband and I swept the floor and paid the referees. When I got to Notre Dame, it was still hard, but we had scouting and recruiting. We established credibility — two national titles. Players come to Notre Dame knowing they'll be ready for the pros."

The growth in women's sports has not erased all disparities. "Title IX at 50 is a celebration, but it still demands constant vigilance," McGraw says, noting a viral TikTok post during March Madness in 2021 that showed "a stark contrast" in weight rooms for men's and women's basketball teams at tournament sites.

Like most schools, Notre Dame initially struggled to comply with Title IX. The University began accepting women in 1972, but incorporating women's sports took many years. Betsy Fallon '76 organized the school's first intercollegiate women's tennis match when she was a freshman in 1973, at a time when female athletes started their own clubs, drove the vans and did the laundry, all for love of the game. In the 1970s, female athletes at Notre Dame dressed in second-hand uniforms, fought for practice time and often arranged matches on their own.

Swimming became a varsity sport in 1981. The next year, three swimmers were All-America selections, including Teri Schindler '83, who competed in breaststroke at the national swimming and diving championships. Schindler, who became the first woman to produce basketball games for the Big East, was hired by NBA commissioner David Stern to be the inaugural vice president of WNBA broadcasting. She remembers the value of swimming at Notre Dame.



*From the first women's intercollegiate competition organized by Betsy Fallon to Emma Reaney's great splash to Lee Kiefer's Olympic gold medal, Fighting Irish female athletes and coaches have distinguished themselves as trailblazers and champions.*



"The men swam before dinner, but our practices were scheduled during dining hall hours," says Schindler, the co-founder and CEO of a worldwide marketing and technology firm. "I remember so many nights running across the quad from the Rock, wet hair in icicles, grabbing whatever food was left with five minutes to eat. In the mornings, we'd grab a ride on a snowplow to get to the early practices. We were determined to make the program succeed."

Notre Dame delivered on that promise. After 23 NCAA tournament appearances and multiple Big East championships, the Irish moved to the ACC, where coach Brian Barnes guided Notre Dame's first national champion, Emma Reaney '15. Reaney, the most highly decorated swimmer — male or female — ever to compete for Notre Dame, won the 2014 NCAA 200-yard breaststroke in a then-American-record time of 2:04:06.

"I loved swimming at Notre Dame," says Reaney, who grew up in Lawrence, Kansas. "I had a list of what I wanted — good academics, on a coast, and a combined men's and women's program. The first call I got was from Brian Barnes, who'd coached me in Kansas when I was little. I took a recruiting trip to South Bend. It wasn't on the coast, and it didn't have a combined program, but something told me I needed to be there. When I went home to Lawrence, I swear, I turned on the TV and *Rudy* was on the movie channel. I called Brian and said, 'I'm coming to Notre Dame!'"

In the past 50 years, leveraging its reputation for academic excellence to recruit elite female athletes, the Irish have won national championships in soccer and basketball and fielded top-10 teams in volleyball and tennis. Cross-country runner Molly Seidel '16 finished her career with four national championships and won a bronze medal in the marathon at last year's Tokyo Olympics. Softball and golf earned varsity status in 1988, followed by rowing in 1996 and lacrosse in 1997. There are now 13 varsity sports for women at Notre Dame.

But we pause to talk about fencing.

If you're only acquainted with fencing from *The Princess Bride* (Mandy Patinkin practiced intensely with famed Olympic coach Henry Harutunian to play Inigo Montoya), then you should know about the female fencers of Notre Dame. The men's and women's combined team has won 12 national championships — one more than the football team — and the women have

compiled glittering resumes.

Alicja Kryczalo '05 won 91 percent of her foil matches and was the first Notre Dame student-athlete to become a three-time national champion since distance runner Greg Rice '39. But is she the best Notre Dame female athlete ever? The Gdansk, Poland, native has serious competition for that title, even from within her own sport.

Mariel Zagunis won Olympic gold medals in individual sabre in 2004 in Athens — becoming the first American fencer to win gold in 100 years — and again in Beijing in 2008. In 2012, Zagunis was selected to be the flag-bearer for the U.S. team in the opening ceremony of the London Games. And in no small irony, in 2017 she competed in the Food Network cooking show *Chopped*.

Lee Kiefer '17, another legendary foil competitor, won four straight NCAA individual championships and led Notre Dame to its ninth NCAA team championship. During her senior year, Kiefer became the No. 1 women's foil fencer in the world — the first American to hold that honor. She made history at the 2020 Tokyo Games, becoming the first U.S. man or woman to win a foil gold medal.

Her father, Steven Kiefer, a former fencing team captain at Duke, was thrilled when she chose Notre Dame.

"Notre Dame has always had a great fencing tradition," he says while watching his daughter compete toward a first-place finish at the individual foil World Cup in Germany this past April. "They've always made the commitment — in facilities, in coaching, in recruiting."

Kiefer says his daughter took an interest in fencing from an early age. Three times a week he drove her 90 minutes each way from Lexington, Kentucky, to Louisville, for lessons.

"It's a difficult sport," he says. "It demands both mental and physical strength, along with precision and strategy. If you'll notice, the thigh on a fencer's lead leg is much bigger than the other leg, and one shoulder droops. Lee has cross-trained for years to try and avoid injury."

Should she become injured, she'll have ready access to information. Lee Kiefer is in her third year at the University of Kentucky medical school while juggling a demanding athletic schedule. In having such success, she has added to the lore of Irish fencing, which is no less a dynasty than Wake Forest golf or Iowa wrestling.

Women's soccer at Notre Dame has made 27 NCAA Tournament appearances over the past 29 years and won three championships — 1995, 2004 and 2010 — with runner-up finishes in 1994, 1996, 1999, 2006 and 2008. The Irish are one of only five colleges in the country with multiple national titles, along with Stanford, Florida State, Santa Clara and legendary North Carolina.

Shannon Boxx '99, a former Irish midfielder, has enjoyed one of the most remarkable careers in women's soccer history. A four-sport athlete from Fontana, California, and a *Parade* All-American in soccer, Boxx helped the Fighting Irish to its first NCAA championship in 1995, breaking North Carolina's nine-year run at the top.

"Notre Dame was my first recruiting visit," she says, "and after that, it didn't matter where I went to look. I was going to Notre Dame. College was the first time I represented something bigger than myself. I was representing my school and my teammates. That carried me my entire career."

After playing professionally for almost five years without making the U.S. National Team, Boxx thought she was happily headed for a career in coaching. But in 2003, at age 26, she became the first "uncapped" player — one without previous national team experience — to make a World Cup squad. After three Olympic gold medals — in 2004, 2008 and 2012 — she added a World Cup victory in 2015, which came with the first ticker-tape parade for a women's team in the history of New York's Canyon of Heroes, where athletic champions — along with astronauts, soldiers and politicians — have been honored over the years.

"I owe so much to Notre Dame for making me the ultimate team player," says Boxx, who was inducted into the National Soccer Hall of Fame in January.

Boxx's greatest challenge wasn't soccer. She's battled two autoimmune diseases for more than 15 years. Sjögren's syndrome causes dryness, joint pain and prolonged fatigue, and lupus has added sudden flares of intense pain to her skin, joints and internal organs. An advocate for the Lupus Foundation of America, she played in the Olympics and the World Cup while managing the illnesses.

"I wouldn't have traded any of my experiences," she says. "I have so much to be thankful for, and it began at Notre Dame."

Basketball now carries the school's mantle of excellence and visibility, but it took

a while to run the weave. The varsity team, which launched in 1977, didn't play a Division I schedule until 1980, which included a 124-48 loss to South Carolina. The program first joined the North Star Conference, then the Midwestern Collegiate Conference.

On May 18, 1987, athletic director Gene Corrigan announced the hiring of coach Muffet McGraw. She retired 33 years later after leading the Irish to nine Final Fours, two national titles and the status of game changer. In every Hall of Fame that has a hoop — including the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame — McGraw's been celebrated for her coaching, her straightforwardness and her ability to develop players who've gone on to success in the WNBA.

Raised in West Chester, Pennsylvania, Ann "Muffet" O'Brien was one of eight children. She grew up playing basketball with the boys at Everhart Park, her shots rattling through the chain nets. Fearless, she was a guard for Bishop Shanahan High School in the early 1970s. If a teammate wasn't looking for a pass, she'd just hit her in the head with the ball. She says so now with a laugh, but it's hard to know if she's kidding.

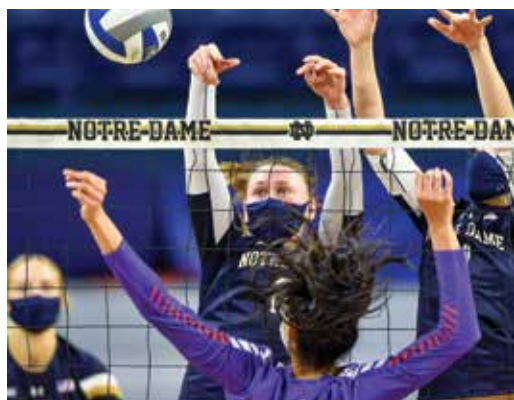
"I was never afraid, and I wanted to get better," McGraw says. "Catholic schools were way ahead of the rest of the country, and we had the benefit of watching Big 5 basketball in Philly."

McGraw attended St. Joseph's University, 20 miles east of where she grew up. There were no scholarships, but she played point guard for the great Theresa Grentz and later coached there under Jim Foster after playing professionally for one year. Muffet married Matt McGraw in 1977, and he laughed when she wore basketball sneakers to the reception. After five years as the head coach at Lehigh — where McGraw coached Cathy Engelbert, who would become the WNBA commissioner — it was on to Notre Dame.

Women's basketball in South Bend was struggling for recognition. In 1989, with only 250 people attending the games, athletic director Dick Rosenthal '54 and assistant director Bill Scholl '79 came up with a plan. They would market Notre Dame women's basketball to senior citizens and families with children.

"Those were two groups who were looking for things to do," says Scholl, now Marquette's athletic director. "We gave tickets away at the grocery store, the car wash, the Girl Scouts and even the Boy Scouts."





Marjel Zagunis wielded a mighty weapon, Skylar Diggins-Smith radiated intensity and star power, Shannon Boxx accumulated international accolades. And others, less celebrated, have given Notre Dame fans much to celebrate in thriving women's sports programs.



McGraw made appearances at Rotary Clubs, the Knights of Columbus, schools and churches. Postgame social events gave fans the chance to meet the players. By 1997, when the team went to its first Final Four, the buzz was real. The Monogram Room was too crowded for all the people who wanted to stop in after the final home game against Georgetown. By 2000, the women were averaging 6,500 fans a game.

In 1997, the eye of the tiger arrived with a name: Ruth Riley '01, '16MBA. The 6-foot-5 force grew up in a small Indiana farming community loving the movie *Hoosiers* and recreating the scene where Ollie wins a game at the free throw line. In Notre Dame's national championship win, with 5.8 seconds left and the score tied, Riley hit two free throws (although not underhand like Ollie) to help bring home Notre Dame's first title, a 68-66 victory over Purdue. On the podium, Riley pulled on a freshly minted "Notre Dame 2001 National Champion" T-shirt and lit up the arena. Young girls began putting posters of Riley on the wall; young boys lined up for her autograph.

Riley went on to win an Olympic gold medal and two WNBA titles with the Detroit Shock. She was enshrined in the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 2019 and serves as a broadcast analyst for the NBA's Miami Heat.

Niele Ivey '00, the Irish point guard and captain in 2001, gave a fiery halftime speech when Notre Dame trailed Purdue in that title game, which was played in St. Louis, her hometown. In 2022, as head coach, Ivey had the exquisite challenge of leading Notre Dame into the Sweet 16 while also traveling to see her son, Jaden, power Purdue to the Sweet 16 in the men's tournament. And Notre Dame's Olivia Miles became the first freshman — male or female — ever to record a triple-double in an NCAA tournament game.

A decade ago, the hitmaker was Skylar Diggins-Smith '13. She became the only Notre Dame basketball player in history to compile 2,000 points, 500 rebounds, 500 assists and 300 steals. A WNBA veteran and an Olympic champion, Diggins-Smith has been a marketable star, posing for publications like *Vogue* and translating her basketball expertise into television work covering the NBA's Phoenix Suns.

In 2018, America came to know Arike Ogunbowale '19, she of the inconceivable game-winning three-pointer in the championship showdown against Mississippi

State. Some consider it only her second greatest shot of the weekend — after her identical heroics in the semifinal against unbeaten Connecticut. In that game, McGraw called timeout with one possession left and the score tied in overtime. She saw that Ogunbowale was angry that the Irish had blown a 5-point lead and decided to set up the play for her. The guard took the ball at half court, moved to the right wing just inside the three-point line and let it fly. Her step back with one second left gave the Irish a monumental 91-89 win over a team that had beaten them seven straight times, including twice in NCAA championship games.

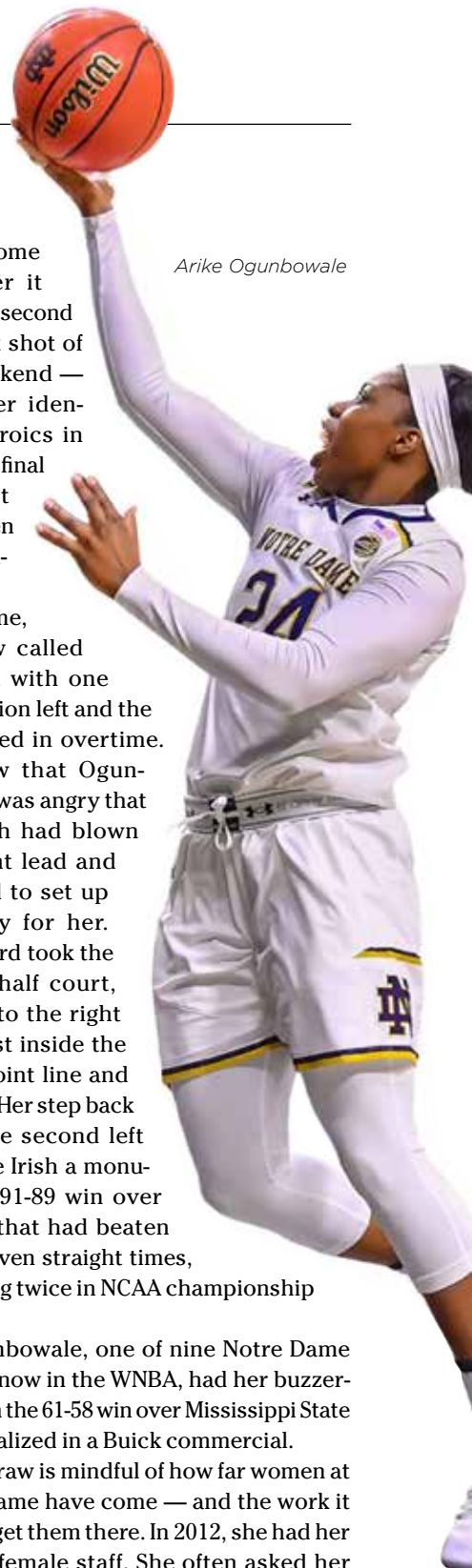
Ogunbowale, one of nine Notre Dame players now in the WNBA, had her buzzer-beater in the 61-58 win over Mississippi State memorialized in a Buick commercial.

McGraw is mindful of how far women at Notre Dame have come — and the work it took to get them there. In 2012, she had her first all-female staff. She often asked her players what they thought the word "feminist" meant, and most of them explained that it was, ultimately, about opportunity — the very definition of Title IX.

So how influential, how meaningful, has Notre Dame been for female athletes? The question doesn't surprise her, but she still has to collect her thoughts.

"I always struggle to find the perfect words to say how great Notre Dame is," McGraw says. "I'm big on accountability. I demanded it from my players and myself. At Notre Dame, everybody makes a promise to do it the right way." □

Arike Ogunbowale





## The law as leverage

BY CATHY O'DONNELL '75M.A.

**M**ary Yu '93J.D. spent years advocating for human rights in Chicago.

She started as a secretary in the Archdiocese of Chicago's social justice ministry, eventually becoming the office's director. Fierce, articulate and determined, she worked in parishes across the city.

Among those good people, she also noticed an unwillingness to sell houses to Black buyers or to welcome low-income housing. These were "not stereotypical bigots," Yu says. "They just could not get past that racism. That was what it came down to, and it was built on fear."

"After 10 years," she once told a television reporter, "I realized that it's the law that really brings about change. So as much as I couldn't change people's hearts, I could change the way people behaved."

Yu quit her job in 1990 to attend Notre Dame Law School.

Now 65, Yu is the first Asian American, first Latina and first openly gay person to serve on the Supreme Court in the state of Washington. Appointed to the court in 2014, she is now running unopposed for her third term. Before that, she served 14 years as a trial court judge for King County, which includes Seattle.

Yu was also the first person



RYAN PAGELOW/DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY

*Yu: 'As much as I couldn't change people's hearts, I could change the way people behaved.'*

in her family to graduate from college. She grew up on the south side of Chicago, the younger of two children born to a Mexican mother and Chinese father, both immigrants who met while working in a factory. "My dad could not read or write because he didn't have access to formal education," Yu says. The couple sent Yu and her older brother to Catholic schools, determined their children would receive the education they had missed.

Growing up in a working-class household, Yu still didn't think college was possible until a teacher at St. Mary of Perpetual Help High School convinced her otherwise. She would earn bachelor's and master's degrees in religious studies from Dominican University — then called Rosary College — and Mundelein College of Loyola University.

The Dominicans were not only educated but also socially aware, and they deepened these concerns in Yu. When she started working for the archdiocese, she says she

didn't know what to do in the job or where to go, but her boss said they'd figure it out together. And they did.

Yu was aware of social differences and inequities in the largely white neighborhood where she was reared. She knew her mother had picked strawberries during much of her early life, Yu says, so when the United Farm Workers organized a lettuce boycott, "I understood that in a way probably many other kids did not."

In 2015, Yu wrote the majority opinion in *Demetrio v. Sakuma Brothers Farms*. The panel unanimously affirmed that farm workers who were paid per pound harvested should also be paid for necessary rest breaks. "Every case has a story," Yu says in her clear Midwestern accent, "and this one personally touched me in the sense that I understood when one side was arguing how much a rest break is needed. It just seemed very simple, very human."

When Yu began law school, less than 6 percent of Notre

Dame's 2,481 graduate students were minorities. Only two Asian American women and three Hispanic women were among the 184 members of the Law School's first-year class, but it's not clear how Yu was counted.

She was aware of assumptions some people held about her, but she focused on her work, which included being an assistant rector in Siegfried Hall. In that job, Yu found a renewal of her efforts in Chicago, helping younger women become more sensitive to justice.

These days, she says, she focuses on mentoring other minority lawyers and helping them develop their leadership skills. An avid runner, Yu also enjoys fine food, good wine and spending time with her two nephews. "Faith," she says, is the core of "how I care about the human person."

Friends and colleagues talk about her intensity and thoroughness: "If you hand her a soda can, she's gonna read the back," says Yu's former bailiff, Rhonda Salveson. "If you hand

her a 200-page brief, she will read it front to back.” And then she’ll have questions.

So what’s surprised Yu about being a state Supreme Court justice? The extent to which discussions among the justices are adversarial. But it makes sense, she adds. Instead of deciding cases alone, she argues with eight justices who are every bit as invested in a case as she is. “So there’s a lot of exchange,” Yu says. “Always respectful, but a lot of exchange.

“I just can’t say enough about how wisdom resides in every single person on the court,” Yu says, adding that such wisdom regularly changes her perspective. She once likened these deliberations to “turning a crystal.”

She understands the very human aspects of our human nature. Shortly after midnight on December 9, 2012, Yu officiated at the first legal same-sex marriage in Washington state. A Seattle wag wrote that Mary Yu had “the perfect name for the job.”

*Now retired and living in Seattle, Cathy O'Donnell was a reporter for The Ann Arbor News.*

Notre Dame Magazine

## 10<sup>th</sup> annual Young Alumni Essay Contest

Notre Dame Magazine's 10th annual Young Alumni Essay Contest is accepting submissions. Find the rules for entering to win the \$1,000 Schaaf Prize at [magazine.nd.edu/essaycontest2022](http://magazine.nd.edu/essaycontest2022) and on page 91 of this issue.

## QUESTIONNAIRE

### Liz Hynes '17

After a childhood bike crash, funny things started happening.

It's only *kind of* a joke, Liz Hynes '17 says, that she considers a brain injury and messed-up teeth after she crashed her bike as a kid the origin story that led to a comedy-writing career.

Since graduating with a degree in film, television and theatre, Hynes has worked as a production assistant for *The Chris Gethard Show*, a writer's assistant for *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, and a writer for *Last Week Tonight with John Oliver*. In 2021, she shared an Emmy for “Outstanding Writing for a Variety Series” with the *Last Week Tonight* staff.

#### How did you get involved in comedy writing?

Writing was the only thing I ever wanted to do, and I was extremely lucky to have parents and teachers who encouraged me. Throughout school, I wrote for fun constantly — my college admission essay was actually submitted as a script (do not recommend; I did not get into Notre Dame the first try). That constant writing sometimes got me into trouble, either because of the content and/or because it usually came at the expense of my math homework (which is probably why I did not get in the first time).

I studied FTT during the school year — a small but mighty program, where I met many of my best friends and favorite professors, who taught me as much as any job has — and interned on productions during the summers. Those internships led to production assistant jobs, which led to personal assistant jobs, which led to writer's assistant jobs, which led to someone DMing me on Twitter to apply for a staff writer job, which I didn't answer right away because I thought it was a scam. But I did, and here we are! Let this be a lesson: Always answer suspicious messages.

#### Do you think humor can be learned? How does one “become funny”?

“Being funny” is probably something you're born with, though it can also happen to you later on. For instance, I became funny after being heavily concussed in a bike crash as a child. I am barely joking. It rewires your brain! The mouth damage also meant I had braces all through high school, which required me to develop a personality.

“Joke writing,” I'd argue, is a separate skill that can absolutely be learned, particularly if you're writing (as I usually do) in someone else's voice. A lot of it is formulaic and you get the rhythms down the more



COURTESY LIZ HYNES '17

you practice. But none of the people who make me laugh the hardest are comedy writers — they're just naturally, effortlessly funny, which means my succinct answer to your question is probably “No!”

#### Are there certain comedic tropes that you think are way overplayed? Others you always find funny?

Overplayed: “dramedies” about going to therapy. Always funny: people falling down.

#### Favorite bit/joke/scene of all time?

Easy. 30 Rock, Season 1, episode 10, roughly 10 minutes in.

Dr. Spaceman is in his office, smoking a cigarette while studying an X-ray of a human rib cage. He takes a puff and says, “Damn it. Where are my car keys?”

It's five seconds long, and I am in tears just thinking about it.

#### What motivated you to become a council member for the Writers Guild of America?

I come from a union family, so I was over the moon to join the guild and wanted to get more involved right away. It's not an exaggeration to say joining the WGA changed my life overnight. A lot of people assume working in entertainment is inherently glamorous for everyone, but throughout the industry, there are egregious discrepancies in pay and working conditions — just listen to testimonies from Hollywood assistants, or thousands of [union] crew members who nearly went on strike last year.

Though the struggle for fair treatment is constant, joining a union will guarantee significantly better benefits and pay. I'm active in my guild because I believe all writers across all mediums deserve a union, and I would love to get more entry-level workers unionized as well.

#### Should we use the illustration you loved so much that accompanied the item we published about your Emmy win?

Please use that drawing. Desperate to find out how I wronged the artist.

*Interview by Julianna Conley '22, the magazine's spring semester intern, who will be teaching in Sacramento, California, with Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education.*

# That one time...

*Notre Dame Magazine* invites personal essays of no more than 250 words on subjects of nostalgic interest to alumni of all ages. Selected submissions will be published in a future print edition or online at [magazine.nd.edu](http://magazine.nd.edu). Please send fun, meaningful or evocative stories from your student days on the topics listed below to associate editor Jason Kelly '95 at [jkelly30@nd.edu](mailto:jkelly30@nd.edu). New topics to come in each issue.

**ROOMMATES:** Deadline August 5, 2022

**THE GROTTO:** Deadline November 4, 2022

## Working the South

You avoided formalities in those days, spoke of everything in abbreviated terms. And so it was simply *the South*. You met your friends at the South. Made weekend plans in the South. Hustled to beat the dinner rush at the South.

Your student job was working the South.

You shuffled to your shift on winter mornings, roommates still asleep, snow underfoot. Or you kicked through leaves on autumn afternoons, hurrying from class. Or you sprinted across the quad on spring evenings, your buddies still shagging Frisbees from a darkening April sky.

You tore a plastic apron from a roll as thick as your arm. Found the flimsy serving gloves. Faced a relentless conveyor belt ferrying discarded scraps and half-eaten meals from the dining hall. You sorted bowls and glasses and silverware, fast as your hands could manage. Unloaded plates from a dishwasher the size of an elevator car. Scrubbed pots, hosed off baking sheets. You wiped down tables, still thinking about those Frisbees on the quad.

The ache of leaving those lawns.

But also, noticing the amber light in the wooden rafters. The neat, leaden grid on the Gothic windows. The astonishing sheen of a freshly mopped floor. How laughter lingered in the kitchen. How stories were told. The timely advice and dirty jokes. How the South became another classroom.

A second college.

And how, when the shift was over, you bummed smokes from old-timers on the

loading dock. Your lit cigarettes, poking holes in the night. Sparking more stories. More laughter. Illuminating an unexpected education.

— Dave Devine '94

## Our Lips Are Sealed

I envied the girls who used their hairbrushes as microphones, singing at the top of their lungs while dancing and laughing. They would pull me in, handing me an object to serve as a microphone. I was always embarrassed in this situation but tried to act thrilled.

I was swept along with the group on its way to an unscheduled performance at North Dining Hall. We sang "Our Lips Are Sealed" and danced atop a table while the song blasted on a boom box. I did not recognize anyone in the crowd and felt free to gyrate away. I did not realize the plan was to go to South Dining Hall next. What? I actually knew people there!

I thought I might hide in the crowd but was too slow to hop on the selected table and forced to dance on the side since there was no more room. I felt so exposed. I saw faces I knew. I tried to appear as though I was enjoying myself immensely. The song went on forever.

I'm still chagrined by how embarrassed I felt. What was the big deal? I was in the glory of my youth and with a group of women I loved who enjoyed dancing in front of a crowd. Oh, to go back and enjoy that feeling, instead of feeling embarrassed.

— Sue O'Reilly Vansandt '85

## Lost and Found

My very first morning in the dining hall intimidated me somewhat — learning my way around, walking into a room of strangers while thinking about the day of marching band rehearsals ahead. I tried not to feel lost as our group weaved between buildings on our way to North Dining Hall. Part of me was relieved at having my roommate also on campus early to audition for the band — at least one vaguely familiar person was with me! — but as we wandered around getting breakfast, I managed to lose her and the rest of the group from our residence hall.

I stood with a tray of food, looking at a crowd of total strangers, nervous and unsure of where to go next. About the time I resigned myself to sit at a random, empty table, I heard the last thing I ever expected: my name. Somehow, the Notre Dame student I had stayed with six months earlier recognized me and called my name loud enough for me to hear it across tables of friends catching up after their summer apart. I am still not sure how Angela noticed me. Getting invited to a full table that morning was exactly what I needed and turned into the first of many times when friends found me in a dining hall, often when I most needed it.

— Anna Schmall '06

## Family Meals

While Notre Dame is known for its legendary history of spirited events, the small, daily routines that connected us made undergraduate residency truly special. Every day we gathered at our Manor home to head over to South Dining Hall. To sit together and share was our healthy respite. "Duck" dissecting the limited menu of choices, the choreography of the salad bar, the twins' third servings, the occasional ice cream sundae smorgasbord, the less occasional steak night, *The Observer* coverage ("Did you read *Molarity* today?"), Jaime singing The Stones at top volume, lobbing leftovers during food wars (yes, you read that right!) and the endless laughter, all created unique bonds. This daily ritual made my friends family — and families that eat together, stay together . . . still strong, 40 years later. Fight on!

— Dan Tarullo '81

Read more submissions at [magazine.nd.edu/dininghalls](http://magazine.nd.edu/dininghalls).



## DOMERS IN THE NEWS

### Mallory McMorrow '08

was mad. The Michigan state senator had been singled out after a social media exchange with a colleague. "Progressive



social media trolls like Mallory McMorrow (D-Snowflake)," state Senator Lana Theis' fundraising email to supporters read, believe parents should defer to educators who "groom and sexualize" kids and who teach them "that 8-year-olds are responsible for slavery." McMorrow expressed her outrage in a statehouse speech that went viral. "You can't claim that you're targeting marginalized kids in the name of 'parental rights' if another parent is standing up and saying no," she said. The notion that learning about racial oppression should make white kids feel bad, she added, is "absolute nonsense." Invoking Father Ted Hesburgh's support for civil rights and her own Catholic upbringing, McMorrow concluded, "We will not let hate win." Her words reverberated, leading to national media appearances and a call from President Biden — which went to voicemail while McMorrow was reading to her 1-year-old daughter at bedtime. "So that will be a story that I certainly hold over my daughter's head forever," McMorrow told *New York* magazine. . . .

**Jim Muller '65**, a Boston-area cardiologist and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, has built bonds for decades with Russian doctors to promote peace between the United States and Russia, its former Cold War foe. A co-founder of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Muller has been a prominent proponent of diplomacy to reduce the catastrophic risk atomic weapons pose to humanity. In February, Muller proposed an initiative to fight heart disease, cancer and COVID-19 that received widespread support from Russian colleagues. Then Russia invaded Ukraine, stifling that collaboration and raising the nuclear threat anew. Less than a month later, Muller addressed the Russian Academy of Science. "The path to survival is clear," he said in the fluent Russian he learned as a Notre Dame student. "We must eliminate these weapons before they eliminate us." Humans can be consumed by differences and resort to violence,

Muller concluded, "but we can also think clearly, cooperate, negotiate and love. Let us choose these features of our nature." . . . Just after starting as a columnist at *The Sacramento Bee*,

**Melinda Henneberger '80** received a Pulitzer Prize in commentary for her work at *The Kansas City Star*. A finalist in 2019, she took the top honor this year, the Pulitzer citation said, "for persuasive columns demanding justice for



alleged victims of a retired police detective accused of being a sexual predator." When the prizes were announced in May, Henneberger said, "I'm so overwhelmed I really don't know what to say except that this is extremely humbling and, as I may have mentioned a few hundred times before, that it's past time for the FBI to show up with some handcuffs." . . . *Chicago Tribune* reporter **Madeline Buckley '11** gives voice to the voiceless. That's a criterion for the Anne Keegan Award, which Buckley received in May from the Chicago

Headline Club. Named for a late *Tribune* columnist, the award honors journalists who "tell stories of ordinary people in extraordinarily well-reported and well-written prose, muting their own voice to give one to the voiceless instead." Buckley's work includes stories about a college student fatally shot on the city's Green Line, a Holocaust survivor isolated from her family while suffering from COVID-19 and a food pantry volunteer who spent nine months hospitalized with the virus. . . . In April, **Karsonya "Kaye" Wise Whitehead '93M.A.**,

who hosts *Today with Dr. Kaye* on WEAA radio in Baltimore, became the first broadcaster to receive the Vernon Jarrett Medal for Journalistic Excellence. A Loyola University Maryland professor of communication and African and African American studies, Whitehead won the \$10,000 prize, presented by the Morgan State University School of Global Journalism and Communication, for a body of work that includes discussions about critical race theory and the trial of Derek Chauvin, the Minneapolis police officer convicted of murdering George Floyd. . . . FemCatholic,



an online publication focused on issues facing women of faith, investigated parental leave policies for employees in the nation's 176 Catholic dioceses. A March article by **Isabella Volmert '22**, **Renée Roden '14**, **'18MTS** and Kelly Sankowski reported that 44 dioceses "do not offer any paid leave." Sixty-nine dioceses did not respond or declined to provide information. The federal government does not mandate paid parental leave, and the 63 dioceses that provide full or partial paid leave offer a variety of reasons, from following state laws to supporting families in keeping with Church teaching. "I don't blame the Church for not having these policies," FemCatholic founder and CEO **Samantha Povlock '13** told the *National Catholic Register*. "I truly believe it's a lack of awareness and adapting to the ever-evolving culture." . . . **Laura Schumacher '85** established the Diversity in Law program at the biopharmaceutical firm AbbVie, where she's chief legal officer and vice chairman of external affairs. The effort to promote equal opportunity extends into advocacy in the Chicago area, where AbbVie is based, and throughout the legal industry. The American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession has commended her work, naming Schumacher one of five recipients of the 2022 Margaret Brent Award, named for the 17th-century Catholic pioneer who practiced law in the American colonies and advocated for women's suffrage. . . . The Kentucky Derby completed a triple crown for **Lindsay Schanzer '11**. The NBC Sports producer has overseen the network's coverage of horse racing's other two jewels, the Preakness and the Belmont Stakes, and on May 7 became the first woman to lead a broadcast of the legendary Derby. "What's really important to me is on this day

we're reaching an audience, many of whom never watched horse racing," Schanzer told The Associated Press, "so it's inviting them and also not alienating the audience that watches horse racing throughout the year." □



# THE CLASSES



MATT CASHORE '94

**37 Class Secretary — Kathleen Coverick '08;** kathleen.coverick@gmail.com

**38 Class Secretary — Meg Julian '03, '06JD;** 804 Jersey Ave., Spring Lake NJ 07762; 646-246-5480; megjulian@gmail.com

## 39 Gone Too Soon

With sorrow, I report that **Mark Mitchell IV '96** passed away in March. He has been an avid contributor to these Class Notes, and I always enjoyed our correspondence. Mark's efforts to keep alive the history of this class and the University we hold dear resulted in the re-introduction of many colorful figures from Notre Dame lore in recent columns. Readers such as **Dan Wesolowski '74** have reached out to share their lifelong inspiration by men such as **Frank O'Malley '32**, another Irish legend who left us too soon. Dan wrote that he took every class O'Malley offered and, despite feedback that could be harsh and insightful (poems were recorded as either "routine" or "revelation"), Prof. O'Malley's letters of recommendation opened many doors for him. Mark opened the archives of his late grandfather **Mark J. Mitchell Jr.**, who served as the editor-in-chief of *Scholastic* in 1938-39 and played a key role in the first publication of the phrase "Subway Alumni," which was printed in a *Scholastic* column prior to the 1938 ND-Army game. His stories were always

witty, on point, and incredibly interesting. Though his words and memory will live on, I will miss our prep for this column and his shared love for the history of what came before us. At the end, Mark was comforted in the arms of his parents, **Mark Mitchell III '67** and Chris (Bradley). His funeral Mass was well attended by friends, family, and representatives from the University. The *Alma Mater*, *Notre Dame Our Mother*, was played. This song, created following the tragedy of Knute Rockne's death, has motivated and comforted countless men and women in times of sorrow and joy since its composition. The story behind this "Hymn of Hope" is well captured on the faith.nd.edu website and emphasizes that, when things are turned upside down, Mary's intercession brings strength, resilience, and compassion. Included at my own decision and through no other request is the link to the Mark J. Mitchell IV Memorial Fund: [giving.nd.edu/mitchell](http://giving.nd.edu/mitchell). When this column is printed, the 2022 Reunion will have come and gone, marking over 30,000 days (83 years) since graduation. An invitation is extended to submit news of any still living 1939 class members and spouses, or stories of those who have gone before. Notre Dame, Our Mother, tender, strong, and true; proudly in the heavens, gleams thy gold and blue ... and our hearts forever, love thee, Notre Dame. — **Seth O'Donnell '04;** 17 Marion St., East Greenwich RI 02818, 603-828-7335; [seth.odonnell@gmail.com](mailto:seth.odonnell@gmail.com)

**40 Class Secretary — Rebecca Smith;** 542 Fairview Ave., Glen Ellyn IL 60137; 630-254-4485; [rebecca.antas@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.antas@gmail.com)

**41 Class Secretary — Meg Julian '03, '06JD;** 804 Jersey Ave., Spring Lake NJ 07762; 646-246-5480; [megjulian@gmail.com](mailto:megjulian@gmail.com)

## 42 A Glass of Cheer to You

2022 commemorates the 80th anniversary of the Class of '42 when they graduated in May 1942. These are the graduates who went from the classroom to the air, sea, and land battlefields of WWII. Taken from the VE Day 75th anniversary poem by Belinda Morris, it's also fitting for the Class of '42: "We thank you, we salute you, you gave your hearts, your souls, your all, to keep us safe and well. Your gracious strength and sacrifice in our hearts will always dwell. The battlefield fell silent, the war was won for you and me. Our heroes heard the bugle call, and we were all set free. It brought us all together and standing hand in hand, uniting in freedom to rebuild our land. You gave us love and strength to help us pave the way to make our world a better place and to give us our today. Because of you, we're stronger. You filled us all with hope. No matter what is thrown our way you have taught us how to cope. Thank you doesn't seem enough, considering the gratitude you're due. Today we raise a glass of



cheer and smile as we remember you." Happy 80th anniversary to the Class of '42, on earth and in heaven. — **Ann Schanuel**; annjolene2@aol.com

**43 Class Secretary — A. Robert Masters '05**; 1906 E. Madison St., South Bend IN 46617; res 574-904-8315; bus 574-234-0121; armasters@nfmilaw.com

#### 44 An Irish Friendship Prayer

This column has been quiet the past few issues of the magazine, without news to share of classmates. But you've been on my mind and no doubt on the minds of each other. So, in that spirit, your author offers an Irish friendship prayer that I came across recently: "May the friendships you make, be those which endure, And all of your gray clouds be small ones for sure. And trusting in Him to whom we all pray, May a song fill your heart every step of the way." Be well as you reflect on those you met under the Golden Dome and those friendships that last a lifetime. — **Laura (Julian) Fraser '00**; 1021 Royal Bombay Ct., Naperville IL 60563; 773-255-9843; lejfraser@outlook.com

#### 45 Notre Damely Yours

I enjoy sending postcards as I travel, especially to the gentlemen of the Class of '45. **Emil Klosinski's** daughter, Denise, wrote after finding a recent postcard at her parents' house: "What a nice surprise and it's much appreciated." To our delight, we discovered our fathers knew each other through the Navy program. Emil was a Naval pilot during WWII. Sadly, Emil passed away at home in 2017 at age 96. Emil's son kept the *Notre Dame Magazine* subscription and looks forward to reading each issue. As South Bend natives, Emil's father and uncle knew George Gipp personally and his father played football (in the infancy of pro football) with Knute Rockne, George Gipp, and other noted names. Emil was seven years old when he met Rockne. With his knowledge of sports, Emil wrote a book: *Gipp at Notre Dame, The Untold Story*, that described that era and the mystique of Gipp. It was a labor of love for Emil, and it was filled with never-before-shared first-hand information about George Gipp and his multifaceted personality. It also gives an appreciation for Notre Dame and South Bend in the 1920s. Happily, this book is now back in print. Another author and scholar, **F. J. (Joe) Pequinney**, died peacefully at home this past January. After ND, Joe earned his master's from the U of Minnesota and his PhD from Harvard. As a professor emeritus of English at Stony Brook, Joe was an influential teacher. He wrote *Such Is My Love: A Study of Shakespeare's Sonnets*, a major resource in Shakespeare and gay studies. He also wrote many articles on same-sex love as it appeared in Dante's *Divine Comedy* and English renaissance drama. In 2017, Joe received the GALA ND/SMC Award for Distinguished Academic Achievement honoring the fact that themes "of same-sex love are today recognized and taught with greater honesty as a result" of his work. Joe's thoughts inspired generations of students. He enjoyed European travel, food, wine and animated conversations with friends and family. He radiated love that will be missed by his husband and companion of 53 years, Steve Mays, his sister, and many nieces and nephews and their children's children. In January, while my husband and I were RVing around California, we stopped in Monterey to visit **Robert Thomas** in his beautiful independent/assisted living facility. Capt. Bob literally snuck us into his apartment through a side door saying, "follow the sidewalk around the corner, take the second left, make no eye contact with anyone and I'll meet you at the door." We heard stories associated with many wonderful military awards and saw memorabilia from his long career in the Navy. The photos of his wife and two daughters were a snapshot of his blessed life. Bob had stories of ND hotspots in the 1940s such as the Boars Head restaurant, where a generation later my husband and I had our rehearsal dinner, and the campus "Huddle," with bowling alley and all. Back in his day, they created their own dogbook with pictures of the military classmates and short bios. It was fun to see the youthful faces of the gentlemen I talk with on the phone but have never met. I commented that one photo looked like he could be a pro football player. It was **Robert (Bob) Skoglund** who earned three letters with the Fighting Irish. He played with the Green Bay Packers in 1947. Capt. Bob is a fount of facts and wisdom. He celebrated his 97th birthday on March 31. Happy birthday, Bob. Full circle: Denise's father always signed off: Notre Damely yours. — **Melissa Erkins Rackish '77**; 1224

Campbell St., Williamsport PA 17701; 570-971-2296; mrackish@comcast.net

#### 46 Met the Pope

**Franklin J. Forsythe**, 97, late of New Lenox IL and formerly of Manhattan, passed away on Nov. 13, 2021. After graduating from Joliet Catholic High School in 1942, he attended ND. He was a proud patriot and honorably served in the Army during WWII in the China Burma India Theater. After returning home, he attended Worsham College of Mortuary Science, class of 1947. He was a licensed funeral director and embalmer for 74 years. He founded an ambulance service and Forsythe Funeral Home that has served the community since 1949. He loved to play golf and was blessed by having two holes-in-one. One of his life's highlights was when he and Emily met with Pope John Paul II, President Jimmy Carter and First Lady Rosalynn Carter at the White House. — **Paul Taggett**; 10 W. Grove Ave., D15, Lake Wales FL 33853; paultaggett@gmail.com

#### 47 Sons of ND

My updates to our Class of '47 readers and friends are brief but significant. I am saddened to report the recent passings of **Otto A. Shander** on Feb. 9 and **Dr. Thomas E. "Tom" Snyder** on Dec 19, 2021. May they rest in God's perfect peace. It's always good to hear from the Class of '47, so please keep in touch with your stories and updates. Go Irish. — **Eileen Z. Surprenant '09, '15**; emzander@gmail.com

#### 48 Updates and Correction

I heard from our good friend **John D. Cahill** of Salt Lake City at the end of January. In addition to his BA in philosophy from ND, John has a JD from Marquette, and he completed a BA and MA in Spanish literature at age 60. But perhaps most of all, I esteem John for his sense of humor and rapier wit, especially wielding the underutilized word "superannuate." I always appreciate John's ND stories as well. He writes that in September 1944, he jumped on the Union Pacific train from Salina KS to Kansas City MO, where he boarded the Santa Fe Railroad to Chicago and then took the South Shore train to South Bend and Notre Dame. John stayed at Brownson Hall for his freshman year, whereas Carroll Hall was for sophomores at the time. I was a loyal patron of the South Shore during my years at ND and I recall a favorite American history class in Brownson Hall with **Rev. Tom Blantz, CSC, '57, '63MA**, convenient to my own undergrad home in Lewis Hall. It's affirming to me that, despite the separation of decades, John and I (and many of you, dear readers) frequented the same buildings and byways. It is my understanding that Brownson and perhaps the South Shore look a bit different now for the next generation of Domers. But it's still the same Notre Dame. In our notes from the spring issue, I inadvertently misspelled the last name of **Mike Brauweiler '74**. My sincere apologies to the entire clan, of which there are many. As someone whose last name is frequently misspelled, I appreciate the lighthearted correction. Thank you. Finally, I am saddened to report the recent passing of **Raymond A. "Ray" Bogucki** on Jan. 4, **Samuel V.D. "Sam" Smith** on Dec. 1, **John M. "Jack" Freese** on Nov. 20, **Stephen L. "Steve" Pavela** on Nov. 6. May they rest in God's perfect peace. It's always good to hear from the Class of 1948, so please keep in touch with your stories and updates. Go Irish. — **Eileen Z. Surprenant '09, '15**; emzander@gmail.com

#### 49 Veterans Remembered

I am reporting after a long visit with daughter Lisa in Brazil and by daughter Madeleine from New Zealand. The Class of 1949 probably had the largest share of World War II veterans, so, eventually, it has more notes of veterans' passing. **Guy Charles Berado**, 94, died Nov. 9. A World War II Navy veteran, Guy became a special agent for the FBI in 1950, serving until retirement in 1977. He then founded Cartel Security Consultants which he ran for 15 years. A devout Catholic, loving husband, father and grandfather, Guy's outgoing, larger-than-life personality was infectious. He was always available for sage advice, help and support for family and friends. He enjoyed cooking, boating, fishing, hunting, golfing and time with his family. Guy is predeceased by his loving and adored wife of 71 years, Joan M. Francis, and his eldest daughter, Christine. He is survived by children James, Lisa and Diane, and

three grandchildren. **Paul J. McNamee**, who died Feb. 27, served for three years in the Army Medical Corps, 17 months in England and Germany. He returned in 1946 to complete college at Notre Dame. Two years later, his family returned to Illinois, where he had been born, to the family farm near Towanda, where he took up farming. Shortly thereafter, he met Suzanne J. Hanley. Marriage followed in 1953 and, after the infant death of their firstborn, they had seven surviving children — Catherine, Mary, Lucy, Paul, Peter, Daniel and Maggie — 15 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. It was a large, loving, proudly Irish family. Suzanne died in 2010. After a few years of farming, Paul joined State Farm Insurance, where he served for 31 years until retiring in 1987. **William "Bill" Hessert** passed away peacefully at home on Nov. 30, having said his goodbyes to the love of his life, Susan Shipman, his wife of 60 years, and his children, Tara, Timothy and Tracey. In the Air Force at the end of World War II, he then earned a college degree at Notre Dame, initiating a lifelong frustration with lack of press coverage of ND football. Bill's Hessert Shops expanded to five locations in South Jersey/Philadelphia malls, but his true passion was his children, of whose accomplishments he bragged. He also enjoyed making stained glass, daily walks with Susan to Starbucks, weekly luncheons at Michelangelo's, walking his dogs and, when they were gone, his neighbors' dogs. He is survived by his sister, Joan Dugan, and five grandchildren. Lifelong Louisville resident **William Allen "Bill" Nunnelley Jr.** died Nov. 1 at 94. Although barely 18 at the end of World War II, he was an Army veteran. Bill became a registered architect, home builder and real estate broker when not making one of his four holes-in-one (including two on the same hole on the same day 10 years apart) at Big Spring Country Club where he was a member for 57 years. Such success made him a Kentucky Colonel. A founding family member of St. Margaret Mary Church, he attended the daily communion service there. And, daily, he looked forward to happy hour sharing laughs and stories with family and friends. Predeceased by his beloved wife and best friend of 59 years, Dorothy Timmel, sisters Elizabeth and Dorothy, and brother Robert, Bill is survived by sons Bill, Tom and Jim, daughter Nancy, seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. **Louis Tracy**, 95, of Franklin OH died Jan. 12. An Eagle Scout and outstanding track athlete, Louis worked his way through school to a Doctor of Law at Notre Dame while becoming a 1945 All-American in cross country. He was then a founding member and managing partner of Tracy and Tracy Attorneys in West Carrollton OH for 65 years. He also served as West Carrollton City Attorney, Rotary president and in several other civic roles. Lou was married to Estelle, his best friend and mother of their five children, who predeceased him. He was loved by children, grandchildren, in-laws, staff and friends. Proud of his hard-working parents, brother Jack, and his Irish heritage, Lou was a great friend to many and a very charitable person. Lawyer son John and daughter Bridget are sustaining his model commitment to the legal profession. **James Bernard Kesting**, 93, died Feb. 4. After graduating with a degree in architecture, James married Joanne Schlageter. From their union came Karen, Mary Jo, Diane and Susan; 11 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Joanne, Diane and Susan preceded him in death. James' faith and volunteering in Gesu and St. Joseph parishes sustained him in these losses. He had a long career in construction in Toledo OH, chiefly as an estimator. Early on, he discovered a joy in golfing and the many friendships he found there. He and Joanne spent time on Florida courses as well as those at home. He also maintained friendships with school chums, extended family and many friends.

**Peter L. Pullman** of Tonawanda NY died Dec. 12. At ND, Pete and **Iffy Ifflander** managed the pool hall. A military police desk sergeant during the Korean War, Pete became a General Motors administrator and, after retirement, a litigation consultant. Pete is survived by his wife, Joan Mann Pullman, daughter Karen, son Peter Jr., sister Helen Coran, and grand- and great-grandchildren. His brother, Nicholas, predeceased him. Pete was a member of Tan Tara Golf Club and an avid reader of history. — **Bill Slavick**; whslavick@gmail.com

#### 50 Always More Milks for Lujack

I had a great phone conversation with **Bill Donovan** in April, and he shared memories of his time at Notre Dame. One humorous anecdote was related to a job he had at the dining hall. "According to Ziggy, my manager," Bill



said, "I was supposed to ensure that each student only took two milks when they came through the food line. This was easy to control with most of my classmates. But, when the Fighting Irish football players came through — guys like [Johnny Lujack '48], [George Connor '48], [Bill Fisher '48], [Ziggy Czarowski '48] and [Leon Hart] to name a few — I didn't have the heart to stop them from taking as many as they wanted. Regardless of what Ziggy said, I felt I was doing my part to keep them undefeated." Bill also told me about the good times he had when he got together with other Domer classmates who lived in New Jersey. Sadly, most of them are gone now. Bill has remained close with **Packy Butler**, but they have not been able to visit since COVID started; he hopes to resume contact soon. Bill remains active on Facebook and in his community. **Michael Weisbecker '93** contacted me with news that his father, **Leo Weisbecker**, passed away in North Carolina on Feb. 25 at age 93. After leaving ND, Leo earned a master's degree at the U of Wisconsin and then served in the Navy at the Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory in San Francisco until 1957. He later had a distinguished engineering career with Phillips 66, Westinghouse Electric, Aerojet General, Stanford Research and RTI International. Leo's obituary in the *Durham Herald Sun* reported that "He liked to cook, ride his bike, read books and enjoyed an occasional beer. He pulled for the Fighting Irish and the Atlanta Braves. Leo was a devout Catholic and a longtime parishioner at St. Martin's in Sunnyvale CA and St. Thomas More in Chapel Hill." Leo's wife of 51 years, Genevieve, predeceased him but he is survived by five children and nine grandchildren. **Julie Pierson Doyle '85** emailed to let me know that her family attended a memorial service for **William E. Pierson** in Portland OR in late January. **Ann Pierson Lei '81** and **Patti Pierson '94** (Julie's sisters), along with three members of the following generation, proudly continue their dad's Notre Dame traditions. If you would like to share news about the class or stories from your time at ND, please let me know. — **Jim Coogan '91**; 4 Gile Drive, Unit 2A, Hanover NH 03755; jcooganv@alumni.nd.edu

**51 Class Secretary — Jim Jennings**; jmj4703@gmail.com

**52 Class Secretary — Tony Messina**; 8202 Drybank Drive, Huntington Beach CA 92646; 626-695-4299; tonyandirene@gmail.com

### 53 Honoring Tom and Dede Reedy

Chicago area classmates gathered on March 31 to honor **Tom Reedy** and to thank him for hosting a 1953 reunion luncheon every year, without a break, for 35 years, and out of his own pocket. Hundreds of us throughout the US have attended one, two, three or almost all of these events. A careful review of the records has shown that Tom's efforts, along with the Class Notes and Broadcasts put together on a regular basis by yours truly, class secretary **Jerry Mulvihill**, with technical assistance from **Cullen Langford**, have made our class the most cohesive and congenial of all ND classes. Present at last month's event, in addition to Tom, were **Bob Berner**, **Bob McKenna**, **Marty Wehner**, **Bob Lee**, **Stan Stasch**, **Don Bergman** and **Tom Morsch**. Arrangements were made, and memorabilia was provided by **Michael McNulty**, who was prevented from attending by a temporary medical event. **Dave O'Leary**, **Vic George**, **Dave Sponseller**, **Lou Bourjaily** and **Gene McEnery** wanted to be there, but impediments arose. Tom's email box and answering machine were reportedly filled with congratulatory messages from classmates. The group had a lively discussion of memorable presentations made over the years at the reunion luncheons by **Al De Crane**, **Bill Reidy**, **Andy Hemon**, **Bill Gaudreau**, **Ralph Argen**, **John Lattnier** (honorary) and **Rev. Ernest Bartell, CSC**. Many recalled O'Leary's telephonic interview of **Regis Philbin**, and **Tex McMonagle**, who gave us an insider's view of President Trump's collection of in-house generals, most of whom were Catholic, with assurances not to worry. The group was flattered to have two lovely ladies join the lunch, **Dede Reedy** and **Jean Bergman**. They added a bit of class to an event that might have gotten out of hand had they not been there. To add your email message to the many that Tom and Dede received, send to dri446@comcast.net. Tom Reedy joined our class with 27 other Chicago Fenwick High School graduates. He served quietly, competently and without fanfare in elective student

government positions during our four years. Following his return from Greece as a Navy officer, he worked to build an expansive heating and cooling business in Chicago, employing at times more than 650 union tradesmen. He and Dede headed a family of seven children and exhibited limitless generosity through the years. The record attendance reached 160 classmates, which drew the attention and favorable comment of **Rev. Ted Hesburgh, CSC**, saying it was the only class of which he was aware that was meeting annually. Tom and Dede bring real meaning to the words "Notre Dame couple." Thanks, from all of the Class of 1953. You are special. **Bernie Hester** stopped on his way home to Illinois from Florida to visit with **Dave Flynn** in Columbus GA, a near-annual visit. **Paul Quinn**, who returned to ND following his draft service, completed pre-med, matriculated at Georgetown Dental School, had a solo practice in Virginia for 35 years, retired eight years ago, and now resides in an assisted living facility in Virginia. **Jim Groves** relocated his law practice in South Bend and is still going strong. **Tex McMonagle** recently celebrated his 90th birthday with family and 66 of his closest friends. **Rev. Thomas Smith, CSC**, celebrated his 50th ordination anniversary with other Holy Cross jubilarians. Pray for Father Tom, as he prays daily for our class. Deaths include **Joe O'Neil** and **Jim Rogers**, lifelong St. Paul friends, and **Dan Cafarelli**, reported by his devoted daughter **Maria '84**. — **Jerry Mulvihill**; 51098 Heatherton Court, Granger IN 46530; res 574-287-3460; domerhill@aol.com

**53JD Class Secretary — Bob Berry**; 5806 Spaulding St., Omaha NE 68104; 402-457-4142; yokeemup@aol.com

### 54 Spring Is Here

Just a heads up on why no column appeared in the last issue: After submitting the column, I noticed an error and a few missing lines. I contacted the magazine and unfortunately the corrections fell through the cracks. Here is what you missed: I had a nice letter from **Lola Koch**, **George's** widow. Last fall she sold her home, moving to an independent, assisted living community. She thought she was giving up a lake view but has another and many old neighbors are residents. She said there is lots to do. A plus for her is that she is three miles from her old neighborhood. Now the spring updates: On Feb. 14, I received the news that I was the great-grandfather of a boy. I was thrilled and felt very blessed. The original plan was for me to meet Cooper over the Memorial Day weekend in New Jersey at a family event. But there was a change and the whole family will be here in a few days. The big New Jersey weekend is a party for me, my 90th birthday. Now, my days may be like many of yours: doctor visits and tests, grocery shopping etc. But if you are bored, volunteer at a hospital, Meals-on-Wheels or your church. You will find by volunteering you get great satisfaction. The following were called home: **John Libert**, **Alexander "Lex" Petrillo**, **Arthur Wenzel**, **Gary Swenson**, **Earl Rudolph Jr.**, **John Sanlegel**, **Richard Gerbrachl**, **Marvin Sculati**, **Walter "Bud" Gruger Jr.**, **William Nelson**, **Cary "Topper" Stevenson**, **Bob Swanson**, **Frank Donlon** and **Robert Roney**. — **Jack Mertens**; 2100 Ocean Shore Blvd., Apt. 203, Ormond Beach FL 32176; 845-216-7251; jacknd54@gmail.com

### 55 What's Going On

The seasons for hockey, men's basketball and women's basketball ended too soon. They had great years, and next year's outlook is positive. Now after a hibernation, let's record what has been going on with the Class of 1955. **Rev. Jim Blantz, CSC**, has offered his magic show for Reunion. The details are being worked out. **Czar Don Shanley** added to his humor barrage. His most recent includes a description of how politics works and the impact of rednecks on US defense. **Millard Battles** checked in, celebrating his 90th birthday. We wish him many more. **Walt Langford** provided a nice summary of the funeral Mass for his brother **Jim '59** at Notre Dame. Several priests concelebrated, including **Rev. Monk Malloy, CSC**. Walt's brother was director of ND Press for almost 20 years. The visit included a tour of the fencing room featuring busts of former coaches **Mike DeCicco '49**, '50MS and Walt's dad, **Walt Sr. '30**. **Dick Beeman** provided a great observation: "Reach out to someone who is lonely and hurting. You will be mediating the Holy Spirit. Peace, classmates." **Dave Scheele** may be "Mr. Activity." He plays

the glockenspiel with five groups and gets in pickleball three mornings a week. A nice note came from **Jack Flynn** who had lunch with **Howard Hart** and **Dick Cook**. Dick is wrestling with medical issues. The lunch provided a great update on the Windy City bunch. First, **Howie's** handicap holds at 11 and he shoots his age 90 percent of the time. He continues to play at the Oak Park Country Club, former venue for Jack and Dick Beeman. Now for the grandkids sweepstakes. Jack awards the top prize to **Jerry Hillsman**. He just welcomed his 12th great-grandchild. The other prize goes to **Jerry Prassas**, who has the youngest grandchild. Warning to the **LPGA**: **Sandra Fullmer** is back on the links shooting in the 70s. My freshman roommate, **Dick Makuck**, checked in from Connecticut. He and Jane are all set for Reunion as are our president, **Dick Burke**, and his wife. Correction: The last set of notes identified **John Murphy** as the caller from Cape Cod. The caller was **John McCarthy**. **Joe McGlynn** sent a photo indicating the time involved with shopping with your spouse. I heard from **Al Cowles**. His wife is wrestling with medical issues. Keep her in your prayers. **Jim Conly** and **John Kennedy** checked in. They, **Al Cowles** and **Bill Glass** can't make Reunion. My suggestion to those who can't make it this year is to try for next year. **Jim Hesburgh** sent some great photos of the memorial for **Admiral Bill Walsh**. **Jerry Hughes** supplied a list of good advice. My favorite: "Happiness is not having to set an alarm clock." Our thoughts and prayers go to the families of classmates who have recently passed away: Wife of **George Marr**, **Robert Jasman**, **Don Santschi**, **John Herber**, **Robert Gosdick**, **Frank Newman**. They are now in Our Lady's care. Keep in touch. — **Tom Magill**; 561-842-3019; magillt@bellsouth.net

### 56 Remembering Classmates

As I write this, it is spring in Western New York. All should note that what I recite below is edited by the ND Alumni Association before it's published in *ND Magazine*. Please excuse misspells. **Steve Stofko** died Jan. 7 in Fredericksburg VA. He was Georgetown Law, Air Force and FBI agent for 25 years. Other FBI agents in our class: **John F. Cooney** of Augusta GA and yours truly. **Don Marchione** died Feb. 21 in Guilford CT. He was in the Army and a news reporter for *New Haven Register*. **Gilles Gallant** died Oct. 22 in Indianapolis. He was a Marine Corps officer, had supermarkets and restaurants, and was buried in Cedar Grove Cemetery at ND. **Jim Mason** died Nov. 9 in Webster NY. He worked for Xerox Corp, was listed in *Who's Who of Engineering* and member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers. **Ken King** died Oct. 30 in Wilmington DE. He was a captain in the Air Force, was associated with Fairmount Supply, and dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi. **Joe Kalbas's** son **Brian Kalbas '89** is the women's tennis coach at U of North Carolina, No. 1 in the country. There was a great article in *ND Magazine* on **Bill "Toad" Ryan**, "Advocate of the Last Resort." Great lessons for all. Mother Teresa once said, "We can do no great things, only small things with great love." Molly Mulflur wrote about her dad, **Joe Mulflur**, All-American golfer at ND. Some 11 Mulflur family members are grads of ND. Thanks to **Bill Stotzer** who sent an article from *The Irish Rover* by Sophia Martinson of Oct. 27, 2016. The article considers what should ground the actions of a Catholic university. Good idea: subscription to the *Rover*. **Charlie Conway** dropped me a line about metaphysics. I wrote him back: "What the hell are you talking about? I knew you when you were one of the greatest interhall football players in the history of Notre Dame." This May will be the 66th anniversary of our graduation and the 70th anniversary of our arrival at ND on Sept. 6, 1952, when **Gene O'Connor** and I arrived at the Navy Drill Hall for assignment to St. Edward's Hall. Neither of us had been west of Erie PA. **Don Costello** reports that he and **Jim Revord**, two of the 17 grads of Loyola Academy, Chicago, were also in line at the Drill Hall. Stay well. Go Irish. — **Ed Cosgrove**; 525 Delaware Ave., Buffalo NY 14202; bus 716-854-2211; eccosgrovelawfirm.com

**56JD Class Secretary — Lauren Starkey '08**; 703-927-2089; lkstarkey@gmail.com

**57 Class Secretary — John A. Slevin**; 6123 N. Mandalay Dr., Peoria IL 61614; 309-453-8986; jslev57@gmail.com

**58 Class Secretary — Arthur L. Roule Jr.**; 114 Sagamore Parkway, La Porte IN 46350; alroule@yahoo.com

**58JD Class Secretary — John F. Murray; 2036**  
Cheltenham Court, Woodbridge VA 22192; 703-494-2482;  
johnandnell66@gmail.com

### 59 Reminder

Class of 1959 virtual rosary takes place every Saturday at 9 a.m. Eastern time. Please join us. No FaceTime, no Zoom or similar app. You're alone, but we're with you. Thank you again to **Jim Keegan** of Wilmington DE and all those who helped him write this column for the last 41 years, until his sudden death on Nov. 15. An important request comes from the ND laundry. They've discovered two pairs of khaki pants size 32 waist, 34 length, bearing laundry number 444 that was used only by Class of '59. They desperately need to return them to the owner. Please contact me to facilitate. The above November date reminded me of an evening in November 1954 when my dad casually asked me, his 16-year-old high school senior, "Have you been thinking of going to college?" Genius that I was, I blurted, "I want to go to Notre Dame!" A month later, I received an application and a letter of acceptance thanks to my dad's friend, **John McLaughlin '34**, who knew someone in ND admissions. I didn't even know where ND was. I've wondered if anyone else in our class had a similar act of divine intervention in going to ND. I hope you'll share that for our next class news. My contact information is at the end of this column. Another thing I've wondered is the extent of the class's contribution to the world's population. Counting children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, there's probably a lot. I'm not looking for an over/under number, just a tally. For example, **Harry Leinenweber** of Chicago told me he has 21 grandchildren. So, just send me a number. I'll add them up and estimate an amount for our deceased classmates. I'm guessing that there are 6,000 descendants. Under the caption, "Whatever Happened To ...," I'd like to hear from those living "off grid," and/or remotely, including those in federal and state penitentiaries. This is your chance to educate us on those lifestyles. You can do this any time, and it will be in our class news. Finally, we've been remiss. We should be thinking seriously about class rewards. Therefore, I'm accepting nominations for categories like Best Dressed, Most Humorous, Least Remembered or Most Forgotten, or any category important to you. Heard from but not seen: **Frank Nacozy** (134 Cavanaugh, 108 Lyons, 319 Pangborn, 2 Fisher) reports he is a widower spending half the year in Palm Springs, and half the year on a sailboat in San Diego. **Joe McMann** (322 Cavanaugh, 223 Lyons, 372 Dillon, 329 Alumni) is in Houston, and is retired after 35 years with NASA, developing space suits. **Butch Reardon** (144 Farley, 104 Morrissey, 104 Sorin, 308 Sorin) lives about five minutes from me in St. Louis and is ready to renew acquaintances after many, many years during the ND Club of St. Louis senior luncheon in early May. **Jim Coorsen** (431 Farley, 306 Badin, 273 Dillon, 208 Alumni) is in Louisville "doing lawyer stuff," and trading phone calls with me. **John Hart** (205 Cavanaugh, 418 Morrissey, 203 Dillon, 139 Fisher) spends time between Kiawah Island SC and New Jersey residences. Among recent deaths of classmates was **Jim Langford** on March 3. Jim was with our class freshman year and then left to study with the Dominican Friars (St. Louis Province) and served as a Dominican for 10 years. Later, at the invitation of **Rev. Ted Hesburgh, CSC**, Jim was the director of the Notre Dame Press for 15 years. He left that position to create Corby Books. Some classmates might also remember Jim as the son of **Prof. Walter Langford '30** who taught Spanish and coached the ND tennis and fencing teams. Other deaths included **Dick Katis** of Boxford MA (3/19/22), one of 32 classmates from Fenwick High School in Oak Park IL who was in the Glee Club and a Monogram winner in swimming. **Jack Thomas** (3/27/21) was known to many as the tenor soloist for the Glee Club and as the brother-in-law of **John Beliveau**, Lewiston ME. Additional deaths are listed at the end of the Class Notes section of this magazine. — **Bob Brennan**; 855 Clubhouse Drive, Ballwin MO; 314-807-1011; bobbrennan76@gmail.com

### 60 News from All Over

A luncheon was arranged with Diane and **Fred Gade** and Gretchen and **Mike McKee** in April. Sounds like the luncheon was attended by the only two '60 guys who were in the ND Glee Club all four years. In comparing marriages, it sounds like Mike and Gretchen had two proposals for marriage. As Mike says, "I appreciated your comment about



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my feelings for Gretchen. They haven't changed since we first started performing together when we were both 14. And, 53 years between proposals? Why, isn't that the usual wait? Gretchen just wanted to test me to see if I was persistent, and if that 1960 question was still in effect." The Gades' years together were not reported. An interesting communique came from **Paul Meert**, who will be remembered by many of you for his barbershop for \$3. He cut hair in Breen-Phillips, Howard and Pangborn, earning \$1,600 in Pangborn junior year. The Meerts now have a granddaughter at ND who was one of the leprechaun mascots this past year. **Tom Biever's** son says Rev. Edward Sorin, CSC, founded a second university in Austin TX, St. Edward's. We see Tom regularly at our monthly luncheons here in the Naples/Ft. Myers area. From **Tim Carroll**: "I just finished a major hike on the Mormon Trail (and me, a good Catholic boy, on the Mormon Trail) and discovered I was eight miles from my car. Happily, a cowboy came by and gave me a lift in his pickup. See how the Holy Spirit protects ND loonies. It's been a great hiking year and I'll be back at Sunnyslope in Michigan soon. Our minireunion in September sounds great." A reminder: our minireunion will be during the ND-Cal game weekend, Sept 16-17. Dinner will be Friday evening at 6 p.m. at Morris Park Country Club, followed by the game on Saturday. Let me know if you plan to attend. Several of you have let me know already of your intentions to attend. We hope to get a group of tickets for any of you who need them, so add your needs to your email when you send it. An interesting story came from Sandra and **Larry Tholen** on finding **Bob Pietrzak's** obituary. Bob passed away April 2. Larry says, "Our Notre Dame tennis-playing daughter, **Lisa '94**, lives in Boston near her teammate/classmate **Melissa Harris '94**. Our Lisa knew Zak [Bob's nickname] and Mary Harris, Zak's wonderful partner, and informed me on April 3 that Bob passed last night. I sent condolences to Mary and have response from her." A note from **Chuck Sawicki**: "The March 2022 Gettysburg Notre Dame Club bulletin featured me as their member spotlight. Remind our class to support their local Notre Dame Clubs. The Gettysburg Notre Dame Club has been consistently a top small club with mostly subway alumni, out of 275 ND Clubs around the world. Feel free to organize a class trip with Mass in front of Father Corby's battlefield statue during the summer. Thousands of Notre Dame alumni stop by that statue every year. We had a major turnout for our monthly classmate luncheon in March. Colleen lined up 12 of the wives and we had 13 classmates for a nice group of 25. Season's 52 lined up a nice group of four-top tables and so we all sat around the outside ring of the table grouping. Everyone had a wonderful time." So, what's going on in your neck of the woods? Drop me an email or two with some short stories. Thanks. — **Joseph F. Jansen**; 9190 Southmont

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jffjansen@aol.com

### 61 Grand Time Was Had by All

And why not? The ND Club of Naples put on the program at the annual ND '61 gathering on St. Patrick's Day. (Bless us all.) Our class had 56 loyal sons at the Talis Golf & Country Club at Mass and dinner. **Bill Henneghan**, as well as all classmates and their families, were remembered at the Mass that preceded the feast. Among the 56 were some notable mates and spouses, too many to list here. At the club meeting, **Frank Annese** and wife Chick provided a guest list and pledged to (Lord willing) "continue this event until no one shows up." A notable among notables present was Joan Lennon. An add-on that impressed me was the guest speaker **Johnny Lujack '48**, who led the Fighting Irish to three National Championships. **Joe Libby** wrote to say that while he was there, he had dinner with Johnny, age 97. If I am still giving speeches at that age, I'll probably have to have an interpreter and a doctor with me. **John Hoey** followed up with a picture of the festivities, but it failed to make the trip to my computer. I received an email from **Mike Sammon** that came in too late and too long for inclusion in the last issue of *ND Magazine*. After graduation in 1961, he entered law school at Loyola of Chicago (no surprise here) and was married to his wife, Judy, for 57 years. Like me, he finished law school just in time to do a couple of years in the Army. He served as a platoon commander, 6th Platoon, 29th Civil Affairs Co., attached to the 7th Marines working in the hamlets of Vietnam. Returning to civilian life, he worked as a trust officer in a Chicago bank overseeing 110 thoroughbred horses on a farm in Michigan. (He says it was a hoot.) Then he went into investments as a stockbroker and he retired three years ago at age 79. He says he wishes he could do it all over again. He lives 90 minutes from ND and regularly attends football and basketball games. He also reports that **Bob Schultz** passed away and says that **Rob Mahoney** (his classmate at Loyola) retired after a law career where he served as a judge for the SEC. **Bill Welest** is still practicing law. He visits with **Charlie King** in San Diego. **Frank E. Clark** says he always thought about writing me but kept putting it off. After graduation he entered law school at St. John's. After graduation he became a travel agent for 15 years before he became a lawyer. He is still practicing law and enjoying the satisfaction of helping others with their legal needs. I agree with that; there is a degree of satisfaction in the work. He still practices law and travels. Frank recounts many close relatives who attended ND, including his father, **Jim '33**, brother **Jim**, and son and two grandchildren. Frank sadly lost a daughter, Heather, in 1990. As with many of us who have lost children, the memory never goes away. **Robert Chou** and his wife, Cecilia, boldly



entered our “not really a contest family Domer uncontested/contest.” So now I come to the good part: **John Keegan**. He writes about his legal practice and on his services with the Edison Foundation. He entered the “Can you top this?” list, reporting four of his five children have earned ND degrees: **John J. ’88, Michael ’89, Danny ’91, ’93JD and George ’94**. Daughter Noel graduated from Misericordia U and UVA and works in the Morris Inn. He admits he is fully covered by the Irish. Only could John have “it” so completely covered. In the spring issue of this magazine, our classmate **Rev. Jerome L. Kriegshauser** had a letter to the editor titled “Catholicism” about Vatican II, commenting on the fact that ND is “poised to make a strong contribution to our world by exploring the harmony between revelation and truths accessible to human reason.” He calls for more articles on this theme. His letter was so well constructed that I hope that he will write on the theme for *ND Magazine*. That is the news for now. Abbie is in position with the latch string out hoping you will stop by on your way through South Texas. We’d love to see you. — **Joseph P. (“Pat”) Kelly**; 2103 N. Wheeler St., Victoria TX 77901; 361-573-9982; jpkellytx@sbcglobal.net

**61JD Class Secretary — John N. Moreland**; jnmnd1958@aol.com

#### 62 Lifetime Award

**Tom Jorling** received the prestigious Boston College Law School Lifetime Achievement Award on April 27 for his extensive environmental work. Among his other awards, he was bestowed an honorary degree from the Boston College Law School. Tom was minority counsel for the Senate Committee on Public Works that produced the Clean Air Act of 1970 and the Clean Water Act of 1972, which made his reputation because of the extraordinary innovation and durability of these laws. Tom later served as assistant administrator in the Carter administration for water and hazardous waste, with responsibility for implementing the statutes he helped write as well as the new hazardous waste laws enacted in the mid-1970s. He also led the

New York Department of Environmental Conservation and managed the state’s vast natural resources and its pollution control programs. In between these government posts, he was a professor and director of environmental studies at Williams College from 1994-2004, and he headed the environmental affairs function at International Paper Corporation with major compliance and forest policy responsibilities for its operations in 25 countries. Tom now serves on numerous nonprofit boards of directors, including the National Ecological Observatory Network, the Williamstown Rural Land Foundation and U of Vermont Law School. **Jim Krauser** reported that the class’s southwest Florida event “will probably be the one most will remember.” Fifty attended the opening event, hosted by **Pat** and **Angelo Daberio**. Surprise attendees were former AD and All-American basketball player **Dick Rosenthal** and oldest living Heisman Trophy winner **Johnny Lujack ’48**. Both regaled the group with stories and posed for pictures with just about everyone. The next day, 20 golfers teed off and Daberio’s foursome won going away. It was Angelo’s third time in the winner’s circle putting him three wins away from **Bruce Odlaug’s** six wins and **Arm Reo’s** five. That evening, 68 attended a reception and dinner. Those attending, in addition to those mentioned above, were **George Anderson, Faust Capobianco, Tony Casale, Dick Dyniewicz, Dave Eckrich, Bill Ford, Joe Gatti, John Guenin, John Govreau, Bob Henry, Jim Higgins, Don Imbus, Ray Kelly, Walt Kelly, Tim Kittredge, Earl Linehan, Mike Loparco, Jack Madigan, George Mammola, Mike Marchildon, Deno Marino, Ted Middendorf, Bill Moston, Ted Nylese, Jim Olsen, John Ryan, Dave Scalise, Paul Sica, Jack Steffens, Tom Weber and George Williams**. Thanks were given to Mary and George Williams, who arranged the golf and dinner, and to Bill Ford “for helping us stay focused and organized in our planning process.” **Chris Buckley** checked in and said after 13 years of residence on Islamorada in the Florida Keys, he and his wife, Marguerite, have moved back full time to their home in McLean VA to be closer to children and grandchildren. He says, “Although we’ve both

joined the pacemaker crowd, we still appear to be in pretty good health.” After retiring as partner in a law firm, “I’ve spent much of my time in retirement serving on the boards of non-profit conservation organizations” and served in a leadership role in some of them. Chris ended by saying, “As a dedicated fly fisherman, I hope to return this summer to my favorite salmon rivers in Norway and Quebec after a two-year absence due to the COVID pandemic.” I received word from the University that **Jim Barrett** passed away on Jan. 6 but with no further details. **Ray Shea** passed away on April 9. After graduation, he went to New York Medical College and later received an advanced degree from Michigan. He began his career as an orthopedic surgeon in 1974 upon discharge from the Army. He served as the U of Louisville football team physician for 34 years. — **Raymond Raedy**; 5310 Rileys Ridge Road, Hillsborough NC 27278; 919-967-8816; nd62secy@medicinemanremedies.com

#### 62JD Helping Many

**Jay Charon** passed away peacefully on Jan. 21 at his home in Morgantown IN. After Jay’s retirement, he practiced pro bono law on a part-time basis in Nashville IN, helping many who needed his assistance. Our condolences to Wanda Jones, his loving wife. It was sad that we had to cancel our 60th Law School reunion due to lack of participants. We thank Christine Stucko for her mighty efforts in planning the reunion. — **Tom Kelly**; 847-714-2680; marianne1956@sbcglobal.net

#### 63 Sparse News

**Tim Haidinger** recommends watching a video of Jim Otteson, a Mendoza professor who teaches courses that describe and support the philosophic and economic underpinnings of our free enterprise system. Tim is of the view that Prof Otteson’s message is a refreshing change from the negativity about our democracy that we hear so much from college campuses. To view the video, go to YouTube and search for Jim Otteson. **Rev. Patrick Cawley** says **Bob Gannon**, Father Pat’s roommate from Pangborn



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Hall, is suffering from ALS. Bob lost his wife several years ago and lives in Connecticut. Father Pat also mentioned an interest in helping the people of Ukraine. You may contact him at [golden\\_hopkins@yahoo.com](mailto:golden_hopkins@yahoo.com) if you would like to discuss this. Our distinguished class president, **Scott Maxwell**, sent me a note saying that **Rev. Charles O' Hara** and he roomed together while attending **Brian Boulac's** memorial Mass on campus last fall, and they were also roommates during the first weeks of freshman football in 1959. One night, Scott returned to the room to find Father Charlie on his knees. Scott promptly got on his knees as well and after a bit asked Father Charlie, "What are we looking for?" Charlie replied, "I am praying." **Jack Garrity** has been married to his high school sweetheart, Sue, for 59 years. They live in Loveland OH. Jack and Sue have three children, including **John III '86** and **Tim '91**, 10 grandchildren (including **Bridget '21**), and one great grandchild. Jack was an aeronautical engineer who holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University. Jack spent 16 years with General Electric's space division in King of Prussia PA, Schenectady NY, GE headquarters in Connecticut, and New York City. He then spent another 16 years with Senco Products in Cincinnati as director, strategic development. He informed me that **Bob Duffy** died on March 22 in Oxford MA, survived by his wife of over 60 years, Cindy, two children and six grandchildren. An aeronautical engineering graduate, Bob spent 40-plus years with General Electric's turbine division in Lynn MA. Bob was Jack Garrity's lifelong friend, beginning as roommates in St. Ed's, and was best man in Jack's wedding. The Alumni Association has advised us of the deaths of the following members of our class: **Charles W. Aten II**, died Oct. 25, survived by his wife Marilyn and three children; **Vincent Friedewold Jr. MD** died Nov. 4, survived by his wife, Julie, and son **Vincent III '97**; **Daniel A. Nugent** died Jan. 17, survived by his wife, Carolyn, and one child; **John P. Bechtold** died Dec. 15, survived by his wife, Marilyn; **Charles F. McErlane Jr.** died Dec. 23, survived by three children; **Francis M. Flanagan** died Jan. 7, survived by one child; and **Michael J. Switek Jr.** died Jan. 26, survived by his wife, Sally, and five children, including **Elizabeth '89**, **Mary '94** and **Michael III '87**. — **John F. Dougherty Jr.**; 915 Exeter Crest, Villanova PA 19085; 215-510-0844; johndoc969@gmail.com

### 63JD Another Loss

**Chick McErlane** passed away on Dec. 21. Everyone in the class and, particularly those of us living with him on Douglas Road, liked Chick. He was always good-natured, upbeat and positive, while at the same time inquisitive about a range of subjects having nothing to do with law. Following law school and after passing the Illinois bar exam, Chick joined the Navy Judge Advocate General program, serving initially in Washington DC but spending most of his tour at the Camp Lejeune Marine Corps base in North Carolina. After discharge from the Navy, Chick went to work in the United Airlines legal department and remained there for 34 years. During that period, United became one of the largest airlines in the world. Chick played a significant role in United's success handling complex negotiations with other airlines and with federal government regulators. In 2001, Chick left the friendly skies and retired in Goodyear AZ, where he spent the last 20 years enjoying time with his two daughters, Laura and Kelly, his son, Jim, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Chick was a devoted Catholic. He was well informed about Church doctrine and willing to defend it with anyone. Rest in peace, Chick. — **Bob Saxe**; 15725 Ranchero Drive, Morgan Hill CA 95037; bsaxe5@aol.com

### 64 Fascinating Exchange

I had a fascinating exchange with **Bob Corrao**, who built a sports marketing empire deploying imagination, enthusiasm and a healthy dose of entrepreneurship. Building on relationships with legendary Celtics GM Red Auerbach and NBA Commissioner Walter Kennedy, Bob created a sports media company to include the game magazines for NBA teams, ultimately extending the concept to the NHL, MLB, NFL and college football. He subsequently created Ski TV Network, the nation's largest in its field, out of a turnaround situation. He extended his fundraising and business-building acumen into the not-for-profit sector, ultimately being recognized with their highest leadership award by the Sons of Italy Foundation. Bob some time back purchased and now operates Bermuda Goodwill Golf,



LEAH INGLE

the world's oldest pro-am tournament, annually attracting more than 50 teams from across the globe and generating millions yearly for the Bermuda economy. Add the title of published author to the resume of **Paul Tierney**. He and Susan collaborated with 17-year-old granddaughter Josie on a lovely collection of prosaic vignettes, photos and drawings. Not surprisingly, lots of wisdom was flowing back and forth through this entertaining and enlightening literary initiative. Staying in the art realm, Navy buddy **John Loarie** shared a poignant painting he had crafted memorializing his Operation Market Time experience along the Vietnam coast more than 50 years ago. So many memories for so many of us when we were young. Lots of classmates are using Zoom or FaceTime to remain connected. Certainly, one of the largest groups includes **Nick Muller** and friends. Current topics of discussion include Brian Kelly's departure as coach of the Irish. As best as I can tell, the gang includes (at least) **Jack McCabe**, **John Hargrove**, **Frank Fee**, **Bill Malley**, **Don Stephan**, **Gene DeAugustino**, **Gene Serotini**, **Ken Stinson**, **Peter Grace**, **Red Moroney**, **Barry Curtin**, **Paul Tierney**, **Bill Chapman**, **Bill Meeker**, **Pat Callahan**, **Tom Fox**, **Tom Goberville**, **Tom Macdonald**, **Paul Apostolou** and **Dick Kennedy**. There is always room for one or two more. If interested, reach out to Nick or one of the boys for details. I am saddened that **Don DelManzo** passed away this year. He spent 20 years as a Navy officer in the Civil Engineering Corps. After retirement, he became head of facilities management at Amherst, Lafayette, Siena and SUNY Albany. Don is survived by Martie, whom he married in 1968, four children and six grandchildren. We also lost **John Kolata**, another member of the NROTC unit's leadership team and a career Navy officer. John served on four submarines, a cruiser and destroyer before commanding USS Manitoowoc (LST-1180). After retirement, he received an MPA and served as municipal manager in Ohio, Wisconsin, and in his hometown of Kewanee IL. He is survived by Carol, four children and five grandchildren. **Chuck Tobias** shared the news that his former roommate, **Charlie Vimmerstedt**, died in Cleveland. After beginning his career as an engineer for Detroit Edison, Charlie was a manufacturers' rep serving Northern Ohio as the owner/operator of Dryvex-North. He leaves Kay, his wife of 53 years. **Bill Petersmark** died last October in the Detroit area where he had been a practicing attorney for more than 50 years. Bill was very involved with his church and the activities of three children and nine grandchildren. He was an avid Irish football fan and held season tickets for more than 50 years. Wife Julie also survives. **Tom Stahlschmidt** died in Lake Forest. A Peat Marwick partner, he was auditor in charge of the merger between the Norfolk and Southern railroads. And **Edward Dalton** passed in January after

a career in real estate law and appellate advocacy in the Portland ME area. Wife Sally, one child and two grandchildren survive. — **Paul R. Charron**; 44 Contentment Island Road, Darien CT 06820; 917-860-5385; paul.richard.charron@gmail.com

### 64JD Comings and Goings

No news may be construed to be good news. There is little to report about our classmates except to recognize that most are doing well and, as I type my report on this chilly, cloudy, rainy spring day in The Bend, grateful for a summer yet to arrive that is finally rid of most COVID pandemic restrictions. Technology and aging seem to be to be the biggest befuddlements, however, those classmates with whom I talked certainly engage in life with travel plans — changing locations from winter to summer homes — and family events. Volunteer work at The Montgomery Botanical Garden in honor of Dorothy keeps **Charles Sacher** out of trouble and busy. Add to that the activities surrounding his family and grandchildren keep him engaged with the generations that have no problem with technology, and certainly not aging. All are well in Palm Desert, where the appeal is being close to family and grandchildren, and not so much anticipation of the summer weather. Their "winter season" is the summer when temperatures soar, and life is lived as much as possible in an air-conditioned bubble. I spoke with **Tom Conneely**, who could use our prayer support for Kay and himself, as Kay continues to struggle with aging health issues. He is upbeat, as only Tom can be, and they continue to reside in beautiful Mill Valley. **Lou Pfeiler** is still active with his American Legion Post providing military salutes at veteran funerals in the Dubuque area. He is thankful and proud to do this volunteer work, and knows his dear Carol, who was also a busy volunteer, would approve. **Bob Frost** seems not to be able to dodge health issues, which drain his energy and strength. Doctor appointments are hard to come by, but he manages to do what he can with exercise, positive attitude, and Dawn's support. This spring, **Larry Gallick** and Betty may have abandoned their winter digs in Venice FL on the early side. Temperatures at Lake Ontario environs haven't reached perfect yet, but will be there when you read this. They are both just fine. Across the country on the other coast are **Jim Slater** and Marian in idyllic Santa Barbara, where their home is surrounded by hill gardens that Jim still maintains. I teased him once about needing one leg to be shorter to keep his balance and not tumble down the hill. A trip to France in April/May with a month-long stay is in the final planning stages and his anticipation level was high. The first stop will be in Paris and then several weeks to be spent in the country south of Paris. **Jack Rammel**, on the other hand, was busy having insulation blown into the attic of his home in Long Grove IL because, as he said, "We love this house. There is no place else we would rather be." Our conversation was filled with stories and laughter. He was in fine spirits and he and Mary are happily content. **Frank Miele** is faithful about returning my calls, which is so helpful. He is passionate about New York Metropolitan Opera and is now in his 25th year with them. What amazing dedication. All those years have been made possible by an arduous exercise program that keeps him fit and active. **Russ Bley** also returned my call and, from an informative chat, I learned that he has more doctor appointments than he wants, is doing OK, but not as well as he'd wish. He spoke recently with **Gene Kramer**, who continues his municipal law practice in Cleveland. **Bob Hanlon's** passing was reported in the Class Notes of the Class of 1962. Our prayer: RIP Bob. Obviously, there are many names missing in this report, but I can only report what I know. If you don't see your name in print, please call or email me with info about your comings and goings. — **Richard Balfe Wagner**; 1204 Erskine Manor Hill, South Bend IN; 574-299-9888; 760-567-1270

### 65 Active Retirement

**Bill Slattery** retired in 1998 but is active as an investor in small businesses ranging from restaurants to a wine/liquor store, along with start-up companies in the biotech field and an HVAC company where his partners are his three sons. Bill and his wife, Joan '65SMC, spend five months in Indian Wells CA and seven months on Lake Minnetonka MN, where their five grandchildren live within a 30-minute drive. Bill and Joan share a passion for golf. His high school friend in Pittsburgh and senior year roommate,

**Lou Loughren**, has retired from his law firm. Lou and his wife, Sandy, have three sons and two of them now run the law firm. They spend winters in Naples FL where they see Arlene and **Chuck Garrity**, Linda and **Jim Mayer** and Ann and **John Hughes**. Chuck has retired from investment management and insurance. Jim and his wife are active in real estate in Naples. John is retired and usually returns with Ann to South Dakota in summers where he had worked. Bill reports that **Bill Ryan** has retired from his expansive restaurant business which is now run by two of his sons. Bill lives in Billings MT, winters in La Quinta CA and often summers in Whitefish MT. Manhattan is home to **Paul Devlin** and his wife, Gretchen. He is still in the bond trading business. During the pandemic, they escaped to a home on the shores of Rhode Island to work remotely. Recently Paul sent a photo to Bill Slattery of Paul, **Bob Flood**, **Peter Derrico** and **Russ Poylo**. Bob is working with wife, Michele, in real estate in Westchester NY. Peter remains active with his own medical company. **Charlie Hazzard** has retired twice. In Dec. 2021, he retired from UT Dallas as a clinical professor and executive in residence for 18 years. Earlier, he had retired from Occidental Petroleum where he was executive VP and had served in that industry for 33 years after earning his MBA from the Wharton School at the U of Pennsylvania. Charlie and his wife, Carol, have been married 54 years and have two children and three grandchildren. He has been the recipient of several prestigious teaching and mentoring awards in the Dallas/Fort Worth area for his service to the community. I

want to clarify an item in our notes in the last issue about classmate **Robert Patrick Strickler**. The product he endorses in a TV commercial is not a proprietary drug but in fact a food supplement. He served as a reporter for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and as an editor for the *Detroit Free Press* before spending more than four decades in managing public relations for clients in the US and Europe, and was director of communications at the U of Wisconsin-Madison. Last November, **Alan Bonn** passed away in Indialantic FL due to complications from an elective heart surgery. After graduation, Alan earned an MBA from USC and began a corporate career with RCA, Harris Corp. and Emerge. In retirement he joined Sotheby's International Realty and was active in philanthropic endeavors. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Pat, three children including **Alison '98** and eight grandchildren. In December, **John Griffin** died in Nashville TN after a difficult battle with cancer. After medical school, internship and residency, John became a board-certified psychiatrist. He served in the Air Force, retiring as a major then established a practice in Nashville. Hiking, camping and fishing were central to his family life. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Kathy, three children including **John Jr. '89** and four grandchildren. In October, **Tom Heck** died in Santa Barbara. Tom earned his PhD at Yale and MLS at USC. He was president of Insights Consulting in Santa Barbara. Tom is survived by his wife, Anne, and two children. — **James P. Harnisch MD**; 6759 West Mercer Way; Mercer Island WA 98040; jphnd65@hotmail.com

**65JD Class Secretary — Henry Boitel**; 324 Brower Ave., Rockville Centre NY 11570; boitel@mindspring.com

## 66 Another Round

At my April deadline, several lads were slated to gather on campus for our delayed 55th reunion. Class president **Cappy Gagnon** and South Benders planned an agenda and anticipated re-connections under the Dome. Good source and South Bend local **Mike Rush** hosted **Dr. John Wylie** for the Bengal Bouts. John, an ENT doc based in West Virginia and doing a temp assignment at Purdue U, will soon relocate to South Bend with wife Betty. Mike Rush heard from **George Blaha**, recovering well from March triple bypass, which has not impacted the melodious play-by-play voice of the Detroit Pistons. **Bill Loftus** planned to stay with Mike for the reunion along with yours truly. I spoke with **Phil Sheridan**, retired with Kathi in Virginia near DC, close to daughters and grandkids. Phil is in touch with **Bob Meeker**, still doing law with his son in Akron. We reshaped grid experiences under Kuharich, Devore and Parseghian, a major contrast in styles and results. Frosh Stanford neighbor **Ben Campbell** checked in from his Ft. Myers winter base. He and Patsy (Gallagher) SMC spent 43 years in Henderson KY raising three kids. Ben partnered in a regional accounting firm and now resides in Moorehead City NC. Ben noted that daughter Shannon married **Mike Mahaffey's** son, Tom. Mike is in real estate management in St. Pete. **Tom Callahan**, semi-retired in Houston, still dabbles in investment management. **Cyburne Sullivan** is still in Covington KY and retired from law practice. **Roy Adorni** is retired in New Jersey after a career in tech with HSBC. **Arunas Vasys** called from Naples where he and Patricia spend six months annually, when not in the Chicago suburbs. They have four daughters, 11 grandkids and three great-grandkids. AV enjoyed a strong career on the ND football field, followed by a successful career with New Balance, and keeps in touch with Chicago pal and our grid mate **Tom Talaga**, also retired. **Jack Gerken** created and runs the class website. Do join the 341 who are registered (1966undclass.org). Jack noted that the Notre Dame High School (Niles IL) gang in Chicago, including a huge cohort as members of our ND class, will celebrate its 60th reunion in Chicago on Sept. 9, the Friday before the ND-Marshall game. Here is a kaleidoscope on NDHS-UND mates: **Rev. Joe Landauer, OD**, of Pittsburgh will celebrate the ND Niles class Mass, but **Rev. Mike Geisler, OD**, will not be able to make it. **Chuck Datz** in Houston can't make it. Retired Honolulu attorney **Jim Starshak** stoked interest in both ND Niles and UND reunions and aimed to bring a busload of mates to the Marshall game. Jim Starshak keeps in touch with **John Ganhal**, who will join him and **Matt Dwyer** for USC. **Alan Loboy**, also a former ND griddier, is recovering from heart surgery in Portland OR and can't make the ND Niles reunion. ND Niles reunion co-chair **Ray Neihengen** was working hard on attendance and his golf game. **Bill Scanlon** of DC consults in senior health and headed to Maui in spring. He was unsure of his attendance. **Jerry Erbach** from DC spent the pandemic in his Sanibel home. He consults on redevelopment in Mongolia and planned to attend the Marshall and BYU games. **Don Stevens** retired in Phoenix. He had a great voice in the ND Glee Club and is active in his synagogue and won't attend. Semi-retired Chicago attorney **Terry Kiwala** hung out in his La Quinta CA vacation home, enjoying golf and the pool. He will make the USC game in LA. **Chuck Reali** still manages an aluminum mill on the banks of the Mississippi in Missouri. Semi-retired **Tom Gorman** moved from Athens GA to Clayton GA in the Smokies. He is recovering from back surgery and unsure about attendance at the ND Niles soiree. Retired Air Force **Capt. Rich Harter** lives in Kingman AZ and was off to Las Vegas for heart surgery. He had 263 combat missions. **Ron Schmidt** vacationed in Ft. Myers and grandson Charlie is an ND frosh. **Bob "Ozzie" Schwartz** (a Huey captain in Vietnam) is in Nashville and hoped to make the Marshall game. **Terry Casey** in Malibu told Jack of his recent purchase of a 20-acre ranch in the hills above Santa Ynez CA's wine country. Jack G and Carol were planning to shuttle between grandkid graduations and unable to attend our ND minireunion. I learned that the late **Tom Phinney**, mentioned in my last column, enjoyed a lengthy career in tech and was a stellar patron of the arts. I just heard that "**Harry**" **Scott Atwell** passed in April. **Tom Sullivan**; 1090 Shore Road, Unit 14, Pocasset MA 02559; cell 773-454-4343; t66sullynd@gmail.com



LEAH INGLE



### 66JD Class Column Saved

A couple of weeks ago, it didn't appear as if you'd be reading stories from or about our esteemed classmates. Thanks to Windy and **Al McKenna**, I finally have something to share. Etta and I had the pleasure of getting together with them for lunch during their stay on Marco Island FL. We spent an enjoyable couple of hours recalling our times together as married couples in South Bend during summers between semesters. We often met to play bridge and share a feast of cut-up chunks of bologna and cheese. Al's favorite memory is of a very hot night when I sat out the hand of bridge and was bouncing our year-old son on my head. Al noticed that I was sweating so profusely that it was running down my cheeks and into my eyes. Well, let's just say it wasn't sweat running down my cheeks. Etta's less-fond memory is the evening both couples and all four children went to \$1 night at the drive-in theater in the same car. The movie hadn't started when one of our children got sick to his stomach. We were upset that we didn't get our dollar back when we left early. It wasn't all about our "mini-tragedies," and we shared a lot of happy memories. Windy and Al are doing well, as are their children and grandchildren. They have three condo units on Marco, so there is always enough room when the families arrive. Al didn't mention anything about the arrival of law school buddies, however. Hopefully, you still have the spring issue of the *Notre Dame Magazine*. If you look at the "Photographic Memories" article, specifically page 39, you'll see a football card showing the score of the 1926 Notre Dame-Georgia Tech game. The card also contains pictures of ND players, one of whom is my dad, **Joe Maxwell '27**, who was an All-American in the 1926 season. As you can see, he was the "pretty boy" in the family. That's it for now. Please forward news for the next column. Stay well. — **Scott Maxwell**; 2781 Siena Lakes Circle, Unit 2444, Naples FL 34109; cell 215-920-0616; ndscotty@gmail.com

### 67 Back in School

**Rick Dunn** writes from campus where he is a student again, enrolled as a fellow in the Inspired Leadership Initiative (ILI), a relatively new University program for retired individuals. After graduating in 1967, Rick went to the U of Miami Law School and practiced law in Miami as a civil trial lawyer until 2018 when he retired. As a fellow in the ILI program, he audits courses and participates in fellows-only courses where they study Great Books, which helps in designing their next act. Rick says he enjoys all the campus activities, but the weather is tough on him as a longtime Floridian. Nevertheless, he enjoys the academic challenge of the ILI program and gets to see friends like **Dennis McCarthy**, his old roommate, on football weekends. **John Salmon** and **Tom Hennessy** notified us that **Tom Rink** had a serious heart attack in March while wintering in Florida. Subsequently, he was diagnosed by the Cleveland Clinic in Martin County FL with three severely blocked arteries needing triple bypass surgery. He and wife Allison were unsure when they could return to Cincinnati. **Joel Maturi** informed us that **Leo Collins** suffered a massive stroke and two days later passed away in Minnesota. Leo came to Notre Dame from Fargo ND where he was standout football and hockey player. Dozens of testimonials for Leo were written by teammates and those familiar with him, including class president **George Goeddeke**, who recalled how hard Leo worked in the fall of 1966 to prepare the offensive linemen for an upcoming game against top-10 opponent Oklahoma. Leo was assigned to duplicate the work of Sooner nose guard Granville Liggins, who was known in the football world as the "Chocolate Cheetah." The Irish won that game 38-0 partially due to Leo's hard work and therefore the '66 team called Leo the "Vanilla Cheetah." Leo along with **Tom Heiden** and **Paul Biliveau** helped start hockey at Notre Dame when they played club games on the Howard Park outdoor rink in downtown South Bend. Leo's funeral Mass laid him to rest on St Patrick's Day. **Tom Volini**'s son **Joseph '00** let us know that Tom passed away Oct. 27 and is survived by his former wife, Loretta, his partner, Judy Miles, and 13 children. Jane Malin let us know her husband, **Tim Malin**, passed away Feb. 9 in Greenwich CT. He did not survive surgery on his carotid artery. He is survived by Jane, his wife of 46 years, and sons **Timothy James '99** and **Brian '02**. Tim was born in Queens NY. After Notre Dame he graduated from Fordham Law School in 1970. A huge wreath at his funeral Mass had a banner

across it that read "Go Irish." **Angelo Schiralli** and **John Lium** informed us that **Dick Swatland** died in Stamford CT after a long illness. Angelo and John were two of the last few people to visit Dick when he was in hospice care. After several years in the NFL, Dick earned his JD from St John's Law School, after which he entered the real estate business as a developer and broker. Dick was inducted into the Stamford Old Timer's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2014. Dick served on many boards of directors. His funeral was somewhat of a mini-reunion for his '66 teammates. Class President **George Goeddeke**, Angelo Schiralli, John Lium, **Harry Alexander** and **Terry Hanratty '69** attended, along with former Long Island congressman **Peter King '68JD** and longtime aide **Joe Cairo**. Dick is survived by his wife, Cheryl, and two daughters, Lindsay and Kate. Lastly, many in our class who won football monograms attended the Blue-Gold Game on April 23 at the invitation of head coach Marcus Freeman, who desires that the current players get to know the players that came before them and helped build the legacy. Class president **George Goeddeke** was in attendance. Please write. — **Bert R. Bondi**; 1891 Curtis St., Unit 1502, Denver CO 80202; bertbondi@gmail.com

### 67JD Reunion in September

Our 55th reunion is being planned for the weekend of Sept. 24-25. **Jimmy Olson** has stepped forward to take the lead in planning. **Jim Mollison** was quick to back him up and both will be "boots on the ground" in South Bend. At this writing, it's certain it'll be a less formal affair than earlier reunions; no ties or jackets are necessary, and we'll have a buffet rather than a served meal. Because of the uncertainty of the kickoff time of our game-watch party on Saturday, the dinner will be on Friday evening (venue to be determined). Also, it seems that non-football weekends in the fall are popular for wedding receptions and there is no room at the Morris Inn. But, Jimmy O has arranged for a block of 15 rooms at the Embassy Suites on Angela Blvd., just across from ND. It's a group rate of \$189 per night. Jim got quotes from three other hotels, but this was the best and most convenient. There are rooms available for Thursday night if you'd like to come early. Saturday night will be a game-watch party and Jim is working with ND to secure a venue. There will be no private Mass, but obviously there'll be a Saturday evening Mass in the crypt or Sunday morning Mass in the Basilica. We'll keep you updated as the plans develop. If you have questions, contact Jim Olson at 574-250-9295 or jimnanmish@aol.com. Jane and **John Hargrove** and Beth and **Frank Verterano** will miss the reunion because they will be separately traveling on river cruises in France at the time. Many of us are celebrating our 80th birthdays this year; some quietly and others with big parties. **Ken Lazarus'** kids and wife surprised him with a party last March. They rented a local movie theater with a first-run movie. There was a second feature of video clips from family and friends from grammar school to law school, offering a "This is Your Life" presentation. Happy birthday to all our classmates celebrating this milestone. Unfortunately, some of our classmates will miss the reunion because of health problems. **Mo Nicholson** is recovering from bladder and bone cancer, which has been made more difficult by a recent fall and broken hip. But he's fighting and is resilient. Drop him a line to let him know that "you're there for him." **Jack Harty** has had to assume the role of caretaker for his wife, Maureen, during a recent medical event. We wish Maureen a quick and full recovery. I enjoyed a short conversation with **Dom Monterrosso**, who has fully recovered from a mild bout with COVID despite being fully vaccinated. Also, **John Nelson** called to say nice things about the column. **Frank Carey** changed his email address and hasn't received any of our broadcast emails in ages. Just think how many Harty rants he's missed. BTW, my emails to **John Fine** have been bouncing back. Please keep me informed when you change your email address. — **Jim Heinhold**; 1200 Carmel Lane, New Bern NC 28562; res 252-638-5913; im4irish@aol.com

### 68 Extraordinary is Ordinary

**Bill Cleary** may not like this news: **Mark Lies** is no longer shrinking from a handball competition with Bill. No matter that, in 2018, Bill and his ringer partner Rick Graham, graduate of the U of Michigan, won the doubles championship in a Chattanooga TN tournament. When will the competition take place? What about during our

55th Reunion in 2023? **Dan Collins**, immediately after putting down the pen (or the stylus) and placing his new novel, *Future Victories II*, on Amazon sent his reunion plan to class president **Tom Weyer**: "Soldiers will lie and die for their friends in the platoon. The Keenan gang is a platoon. There must have been other platoons in Stanford, Cavanaugh, Farley, and Breen-Phillips." Crowding Dan in the "C" category of the 1968 bookshelf, **Pat Collins** now has an e-book version of *Newsman*, available on Amazon. **Tom Condon**, author of several books, is the recipient of the Yankee Quill Award of the Academy of New England Journalists that is administered by the New England Society of Newspaper Editors. Nancy and **Denny Emanuel**, now residents of Las Vegas and near their grandchildren, are offering a reunion rehearsal party Oct. 9, the day after the BYU game. Denny and Nancy need your RSVP by text message at 641-680-2876 or email at deman6873@gmail.com. **Bill Clark** and **Terry Adrian** didn't wait, though **Mike Carroll** had to miss the reunion of Notre Dame and high school friends. While Bill and the others were spending a week in Monterey CA, Mike was tending to the Romanian Children's Relief Fund (donations taken at innocent.ro), which Mike founded 30 years ago after response to a *Boston Globe* photo exposé he did on the plight of Romanian orphans during the Ceausescu era. **Ray Novaco**'s note mentioning **Walt Moxham** led to email exchanges among Ray, Walt, **Tom Brislin** and **Ken Biernie**. With Walt involved, the catching up included impressive amounts of intellectual accomplishment. Ray is a U of California-Irvine professor in the Department of Psychological Science. Since Ray included a wish to be in touch again with **Mike McCarty** and **Bob Bradley**, here is a tutorial for all who wonder "Whatever happened to?" Go to my.nd.edu, find "directory" and begin typing names. Easy. We often find out too late that "whatever happened to?" is a revelation of what a community lost. What Mike Carroll is doing for the Romanian orphans has its counterpart in many of the obituaries. Consider this note by **Bob Smith** about **Bob Marotta** who died March 6: "I drove from Greenville SC to Columbus OH to attend and be deacon at Bob's funeral Mass at Our Lady of Victory Church. What a fitting name for Bob to attend. At the Sciota Country Club, we shared stories with **Dennis Kelly** and **Mike Heaton**, who was Bob's ND roommate, with Peggy (Applegate) SMC and the 11 grandchildren. Bob helped get me started in life after I returned from Vietnam in September 1971. He helped found the South Bend Work Release Center for inmates from the Michigan City State Reformatory, the first and maybe only center run outside the penal system, hiring me full time as a counselor. It was amazing the number of people Bob helped in life, especially the disadvantaged." When it is a Class of 1968 obituary, the extraordinary is ordinary. Another example: **Ron Hipp**'s roommate **Dan Kearney** pointed to Ron's March 18 death in Overland Park KS and said, "Ron was a longtime volunteer at his former parish St. Thomas Aquinas in Wichita KS, volunteered for relief work after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, worked at a Navajo Reservation in Arizona, and served with the Missionary for the Poor in Jamaica." Ron was father of four, and husband of Barbara for 53 years. When **Drew Hellmuth** died Feb. 21 in Springfield OH, his obituary included the family's decades-later discovery of the Bronze Star Drew earned as an Airborne Ranger in Vietnam. As the obituary recounted, he "put that medal in a box" and went about inspiring and helping many. And Walt Moxham praised **Rich Carter**, who died Feb. 9: "When I came back from Vietnam in 1970 and was about to start law school, he wrote me the nicest welcome home and best of luck in law school note." Memories of friendship and fun with **Ed Marsh**, who died March 19 included **Mike Moore**'s story about taking Ed and 13 other classmates home to Lima OH during semester break 1965. Diane Mary "Tilly" Knowles died March 29. She was widowed when **Tom Knowles** died in 2021. In addition to remembering our deceased in our prayers, please remember **Pat Collins** and Emily, who recently lost their son Michael and are now awaiting Emily's surgery on a lung. **Roger Guerin** advises that **Dennis Toolan** is dealing with health issues in Cape Canaveral FL and enjoys phone calls from friends. Please send news and photos. Our class blog is ndclass1968.com. — **Tom Figel**; 455 East Ocean Blvd., Long Beach CA 90802; 312-241-7917; tfigel@reputecture.com



### 68JD Outstanding Accomplishments

My request for information resulted in an update from **Charlie Weiss** as to his and **Tom Curtin's** service on the Law School Board for over two decades. Tom and Charlie attended the most recent spring meeting on March 25 at the Law School. Dean Marcus Cole delivered the State of the Law School to the Board, noting the outstanding accomplishments of the school. This year, the school received 3,700 applications for a planned class of 185 students. The class will have the highest GPA and LSAT scores in the history of the school, with an average GPA of 3.77 and an LSAT score of 168. It will also be the most diverse class with 33 percent being students of color. ND ranks in the top five of all law schools in the percentage of its graduates who obtain federal court clerkships. Our thanks to Charlie and Tom. **John Scripp** announced that his bride, Sue, broke her left wrist in 13 places trying to move a "damned door." John did not explain why he was not providing any assistance. On the positive side, the family visited Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, for two weeks and then spent 10 days in February in St. Croix. Three of their 14 grandchildren will attend American U or TCU, and one is undecided. After 20 years of moonlighting from his law practice in historic preservation, John became president emeritus of the North Point Lighthouse. **Paul Gore** reports that since the passing of his beloved wife, Colleen, he has spent his widower days giving tours into Yellowstone, exercising his skill in photography, and deeply engaged in his soon-to-be-published book titled *Behind the Altar*. The book is a fictional novel about a Florida man who moves to Montana and is called back to Florida to publish his recently inherited newspaper and what happens behind the altar in South Florida, Montana and Notre Dame. The true part of the book will stress the brilliance of the law Class of 1968, the antics of those living in married student housing and the outstanding professors of that period. Paul and his brother Bob teamed up to create an outstanding nature preserve in Naples FL. **Tom Curtin** celebrated four years at McElroy Deutsch on April 1 and continues to work full time. He remains chairman of the Lawyers Advisory Committee for the US District Court of New Jersey. He also continues to serve as president of Autism Chapter in New Jersey. The Madison Manor crew — King, Weiss, Ward, Bonenberger and Pusey — continue with weekly calls. **John Pusey** leads the way in chartering new puns. Tom Curtin brought up the subject of having a 55-year reunion in 2023. The warm-weather away games are Navy on Aug. 26 and Wake Forest on Oct. 28, 2023. Tom assures that we should all be able to get rooms for those dates. Please drop a line to Tom as to your interest in a reunion. Please remember in your prayers our deceased classmates, including **John Amerman, Emilio Belluomini, John Burgess, Albert Dudash, Richard Hirsch, Joseph Ladd, Tom Kapacinskas, Steve Madonna, Larry Miller, Michael Williamson, Jack Sandner** and **Robert Wilczek**. Mike Williamson's beloved wife, Juanita, brought to my attention that a memorial bench outside Howard Hall has been named for Mike. The bench is located around the corner from our son Timothy's memorial bench near Badin Hall. If you have a bad day, John Pusey shared the following: "My heart continues to leap up when I behold children and grandchildren laughing and happy; Patty being the girl I fell in love with 53 years ago and continue to love even more today; and the awesome beauty of the rest of God's creation. We hope your hearts leap up when you behold the rainbows in your life. Love and best wishes for 2022." Finally, I would appreciate everyone providing me with updates as to what is happening with you and your family so that we may share this information with class members. — **Dennis G. Collins**; 2203 Derby Way, St. Louis MO 63131; bus 314-516-2648; dgc@greensfelder.com

### 69 Annual Winter Florida Migration

August 2021: **Tony Alessandra** co-authored *What Makes Humans Tick? Exploring the Best Validated Assessments*. December: **Dave Heskin** celebrated his 75th birthday with a series of Zoom parties and phone calls with his family and a cohort of '69ers: **Dr. Bob Burke, Dave Eickholt, Don Jacobson, Dr. Dave Seeley, Albert Alter, Sean Murphy, Joe Stein** and **Rev. John Sheehan**. January: While visiting family in the Chicago area, **Tom Altmeyer** lunched with **Ralph Williams**. **Don Barkman** published *Living Life Well: Insight and Tips You Can Really Use*. Three TV stations interviewed **Andy Fedynsky** about Cleveland's Ukrainian community's concern about Russia



PETER RINGENBERG

invading Ukraine. CNN's *Situation Room* with Wolf Blitzer also interviewed him in March. February: Sally and **Larry Pezanko**, Nancy and **Greg Ryder** and Cathy and **Chip Stumpf** vacationed in Key West FL. **Gene Hammond** visited Diane and **Steve Kavalauskas** in Sanibel FL. Gene and Diane are first cousins. Pat and **Mike Keane**, Margaret and **Mike McDermott**, and Judy Kamienski and **Kevin Reardon** gathered on Anna Maria Island FL. Patty and **Mike McCauley** visited Mary Ann and **Errol Flynn** in Bonita Springs FL. Sharon and **Ed Weinlein** celebrated their 50th anniversary. Linda and **Don Jacobson** have moved their permanent home from Houston to Wisconsin. Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot presented Corboy & Demetrio co-founder **Thomas Demetrio** with a City of Chicago Proclamation, declaring Feb. 25, 2022, "Thomas A. Demetrio Day." March: **Bob Burke** and Dave Heskin, who have skied together annually since the mid-1970s, met **Dave Eickholt** in Beaver Creek CO; Dave Eickholt lives there. **Greg Helm's** pony Hot Rod Charlie finished second in the Dubai World Cup. **Hub Miller** visited his grandson, Ben '23, who is studying this semester at ND's London Global Gateway. Hub also saw his second cousin, **Rev. Jim Lies, CSC, '87**, the director of Academic Affairs for the Global Gateway program. April: **Robbie (Parker) Fackelman '71MA** and **Jim Fackelman** celebrated their 50th anniversary. **Tony Macleod** continues his law practice at his new law firm, Macleod Law PLLC, in Greenwich CT. **Dick Cimino** played golf with **Dean Benner, John Kenefick** and **John Quinn** at his Pelican Marsh GC in Naples FL. They try to do this four times annually, playing once at each other's clubs. In September, **Bill Mitsch PhD** will retire from Florida Gulf Coast U after a 47-year career at multiple universities as one of the creators of modern techniques required to rebuild and create wetlands. **Coley O'Brien** and **Jack Wiethoff '70** won the four-month Treviso Bay TPC tournament in Naples FL. **Tony Alessandra, Jim Bodary, Steve Cassetta, David Coulter, Jim Durand, Bob Franken, Tony Ingraffea, Jack Mahon** and **Patrick Rocchio** wrote take-home interviews for the class blog. **Bob Gibbons, Don Hynes, Peter McInerney** and **Bill Wade** continue their frequent contributions to the blog, now with more than 1,500 posts. Thank you. Deaths: **William P. McCarthy**, Feb. 10, 1993, in Boston; **Rev. Thomas J. Triggs**, Sep. 17, 2020, in Sayreville NJ; **Dennis Tushla**, Oct. 6, in Oak Lawn IL; **Dr. Michael P. Pecenka**, Dec. 1 in Strongsville OH; **Henry "Hank" Bailey**, Dec. 25 in Altadena CA; Anna (Botkin) Hynes, wife of **John Hynes**, Jan. 24 in Muncie IN; **Jim M. Lyons**, Feb. 3 in Irving TX; Francis W. "Jim" Wehrheim, father of **John Wehrheim**, Feb. 14 in Chicago; **Jim Viventi**, Feb. 19 in Grand Rapids MI; Mickey Quinn, brother of **John Quinn**, Feb. 24 in Indianapolis; **Mike Obringer**, March 3 in Fort Wayne IN; **Mike McInerney '68**, brother of **Peter McInerney**, March 14 in Houston.; Pam Abbate, wife of **Mike Abbate**,

March 26 in Wilmington NC. Our deepest sympathies to their families and friends. — **John Hickey**; jphjr47@hotmail.com; notredameclassof1969blog.blogspot.com

**69MBA Class Secretary — Bob Dowdell**; 31625 Coast Highway, Laguna Beach CA 92651; 714-381-6104; bobdowdell55@gmail.com

### 69JD Dr. Zep

It took a while, but **Joe Frantin** has completed his dissertation and was awarded his PhD in philosophy by the U of Miami. I have my 60th high school reunion this fall, which is of no interest to any of you except **George Burgett**. Hondo graduated with me and is looking forward to our reunion. He is retired and plays as much golf as he can. Living in Chicago presents some limitations, but he has given up playing in the snow. **Joe Kennedy** caught up with George and had a nice conversation with **Jim Barba**. Jim is slowly getting out after isolating because of COVID. Football will be right around the corner. Please let me know if you plan on attending any games. I will be at the Marshall game with a few classmates to be named in the fall column. I will try to get **Tim McLaughlin** to go to the game with me, but he prefers the comfort of his house in Granger. Stay safe and healthy. I look forward to writing a column without mentioning the pandemic. — **Jim Starshak**; 889 Kahohe Place, Honolulu HI 96825-1314; res 808-395-0443, cell 808-778-4033; starman@hawaii.rr.com

### 70 Updates Abound

Mary Beth and **Mike Duffey** in Wauwatosa WI welcomed a new grandchild. Mike, emeritus professor of theology at Marquette, helps some of the 13,000 Afghans who relocated to a Wisconsin army base last fall. His *War No More: An Introduction to Nonviolent Struggle for Justice*, examines 11 successful and three unsuccessful movements. Published by Rowman and Littlefield, this text offers justification for embracing solutions to conflict. Reviewers include Arun Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma. Mary Beth continues to teach. **Bob Schmuhl** remains prolific, having written *Fifty Years with Father Hesburgh: On and Off the Record and The Glory and the Burden: The American Presidency from FDR to Trump*. **Terrence McCabe**, director of the Environment and Society Program at U of Colorado, worked with Kenya's South Turkana Ecosystem Project, the subject of his 2004 book, *Cattle Bring Us to Our Enemies*. Now he concentrates on the Maasai in Tanzania. **John Vogel**, formerly of Perrysburg OH, died March 1 on South Padre Island. A New Jersey native, he owned and taught at the River Hollow Farm (horses) in Perrysburg and continued in Palos Verdes CA. During retirement, he traveled and fished in Alaska, Oregon, California and Texas. **Pete Cahill** retired in 2015 from the Gila County Arizona Superior Court. He

joined the court in January 2003 and became presiding judge in 2006. He lives in Tucson with his wife, Pete, John and **Bob Jones** were roommates at ND. Bob retired after 44 years from Prudential's group insurance area. He lives in New Jersey with his wife, Gene Arac Jones '72SMC. Jane and **John Monnich** visited Florida in February and March, saw Marcia and **Mike Hammes** in Vero Beach, played golf in South Carolina in April, and welcomed their son and family (with two children in pre-school) to North Carolina for Easter. **Bob Wright** died Feb. 12, 2020, survived by his son Tristan. **Bob Mitchell**, owner of Mitchell Architectural Group in Southbury CT, died Oct. 6, 2021, in Sandy Hook CT, survived by wife Cynthia and two children. **Bob Scott MD**, Villa Hills KY, died Jan. 3, survived by his wife, Marianne, three children, including **Megan '04** and **Erin '12**, and five grandchildren. After his BS in EE, he earned a master's at MIT, an MD at U of Cincinnati, and practiced 30 years with Radiology Associates of Northern Kentucky. Navy Capt. **Paul Weathersby PhD** of New London CT, a captain in the Medical Service Corps, died Oct. 18. After his BS, he earned a master's from MIT and PhD from U of Washington, all in chemical engineering. He served 20 years in the Navy, primarily in research in Bethesda MD and with the Naval Submarine Medical Research Lab in Groton CT, concluding as commanding officer from 1992-94. He continued as a civilian research contractor until his death. A major research contribution was his team's development of mathematical formulae to predict the chances of bends in divers. In 2014, he received the Albert Behnke Award of the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society. He also made advances in blood-compatible biomaterials, atmosphere control on nuclear submarines and prevention of noise trauma to hearing among servicemembers. His wife, brother, sister, two sons and three grandchildren survive. **Bill Hederman** continues to work with the robotics tournament at ND. More than 100 students from eight schools, including the US Naval Academy, competed April 2. In March, **Tom Bower** (DC) and Diane and **Jim Dempster** (Mequon WI) joined Sandi and **Mike Nolan** at their lovely Tucson home for a three-day reunion among mountain views and gorgeous trails. COVID postponed our 50th to October 2021. Reunion 2022 just ended. As members of the 50 Year Club, we are welcome at every Reunion. Plan a beautiful weekend on campus next June. — **Don Graham**; 1901 S Glenwood, Springfield IL 62704; 217-652-1560; fever1@me.com

**70MBA Class Secretary** — **John Carroll**; 4315 Alta Drive, Apt. 1301, Suwanee GA 30024; 404-281-6524; johnrcarr@outlook.com

#### 70JD An Excuse to Cut Class

As summer arrives, I want to thank everyone for the numerous updates that follow. **Joe Jankowski** continues to work at his New Jersey law firm, Wilentz Goldman and Spitzer, but admits he is enjoying more and more time at his southern home in Naples FL. **Justin Tedrowe** recently closed his law office in Downers Grove IL and is rapidly adjusting to retired life. On March 16, 1968, Justin and his wife, Karenalise, were married in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on the ND campus. He had to cut Professor Murphy's Saturday morning contracts class that day to get to the church in time for the wedding. Since he and Karenalise have been happily married for 54 years, raised three children and have five grandchildren, I would hope Murph has forgiven Justin for skipping that class. Recalling his early days at ND, Justin noted he roomed off campus with **Dick Bovey '71JD** and **Ted Lee** in the fall of 1967. The rooming house was next door to Louie's Pizza, a hangout for students living near South Bend and ND Avenues. Sadly, Louie's is no more. Justin sends his best to all. From Atlanta, **Dan Shea** reports he has retired after 18 years with Nelson Mullins and 31 years at Smith Currie & Hancock. Dan's practice was focused upon labor and employment law issues. During the past few years, Dan eased into a retirement mode as he began to take more personal time off, allowing him and his wife, Diane, to travel and visit their sons and their families in New York and Virginia. With sadness, I note the passing of **John Freeman** on Oct. 21. Born and raised in Illinois, John was a Double Domer. After law school he worked at Jones Day in Cleveland and, in 1973, became a member of the faculty at the U of South Carolina School of Law where he taught corporate law, securities law and legal ethics. John

was the author of numerous scholarly and professional publications and was a frequent CLE speaker before the South Carolina Bar. Retiring in 2008, John was honored as a distinguished professor emeritus. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, his daughters, Gretchen and Nora, and four grandchildren. Please remember John in your prayers. Irish eyes were truly smiling last March when **Tom Sopko**, while wintering in Florida, hosted a gathering of ND faithful that included ND's legendary Heisman Trophy winner, **Johnny Lujack '48**, All-American running back **Angelo Dabiero '62** and former athletic director and All-American basketball player **Dick Rosenthal '54**. **Joe Camara** remains actively involved in trial work in the Chicago area. His practice is devoted to the defense of medical malpractice cases. Over the years he has received numerous awards recognizing his accomplishments as a skilled litigator. Joe frequently lectures on trial techniques and recently he spoke before a group of neurosurgeons in Agra, India. Currently he is Of Counsel to the Windy City firm of Brennan & Butler. Joe and his wife, Elyse Koren-Camara, have been married for 45 years. During the winter months, **Bill Keck** worked remotely in St. Petersburg FL for his Ohio law firm, Millikin & Fitton. Bill reports that his mother, Vera, is well and will soon be 103. She has lived through two pandemics, several wars and the Great Depression. Vera is an example of hope and inspiration for all of us these days. If you would like an update on reunion plans, drop me an email. Until next time, stay well. Go Irish. — **John K. Plumb**; jkp-lumb37@gmail.com

#### 71 Road Trips

With the 50th anniversary of graduation in the rear-view mirror, congratulations are due many of you who have already reached, or are quickly approaching, your 50th wedding anniversary. Congratulations are also due to guys battling medical issues and coming through aggressive treatments on a positive note. **Steve Zumbo**, Canandaigua NY, **Bob Bassett**, Chicago, **Jim Malloy**, South Bend, and **Pete Van Dyke**, Savannah, and the girls were back on the road. This time to Northern California and the Pacific Coast, with a side trip to Santa Rosa and a visit with Pete's mom. June and **Don Kudas**, McKeesport PA, caught up with **Charlie Flynn** on campus last fall. Fast forward to their winter trip south and they parlayed Charlie's invite into a VIP dinner at his favorite Miami crab place. ND hosted the NCAA Fencing Championships this spring. That brought Barb and **Herb Melton**, Louisville, to town. Herb's dad was Mike DeCicco's coach way back when. It gave us a chance to catch up over dinner, without the football noise in the background. The fencing team captured their second national championship in a row, and 12th of all time. Retired Air Force **Gen. Bob Latiff** was on campus twice this spring. Once he participated in a roundtable event at the ND International Security Center on the topic of ethics and new weapons technologies. Then he launched his second book, *Future Peace: Technology, Aggression, and the Rush to War*, published by ND Press. Carol and **Craig Williams**, Dayton OH, were parents of the bride, **Cara '05**, which provided an opportunity for an April visit and chance to catch up with Michele and **Barry Pflum**, and Sheri and **Jack Samar**, who had the longer drives from New Jersey and Virginia. **Clem Driscoll** continues to labor in the vineyard, in the sunny and temperate climate of Palos Verdes Estates CA. His firm is an industry leader providing marketing, consulting and research services for GPS and wireless products and services. Condolences to **Bill Barz** on the passing of his mother, Corinne. **Bob McCarthy**, Naples, passed away in April. A native of Chicago, a Badin resident and marketing major, Bob spent his career in the food industry as the president of Acosta Sales and Marketing, the largest North American consumer products sales agency. Condolences to Jeanne and the rest of their family. Retired Marine Corps **Col. Mike Boyce** passed away here in January. A resident of Marietta GA, Mike and Judy were at ND this academic year, participating in the one-year Inspired Leadership Initiative program. A resident of Farley and a sociology major, Mike was a 30-year career Marine and later in civilian life served as chairman of the Cobb County Board of Commissioners from 2016-20. Condolences to Judy and their extended family. If you are golfing on campus at the Warren Course later this summer or fall, look for starters **Tim O'Connor** and **Jeff Gallagher**. No deals on greens fees, but free advice on watering holes. Truly and Jeff relocated here a few years back after a career running the family lumber yard

and hardware operation in Larchwood IA. We will again host tailgates in the back yard, with delayed starts for the night games. — **John Snider**; 830 N. Saint Peter St., South Bend IN 46617-1936; res 571-217-8961; cell 312-860-1779; jlscca@yahoo.com

#### 71MBA On the Road Again

Now that things are opening a bit, more classmates are traveling. **Robbie '71MA** and yours truly **Jim Fackelman** made a trip to California, including Disneyland, to spend spring break with grandchildren who live in Colorado. We visit them in Steamboat Springs several times a year. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in early April. Helena and **Tony Strati** sent me a message from Israel while on a trip that had been postponed for two years. They will be attending a couple of grandchildren's weddings later this year in Oklahoma and New York. Tony corrected me on an error in my last post; they only have 11 grandchildren. Gray and **Terry Walts** are still in Atlanta and reported on frequent travel to visit their active grandkids in Minnesota and Kentucky. They got a chance to see the Kentucky Derby last year. Terry's medical start-up obtained FDA approval to begin final clinical trials. **Efrain Palaez** is still in the Philippines and travels to his home in Spain twice a year. He hopes to make it back to the US later this year. He claims to be semi-retired. I always can count on Patricia and **Rod Spear** to stay in touch. Rod's docent duties at the Snite Museum are picking up as local schools are back to taking tours. A new art museum will be ready in 2023. Several of us have recovered from minor bouts of COVID, and it's always encouraging to report that all are in good health. I sure would like to hear from more of you. My contact info is below. — **Jim Fackelman**; 4635 Lakeview Circle, Slinger WI 53086; res 262-644-6245; cell 414-379-0968; jfackelman@alumni.nd.edu

#### 71JD Catching Up

I am saddened to report the death of our classmates **Leo "Pops" Cox** and **Al Krenitsky**, as well as **Rev. Dave Link '58**, **'61JD**, our teacher and former dean of the Law School. I also received a note from **Fred McGrath**, whose wife, Linda, passed away in January. Our prayers and condolences extend to all our Notre Dame classmates and their families. Despite the COVID pandemic, we had an excellent turnout for our 50-year Class of '71 reunion, which took place at Notre Dame on the beautiful autumn weekend of Oct. 8-10, 2021. It was so good to see everyone again and to catch up on the stories of our lives. Our gathering included: **Jim Aranda**, **Skip Beisenstein**, **Mike Brennan**, **Bryan Dunigan**, **Vince Ginestre**, **Gary Gottschlich**, **Mike Heaton**, **Ken Hoch**, **John Holgerson**, **Kathleen** and **Dennis Kelly**, **Fred Kuhar**, **Steve Kurowski**, **Tim McCarthy**, **Bob McMenamin**, **John Peddycord**, **Jim Rittinger**, **Ray Scotto**, **Bill Smoley**, **Nellie Vogel** and **Tim Westfall**. We thank our Law School coordinators **Tammye Radke Raster '92JD**, law alumni program manager, and Theresa Fry, marketing communications event coordinator, for their great assistance and hard work. Tammye Raster was able to have the exciting Virginia Tech football game beamed to a large screen television she had set up for our dinner at the Embassy Suites on Saturday evening. We all went home happy having witnessed a last-minute Irish victory. On Friday, several of us were able to play golf. We then gathered with our classmates, renewed old friendships and enjoyed a nice dinner in the Law School. On Saturday morning, **Rev. William Dailey, CSC, '94**, 'OOMDiv celebrated a Mass in the Law School's St. Thomas More Chapel, where we remembered our 19 classmates who had died since graduation. After Mass, we received a tour of the new and renovated Law School and enjoyed seeing the amenities now provided for the students and teachers. Several of our group commented that the students would never see a city, county, state or federal courtroom appointed and maintained as are the facilities in the Law School. I want to thank Nellie Vogel for his extraordinary efforts in tracking down those who did not respond to our reunion invitation and for his collaboration on the reunion schedule. We hope you enjoyed meeting again and renewing acquaintances. It was a fun weekend. Please send me your news and keep us informed. My best regards to you. Stay healthy. Be well. Go Irish. — **E. Bryan Dunigan**; 19 S. LaSalle, Suite 1202, Chicago IL 60603; 312-857-2114; bdunigan@duniganlaw.com



## 72 Reunion Is Over

I hope you enjoyed the Reunion, which will have occurred by the time you receive this. These notes had to be submitted in April, well before the Reunion, so there is no Reunion news in this issue. My Kettering OH Alter High School classmate, Judy Lammers Imhoff '72SMC, informed me that her husband **Buz Imhoff** died on Feb. 1. Our condolences to Judy and their two daughters. As a student, he was a Badin Hall president and played baseball. After graduation, Buz served five years in the Navy as a surface warfare officer and later in intelligence in London. He earned a master's in international relations from the U of Southern California in 1977 and obtained his law degree in 1979 from the U of Wisconsin-Madison. After practicing 25 years in California, he became a senior vice president at American Financial Group, Great American Insurance, in Cincinnati. Judy and Buz attended the October wedding in Chicago of a son of their good friends, Christy and **Steve Grazzini**, and had brunch with **Joe Grossestreuer** and wife Vicki Welp '72SMC in the Chicago suburb of Downers Grove. When Buz and Judy, **Phil Glotzbach**, **Gary Ireton** and my wife, Ann, and I, attended our high school's 50-year reunion, the principal reception was hosted by our classmate Larry Connor, now famous for piloting Axiom Mission 1 to the International Space Station in April. **James Wittling** (Thrill) passed in 2021 without an obituary in South Bend, where he worked as a family therapist. As a student he had gone to Innsbruck. **Jack Kenny** passed on March 24 in Buffalo NY, where he had grown up. After getting his master's in education, he taught and was involved in administration at St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, retiring in 2010, and as an adjunct at Canisius College through 2020. He supported Just Buffalo Literary Center and was active in the Pundit Club of Buffalo, a men's literary group. He was a self-taught guitar player. Our condolences to his wife, Nancy, and daughter, Margaret. Let us pray for each other, living and deceased, to the Mother of Holiness. — **Jim Thunder**; thundergroup@alumni.nd.edu

## 72MBA Did I See You at Reunion?

About the only real news I have this time is that I'm happy to report no recent deaths in our class. I pray that trend continues but I do expect more news next issue. As I write this, it's about six weeks until our 50th reunion. As you read it, the Reunion was about six weeks ago. I sincerely hope to have seen many of you as we joined the 50 Year Club. Alas, if you weren't there, you won't be able to read about the festivities until October. (I believe that may have been the only time I've used the word "alas" in anything I've ever written.) Until next time, God bless every one of you. — **Alex McLellan**; 913-991-0944; irish72mba@gmail.com

**72JD Class Secretary — Chris Schraff**; 1881 Marble Cliff Crossing Ct., Columbus OH 43204; 614-227-2097; cschraff@porterwright.com

## 73 Griffin as Grand Marshal

Our 50th reunion is just a year away. President **Jim Hunt** is looking for volunteers to join our committee. The goal is to make this the best 50th reunion of all time with the largest class attendance. Contact Mike Hansen at the information below if you can help or have ideas or suggestions. We will be utilizing our class website for current information. The 50th year will start out with a reunion of our senior class football players at the California game. Organizing this event are **Jim O'Malley**, **Jim Bulger**, **Jim Roelf** and **Tyrone Robinson**. Everyone from the class is welcome to attend. We are also securing two top speakers for our class dinners. You cannot afford to miss this reunion. **John Griffin** enjoyed the highlight of his stellar legal career serving as the grand marshal of the 67th annual Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade. John is a retired justice of the Illinois Appellate Court and currently an arbitrator and moderator and has been very active in Chicago Irish organizations. Kudos to **Lloyd Sullivan** for sending me this information and for representing our class at the Friday dinner honoring John. **Robert Dempsey** recently received the highest honor given in world neurosurgery, the World Federation of Neurological Societies Medal of Honor. Bob is the chair of the Department of Neurological Surgery at the U of Wisconsin and one of the world's leading neurosurgeons. I heard from **Ray Mohrman**, whose son Stephen was a close friend of my son Eric at Illinois Wesleyan. Ray, a retired physician, reports that three of his children graduated

from ND and he and his wife, Karen, are enjoying their 10 grandchildren. He keeps in close contact with **Mike Burns**, who is still involved in the family business in Akron OH, even though he has relocated to Tampa FL. **Dick Murphy** retired from his Chicago law practice and his wife, **Marti Burns Murphy**, enjoyed a long teaching career. **Bob (Duck) McDonald** lives in Palm Coast FL. He was the child support director in Stark County OH. Living outside the Boston area are Nancy and **Val Madden**. Val has retired from engineering and consulting in the power generation industry. Mary and **Paul Euell** have a home care agency for the elderly in New Jersey. Their son **Chris** was a star baseball player for the Irish. **Paul O'Connor** lives in Durham NC and taught journalism at UNC. **John Williams** retired from accounting and moved from Sioux City IA



MATT CASHORE '94

to Scottsdale AZ. **Gary Caruso** still works for Homeland Security in Washington DC. **Pam King** is busy as usual sharing a recent Zoom call with former roommates Julaine Brophy Brent '73SMC, **Jennie Lysaught Hull** and **Kris Kans Carr**. They will attend our 50th. **Alan Hart** invites all players to his beautiful home course of Northwood Country Club in Meridian MS. Alan, who is the youngest member of our class to shoot his age four years ago and who has duplicated this feat many times, would be an excellent host on one of the best courses in Mississippi. Close to Joliet IL, **Joe Tapajna** plays at Olympia Fields CC (host of the 2003 US Open, won by Jim Furyk) and The Dunes Club in New Buffalo MI, the original Mike Keiser creation. I'll have more courses in the next column. Call your friends about the reunion. Keep sending me news. — **Michael W. Hansen**; 3013 Sanctuary Court, Joliet IL 60435; cell 815-212-3661; mikehansen@mikehansenlaw.com

## 73MBA Happy 49th Graduation

Wishing classmates and your families a very happy 49th graduation anniversary. I am happy to represent our class in the Notre Dame alumni office and *Notre Dame Magazine*. **Gus Brown** shares that he went to Florida to visit his brother as a break to COVID confinement. I have received no other input for this issue. As 2022 is the eve year of our 50th graduation celebration, I am looking forward to responses from our classmates over the next two years to capture your legacy message in this magazine. Please send me your responses and updated email addresses. If you have not written in some time, please share your legacy stories with us. I look forward to hearing from you soon. You are always welcome to visit us in Southern California. — **Thomas Jindra**; tajindra@charter.net

## 73JD A Serendipitous Find

I thought I might be unable to report anything new this

month, but an item in the *New York Times* regarding the passing of a former Alabama football player who was severely injured in a game many years ago led me to connect with **Bob Burgdorf**, who was quoted in the piece. (No, I do not look for items for this column in the *Times'* obits!) A bit of sleuthing led to an exchange of emails and, instead of lacking anything to write about, I was overwhelmed with material. An article in the *Notre Dame Magazine* in 2017 is great place to start learning about his career, but his website, "Burgdorf on Disability Rights," is interesting as both a legal resource and historical reference point. A high point of his career was the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, about which his role is difficult to describe since I am constrained by his one request: that I do not "overplay or underplay it." I can

only direct you to a piece on his website, "Who really wrote the ADA?" and to the fact that he is generally credited by many as the author of the original bill that would become the Act. He is retired from, and has emeritus status at, the U of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law. Bob is married to Dr. Andi Farbman, the retired Executive Director of the American Music Therapy Association, and they live in Silver Spring MD. However, the big surprise in my research is that Bob is apparently very proud of his large collection of locks and keys — perhaps he will provide us with the story behind this unusual hobby for a future edition. On another note, 50 years ago we were finishing up our second year, many off to summer clerkships and we were all starting to think in real terms about life after graduation. More on reunions next time. — **Paul Reagan**; 16527 Heron Coach Way, Ft. Meyers FL 33908; cell 847-915-9796; pvreagan@gmail.com

## 74 We Enter a New Age Decade

Cheers, good health and congratulations to all in our class who have celebrated a birthday in a new decade. It is hard to believe. Let's start with **Mike Mohrman**, who wrote for the first time after being an ardent reader. Thanks, Mike. He says he was a 1971 transfer and one of four student coordinators of the near-10,000-student ND/SMC Neighborhood Study Help Program. He stated that ND lost a beautiful person and his best friend at ND when **Hon. Diana Lewis '74**, '82JD passed away from a stroke last year. Diana was a 1972 transfer and sociology major. She became a successful litigator and was elected to the 15th Judicial Circuit Court in Florida. She served on various boards, including the ND Law School Advisory Council, Board of Trustees and as a fellow for the University, among many other Catholic boards. Diana shared many a breakfast in South Dining Hall with Mike which leaves him with fond memories. While some may be tired of the POG

stories, I must note that **Jim Whalen** is very faithful in sending me his golf news, so I pass it along. If you wish for more classmate news, you must send it in. And speaking of POG, Jim has invited me as the first female to join their illustrious group for 2023, and he said I get my own sleeping quarters. Generous indeed. Our class president **Jerry Samieago** joined for the first time this year. They played the 2022 POG April 18 in Destin FL. They had 20 boys who enjoyed a week of golf, pool/spa time, old stories, adult beverages, dinners and beach time. They kicked it off with an annual burger and brat dinner. This is the largest group ever assembled for the annual POG MO THON. History continues to be made. The usual suspects will be listed in the fall column, with color commentary since **Jim McCarthy** is always listed as the "Phantom" with the POG crowd, and **E. Tim Daro** insists he is the Phantom. There will be a challenge of some sort at the next reunion. What that challenge is, Daro has yet to determine. Hopefully our illustrious class president Jerry Samaniego survived this year's POG, and he tells of summer plans to Spain and Portugal. Although he states he only has reservations in Barcelona, he and his wife will be going elsewhere by trains, planes and automobiles. COVID stopped travel plans for many, and the opportunity to get out there and enjoy again has accelerated for more than a few of our classmates. Jerry also tells of his future retirement. He started his business at 38 and believes it's time to pass the baton to his son, who has more than earned the privilege of running the business. And no one wants to pass away at their work desk. So, while those who are still working ponder what we would do in retirement other than continually travel (which is exciting at first, yet not sustainable), Jerry is considering piano lessons, charitable work, playing the harmonica, prison ministry and more travel. **Jim Hynan** who handles the Senior Alumni group for the ND Club of Chicago is working to gather classmates in the Windy City for a mini get-together this summer. And **Mike Kemp '75** noticed in our column that folks were trying to track down classmate **Mike Martin**. Mike '74 and Mike '75 were co-captains of the wrestling team in '72-73. Rumor has it that Martin is managing a resort in Colorado. So, Mike Martin, if that is true, please reach out to your former captain. And kudos to **Frank Murnane**, who keeps track and is the first to shout out to members of our class when their birthdays arrive. Very nice. Frank is a true POG alumnus. I wonder why those POG names came to be. Do I want to know how all those nicknames came about? I am curious, but not that curious. Dear classmates, please stay healthy, soak up the moments of life while we are able, and write a few notes on the what, where and why of your lives. We want to hear from you. Visit me when you are in Chicago. — **Dede Lohle Simon**; 440 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago; dedersimon@gmail.com

#### 74MBA Masters Golf and More

Once again, there were no communications from classmates. So, you are about to read another chapter from the travels of Jack and Helen. In late February, we ventured to Southwestern Florida, specifically Bonita Springs, about 10 miles north of Naples. We had never stayed in that area of Florida before. The weather was terrific, mid-to-high 80s each day with sunny skies. Another couple, friends from Michigan, joined us while we were there. Together, we explored Naples, Bonita Springs and Ft. Myers, including an air boat ride in Everglades City, a visit to the Naples Zoo, several trips to Ft. Myers Beach and other daily excursions. The trip was fantastic up until the day before we were to return home. In short, I ended up in the Naples Community Hospital for two and a half days with a severe bout of vertigo. I had never had vertigo before, and it was not a pleasant experience. However, we were able to return to Michigan a few days later. About a month after we got home from Florida, we set out for Augusta GA and the Masters Golf Tournament. Helen's friend Carole lives about two miles from the golf course, so we had a convenient and friendly place to stay. We attended the tournament Thursday through Sunday. What a great experience: flowers in bloom, perfectly manicured grounds, a staff of employees full of that great southern hospitality and the world's best golfers. While we were there, old friend and classmate **Charlie Lanktree** arranged a few extra perks for us that made our stay even better. Many thanks to Charlie. My advice: put the Masters golf tournament on your list of things to do. Helen is not a golfer, but the thrill of attending a major athletic event and the beautiful surroundings

of Augusta National made the trip worthwhile for both of us. That's the latest news from the Burnett family. Let me hear from you. All it takes is an email or phone call to let me know what you are doing in your continuing work environment or in retirement. Your classmates would like to hear from you. I hope this column finds everyone healthy and happy. — **Jack Burnett**; 19248 Glen Eagles Drive, Livonia MI 48152; 734-464-3458; jburnet1@sbcglobal.net

#### 74JD Kudos

**Clark Arrington** has been admitted to the Cooperative Hall of Fame. Stay well. — **Joe O'Reilly**; cell 502-649-6955; joe.oreilly34@icloud.com

#### 75 Nuclear Option

**Kevin Smith** shared four decades of news, reporting from Hendersonville KY and Ooltewah TN. With his nuclear engineering degree, he spent 27 years working in nuclear power, radioactive waste treatment and environmental remediation. In 2003, he helped found a marketing proposal development company. Now he is an avid golfer and recently celebrated 32 years of marriage to wife Marilyn. He is an active volunteer with the North Carolina Council on Economic Education and ND clubs in Knoxville and the Western Carolinas. He organized the alumni tailgate party for the 2015 Clemson game, which included a hurricane. **Mike Gearin** of Seattle wrote that we lost a special classmate, **Bill Donahue** of Kaneohe HI, last September. He and Mike went through Navy ROTC together, then Bill joined the Marine Corps, where he attained the rank of major. Eventually Bill became a teacher in Hawaii. Bill is survived by four sons: John, Michael, Liam and James, all loyal ND fans. **Marcos Ronquillo** of Dallas has been honored by *Acquisition International Magazine* as Texas' Leading Hispanic Business Arbitration and Litigation Attorney. With his GWU law degree, he has been practicing law for 43 years and is a partner in his own firm. He has received numerous awards from bar associations and civic groups during his career and has served on the boards of the Smithsonian National Campaign Steering Committee and JP Morgan Chase. Please continue to send me your news. Thanks. — **Norm Bower**; 3946 Fernwood Ave., Davenport IA 52807; 563-349-0469; normbower@mchsi.com

**75MBA Class Secretary** — **Jim Ouimet**; 215-862-3080; jimouimet@comcast.net

#### 75JD Summer Notes

Fifty years ago this month, we were prospective 1Ls with the late-August orientation just around the corner. In that calm-before-the-storm summer, the rule against perpetuities, force majeure, ab initio, estoppel, legatee, misfeasance, and other legal nuggets had not yet taken up residence in our brains. Today, the cranial headspace is more likely populated by website passwords, grandchildren's birthdays, cholesterol counts, Wordle tricks and perhaps the location of a parked car. Life marches on. **Mary Joan Hoene** retired from her NYC law firm last year. After graduation, she clerked for a federal district court judge in Miami, then practiced there until moving to NYC to join another law firm. In 1985, she moved to Washington DC for a senior role in the Division of Investment Management at the SEC. She subsequently returned to NYC as general counsel for the asset management group of a large broker-dealer. From there, she worked for two insurance companies before returning to private practice, moving next into an independent chief compliance officer position with mutual fund families affiliated with a major bank, and then back to private practice. She is an independent director of a closed end fund and a consultant on some matters but is delighted to be otherwise free. I enthusiastically endorse her belief that this is an ideal time in our lives to be generous to NDLS, as our law school experience was so important in the direction of our lives and careers. Mary Joan recently connected with Planned Giving at the University on ways to relate her policy interests to scholarship and program support at the Law School, noting there are various ways to assist now or as a legacy to maintain this unique institution. **Ann Williams**, of counsel in Jones Day's Chicago office, has been honored with The Women in Law Initiative's 2021 Justitia Award for her lifetime achievements in promoting the rule of law around the world. The organization is based in Austria and strives to connect women and male allies in all fields of

law, and offers a platform to discuss current issues, learn from each other and network across industry sectors and borders. Ann was recognized with the Lifetime Award at the International Conference on Contemporary Issues for Women in Law, which took place virtually in September, along with US Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor and Slovakian President Zuzana Ľaputová. After a long career with Delta Airlines, **Ken Klatt** is enjoying retirement in Atlanta. He is of counsel to a small firm, working very part time, which leaves substantial opportunity for other pursuits. He and Kathy live minutes away from their three children and five grandchildren. From photos popping up on his Facebook page, it seems Dogwood City has not diminished Ken's devotion to the Chicago Cubs. Work commitments and family life keep **Steve Botsford** busy. Real estate deals in California have been a staple for Steve over the last 20 years, and he is also working on a medical project. Maryland basketball coach Kevin Willard filled his final assistant coach vacancy last spring with former Seton Hall assistant and associate head coach Grant Billmeier, son of Lisa and **Bob Billmeier**. What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas, except for a win over BYU. When the Irish prevail in October, it will make loud noise in Marcus Freeman's first season. Karen and I have had a hotel reservation in Sin City for months, eagerly awaiting the Shamrock Series weekend. If you are coming out for the game, let me know and perhaps we can plan a get-together. Go Irish. — **Frederick Giel**; fggiel@gmail.com

#### 76 Celebrating Together

The University is recognizing the 50th anniversary of coeducation throughout 2022. Interviews with twin '76 Golden Girls **Denise Crowley Brenner** and **Donna Crowley Campbell** were part of the video commemorating coeducation shown at UND nights around the country. Their experiences were also featured in *ND Works Quarterly*. On the 76th day of the year, **Chris Bury**, **Bill Delaney** and **David Szymanski** hosted our second annual St. Patrick's Day ReZOOMion. Some 45 classmates enjoyed three lively sessions. Bill practices and teaches commercial, bankruptcy and insolvency law in Rhode Island. David retired after 20 years as a probate judge in Michigan and has been providing mediation services for the past 10 years. In April, he officiated at the marriage of his daughter in Islamorada FL after earning his minister credentials online. More gatherings are planned for 2022. We have reserved a Class of '76 block of rooms for the Oct. 8 Shamrock Series game vs. BYU at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas. Booking link, expiring Aug. 15, is <https://book.passkey.com/go/MUND22>. Our campus minireunion is the following weekend for the Stanford game and will feature a Friday gathering, Saturday tailgate, Sunday Mass and butterfly release for our deceased classmates. Contact **Debi Dell** for tickets in the class block, and to participate in readings or music for the events. Many thanks to **Bob Quakenbush** for his extraordinary efforts as our communication guru. Check out our Facebook page and website, which he updates regularly with information about our activities. More classmates have joined those already retired. **Becky Banasiak Code** retired from Ohio U after teaching anatomy to medical students for over 20 years. **Bob McQuade**, VP of HR at Notre Dame for 17 years, retired June 30 after a long career in human resources. Exec VP **Shannon Cullinan '93** noted "his gift for building partnerships across the University has enhanced the development and well-being of our faculty and staff." **Nancy Brenner Sinnott** was commissioned to weave the centerpiece of a new exhibit at the History Museum in South Bend. Her original fabric art piece combines fibers from around the globe with crystals woven into a 3-D world map. There is one crystal for every country represented in the current student body. **Frank Fransioli** and spouse Eileen McGinnity shared stories of travels to Britain during the pandemic. After arriving in November 2020 for a two-month stay, the Home Office (like our State Department) paid them surprise visits to check passports and called daily to confirm adherence to quarantine rules. Despite the massive shut down, the couple got creative in accessing the local fare, including walk-up takeaway beers. They also narrow-boated along the Grand Union Canal and circumnavigated the Isle of Wight, mostly on foot. We mourn the passing of several classmates and celebrate their lives. **Sean McDonald** passed away after successfully leading his family's Cleveland-based business, Stretch Tape Inc., for more than 30 years. Our condolences to spouse Melanie and children Felicia, Breen and Ian. **Tom Cassidy**



succumbed to a brief battle with cancer in Albany NY. He studied at the Sorbonne before transferring to ND and graduating with our class. He traveled the world in the hospitality business before dedicating his time as a stay-at-home parent. His spouse, Nancy, and children Thomas and Elizabeth survive. **Ernie Torriero**, an award-winning editor and journalist, died in February from COVID-19 in Washington DC. His long and accomplished career took him all over the world. He is survived by spouse Antje and twin sons Andreas and Julius. **Tony Hains** passed away from gastric cancer in Milwaukee, where he taught psychology at UW-Milwaukee. After retirement, he followed his passion and published several horror novels. Our condolences to spouse Ann and daughter Anastasia. We also mourn the loss of **Robyn Smith Hammond**. Please send news by July 15. — **Shelley Muller Simon**; 573-268-3690; ssimon823@gmail.com

#### 76MBA A Mayor in Our Class?

Well actually, the mayor is not a classmate, but the daughter of a classmate. **Willis Smith** reports their youngest daughter, Kelly, has been elected mayor of Centralia WA. Alta and Snoopy are very proud of her. You can reach Snoopy at snoopyalta@comcast.net. **Larry Overland** reports another reason to celebrate ND Magazine's 50th anniversary. It is the same number Sheryl and Larry have been married. Their wedding took place in the Basilica in August 1972. The wedding was celebrated by **Rev. Thomas Blantz, CSC, '57, '63**, who was rector of Zahm Hall when Larry was a freshman. Four children and six grandchildren later, all is well. Father Blantz has written the definitive history book of Notre Dame, *The University of Notre Dame: A History* (Notre Dame Press, 2020). Larry highly recommends the book. Larry can be reached at loverlan@suffolk.edu. God bless. — **Mike Norris**; text 248-330-5366; norris1021@comcast.net

**76JD Class Secretary — Virgil L. Roth**; 625 Fair Oaks Ave., Suite 255, South Pasadena CA 91030; 626-441-1178; fax 626-441-1166; vroth@vrlaw.com

#### 77 Serving Others, Having Grandkids

Both the 50th anniversary of coeducation and Reunion 45 events at the University are now epic memories, especially welcome after two pandemic years. Stories will be in the next issue. We are all tremendously grateful to Reunion 45 committee members and chairs who made our reunion a success. **Hon. Joe Donnelly '77, '81JD**, former US senator from Indiana, was sworn in on Feb. 15 at the South Bend Federal Courthouse as the US Ambassador to the Holy See after confirmation by the US Senate in January. Joe and his wife, **Jill Truitt Donnelly '80JD**, have been married for over 40 years, have two children and a grandchild, and have now moved to their new home in Italy. **Carol Latronica** is featured in a *Golden is Thy Fame* YouTube video that explores the impact of pioneer undergraduate women at the University as part of the 50th anniversary of coeducation programs. **Chuck Patton** sent greetings to fellow Sorinites from the classes of 1974-78 with wishes for a happier and healthier 2022. Chuck and his wife, Liz, are enjoying retired life in the San Francisco Bay Area while raising two beautiful granddaughters, Ella, 7, and Kaila, 5. **Barb Boylan** organized the ND Club of Greater Boston's Winter Walk on Feb. 13 to raise money and awareness for the homeless. Susan and **Guy Wroble** and their therapy dogs, Hathaway, and Nella, were recognized by Children's Hospital of Colorado for their 10 years of volunteer service in the Prescription Pet Program. **Rev. Anne Dilenschneider PhD** was asked to serve on the diversity, inclusion and community engagement committee of the Global Education Institute (GEI) for the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH), as one of 12 global healthcare providers. **Patricia (Patter) Sheeran Bircs** was busy planning the in-person National Pancreatic Foundation Gala in Pittsburgh in April; husband **Tom Bircs '76** received the NPF Lifetime Achievement Award. Glori and **Nick Winnike** went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land after Easter and offered up their prayers for the Class of '77. **Bonita Bradshaw** co-authored *Black, Brown and White: Stories Straight Outta Compton*, available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble and the ND Hammes Bookstore. Bonita was invited to appear on the *Ellen DeGeneres Show* in May. **Michael Greaney's** newest book, *The Greater Reset*, is available on Amazon and Tan. Yours truly, **Virginia (Ginger) McGowan Bishop**, and **Daniel**

**Bishop** welcomed our first grandchild, Donald Laurence Wilgus II, son of Victoria Bishop and her husband, Rhemy Wilgus, on Jan. 26. As our daughter was admitted to the ER under her maiden name, her son's nametag originally read, "Donald Bishop," which would've pleased his great-grandfather, Don Bishop. Tom and **Marianne Morgan Harris** entered the grandparents club when their youngest child, Lynne, gave birth to Gabriel Anthony Baker on Feb. 13. **Janet Spillman Noble** and Roy Noble welcomed Eloise Ruth Noble in February. She joined big brother Henry and big sister Madelyn. **Caroline Short** and husband Joe Torsella welcomed a second grandson, Reid Thomas Henry, who joined big brother Logan in March. Donna and **Terry Sullivan** welcomed a fourth grandchild, Jack Sullivan, into the Sullivan clan in April. We are heartbroken by the deaths of our classmates who lost long battles against illness. **Dr. David Schaub** fought with courage and is survived by his wife, Patricia, his daughter Kathryn (Dimitri) Vallis, his son-in-law, and his granddaughter, Leila. With heavy hearts, we learned that our classmate, attorney **Natal Amadeo**, passed away in February, leaving behind wife Jane, six children — Natalie, Anthony (Stephanie), Molly (John), Andrew, Ashleigh (fiancé Joseph) and Jane — and several grandchildren. Deepest condolences also go out to former University Associate Director of Graduate Business Career Services **Jim Sullivan** and his wife, Laurie, and family on the loss of their beloved son Daniel Sullivan; to **Patty Coogan Wyle**, whose mother Edith Kennedy Coogan passed away; to **Kathy Krauss Zerda** on the loss of her sister Carol; to **Dave Caron**, and his wife, Deborah MacKellar, on the passing of her mother, Rhoda Robertson MacKellar. Rest in peace in God's loving care, to all our beloved. — **Virginia McGowan Bishop**; res 847-291-7510; classof1977@alumni.nd.edu

#### 77MBA Greetings

I am still working and have enjoyed a full house for the past six months. Both sons moved home. Charlie is sales director for Illinois and Wisconsin for Canteen Vodka Soda/Cantina Tequila Soda, and George is supervisor for DHL at O'Hare. So, I get the driveway shoveled, the grass mowed and two sons who join me in the duck blind and on the golf course. Their mother is happy and bakes chocolate chip cookies whenever they ask. **Steve Sturtz** and I visit every several months. His calls bring back memories. He still takes to the mountains in the US and Canada to maintain his ski instructor certification. I hope all are well. — **Alan J. Fisher**; alan@churchfisherlaw.com

#### 77JD Guardian of Life Award

Chaplain **Dale Recinella** and his wife, Susan, recently traveled to Rome to receive the inaugural Guardian of Life Award from the Pontifical Academy for Life. The award honors those who have distinguished themselves in support of the protection and promotion of human life. It has been 30 years since Dale left his first career as a Wall Street finance attorney to minister to those in need alongside Susan and with the support of their children. A near-death experience, with questions about the best use of God's gifts, led Dale and Susan to simplify their lives and to serve the least of our brothers and sisters in keeping with Matthew 25. Dale serves as lay chaplain to inmates of Florida's death row, the largest in the United States. **Dan Snyder**, formerly a prosecuting attorney, has been practicing since 1988 in a small firm in Portland OR as a plaintiffs' employment attorney and as a civil rights attorney representing hearing impaired and deaf clients who are denied access to auxiliary aids. Dan has chaired the Oregon State Bar Pro Bono Committee. Dan also uses his talents as a part-time silversmith. **Gina Wilkinson** continues to practice as a solo bankruptcy attorney in Michigan City IN. We met for lunch at Rohr's at ND, and we enjoyed catching up so much that we want to hear from classmates in the area who would like to schedule lunch at ND or in Michigan City. **Marianne** and **Paul Smith '76** have decided it is time to branch out from travel to Phoenix to visit their sons' families with a springtime Rhine River cruise and with plans for many more destinations in the future. I would love to get news and updated contact information from our retired classmates. I will be making random calls for news in the next couple months. — **Janey Bennett**; 50850 Tarrington Way, Granger IN 46530; 574-298-9251; bus 574-243-4100; jbennett@maylorber.com

#### 78 Soak up the Summer

Greetings fellow members of the class with class! Hope you are enjoying life wherever you are. Summer has those distinctive aromas — sunscreen, charcoal, salt air, freshly cut grass. They bring us back to our childhood — and let them! Happy memories are the best! Let's get to the news! Cathy and **Bill "Beefsteak" Reifsteck** and the rest of their family have made it so far without contracting COVID. All through this, we have been modifying our house to be accessible for us in our later age and to make it maintenance-free as best we can. I really enjoy doing the construction work and as I write this I am waiting for the sun to come up enough to start roofing the last section of the front porch. Bill enjoyed sitting on the porch watching the Fourth of July fireworks. Cathy and Bill enjoyed dinner with Beth and **John Delaney** when they were in the Philly area last from California. Regina and **Nace Mullen** also attended. In February, Alumni Hall Dogs **Dennis Doughty, Jim Wendel, Chris Dugan, John Horan, Tom Coryn, Randy Heimbuch, Brian Cronin** and **Pete Haley** gathered at Doughty's South Bend townhome for a weekend of merriment that included Irish hockey and basketball games. **Bob March** and **Ann Combs**, each of whom lives in South Bend, joined the group for the big Saturday night dinner. We will probably know by the time we are reading this if **Vicki Lopez** was successful in her run for a state senate seat in Florida. **Don "Dancing Bear" Smail** and **Jim "Souls" Coyne** reunited on campus for the Alumni Association Leadership Conference in April. A highlight was a visit to the home of our class president, **Pat Flynn**, and his wife, Maura. The ND "museum" in Pat's basement was truly fascinating. **Mike Staub** and **Pat Scanlon** (now living in South Bend) were taking part as ND Senior Alumni Board Regional Directors and were part of one of the many workshops during the weekend. Mike and Pat also enjoyed some Blue-Gold Game tailgating with Don Smail, **Mike Hussey** and Jim "Souls" Coyne. Don and Jim ran into Anne Combs and **Mary Flannery** in the recently redesigned Rohr's in the Morris Inn. **Mike Hellinghouser** spent the night at the Nace Mullen compound in Philadelphia in April. Both men reported that it was great catching up and reminiscing. The Nace Mullen family won the "Best Dressed Family" award at Philadelphia's Easter parade. It's not too early to begin thinking about our 45th Reunion, set for June 2023! Start making your plans, especially if this will be the first Reunion you attend. You know who you are! An update on our Class of 1978 scholarship in memory of **Jimmy Martin**: We want to provide future generations with the same opportunity we had. The fund's overarching principles include anonymity, and all gifts will be confidential. Keep us in your gifting plans as a matching fund has been established. Visit [app.mobilecause.com/vf/ND1978](http://app.mobilecause.com/vf/ND1978) to donate. For more information, contact Pat Flynn, [pat.flynn@indianabev.com](mailto:pat.flynn@indianabev.com). The fund has raised more than \$275,000 to date. Please remember in your prayers those who have died, including **Pete Harrington** and the mother of **Mary Emich**. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Stay in touch! Reach out and share! Enjoy your summer! — **Jim "Souls" Coyne**; 1801 Butler Pike, Apt. 20, Conshohocken PA 19428; 267-847-8808; jcoyne@cohs.com

**78MBA Class Secretary — Mamie Anthoine Ney**; 350 Alewife Road, Kennebunk ME 04043-6013; res 207-229-0989; bus 207-333-6640 ex 2020; [irishwasherwoman@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:irishwasherwoman@alumni.nd.edu)

#### 78JD Judicial Education

Judge **James M. Varga** joined the faculty for Education Conference 2022 in April and June. Sponsored by the Illinois Supreme Court Judicial College, all judges in Illinois must attend this continuing legal education seminar held every two years. In past conferences, he has taught various topics of evidence. This year, he taught Trial Objections to Expert Testimony. In another course, Civil Law Updates, faculty presented one of his jury trials that awarded \$8 million against the defendant who sexually assaulted the plaintiff. The legal twist in the case: neither the defendant nor his attorneys participated in the jury trial. The appellate court and Supreme Court affirmed his ruling that they had intentionally abandoned the jury trial. The Supreme Court reversed the appellate court and affirmed his judgment upon the amount of punitive damages. Send me news and memories. — **Vincent R. Johnson**; 210-431-2131; [vjohnson@stmarytx.edu](mailto:vjohnson@stmarytx.edu)

## 79 Pondering Options

I hope you are enjoying your Medicare year as you are forced to ponder and decipher your health and long-term care options. **Val (Stefani) Cahill** lives in Elmhurst IL with her husband, Hal, and works for the YMCA. She is happy when she sees her granddaughter, Frances Diana, and her grandsons. **Jeni (Joy) and Mark Madden** live in the DC area, where Mark is a doctor and Jeni publishes the *Durable Human News* with information about resilience and coping with tech-induced stress, with a special focus on children, teens and young adults. **Stan Bernat**, who lives outside of Cleveland with his wife Lisa, is the Ohio Valley regional director on the ND Senior Alumni Board. **Charlie Lick** retired from his work as an ER doctor but continues to work part-time as an EMS medical director. He and his wife, Jenny, live in the Minneapolis area and have two daughters and a son. They are new grandparents to Beatrice Eloise (Trixie), who lives in the DC area with their daughter Sara and her husband. Son Michael and daughter Maggie live in Minnesota. **Steve Simmerman**, who lives in Phoenix with his wife, Sheila, reports that he is not retired, but he started a new job this year leading the global partner program for Locus Robotics. Their daughter Stefanie and her family live close, which gives Steve a chance to spend time with his three grandsons. He has taken the eldest to a few ND football games. Their son Kip also is in the Phoenix area. The youngest, Casey, lives in Chicago. At a game last fall, Steve connected with Keenan roommate **Charlie Burt**, who lives in Endicott NY with his wife, Kathy, and continues to work as an engineer. **Jerry Willis** moved from St. Louis to the Charleston SC area. Sorin roommate **Kevin Coughlin** visited him while heading to the Masters in Augusta GA. Jerry gets together with another Sorin roommate, **Tim Bott**, who lives in Hilton Head SC. Kevin retired after 33 years as an orthopedic surgeon. He coaches cross country and track at the Catholic high school near his home in the Finger Lakes NY. Remember **Tony Pace** and his wife, Ellen, daughter Liz and son Leo, along with his mother and siblings, in your prayers. Tony died in February. In addition to spending time with his family, Tony built a distinguished career in advertising. He received his MBA from Wharton and opened his own marketing consultancy, Cerebral Graffiti, after a long career as chief marketing officer for Subway, and with Young & Rubicam and McCann Erickson. He also led the Marketing Accountability Standards Board and chaired the Association of National Advertisers. Also remember in your prayers **Gary Ryniak**, his wife, Diane, daughters Hannah, Jen and Sarah, son Joe, grandchildren Quinn and Nora, his mother and siblings **Richard '76** and **Michael '85**. Gary died in November in Michigan. He earned a master's degree from the U of Michigan and taught science and math. He enjoyed spending time with his family and wowed his kids and grandkids with stories, trivia and science-based magic tricks. Gary is most remembered for devoting his life to practicing agape, the self-sacrificing, unconditional love for other people. Write to tell me about your retirement or grandkids. — **Barbara A. Langhenry**; res 216-651-8962; cell 216-509-8962; breclw@aol.com

**79MBA Class Secretary — Patty Kennedy Kerr**; 7750 Leonard St. NE, Ada MI 49301; 616-682-1223; kerrtax-cpa@gmail.com

## 79JD Father Dave

The sad news about the passing last fall of our beloved dean, **Rev. David Link '58, '61JD**, generated several touching messages and remembrances from our classmates. **Ed Foley** lit a candle in his honor at the Grotto and commented that we were fortunate to have had him attend and say Mass at our Reunion in 2019. Recall Father Dave said he was especially proud of our class because we were the first class he selected as the Law School dean. **Paula Fulks** commented that he was a "complex man who led our law school in complex times, and that the reputation of our alma mater was tarnished by his service." **Ray Biagini, Rob Carsello, Ron Crump, Jim Kelley, Doug Kenyon, Ray Marvar, Greg Murphy** and **Jim Schultz** expressed similar sentiments. Beyond that, I had occasional contacts with a few of you over the past year. **Terry Karnaze** mentioned she is proud as a peacock (well, Jayhawk) with her undergraduate alma mater, U of Kansas, winning the NCAA basketball championship this year. I had a nice visit in Seattle with **Mary Murtaugh** last October. She ventured west to visit a brother who lives



MATT CASHORE '94

there, and (she said) to catch up with me, too. Such the diplomat. Anyway, she is doing well and continuing her adjustment to being retired. The same goes with **Kathy Gallogly Cox**, who retired at the end of 2021 after decades of service as a trial court judge in Baltimore County MD. She said she also gets "unretired" from time to time to serve as a mediator or as a specially assigned judge on the "tough" ones. And **Rose Gill Kenyon** said she will be retiring at the end of this year after a long career in employment law in Raleigh NC. She said it was especially interesting (and tiring) the last two years dealing with contentious issues like dealing with employees who want or don't want to wear a mask, get vaccinated, work remotely or generally comply with the evolving COVID rules in North Carolina. Rose also said she was able to visit with **Dan Flanagan** at a continuing education conference in Florida last year. She said Dan remains as upbeat as ever. Dan took a job with Montana Power after graduation. Then, following some energy related acquisitions, Dan was transferred to South America and spent most of his career there. He has now returned to Montana and is very happy there. And finally, I had a nice email exchange with **Dillon (Dalton) Costa** a few months ago. She and her husband, **Tom Costa '80**, are enjoying life and family matters in Philadelphia. Their son, **Robert Costa '08**, became a national celebrity by hosting *Washington Week* on PBS for several years. Then he stepped down to write a bestselling book with Bob Woodward on the Trump presidency. Over and out for now. — **Daniel F. McNeil**; 1001 NW Lovejoy, Unit 205, Portland OR 97209; 503-539-9188; mcneil.daniel12@gmail.com

## 80 To the Galapagos

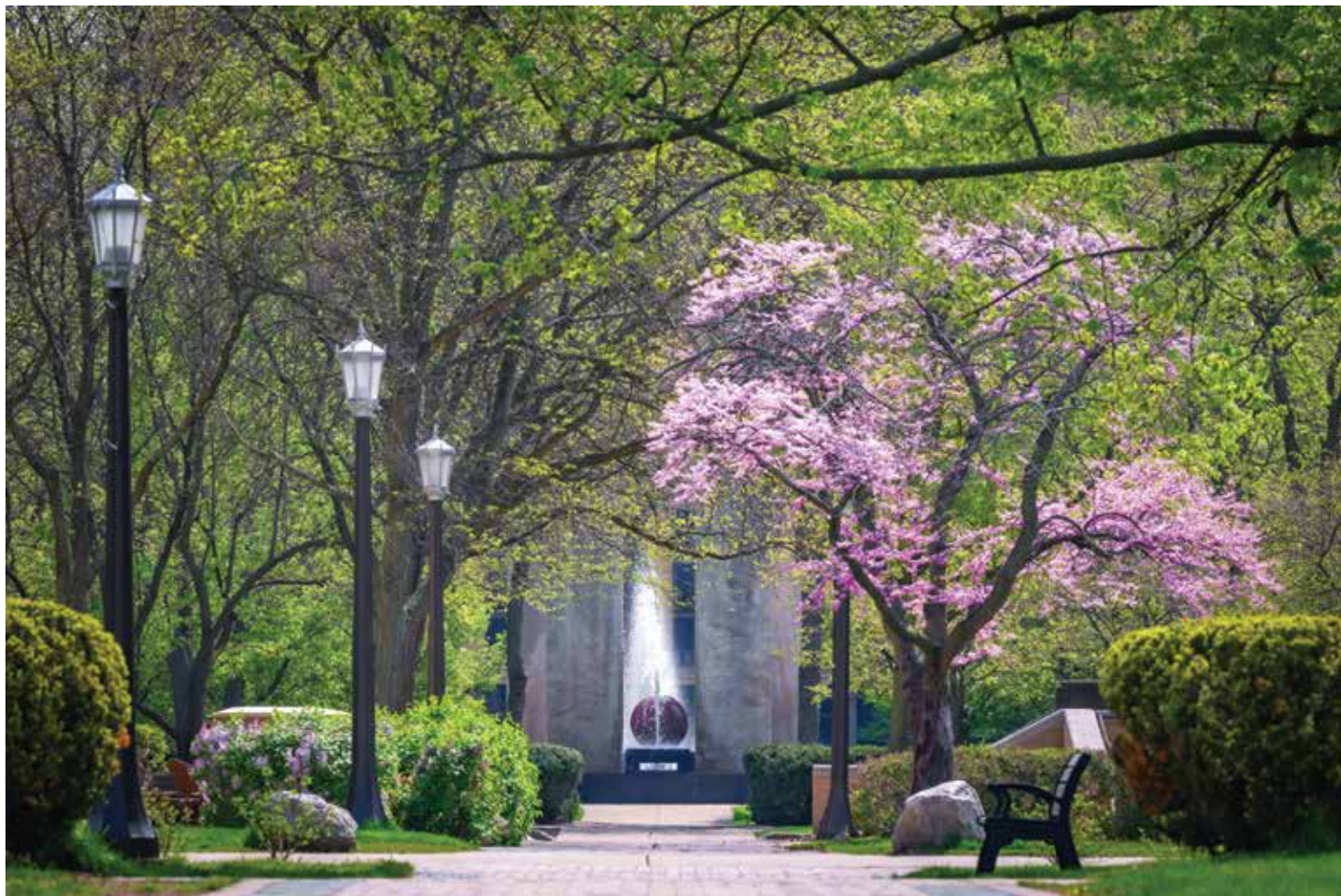
A trip to the Galapagos might not be on everyone's bucket list, but when **Barb (DiGangi)** and **Kurt Sisson** proposed the weeklong cruise to the archipelago, eight women from Farley jumped on the idea and they quickly had a group large enough to fill the Quasar Expeditions M/Y Grace. Two Class of 1980 couples, **Jane (Pascuzzo)** and **Tom Michelak** and **Michele (Kelly)** and **Andy Herring**, joined Barb and Kurt, along with **Rosemary Mills Russell** (and Jeffrey), **Michon (Althoff)** and **Scott Dowling**, **Beth (Jones)** and **Steve Raseman**, **Carol McKenna**, **Mary Jean Schmitt** and **Jane Knight**. The days were filled with hiking, kayaking and snorkeling, during which they saw giant tortoises, blue-footed and red-footed boobies, frigate birds, Nazca gulls, marine and land iguanas, lava lizards, sea lions, penguins, sharks, sea turtles and a wide variety of colored fish. They were all struck by the variety of the terrain on the different islands. Some are green and lush, others reminiscent of the moon landscape or filled with

black lava rocks. It was a wonderful adventure made more enjoyable by sharing it with dear friends. There wasn't an hour untouched by warmth and laughter, except for some tears when they parted ways. In a nice coincidence, Quasar Expeditions is owned by ND alumni, so of course they made the incredibly knowledgeable and fantastic tour guides honorary Irish. Your loyal secretary notes that she was invited but had to choose between this trip and the Inspired Leadership Initiative (ILI) at ND. It was a tough decision. **Dr. George Quill** writes that they welcomed their third grandchild (first boy) into the world at Thanksgiving. His big sister and out-of-town cousin spent time with him at Christmas and think he is pretty cute. **Deb Bieber** just got her master's degree in public health from U of Arizona. She notes that going to school was fun and I agree. Erin and **Bill Kresse** traveled to Arizona to ring in the new year with Erin's mom and Bill's brother **Jim '76 BS, '77MS** and sister-in-law **Kate '76SMC**. They attended the Fiesta Bowl and then drowned their sorrows with tequila sunrises at the ND alumni hotel, the Arizona Biltmore. In March, Bill was sworn in to his third full three-year term as commissioner on the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners. He was elected to the position by the judges of the Circuit Court of Cook County. Bill is also a faculty member at Governors State U, an advisor to the Uniform Law Commission's Study Committee on Election Law and a member of the American Bar Association Advisory Committee on Election Law. **Bob Gibson's** daughter, **Kelly Gibson Miller '12**, did Teach for America in the Mississippi Delta right out of Notre Dame and then taught in charter schools in Lawndale CA and Tacoma WA. She went back to school after seven years as a teacher and graduates from SMU law school in May. Kelly will join a small intellectual property law firm in Dallas this summer. We were well represented at the funeral for Dom Yocius. Class president **Mary Ryan Amato** was joined by **Beth Laracca** and **Leo Latz**. Our hearts go out to **MaryClare Heraty, Ann Titus** and **Mark Norman**, who lost their fathers; **Don Condit, Ellen Sebasky** and **Keith Connor**, who lost their mothers; and the family of **Mike Trausch**. Please remember and thank our Class Angels at 80AngelsonCall@gmail.com if you need a prayer. — **Mary Ellen Woods**; mew.1980@alumni.nd.edu; facebook.com/groups/notredame80

## 80MBA Deny, Delay and Don't Pay

As I write this column, it is day two after the elimination of masks at airports and airlines, so hopefully this will mean that those who were skeptical about traveling can add a trip to see a game this fall. Several classmates have indicated that they will be attending, including





MATT CASHORE '94

**Dave Kavanagh, Larry Sellars, Vic Yaendel and Mike Maloney.** I will be at the California game and look forward to meeting up with them and others. Everyone is welcome to stop by our tailgater, so just call my cell phone number below and I will let you know where we will be located before the game. **Paul Katilas** writes that he is still going through a mold mitigation project at his home because of last November's Hurricane Eta that dropped over 20 inches of rain in his area and caused severe water damage to his family room. He says dealing with the insurance companies has been a dreadful experience as their motto is deny, delay and don't pay. On the plus side, he adds that the housing market in South Florida has nearly doubled, and with the departure of the snowbirds from up north, he can golf anytime without crowds. **Rick Abordo** writes that son **Anthony '13** has moved from Shenzhen in mainland China to Hong Kong. He will continue to work as an administrator for the graduate school of Tsinghua U with primary responsibility as a liaison for international students as the university develops a presence in Hong Kong. Rick and wife Leonore are especially excited to see Anthony for the first time since October 2020 when he comes home for an extended visit from May through mid-June. Also, Rick and Leonore have become the proud owners of — you guessed it — five more Borzoi dogs, bringing their new total to 21. I am going to go out on a limb and say that, by far, the Abordos have the most animals in the class, not counting the insects that may or may not reside in one of **Rich Walker's** Texas rental storage units. **Mike Colbert** gave a nice summary of the Fiesta Bowl since he lives in the Phoenix area and said it was great to see the team so fired up before the game with new coach Marcus Freeman shaking hands with every single player and getting them pumped up. Despite the final score, Mike said that we dominated in the first half and hopes that energy is a preview for the upcoming season. Mike will be at the California game on Sept. 17 and by the time this column is printed, he and wife Kathleen will have attended their first Kentucky Derby as guests of his son Andrew and wife Flannery. I hope everyone had a happy Easter and are

keeping the Ukrainian people in their prayers and giving. Go Irish. — **Joe Kearney**; 475-225-1421; jos.w.kearney@gmail.com

#### 80JD Sympathies and Prayers

Our hearts and sympathies go to **Fred Kopko** on the passing of his wife, Mary Beth '80SMC. Mary Beth was in practice with Fred and dedicated her law practice to helping those in need. Fred, we are thinking of you and your family. Mary Beth was too young, too soon. The Law School Homecoming is Sept. 16-17, the weekend of the Cal game. Come one, come all. Make your plans to be there. The weather promises to cooperate. Each of you is important and your contact information is needed. Please go to the Alumni Association website at my.nd.edu and update your information. It just takes a moment. Thanks so much. Love to all. Go Irish. — **Sheila O'Brien**; sobrien368@aol.com

#### 81 Our Next Minireunion

More than 100 classmates will cheer on the Fighting Irish together at the ND-Stanford game on Oct. 15. Friday night of that weekend, **Dave** and **Dorothy Walker Pusateri** will host classmates at their home in South Bend. And there will be a tailgater near the stadium on game day. Reach out to **Keith Melaragno** at kmelaragno81@gmail.com with questions. **Kerry** and **Theresa Simmens Furlong's** son, **Jim '07, '11MBA**, is engaged to Julie Mulhendorf, an Alabama alumna. They will be married this summer in Killen AL. Theresa and Kerry celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in June. Congrats to the Furlong family. **Bob Van Hoomissen** reports that he wore a one-of-a-kind **Mary Beth Sterling** creation to last fall's class reunion: a shirt that featured a wrap-around photo collage of classmates and memories. It started some great conversations. Bob, **Frank Aucremanne** and **Mike Ruwe** toasted their missing Alumni Hall third-floor buddies while standing outside a local dive in the cold rain. (The actual name of their Alumni Hall section is not mentioned here due to my sensitive nature.) Bob is helping his son refurbish his 120-year-old house while playing with grandkids. That

is not a bad way to spend a day, a month, a year. **Jim Ringlein, Tom Hostetler** and their families (including Veronica Ringlein '23) met up in London for dinner. Keith Melaragno got together with **Bob Dawson**, his Grace Hall roomie, last spring in San Diego. Both are retired and happy to re-connect. **Karen Rensberger Weiland** recently retired from the NASA Glenn Research Center after 33 years as a scientist, systems engineer and innovation change leader. She worked on projects in combustion science that flew on the Space Shuttle, International Space Station and Cygnus modules. She also did experiments in the drop tower and on reduced-gravity aircraft. The last part of her career was as a leader to increase the use of model-based systems engineering at all the NASA centers. She is looking forward to the next chapter with her husband, Ken, and daughter, Angela. **Deacon Bill Eckert** retired last year after 40 years of teaching high school religion. He has been a deacon in the Catholic Church since 2003. He recently graduated from Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis with a Doctor of Ministry in Preaching and hopes to help improve preaching in his deacon community in the Archdiocese of Seattle. In January, **Kathy Corcoran** had a compelling opinion piece published in the *Washington Post* on the role of journalists in a free society. **Patti Trozzolo** works for a design-build firm in Granger IN and has many clients associated with Notre Dame: faculty, staff and alumni. Patti loves her job, her co-workers and her clients and says retirement is not in her near future. Please join the Class of '81 Facebook page where 435 classmates reminisce, entertain, pray and opine. Please email updates before our July 20 deadline. You are loved members of the Class of '81 and we want to know how you are doing. Thanks to everyone who has already shared updates and those of you who are now inspired. — **Mary Murphy**; marymurphy81@alumni.nd.edu

#### 81MBA Just Around the Corner

As I write this on April 2, many are enjoying the spring season or are anxiously awaiting spring. It was fun to watch the ND women's and men's basketball teams during

March Madness. I'm still doing a ton of travel for work, but Sheila and I had the opportunity to take our three grandsons to Disneyland and the beach in Carlsbad CA during the boys' spring break. There's nothing like a road trip with a seven-year-old and his twin five-year-old brothers. We had a fantastic time; there was no shortage of laughs. It is hard to believe that the Blue-Gold Game will be held in a few weeks, and it is probably time to think about meeting classmates at home football games this fall. I plan on going to as many games as I can. Let the Freeman Era begin. **Ron Vieth** checked in and said he still does a little consulting part time to keep out of trouble, splitting time between Charlotte NC and Kiawah Island SC. He looked at the game schedule and he, his daughter **Darah '14** and I are planning to go to Las Vegas for the BYU game. Ron is also planning to go to the UNC game in Chapel Hill. His son will be a third-year law student at UNC next fall. Ron says to let him know if you are traveling in the southeast and look him up. Please send me your email address. Several classmates have retired or changed their primary email addresses. If you are in touch with MBA classmates, please ask them to send me their addresses. I look forward to sharing more news from our '81 classmates. Go Irish. — **Steve Simmerman**; 3126 E. Desert Broom Way, Phoenix AZ 85048; cell 602-524-7662; srsimmerman@gmail.com

### 81JD Summer Notes

I had the pleasure of an extended text exchange with **William Rohn** in April. Bill filled me in on the significant events of the 40 years of his life since we graduated from law school. Bill and his wife, Wendy, were vacationing in Clearwater Beach FL, enjoying the sun and the oysters. They have three children: a doctor who went to ND and then graduated from LSU med school, a teacher who also graduated from ND, and an epidemiologist who graduated from U of Michigan. Bill spent his legal career practicing with the Varnum LLP law firm in Grand Rapids MI. His practice focused on commercial, construction and employment litigation. He spent the last 14 years in management at the firm, serving as practice group manager and practice management leader. Bill says he tried his last case in December. On the side, Bill was color commentator for football and basketball games streaming on the internet for Davenport U, a Division II school that plays in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. My solicitation to our class for something to include in these notes prompted **Peg Hanley Warner** to send along an article from the *Catholic News* about **Joe Donnelly** being named as the Biden administration's Ambassador to the Holy See. The article featured pictures of Joe presenting his credentials to the Holy Father. Congratulations to Joe. Peg shared her article to the class listserv, which resulted in an extensive interchange among many of our classmates. Responding to Peg's email were **Nancy Helling Gargula**, **Brian McDonough**, **John Fitzpatrick**, **Ted Forrence**, **Ed Bliessner**, **Mark Williams**, **Lorne Liechty**, **Tim Kapshandy**, **Jim Blasé**, **Jack Sawyer** and **Steve Cordill**. The interchange emanated from Fitz asking Joe to inquire of the Pope, is it "kosher" for a Catholic, who purports (pourports?) to give up alcohol for Lent, to imbibe on Sundays, or is the vow a total abstinence? Fitz's viewpoint was, "Sundays were free because Lent is 40 days and the actual time from Ash Wednesday to Easter is 46 days, so six are free Sundays." As you can imagine, the debate, ranging from "we are all over 65 and thus exempted from Lenten fasting" to "free Sundays are 'wimpy'" was colorful with many points of view. Jim Blasé reported that he and his wife, Donna, will be taking a Teddy Roosevelt adventure along the Colorado River. Jim and Donna will sleep in the same hotel room on the same night (May 6) that TR stayed there in 1905. You will remember that as previously reported, Jim has written a three-volume treatise on Teddy Roosevelt's domestic explorations. **Doriana Fontonella** and her sister will accompany Jim and Donna. Lorne Liechty has written a book titled *Defining Moments: Making Decisions That Will Redefine Your Life*. The book focuses on strategies for making good decisions at critical times in your life. The book is available on Amazon. I hope all is well. Go Irish. — **Michael R. Palumbo**; 4729 Casey Lane, Cave Creek AZ 85331; cell 602-703-0358; bus 602-262-5931; mpalumbo@jsslaw.com

### 82 Olympic Flag Bearer

**Edward Carter's** son, Tyler Carter, was selected as the US flag bearer for the Opening Ceremony of the Paralympic

Winter Games in Beijing. Carter made his debut at the Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi in 2014, where he had the 19th-best finish in the men's slalom standing class. He returned to the world's biggest stage in PyeongChang in 2018 with a 27th-place finish in the giant slalom. Carter served as the Team USA athlete service coordinator for the Paralympic Games in Tokyo 2020 and currently works for the US Olympic & Paralympic Museum. **Linda Horning Pitt**, a Badin alumnus, is the mayor of Crestline OH. She is doing amazing things in the town. And, by the way, she hasn't aged at all. I would like to acknowledge 50 years of women at Notre Dame. Thank you, **Rev. Ted Hesburgh, CSC**, for making such a great addition to an already incredible school. It was just a few of us in the early years, but I am happy to say that we are about 50-50 right now. We look forward to seeing everyone at a football game this year. We will play Stanford on Oct. 15. Don't forget our class tailgate. — **Dave and Tess Lewis**; 30 Battle Ridge Road, Morris Plains NJ 07950; cell 973-219-4050; tess@lewislegal.com; dave@lewislegal.com

**82 MBA Class Secretary — Renee (Amirkanian) Sutherland**; mobile 630-846-2707; reneemr@aol.com

### 82JD Welcome to the Retired Side

Congratulations to **Ginny Boyle**, who retired after a 28-year career as in-house counsel with Liberty Mutual. Welcome to the ranks of the retired, Ginny. **Tom Veldman** sold his family company, Tire Rack, to Discount Tire of Scottsdale AZ in December. Tire Rack traces its roots to Tom's father, Peter, who opened a gas station in South Bend shortly after emigrating from The Netherlands. Peter, Tom and other members of the Veldman family grew the business into one of the largest online tire stores in the country. **Tim Abeska**, **Tim Nickels** and **John Smith** taught a Trial Ad class at the Law School in March. I saw **Cele (Glacy)** and **Bruce Baty**, **Liz Imhoff** and **Tim Nickels** on campus in March for the Notre Dame Law Association Board of Directors meeting. Please send me news items.

— **Frank Julian**; ndlaw82@gmail.com

### 83 Outstanding Service

Congratulations to **John Gallo** on receiving the 2021 Rev. John J. Cavanaugh, CSC, Award that celebrates an alumnus or alumna who performed outstanding service in the field of government or public service. John serves as CEO and executive director of Legal Aid Chicago after a career as a partner at Sidley Austin. He also served for several years as trial counsel to the Illinois Judicial Inquiry Board, the body responsible for investigating allegations of misconduct by Illinois judges. He also co-founded Sidley's Capital Litigation Project, which is designed to ensure that inmates on Alabama's death row had effective legal representation. Congratulations also to **Mark Novitzki**, who retired from Premier Banks of Minnesota after 38 years. The Premier Banks are a Regan family bank with deep Notre Dame ties. **Theresa DiPasquale** planned to be on campus in May for the graduation of her niece, **Lulu Phifer '22**, who is receiving degrees in philosophy and film, television and theatre. She also planned to visit with her sister **Maria '90** and brother-in-law, **Arnie Phifer '90**. Theresa's son, Dominic Keene '24, was preparing to leave for his COVID-delayed study abroad trip to Notre Dame's London program for engineers. Please keep **Sondi** and **Bill Mateja** and their family in your thoughts and prayers. Bill's mother-in-law, **Sondi's** mother, passed away on March 19. **Mike Sullivan** is living in Phoenix and serves as a community ambassador at the Welcome to America Project. WTAP assists refugees recently resettled to Arizona by providing personal welcomes and resourcing families with critical household items such as computers, bikes and household items that help them to get traction in their new land. WTAP is mostly a volunteer organization and expects to assist nearly 5,000 refugees from Afghanistan, Ukraine and the world's other conflict areas in 2022. Mike says that it never feels like work, and it allows faith in action by focusing on our common humanity in times of crisis. WTAP was recently part of a collaborative effort with Intel, Arizona State U and others to resettle and resource 64 Afghan women scholars who were airlifted from their home university and, after a six-month journey, were welcomed to Tempe AZ to continue their education. Mike says that **Tony DiSpigno** has also volunteered with WTAP and that a "whole bunch" of Zahm classmates share

financial support. Mike invites Class of '83 members to volunteer if they live in the Phoenix area or are in town for a visit. We have 536 class members who have joined the Facebook page. It is the quickest and easiest way to stay up to date with what our classmates are doing. As a member of the class Facebook page, you'll also get an advance look at this column. The class Facebook page is restricted to members of the Class of '83. To join, search for "Notre Dame Class of 1983" on Facebook and click "join." If you have any news you'd like to share with the class, send a note or email and I'll be happy to include it in the next column. — **Louis J. ("Chip") Denkovich**; 520 West 43 St., No. 32G, New York NY 10036; res 917-399-8784; bus 212-537-1781; ldenkovich@gmail.com

**83MBA Class Secretary — John Hilbrich**; 630-677-2725; john.hilbrich@gmail.com

### 83JD Short Email Brings Lots of News

Thanks to all of you who responded to my short email requesting updates on your careers, families, etc. It was so much fun to reconnect with so many of you. My favorite response thus far came from **Kip Petroff** who wrote, "I think my life is too boring for an update, but thanks for thinking of me. I'll keep working on it." **Bob Casey** is retired from the Eisenhower Carlson law firms in Tacoma WA. He and his wife spend their time between Priest Lake ID, Surprise AZ, Tacoma and Germany, visiting their daughter and her family. **Matt Feeney** and **Michelle (Wendling) Feeney** are busy in Phoenix. Matt recently announced that he will be stepping down as Snell & Wilmer's chair in April 2023 after eight years. He is staying on as a partner but is "repurposing" his life to focus on other things that are important to him, like family and music. Michele has a thriving ADR practice, heads up the Trial Advocacy Program at Arizona State U's Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law, and is getting her master's degree in fine arts in writing at a low-residency program at Bennington College in Vermont. **Tim Healy** continues to work full time representing injured workers in worker's compensation claims. **Hank Koegel** is living in Anchorage AK. He is twice retired, once from a utility company and once from a renewable energy company. He is now involved in establishing an electric reliability council in the area of Alaska called the Railbelt. Hank has two grandchildren, with another on the way. His children and grandchildren live in what Hank calls the Lower 48. **Jim Lynch** continues to lead his law firm of Lynch Daskal Emery, which serves clients in high-stakes litigation and trials. His daughter, **Mary**, graduated from ND Law School in 2010. Jim and Kathleen split their time between Florida and New York. Jim passed the Florida bar exam last year. **Shawn Newman** works primarily as an online cyber professor at four higher education institutions in Washington state. He also works as a state court-appointed arbitrator and mediator. **Ruthanne Okun** is retired from her position as director of the Bureau of Employment Relations/MERC for Michigan. She was elected and is competing her term as president of Temple Emanuel, Oak Park MI. **Phyllis Provost McNeil** is retired and living in Connecticut. Her career highlights include service as US Navy officer, assistant general counsel with the CIA, director of Federal and International Executive Programs at the Harvard U Kennedy School of Government, and member of the Aspin Brown Presidential Commission, which reassessed the US intelligence apparatus following the end of the Cold War. **Susan Hawks McClintic** is the managing shareholder at the Epstein firm, which represents community associations. Her eldest son is a 2L at the U of Oregon. **Steve Miller** leads his law firm, Miller Schirger LLC, which he co-founded 14 years ago with **John Schirger '88**. The firm specializes in high stakes business litigation. Steve returned to Notre Dame in 1987 to obtain a graduate degree in theology. That ultimately led to an invitation in 2012 to join the board of the *National Catholic Reporter*. In November 2021, he was named chairman. In 2019, Steve ran for mayor of Kansas City. Although not elected, he continues to be deeply involved in the life of the city and is involved in a variety of civic and charitable endeavors. **Mike Pietrykowski** has been with his firm, Gordon Rees, since 1985, living in the San Francisco Bay area. He has been the chair of its national environmental and toxic tort area since 2000. On the personal side, they have three kids with their eldest starting his medical residency program at Northwestern U this summer. They will have two kids living in Chicago and Mike hopes this will allow some



side trips back to Notre Dame for games. **Ken Poier** just completed 23 years as an administrative law judge for the state of Michigan. He and his wife expected their ninth grandchild in April. **Deborah Schumacher** is a senior state court judge assigned to various criminal specialty courts in northern Nevada. **Kirk** is retired and pursuing a single-digit gold handicap. **Marianne (Lafferty) Voorhees** will retire from the Indiana bench this year. She was named the Indiana Trial Judge of the Year by the American Board of Trial Advocates, Indiana Chapter, for 2021. I love all this news. Please send me an email with an update on you or a classmate for this column. — **Ann E. Merchlewitz**; cell 507-450-6609; bus 507-457-1587; amerchle@smunn.edu

#### 84 Happy Spring

**Admiral Chris Grady** is vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the second highest-ranking military officer in the U.S. **Dan Walsh** leads the Civil Air Patrol STEM Programs at Madison STEAM Academy and John Adams High School in South Bend and Elkhart (IN) Community Schools. Under his guidance, Madison was selected as a National Blue Ribbon School in 2021 and Adams was given a 2021 Indiana Department of Education "A" rating for the fifth year in a row. Dan was awarded the Indiana U-South Bend Student Community Outreach Award. It's always fun to randomly run into classmates as I did with **Colleen Kenney Roach** at U of Dayton, where we were attending the moms' weekend for our sons. Please keep **Liz (Ellory)** and **Eldred MacDonnell** in your prayers. They lost their son in an accident in January. — **Martha (Burns) Avery**; mayoravery@comcast.net

**84MBA Class Secretary** — **Dhanraj Bhagat**; dbhagat1960@gmail.com

#### 84JD Sport Law

In February, my wife, Jackie, and I enjoyed visiting with Michelle and **Ed Ristaino** in Fort Lauderdale FL. Ed continues his work with Akerman LLP, where he is chair, sports

practice. Ed's sports law practice has included numerous matters for the Miami Dolphins, Florida Panthers and Miami Marlins. In news from campus, my daughter Brigid, ND freshman, enjoyed travelling with the ND women's basketball team to the ACC tournament in North Carolina as a member of the pep band. Please send updates. — **Matthew Dunn**; 773-294-6851; mdunn19834@gmail.com

#### 85 Cyber Superhero

As the world faces an increasing threat from bad cyber-enabled actors (nation states, criminals, terrorists), **Lucian Niemeyer '87**, who matriculated with our class, is taking on the challenge. He is CEO and chairman of the board of directors of Building Cyber Security (BCS), a global non-profit dedicated to helping organizations incorporate cyber security and safety engineering into their systems. BCS is translating existing cyber security technology standards into a framework and certification program for industry. Lucian is an Air Force veteran, former US Senate committee staffer, and, most recently, an assistant secretary of defense with the Trump administration, working at the Pentagon and the White House on a variety of issues, including cyber risk to critical infrastructure and facilities. In his current role, he applies this expertise and experience in the development of facilities, real estate, and technology to promote innovation in mitigating cyber risk. Visual artist **Kathleen Keifer** showcased her Notre Dame-inspired work at a fundraising event held in conjunction with the University. "Art and Wine" was held on campus in April before the Blue-Gold Game. Kathleen donated a portion of the proceeds from her art sales to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Michiana. View some of Kathleen's work at kathleenkeifer.com. I would love to hear about your business or charitable ventures. Please email soon. — **Kathleen Doyle Yaninek**; yanzlaw@comcast.net

#### 85JD New Agenda

**Prof. Matt Barrett** is starting a new chapter after 32 years on the faculty at the Law School. Although he is leaving

teaching, Matt has a busy post-professorship agenda planned between several writing projects, volunteering at the Notre Dame Tax Clinic and other organizations, and a few consulting projects. He still will be connected to the ND community. Matt's wife, Kate, is associate director of liturgy for Campus Ministry, and their youngest, Maggie, will be a senior at ND in the fall. The Barretts' other three are close by: **Kevin '17** is with Fighting Irish Media; **Wilson '18** is an entrepreneur in South Bend; and **Luke '21** works in Chicago. **Deb Hennigan Knapp** has taken a new role as legal specialist for the Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital in Morris Plains NJ. Greystone was founded in 1876 and is a 552-bed state-of-the-art psychiatric hospital run by the New Jersey Department of Health that provides a broad range of mental health services. You never know when you are going to run into a classmate. **Joe Harraka** and **Laura Hanson** were co-panelists at a March ABA Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee Seminar titled "Oh You're So Reserved," held in Tucson AZ. Joe and Laura discussed trends and topics regarding reservation of rights letters. They had partnered on some projects during law school and enjoyed the chance to work together again. And, they have something else in common: Laura's son and two of Joe's kids graduated from USC. Please send news, or your Wordle, Heardle or Nerdle score. It would be great to hear from you. — **Kelly Kiernan Largey**; kellyjd1985@alumni.nd.edu

#### 86 We Are in Great Hands

We all heard the incredible news in April and there is a lot of excitement, pride and great feelings among our class for our very own **John McGreevy**. On behalf of the Class of 1986, we congratulate you on becoming our provost. Our University and its future is indeed in great and caring hands. We hope that you and **Jean** will be able to come by our class tailgate on Oct. 15 so that more than 300 of us can raise our glasses to toast and congratulate you in proper fashion. **Pete Pranica** wrapped up his 18th season with the Memphis Grizzlies and in March did his first-ever NBA on TNT telecast with Stan Van Gundy (Clippers at Denver).



MATT CASHORE '94

He is also on the NBA's Officiating Advisory Council that is headed by fellow alum **Byron Spruell**. Pete also got to the Toledo game to see classmates **Eric Parzianello** and **Joanne Chavez**. **David Finn** has son **Liam '20**, daughter **Rory '22** and youngest daughter, Remy, starting at ND this fall. Nice work Finn family. **Martha Sommers** was injured two years ago when she was driving a dogsled in the Colorado mountains, flew off into the snow and shattered her left-side limbs. She underwent surgeries with lots of hardware, had a five-week stay in a nursing home and around-the-clock care. What happened while under this care by her niece, who is also an artist, is an incredible story about art as a tool to manage pain. Many of us have experienced pain or have loved ones and friends that are afflicted. Please read about Martha's journey at <https://tinyurl.com/art-as-a-tool>. Martha is now part of the Marshall Herd and will be attending the Sept. 10 game and would love to meet up with classmates. Those on our class email list know that we will be rocking our 37th annual minireunion class tailgate at the Stanford game and that we were allocated a large block of football tickets for the class to sit together. (This is the perfect spot for me to ask those not receiving our class emails to email me. I'll put you on the list if you would like to be kept up on all things '86. We have 1,496 out of 1,816 classmates getting our emails and we don't want you to be missed.) OK, here are details on our upcoming bash: It's going to be big again. We have 223 football tickets assigned to classmates and those 223 get the tailgate included. We are working on catering details and firming up our location with the Alumni Association and University Parking. We hope to be flying our class flag in the same location as last year. All those with their own football tickets will join the tailgate by paying like last year. We will be asking if you would like to attend so we can get an accurate count in advance. We should be at least 300 strong. Given the huge success we had with the last year's UNC reunion weekend format, we are going to roll with Friday and Sunday events for those able to join. A warm thank you to **Nick** and **Susie Schilling**, who will again host the class for a casual Friday evening gathering at their home. **Kathleen Burke** is working on a class Mass for Sunday morning, likely at Alumni Hall. We are thrilled that **Rev. Dan Groody, CSC**, will be celebrating Mass with us again. All details on the weekend will be coming via email. Take care and God bless. — **John Spatz**; 201-264-2459; john@jjsch.com

**86MBA Class Secretary — Maureen (Mullan) Decker**; 21855 Town Gate, Macomb MI 48044; bus 586-741-4305; mobile 586-817-1317; maureen.decker@mlclaren.org

#### 86JD Weddings and Grandchildren

I had some business in Los Angeles in February and weaseled my way in for dinner at the home in Manhattan Beach of **Amy '86** and **Lincoln Stone**. Amy retired from ER doctor work over 10 years ago and since then has been active in medical mission work in local and faraway locales, Uganda mostly. Their youngest, Austin, a '21UW grad, works in sales development for PitchBook Data in Seattle. Middle child, **Madeline '13**, is a writer for *Business Insider* in NYC and married Andrew Nevins in September. Eldest child, Amanda, is director of e-commerce at Olly in San Francisco and married Alex Bon in April. When the Stones aren't in LA, they can be found at their getaway place in Sandpoint ID. **Maureen Madion '86** and **Tim Tompkins'** daughter, Nonnie, married Sean LeBlanc last October in Traverse City MI and their son, Teague, was due to graduate with a philosophy degree from Kalamazoo College in May. Julie and **Kevin Griffith's** youngest, Molly, will matriculate to ND as a freshman this fall. Their eldest daughter, **Kelly (Griffith) Bell '16, '18ACE**, a Catholic grade school principal in Philadelphia, is expecting the Griffiths' first grandchild in June. **Sharon Christie** sold her law practice and recently launched "Bold Women Lawyers," online coaching for women attorneys in solo and small firm practices. Sharon and her husband have six grandchildren. **Jeffre Lowe** left the LA firm he founded after 20 years to move to Bangkok, Thailand, where he was a co-owner of a couple popular live music clubs. COVID forced the closure of the clubs and Jeffre returned to LA, where he is GC of Sunset Equity Group. While living in Thailand, Jeffre reconnected with **Nick Simeonidis**, who lives with wife Tara in Tapei. Nick wrote separately to say his and Tara's two sons (including **Stephen '09**) are engaged to

wonderful women. Jeffre also told me that **Karen Sterchi** is back in Indiana working in financial services in the Indianapolis area. **Felecia Rotellini** has relocated from Phoenix to DC, where she is chief of staff and senior advisor to the president of Ginnie Mae. **Joan (Flood) Mauel** reports that husband, **John**, was one of a few attorneys included in The Responsible Energy Forum at Waddesdon (UK), hosted by the Rothschild Foundation in connection with the COP26 climate meeting in Glasgow. **Liz '79** and **Paul Peralta** joined the grandparent ranks. Their daughter **Katie '10** and husband Jesse welcomed Talia Jane in April. The Peraltas will have another Montana wedding in 2023 when middle daughter, **Ellen '12**, will be tying the knot. Paul also told me that **Eileen (Beadling)** and **Pat Doran** have a new grandchild, their second. After 33 years at Barris, Sott in Detroit, **Denny Barnes** as formed Dennis M. Barnes, PLLC, to emphasize mediation, arbitration and special master work. **John Glowacki** is still with R&Q Solutions in Philadelphia. John tells me he sees retired professor Barbara Fick at ND Club of Philadelphia happy hours. **Tom Lange** wrote to remind us that he and several classmates started the Class of 1986 McCafferty Fund to honor **Rev. Mike McCafferty, CSC, '69, '73JD, '74MA** by providing tuition assistance to NDLS students. Today our class fund (which Tom believes is the only class fund named for Father Mike) is over \$500,000. With broader participation among our class, and the continued success of the Notre Dame Endowment, the McCafferty Fund will help the ever-increasing tuition burden these law students face. Please consider contributing and simply designate "The Class of 1986 McCafferty Fund" with your gift to Notre Dame to continue this legacy in memory of Father Mike. And from the rumor mill: several classmates will gather this summer in northern Michigan for golf and hijinks. — **Brian Bates**; bbates@abblaw.com

#### 87 Catching Up with Classmates

Hello everyone, I hope summer is treating you well, and that those who made it to our 35th reunion had a wonderful time. My apologies for the missing column in last quarter's magazine. I thought I uploaded it correctly, but clearly something went wrong. So, if you've been waiting since December for your news to appear, I'm sorry about that. **Valerie Waller** is one of those patient people. She wrote me after Christmas to let us know that she had the chance to catch up with several classmates before Thanksgiving. **Bryan Mattox**, from Grace Hall, hosted a group of friends across several classes over the Georgia Tech weekend in Chicago. In addition to Valerie and Bryan, **Wallace Harris** was there (he lives in Chicago), and so was **Kim Adams** of Gaithersburg MD. All have children in college or finished, except for Valerie, who has two daughters in high school. The classmates did lots of reminiscing over the weekend about SYRs, Bookstore Basketball, Emil and road trips. I had a great update from **Robert DeBroux**. He's in Madison WI and has performed the National Anthem for the Milwaukee Brewers, Marquette U and U of Wisconsin sporting events since 2016. He's also been a bass singer for Madison Symphony Chorus since 2021. He's hoping to finally perform at a Notre Dame hockey game after having to reschedule twice due to COVID. He movingly writes, "I found a way, in adult life, to turn around a lifelong regret (not being more involved in music and voice) through avocations like these. Sometimes we do get second chances. I credit my late father, Francis, a career church choir soloist who modeled the wonder of choral music and the fun of singing in public. His example took a long time to translate into action for me, and I'm glad it finally did. Once in a while, we surprise ourselves with what we can accomplish with perseverance." Robert is married to Kimberly Moucha and is just as supportive of her interests as she presumably is of his. She is a superintendent of the World Dairy Expo, and he serves as dairy cattle show announcer for the event. **Sean Murphy**, from Morrissey Hall, lives in Atlanta with his wife, Linda. He retired from corporate life and owns a real estate business. His eldest son, Coleman, is about to graduate from the College of Charleston and will be in South Bend next year for a masters' program at Notre Dame. Sean and Linda are looking forward to taking advantage of Coleman's year on campus and will be making frequent trips back. **Erik Janowsky** is on the move again. You may recall from a previous column that Erik works as a foreign service officer with USAID. He wrote me in September that he was being promoted to the Senior Foreign Service. After being approved by the Senate

and officially appointed by President Biden, he will take up his new post as the Mission Director in Morocco in 2022. He's in an accelerated language program to learn French for this new position. I'm sure I'm not alone in wishing him a very safe and productive time there. *Bonne chance*, Erik. In closing, I'm deeply saddened to inform you of the death of our classmate **Gregory Bakeis** in January 2021. He is survived by his parents, Larry and Mary Bakeis, his wife, Angela, and his children Alexander, Benjamin and Elizabeth. Please keep him in your prayers, and if you're visiting campus soon, perhaps light a candle at the Grotto for him. Again, enjoy the summer, and I look forward to catching up with you this fall. Go Irish. — **Meg Brennan Hamilton**; meghamilton@yahoo.com

#### 87MBA Email Addresses Needed

Hello everyone. It has been a great yet quiet start to 2022. There is no real news but lots of interaction through social media. While we have almost the entire class connected by email, we are still missing a few. If you haven't received an email from **Chris Murphy** or me urging you to attend our 35-year reunion, then we don't have your email address. Please send it to me. In addition, there are at least four group chats by text that I know of. There may be more. Chris and I would like to set up a group chat for the MBA Class of 1987. If you would like to be included in this group chat, please send your cell phone number to me by email. If we didn't see you at the class reunion in June, hopefully we will see you at the football home opener on Sept. 10. Look for the tailgate party east of Legends with the Canadian flag. Go Irish. As always, I am available by email. — **Perry N. Dellelce**; Wildeboer Dellelce LLP, Suite 800, Wildeboer Dellelce Place, 365 Bay St., Toronto, Ontario M5H 2V1; 416-361-5899; fax 416-361-1790; perry@wildlaw.ca

#### 87JD 35 Years and Counting

**Jay Brinker**, during his snowbird term in Phoenix, had lunch with **John Fitzpatrick**, the first time they had seen each other since we graduated. Jay reports that John, a Phoenix native, does trust and estate litigation. (I can hear Professor Mooney telling us on the first day of Trusts and Estates class that the decedent is the person who dies; the descendants are those that are left behind.) John has a son at Arizona State U and a daughter who played golf at Xavier U and is now trying to play golf professionally. **Amy (Ronayne) Krause** just celebrated 19 years of being a judge and 22 years of marriage. On a sad note, Amy lost her mom last year but was able to hold her mom's hand when she passed. **Mary (Ambrose) Gerak** continues to work on employment law matters. Mary and her Michigan grad husband, Justin, have a veteran Marine son, Joseph, who earned his BA in history while assisting veterans in Washington. Their daughter, Callista, earned her BS in biology from Penn and is headed to medical school. Our favorite mayor, **Juan Bermudez**, joined other leaders in the Miami-Dade County area to proclaim flan as the official dessert of the State of Florida and March 24 as Flan Day. Thank you, Juan. *Todos Somos Flan*. Finally, **Kurt Weaver** sent me an email in March, not to provide an update on what he's been doing in Raleigh NC at Womble Bond Dickson, but rather to tell me that the 2019 World Champion Washington Nationals lost a spring training game. Please send me news to share in this column or in our class email loop. — **Mike Gurdak**; 202-879-3939; mpgurdak@jonesday.com

#### 88 I Dos

First off, in answer to the question, "Do you intend to attend the 35th Reunion of the Class of '88 scheduled for June 1-4, 2023?" we hope your reply will be "I do!" By the time you're reading this column, our 35th Reunion will be under the one-year countdown mark. Now's an ideal time to start rallying your '88 friends! When it comes to "I do's" of the matrimonial variety, **Nancy (Horas) Robinson** and husband Joe shared that their son, **Andrew '17**, married an awesome young woman, Kathleen Golterman, in November of '20, on Nancy and Joe's 28th wedding anniversary. His godmother, **Elizabeth (Kennedy) McCarthy**, and husband **Mike** were able to attend the joyous celebration. After a long courtship, co-exchange classmate Celeste (Thompson) Hummel '88SMC married Craig Thomas, a Michigan guy. So their newly united family is occasionally a house divided. They married on their 12th anniversary, leading some to note, "It's about time!" The wedding took



place in Old San Juan, Puerto Rico, at the historic Hotel El Convento on March 6th. They chose Old San Juan because it was the location of Celeste's birth and of her parents' burials, so she was able to be close to her roots. The wedding was an intimate gathering attended by immediate family members and close friends — 25 guests in all. Her twin daughters were in the wedding party, with her oldest (by one whole minute), **Jessica Hummel '19**, serving as maid of honor. Celeste is a realtor with eXp Realty/The Lash Group in Grand Rapids MI. On April 8, Lieutenant General **Brian Kelly** was joined by numerous classmates at his Air Force retirement ceremony in Washington DC. (A lieutenant general is also known as a three-star general.) On hand to celebrate with Brian and to thank him for 33 years of service were **Tom Jennings**, **Craig Horvath**, **Jeff Craskey**, **Kevin Dolan**, **Dan Sacchini**, **Tom Torter** and **Monica (Imbriaco) Torter**. Responsible for the Air Force's 330,000 airmen and airwomen, Brian retired as deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. He was the senior Air Force officer responsible for comprehensive plans and policies covering all life cycles of military and civilian personnel management. Throughout his career, he held several staff and command positions at the base, major command, air staff and joint staff levels. In addition to multiple stints at the Pentagon, Brian served all over the world, including assignments at Aviano Air Base in Italy and RAF Alconbury in the United Kingdom. Another classmate assembly occurred when the Carroll Vermin came out of hibernation to spend a week in Big Sky MT. The Vermin won a ski-in/ski-out chateau as part of a charity raffle to support **Mark Napierkowski's** Mercy School for Special Learning. Big Sky local **John Romney** played host to Mark (Bethlehem PA), **Rob Bennett** (Houston), **John Culligan** (Chicago), **Gerry Grealish** (Oak Hill VA), **Shawn Higgins** (San Clemente CA), **Paul Kohl** (Leesburg VA), **Andy Kraus** (Columbus OH), **Al Musgrove** (Norfolk VA) and **Cliff Stevens** (Arlington VA). Highlights included skiing at Big Sky, snowmobiling in Yellowstone, watching bison and bighorn sheep and hanging out à la South Dining Hall style, as the Vermin are known to do. In order to then thaw out, seven of the crew participated in year No. 2 of "old guy spring break" at **Ernie Altbacker's** place on Anna Maria Island FL in April. Watch your email for details regarding next year's 35th Reunion, as well as this year's annual football minireunion. — **Laurine Megna**; PO Box 6847, Avon CO 81620; 970-390-9742; classof1988@alumni.nd.edu

**88MBA Class Secretary — Ron Linczer**; 1251 N. Eddy St., Suite 300, South Bend, IN 46617; mobile 574-302-2832; bus 574-631-3591; rlinlinczer@nd.edu

#### 88JD Assistance for Refugees

Happy spring. I am happy to report that **Jill Rice** and her husband, **Rick**, have been working with Nazarene Missions International and their northern Michigan community in gathering clothing, coats, shoes, and blankets for Ukrainian refugees. They will be sending more than 1,000 boxes to Poland for the refugees. The loving support of their community for the people of Ukraine is amazing. **Sheri Schrock** and husband **Jim** are experimenting with the concept of becoming snowbirds. They left North Dakota on Feb. 12 and journeyed to Phoenix. They began their return trip home on April 1. After eight blizzards and many cold days in North Dakota, they truly enjoyed the sunshine. Sheri thinks they will repeat playing at snowbirds, especially since she can work anywhere in the country. You deserve it, Sheri. **Todd Nelson** happily reports that he is loving and serving Jesus and others and is busy with family and ministry. In his spare time, he serves as a professor, arbitrator and practices law. What a full and happy life, Todd. I am excited to travel to Sicily in July to celebrate my eldest daughter's wedding. It will be a trip to remember filled with family and friends. Having studied in Italy for two years, it was a dream of Maddie's to get married there. After July, I will have three of five children married, with two to go. Until next time, keep the news coming. — **Lori Merlo Cotichia**; lcotichia@aol.com; lcotichia@ruffing-montessori.org

#### 89 Power of Friendship

**Patty Dutille** was kind enough to share a wonderful story of being on campus back in October to join family and friends in celebrating the memory of **Susan (Pawlecki) Jarrell**, who tragically passed away 10 years ago. Those gathered included Sue's parents, Dennis and

Linda Pawlecki, and brother and sister-in-law, Mike and Betsy Pawlecki, along with Sue's Lyons Hall dormmates **Theresa (Weithman) Blanchard**, **Cathy (Olson) Brown**, **Cathy (Condit) Cuckovich**, **Kelly (Johnson) Donohue**, **Cara (Auth) Galito**, **MaryBeth (O'Brien) Jirgal**, **Susan (Bardi) Kleiser**, **Kerri (Hopper) Lockwood**, **Kristin Malaker**, **Jeanne (Hannahoe) Mason**, **Mary McGreevy**, **Stephanie (Johnson) Reymann**, **Beth (Rosa) Senecal**, **Kathy (Berry) Templin**, and **Nancy (Lauen) Thomas**. Many others who could not attend in person were there in spirit. Not far from anyone's thoughts was close friend **Missy (Cahill) McKnight**, who died in 2002. In a focal point of the weekend, **Rev. Bob Dowd, CSC, '87** celebrated an intimate Mass at the Log Chapel, after which friends and loved ones shared heartfelt remembrances of Sue. Other weekend activities included lunch at the Morris Inn, candle lighting at the Grotto and pictures under the Lyons Hall arch. Festivities continued long into the evening as the Lyonites pored over old scrapbooks, told and retold favorite "Sue stories" (never in short supply) and experienced laughter, tears and more than a few bad 1980s tunes. Don't miss the article in this issue of *ND Magazine* that touches on the power of friendships, especially female friendships, in trying to process tragedy. Please keep these amazing stories coming. God bless. Go Irish. — **Kerrie (Wagner) Debbs**; kwagsnd89@gmail.com

**89MBA Class Secretary — Margaret DeVoe**; 612-845-9662; maggiervedoe@yahoo.com

#### 89JD New Phase of Life

Retirement. That is what I am hearing from classmates. **Jay Schlosser** retired in June 2021 after 32 years at the same firm. His wife, **Lisa**, retired at the end of 2021. Now, the happily retired couple spends time traveling, golfing, attending live theater and sporting events, vacationing with their daughter, son and daughter-in-law, and even walking their son's dog. They also are working to fulfill **Lisa's** goal of visiting every state park in Minnesota. **Jay** hopes someday to return to coaching in some capacity, but for now, he is enjoying his leisure time. Not to be outdone, **Tim Bolden** retired in early April. **Tim** will have two kids in college next year and one in law school, so some of his time will be spent visiting college campuses. He and wife **Diane** will be headed to UC Irvine on occasion to watch their youngest child play volleyball. Other than that, he has no plans to fill up his free time too soon. **Tim** still sees **Todd Sloan**, **Therese (McKeegan)** and **Jim McElwee**, **Kelly Daly** and **Joe Connors**. He also talks with **Paul Pasin** often. Along with **Todd Leeson**, **Joe Connors** and **Jim McElwee**, both **Tim** and **Jay** have continued a tradition they began while we were in law school. In the late 1980s, these fine gentlemen started holding a draft for the NCAA tournament. My late husband **Jim Smith** also was one of the founding members of this group. They continue this tradition to this day, never having missed a year except for the COVID year of no tournament. For the past eight years, they have included our eldest, **Luke**, in **Jim's** place. Of course, there is some fierce competition in this group, but they have embraced **Luke** and make him feel right at home. Of course, they don't give him quite as much grief as they gave **Jim**. We truly have a special class. Please keep in touch and let me know your retirement plans, as well as any other information you would like to share. — **Jenny O'Leary Smith**; 312-504-2298; jennyoleary@comcast.net

#### 90 Juego Como Campeon

After many years in Toronto, **Joni (Martin) '92** and **Phil Rauen** live in the Kansas City area with their three active children. **Phil** is a partner at AT Kearney and **Joni** is a noted yoga instructor and life coach. They love to travel when COVID dips or any time the Royals or Chiefs are playing for championships. Daughter **Faith** is an accomplished vocalist and is studying communications at St. Louis U. Son **Daniel** just finished a long junior hockey career and will start at Notre Dame this fall, majoring in business and Chinese. Their youngest son, **Finn**, wants to follow his brother to ND unless his soccer, futsal, place-kicking, volleyball, basketball, track and field, stage or religious pursuits take him elsewhere. **Anne (Newett) Lewis** reports that the youngest of her three kids, **Clare**, will start at Notre Dame in the fall. **Clare** joins brother **Jack '24** in South Bend and follows the path of older sister **Madeleine '19**. **Anne** never expected but is thrilled they all love ND. It has given her an excuse for four more years of football

Saturdays. **Anne's** been working most of her career in special ed as an art therapist for Fairfax County Public Schools outside DC. She recently has been mentoring a handful of undergrads who might pursue an art therapy career after Notre Dame. **Lisa** and **Jim Prisby** live in Hinsdale IL with their three children. **Jim** has been the co-owner of Hinsdale based Caprio Prisby Architectural Design since 1993. This award-winning, innovative custom architectural design firm has completed more than 500 new homes, renovations and additions in the area. In 2011, **Jim** expanded his business to include a separate custom home builder construction company called Arbor Pointe Artisan Homes. **Jim** is now able to help his clients through the entire home building process, from the start of design plans through home building completion. **Kate Healy** recently joined Robinson + Cole as a partner in their health law group. **Kate** advises health care entities on transactional and complex health care regulatory matters. **Kate** and her husband, **Charlie Craig**, live in Cumberland Foreside ME and love visitors. Their daughter, **Emily Healy '22**, graduated from ND in May. Led by director **Chris Travers**, **Juego Como Campeon** (Play Like a Champion, a 501(c)3) is a sports and educational initiative focusing on academic reinforcement, personal responsibility and community involvement for disadvantaged kids in the Dominican Republic. It needs your help. If you can spare an hour a week to help with virtual English classes, organize a local US sporting goods drive, help plan a fundraiser or just care to find out more about the initiative, please email [juegocomocampeon@gmail.com](mailto:juegocomocampeon@gmail.com) or visit [juegocomocampeon.org](http://juegocomocampeon.org). Please keep track of us on Facebook at Notre Dame Irish Class of 1990 and at [1990.undclass.org](http://1990.undclass.org). Go Irish. — **Marty Falkenberg**; 23 Casselton Road, Raymond ME 04071; 847-323-4717; [martin.falkenberg@yahoo.com](mailto:martin.falkenberg@yahoo.com)

**90MBA Class Secretary — Dave Wilson**; 104 N. Wilson Court, Palatine IL 60067; [david\\_c\\_wilson@hotmail.com](mailto:david_c_wilson@hotmail.com)

#### 90JD Hello

I hope you and your families are doing well and enjoying the summer. Since I was last in touch, I got to see a few of you, which was great. At the USC game last fall, **Rick** and I had fun with **Christine (Cronin) '90SMC** and **Tom Falkenberg**, **Laura** and **John Watkins**, **Rich Beck**, **Jennifer (Hirschfeld)** and **Bob Ryan**, and **Scott Hardek**. This spring, we met up with **Carol (Reed)** and **Steve Chan**, **Christine** and **Brian Calistri**, **Rich Beck** and **Jim Stricker** in NYC when the Chans were visiting their daughter. It felt like time stood still with lots of laughs late into the night, and we all agreed to do it again soon. Also, we got to see **John Watkins** during a trip to Cape Cod. **John** and **Laura** have a beautiful home on the Cape where they recently decided to spend most of their time. **Patti (Kelly) McLaughlin** continues her great work in the Law School's career development office; it was great to see her during a trip to campus last year. In other news, I heard that **Brian LeDuc** accepted a position as deputy director of International Bridges to Justice and was planning a move to Geneva. Please let me know if you plan to be at any games this fall. A few of us have flights booked for the Shamrock Series in Las Vegas so please reach out if you're planning to be there. That's all for now. Be well and please drop a note to let me know how you're doing. — **Cathy (Pollock) Gregory**; [cagregory@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cagregory@sbcglobal.net)

**91 Class Secretary — Suzi (Criquei) Mueller**; [suzi@cbglobealsearch.com](mailto:suzi@cbglobealsearch.com)

**91MBA Class Secretary — Patty (Spiekermann) Lynch**; [pattylynch05@gmail.com](mailto:pattylynch05@gmail.com)

#### 91JD Happy and Sad

I have happy and sad news to share. First, congratulations to **Ginny Mikita** for being selected the Brandi Award recipient from the Animal Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan. The Animal Law Section established the Brandi Award "to recognize a person in the legal or legislative professions who does something remarkable for animals." Since 1991, **Ginny** has dedicated her life to advocating for animals and it is a significant part of her legal practice. **Ginny** went to law school with the specific intention of using her legal skills to protect all animals. She advocates on behalf of individual animals and their caretakers, humane societies, rescues and veterinarians. Now, I am sad to share the news that **Dan Cahill** passed away in October 2021

from heart complications in Albany NY. As noted in his obituary, Dan was a "deeply thoughtful, caring man, who valued love, loyalty and honesty above all." Dan leaves behind his wife, Anne Marie, his high school sweetheart, whom he married the summer between our 2L and 3L years, and twin daughters, Eleanor and Faye, 12, who were the loves of his life. Dan practiced law in Saratoga Springs NY in the firm he co-founded, Cahill Gambino LLP. He previously practiced at larger firms and with **Steve Wink** at Cahill/Wink LLP. Dan loved to visit New Orleans, where he was a member of the Krewe of Tucks Mardi Gras organization. Since law school, Dan was a part of a spirited sports email and text chain with classmates **Mike Vild**, **Steve Wink**, **Matt Fricker**, **Jay Lewis**, **Joe Bauerschmidt** and **Kathy Zelenock**, each representing their undergraduate institutions with enthusiasm, while also cheering on the Irish. Kathy Z fondly wrote, "Dan's commentary supporting the Fighting Illini will be sorely missed, as will his caring friendship, which the group shared through many life events." Mike Vild represented the group at Dan's funeral, paying great tribute both with his spoken remarks and his heartfelt singing. Dan's wit and intellect will be missed by all who knew him. Rest in peace, Dan. Until next time, act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God. — **Martha Trout**; 12823 Clark St., Clive IA 50325; 515-249-9235; marthatrout@gmail.com

## 92 Empty Nests, New Beginnings

**Betsy (Paulsen)** and **Wally Crapps** send word they are empty nesters. Their eldest, Katherine, graduated from the U of Kentucky *summa cum laude* and is an event planner in the San Francisco area. David is a junior at the U of South Carolina. He is a sports management major and this year has worked the Ryder Cup, a World Cup soccer game, the Super Bowl, and the Masters. Their third, John, is a freshman at U of Michigan. He loves it there and understands his parents will not start cheering for his team. Wally is still at Ford working in testing and Betsy works for their parish as the director of religious ed. She is also trying to get Mom Prom (momprom.org) to the big screen as some movie writers just pitched the idea. Keep your fingers crossed. **John Plumb** was confirmed by the Senate and sworn in at the Pentagon as the first ever assistant secretary of defense for space policy. His portfolio includes space, cyber and nuclear weapons policy for the Department of Defense. **Steve Trzeciak MD, MPH** published a new book, *Wonder Drug: 7 Scientifically Proven Ways That Serving Others Is the Best Medicine for Yourself*. It shows scientific evidence that serving others is not just the right thing to do, it is also the smart thing to do for your physical health, mental health, happiness and wellbeing, and even your professional success. He is a professor, chair and chief of medicine for Cooper U Health Care in Camden NJ. His son Christian is a freshman at ND. **Libby (Walker) Joshi** sent the news that her daughter, Shefali, is a freshman at the U of Texas where she is in the McCombs School of Business and plans to study finance with a minor in marketing. Libby's son, Shaan, is in high school. He is in a special education class as he has a rare genetic disorder called Joubert Syndrome. He is 17 and received a kidney transplant five years ago donated by her husband, Nirmal. Their family moved from Indiana to Ponte Vedra Beach FL and are now a few miles from her parents. Libby's dad is **Paul Walker '57**. **Lynn (Willett) Novak MD** left her job at Cigna/Express Scripts and is now the chief medical officer of Lark Health. Lark is a Silicon Valley-based health technology company that does digital health coaching by combining biometric monitoring (think FitBit, Apple Watch) and artificial intelligence to support patients with chronic health conditions. Her twin daughters, Sarah and Emily, will be juniors at ND. Class of 2026: Lots of college letters have been posted. **Jennifer (McRedmond) Ragsdale** shared that son Reid will be on campus next year. **Kristin (Gafvert) Hammerschmitt's** son John will join his sister Ellie on campus next year as well. Wedding bells: **Jamie Reidy** tied the knot with Alyson Yarberry on April 9 in Palm Desert CA. Baby booties: congrats to **Martin Scruggs** on the birth of his son Jaiden on April 22. Joining our reunion cycle are a few kids of classmates: **Sheila (Heslin)** and **Matt Jones** will have son **Quinn '22** join our reunion cycle. **Maureen (Nelligan)** and **Tom Fisher's** daughter **Anna '22** also graduated in May. Seen on campus: **Tray Siegfried's** son, Bob '23, will be an RA in Pangborn next year. Tray is a brigadier general with the Oklahoma Air National Guard outside of



BARBARA JOHNSTON

Tulsa. Condolences to the family and friends of **Bernard Mannelly**, who passed away March 23. Several Alumni Dawgs and other classmates attended his service, including **Joseph Blanco**, **Mark Rahiya**, **Jon Martin**, **Todd Norman '93**, **John Coffey**, **Brian Shortal** and **Dave Florenzo**. Note the new alumni website and photo directory. Go to my.nd.edu and share family news, minireunions, college acceptance news and graduations. Go Irish. — **Jill-Beth (JB) Hayes**; ndclassof92@gmail.com

**92MBA Class Secretary — Julie Pendell**; pendell.julie@gmail.com

**92JD Class Secretary — Paul A. Drey**; 6701 Westown Parkway, Suite 100, West Des Moines IA 50266; bus 515-271-1765; paul.drey@brickgentrylaw.com

**93 Class Secretary — Anne Marie (Krauz) Yuhass**; 623-606-7000; yuhass93@gmail.com

**93MBA Class Secretary — Tricia Hug Schorr**; 317-987-5000; thugschorr@yahoo.com

## 93JD Keep the Updates Coming

One of the perks of this job is having the opportunity to reconnect with people you have not heard from in a while, and I have been fortunate to receive a few such contacts this quarter. **Rob Mitchell** checked in from Tampa, where he continues to work as an instructor for the US Special Operations Command. Rob reports that his son Ted, who many of us may remember from our years in South Bend, is now 42, while his youngest daughter will be a senior at Tampa Catholic HS in the fall. **Martin Heli** checked in from Germany, where he works as a federal civil service attorney for the US Air Forces in Europe and Africa. Martin was recently working in Poland negotiating arrangements for US troop deployments on the eve of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. His two sons are both stateside. The elder, **Martin '21**, is a Notre Dame graduate, while his younger, Paul, is a junior at Cal Poly. Martin and his wife, Kathie, anticipate a return to the states sooner than later. **Jamie O'Brien** reports that **Dan Duffy** and **Sheila O'Grady** recently visited campus to show their high school-age children around, as their daughter hopes to attend Notre Dame. Dan serves as a judge in Cook County IL while Sheila works as a senior client partner in the consumer practice of Korn Ferry's Chicago office. **Jane Nagle** also checked in from Chicago, where she reports that she, **Rich McDermott** and their daughters are well. Their eldest daughter graduated from Notre Dame from their living room in 2020 and has been invited to return in person in 2022, while their youngest has followed in her mother's footsteps rowing crew at Harvard-Radcliffe. Jane is in a book club with **Mary Beth (Welch) Andrews** and she is passionate about mentoring young people and helping

them facilitate connections to assist with their educational and professional development. The class Facebook page documented **David Birks** chaperoning a high school Model UN trip to New York, where he was able to introduce the student delegates to a United Nations senior political affairs officer in **Kiho Cha**. Also observed was **Gilberto Perez** celebrating his investiture as a family court judge in Florida's 20th Judicial Circuit despite having been on the job since October 2020, another celebration that experienced a COVID delay. His investiture was attended by **David Haimes**, who serves as a Florida circuit court judge in the 17th Judicial Circuit. Thank you for the updates; I hope you enjoy them as much as I do. Remember we have our 30th reunion only a year away. Stay well, God bless, and go Irish. — **Joe DiRienzo**; DiRienzo & DiRienzo, 116 Saint Paul St., Westfield NJ 07090; res 908-812-2765; bus 908-233-6700; jd1@dirienzo-law.com

**94 Class Secretary — Joe Poe**; ndclass1994@yahoo.com

## 94MBA Summer 2022

Summer is here and right after that, football season. As indicated in the last column, several of us will be at the Marshall game: **Angela (Stavropoulos) Laurite**, **Elizabeth (Ix)** and **Tom Buccellato**, **Jenner Davis**, **Scott Steiger**, **Diana (Stratbucker) Cook**, **Megan (Lee)** and **Dave Hilal** and **J. Matt Carr**. Unfortunately, **Mark Mildenberger** will not be able to make it. Angela and I had fun in London in March visiting our daughter and spending some quality time with the Hilals. Momentum continues to build for a trip to Las Vegas in October when the Irish take on BYU. It seems attendees could be **Mike D. Mulligan**, **Pierre Nona**, **Daniel J. Pezolt**, **Matthew Kavanaugh**, **M. Scott Aubry**, **Christopher Brett Ohlmeyer**, **David Pasquale**, **Chris Zulas** and possibly **M. Sean O'Neill**. However, in the big bumper category, there will be no **Kevin Dougherty**. Last column, with a little inspiration from Shannon (David) Pezolt '92SMC, I started a little "where are they" section of the column to get more of the class to send me information. While I wouldn't call it a rousing success, it did work, at least somewhat. I will give a great big thank you to **Gary Callaghan** for taking the bait. Gary did not want to be called out so provided me with excellent information about himself. After grad school, he lived in Boston until 2003 working for Arthur Andersen. He then moved back to the DC area, his hometown, and has worked as a managing director with Protiviti since 2008. Gary married an ND alum, **Lisa**, and they have three kids. They live in Falls Church VA. They went to the Fiesta Bowl in January and saw **Mark Murphy** and **Mike Smiggen**. (Guys, it is your turn to give me some info.) He also stays in touch with several other classmates including **Jim Gates**, **Sara Gill**, **Chris Fitzsimmons**, **Kevin Fitzsimmons** (were they related?) and **Bob and Colleen Costello**. You all are officially required to email me with





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updates on your own lives. Speaking of Shannon and Dan Pezolt, we had the great pleasure of joining them for Easter brunch this year. I am going to carry over the "where are you" from last column, so **Brian Carroll** or **Brit Railston**, say something. How about **Beth Bonczek** or **Laura Tonella**? Brian, Brit, Beth and Laura, if you read this, reach out. If somebody else reads this who has contact with them, let me know. You too, **Kevin Berch** and **Dan Gillig**. And where are **Charles Oliva** (who turns 60 this year), **Craig Hartman**, **Miguel Ardaiz** and **Julie (Ying) Sheng**? **Chris Nines**? I could research on LinkedIn, but what would be the fun of that? Please let Angela and me know how you're doing. I need more info to fill this column. — **Rodger Laurite**; 678-644-0422; rodgerlaurite@hotmail.com

#### 94JD Fitness

**Scott Arakaki** shared that **Sue Tran** was promoted last year to general counsel of SC Johnson in Milwaukee. Scott is continuing the far west ND law reunion by meeting in Honolulu this May with **Clint Feddersen**, who is continuing his successful bass guitar career. In the meantime, **Mark Yoshida** organized a "step" party group on Facebook, that included several '94JD alums who collectively amassed over 14 million steps in four weeks, all in the name of fitness. Thanks to **Cathy Viray** who gathered this information from California. Our annual unofficial reunion will be the California game on Sept. 17. Please contact **Jim Carrig** or me for more information. In the interim, send me updates. — **Doug Duncan**; pdouglasduncanjr@yahoo.com

#### 95 Mother of an Olympian

It was exciting to connect with my freshman roommate, **Hong Ly McDonald**. Hong is an accomplished realtor in Park City UT and a mother of two sons. Her son Cole McDonald was a member of 2022 US Moguls Team for the Beijing Olympics. He became the youngest male mogul skier to represent Team USA in an Olympics. It was thrilling to watch him race and so much fun to see Hong, the

mother of an Olympian, and her family cheer and support Cole. It was wonderful to hear from **Melinda Balli**. She writes that she is proud to announce that her dream of becoming a mother finally came true with the help of a gestational carrier. Her son, Jude Rogelio Balli, was born healthy and strong on Nov. 6. He is named after St. Jude and Melinda's late father. **Theresa (Boone)** and **Hugo Guevara** also shared exciting news. Hugo, Theresa and their three children returned from Guatemala where Theresa worked at the American School and Hugo managed US security assistance. They are next moving to Azerbaijan where Hugo will be deputy chief of mission at the US Embassy in Baku. **Sarah (Donnelly)** and **Jeff Hopkins** ran the Boston Marathon. They dedicated their runs raising over \$30,000 for charities in their community. Sarah ran for the Michael Lisnow Respite Center in Hopkinton MA and Jeff ran for the Milford Regional Healthcare Foundation in honor of his colleagues. Congratulations to Sarah and Jeff. Please keep the updates coming. Go Irish. — **Molly Donius Boscarino**; 745 LeBrun Road, Amherst NY 14226; 716-834-1893; mdboscarino@gmail.com

**95MBA Class Secretary** — **Renee Werner**; 134 Willow Blvd., Willow Springs IL 60480; 773-528-3929; renee.werner@alumni.nd.edu

#### 95JD Update

**Hon. James Smith** reports that he is stepping down in June 2020 after seven years as an Arizona Superior Court judge in Phoenix. He'll join Osborn Maledon PA and will focus on commercial trial work and alternative dispute resolution. Please send your updates. — **Julia Meister**; meister@taftlaw.com

#### 96 Ready for Reunion

This has been a long time in the making. Here's hoping that as I write this, many of you are making plans to return to campus for our belated 25-year Reunion from June 2-5. This reunion will be the largest ever, welcoming back our

class, the Class of 1995, and all classes that end in 2s and 7s. We're planning some fun '96-specific events. By the time you read this, Reunion will have come and gone, so hopefully you enjoyed the festivities! Congratulations to **Laura Merritt Bird**, who published her debut middle-grade novel, *Crossing the Pressure Line*. It's the perfect story for kids (especially girls) ages 8-12 who love swimming, fishing, animals, books, art and setting fierce goals for themselves. I can attest that my daughter, age 11, read Laura's book and loved it. You can find it anywhere that books are sold. Finally, I am very sorry to report that our classmate **Mark Mitchell IV** passed away on March 18. Memorial contributions can be made to the University of Notre Dame Mark J. Mitchell IV Memorial Fund, 1100 Grace Hall, Notre Dame IN 46556; online at giving.nd.edu/Mitchell; or phone at 574-631-5150. — **Kate Crisham**; Seattle WA; catherine.crisham@usdoj.gov

**96MBA Class Secretary** — **Maureen Maher**; ndmba96news@hotmail.com

#### 96JD Back to South Bend

**Brendan Rielly** and his wife, Erica, plan to attend the Stanford game in October and hope to see some familiar faces. After 18 years as a city councilor and council president in Westbrook ME, Brendan has taken a break from politics, handing it over to their son, Morgan, who's in his first term as a state representative in the Maine legislature. Brendan has joined the board of Maine Equal Justice and remains very busy as the chair of his firm's litigation and probate litigation departments. He's also the hiring attorney, so if anyone's interested in moving to Maine, let him know. Brendan and Morgan continue writing. Morgan has a new book out profiling new Mainers, called *Dear Maine*, and Brendan is finishing another thriller. Shannon, their middle child, just opened her own spa called Wellness by Shannon (another reason to move to Maine) and their youngest, Maura, will graduate from Wheaton College in Massachusetts this May. Brendan says there's no better place to visit than Portland ME. He and Erica will leave

the light on. **Mike Green** and yours truly **Chris Spataro** met up at the 2022 Bengal Bout Championships at the Purcell Pavilion on April 1. (No joke.) Mike recently moved back to the South Bend area with his wife, Jennifer, and their daughters, Teresa and Monica. I have already invited Mike to join my summer softball team in Elkhart, as a few 50-year-old teammates have retired. I, however, am still hanging on. Quick reminder that our rescheduled 25-year reunion is set for June 2-5, and there are football tickets available for the UNLV minireunion game on Oct. 22. Please contact me for details. Also, if you have any personal or professional updates that you'd like to have published in Class Notes, please send to me. — **Chris Spataro**; 57027 Wedgfield Court, Elkhart IN 46516, 574-596-2417; chrisjspataro@gmail.com

### 97 Coming Soon

I do not have a lot to report this issue. Look for the fall issue for the Reunion recap. However, a special thanks to our very own **Liz Mackenzie** and **Chris Sikora**, who are chaplains at Sharp Memorial Hospital in San Diego. They were focusing on extra efforts for staff care during the Omicron surge. Cookies, prayers and Healing Touch helped bring connections and raise spirits. Every little bit helps in this crazy time. They are a great inspiration for our class. Thank you for your dedication. Please send updates. — **Kate (Fisher) Murray**; 1840 Huntingdon Road, Huntingdon Valley PA 19006; kmurraynd@yahoo.com

### 97MBA 25 Years

Happy 25th anniversary to my fellow '97MBAs. I hope this Class Notes update finds you doing well. **Joy Gaffud** reached out to report that she enjoyed the spring notes. Joy and family have been busy. They visited ND in April and stayed at the Embassy Suites after finding the Morris Inn was booked solid. They had a great trip and had a chance to run around the campus during the short visit. Joy's husband, who graduated from ND's engineering program, was on campus for a recruiting event for GE. Their son, 10, loved the campus. Joy and family attempted to enter the Mendoza business building, but the building now has codes to enter for additional security. **Rich Crandall** sent an update to report that the Crandalls had a daughter get married and they received nice notes from **Jon Drumm** in California, **Ed Burns** in Colorado and **Tom Majdic** in Wyoming. Rich reports that he was in the process of picking up their baby boy from boot camp at Fort Jackson in South Carolina and then drove him to Fort Lee in Richmond VA. Rich confirmed that life is good for the Crandall clan. **Anthony Jowid** sent a text with some exciting news. Anthony will be heading to Italy and France this summer with **Paul Silva '98MBA** and **Chuck O'Neal '98MBA**. Safe travels Antman, Paul and Chuck. **JJ Evans** is doing great in Poughkeepsie NY, where he practices law. JJ and I had a chance to catch up by phone. Things here in New York are good. My wife, Kathy, and I have been able to get some traveling in during the winter months. We hit the slopes in Vermont and Massachusetts, and just returned from a trip to the west coast of Florida. The theater venues have reopened, and work continues to return on the comedy scene. Thank you to all the MBAs who contributed to this column. Please stay in touch. It is always great to hear from you. You can find me on LinkedIn as Paul Anthony. Stay well. Call, text or email me. — **Paul Anthony Mongelluzzo**; 646-584-7340; paulanthonymba@gmail.com

### 97JD Doogal at the Helm

**Daljit Doogal** has been elected as chairman and CEO of Foley & Lardner. Daljit is based in the Detroit area, where he lives with his family. **Jeff Miller** and **Jim Stief** were recognized among Crain's 2022 Notables in Law. Jeff and wife Amanda welcomed daughter Charlotte ("Poppy") on Christmas Eve last year. Jim was named co-president of his firm, McDonald Hopkins in Cleveland. **Kathleen (Gleason) Healy** joined the health law group and health care industry team at Robinson & Cole in Boston. I was remiss in the last update not to mention the passing of **Rev. David Link '58, '61JD**. As our dean and ethics professor, he and his wife graciously welcomed all of us to their home as new 1Ls for a picnic that first week. During his tenure as dean, he espoused the philosophy of "Educating a Different Kind of Lawyer," which is part of what made Notre Dame such a special place to attend law school. He led an impactful life and will be greatly missed. Send me a

note with news, let me know what's happening or just say hi. The next set of updates is due in mid-July. Go Irish. — **Julie Vales**; cell 973-727-5767; juliemvales@gmail.com; john.vales@dentons.com

### 98 Wanna Get Away?

**Anne (Schneeman)'98SMC** and **James Dougherty** tackled the midlife crisis that I would bet we are all experiencing and restarted a historic summer resort in Minnesota. Check out the resort at wamboltscabins.com and visit them in northern Minnesota. James and Anne have five children who work hard to help them run the resort. Go Irish. — **Bob Flannery**; rflannery98@gmail.com

### 98MBA We're Back

Hi all. I jumped in to compile our Class Notes for this column after being inspired by a gathering or two with classmates at games this year. **Chrissy (McGlinn)** and **Tod Auman** and I hit the Purdue game in South Bend and had so much fun we gathered again at the Stanford game in Palo Alto with **Sukeshi '13MNA** and **Chuck O'Neal, Jeff Hull, Paula '97MBA** and **Paul Silva** and **Steve Brunette**. There were some "celeb" alumni kids there, including the Brunettes' daughter, a Pac-12 Scholar Athlete of the Year at Stanford U, and the Aumans' son Carter, the ND quarterbacks manager. In other great news, **Sarah Collins** was married in Key West last June to a longtime friend, Rob Holland. She invites all to get in touch if you're in the greater Rhode Island/southeastern New England neighborhood. **Rolando Arias** rang in from Panama where he runs the Banco General wealth management division. He recently got a visitor from afar: **Mark Lawrence**, who is a portfolio manager at BlackRock in New York. **Frank Chang** is enjoying the fruits of the MBA nearly 25 years after our graduation, using his experience and business knowledge to advise executives of companies. He also enjoyed the relationship fruits of ND recently with a visit in Phoenix from **Bill Kane** and his family. I'm splitting time in Oregon and Mexico with my husband, David, these days doing philanthropy and community development. I was proud to be one of the architects of a universal preschool measure in Portland OR that voters approved in November 2020. I also get home to Louisiana on occasion, where I enjoy connecting with our classmate **Trish Bergeron**, who is a realtor extraordinaire, and her husband, who is a charming river pilot. We're a year away from our 25th, so I hope we can fire up the planning gears for a great reunion. Send your updates and check-ins so you don't have to keep hearing about me each time here. — **Mark Holloway**; mholloway@alumni.nd.edu

**98JD Class Secretary — Chris Putt**; mobile 574-514-3703; crputt@gmail.com

### 99 Changing of the Guard

The observant among you will have by now noticed that I am not **Erin (Wysong) Martin**. After many years of dedicated service as our class secretary, Erin has taken a well-earned retirement. On behalf of the Class of 1999, thank you, Erin, for your service to the class. I am thrilled to be taking over, but know I have big shoes to fill. A little about me. I lived in Morrissey Manor and majored in government (now called political science) and history. After graduation, I stayed at the University for law school, after which I moved to Connecticut and worked as an attorney in the aerospace and defense industry. In 2019, I received an offer I could not refuse and moved with my wife, Erika, and son, T.J., to South Bend. I am senior director, International Contract Management, for South Bend-based AM General LLC, where I am the lead negotiator for all our HUMVEE sales to foreign militaries. We love living in "the Bend" and feel privileged to have this opportunity. But, enough about me. I'd love to hear from as many of you as possible now that we are (gasp) in our mid-40s. Really anything you'd like to share: career updates, personal milestones, fond memories of your time under the Dome. It's all appropriate for this column. I'd even welcome leads on other classmates. Please know that I won't publish anything without their permission. My goal is always to have something to share. And if you find your way back to campus, please drop me a line. I'd love to connect. — **Ryan D. Costantini**; 414 S. Notre Dame Ave., South Bend IN 46617; mobile: 574-339-8050; ryan.costantini@gmail.com

**99 MBA Class Secretary — Christy (Hayes) King**; christyking@alumni.nd.edu

**99JD Class Secretary — Steve Boettinger**; boettinger@alumni.nd.edu

### 00 Fun in the Sun

Happy summer, classmates. I hope you enjoyed the start of your summer and are feeling the warmth of good friends and fun activities but wearing sunscreen. Maybe it is living in the Midwest, but even though I work all year long, summers feel happier and more carefree. Of course, I may take that back as I run from baseball to soccer to softball, trying to not miss anyone's game. But at least there is no homework. As we drink in these summer months, we can look forward to fall. The Class of 2000 tailgate is planned for Sept. 17, the California football game. The tailgate will be sponsored and paid for by the class. Everyone is welcome. More details will be coming in the Class column and Facebook page. For answers to questions, please reach out to **Cathy Scroope** (scroope402@gmail.com) or **Melissa Tacey Goodwin** (mjacey13@yahoo.com). It sounds like a ton of fun and a great way to connect with old classmates. Speaking of football games, **Kathleen McCann** wants us to consider going to the ND-Navy game in Dublin in 2023. Kathleen still lives there with her husband, Brian, and children Tadhg, 6, and Críostóir, 3. For the last two years of pandemic, she has been a clinical COVID and long COVID researcher with St. Vincent's U Hospital and CEPHR, U College Dublin. She is transitioning into private practice launching this spring, Emdoc Health. Kathleen, thank you for all your hard work during the pandemic. Your new job sounds like a great endeavor. Speaking of great, on March 1, **Tim DeFors** was promoted to captain in the Navy Reserve. He wishes to thank his longest ND friend, **Mike Cisternino**, for his encouragement over the years. Tim is a lawyer in Missoula MT, where he lives with his wife, Lisa. Melissa Tacey Goodwin also earned accolades for her work. She was selected as a STEP Ahead Honoree for 2021 by the Manufacturing Institute. The annual award recognizes the top women leaders in science, technology, engineering, and production. Melissa's role is supply chain vice president, industrial planning and equipment for Ecolab. It is great to see our female classmates being recognized for their hard work. When it comes to work, Cathy Scroope also had some good news to share. In November, she joined the law firm of Axinn, Veltrop and Harkrider as an e-discovery attorney in New York, specializing in antitrust, litigation and intellectual property. I am not sure what that means, but sounds important, and hard. Congrats on your new job. **Alicia Coronas** also sent in an update about a job she accepted. She will be starting in a new position as vice president of employer solutions products at Priority Health, which is the fastest growing health plan in Michigan. She will continue to live in Chicago and work remotely but will be traveling to Grand Rapids as needed, making it easy to swing by South Bend. She hopes to see familiar faces on campus this fall, especially at the class tailgate. Classmates, please continue to send me updates. You should feel free to brag about yourself. We all love hearing good news about our friends. I hope this summer brings you the chance to catch a few lightning bugs, enjoy some evenings in the backyard and execute the perfect cannonball into the pool. Send me an email after you're done applying your sunscreen. — **Laurie (Strotman) O'Malley**; ndbug3@hotmail.com

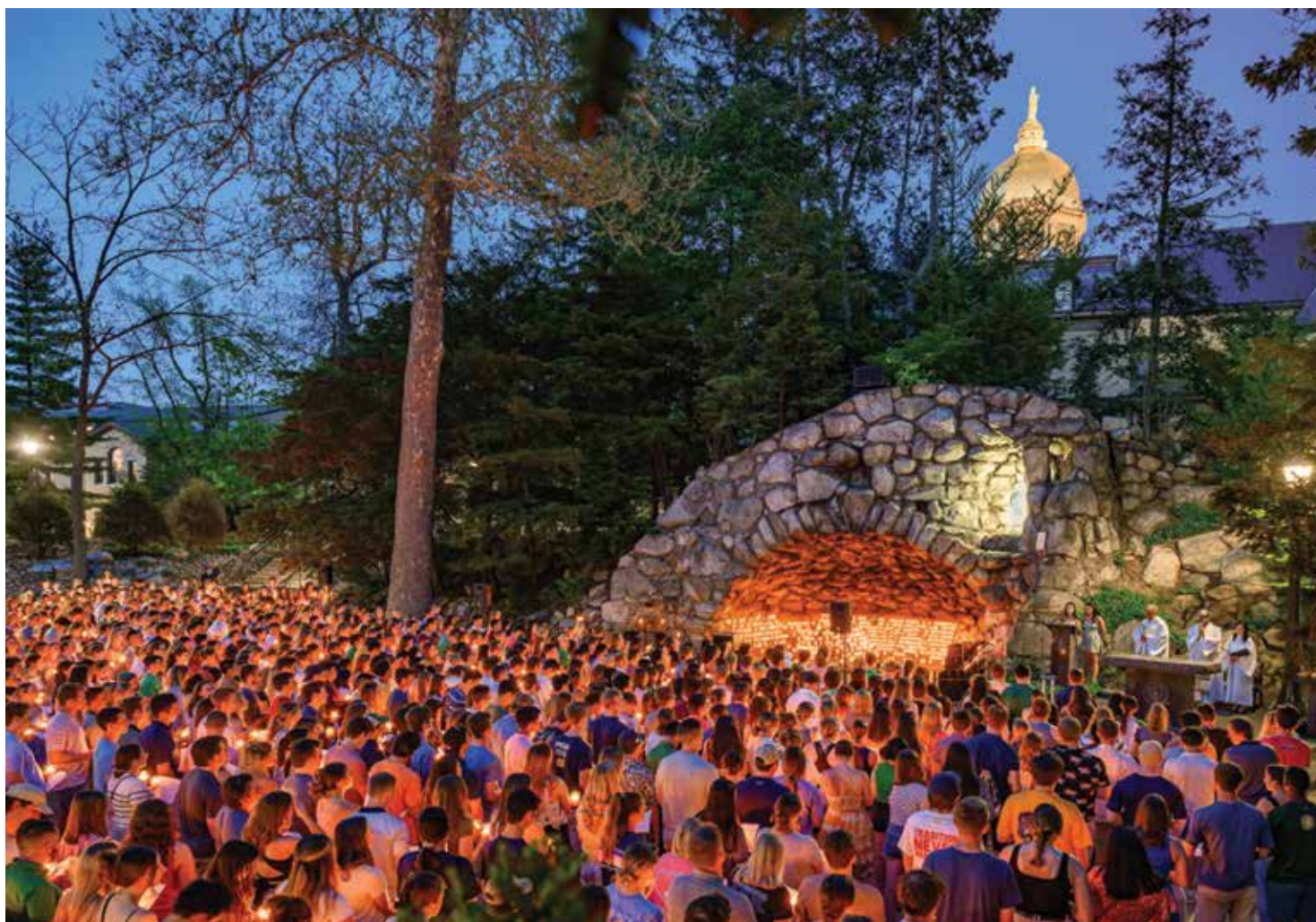
**00MBA Class Secretary — Georgette (Leonard) Stubin**; 46917 Polo Drive, Canton MI 48187; mba2000@alumni.nd.edu

**00JD Class Secretary — Daniel Hardwick**; danhardwick@gmail.com

### 01 New Position

In March, **Dillon Allie** was named president and chief executive officer of HDMZ, a full-service integrated marketing communications agency based in Chicago and San Francisco. As president and CEO, his focus is on helping the company reach its vision of becoming the most admired marketing communications agency for the life sciences and biotech as defined by a compelling client portfolio, responsible growth and nurturing an inspiring and inclusive workplace. Dillon lives in Chicago with his wife, **Ann (Fitzgibbons) Allie**, and their children Josie,





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14, and Owen, 12. I hope everyone has a great summer. I look forward to seeing you in the fall at a game or two. Please continue to share your life updates and photos via our Instagram page, @nd2001alumni, or our class email. — **Michael Anselmi**; manselmi@alumni.nd.edu; clas-sof2001@alumni.nd.edu

**01MBA Class Secretary — Dominic Pang**; dpang@pan-glaw.com

#### 01JD Class Updates

**Eric Moser's** fourth interactive novel, *Community College Hero 2.5: Fun & Games*, was published Feb. 3 through game developer Choice of Games. Eric's previously published works include *Community College 1 and 2*, and *Zip: Speeder of Valiant City*. Next up are *Community College Hero 3* and *Talon City: Death from Above*, where the player plays as an owl attorney in a city of intelligent birds. Eric continues to practice personal injury law in Louisville KY. Leigh Ann and **Chris Schultz**, after 10 years and 1,311 miles, finished their goal to run a marathon in all 50 states. The feat was completed just before Chris left the SEC after 10 years to return to private practice as a partner at Arnold & Porter in Washington DC. I hope you and your families are staying healthy. Please remember to send me news updates for our column. — **Jonell Lucca**; cell 602-677-3266; jonelllucca@yahoo.com

**02 Class Secretary — Lisa (Sestile) Corcoran**; lsestile@alumni.nd.edu

**02MBA Class Secretary — Melissa Hurd**; hurdmc@yahoo.com

#### 02JD No News Is Good News?

Well, this is the first column where I have received no updates. I assume that means we are all chugging along, balancing our career, family and other obligations. If you

have any news, be it professional or personal, or if you like to share a story about our time at Notre Dame, please let me know. Wishing you all an enjoyable summer. — **Ryan D. Costantini**; 414 S. Notre Dame Ave., South Bend IN 46617; mobile 574-339-8050; ryan.costantini@gmail.com

#### 03 Happy News

**Chris Nygren's** book, *Titian's Icons: Tradition, Charisma, and Devotion in Renaissance Italy* (Penn State Press, 2020) was awarded the Phyllis Goodhart Gordan award, which is given each year by the Renaissance Society of America for the best book in Renaissance Studies. It is an honor for Chris to win this award, which is the highest prize in his field. **Stephen Holte** was named founding president of Cristo Rey Orange County High School. He brings 15 years of leadership in Catholic education, including the Cristo Rey movement, serving organizations committed to providing opportunity to students from under-resourced communities. **Andrew Moody** married **Kim Dunham '06** at the Basilica in March. Andrew's groomsmen included **Brian Ostick**, **Casey Johnson**, **Ryan Kaple** and **Luke Burke**. Congratulations to everyone on their happy news. Go Irish. — **Josh Gentine**; jgentine@alumni.nd.edu

**03MBA Class Secretary — Rosemary Guillette**; 9 Messenger St., Unit 7, Plainville MA 02762; rguillette@alumni.nd.edu

**03JD Class Secretary — Lawrence A. Ward**; 206-903-8817; ward.lawrence@dorsey.com

#### 04 Old Friends Are the Best Friends

Gotta love how Notre Dame brings folks together again and again. **Tom Kerestes** sent me a great update about the oldest friend he has in this world, our classmate **Kevin Kraft**. These two grew up together from the age of two in Allentown PA. In middle school, Tom moved to the Chicago suburbs, seemingly never to see Kevin again.

We all recall growing up before the internet was really a thing. But Kevin and Tom were reunited as freshmen at ND, and Tom's Alumni friends and Kevin's Stanford friends lived together at College Park senior year. After graduation, they went their separate ways once again. Then in February 2021, Tom moved his family to Nashville. He runs a small investment company and can do it from anywhere. Kevin was living in Nashville after moving his family from Denver in 2019. He is the CFO of a law firm and can do it from anywhere. And now they live 10 minutes from each other in the Brentwood area, and their kids are friends. Funny how fate works. Tom and his wife, a U of Kansas grad, have been married for 10 years; they lived in Chicago, then the Chicago suburbs after having their first child in 2013. They have a daughter, Amelia, 9, and son, Gavin, 7. Kevin and his wife, a native of the Nashville area, have a son, 7, and daughters, 5 and 3. Congratulations to **Athena (Kwey) McPhillips** and husband **Blaine McPhillips**, who welcomed their daughter, Alfie Mei, this January in Santa Monica CA. Alfie Mei joins her big brother, Cavan, who turned two last November, and eldest sister Francis the goldendoodle. These three whippersnappers are all smiles, keeping their parents moving in high gear and everyone is getting ready to dance at the upcoming Goose and Phish tours. **Veronica Rivero** and her husband, Teddy Wyder (Wisconsin BA, Minnesota MBA), became business owners this year by signing a franchise agreement with Fajita Pete's to bring the fast growing, Tex-Mex brand to the greater Chicago area along with the support of ND investors **Drew Mitchell '01**, '08MBA and **Jordan Curnes '01**. They chose Fajita Pete's for its mouth-watering food and efficient delivery and take-out business model. Fajita Pete's is based in Houston and was founded by Pedro "Pete" Mora, a Latino immigrant like Veronica herself. The first Chicago location will open later in 2022. Follow along their journey on Facebook and Instagram, @FajitaPetesChicago. Veronica also recently started a new job in enterprise sales at tech startup BetterUp, joining Prince

Harry in the company's mission to help each individual pursue their lives with greater clarity, purpose and passion. She hopes to help drive human transformation to see a world where everyone, regardless of their socioeconomic status, race or seniority has the opportunity to invest in themselves and maximize their full potential. Thanks for sending your updates. Keep them coming. — **Carol Martino**; carolmartino10@gmail.com

#### 04MBA Importance of Sleep

**Nora Boyd** has shared that after months of spending time with real people learning about their sleep, then building and testing prototypes and everything beyond, she launched her ecommerce business on Jan. 25. Hullwinkle is a wellness brand that was born out of Nora's personal need for better sleep. Prior to launching Hullwinkle, Nora worked in management consulting, finance and technology at leading organizations. She's bringing over 20 years of solving big corporate problems and living and working internationally to Hullwinkle, where she focuses on helping people solve for a sustainable life: better sleep, better health and a better earth. She describes the journey she took to start Hullwinkle: "When you come face to face with your own mortality, you learn to let go of your ego and figure out what really matters." Thrive Global invited Nora to contribute more about her personal story and the life-saving importance and beauty of sleep for Sleep Awareness Week 2022. Read the story and learn more about Hullwinkle by visiting hullwinkle.com. You can follow @hullwinkle on Instagram, Facebook and Thingtesting. Please keep the updates coming. — **Harry Howisen**; hhowisen@gmail.com

#### 04JD Fashionable and Focused

**Katy (Runyan) Wingert**, voted "Best Dressed" by our graduating class, has been especially fashionable as a senior attorney at the US Department of Health and Human Services, where she's worked since graduation. In that role, she advises public health and research investigations pursuant to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. During the early months of COVID, she advised the Centers for Disease Control on the epidemiological assistance and recommendations it provided to states and companies in their efforts to protect meat and poultry processing workers. While I had to Google "epidemiological assistance" to understand what on earth that meant, it feels good to know that A Different Kind of Lawyer is involved in these important issues. Katy lives in Washington DC with her husband and their children Annaliese, 10, and Henry, 6. Please contact me with updates. — **Katie (Wharton) DeFerrari**; katiedeferrari@gmail.com

#### 05 Growing Families

**Katie O'Sullivan** and **Paul Joice** welcomed their daughter, Mary, to the family in late 2021. Big brother Robbie is learning to adjust. They recently moved to Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood. Katie is an endocrinologist at the U of Chicago and Paul works for HUD managing research on federal housing programs. **Annelise (Sucato)** and **Tom Raaf** welcomed their second daughter, Marielle, to the family on April 4. The Raaf family consists of Tom, Annelise, Marielle, big sister Kiera, 4, and French bulldogs Jacques Cousteau, 10, and Sancho Panza, 1. Actual ages may have changed by time of publishing. My inbox was particularly quiet this quarter. Keep those updates coming. — **Caroline Meehan**; ndclassnotes05@gmail.com

**05MBA Class Secretary** — **Himanshu Gosar**; hgossar@alumni.nd.edu; ndmba2005-owner@googlegroups.com

#### 05JD All Rise

In March, **Hon. Jacob Kraus** was appointed by Gov. Tim Walz to serve as a judge for Minnesota's Second Judicial District, sitting in St. Paul. Prior to taking the bench, Jacob served as Senior Assistant Hennepin County Attorney in the Hennepin County Attorney's Office, where he supervised a trial team in the child protection division. He also worked in the adult prosecution division of the office, where he prosecuted serious felony cases. Prior to that, Jacob worked in the Minnesota Attorney General's Office as a division manager of the consumer protection and human services divisions. In his spare time, he coaches youth baseball and hockey in St. Paul and volunteers in the St. Paul public schools. After nearly 16 years of service to the Department of Justice and Department of Homeland Security, **Rob**

**Dunikoski** left federal law enforcement for private practice. But Rob didn't choose just any firm. He joined our classmates **Juan Castañeda** and **Josh Heideleman** at Castañeda + Heideleman LLP, giving their emerging national boutique firm a presence in Dallas. Rob provides further support in serving businesses, nonprofits and individuals with a focus on dispute resolution, investigations and compliance, now including the best state in the nation. Now for some news from California. Our own **Tony D'Amico** became the head of legal transformation at Apple in March. Prior to that, Tony spent nearly eight years at Deloitte as a senior service delivery manager in their Los Angeles office. With fall fast approaching, does your wardrobe need a refresh? You might want to take some advice from **Libby Stockstill**, who became the general counsel and company secretary at Vuori, a premium activewear and performance apparel company based in Encinitas CA. Prior to the move, Libby served as the vice president and general counsel of Vans, the global footwear and apparel brand, and as North American general counsel of Billabong. Before serving the world's leading fashion brands, Libby practiced at Latham & Watkins, where she focused on corporate law, including public and private mergers and acquisitions. Finally, who says you can't go home again? After 17 years in the Windy City, **Greg Wright** with wife, Kristen, and their sons, Milton and Matthew, returned to his southeast Michigan roots. Greg joined the Mitten State's venerable firm, Varnum LLP, in its corporate practice team as a partner. He is based in the firm's Novi MI office. Greg focuses his practice on mergers and acquisitions, securities compliance, joint ventures and finance matters. He often works with private equity firms, family offices, management groups, strategic investors and shareholders in acquisitions and divestitures of assets and equity both domestically in internationally. Welcome home, Greg. — **Adam J. Russ**; Houston TX; adamjruss@gmail.com

#### 06 Memorable Events

In December, **Ryan Finlen '06**, '11JD married AnnaMarie Bliss in New Orleans. **Dan Saviano '05** officiated. **Shawn Finlen '08**, **Jeremy Staley '05** and **P.J. Hines '11JD** served as groomsmen. Plenty of Domers were in attendance, including **Joanna (Cornwell) Alkin '05**, **Matt Bartula '05**, **Andrea Brault '05**, **Erin Brooks '05**, **Lauren (Sharkey) Byam '08**, '11JD, **Sean Cullen '08**, **Jim Donovan '04**, **Kelly (McHugh) Mills '05**, **Colin O'Keefe '05**, **Blake Rambo '11JD**, **Erin Rogozinski Swafford '08**, '11JD, **Bill Simon '11JD** and **Annie Weir '11JD**. Welcoming their second child, Charlotte Layla O'Rourke, on Sept. 12, 2021 were **Matt '06**, '14JD and **Alyssa (Moya) O'Rourke '10**. They baptized Charlotte on March 5 in the Log Chapel on campus. **Jeff Smith** is one of Charlotte's godparents. After a decade in-house with a commercial real estate firm and an auto dealership group, **Kyle Chamberlin** joined the team of business attorneys at THK Law in South Bend. His practice focuses on advising owners and leaders of Indiana businesses, with a particular focus on clients engaged in the provision of professional services. Kyle is active in South Bend and enjoys catching up with local classmates and those visiting campus. I am sad to share that on Nov. 26 our classmate **Tom Nelligan** passed away after a brief battle with stomach cancer. He is survived by his wife, Maureen, and three boys, Brendan, Rowan and Francis. — **Anna (Skoien) Lall**; annagrancelall@gmail.com

**06MBA Class Secretary** — **Mike Lloyd**; 651 Nathaniel Chase Lane, Herndon VA 20170; cell 312-388-0501; mt\_lloyd@yahoo.com

**06JD Class Secretary** — **Amir Hassan Sadaghiani**; sadaghiani@alumni.nd.edu

**07 Class Secretary** — **Stephanie Pelligra**; ndclassnotes2007@gmail.com

**07MBA Class Secretary** — **Tim Ponisciak**; tponisci@nd.edu

**07JD Class Secretary** — **Patrick A. Salvi II**; Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard P.C., 161 N. Clark St., Suite 4700, Chicago IL 60601; 312-372-1227; psalvi2@salvilaw.com

**08 Padded Playrooms and Weddings**  
We graduated 14 years ago. We have mixed feelings

about this fact, so here are some summertime updates to make you happy and toasty. **Drew Whiting**, **Andrew Zeiser**, **John Donovan**, **Dan Straface**, **Brian Sullivan**, **Patrick McInerney**, **William Kearney** and **Lawrence Sullivan** reunited in March in Phoenix. They rented a home through Airbnb. The home's basement had a giant padded playroom for kids and 35-year-olds. Lawrence defeated every other reunion attendee in mixed martial arts, solidifying his status as a tough guy and Notre Dame's Mr. November. **Rachel Heneghan**, who married Eric Werdahl in June 2020 in Minneapolis, started her job as a cardiac surgeon in her hometown of Indianapolis in September 2021, and is expecting Baby Boy Werdahl in May 2022. She's been listening to a lot of Justin Bieber's "Baby" in preparation. So has **Kim Murphy O'Brien** and her husband, Craig, who welcomed Claire Murphy O'Brien in February. Claire joins big sister Jane O'Brien, 3. **Nicholas M. Gibson** was promoted to partner at Reed Smith LLP in the firm's Chicago office. He is a member of the global corporate group and concentrates on private equity M&A. **Patrick O'Brien** is not a partner at a law firm but is expecting Baby Girl O'Brien in early May. Mom, Lindsay, who is taller than Patrick, is handling pregnancy like the Division I athletic dropout that she is: chill, relaxed, and happy. **Je'Rell Rogers** is running for judge in Harris County (TX) Criminal Court at Law No. 14. Last month, he won the primary election against the incumbent judge. Je'Rell now goes on to the general election this November. **Alvin Adjei '09**, '12JD serves as Je'Rell's treasurer. Check out Je'Rell's website at jerell4judge.com. Michigan State Senator **Mallory McMorrow** gave an impassioned speech on the Michigan Senate floor in April, which has since gone viral. Her speech garnered 9 million views nationwide. Check it out. Friends gathered to celebrate the joyful marriage of **Natalie Rodden** and **Richard King** in Louisville KY in February. In attendance were **Sarah Jenkins**, **Sister Benedicta Duna**, **Elizabeth Venditto**, **Erin Buckley**, **Helen Syski Gegal** '10, **Katie Quinlivan Smith '14MDiv**, **Patrick Smith '15MA**, **Katie Torvinen Ortega '15MArch**, **Rev. John Raphael '89**, **Maria (Wuebker) Gove '97**, **Nicole Shirilla '00**, '02MED, and **Robert Gove '01JD**. The Kings celebrated with King Cake on Mardi Gras weekend. May God bless the joyful union. **Josef Pappas** married Sherine El Abid in March. **Francisco Castillo-Fierro '10MED** did not bring a plus one. **Joe Sposato** was the best-looking groomsman. **Dalton Shaughnessy**, **Christian Medeiros**, **Chris Ragni** and **Colin Roach** attended and kept the dance floor hot. **Taylor Clagget** did not attend the wedding but made his presence known at Joe's bachelor party. **Jesse Brawer** has continued to keep his son, Gavin, alive and well. Jesse's wife, Emily, has played a large role in the success. Enjoy the summer. Keep in touch. — **Patrick O'Brien**; classof2008@alumni.nd.edu

**08MBA Class Secretary** — **Megan Ulrich**; meganlouis-eftzgibbons@gmail.com

#### 08JD New Challenges

**Ryan Lobato** wrote in to share that he has changed jobs and been promoted. Ryan is now the VP, cybersecurity, data governance and technology law at Ryan LLC, the world's leading firm for business taxes. I suspect that Ryan's first name helped him secure the job. Ryan, his wife, and six children moved from Houston to Dallas during the pandemic. Please continue to send personal or professional updates about yourself or a classmate. I'm sure I'm not the only one who flips first to the Class Notes section each quarter to read the updates for the classes I know. As always, in memory of **Kyle D. Smith**, the Class of 2008 Mock Trial Award fund has been established at NDLS. Please donate at donate.nd.edu, and under "Designations" mark Kyle D. Smith Class of 2008 Mock Trial Award. This is an expendable scholarship, meaning that we will be able to award the scholarship if we have money in the fund. Please be generous this year and in years to come. — **Marie-Therese Mansfield**; mt.mansfield1@gmail.com

#### 09 Doing Better Than Fine

**Mark Langhans** and **Catherine Mapelli '10** were married Sept. 4 by **Rev. Peter McCormick, CSC**, '06MDiv, '15MBA in the Basilica with a reception in the Dahnke Ballroom in the stadium. Wedding party included **Cathy Bowers '10**, **Danny Castellanos**, **Blake Choplin '10**,



**Kelly Choplin '11, Christine Lynch Robison '10, John Mapelli '14 and Justin Wang.** Parents of the groom, **Mark Langhans '81** and **Sherri Langhans '81SMC**, brought a contingent of friends and alumni that included **Bob Burger '81, Dave Cole '81, Molly Cole '82 SMC, Danny Cole '79, Daniel McKernan '81, Sue McKernan '82, Mike Deasey '81, Timothy Ronan '81** and **Carolyn Ronan '81SMC**. Classmates in attendance included **David Cavadini, Joseph Dilaia, Thomas Hoffman, Lyndsey Hoffman, Thomas Gruffi, Michael Kaiser, Michael Mesterharm, Jeremy Pawlak, Philip Pezza, Eduardo Pizarro, Patrick Richel, Robert Szarzynski and Julie Wagner.** Other grads in attendance included **Rohan Anand '10, Karen Carnevale '10, Tara Clerkin '10, Lauren Cox '10, Kara Coyle '10, Kate Donlin '10, Meg Martin Gold '10, Katie Grennan '10, Ellen Mwroka Kaleniecki '10, Maggie McGonigle '15, Ellyn Michalak '10, Caitlin O'Connell '10, Theresa Olivier '10, Stephanie Parks '10, Christine Carty Pawlak '10, Christie Hjerpe Pellegrine '10, Andrew Watkins '11, Jessie Watkins '11, Daniel Wemple '10, Erin Madison Wemple '10, Takashi Yoshii '10 and Tricia Stamatakis Yoshii '21MBA.** Natalie '12SMC and **Joel Sharbrough** welcomed their third child, **Ada Marie**, on Feb. 12, Darwin Day. She was welcomed by siblings **Wes** and **Heidi**. Importantly, she proved once and for all that Joel is not as awesome at genetics as his awards would suggest since he predicted all boys (1/3) and all brown eyes (2/3). The family moved to Socorro NM where Joel accepted a position as an assistant professor of biology at New Mexico Tech in January 2021. He studies the evolutionary genetics of eukaryotic energy production and teaches evolution, bioinformatics and genetics despite getting a C- in Dr. Hyde's genetics course in 2010, and ineptitude at predicting his children's phenotypes. This February, Joel was selected to receive a National Science Foundation CAREER award, which furnishes \$1.2 million from the American taxpayer (\$305,000 of which came from the American Rescue Plan) to his lab group to study the evolution of photosynthesis and cellular respiration in wheat. These funds will provide employment and training to more than 20 undergraduate and graduate students at NMT (a Hispanic-serving institution), as well as a postdoctoral scholar over the next five years. If anyone wants to visit New Mexico, they have a spare room to sleep, a balcony from which to stargaze and children to babysit. Please visit the Notre Dame Class of 2009 Facebook page to reconnect with members of the class. If you have news or announcements, please contact me. Go Irish. — **Megan Flynn;** megflynn7@gmail.com

**09MBA Class Secretary — Shawn Pulscher;** 801-336-7344; spulscher@alumni.nd.edu

**09JD Class Secretary — Josh Rinschler;** josh.rinschler@gmail.com



MATT CASHORE '94

#### 10 All the Best

**Timothy Reid** joined the CPL design firm in Pittsburgh PA as a senior project architect. **Daniel Schafer** and **Crista Right** became engaged on Jan. 13. **Ryan and Lindsay (Williams) Short** welcomed their son, **John Paul Short**, on Feb. 13. He is being endlessly adored and snuggled by his three sisters. **Alyssa (Moya) O'Rourke** and **Matt O'Rourke '06, '14JD** welcomed their daughter, **Charlotte Layla O'Rourke**. She was baptized on March 5 in the Log Chapel by **Rev. Joe Carey, CSC, '62**. Let your classmates know how you're doing. Send me your updates. Go Irish. — **Matt Molloy;** ndclass2010@gmail.com

#### 10MBA Another Quarter in the Books

One year into her role as head of global public relations at workflow management company, **SmartSheet**, **Chrissy Vaughn** is proud to be putting "more good in business" via several social good campaigns. Most recently she launched a grassroots STEM charity in Australia, **DeadlyScience**, onto a global stage by partnering with **McLaren Racing** to feature their logo (instead of **SmartSheet's**) at the **Australian Grand Prix**, which is a first for an indigenous brand in the **Formula 1** world. I love this example of a classmate growing the good in business and using their expertise to scale the benefit to a great cause. Please keep the news coming. If you do not receive my quarterly requests, please email me to let me know. Go Irish. — **John Gerberich;** cell 847-331-4707; jgerberi@alumni.nd.edu

**10JD Class Secretary — Jennifer (Hernandez) Laffitte;** 10310 Southwest 128th Ave., Miami FL 33186; res 305-322-7154; bus 786-762-3815; jherna11@alumni.nd.edu

#### 11 Meet Me Under the Golden Dome

I hope to see everyone the weekend of Oct. 15 for the Class of 2011's 11-year reunion. Imagine yourself with a brat, hanging out under the Golden Dome, reminiscing about the good ol' days. That's what I thought. See you there. Now for some updates: **Ashley-Anne (Elias) and Michael Bohnert** welcomed their daughter, **Amelia Therese Bernadette**, on Oct. 22. She is adored by big brother **Edward, 2**, who has transitioned from only-child status with surprising grace and enthusiasm. They reside in Pittsburgh PA and are making post-COVID plans to familiarize both children with their **Trinidad & Tobago** heritage. Carnival 2023 anyone? Also last year, **Heidi (Grossman) and Austin Gilbertson '19MBA** welcomed **Brooks Kelley** on Nov. 8. He was baptized in April. Godparents are **Heidi's** sister, **Hayley**, and **Brian Brooke. Chris (Gattis) and Allyse Gruslin '16MDiv** welcomed twins, **Hope Irene** and **Paul Christopher**, on Nov. 2. They join their sister, **Ruth Marie, 2**, in cheering on the Irish in Rhode Island. In more twin news, **Meghan (Flynn) '13SMC and Rory Kelly '11, '21MBA** welcomed twin boys, **Aidan** and **Cillian**, in December. Before they were born, **Rory** finished his MBA at Notre Dame and the couple relocated to Indianapolis. **Meghan**, who is a total rockstar and already had her MBA, works at **Whirlpool**. **Rory** was promoted to major in the **Marine Corps Reserves** and works at **Elanco Animal Health**, leading the company's competitive intelligence efforts. **Christina (Tofani) and Andrew Bentz** welcomed their first child, **Leo Christopher**, on New Year's Eve. The Bentz family resides in Jersey City NJ. **Kelly (Forster) and Dan Jacobs** welcomed their second child, **Julian Mabry**, on Jan. 8. Their daughter, **Izzy, 2**, is thrilled to be a big sister. **Hillary and Sean O'Boyle** welcomed a baby boy, **Patrick Schaefer**, on Feb. 2. Mom and baby are both doing well. **Hillary** is completing a fellowship in pediatric hospitalist medicine at **Virginia Commonwealth U** in **Richmond VA**. **Sean** is working as a community pediatrician. **Jordan (Hyde) and Patrick Higgins** welcomed their second daughter, **Charlotte**, on Feb. 10, joining **Caroline, 2**. **Heather (Hyland) and Mick Madden** welcomed their second baby boy, **James**, on March 3. **Finn, 2**, loves being a big brother. They're currently enjoying life in Las Vegas where **Mick** is an **Air Force helicopter pilot** and **Heather** is an ob/gyn. And that's it for now. Thank goodness it's summer (TGIS). I'm not sure about you, but the outdoors, hot sun and cold drinks are calling my name, so I will let you go. Lean in, enjoy yourself and know you are doing it right. — **Kate Clitheroe;** class president; class11@nd.edu

**11MBA Class Secretary — Mimi Wilfong;** 903-714-4988; mimitwilfong@gmail.com

#### 11JD Celebrations

I don't know about you, but I'm feeling 2022. It is already a great year for fun and happy news. But first, to close out 2021, we had the nuptials that no one could have predicted. The attractive nuisance of **NDLS, Ryan Finlen '06, '11JD**, has married. And he kicked way out of his coverage with a beautiful, successful and way funnier wife in **AnnaMarie Bliss**. They were married in **New Orleans** in December. If I didn't see it myself and didn't know **Finlen** was an enforcer of the US law, I would have thought this was an interstate kidnapping. The officiant was **Dan Saviano '05**, with wife **Micaela**. Groomsmen included **Shawn Finlen '08**, wife **Kate**, **Jeremy Staley '05**, wife **Jessica**, and **P.J. Hines**, bombshell fiancé **Kara**. Doms in attendance were **Colin O'Keefe '05**, wife **Rachel**, **Matt Bartula '05, Erin Brooks '05, Jim Donovan '04, Andrea Brault '05**, husband **Nick Gill, Joanna (Cornwell) Alkin '05** with husband **Sinan, Blake Rambo, Sean Cullen '08**, yours truly **Lauren (Sharkey) Byam '08, '11JD**, husband **Jack, Kelly (McHugh) Mills '05**, husband **Ry, Annie (MacDonald) Weir**, trouble-maker husband **Chris, Erin Rogozinski Swafford '08, '11JD**, husband **Matt**, and **Bill Simon '11JD**, wife **Sarah**. Way too much fun and fried food was had by all in **New Orleans**. Since we last chatted, we welcomed new **NDLS** babies and new partners. **Erin (Rogozinski) Swafford '08, '11JD**, husband **Matt** and big brother **Patrick**, welcomed **Maeve Marie** on March 21. She's nine pounds-plus and here to party. **Anna Marie Mackin** and husband **Quatro Wyatt** welcomed **Mary Katherine Kirby Wyatt**. **Meghan (Sweeney) Bean '08, '11JD** and **Brett Bean** welcomed **Eleanor Louise** on New Year's Eve. Big sister **Grace** seems excited to welcome her tax credit, I mean sister, to be a fellow **Bean Queen**. **Marie (Connolly) and Michael Meszaros** welcomed **Anna Sophia Elizabeth** in late November. **Bryan MacKenzie** and **Jill MacKenzie** welcomed **Caitlin Mary** on Jan. 8. This quintet seems to have filled out the first girl band of the season. But there is plenty of room for more. And we have a boy to even the odds, with **Rachel Holycross '08, '11JD** and husband **Matthew** welcoming **Lincoln Richard Holycross** on Dec. 15. To close out the good news, **Amber Gussin** got engaged to **George Hwang** in March in **Washington DC** during a private serenade. — **Lauren Sharkey '08;** lksharkey@gmail.com

#### 12 Congratulations

**Bobby Huffman and Carly Landon** welcomed their first children, twins **Emma Landon Huffman** and **Robert Hertzler Huffman**, born on Jan. 18 in **London, England**. Congratulations to the new parents. — **Tyler Harmsen;** tharmsen@alumni.nd.edu

**12MBA Class Secretary — Jennafer Palumbo;** jennafer.palumbo@gmail.com

#### 12JD Welcome to Our World

Hello, classmates. Welcome to the Notes Column for what I am calling "The Baby Episode." We have five, count them, five bundles of joy already here or joining us soon. First up, **Caroline** and **Ryan Swan** had their first baby in January. **Ryan** reports that **Vivian Hart Swan** is perfect, and that everyone is enjoying the suburban life outside Chicago. **Christopher Regan** and **Jaime (Greenblatt) Regan '11JD** welcomed their first child, **Chase Brett Regan**, on March 16. I've been told that mom, baby and dad are all doing great, and Chase is a skinny little guy with a full head of hair and gray eyes. **Monique Magar** and husband **Damon** had son **No. 2** on March 8. He is named **Gideon Jenkins**. **Gideon** joins big brother **Isidore**, currently a toddler, in a quest to keep their parents sleep-deprived. He is named after the landmark case of **Gideon v. Wainwright**. Having two public defenders as parents will do that. **Erica (Kemp) Rompf** and **John Rompf** had baby **No. 3** on Feb. 15. He is named **Henry Louis Rompf**. The **Rompfs** are living in **Winchester KY**, which some of you may recognize as the birthplace of beer cheese, invented nearby in the 1940s. And in babies-to-be, **Erin Myers** and husband **Ryan** are expecting their first in August. **Erin** is excited to have a son so close to the start of college football season, given that **Ryan** went to **USC** and comes from a long lineage of **Purdue** fans. **Erin** has promised that the

Notre Dame Magazine

# 10<sup>th</sup> annual Young Alumni Essay Contest

Notre Dame Magazine's 10th annual Young Alumni Essay Contest is accepting submissions. The magazine's editors, who will judge entries for the 2022 Schaal Prize — named in honor of the contest's founder, retired managing editor Carol Schaal '91M.A. — are looking for original, previously unpublished, creative non-fiction essays, evocative first-person works that would appeal to a college-educated audience. For models, they suggest reading CrossCurrents essays, which can be found in each back issue posted at [magazine.nd.edu/issues](http://magazine.nd.edu/issues).

The Schaal Prize winner will receive \$1,000. Second-place winner(s) will receive \$500 apiece. The first- and second-place winning essays will appear in the Winter 2022-23 issue of *Notre Dame Magazine*. Should the judges decide to award one or more honorable mentions, the winner(s) will receive \$100 and online publication at [magazine.nd.edu](http://magazine.nd.edu) in 2023.

## Eligibility:

The contest is open to those alumni who received a University of Notre Dame bachelor's degree in the years 2013 through 2022. Only one entry per eligible individual is allowed. Previous winners may enter.

## Submission requirements:

Entries must be written in English and be original and unpublished. They should range from 800 to 1,500 words. Essays longer than 1,500 words will be disqualified. Each submission must be the work of a sole author. Essays must be submitted in Word format, and will be accepted now through 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, September 7, 2022.

## Submission procedures:

Because the entries will be read blind, it is imperative that entrants follow these procedures:

Send an email to [magazine@nd.edu](mailto:magazine@nd.edu). Include the author's contact information in the body of the message: name, ND graduation year, postal address, email address and phone number. Make sure to include the title of the submission in this email.

Attach the manuscript of the entry to this email. The manuscript should include the title of the essay but no author-identifying information.

Judges' decisions are final. Published essays will be subject to editing, and winners will be notified by email.

baby will be decked out in Irish gear every Saturday. In non-baby news, **Monica (Bordas) Schmucker** shared that she was named a stockholder in her firm, where she has been working since 2020. She was also recently re-elected president of the Fort Myers Beach Woman's Club and has been moonlighting as a pirate for the past year. That's not a joke. There's a replica pirate ship that does cruise tours around Fort Myers, and Monica is often on board as a pirate. I've never been more jealous writing this column. And finally, **Alvin Adjei** has been pretty quiet these past few months. Is it because he finally told me to stop printing made-up stories about him in this column, or is it because I'm just having a hard time coming up with something this quarter? I'll never tell, but I'm pretty sure it has something to do with Alvin's upcoming NFT release featuring blockchain images of every Whataburger location in Southwest Texas. That's all. Keep in touch and keep me posted. — **Jimmy Champlin**; [james.c.champlin@gmail.com](mailto:james.c.champlin@gmail.com)

## 13 No Ramblings

Hello classmates, and welcome to another installment of Class Notes. Much like the pandemic, my tenure of occupying your time and space never seems to end. I am, however, grateful for everyone who reads this section and sends me updates. I am sorry, however, for anyone who flips too soon and has to read the swirl above mine. No long winding rants this time, I'm writing from Guatemala and the internet isn't steady enough to hold up to my ramblings. I'd like to start by sharing some unfortunate news about one of our classmates. It came to my attention that **Patrick MacDonell** passed away in January. I didn't have the pleasure of knowing Patrick while at ND, but from what I can gather he was an exceptionally kind and adventurous spirit. There are still things to celebrate, however. **Alexa Wilson**, who you might remember was featured in the last issue, was nice enough to send me a plethora of updates. It was devoid of her usual witty commentary, however. In June, **Kristina Hamilton** is marrying Matt Zahn, not to be confused with the now-defunct dorm-that-must-not-be-named. **Kristen Kelly** got engaged to Daniel Fincham, about whom I received no information but can only assume is an excellent person if Kristen agreed to marry him. **Brett Biondi** got engaged recently and will be married in October, and **Ryan Murphy** is getting married in June. Alexa tested my sleuthing skills by not mentioning the names of their excellent partners, and I utterly failed that test. As a final update, **Daniel Palmer** and his wife, Anna Draganova, welcomed their first child, Kira, in January. I feel obligated, since the update came from Alexa, to hope that Kira ends up in Lyons someday. **Andrea (Palazzolo) Ray** matched into an orthopedic surgery residency at U of Illinois and was subsequently named valedictorian of her medical school class. She'll go down in history as the last valedictorian from the Urbana campus of U of I, as there will not be any future graduating classes. For people who don't know, matching into an orthopedics residency is an impressive accomplishment. I guess I'll be making the drive west from Cincinnati every time my ankle starts to hurt. That's all I've got folks. Please don't hesitate to send me more updates as you get them. Cheers. — **Chris Champlin**; [nd2013updates@gmail.com](mailto:nd2013updates@gmail.com)

## 13MBA More Good News

I am happy to pass along more good news. **Ilze** and **Jonathan Flatley** moved to Dallas-Fort Worth last year. Ilze works at Ericsson and Jonathan is at Topgolf. But the exciting news is that they welcomed their son, Jack Peter, on Feb. 2. That was 2-2-22. All are doing well. **Elie El-Zammar** mentioned that he got a promotion with Microsoft and moved to the DFW area (Flower Mound TX). And in a follow-up to the last notes, Michelle and **Joe Alvarado** welcomed their fourth child, Clark Joseph, in late March. Keep the updates coming. The next set is due to me by July 18. — **Nick Imgrund**; 314-775-7364; [daimgrund@yahoo.com](mailto:daimgrund@yahoo.com)

## 13JD Class Secretary — Alex Blair; [apblair@gmail.com](mailto:apblair@gmail.com)

## 14 Giving Care and Receiving Care

As we go into spring and summer, there's a lot to be said about caring for things. We have gardens (or desk succulents) to take care of, dogs and cats and other pets who rely on us, houses and apartments that need cleaning, families and children to nurture, our careers and academics

to tend to, our relationships to nourish, our civic duties to uphold and our spiritual growth and connection to develop. There's a lot of energy that goes into caring for all these aspects of our lives, and sometimes it can be a bit draining. I know, sometimes it feels like I spend my whole day caring for my job, my family, my home, my endless to-do list, and sometimes it becomes a bit hard to think about caring for myself. And that's where I feel truly blessed, to have friends and family who care for me. We are all in this together, and by supporting each other, we can give and receive attention, love, thoughtfulness and support. It is our most solemn duty and greatest honor to ensure that we each are cared for. Considering that, I just want to let you know that I care about you, that I love you, and that you deserve to be cared for, just as you take care of those around you. On that note, I am delighted to share with you wonderful news of love and happiness. **Jacob Armijo** and **Katie (Wilson) Armijo** exchanged vows in Orange Beach AL on Feb. 19. The wedding party was filled with fellow Domers, including **Julia Lynch**, **Colleen Kerins**, **Meredy Bolka**, **Katie Badar**, **Erika Wallace**, **Annie Schoenwetter**, **Tyler Treuting**, **Jamie O'Donohue** and **Greg Hamisevicz**. Congratulations, Jacob and Katie. We are happy that you were able to celebrate with so many of your loved ones. And our Notre Dame family keeps growing. We are excited to welcome Emma Katherine, daughter of **Kaitlyn (Keelin) Lasko** and **Colin Lasko**, born on Feb. 3. Just in time for football season, **Maria (Fahs) Finan** and **Ben Finan** are ready to welcome their first baby. Ben is proud to note that his baby has chosen the bye weekend for the arrival, so dad won't miss a moment of Irish football. Congratulations, Kaitlyn and Colin and Maria and Ben. And finally, I have a slew of announcements from the Donegan household. Dr. Mary Catherine (Faller) Donegan '14SMC graduated from Northwestern U with a doctorate in audiology in 2017, and subsequently accepted a pediatric audiologist position at Children's Wisconsin Hospital in Milwaukee. **Seamus Donegan** graduated from Northwestern with his MBA and master's in design innovation in 2020. During his experience, he served as student body president and sang for the school's pop cover band, the Captains of Industry. He is now working at Deloitte. The Donegan family bought their first house in Milwaukee WI in 2020 and welcomed their first son, Seamus Gerard Donegan, on Jan. 17. Congratulations to you both for the wonderful accomplishments, and welcome to the family, little Seamus. As always, keep loving each other, keep caring for each other, and keep me updated. I wish you all the very best. — **Lizzie (Helpling) Trebbien**; 513-470-9723; [ehelplin@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:ehelplin@alumni.nd.edu)

**14MBA Class Secretary — Jessica Bonanno**; 407-808-7148; [jbbonanno@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:jbbonanno@alumni.nd.edu); **Krick Cahill**; 518-598-4222; [kcacahill1@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:kcacahill1@alumni.nd.edu)

## 14JD Milestones

These are becoming biannual updates. Apologies all for my delays. Congratulations to **Natalie Huffman** and **Cameron Huffman** on the birth of Benjamin Richard Huffman on June 15, 2021. Benny has quickly formed the most adorable bond with his big sister, Lucy the cat. Keeping in theme, congratulations to **Kevin Murphy** and **Alisa Finelli Murphy** '15JD on the birth of their daughter, Evelyn Rose Murphy, on Nov. 24. She earned her status as a Domer being baptized in the Log Chapel. Final congrats to **Matt O'Rourke** and his wife, **Alyssa O'Rourke** '10, on the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Layla O'Rourke, on Sept. 12. Moving on to weddings, congratulations to **Jon Gregory Heintz** and **Halie Vilagi Heintz** on their wedding March 26 in the Basilica. I'm sure a special congratulations needs to be given to them for securing the location after the pandemic, well done. The wedding was celebrated by several in our class, including **Pat Cassidy** as groomsman, and **Will McClintock**, **Steve DeGenaro** and **Kevin and Alisa Murphy** as attendees. — **Rachel Hanley**; [rachelhanley@gmail.com](mailto:rachelhanley@gmail.com)

## 15 Lots to Celebrate

**Jack McKeon** and **Haley Bellis** were married at Notre Dame in October, after two years of engagement and two rescheduled wedding dates at the Basilica. It was worth the wait. **Dr. Katie O'Brien** and **Carl Ramos** welcomed twin boys Luke Alexander and Finn Daniel on March 25. A true rockstar, Katie is also finishing her pediatrics residency this summer. **Dr. Marielle (Blumenthaler) Reidy** began a



PhD program at the Ohio State U College of Optometry. **Jeff Hansen** is in a MD-PhD program at Washington U in St. Louis, and says he sought a creative outlet during the dark, failure-ridden middle years typical to a PhD. So, he wrote and self-published a children's picture book about genetics. Jeff tried to use a happy story about baseball and family to introduce some basic concepts in genes, genomes and when we should or shouldn't make changes to the human genome for the sake of curing disease. For more information about *The Perfect Baseball Player*, visit [genome-jeff.com](http://genome-jeff.com). After months of soul searching and consultation with his closest friends and family, **Ryan Watt** recently took a plunge and purchased his first pair of shoes secured with Velcro. Having been a laces man for years, and having some lackluster slip-on experiences, he was dubious at first, but found the change to be a fruitful endeavor in terms of style, comfort and support. Not to mention, with the time saved from the pesky tying and untying that plagued his always-grinding Mendoza alum lifestyle, the Velcro shoes have practically paid for themselves. **Kate (Disser)** and **Harrison Yates** welcomed their first child, Gabriel Joseph, on March 31. Here's to the Notre Dame Class of 2044. — **Emily Flores**; [eflores2@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:eflores2@alumni.nd.edu)

**15MBA Class Secretary — Valeriano Lima**; [val@meridianx.com](mailto:val@meridianx.com)

### 15JD Back in the Bend

Another Class of 2015 alum is back in South Bend. After receiving her PhD in cultural heritage from IMT Lucca in Tuscany, **Felicia Caponigri** is happily back under the Dome. As director of International and Graduate Programs at the Law School she works with Dean Cole and associate dean Paul Miller on the Global Lawyering Initiative and its development. If your current practice or other work has an international facet, she invites you to be in touch. In her role as term teaching professor, Felicia also teaches her signature course, Fashion Law, showcasing timely legal issues in the global fashion and luxury brand goods space. If you have any professional or personal updates to share, please send them to me. — **Alisa Finelli Murphy**; [alisafinelli@gmail.com](mailto:alisafinelli@gmail.com)

### 16 Hope I Saw You at Reunion

I hope you had a great time at our Reunion this summer. I can't wait for our next. Cheers to all our recently engaged couples: Xime Alverde and **Andres Gutierrez**; Julia Bellefeuille and **Dominic Canonico**; **Lauren Callahan** and **Patrick Conroy '15**; **Annabelle Duncan** and Tom Haile; **Maread Dunne** and James Stevenson; **Corinne Eckert** and **Sebastian Fischer**; **Mary Hunter** and Oren Hillel; **Claire Jaeger** and Aaron Mathias; **Amanda LaPorte '15** and **Jeff Chapa**; **Danielle Lukish** and **Nick Lisauskas '15**; Lindsey Olivere and **Aaron Tarnasky**; Wendy Perez and **Mike Izzo**; **Erin Peterson** and Richard Silverman; **Erin Richards** and Jack Milliken; **Juliana Salles** and Mike Banach; and **Casey Skevington** and Justin Sorum. Also we are over-the-moon for our newlyweds: **Carson Bogatto** and **Ryan Spoonmore '17**; **Maggie Bowers** and Austin Marquardt; **Candace Castillo** and **Kevin Lee**; Hadleigh Glist and **Jeff Luchetti**; **Cecelia Heffron** and Killian Brackey; **Kalyn Heyen** and **Sean Onderdonk**; **Hailey Karagias** and Matt Crum; **Elizabeth Kelley** and **Quinn O'Connell**; **Maggie Long** and Collin Foster; **Anna Marie Nguyen** and Tim Nguyen; **Samanta Rosas** and Robinson Pinzon; **Kim Sammons** and **Ryan Hipshman**; **Katie Schultz** and **Jackson Agraz**; **Lindsey Streepey** and **Ryan Barry**; **Liz Troyer** and **Thom Behrends**; and **Erin Walters '15** and **Joe Schneider**. Congratulations to our new parents; you're doing an amazing job already: **Christina (Gutierrez)** and **Jake Grefenstette**; **Paige (Junge)** and Nathaniel Kruder; **Viviana (Dewey)** and **Nick Nissen**; and **Elizabeth (Weir)** and **Robert Uhl '15**. **Katie (Ferrara)** and **Jack Beers** welcomed their second child in December, sweet Maggie. **Zoe (Rote)** and **Adam Kourajian '15** welcomed Louis Joseph in January and, according to Zoe, he is a chunk and already filling their lives with much joy. **Ellen (O'Brien)** and **Kyle Richardson** will welcome another baby boy late this summer. He will be their third child and the boys will now outnumber the girls. Thanks to all of our classmates in medicine for taking such good care of your patients and all those around you. Congrats to you who matched this spring: **Shae Boguslawski** in ob/gyn at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit; **Erik Carlson** in internal medicine at Columbia U; **Steven Goikoetxia** in

ENT at U of Nebraska; **Jake Kinsella** in internal medicine at Mercy Hospital in St. Louis; **Dale Lobo** in ob/gyn at U of Cincinnati; **Danielle Lukish** in ob/gyn at Amita Health in Chicago; **Katherine Petrovich** in general surgery at Harbor-UCLA; **Carson (Bogatto) Spoonmore** in dermatology at LSU; **Chris Viamontes** in internal medicine at UTSW; and **Jon Wiese** in ophthalmology at U of Florida. **Marissa (Bowman) Evans** earned her PhD in clinical and biological/health psychology from U of Pitt. **Laura Paquin** earned her PhD at U of Maryland in aerospace engineering. **Dan Suma** earned his PhD in biomedical engineering from Carnegie Mellon. He also received the CMU College of Engineering Presidential Fellowship last year. **Genevieve Bradford** works as senior analyst in EIT EMERGE at Cardinal Health in Irvine CA. **Miles Bland** works as an associate private credit investor at Alliance Bernstein Private Credit Investors in Austin. **Trini Bui** is an English teacher at Cristo Rey High School in Fort Worth TX. **Mikaila Chamblee** started as an associate copywriter this spring at Intouch Solutions. **Caroline Clark** was promoted to development and production executive at Kindred Spirit. **Kiley Cox** and **Mary-Catherine McRoskey** cofounded Penny, the first strategic digital advertising app for real estate agents fully integrated with Google, Facebook and Instagram. **Anna Grainger** works as a senior consultant at Embark in Denver. **Genevieve Heidkamp** works in San Francisco in the programmable solutions group at Intel. **Elyse Hight** started a new job on the corporate strategy team at Nike in Portland OR. **Michael McLean** started a new job at Deloitte in Chicago as a sustainability senior. **Christin Urbina** works as a researcher at UT Health Science Center and started a position as senior grants and contract specialist. **Paola Villegas** works in the office of DEI for Deloitte Consulting and recently hosted the inaugural Launch Leadership Acceleration Program for new analysts from diverse backgrounds. **Elizabeth Charles** and her Northwestern law team won the Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition in 2021, and she was awarded second-best oralist. **Guido Guerra** will be starting at Harvard this fall for his PhD in Italian Studies. **McKenzie Hightower-Gibbons** and **Beth Orem** passed the bar. **Alex Ignacio** will be working toward her master's in applied psychology at USC this fall. **Audrey Kelly** was published as the first author for her paper on "Patient Views on Emergency Screening and Interventions Related to Housing." **Danielle Lukish** was recently awarded LUCOM Student Researcher of the Year. **Erin Aucar** and Nick Lessen bought a house in DC. **Caitlin (Gruis)** and **EJ Hinlo** are moving back to South Bend and building a house, which should be completed this fall. Theresa and **Jason LeBlanc** bought a house in Kittery ME. **Maggie (Bowers)** and Austin Marquardt bought a house and moved to Chicago. **Ray Von Jones** was voted best teacher at Oakland Technical High School. **Audrey Kelly** ran the Holy Half and won first place in the Women's Non-Student division. **Jacob Schrimpf** ran the Boston Marathon. Thanks to **Katie (Ferrara) Beers** for her reflection in the Faith ND newsletter. Cheers to you all, my classmates. You continue to impress me with all the great things that you're up to; I really love sharing these notes every season. Email me, I'd love to hear from you. — **Bridget (Doyle) Hanle**; [bdoyle3@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:bdoyle3@alumni.nd.edu)

### 16MBA Six Years Later

As we write this update on a snowy spring day, we are reminded of similar weather at our May 2016 graduation. We can't believe it has been six years. We know there have been many career changes, moves and other life events over these years. Please send them our way for future magazine issues. In the meantime, we have belated baby news and other updates. Congratulations to Ashri Rahmanian and **Apri Matgiarso** on the birth of their son, Muhammad Ali Alfatih, in November 2020. The Matgiarso family resides in Jakarta, where Apri works at Bank Syariah Indonesia. Congratulations to **Ann Elise DeBelina** and Andrew Yeh, who tied the knot on a beautiful January night in Houston. Ann Elise took a new position last fall with Boston Consulting Group. She and Andrew still reside in Houston. Maggie Christensen and **Sagar Patil** celebrated their nuptials in Phoenix in February incorporating traditional Hindu customs. The couple resides in Chicago where Sagar works in the cybersecurity practice at RSM. Ines and **Guillermo Amengual** welcomed their second son, Ignacio Javier, named after St. Ignatius of Loyola and St. Francis Xavier. Ines and Guillermo's eldest child, Maximiliano, loves having a little brother. Katlyn and **Clayton Sommers**

welcomed their fourth child, Ada June, in February. Siblings Braxton, William and Mayzie are excited to have a new sister. — **Claire Kenney**; [ckennedy2@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:ckennedy2@alumni.nd.edu); **Kelly Rubey**; [kelly.rubey@nd.edu](mailto:kelly.rubey@nd.edu)

**16JD Class Secretary — Mack Watson**; [mack.watson@pm.me](mailto:mack.watson@pm.me)

### 17 Flowers

April showers bring May flowers. This year we had lots and lots of showers, so I personally am very hopeful for lots and lots of flowers. Many of us will be making our way back to campus June 2-5 to celebrate our five-year reunion, and I am confident that by then, the sun will be shining, and flowers will be blooming. It is crazy to think that five years have already passed since graduation. We are excited to reunite with classmates near and far. Since college, our classmates have been busy in all areas of life. Many classmates will graduate from medical school this May and start residency shortly after. **Katelyn Wray**, **Jessie LaRouere** and **Emma Frost** will all learn to care for tiny humans in a pediatrics residency. Katelyn will go to Milwaukee at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin; Jessie is shipping up to Boston at Mass Gen; Emma will go to Washington DC to work at Children's National. **Aly Anton** will go home to Minnesota where she will complete an internal medicine residency at U of Minnesota. **Phil Cozzi** will do a family medicine residency at Resurrection in Chicago. **Abbey Tirrell** will do a plastic surgery residency at Mount Sinai in NYC. **Michael Markel** will complete a urology residency at Georgetown in Washington D.C. **Michael LoBasso** will do an anesthesiology residency at UCLA. **Neil Jairath** will do a dermatology residency at NYU. Good luck to these new residents. **Caroline Trustey** was also hard at work in the classroom as a third-year doctoral student. She was selected for the 2021-22 UNC Greensboro School of Education Graduate Teaching Assistant Award. In May, **Shannon Riley** graduated with a Master of Public Affairs from Indiana U and **Christopher Jarocki** earned his Master of Science in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering from Purdue. Other classmates continue with pursuits in the business world. **Jack Markwalter** started a fintech lender in 2019, which has been growing quickly and has been featured in multiple publications. And of course, the wedding bells continue to ring. **Matt Grazzini** married **Rachel Wimsatt** in October 2021. **Gabrielle Davis** married Robert Lyons. **Lucy Enright** tied the knot with **Zach Espeland**. **Danielle Urdiales** married Christian Havel under the Golden Dome. Melissa Schumacher married **Ben Swanson**. **Jessie LaRouere** tied the knot with **Doug Marsan '16** celebrating with their PW, Ryan and Morrissey friends. **Anastacia Taylor** married Nick Anton, toasting their marriage with friends from Ryan and from Anastacia's travels abroad to London. **Shannon Riley** and **Christopher Jarocki** were married on June 11, 2022, in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame. There were more rings by spring. Congratulations to **Michael Broderick** and **Sharon Chiang** on their engagement. **Ileana Berkeley** and **Jack Bogaerts** are also newly engaged. Some families grew by one. **Shannon Hodges** and **Matthew Mooney** welcomed Matthew John on Dec. 7, 2021. **TJ Slezak** and **Sarah Cullen Slezak** welcomed Samantha Margaret on Jan. 24, 2022. **Julia Murray O'Donnell** and **Lukas O'Donnell** welcomed baby girl Annelise on Feb. 17, 2022. **Mackenzie (Gray) Salvi** and **Joe Salvi '16** welcomed Josephine (Josie) Gray on April 8, 2022. If you would like to send updates or celebrate a friend, please contact me. — **Celanire Flagg**; [cflagg@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:cflagg@alumni.nd.edu)

### 17MBA Exciting Updates

Hello, Class of 2017. I've received quite a few exciting updates. First, congratulations to **Michael Wepler**, who married Carolina Triana-Bustos. A little bird also told me that **Mark Faldowski** and his wife, Amy, welcomed their daughter, Rylee Harper Faldowski, on Jan. 24. The happy family is doing well and resides in New York. On the job front, **Chris Moffo** is now an enterprise services manager at Qualtrics. **Mohamed Kakay** has taken a new role as an account planner at fluent360 and will be relocating to Chicago this summer. Finally, **Frank Skeen** and his family have relocated from Seattle to Boise ID. As always, please continue to send to me life updates. Cheers to the Class of 2017MBA. — **Mary Tomasik**; [mtomasik@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:mtomasik@alumni.nd.edu)

**17JD Cheers to Marriage**

Yours truly, **Lauren Nottoli**, and **Jim Schwabe** got married on March 26 in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and had the reception at the Morris Inn. It was a wonderful day. We are thankful to classmates **Sami Lyew**, **Michael Gallagher**, **Ian Thresher**, **Adam Roundy**, **Devin McGuinness** and **Nicholas Schilling '14**, **'17JD**, who were involved in the Mass as members of the bridal party or ushers and readers. **Rev. Pat Reidy, CSC, '08**, **'13MDiv** presided over the ceremony. Please send me your updates via email for our next edition. — **Lauren Nottoli**; laurennotoli@gmail.com

**18 Medical Training**

Four years since graduation means our first class of physicians are done with medical school and are off to residency to continue their medical training. Yours truly, Class of 2018 Secretary **Matthew Peters**, graduated from the U of Louisville and is excited to stay in Louisville for general surgery residency. I enjoy bourbon and horse racing far too much to leave after only four years. It's a big summer for **Brendan** and **Lauren (Saunée) Besh**. The couple were married in New Orleans on May 21. Lauren matched at LSU-New Orleans for her orthopedic surgery residency and Brendan graduated from Notre Dame Law School in May. **Erin McCune** matched into pediatrics at Northwestern/Lurie Children's Hospital and is thrilled to stay in Chicago to continue her training. **Susan Morand** matched in pediatrics at Washington U in St. Louis. **Jens Verhey** is excited to stay at Mayo Clinic Arizona for orthopedic surgery. **Alex Acuña** is graduating from Case Western U and will move to Chicago to begin his orthopedic surgery residency at Rush. **Carlysa Oyama** graduated medical school at Rush Medical College in Chicago and matched into obstetrics and gynecology. **AnnaMaria (Mia) Arostegui** is excited to begin her family medicine residency at Kaiser Permanente Napa-Solano. **Hannah Mumber** graduated from Boston U School of Medicine and will be starting her pediatric preliminary year at Cohen Children's Hospital in Queens NY, followed by her dermatology residency program at the U of Pennsylvania. **Emily Sherry** matched into internal medicine in San Antonio. **Alyssa Sinko** matched into emergency medicine at Cooper U Hospital. **Mary Conklin** graduated from Creighton U School of Medicine and has matched at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School for obstetrics and gynecology. **Adriana Cantos** matched into adult psychiatry residency at Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital. **Keenan Centlivre** will be starting medical school this fall at Touro U California while continuing to live in San Francisco. **Allison Azaragoza** graduated from UCLA School of Law. Cheers to our recently engaged or married couples. **Sydney Sivertson** (Cavanaugh) and **Isaac Althoff** (Siegfried) got married on Dec. 18 at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Witnesses included maid of honor **Allison Hogan** and best man **Patrick Colley**. Isaac and Sydney became engaged at the Grotto in April 2021. Isaac is a Navy pilot flying the Navy Osprey and is based in San Diego. **Takeyra Stewart** got married on Aug. 8, 2021. **Maura Vrabel** became engaged to Dr. Brad Brown in December, and they are looking forward to their marriage this fall in Raleigh NC. **Teresa Simunich** and **Jerry Crum '21MS**, **'22PhD**, a chemical and biomolecular engineering grad, got engaged lakeside at Notre Dame on a snowy April 1, shortly after Jerry's successful PhD defense. **Patrick Shields** got engaged to **Molly Nitschke '21MED** on Feb. 19. Congratulations to **Christopher Ruffin** and **Annie Ruffin**, who welcomed their son, Jack Kerrigan Ruffin, into the world in January. **Katelyn Markley** is happy to announce that she is transitioning from the EY Philadelphia Audit practice to the EY Ireland Advisory practice and thus will be moving to Dublin, Ireland, in summer. She is looking forward to hosting her friends when the Irish take on Navy in Dublin next August. — **Matthew Peters**; mgpeters96@gmail.com

**18MBA Class Secretary — Patrick McHail**; pmchail@alumni.nd.edu

**19 Class Secretaries — Michael Conlon, Dan Hopkinson, Jane Driano and Eddie Griesedieck**; classof2019@alumni.nd.edu

**19JD Wedding Season**

I think we are all looking forward to summer on the

horizon soon. We have had several recent weddings amongst our classmates. **Bill Green** married Emily Tulloch in early April in Chicago. **Tom Dwyer** and **Katherine Miller** (that's me) married in St. Louis in March. **Taylor Haran** married Aaron Lindauer in Grand Rapids MI. I waited until the last minute to do this column, so the information I have is pulled directly from Facebook and Instagram. Please reach out if there is anything you would like me to write about in the future. Examples of things I want to know about: babies, puppies, new jobs, new companies, big moves, weddings, engagements and anything you are excited about. — **Katherine Miller**; miller.a.katherine@gmail.com

**20 Class Secretary — Gabby Meridien**; gmeridie@alumni.nd.edu

**20MBA Two Years Out**

Our Notre Dame family continues to grow. **Pablo Carillo** and wife Guadalupe, along with their two daughters, welcomed a son, Pablo, on April 5. **Olivia Feldpausch** and Joel Bertelsen are joyfully expecting their first child, a baby girl, this June. If you live in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, get ready to welcome another Domer: **Nasir Ilyas** recently relocated to Plano TX for his new job at JP Morgan Chase and is looking forward to connecting with local classmates. In April, yours truly, **Audrey Walker**, made a trip back to campus to run the Holy Half Marathon. She does not plan on running that far again anytime soon. If all goes according to plan, by the time you read this, the MBA Class of 2020 will have returned to campus to finally celebrate their graduation. Stay tuned for the next issue to hear how it went. — **Audrey Walker**; awalker10@alumni.nd.edu

**21 Bright and Brilliant Spirits**

Hi everyone! A lot has happened since we left campus a little over a year ago in the spring of 2021. However, on a very somber note, we would like to call to your attention the tragic passing of two of our classmates in the past year. Earlier in the fall, **Andy Watkins**, an endlessly kind and compassionate classmate, passed away after a courageous bout with cancer. A few months later in early 2022, **Khesa Borotho**, a classmate whose laughter and dancing could light up the whole room, tragically passed away as well. Please keep the friends and families of these two bright and brilliant spirits in your thoughts and prayers. In addition to that, some of our classmates have begun preparations to tie the knot! Big congratulations to **Barry Lee** and **Marie Bond** on recently announcing their engagement. Congratulations also go out to **Spencer Bindel** and **Kate Brown** on their engagement announced in the fall. If you happen to see any of them, be sure to wish them well! In other Class of 2021 news, **Killian Vidourek** and **Sean Michalec '20** have started a band called Devils Reach Rd and they are expecting to release a full-length album this year. **Michelle Grady** was recently promoted at the Mayo Clinic to clinical research coordinator for the epidemiology department. **Dessi Gomez** accepted her dream job working for TheWrap on entertainment news in Santa Monica. **Alexandra Martinez** was accepted to Baylor College of Medicine, the No. 1-ranked medical school in Texas, on a full-ride scholarship. **Ndické Sow** just took the MCAT and is traveling Europe for a few months before beginning medical school. **Noelle Townsend** recently moved to New York City and started clinical research work in the Bronx. Finally, **Karli Siefker** and **Killeen McCanns** live and work together at Nazareth Farm in north-central West Virginia, with new alumna **Madeline Ward '22** expected to join after she graduates in May. Congratulations to everyone on these awesome developments in their lives. Please, if you have any updates at all that you feel like sharing, do not hesitate to reach out! We look forward to hearing from you and GO IRISH! — **Ryan Mullin**; rmullin77@gmail.com

**21JD Glad to Hear from You**

First, a very professional shout-out to two laterals: **Colton Marino**, who moved to McDowell Hetherington in Houston, and **Evan Shaheen**, who is now working at Loeb & Loeb in Chicago. (Louisville misses you both.) In wedding and engagement news, **Julia Pennington** married Alex Wade in April. **Natasha Gunasekara** is recently engaged to Daniel Garber. Congratulations to the happy couples. In travel news, **Krystal Moczygamba** took an enviable trip to Spain recently, so be sure to ask her about her explorations. And **Michelle Chen** has parlayed her

knowledge as a sommelier into success on multiple online channels, all aimed at demystifying the wine world. Don't miss her advice at legallywined. As always, continue to let me know what you and friends are up to. I'll be glad to hear from you. — **Graham Pilotte**; gpilotte@alumni.nd.edu

## GRADUATE SCHOOLS

**Accountancy Class Secretary — Kim Talianko**; ktalianko@alumni.nd.edu

**Architecture**

The second issue of the ND School of Architecture's journal, *ANTA: Archives of New Traditional Architecture*, arrived and does not disappoint. It continues as a high-quality publication serving as "a venue for the exchange of ideas that serve to enrich architectural discourse." Fully illustrated with sketches and photographs in color, this 284-page publication is filled with sections on projects, essays, critique, drawings, debates and positions and recent books of note. The editors and editorial committee members are seeking your support to continue their efforts to "promote a robust architectural dialogue." They would consider "periodicals that put forward sensible urban, architectural and environmental approaches, or offer themselves as platforms for meaningful debate." To contribute work for a future issue, email proposals to: arch@nd.edu. To subscribe: architecture.nd.edu/ANTA. **Matthew J. Bell, FAIA, '83** was named a fellow of the Congress for the New Urbanism at the 30th Congress held in Oklahoma City this past March. Matthew is a professor at the School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation, U of Maryland, College Park MD. **Mallory (Brooke Ertel) Baches, AICP, '99**, Beaufort SC, wrote Chapter 26, titled "Urban Design Strategies and the Smart City Paradigm" in the recently published book *Smart Cities Policies and Financing: Approaches and Solutions*. "The book strives to be the definitive professional reference for harnessing the full potential of policy making and financial planning in smart cities. It covers the effective tools for capturing the dynamic relations between people, policies, financing and environments." Mallory is an urban designer with more than 20 years of experience and has her own practice working at the intersection of urban planning and community development. In addition to her writings, her research on historic preservation and social sustainability can be found in *New Urban Research* and her design work has been featured by *Next City*. Congratulations to the new AIA Fellows, "recognized with the AIA's highest membership honor for their exceptional work and contribution to architecture and society": **D. Michael Hellinghausen Jr. FAIA '77** principal and COO of Omniplan Architects, Dallas; **Mark E. Trier FAIA '78** with JRA Architects, Louisville KY; and **Ricardo Alvarez-Diaz FAIA '96** CEO of Alvarez Díaz & Villalón, Architecture & Planning, San Juan, Puerto Rico. In early April, the faculty of the School of Architecture selected as the 2022 Orlando T. Maione Award, laureate **Barbara Panzica**. Barbara retired in June 2021 after 29 years serving in nearly every staff role at the school, finally as executive administrator for more than 15 years. She was recognized for "her skill as an administrator, dedication as a team member and her immense value as a counselor to faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends of the school." She was formally celebrated at the alumni and friends' reception at AIA's A'22 Conference in Chicago in June. After three years as professor of the practice and academic director of external relations, **Sean Patrick Nohely AIA '97** is leaving the ND School of Architecture to pursue further professional and family goals. **Edmond G. Grauvreau FAIA '79**, chief, Programs Branch Installation Support Community of Practice, HQ, US Army Corps of Engineers, Washington DC, is completing a two-year term as chief, Architecture Practice Community of Interest, Society of American Military Engineers (SAME). He leads a 300-person community that advocates for quality design for military installations worldwide. He also leads the corps' master planning community, which executes over \$200 million annually in planning services and products worldwide. Our prayers and condolences go out to the family, friends and colleagues of **James B. Kesting '49** of Sylvania OH; **William Allen Nunnally '49** Louisville; and **Richard (Dick) W. Quinn FAIA '61** of Bloomfield CT. — **Orlando**



**T. Maione, FAIA Emeritus, FACHA Emeritus, NCARB;** 27 Bucknell Lane, Stony Brook NY 11790-2521; 631-246-5660; fax 516-578-5320; omaione@optonline.net

### Biological Sciences

Just before the spring deadline for this letter, it was a pleasure to see **Robert H. "Bob" Vonderheide '85, MD, DPhil (Oxon)** highlighted in a lead news article in *Science* magazine (April 8, 2022, Vol. 376, Issue 6589, p. 126). The report draws attention to his decades of work toward an approach to immunizing against cancer, specifically carcinomas, that is showing positive results. Many graduate alumni of the department in the early 1980s will remember Bob as an excellent student with the goal of becoming a physician. Accepted at Harvard Medical School after graduation from Notre Dame, Bob was able to defer entry to medical school when he received a Rhodes Scholarship to the U of Oxford. Instead of doing the standard MA degree at the end of his scholarship, Bob was able to further extend entry at Harvard and completed his Doctor of Philosophy degree at the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, an institution home to the development of penicillin in the 1940s. With his doctoral supervisor, Dr. Simon Hunt, a Kettle College Fellow in immunology, Bob was senior author of an astounding five publications from his thesis work. Bob has spent his career to date in academic medicine at the U of Pennsylvania. In spring of 1996, Bob and retired Navy **Capt. Robert G. Walter DDS '63** served on the organizing committee for the Notre Dame symposium, "Perspectives in Molecular Medicine," and authored a letter of invitation to alumni engaged in all fields of medicine. The symposium was held on campus over the '96 Memorial Day weekend to celebrate the 80th birthday of Prof. Morris Pollard, Notre Dame's esteemed virologist and cancer researcher. **Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, CSC**, celebrated a special Mass in Sacred Heart Basilica on the Saturday evening, concelebrated with **Rev. Edmund P. Joyce, CSC, '37**, and then enjoyed his own 79th birthday at the black-tie symposium banquet following. In addition to Vonderheide and Walter, other alumni who served on the organizing committee to make the event a success were: **Lori R. Carter MPH, PhD, '87; James W. Curran MPH, MD, '66; Charles O. Elson MD '63; David L. Huxsoll, DVM, '65PhD; George C. Lavelle '66PhD; Barbara E. Loughman '72PhD; and Raymond A. Tennant '62MS, PhD**. Notably, **Julie Simmons-Trapp '95** saved the day by chauffeuring the HIV/AIDS virus discoverer and future Nobel Laureate, Luc Montagnier of the *Institut Pasteur*, to campus from O'Hare Airport so that he could arrive on time for the opening event. Through efforts by **Edward A. Havell '70PhD** and others already mentioned, the symposium raised funds to endow a graduate fellowship in the Department of Biological Sciences at Notre Dame. — **Joan Smith Carter '71MS and Philip B. Carter '67, '71PhD**; 12916 Barsanlaw Drive, Raleigh NC 27613-6400; res 919-848-2192; phil@ncsu.edu

### History

This month we have tons to report. From South Bend, **John McGreevy '86BA** has been appointed University provost beginning July 1. John earned his PhD at Stanford, returned to ND as a professor in 1997, served as history department chair 2002-07, and Arts and Letters dean 2008-18. He is also a truly kind human being. John often made time to advise and help me even though we have never met, and I was gone from ND by 1992. Congratulations on this excellent choice. Congratulations also go to **Kathleen Sprows Cummings '99PhD**, who is a professor of history and American studies and director of the Cushman Center. Another excellent person, Kathleen was awarded the 2021 Sheedy Excellence in Teaching Award. This is the highest honor in the College of Arts and Letters. A former Sheedy Award winner, **Rev. Wilson Miscamble, CSC, '77, '80PhD, '87MDiv**, and an excellent person himself, sent a report on his cohort of ND grads. **Dennis Foust '78MA** passed away on Jan. 17. He was a much beloved Europeanist and Father Bill presided at his funeral Mass in Cincinnati. Also in this cohort, **Michael "Doc" Kopanic '77MA** continues teaching with the U of Maryland Global Campus. **Kate Riley '88PhD** has taken emeritus status at Ohio Dominican U and returned to her beloved hometown of Lockport NY. **Joseph White '80PhD** continues as associate editor of the *Catholic Historical Review*. Catherine Box, the heart and soul of the history department in the 1980s,

has moved to Oregon where two of her four children live. She loves her independent living facility with wonderful food, great neighbors and in-unit laundry. Mrs. Box turned 93 in October and is healthy and happy. Well, except about the Cubs. If anyone would like to contact her, please email me for her address. **Pat Conley '70PhD** writes from Rhode Island. He wrote his dissertation under Marshall Smelser, former chair of the Notre Dame history department and '48PhD from Harvard. The dissertation was published in 1977 and reprinted in 2019 with a new introduction. Pat will be resigning as president of the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame after 20 years at the helm. He recently completed a four-volume edition on Rhode Island's ratification of the Constitution. This is part of a 32-volume series from the U of Wisconsin. In 2016, Pat founded the Heritage Harbor Foundation. Through 2021, the foundation had distributed \$795,000 in grants and published or reprinted 22 books about Rhode Island. They also constructed a large WWII Memorial honoring Rhode Island combatants and the "soldiers of production" in the state's many factories, especially the Woonsocket Rubber Company that built most of Patton's "Ghost Army." Please check out Pat's website at [drpatrickconley.com](http://drpatrickconley.com). This last bit of news has left me speechless. I only found out April 20 that Dr. Walter Nugent passed away in September. Dr. Nugent told me to call him Walter about six million times, but I can't. He came to ND in 1984 from Indiana U. He held the Andrew V. Tackes Professorship. He was so kind and encouraging and I was such a dunce. Later, he was on my PhD exams (passed April 7, 1986) and was a reader for my dissertation. Even though I was extremely intimidated to know the president of the Western Historical Association and the Head of the Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, Dr. Nugent always treated me with courtesy, respect and genuine interest. Most of all, he introduced me to his wife, Suellen Hoy, who became my champion in the relatively new field of women's history. I am stunned and I send all my love and condolences to Suellen. I would appreciate it if Dr. Nugent's students could send in some memories for my July 20 deadline. I am not the memorialist this excellent person deserves. Thanks very much. — **Mary Linehan '91PhD**; [maryline113@yahoo.com](mailto:maryline113@yahoo.com)

**Mathematics Class Secretary — Patti Strauch**; 255 Hurley Hall, Notre Dame IN 46556; bus 574-631-7083; [strauch.1@nd.edu](mailto:strauch.1@nd.edu)

### Master of Nonprofit Administration

It is great sadness that I report the passing of our inspirational and well-respected professor, **Roxanne Spillett**. Ms. Spillett was a fellow in the Mendoza College of Business and taught the board relations and management course. She was the first female president and CEO of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, spending 34 years with the organization. Her obituary noted that in recognition of her numerous achievements, *Newsweek* cited Spillett as one of "15 People Who Make America Great." Pres. George W. Bush appointed Roxanne to the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. She served as chairperson of Leadership 18, an alliance of executives from the nation's most influential nonprofits and served on the boards of the Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream Foundation, Scholarship America, Berry College and as a special advisor to the board of the World Federation of Youth Clubs. She was the recipient of five honorary doctorate degrees. Roxanne Spillett will truly be missed. Sending positive thoughts to her family and continuing to pray for all our alumni. You are encouraged to submit your news for upcoming class notes. You may email me directly at the address below. — **Betsy Quinn '12**; 2110 Brummel St., Evanston IL 60202; 847-733-0557; [betsyquinn@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:betsyquinn@alumni.nd.edu)

**Political Science Class Secretary — Charlie Kenney**; 455 W. Lindsey, Room 205, Norman OK 73019; 405-325-3735; [ckenney@ou.edu](mailto:ckenney@ou.edu)

**Graduate Degrees Class Secretary — Marvin J. LaHood '58MA, '62PhD English**; 93 Parkhaven Drive, Amherst NY 14228; 716-691-4648; [mlahood@roadrunner.com](mailto:mlahood@roadrunner.com)

## DEATHS

John D. O'Malley, Jr., '43, 02/28/2022, Lake Oswego, OR  
F.J. Pequigney '45, 01/19/2022, New York, NY  
Otto A. Shander '47, 02/09/2022, Steger, IL  
William T. Summerlin '48, 04/04/2022, Savannah, GA  
Robert E. Keiser '49, 01/24/2022, Niles, MI  
James B. Kesting '48, 02/04/2022, Toledo, OH  
Paul J. McNamee, Jr. '49, 02/27/2022, Bloomington, IL  
Ray J. Rusek '49, 01/15/2022, Buffalo, NY  
John J. Kinsella '50, 02/10/2022, Northport, MI  
David S. Schiller '50, 01/07/2022, Chadds Ford, PA  
Leo W. Weisbecker '50, 02/25/2022, Durham, NC  
Charles J. Carroll '52, '55 JD, 02/19/2022, Cheyenne, WY  
Joseph S. Deiss '52, 02/12/2022, Highland Park, IL  
Brendan K. Geraghty '52, 02/26/2022, Gloversville, NY  
Andrew V. Giorgi '52 JD, 12/18/2021, Crown Point, IN  
Domenic A. Narducci, Jr. '52, 03/23/2022, Southbury, CT  
Don F. Stark '52, 04/14/2022, Memphis, TN  
Daniel F. Cafarelli '53, '54 MA, 04/07/2022, Saratoga Springs, NY  
Joseph P. Carrico '53, 11/24/2021, Chicago, IL  
Dr. David J. Hentges '52, 02/18/2022, Olympia, WA  
David E. Kahlich '53, 03/07/2022, Weimar, TX  
Dr. David A. Lauerma '53, '58 MA, 03/13/2022, Buffalo, NY  
John F. Lucey '53, 10/02/2021, Potomac, MD  
Dr. Kenneth W. Nelson '53, '55 MS, '56 PHD, 01/28/2022, Chicago, IL  
James C. Rogers '53, 01/30/2022, Inver Grove Heights, MN  
Mel R. Jiganti '54, 02/15/2022, Chicago, IL  
Dr. John F. Herber '55, 02/25/2022, Saint Louis, MO  
Robert J. Jasman '55, 01/20/2022, Cupertino, CA  
Francis X. Newman '55, 11/25/2021, Silver Spring, MD  
Fred E. Brinskelle, Jr. '56, 02/21/2022, Durham, NC  
Most Rev. John M. Dougherty, D.D., V.G. '56 MA, 04/16/2022, Archbald, PA  
Donald J. Iwinski '56, 10/05/2021, Richmond, VA  
Donald P. Marchione '56, 02/21/2022, Hamden, CT  
Julian P. Moore '56, 03/26/2022, St Louis, MO  
Henry Neuhoof, III '56, 03/12/2022, Dallas, TX  
Hugh R. Shine '56, 03/31/2022, Waltham, MA  
John F. Brockschlager, Jr. '57, 01/18/2022, Brookfield, WI  
Thomas R. Dettling '57, 03/21/2022, Fairlawn, OH  
Steven A. Johnson '57, 11/23/2021, Denver, CO  
Mark A. Maley, Jr. '57, 03/11/2022, Creve Coeur, MO  
John J. Sullivan, USAF (Ret.) '57, 02/21/2022, Athens, OH  
James F. Weber '57, 12/07/2021, Strongsville, OH  
Charles H. Wittenberg '57, 12/28/2021, Saint Louis, MO  
Rev. Harry C. Cronin, CSC '58, 04/07/2022, Berkeley, CA  
James A. Goethals '58, '62 JD, 01/26/2022, Dallas, TX  
John J. Healy, M.D. '58, 03/05/2022, Centerville, MA  
Stanley J. Lacz '58, 03/30/2022, Denville, NJ  
Martin R. Laska '58, 12/21/2021, Pittsburgh, PA  
Robert I. Probst '58, 04/02/2022, Hobe Sound, FL  
William H. Soisson, III '58, 03/12/2022, Everson, PA  
Stephen W. Bolander '59, 02/18/2022, Gurnee, IL  
Edmund J. Caulfield, Jr. '59, 02/27/2022, Long Beach, IN  
Jon F. DeWitt '59, 02/02/2022, Grand Rapids, MI  
Richard B. Donaldson '59, 04/13/2022, Louisville, KY  
Kenneth G. Horr '59, 10/04/2021, Rowe, MA  
T. Wilson Hotze, Jr. '59, 03/22/2022, Henrico, VA  
Richard M. Katis '59, '61 MA, 03/19/2022, Boxford, MA  
David H. Kelsey '59, '61 JD, 01/12/2022, Corrales, NM  
Richard P. Komyatte '59, 02/13/2022, Munster, IN

James R. Langford '59, 03/03/2022, South Bend, IN  
 Ronald A. Mordini '59, 01/23/2022, Arlington, VA  
 Richard D. Remmers '59, 04/12/2022, Louisville, KY  
 John R. Thomas '59, 03/27/2022, Del Mar, CA  
 Keith L. Williams '59, 02/12/2022, Grandville, MI  
 David R. Adam '60, 02/19/2022, Austin, TX  
 Theodore E. DeBaene, PE, CFM '60, 11/2021, Biloxi, MS  
 Malcolm J. Gowen '60, 02/08/2022, Phoenix, AZ  
 Fred M. Howting '60, 02/06/2022, Santa Barbara, CA  
 John P. McKenna, Jr. '60, 02/03/2022, Griffin, GA  
 Neil M. McLaughlin '60, 04/08/2022, McKinney, TX  
 Robert J. Pietrzak '60, 04/03/2022, Duxbury, MA  
 Richard W. Quinn, F.A.I.A. '59, 04/02/2022, Baltimore, MD  
 Harold R. Redohl '60, 03/04/2022, St Louis, MO  
 Paul H. Titus '60 JD, 02/19/2022, Pittsburgh, PA  
 Dr. Leonard J. Biallas '61, 03/20/2022, Quincy, IL  
 David L. Gauss, D.D.S. '61, 11/10/2021, Indianapolis, IN  
 William M. Henneghan '61, 03/07/2022, Beverly Hills, MI  
 John E. McLaughlin, Jr. '61, 12/16/2021, Londonderry, NH  
 Joseph G. Ogurchak '61, 01/18/2022, Wadsworth, OH  
 Dr. E. Robert Skloss '61 MS, 03/29/2022, Park City, UT  
 Joseph D. Benigni '62 PHD, 02/09/2022, Minneapolis, MN  
 Jay A. Charon '62 JD, 01/21/2022, Morgantown, IN  
 Richard A. Hodder, MD '62, 12/15/2021, Vero Beach, FL  
 Charles D. O'Connor '62, 02/25/2022, Woodstock, GA  
 Timothy R. Brennan '63, 03/26/2022, Aurora, IL  
 Robert J. Duffy '63, 03/22/2022, Boxford, MA  
 C. David Feske '63, 03/26/2022, Washington, DC  
 Patricia Geraghty Kowalski '63 MA, 03/21/2022, La Grange Park, IL  
 Michael M. Mashuda '63, 03/25/2022, Mars, PA  
 John J. Miller '63, 03/01/2022, Brentwood, TN  
 Thomas N. O'Brien '63, 01/31/2022, Cleveland Heights, OH  
 Michael E. Queenan '63, 01/06/2022, Louisville, KY  
 Donald J. Schade '63, 03/10/2022, Beavercreek, OH  
 Charles W. Berberich '64, 03/07/2022, Denver, CO  
 Donald D. DelManzo '64, '65 MS, 02/18/2022, West Chester, PA  
 Thomas J. Hill '64, 02/17/2022, Fishers, IN  
 John D. Kolata, USN (Ret.) '64, 01/27/2022, Fernandina Beach, FL  
 Edward A. Maciula '64, 04/09/2022, Spring Branch, TX  
 Bernard C. Topper, Jr. '64, 04/07/2022, Darien, CT  
 Charles O. Vimmerstedt '64, 02/04/2022, Cleveland, OH  
 Timothy L. Devine '65, 03/08/2022, Highlands Ranch, CO  
 Edward J. Egan, Jr. '65, 03/07/2022, Simpsonville, SC  
 Dr. Thomas F. Heck '65, 10/03/2021, Santa Barbara, CA  
 Rev. Donald J. Martin, SJ '65 MA, '78 PHD, 04/03/2022, New Orleans, LA  
 John A. Purdie '65, 01/24/2022, Indianapolis, IN  
 Robert M. Rynell '65, 03/23/2022, Mesquite, TX  
 Scott J. Atwell '66, '69 JD, 04/12/2022, Greenwood Village, CO  
 Dr. Leonard M. DeWitt '66, 04/17/2022, Elkhart, IN  
 James P. Hayden '66, 02/26/2022, Beverly Hills, CA  
 John J. Kroepfl '66 PHD, 03/18/2022, Hebron, IN  
 David A. Moreland '66 MA, 02/24/2022, Abbeville, LA  
 Ann L. Opgenorth '66 MFA, 02/16/2022, White Springs, FL  
 Sr. Francis X. Porter, OSU '66 MS, '78 MSA, 03/09/2022, Great Falls, MT  
 Mickey Quinn '66, 02/24/2022, Indianapolis, IN  
 Rev. Joseph L. Ziliak '66 MA, 02/08/2022, Noblesville, IN

Leo T. Collins '67, 02/19/2022, Minneapolis, MN  
 Frank L. Fox '67, 04/26/2022, Mountain Brook, AL  
 Timothy J. Malin '67, 02/09/2022, Riverside, CT  
 Richard T. Swatland '67, 04/09/2022, Stamford, CT  
 Richard J. Carter, Jr. '68, 02/09/2022, Orleans, MA  
 S. Patricia Healy '68 MA, 04/06/2022, Stella Niagara, NY  
 Andrew P. Hellmuth '68, 02/14/2022, Dublin, OH  
 Ronald E. Hipp '68, 03/18/2022, Overland Park, KS  
 Robert D. Marotta '68, 03/06/2022, Columbus, OH  
 Edward J. Marsh '68, 03/19/2022, Naperville, IL  
 Lawrence R. Bright '69, 03/12/2022, Palm Springs, CA  
 Michael E. Husmann '69, 12/21/2021, Mequon, WI  
 James M. Lyons '69, '76 JD, 02/03/2022, Irving, TX  
 Daniel E. Thompson '69, 02/28/2022, Fairbanks, AK  
 Dennis M. Tushla '69, '72 JD, 10/06/2021, Oak Lawn, IL  
 James R. Viventi '69, '73 JD, 02/19/2022, East Lansing, MI  
 David E. Bachtel '70, '88 MBA, 02/25/2022, South Bend, IN  
 Jane M. Desmond '70 MA, 01/14/2022, Virginia Beach, VA  
 Michael C. Gerrity '70, 02/09/2022, Cumberland, MD  
 John A. Leonard '70, 03/25/2022, Needham, MA  
 Daniel Paddock '70, 12/21/2021, Binghamton, NY  
 Thomas D. Sclafani '70, 12/30/2021, Houston, TX  
 Teresa Hackett '71 MA, 09/04/2021, Saint Charles, MO  
 David M. Johnson '71, 03/19/2022, Arlington, VA  
 Robert F. McCarthy, Jr. '71, 04/06/2022, Burr Ridge, IL  
 Marilyn Hofer, OSF '72 PHD, 03/26/2022, Oldenburg, IN  
 Robert S. Howley, Jr. '72, 02/13/2022, Columbus, OH  
 Earl J. Imhoff '72, 02/01/2022, Cincinnati, OH  
 Thomas G. Patton '72, 03/16/2022, Columbus, OH  
 Daniel E. Shephard '72, 04/23/2022, Toledo, OH  
 Edgar A. Hord '73 JD, 02/13/2022, Bradenton, FL  
 Thomas H. Moraczewski, M.D. '73, 03/01/2022, Orlando, FL  
 Bro. Walter J. Schreiner '73 MS, 02/16/2022, Memphis, TN  
 Michael O. Garvey '74, 02/13/2022, South Bend, IN  
 William J. O'Connor '74, 12/01/2021, Highland, IN  
 Stephen P. Wallace '74, '77 JD, 02/03/2022, Portsmouth, OH  
 Michael P. Gahagan '75, 01/27/2022, Cedarburg, WI  
 Daniel J. Makielski '75, 02/25/2022, Spencerport, NY  
 James Vizza '75 MA, 02/23/2022, Johnstown, PA  
 Thomas F. Cassidy, Jr. '76, 02/01/2022, Albany, NY  
 Anthony A. Hains '76, '78 MA, '81 PHD, 02/17/2022, Milwaukee, WI  
 Alan G. Roehl '76, 03/24/2022, Lexington, KY  
 Natial S. Amadeo '77, 02/09/2022, Kearny, NJ  
 Vincent P. Cuzzolini '77, 02/22/2022, Chillicothe, OH  
 Peter J. Harrington '78, '80 MA, 02/07/2022, Riverside, CT  
 William J. Seeger '78, 11/20/2021, Murphy, TX  
 L. Anthony Pace '79, 02/08/2022, New York, NY  
 John V. Doheny, Sr. '80, 04/17/2022, St. Louis, MO  
 Sr. Kathleen A. Ottrock, OSF '80 MA, 03/23/2022, Sylvania, OH  
 H. Michael Trausch, Jr. '80, 02/18/2022, Roseville, CA  
 Sr. Betty Ann Heegeman '86 MSA, 10/30/2021, Racine, WI  
 Durlen M. Braasch '89 MSA, 01/29/2022, South Bend, IN  
 Richard G. Faber '89 MBA, 01/12/2022, Minneapolis, MN  
 Rebecca S. Barnak '91, 03/05/2022, South Bend, IN  
 Joseph B. Mannelly III '92, 03/23/2022, Atlanta, GA  
 Sean C. Kelley '93, 03/09/2022, Ladera Ranch, CA  
 Maureen O. Swade '94, 12/25/2021, Sarasota, FL  
 Karmen L. Waters '94, 01/05/2022, Knoxville, TN

Mark J. Mitchell IV '96, 03/18/2022, Glenview, IL  
 Francisco M. Salazar '99 JD, 01/29/2022, Tolleson, AZ  
 Matthew J. Donlan '06, 02/16/2022, Carmel, IN  
 Thomas B. Nelligan '06, 11/26/2021, Evergreen Park, IL  
 Thomas M. Hardman '07 JD, 02/15/2022, Darien, IL  
 Thomas H. Newnam '10, 03/10/2022, Ocean City, NJ  
 Alexander Lee '11, 10/03/2021, Las Vegas, NV  
 Patrick MacDonell '13, 01/31/2022, Fishers, IN  
 Kevin T. Clancy '19, 03/30/2022, Minneapolis, MN

**1 Brooke Norton Lais '02**, Notre Dame's first female student body president, is now chief marketing officer at Welcome Tech, a digital platform to provide resources to immigrant communities.

**2 Jane Pitz '71MFA** was the assistant rector of Walsh Hall when it became a women's dorm, an artist, popular member of the Campus Ministry staff from 1972 to 1982, and longtime friend to generations of Notre Dame women.

**3 Carolyn Woo** was dean of the Mendoza College of Business from 1997 to 2011, when she became president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services before retiring from there in 2016.

**4 Amy Coney Barrett '97J.D.** was a faculty member in the Notre Dame Law School from 2002 to 2020, when she was appointed to the United States Supreme Court.

**5 Theologian Josephine Massyngbaerde Ford** became one of two women on the Notre Dame faculty in 1965 and in 1968 became the first woman to receive tenure.

**6 An engineering student, Marianne O'Connor Price '74** was Notre Dame's first female valedictorian.

**7 The first woman to join the ranks of the Irish Guard, Molly Kinder '01** is now a fellow at Brookings Metro, examining the nature and future of work, especially for low-wage workers, women and workers of color.

**8 Isabel Charles '60M.A., '65Ph.D.** was Notre Dame's first female dean, leading the College of Arts and Letters from 1976 to 1982, when she became assistant provost and director of international studies.

**9 Among the first female rectors, Sister Jean Lenz, OSF, '67M.A.,** was a Farley Hall resident for decades and an assistant vice president for student affairs.

**10 Katie Washington Cole '10**, Notre Dame's first African American valedictorian, is now a resident in psychiatry at the University of Chicago Medical Center.

**11 One of Notre Dame's first female faculty members, Sister Madonna Kolbenschlag, H.M., '63M.A., '73Ph.D.** taught in the American studies and women's studies programs from 1973 until 1980.

**12 Sister John Miriam Jones, S.C., '61M.S., '70Ph.D.,** the first high-ranking woman in the University administration, began her 17 years in the provost's office when Notre Dame went coeducational in 1972.



## The easy way out

BY ERIN BUCKLEY '08



**W**eekdays I drive through the world's worst intersection. A left turn from Thompson Street onto Patterson Avenue requires me to navigate a short, two-way segment of a third street, Kensington. If Thompson and Patterson are two sides of a right triangle, Kensington is its hypotenuse. Rather than a simple, 90-degree left turn at a traffic signal, I need to make two 45-degree turns, the second against a flow of oncoming cars.

I need those cars to leave a gap for me to cross through. As they approach, I wonder: *Are the drivers local? Do they know this place?* Crossing requires the same finesse as managing a cranky appliance. I picture a placard set atop a toilet for guests: "Jiggle the handle three times and hold it down." In the absence of signage, do the drivers know they need to leave me an opening?

When a gap occurs and I make my break, the sight line to my right is obscured not only by the traffic queue I am crossing but also — thanks to the arc of my trajectory — by my own passenger seat. Lacking the neck extensibility of a

giraffe, I lean away from the backrest and crane my head to check for oncoming traffic.

I've driven this route for five years, mostly on my way home from work. And more confounding than the traffic flow is the fact that I have not yet pursued an alternative. Instead, just as I routinely flip down my visor whenever I drive along a sunny street, I have adjusted my mental angle to deal with this intersection's unpleasant particularities. My complaints start like a song as I drive up Thompson. I shake my head to the refrain but do not change the station. Although I'm free to steer my way home by other roads, I never do so.

The intersection of Thompson and Patterson belongs to that category of things in my life that are bad but have not reached the tipping point of prompting change. It's like the divot in my thumbnail that has thus far escaped clipping, or the light fixture at the top of my stairs — two out of three bulbs have burned out, but the dimness hasn't yet caused me to trip. Or it's like the spoon I use for breakfast. It's been down the garbage disposal so frequently that its ridged edge bristles my mouth. I will choose a smoother-edged spoon if one is available. But since the

utensil supply in my household is only so deep, I prefer to keep this imperfect spoon until I go spoon shopping, which is unlikely to occur anytime soon.

I likewise experience the discomfort of my commute without taking the initiative to explore my options. Mutterings and rising blood pressure are my most meaningful responses. I suspect any other route would add at least five minutes to my drive — too great an inconvenience.

A community garden abuts the intersection. It burgeons with the green, life-giving bounty inherent to such places. Along the perimeter of the garden fence are fig trees and a sign that proclaims in large, red letters, "**WARNING: FIGS ARE FOR GARDEN MEMBERS WHO LEASE PLOTS.**" Beneath that in smaller font: "IF YOU PICK OUR FIGS, PLEASE MAKE A DONATION TO OUR GARDEN THROUGH VENMO," followed by an account name. It's a curious juxtaposition: a prohibition followed by instructions for violators to follow.

Like the roads we drive — even when signposts are provided — life does not always make it apparent how we should proceed. Sometimes we find ourselves on paths that are neither ideal nor recommended but are nonetheless possible. □

*Erin Buckley lives in Richmond, Virginia, where she works as an occupational therapist.*



DAVID STUBBS

## *En plein air avec Notre Dame Magazine*

*Notre Dame Magazine* has been mobile throughout its 50 years — nifty enough to take along when you set up your easel in a mountain meadow. Just ask Kathryn Mapes Turner '95, one of America's most distinguished artists, whose paintings possess the lush beauty of Wyoming's landscape and wildlife.

These days technology offers multiple ways to take the magazine with you — some that even fit in your pocket — although each variation delivers global perspectives and infinite ideas.

Both medium and message are made possible by the generous support of our readers. And for that, our gratitude is as great as the great outdoors.

**NOTRE DAME**  
MAGAZINE

[magazine.nd.edu](http://magazine.nd.edu)