



Taft Alumni Newsletter

Vol. XXXVIII, No. 3

Summer 2022

Congratulations to the Class of 2022

Commencement festivities for more than 800 graduates took place on Sunday, June 12 at the Rosemont Theater. Graduates received four tickets for family and friends.



The joyous moment of graduation.

Commencement from the Taft Academic Center occurred on Monday, June 13 outdoors at the Taft Varsity Campus Stadium. These 8th grade graduates worked hard to earn their diplomas and will be among the Taft Freshmen in the coming school year.

TAA offers hearty congratulations to these three graduates who were each awarded a \$1000 TAA Scholarship and a four-year membership in TAA:

Isabel Makris is heading for Northwestern University to study Business Marketing. She said, "Everybody says the reason I got accepted was because of the hard work I put in, but I would not have been able to thrive in an environment I did not feel safe and supported in. Being a part of the Taft community means having teachers that support you and create a safe place for everybody."



Lorraine McNaughton will be attending the Grainger College of Engineering at UIUC where she plans to study civil and environmental engineering. Lorraine said, "A unique experience at Taft is the extreme motivation to succeed, but the lack of competition. Everyone walking through the halls wants each other to do well, and other schools

don't have that. "

Robert DiSandro plans to pursue Marketing and Public Relations at Marquette University. Robert said, "My experiences at Taft, both inside and outside the classroom, are invaluable. I know for a fact that the skills I've obtained and the growth that I've seen within myself from Taft will allow me to be successful in whatever path I pursue."



Jack Suwinski Major League Debut

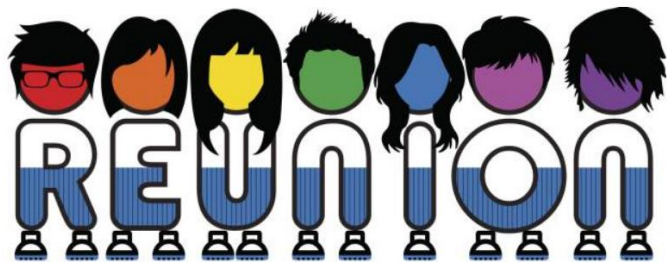
Class of 2016 alumnus Jack Suwinski played various positions at Taft under Coach Rich Pildes including pitcher and right field. He was first drafted by the San Diego Padres in 2016



and played on their Minor League affiliate, the Ft. Wayne TinCaps. He was traded to the Pittsburgh Pirates in 2021 where he made his

Major League debut as an outfielder. On Father's Day, with his father in the stands, Suwinski hit three home runs making him a serious contender for National League Rookie of the Year.

Suwinski's sister, Heidi Suwinski, Class of 2015, played softball while at Taft.



Chicago All-Class Picnic

Date: Saturday August 20, 2022, 7:00 am – 7:00 pm

Location: Schiller Woods Grove #4

Facebook: Taft High School Alumni

So-Cal All-Class Get-Together

Date: Saturday September 10, 2022, Noon – 4:00 pm

Location: "House of Savage", 2372 Recuervo Cove, Del Mar, CA

Details: \$10 includes Rosati's Chicago Pizza, non-alcoholic drinks. Bring a dish to share and BYOB.

Contact: Jan (Ostromencki) Savage (janhelloworld@hotmail.com)

Arizona All-Class Picnic

Date: October 29, 2022

Place: South Lake Park, 1101 S. San Miguel Dr., Goodyear, AZ, intersection of S. San Miguel Dr. and W. Santa Irene Dr.

Contact: Fred Wordell (ftjawo@aol.com),

Judy Jacobsen (gordonsdatter@gmail.com)

Donation: \$5 per person (includes raffle ticket)

Details: Bring lawn chairs, a dish to share, beverages in non-glass containers. TAA baseball cap raffle. Families welcome. Carpooling encouraged.

Taft Class of January 1953 70 Year Reunion

Date: Saturday October 22, 2022, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Location: Moretti's Ristorante & Pizzeria in Edison Park

Contact: Lois (Plechaty) Rolf (loisrolf12@aol.com) or Carl Edwards (cbedwards@att.net)

Taft Class of 1967 55 Year Get-Together

Date: September 17, 2022

Location: Edison Park Inn

Details: We can accommodate roughly 100 people. The package is for pizza, appetizers, and soft drinks with a cash bar for \$25.00 per person by check. RSVP by 08/27/22.

Contact: Ed Krzeminski (708) 352-5232 (whitewall0@aol.com)

Taft Class of 1968 55 Year Reunion

Date: September 2023 (TBD)

Location: Ridgemoor Country Club, Harwood Heights IL

Contact: Carolyn Sykes Toerpe (carolyn.toerpe@gmail.com)
Nancy Warzecha (nancywarz@sbcglobal.net)

Taft Class of 1971 50 Year Reunion

Date: Sunday September 18, 2022, 6:00 pm

Location: Holiday Inn Chicago Northshore, Skokie Banquet & Conference Center, 5300 W. Touhy, Skokie

Details: \$90/person payable by August 10. Casual dress. 4 hours premium open bar. Hotel rooms (king or 2 doubles) available for \$129. Book at www.hiskokie.com. Input arrival, departure then click book now. Group Code THS. Rooms MUST be booked by August 24.

Contact: Chris (Leiper) Reeves (trixieloo52@yahoo.com)
Send checks to Rich Lindberg, PO Box 31343, Chicago 60631

Taft Class of 1972 50 Year Reunion

Date: September 17, 2022, 5:00 pm

Location: The Nil Tap, 5734 N Elston Ave, Chicago

Details: Cash bar, pizza will be ordered for delivery for those wishing to purchase; carpooling or Uber encouraged

Facebook: Taft High School class of 1972

Taft Class of 1973 50 Year Reunion

Date: 2023

Location: TBD

Contact: Linda Kuster (lkuster@vernonresearch.com)

Facebook: 1973 Taft Grads 50th Reunion

Taft Class of 1992 30 Year Reunion

Date: Friday August 19, 2022, 7:00 pm – 11:00 pm

Location: Park Tavern, 5433 Park Place, Rosemont

Details: \$100 per person, All White Affair
CashApp: \$Springme; Zelle: 708-261-7847

Facebook: William Howard Taft Class of 92' 30th Class Reunion

Contact: Keith M. Richardson (krich4ever@gmail.com)

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Alumni Clock Unveiled

The Alumni Clock has been installed. Principal Mark Grishaber said, "Thank you to all the alumni, especially the Class of 1959 for all their generous donations that made this possible." There are plans for landscaping around the base with flowers. Verdin, the manufacturer, is based in Cincinnati, Ohio, birthplace of William Howard Taft.



Members of the Class of 1959 rock around the clock.

Frank Hood Honored

In honor of Frank Hood, outstanding Taft teacher and boys' basketball and girls' softball coach, a tree-planting



ceremony took place on April 30 spearheaded by Class of 1990 alumni. Coach Hood is in the Illinois and Chicago

Public League coaches Hall of Fame. Said Principal Mark Grishaber, "If Taft had a Mount Rushmore of coaches Frank would surely be one of the coaches." The tree was planted where Hood once coached softball games behind the baseball/softball field backstop along Northcott Avenue. Many alumni attended and spoke. In the middle of the photo is Mrs. Arleen Hood. It was a grand event.

Messages from our Members

Thank you for all your hard work.

Carolyn (Sykes)Toerpe, 1968

Thank you for all your work on the newsletter.

Mary (Stoklosa) Ferrandino, 1968

I look forward to Taft info. Thanks!

Ronald Rusing, Jun '62

Thank you for keeping this vital link to Taft up and running!

Lynn (Valters) Mays, Jan '63

Thanks for a wonderful alumni newsletter.

Robert Roehl, Jun '54

Thanks for all the help you've been providing us in planning the 1973 50th Reunion.

Robert Schmidt, 1973

Your steadfast work with the alumni association and the newsletter is greatly appreciated. In a view of Taft that is not often seen, my daughter-in-law, Leslie Kuhagen, took this photo while on a flight approaching O'Hare in mid-April 2022.

Jim Kuhagen, Jun '63



It's so nice to get the newsletter! Thank you for all the hard work.

Lynn (Anderson) and Rudy Drost, Jun '61

I WRITE, AND HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED, FULL LENGTH ROMANTIC ADVENTURE NOVELS. OK, OK, YOU CAN STOP LAUGHING NOW. YEAH, I'M JUST AS DIFFERENT NOW AS I WAS BACK IN MY SCHOOL DAYS. ACTUALLY, ONE OF THEM, "39 LETTERS", STARTS IN THE HALLS OF TAFT. IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHY THIS IS ALL IN CAPS, IT'S BECAUSE TAFTITES OF MY ERA ALL SEEM TO HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THEIR HEARING.

Matt Joswick, Jun '53



Don (Lane '54) and I will celebrate 60 years of marriage on November 3, 2022.

Judy (Carlson) Borta, June '55



Old Bandmates reunite in Geneva, Illinois: Bill Blomquist (June '67), John Paruolo (1968), and Bob Altergott (1968)

The Wayne Faust Show

A note from TAA Hall of Famer Wayne Faust, Class of 1971:

My summer has begun! After a really nice spring with lots of family time, lots of hockey. (No, we didn't win a

Cup this year, but I grew up in Chicago. I know how to say, "Wait 'til next year!") But I did manage to score a tying goal in a playoff game with a broken bone in my hand, so I have a bit of hockey street cred. :) And I'm holding out hope for my hometown Colorado Avalanche this playoff year.

I had my first show at Shady Gator's on Tuesday. It's always great to be back. I had a bit of a hiccup and missed last night's show with a nasty cold and laryngitis I picked up last week, but thanks to some good care and meds from a local doc, I should be good as new for tonight's show, and for the remaining 31 shows at Lake of the Ozarks.

If you're anywhere close, stop by, and if you're not - take a road trip! It's a really fun summer place to go, with lots and lots to do.

For details, and info on any of my other shows, my whole schedule is here as always:
https://www.picklehead.com/wayne/wayne_schedule.html
 God bless, HAPPY SUMMER, and I hope to see you down the road...

Chicagoland Language Project

Hello Taft Alumni,

I am a PhD student in Linguistics at Northwestern University who is involved in the Chicagoland Language Project, an interview-based research project led by Professor Annette D'Onofrio. We're interested in the diversity of language and life in the Chicagoland area. This year, we're focusing on the Far Northwest Side community areas of Jefferson Park, Norwood Park, and Edison Park. If you are a lifelong Chicagoan who has lived in one of these community areas, we would love to hear from you!

What are the interviews like? We do casual, in-person, audio-recorded interviews lasting between 45-90 minutes. We have questions prepared, but we're most interested in what you want to share with us. We're interested in learning about your life and experiences growing up, your thoughts on your community and Chicago as a whole, and your ideas on the language of Chicagoans, Midwesterners, and Americans more generally.

You can come to Northwestern's Evanston campus to be interviewed, or we can come to a location that's convenient for you! We will discuss covid-related safety measures based on your comfort level when we schedule the interview, and you will receive a \$20 gift card of your choice as a "thank you" for participating.

Who can participate? Anyone who meets the following criteria:

- Is 18 years or older
- Speaks English as a native language
- Lived in the Chicago area continuously between ages 7-18

- Lived in the Chicago metro area for most of adulthood and lives there currently
- Grew up in and/or currently lives in the Jefferson Park, Norwood Park, or Edison Park community areas

For more information or to sign up, please visit <https://sites.northwestern.edu/chilang/> or email Annette at donofrio@northwestern.edu. Please also feel free to forward this email to others you know who may be interested! The Northwestern IRB study number for this project is #STU00217266.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Jaime Benheim
PhD Candidate in Linguistics
Northwestern University

ATTENTION EAGLES

The Taft Football Booster Club is having one more fundraiser for the school year.

This is your chance to represent TAFT, EAGLES, AND CHICAGO with this

LIMITED EDITION design created just for YOU!

We have Clear Stickers (can be used on cars, phones, scapbooks) AND

Iron On Patches (can be used on clothing, bookbags, jackets), just to name a few ideas



Car Stickers ONLY \$3
Iron On Patches only \$8

Please contact us at taftfbboosterclub@gmail.com OR DM on Instagram/Facebook/Twitter

DON'T FORGET TO TAG US WITH HOW YOU USED
YOUR STICKER OR PATCH!
WE CAN SHIP TOO!
DON'T MISS OUT, GET YOURS TODAY!

- Taft plans to require all junior to take an IB English composition course currently offered to seniors. Principal Mark Grishaber said, "We're making them eat their educational vegetables." The plan will take several years to implement.
- Resuming after a two-year hiatus, the Norwood Park Memorial Day Parade kicked off at Onahan School and concluded at Taft High School for a tribute ceremony. There, the American flag was raised, and the Taft Eagles Choir and Taft Drum & Bugle Corp performed. Among the parade participants was the Taft Navy JROTC which hosted the veteran tribute ceremony.



Photo by Carrie Lawlor

www.taftalumni.org

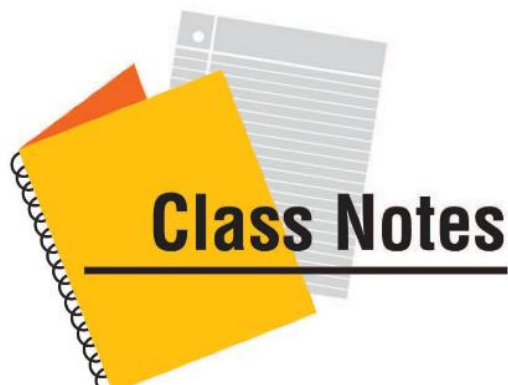


Taft Ticker Tape

- Enrollment at Taft is expected to reach 4,300 in the next school year. The first day of school will be on Monday, August 22.
- The "pod" system in which roughly 30 students attended as many classes as possible together to minimize exposure to Covid-19 is scheduled to be dropped.



Taft Alumni Association of Chicago



1940s

Wallace Wilson (Jun 1948) has 5 children, 18 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, lives in Grayslake, IL, is a retired carpenter and Sears home improvement salesman, family keeps growing, expecting another great grandchild in November.

Nancy (Mondientz) Tibbitts (Jun 1949) has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Santa Barbara, CA, NIU BS Edu, is a retired teacher.

1950s

Bill Bruhn (Jan 1953) has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Rosemont, IL, US Army 1958-64, is a retired tool and die maker.

Barbara (Edwards) Freitag (Jun 1953) has 4 children, 11 grandchild, 18 great grandchildren, 3 great great grandchildren, lives in Joliet, IL, US Navy 1953-55, is retired.

Matt Joswick (Jun 1953) has 1 child, lives in Lombard, IL, Benedictine U BS; US Air Force 5 1/2 years, is a retired engineer and active published author, his second novel, "39 Letters" starts out at Taft.

Barbara (Roess) Siwik (Jun 1953) has 4 children, 9 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, Metropolitan Business College, is a retired reservationist in Branson MO.

Norine (Anderson) Kmett (Jun 1954) has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, lives in Spring Hill, FL, U Dayton BS, MS Educ, is a retired mathematics teacher.

Toni (Geisert) Lien (Jun 1954) has 3 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in San Diego, CA, BA, MS, is a retired licensed educational psychologist.

Ken Motzny (Jun 1954) has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Rockford, IL, Purdue U BSAE; LtC Retired, USAF 23 years, is retired.

Robert Roehl (Jun 1954) has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Homosassa, FL, U of CO, is a retired control branch manager.

Judy (Carlson) Borta (Jun 1955) has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, CTC BA Ed '61, is a retired kindergarten and primary teacher.

Arlene Koprivnik (Jun 1955) lives in Chicago, IL.

Beverly (Kintz) Barker (Jan 1956) has 5 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Ocala, FL, college 2 years, is a retired secretary, moved to Florida to escape the snow.

Lucille (Nutti) Kruczek (Jun 1956) has 4 children, 9 grandchildren, lives in Wonder Lake, IL, is a retired bookkeeper.

Diane (Klier) Dierks (Jan 1957) has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Marengo, IL, is retired.

Carole (Lewis) Lanka (Jan 1957) has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, lives in Huntley, IL, is retired.

Penny (Neeb) Hoffman (Jun 1958) has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Olympia, WA, Northwestern U BS Journ '62, is a retired editor.

Margery (Roess) Rollins (Jun 1958) has 4 children, 5 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Torrington, CT, Wright Jr College, is retired.

Carolyn (Cella) O'Connor (Jan 1959) married **James O'Connor**, deceased, (Jun 53), has 4 children, 10 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, lives in Evergreen, CO, is retired.

1960s

Bill Schalk (Jan 1960) lives in Racine, WI, Coe College BA '65; Marquette U JD; US Navy 1966-86, Commander Retired, is a retired attorney, inducted into the Taft Alumni Hall of Fame in 2004.

Jacqueline (Metcalf) Abbott (Jun 1960) has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Okemos, MI, Marquette U Cert Dental Hygiene, MSU BA, is retired.

Ron Tarica (Jun 1960) has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Templeton, CA, IIT BS Chem Eng '64; Northwestern U MS Chem '67, PhD '69, is a retired chemical engineer.

Susan (Richardson) Vogt (Jun 1960) has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Wheaton, IL, Bradley U BA '64; UI M.Ed '68, is a retired elementary teacher.

Robert Webb (Jun 1960) has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Macclenny, FL, Millikin U, North Park College; US Army 1965-71, is a retired third-party claims administrator.

Lynn (Anderson) Drost (Jun 1961) married **Rudy Drost** (Jun 61), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Inverness, IL, BA

Psych, MA Counseling and Human Services, is a psychotherapist.

Rudy Drost (Jun 1961) married **Lynn Anderson** (Jun 61), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Inverness, IL, BA Hist and German, is retired.

Lynn (Syvertsen) Haye (Jun 1961) has 2 children, 6 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, lives in Elgin, IL, Northwestern U, is a retired accountant, winters in Tucson, AZ, widowed after 57 years, loves her time with grandchildren and greats.

Art Kay (Jun 1961) has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Schaumburg, IL, 2 years college, is retired, has been an instructor for the Tooling and Manufacturing Association.

Toula (Demas) Garbis (Jun 1962) has 3 children, 7 grandchildren, lives in Glenview, IL, BA Primary Ed, is retired.

Carol (Lohr) Magin (Jun 1962) has 2 children, lives in Mundelein, IL, U of MN BA '66, National Louis U MAT '00, is retired.

Ron Rusing (Jun 1962) has 2 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Austin, TX, MS Mil Arts & Sci; Col (Ret) US Air Force 28 years, 2 tours in Vietnam, is a retired fighter pilot.

Lynn (Valters) Mays (Jan 1963) has 3 children, 9 grandchildren, lives in New Smyrna Beach, FL, Dominican College BA '67; St. Xavier U Chicago MA '05, is a retired elementary teacher.

Bob Cella (Jun 1963) has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Geneva, IL, 2 years college, US Army 1965-68, is a sales engineer.

Carolyn (Feare) Rominski (Jun 1963) has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Batavia, IL, Masters Engl/Reading plus 30 hours, is a retired teacher.

Margaret (Wingert) Hardy (Jan 1964) has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Aurora, IL, NIU BS Edu '68, is a retired elementary school teacher of 35 years.

Patricia (Zwiki) Swaggerty (Jan 1964) has 4 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Chicago, IL, is a retired executive assistant.

Larry Larson (Jun 1964) has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Piney Flats, TN, UICC BS Eng '72, USC MS Sys Mgmt '78, Nat'l Defense Univ MA Def Res Mgmt '94; USAF 1965-73, USMC 1973-2001, is a retired Marine Corp pilot.

Nancy Noble (Jun 1964) lives in Ocala, FL, is an artist, new website is nancynoblezorick.com, inducted into the Taft Alumni Hall of Fame in 2000.

Sally (Haas) Benson (Jan 1965) married **Tom Benson** (Jan 66), lives in Des Plaines, IL, Ravenswood Hospital School of Nursing 1965-68, is a retired RN, enjoys travel and cruises.

Pamela (Stern) Hendricksen (Jun 1965) lives in Prospect Hts, IL.

Bill Moody (Jun 1965) has 3 children, 1 child, lives in Dallas, TX, Iowa St U BS '70, is semi-retired from public relations.

Lynn (Hintz) Pozsgay (Jun 1965) lives in Huntley, IL, is retired from banking and real estate.

Tom Benson (Jan 1966) married **Sally Haas** (Jan 65), lives in Des Plaines, IL, US Air Force 1966-72, is a retired ComEd lineman and line crew leader, says wife Sally "is the best thing that happened to me in 42 years."

Pamela (Erbach) Kueltzo (Jan 1967) has 3 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Homer Glen, IL, NIU BA History, is a retired church office administrator.

Jacquie (Luga) Philbin (Jan 1967) has 1 child, lives in Springfield, VA, UIC BA Psych, is a retired flight attendant.

Vinette (Gramarossa) Engler (Jun 1967) has 3 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Hoffman Estates, IL, Cosmetology school, is finally retired, "Now I can be available for my first grandbaby".

Marcia (Walsh) Hedborn (Jun 1967) has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Naperville, IL, NIU BS Mktg '71, is retired.

Fredric Lind (Jun 1967) lives in Park Ridge, IL, is retired.

Virginia (Scholl) Linowiecki (Jun 1967) lives in Chicago, IL, is retired.

Tom Marquardt (Jun 1967) lives in Murrells Inlet, SC, North Park College BS '71, is retired in 2013 from the VA.

Terry Pearson (Jun 1967) has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Mesa, AZ, is retired.

Robert Poteracki (Jun 1967) has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, NIU BS '71, MBA '93, is retired from industrial sales.

Bob Altergott (1968) lives in Lake In The Hills, IL, Music Ed; Construction Tech., is a retired senior project superintendent.

Pat (Stratton) Callaghan (1968) has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Lake Mary, FL, UI, is not retired yet.

Art Ellingsen (1968) has 1 child, 4 grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, OS/2 US Navy Reserve 1969-75, active 1970-72, Vietnam and Korea 1971; ISU BS '80, is a retired pastor and consultant, serves as Commander and Chaplain for American Legion Post 216 and Jr. Vice Commander, VFW Post 9284, both in Elk Grove Village, Treasurer, Vietnam

Veterans of America, NW Sub Chapter 311, founder of Arlington Hts. Tea Party.

Mary (Stoklosa) Ferrandino (1968) has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Barrington, IL, WIU BS, MS, is a retired elementary school teacher, works part time at The Container Store.

Henry Nowak (1968) lives in Hot Springs, AR, DePaul U MSA '77; US Army 8 years, is a retired accountant and law enforcement officer.

1970s

Pete Angelakos (1970) lives in Mt Prospect, IL, Wright College, is a retired machinist, is a White Sox fan, an avid golfer and swimmer.

Paulette (Zagone) Brody (1970) lives in New Port Richey, FL, AD Nursing, NEIU BA, is a retired RN of 48 years and director or North Shore University Health System-Park Center, retired to Florida, volunteers at a community pool teaching aqua classes and Qi Gong.

Cathy (Moriarty) Duffy (1970) has 1 child, lives in Merrionette Park, IL, NEIU BA Ed '74, is a retired secondary teacher and university staff.

Arlene (Nothacker) Merriman (1970) has 3 stepchildren, 2 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, lives in Bradenton, FL, NIU BS Family Svcs '74, MS Comm Mental Health '76; Barry U MS Ed/Higher Ed Admin '18, is a retired public admin/HR (21 years) and higher education admin (11 years).

Paul Madsen (1971) lives in Chicago, IL, is a typesetter.

Don Stein (1972) married **Annie Bursoni** (1974), has 1 child, lives in Niles, IL, UIC BA Mgmt, DePaul U MBA Fin, is semi-retired.

Susan Moresi (1973) lives in Cordova, TN, Clemson U MA Pro Comm '97; US Naval Reserve, is retired, recently traveled to Yellowstone and Grand Tetons.

Robert Schmidt (1973) lives in Chicago, IL, UIC Barch, Washington U March Urban Design, is a retired architect and urban planner, Returned to Chicago after 28 years living and working in London working on large development projects in the UK, Europe, Middle East, and India; serving as president of his Condo Assoc., bicycles on the Lakefront Trail, and helps plan the '73 50th reunion.

Joyce (Luga) Selker (1973) has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Schaumburg, IL, is a retired substitute high school supervisor.

Annie (Bursoni) Stein (1974) married **Don Stein** (1972), has 1 child, lives in Niles, IL, is retired.

Philip Soto (1979) lives in Chicago, IL, DePaul U BA Pol Sci, is a general manager, founded Bishops Hill Winery in Joliet.

2000s

Robert DiSandro (2022) lives in Chicago, IL, is a TAA Scholarship winner.

Isabel Makris (2022) lives in Chicago, IL, is a TAA Scholarship winner.

Lorraine McNaughton (2022) lives in Chicago, IL, is a TAA Scholarship winner.

Lost Classmates



Are you looking for someone? For a donation of \$5 the TAA will print your request here. If the classmate you are looking for, or another person responds, we'll provide them with your contact information so that they may contact you.

Was actor Donna Mills the inspiration for 'Grease' character Sandy?

According to a recent spate of tabloid articles, Donna Mills claimed that the character of Sandy in the musical "Grease" was, in fact, based on her. Mills, formerly Miller, Class of June '58, and Taft Hall of Fame inductee, posted a video on her Instagram account dressed in 50s garb, and said she learned of her connection years later.



It is true that Mills attended Taft while Jim Jacobs, Class of June '60 and fellow Taft Hall of Fame inductee, was also there, but Jacobs denies Mills' claim.

In a June 23, 2022 Chicago Tribune article written by Rick Kogan, Jacobs was quoted as saying, "Yes, Donna went to Taft. She was two years ahead of me and her last name was Miller," said Jacobs by phone from California. "She did go out with a cousin of mine. He was the older brother of a guy who was a model for another character but no, no way Donna was the model for Sandy."

Meanwhile, "Grease" is still the word. "Grease: Rise of the Pink Ladies,." is a television series reportedly in the works.



In Memoriam



Virginia Lucille (Hunt) Barnett-Buchner of Placerville, CA, Class of June 1941, died on May 12, 2019.

Jane Martha (Sorenson) Houlberg of Santa Rose, CA, Class of June 1945, died on April 25, 2022. She was preceded in death by her husband Peter Houlberg, Class of 1947. She is survived by her brother Frank Sorenson, Class of January 1951.

Richard Franklin Daly of Salt Lake City, UT, Class of February 1946, died on December 18, 2017. He was preceded in death by his sister Ruth Daly, Class of June 1943.

Jack Raymond Ristow of Arlington Heights, IL, Class of June 1946, died on August 11, 2018.

Grace Marie (Hoglund) Hansen of Des Plaines, IL, Class of January 1947, died on May 1, 2022. She was salutatorian of her graduating class.

Edward Herman Chant of Fairhope, AL, Class of June 1948, died on June 26, 2022. He was preceded in death by his sisters Betty (Chant) Halabrin, Class of June 1943, and Marguerite "Peggy" (Chant) Fry, Class of January 1947.

Harry Patterson Magee of Ellicott City, MD, Class of June 1953, died on February 18, 2022. He is survived by his wife Marilyn "Meg" (Goodell) Magee, Class of January 1955.

Tona Eloise (Madsen) Bloomster of Kennewick, WA, Class of June 1954, died on May 6, 2022.

Kenneth Ernest Hansen of Round Lake Beach, IL, Class of June 1954, died on April 23, 2022.

Kenneth Martin Kolconay of Park Ridge, IL, Class of June 1955, died on May 30, 2022.

Robert Carroll of Valley Center, CA, Class of June 1956, died on April 27, 2022.

Bruce Alfred Weinwurm of Middletown, NJ, Class of June 1956, died on January 20, 2022.

Marilyn Pearl (Murphy) Orton of Harshaw, WI, Class of January 1957, died on May 28, 2022.

MaryAnn (Balk) Barnes of Fox River Grove, IL, Class of January 1958, died on May 2, 2022.

Donald Everett Erickson of Maricopa, AZ, Class of June 1958, died on March 2, 2021. He was preceded in death by his wife Elizabeth (Marschall) Erickson, Class of June 1962. He is survived by his wife Pat, his brother Glenn Erickson, Class of June 1964, and his sister-in-law, Judy (Schmook) Erickson, Class of June 1967.

Allan Charles Larocco of Villa Ridge, MO, Class of January 1959, died on March 9, 2019. He was preceded in death by his sister Sharon (Larocco) Kovarik, Class of June 1964.

Charles "Chuck" William Lunaburg of Columbia, MO, class of June 1959, died on October 12, 2020.

Gary James Bauer of Jensen Beach, FL, Class of June 1960, died on April 13, 2022.

Bruce Allen Carter of Leesburg, FL, Class of January 1962, died on March 12, 2016. He was preceded in death by his wife Holly (Hillis) Carter, Class of January 1963. His is survived by his brother Glenn Carter, Class of January 1959.

Linda Louise (Smith) Kasten of Waupaca, WI, Class of June 1962, died on April 11, 2022.

Curtis Sriver of Libertyville, IL, Class of June 1963, died in January 2021.

William Louis Siniscalchi of Arlington Heights, IL, Class of January 1965, died on May 20, 2022. He is survived by his sister Elizabeth (Siniscalchi) Sukala, Class of June 1962.

Susan Rose Stengel of Fairfield, CT, Class of January 1965, died on December 31, 2021. She was preceded in death by her brother Nicholas Stengel, Class of June 1967.

Judith Ann (Reid) Preston of Sun City West, AZ, Class of June 1965, died on January 31, 2021.

Susan Mary (Peikut) Millward of Berea, OH, Class of June 1967, died on April 1, 2022.

Nicholas Peter Stengel of Montgomery Village, MD, Class of June 1967, died on July 7, 2014. He was survived by his sister Susan Stengel, Class of January 1965.

Anthony "Tony" Stanly Zakrzewski of Tamms, IL, Class of June 1967, died on July 9, 2018.

Carole Joy (Rossow) Diana of Chicago, IL, Class of 1969, died on June 26, 2022.

Terry Lynn (Weed) Johnson of Minneapolis, MN, Class of 1969, died on April 11, 2022. She was preceded in death by her sisters Dorothy Ann (Weed) Swanson, Class of June 1953 and Sally Ellen (Weed) Leese, Class of June 1959.

Steven William Terlecki of Littleton, CO, Class of 1970, died on March 4, 2022. He is survived by his sister Mary (Terlecki) McKelvey, Class of January 1963.

Gail E. Niwa of New York City, NY, Class of 1975, died on February 9, 2021. Her career as an award-winning classical pianist began in grade school, included featured appearances with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra including its soundtrack work for Disney's Fantasia 2000. She also taught at the university level and was founder and artistic director of Chamber Music at Great Gorge in northwest New Jersey.

David A. Carter of Plainfield, IL, Class of 1976, died on April 26, 2022.

Anne (Karleski) Calzaretta of Naperville, IL, Class of 1977, died on May 3, 2022.

Mary Anne (McLaughlin) Foster of Des Plaines, IL, Class of 1977, died on May 17, 2022.

Nick Oliz of Mountain Home, AR, Class of 1983, died on June 5, 2022.

Patrick A. Dwyer of Norridge, IL, Class of 1986, died on May 17, 2022. He is survived by his sister Shannon (Dwyer) Ridge, Class of 1988.

Taft Alumni Association Official Merchandise

Item	Size	Qty	Price Ea.	S&H Ea.	Total
 Windbreaker , nylon with drawstring bottom printed with TAA logo	Medium		\$25.00	\$ 6.00	\$
	Large		\$25.00	\$ 6.00	\$
	X- Large		\$25.00	\$ 6.00	\$
	XX- Large		\$25.00	\$ 6.00	\$
	XXX- Large		\$25.00	\$ 6.00	\$
 Baseball Cap embroidered Taft Alumni logo with eagle	One Size Fits All		\$17.50	\$ 3.00	\$
 Bumper Sticker "You Can't Hide That Eagle Pride"	----		\$ 3.00	\$ 1.00	\$
 T-Shirt , gray cotton printed with TAA logo	Medium		\$10.00	\$ 3.00	\$
	Large		\$10.00	\$ 3.00	\$
	X- Large		\$10.00	\$ 3.00	\$
	XX- Large		\$12.00	\$ 3.00	\$
	XXX- Large		\$12.00	\$ 3.00	\$
 Fleece Jacket with embroidered Taft Alumni logo	Medium		\$40.00	\$ 6.00	\$
	Large		\$40.00	\$ 6.00	\$
	X- Large		\$40.00	\$ 6.00	\$
	XX- Large		\$40.00	\$ 6.00	\$
	XXX- Large		\$40.00	\$ 6.00	\$
Total Remitted					\$
Please use a separate order form for separate addresses.					
<i>Print Name:</i>		<i>Grad Month/Year:</i>			
<i>Address:</i>					
<i>City/State/ZIP:</i>		<i>Phone: ()</i>			
Send check or money order (no cash please) with completed order form to: Taft Alumni Association, 6530 W Bryn Mawr Ave, Chicago IL 60631-3185					

Taft Alumni Association
Membership Application/Renewal

Please tell us as much about yourself as you like so that we can share your news in the *Class Notes*.
Only fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required for membership. We will not publish your address or phone number.

About You ☐ **My information is unchanged** ☐ **Do not publish my information in Class Notes**

*First Name (PLEASE PRINT)	* Last Name at Graduation	* Current Last Name	
*Home Street Address	*City	*State	*ZIP
Primary Phone	Email Address		List in Email Directory? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
*Month/Year You Graduated	Number of Children _____ Children, _____ Grandchildren, _____ Great Grandchildren, _____ Great Greats?		
Higher Education, Degrees, or Military Service, Years			
Occupation	Retired? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Semi	Grad of Elementary School	
Other news you'd like to share?			

About Your Taft Graduate Spouse

*First Name	* Last Name at Graduation	* Current Last Name	
Primary Phone	Email Address	List in Email Directory? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
*Month/Year Spouse Graduated	Number of Children (if different) _____ Children, _____ Grandchildren, _____ Great Grandchildren, _____ Great Greats?		
Higher Education, Degrees, or Military Service, Years			
Occupation	Retired? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Semi	Grad of Elementary School	
Other news you'd like to share?			<input type="checkbox"/> Do not publish my information in the Class Notes
Enclosed is a check or money order for: \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 2-year individual membership <input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 2-year Taft alumni couples <input type="checkbox"/> Donation in the amount of \$ _____	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Send newsletter online <input type="checkbox"/> Send newsletter by mail <input type="checkbox"/> Send both by mail and online	

Please mail application and funds to: **Taft Alumni Association, 6530 W Bryn Mawr Ave, Chicago, IL 60631-3185**

Taft Alumni Association Board of Directors

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The Taft Alumni Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Taft Alumni Association

Please send news, photos, and general correspondence to:

Taft Alumni Association, 6530 W Bryn Mawr Ave, Chicago IL 60631-3185 or email to eagleemail@taftalumni.org

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