



Taft Alumni Newsletter

Vol. XXXIX, No. 3

Summer 2023

Congratulations to the Class of 2023

Commencement festivities for more than 900 graduates took place on Sunday, May 28 at the UIC Credit Union 1 Arena. Graduates received five tickets for family and friends.



TAA offers hearty congratulations to these three graduates, all graduates of the rigorous International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, who were each awarded a \$1500 TAA Scholarship, a four-year membership in TAA, and a complimentary alumni baseball cap:

Cayla Rindfleisch, Class of 2023 co-valedictorian, has set her eyes on a career in pediatric nursing. Through her church she tends to toddlers during services, leads a 7th/8th grade youth group, volunteers with Feed My Starving Children, and volunteers as a missionary at Camp Barnabas, a summer camp for special needs children. She chose Taft over Maine South due to its diversity and higher level of programs. She stated, "After enduring the rigor of the International Baccalaureate Programme and experiencing a



Hailey Bautista and Cayla Rindfleisch sport their new alumni caps.

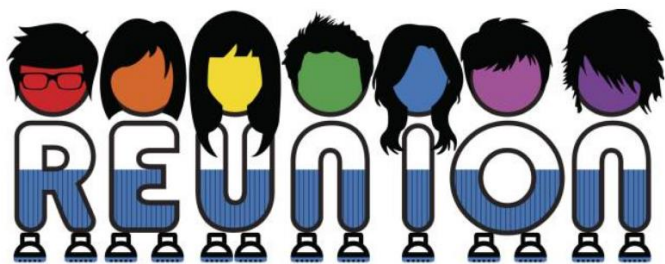
community of acceptance through my secondary education, I can safely say that the vision of William Howard Taft High School was met successfully and will continue to be fulfilled when pursuing my goal of higher education and nursing."



TAA VP John Prochaska presents Molly Smith with her scholarship and alumni cap.

Molly Smith will be attending Gies College of Business at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to further her career choice in supply chain management with the ultimate goal of owning her own business. She has been a volunteer at The Center for Economic Progress which provides tax preparation services to persons with low income. At Taft she participated in cross country, track and field, and soccer. She said, "As a part of the International Baccalaureate program, I had access to numerous classes to help me explore what I thought I was interested in. Taft has set me up for success in so many ways and I could not be more grateful."

Hailey Bautista looks forward to a career in the foreign service. At Taft, she created the Model United Nations club, in which students roleplay as delegates of specified countries working together to find solutions to global issues, promote diplomacy between nations, and cooperation. She has volunteered for Hope for the Homeless, Cradles to Crayons, Feed My Starving Children, and as a Ballet Election Judge. She says, "Taft taught me resilience: when I don't do as well on a test, I try harder on the next test. Taft has taught me passion by letting me create my own club and inspire others who want to go into the field of diplomacy. My goals for the future include teaching other people these skills, especially those who are in their adolescent years of life and are incredibly vulnerable. These skills are resilience, purpose, and passion."



Chicago All-Class Picnic

Date: Saturday August 19, 2023, 7:00 am – 7:00 pm

Location: Schiller Woods Grove #11

Contact: James & Jason Hill (773-331-6834)

Facebook Page: Taft High School Alumni

Arizona All-Class Picnic

Date: Saturday, October 28, 2023, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

New Location: Beardsley Recreation Center Patio, 12755 W Beardsley Rd, Sun City West, AZ 85375

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

Judy Jacobsen (gordonsdatter@gmail.com)

Details: \$5 per person (includes a raffle ticket), bring a dish to share, beverages in non-glass containers. TAA baseball cap raffle. Families welcome.

So-Cal All-Class Get-Together

Date: Saturday September 9, 2023, Noon – 4:00 pm

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

Details: \$10 (pizza and pop), bring a dish to share and BYOB.

Contact: Jan (Ostromencki) Savage

(janhelloworld@hotmail.com)

Taft Class of 1959 Annual Reunion

Date: Friday September 29 to Sunday October 1, 2023 (see Spring Luncheon article for details)

Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Des Plaines

Contact: Larry Marsh (fairseas2u@gmail.com)

Taft Class of January/June 1963 60 Year Reunion

Date: Saturday, September 16, 2023, 5:00 – 9:00 PM

Location: Covenant Living of Northbrook, 2625 Techny Rd. Northbrook IL 60062, North and South Village Rooms

Detail: Light refreshments will be served

Contacts: Cheryl (Henninger) Krupa, 847-609-6791,

(cherylkrupa@gmail.com)

Donna (Griessmer) Catlett, 847-274-1256,

(cattnk3@gmail.com)

Wayne Andersen, 847-650-6844, (wa@adrwa.com)

Taft Class of 1968 55 Year Reunion

Date: September 30, 2023

Location: Ridgemoor Country Club, Harwood Heights IL

Details: 2pm - Appetizers, socializing, cocktails (cash bar)

3pm - Group photo

4pm – Dinner (please select your dinner choice)

Lemon Chicken, vegetable & potato - \$80/per person

Braised Short Ribs, vegetable & potato - \$85 per person

Vegetarian – Quinoa with Roasted Vegetables

Dessert, coffee, tea, water included. \$80/per person

Contact: Carolyn (Sykes) Toerpe

(carolyn.toerpe@gmail.com), 527 Grimes Ave, Naperville IL

60565 or Nancy Warzecha (nancywarz@sbcglobal.net),

2065 Plainfield Dr, Des Plaines, IL 60018. Reply by August

30, 2023; check payable to either Carolyn or Nancy.

Taft Class of 1970 50 Year Reunion

Date: Saturday, July 29, 2023

Location: Gaslight Club, Hilton Chicago O’Hare Airport Hotel

Website: <https://1970taftreunion.com>

Taft Class of 1973 50 Year Reunion

Date: Taft Tour Friday, September 8, 2023

Reunion Evening Saturday, September 9, 2023

Class Picnic, Sunday, September 10, 2023

Location: Park Ridge Country Club, 636 N Prospect Ave

Tickets: \$90 before August 4th / \$100 after

Contact: Bob Schmidt (robert.schmidt55@att.net) or Jill

(Mason) Hawkes (gordonjill@aol.com)

Facebook: 1973 Taft Grads 50th Reunion

Taft Class of 1974 50 Year Reunion

Watch this space!

Taft Class of 1978 45 Year Reunion

Date: Saturday, September 22, 2023, 6:00 pm

Location: Moretti’s Edison Park

Contact: Marybethe (Hirth) Kelly (mbekelly@gmail.com) or

Randy Rutzen (randyrutzen@sbcglobal.net)

Facebook: Taft Class of '78

Oriole Park Class of June 1961 Reunion

Date: Saturday, October 21, 2023, 5:00 pm

Location: Moretti’s Rosemont, 9519 W Higgins Rd

Contact: Nancy (Wendt) Gunning

(grannynanny1947@gmail.com)

Class of 1959 Spring Luncheon

On Friday, May 19th, we had our successful TAFT Class of 1959 Annual Spring Luncheon. It again was an all you can eat Pizza/Salad/Soft Drink Party, and a good time was had by all as we reminisced about our days at TAFT, caught up with each other, and ate very well!

Principal Mark Grishaber attended and gave us a detailed update on TAFT today, and he answered a number of questions we had. He is shown in the right side of the

photo sitting behind the first row wearing a blue shirt and blue cap.



Next plan for our CLASS will be our 64th Annual Reunion this fall: Friday afternoon, September 29th, all you can eat Pizza/Salad/Drink Party; Saturday, 30 September, Reunion Dinner with special entertainment; Sunday, 1 October, Farewell Breakfast. All events again will be at The Hilton Garden Inn Hotel on River Road in Des Plaines. We sincerely hope all CLASSMATES will be able to join us!

We will continue to live up to our CLASS Motto: "TOGETHER AGAIN!", enjoying being with one another and staying in touch whenever and wherever we can!

Class of 1959 Reunion Committee

Messages from our Members

Hi, Taft Alumni Association. We (meaning Taft Alumni) are the only HS that I know of that has an association to inform Taft graduates of their fellow alumni comings and goings. All thanks to you. Thank you sooo much for all you do.

Paul Rebscher, Jan '53

I appreciate your great work for the Alumni Association.

Joan (Schwarek) Orr, Jun '49

I hope I live to enjoy another two years of receiving this newsletter. Thank you for the great job in putting it together.

Trudy (Strozewski) Gander, Jun '42

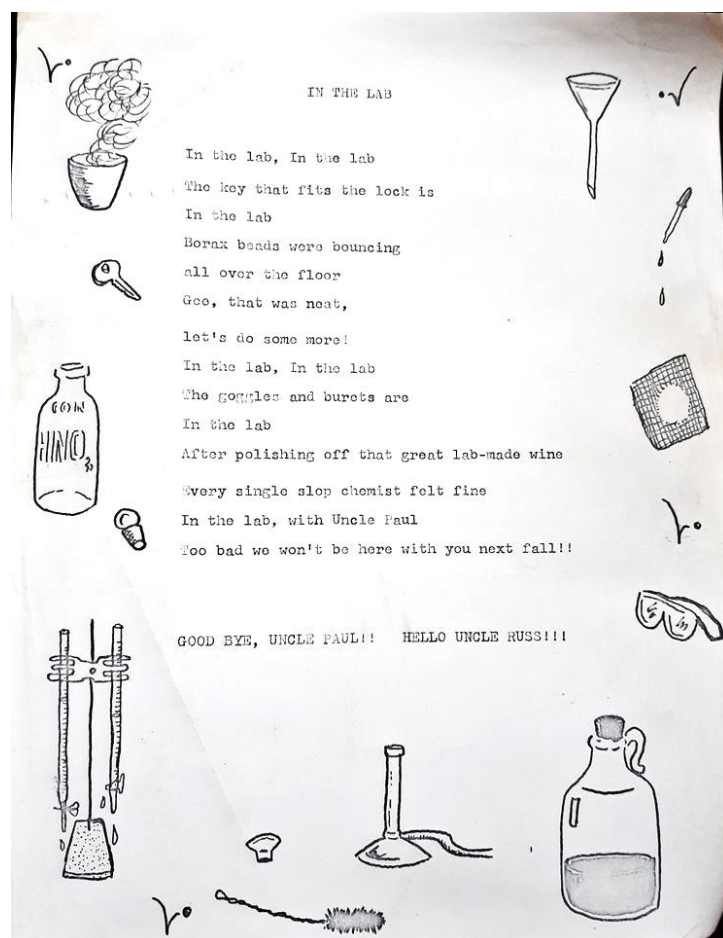
Enjoyed the reunion last year. Hope we can do it again—next year?

Wally Symcak, 1972

Thank you for all your work.

Christine (Wojtowicz) Bata Iden, Jun '61

Hi, while looking at the alumni website, I noticed Wayne Faust listed in the Hall of Fame. I just happened to come across this bit of Taft memorabilia. It's a little ditty written by Wayne for an end-of-class party that Mr. Paul Stewart let us hold on the last day of Chemistry class (possibly in 1971).



We all got a copy of the song, which we sang [to the tune of "Over There"] to Mr. Stewart at the party. I do remember that Wayne brought his guitar to class that day to accompany us. Might bring back memories for other students of Mr. Stewart.

Sue (Deck) Moran, 1972

Alumni Activity



The first children's picture book by **Pam (Borek) McDonald**, Class of 1973, *The Christmas Heart*, offered by Fox Pointe Publishing was released in May, based on a true story of a Minnesota family who experienced a

Christmas miracle after the loss of a loved one to Young-Onset Alzheimer's. McDonald said, "...one of my first forays into formally working with kids was when I was chosen as a counselor in the Outdoor Camping Program when I was a senior at Taft. That really lit my fire, and I went on to work for the Chicago Park District as a pianist and summer camp counselor. After college, I began a long career as an elementary educator, eventually completing graduate work in the area of gifted education. I had thought about writing

for a long time, but commitments to my job and family kept me from starting. Once I retired, I had more time and decided to give it a try when I heard this family's story. It has been two years of hard work but I couldn't be happier with the results." The book is available in hardcover, softcover, and ebook format at mcbook23@gmail.com or from FoxPointe at foxpointepublishing.com.



Siblings **Laurie (Royce) Callender**, 1969, and **Bob Royce**, June 1967, attended the St. Peter's Memorial Day service in Schaumburg. "So beautiful and so proud of my brother," exclaimed Callender.



Keith M. Richardson, 1992, has been elected to a third term as President of APWU Chicago Area Local 0001 representing postal workers, focusing on respect and safer working conditions.



Before the June 14th game between the Cubs and the Pirates, **Jack Suwinski** (2016) took part in a ceremony that recognized Taft Varsity and Junior Varsity Girls Softball teams, who both had just won the Chicago Public League Championships over Lane Tech.

Taft Ticker Tape

- Three driver's education cars for Taft High School were reported stolen at about 4:10 a.m. Monday, May 22, from a gated lot on school grounds. The school is

planning to replace the fence around the driver's education lot and implement extra security procedures.

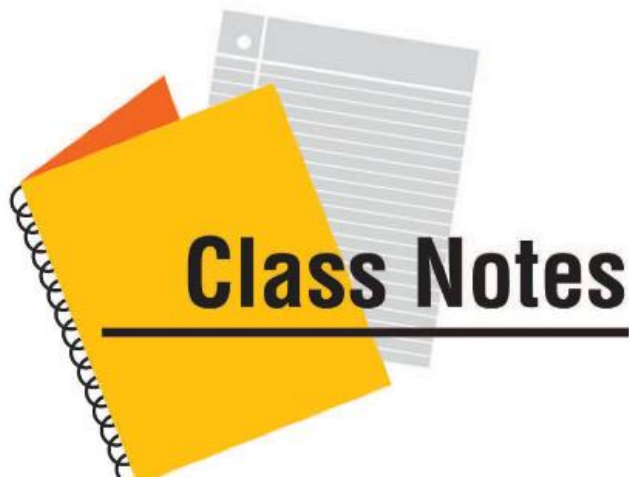
- Taft student Zoe Nance, playing for Dunham Park, will represent her country and community at an inaugural girls baseball world series tournament in Japan in August.
- The Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Foundation announced the awarding of grants to 19 scholastic journalism efforts throughout the state, including Taft which will receive \$1,500 to pay for website hosting fees, two cameras, camera lenses and SD cards.
- After the championship game, these ladies displayed no hard feelings and true sportsmanship.



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.



1940s

Trudy (Strozewski) Gander (Jun 1942) has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, lives in Hoffman Estates, IL, CPS - Certified Professional Secretary, is retired since 2009 at age 85, resides in an independent facility and loves her life at Brookdale.

Dee (Koch) Reichert (Jun 1945) has 4 children, 4 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Walnut Creek, CA, Wright Jr College AA '48, is retired, still plays golf in her retirement area.

Joan (Schwarek) Orr (Jun 1949) has 4 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Palm Desert, CA, is retired from Orr & Company, commercial and industrial real estate.

1950s

Marilyn (Huntman) Giese (Jan 1950) married **Stan Giese**, deceased (Jun 1945), has 5 children, 18 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren, lives in Aurora, IL, Iowa State; College of DuPage, is an author, her books "The Eye of God" and "Nursery Rhymes Your Mother Never Taught You" are available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

Carol (Boldt) Bentsen (Jun 1951) married **Ronald Bentsen**, deceased (Jun 1951), has 3 children, 6 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, MS Special Ed, is retired.

Marilyn (Jones) Schnur (Jun 1951) married **Robert Schnur**, deceased (Jan 1951), has 1 child, 1 grandchild, lives in Tucson, AZ, U Arizona MS, is a retired librarian and teacher, husband Bob, a Tucson police detective, was on the 1949-50 Taft football team and helped develop a program to improve relations between students and law enforcement.

Jim Tortorelli (Jun 1952) has 6 children, 13 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, lives in Lake Barrington, IL, Chicago State BA Ed '56; Loyola MA Ed '62, is retired from teaching at Lane Tech and Maine Twp.

Phyllis (Geisert) Umphres (Jan 1953) has 3 children, 3 stepchildren, 4 grandchildren, 4 step grandchildren, 7 great

grandchildren, lives in Chatsworth, CA, RN, is a retired nurse.

Claire (Roszkowski) Papiewski (Jun 1954) has 3 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Elgin, IL, is retired from accounting.

Patricia (Dunn) Hall (Jun 1955) has 3 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Huntley, IL, Bradley U AA Med Office Mgmt '57, is a retired medical office manager and Delta Airlines reservation agent.

John Beall (Jan 1956) has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, lives in Newport, NC, Clemson U BS Math/Educ '60, is a retired personnel manager and training coordinator, spent the past 20 years living in an RV, traveling in the lower 48, working as a Christian volunteer helping build church facilities, youth camp maintenance, and disaster relief/rebuild.

Robert Oleskow (Jun 1956) has 2 children, 9 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, lives in Lake City, MN, is the retired president of Matt-Son, Inc.

Betty (Laseman) Sunagel (Jun 1956) has 4 children, 4 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Huntley, IL, Wright Jr. College, is a retired executive secretary, husband James Sunagel (deceased) was a '56 Schurz grad, USMC EGV firefighter, and Roselle Fire Chief.

Jay Forbregd (Jan 1957) has 1 child, lives in Phoenix, AZ, Wright Jr College AA, is works in sales.

D Patrick Raetzman (Jun 1957) has 4 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in San Diego, CA, UI BS '61, George Washington U MS '78, US Navy submariner 20 years, is retired.

Rosalie (Scimeca) Feilen (Jan 1958) has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Sarasota, FL, is retired.

John Schmidt (Jun 1958) lives in Chicago, IL, B.Ed '62; M.Ed '65, is a retired UID Associate Director of Admissions.

Barbara Peterson (Jan 1959) lives in Palatine, IL, Wright Jr College AA '61, is a retired senior telecom engineer.

Bruce Lohr (Jun 1959) has 3 children, lives in Washington, UT, DePaul U BA; Illinois Army National Guard, is semi-retired from print production.

Larry Marsh (Jun 1959) lives in Front Royal, VA, US Naval Academy BS EE '63, Olmsted Military Scholar; US Navy 35 years, is a retired US Naval submarine officer, especially enjoys the annual class reunions and luncheons, and getting to know Principal Mark Grishaber--GO TAFT GO.

Carol (Lubinetz) Vix (Jun 1959) lives in Chicago, IL, BS, JD '87, is a semi-retired attorney.

1960s

Frank Braun (Jan 1960) married **Charlotte Rizzo** (Jan 1961), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, some college, is a retired police major.

Steve Mack (Jan 1960) has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Inverness, IL, Northwestern U BSBA '69, Kellogg School of

Mgmt Northwestern MBA '70, CPA '73, is a retired CPA, active on the board of Kids Above All, a human services agency, and on Northwestern University Library Board of Governors.

Stuart Dunn (Jun 1960) has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Deerfield, IL, UI BS '65, DDS '67; Captain US Airforce 1967-69, is a semi-retired dentist.

Tom McKenzie (Jun 1960) has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Colorado Springs, CO, UI 1960-62, U WI BS '64, UI grad work; LCDR US Naval Reserve active 1965-69, reserve 1970-76, is a retired economist, first granddaughter arrived in 2021.

Gene Phillip (Jun 1960) lives in Great Falls, VA, IIT BSEE; US Air Force 1967-1971, is a retired US Government program manager and engineer, wife Eileen died in 2018.

Norm Phoenix (Jun 1960) lives in Chicago, IL, Wright College AA '63; IIT BSEE '67, MSEE '72; Nat'l Louis MAT '08, is a retired electrical engineer and educator, serves as a community representative on Oriole Park's Local School Council.

Paul Verisario (Jun 1960) has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Inverness, IL, Northwestern U BA '68, Corporal US Army, medic, is a retired insurance owner, past president of Illinois Independent Insurance Agents State Assoc. 2001-2002 and board director for 24 years.

Charlotte (Rizzo) Braun (Jan 1961) has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, is retired.

Steve Regopoulos (Jan 1961) has 4 children, 13 grandchildren, lives in Palatine, IL, UIC BS Phys ED/Soc '69; 2 years Arch Eng & Art; Real Estate Inst AA '75, is a real estate developer/entrepreneurial, developing tolmission.com to spread "Serving God is our Mission" to others in the world.

Christine (Wojtowicz) Batalden (Jun 1961) has 6 children, 17 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, lives in Crystal Lake, IL, Wright Jr College, McHenry County College, is retired.

Louis Vassos (Jan 1962) married **Joanne Wemstrom**, deceased (Jun 1962), has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, Northwestern BSEE, is a retired engineering manager.

Leslee (Doubek) Lamp (Jun 1962) has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Pewee Valley, KY, Evanston Hospital School of Nursing, is a retired RN.

Edward Parquette (Jun 1962) has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Palatine, IL, is a retired repairman for Marriott Corp.

Bill Green (Jan 1963) has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Sarasota, FL, UI BA Arch, Loyola U JD, is a semi-retired writer, two new novels available on Amazon, "Becoming Irrelevant" and "Dead Wong".

Donald Hoy (Jun 1963) has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Schaumburg, IL, Loyola U MBA '74, is retired.

Lee Schurter (Jun 1963) has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Thousand Oaks, CA, is retired.

Donna (Garstka) Walldren (Jun 1963) has 2 children, lives in Park Ridge, IL.

Glenn Erickson (Jun 1964) married **Judy Schmook** (Jun 1967), has 2 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Rio Rancho, NM, AA, US Army 1968-70, is a retired police officer.

Gay (Malewicki) Sweely (Jun 1964) has 2 children, lives in New Carlisle, OH, IL Wesleyan BA '68; U UT MA '73; U Canterbury NZ PhD '88; U of Melbourne dual PhD '98, is a retired professor and historian, Associate Professor emeritus; Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award (education); Taft Alumni Hall of Fame.

Donna (Lambrecht) Lewandowski (Jan 1965) lives in Palatine, IL, is retired.

Laura (Niemiec) Gray (Jun 1965) married **Jack Gray** (Jun 1965), has 4 children, 9 grandchildren, lives in Mount Dora, FL, is retired.

Jack Gray (Jun 1965) married **Laura Niemiec** (Jun 1965), has 4 children, 9 grandchildren, lives in Mount Dora, FL, is working part time for the Lake City, FL Sheriff, and for Lamers Coach Bus Co., but otherwise retired.

Nancy (Wendt) Gunning (Jun 1965) has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Park Ridge, IL, Luther College BA French, is a human resources administrator.

Marianne (Simonides) Hafer (Jun 1965) has 2 stepchildren, 2 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, lives in Cape Coral, FL, is retired.

Terry Long (Jun 1965) has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Waterford, WI, US Army helicopter pilot Vietnam 1968-71; UICC BSIE '73, is a retired engineer, enjoys bicycle riding.

Rich Schutz (Jun 1965) lives in Glenview, IL, Oakton Comm College AA '84; Roosevelt U BA Hist '86 and paralegal studies, is a semi-retired deli clerk, collects records as a hobby and has been married 17 years.

Martin Emrath (Jan 1966) has 3 children, 7 grandchildren, lives in Brentwood, TN, UICC BSME '70, UI MBA, MSME '73, is a retired sales manager.

Theresa (Klein) Davis (Jun 1966) has 4 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Hurley, WI, UI BFA Art Edu '71, is a retired art teacher.

Susan (Grandt) Roden (Jun 1966) married **Ed Werner**, deceased (Jun 1965), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Des Plaines, IL, is a retired secretary with School District 59.

Ron Stolle (Jun 1966) has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Hudson, OH, NEIU BA '71; Loyola MBA '76; Washington U EdD '07; Army Reserves 1969-75, is a retired finance executive and associate professor at Kent State.

Lynne (Lyle) Backer (Jan 1967) lives in Barrington, IL, NIU BSE '70, MSE '72, is a retired author and educator, enjoys travel, DAR member and USO volunteer.

Mary (Kemblowski) Berg (1968) has 7 great nieces and nephews, lives in Frederick, MD, UI BSN '77; Washington U MS Healthcare Admin '80, is a retired healthcare administrator, married Jack Berg in 1972.

Maggie (Schmidt) Cross (1968) has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Naperville, IL, BA, MS, is retired.

Linda (Lease) Dustin (1968) married **Jack Dustin** (1968), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, BA, MA Education, is a retired PE teacher.

Jack Dustin (1968) married **Linda Lease** (1968), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, MD, is a retired family physician.

Bonnie (Brooks) Lopez (1968) has 2 children, 2 stepchildren, 10 grandchildren, lives in Westminster, CO, is "gloriously" retired, volunteers with kids working off community service hours for offenses committed.

Ron Olsen (1968) has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Oregon, WI, US Army 6 years, Vietnam 1968-69, National Guard 8 years, is retired from maintenance for Famous Footwear, belongs to Chapter V Madison, Wisconsin.

Michaeline (Tworek) Wong (1968) has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Silver Spring, MD, BS Art and Humanities, is retired from the printing industry.

Gail (Shellabarger) Diehl (1969) has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Sycamore, IL, NIU BS '74, MS '98, is a retired reading specialist K-6 for DeKalb Schools, having fun with the grandkids and traveling to Florida in the winter.

Bob Kanen (1969) has 3 children, lives in Waldwick, NJ, NEIU BA Soc '74; BA Psych '75, Ill School of Prof Psychology PsyD '82, is a semi retired clinical forensic psychologist.

Christine (Wirth) Maxwell (1969) has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Elgin, IL, ISU BS Ed, Concordia U Chicago MA Reading Ed, is a retired reading specialist K-8 and special ed teacher.

Glenda (Hodgson) Vitek (1969) has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Wichita Falls, TX, Amundson Mayfair AA RN, is a comptroller.

1970s

Mike Costanzo (1970) has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Sioux Falls, SD, WIU BA '74, is a retired broadcasting radio station owner, retired in 2005, volunteers narrating books for the Braille Library organization and conducts a disabled childrens' outreach program.

Edward Knight (1970) married **Michelle Bonnivier** (1970), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Schaumburg, IL, is retired.

Patricia (Hammang) Miller (1970) lives in Chicago, IL, is a retired client service rep.

Kenneth Naatz (1970) has 3 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Elmhurst, IL, UI Champaign BS Acct '74, DePaul U MBA '83, is a retired benefits director.

Nancy (Dobbertin) Blanco (1971) lives in Mesquite, NV, is a retired business analyst.

Diane Hansen (1971) has 3 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in New London, CT, Albertus Magnus Col BS Bus Adm '02, is a part time bookkeeper for St. Luke Lutheran Church in Gales Ferry, Connecticut.

Jim Davis (1972) lives in Crete, IL, Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine DO '86; MS Exercise Physiology, is an orthopedic surgeon, nicknamed "Moose" with a 1964 Chevy pickup truck.

Janine Klich-Jensen (1972) lives in Chicago, IL, JD, is an attorney.

Wally Symcak (1972) has 1 child, lives in Lake Zurich, IL, Northwestern U BA Econ '75; CPA, is a retired CPA.

Richard Evans (1973) married **Donna Schaller** (1974), has 2 children, 6 (almost) grandchildren, lives in Elgin, IL, AVP Information Technology, is a retired vice president in information technology.

Daniel Mason (1973) has 2 children, lives in Placida, FL, BS, is a retired United Airlines pilot, enjoying retirement in Florida and Michigan.

Pam (Borek) McDonald (1973) has 4 children, 11 grandchildren, lives in Lakeville, MN, UI BS Elem Ed, U of St. Thomas MA CIGT, is a retired teacher and children's book author.

Susan Moresi (1973) lives in Cordova, TN, Clemson U MA Pro Comm '97; US Navy 1982-93, Reserves 1993-03, is retired, active with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America.

Donna (Schaller) Evans (1974) married **Richard Evans** (1973), has 2 children, 5.5 grandchildren, lives in Elgin, IL, is a semi-retired part time bookkeeper.

Nancy (Szenda) O'Brien (1975) has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Niles, IL, is retired from accounting office work.

Jamie (Moffat) Pastwa (1975) lives in Orion, MI, MA Special Ed, is a retired special education teacher.

Sharon (Nowak) Halperin (1977) has 2 children, lives in River Forest, IL, bachelor's degree, is an association executive.

Phil Priest (1977) has 3 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Rolling Meadows, IL, UI AB '81; Nat'l Lewis MAT '92, is a retired elementary teacher, enjoys every moment of retirement.

Karen (Kloda) Stolzman (1977) has 4 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Lake Forest, IL, is self-employed.

Dawn (Ruscitti) Simmons (1979) has 3 children, lives in Prospect Hts, IL, is a realtor, two children are engaged, looking forward to grandchildren.

Aerie--Not Just a Yearbook



Aeries—bald eagle nests—are generally 5 feet wide and 3 feet deep—about the size of an average hot tub. They are typically built in the tallest conifers near their sturdy trunks. While both parents construct a nest, the female is said to perform most of the placement of branches, twigs, and soft materials. The largest recorded aerie, found in St. Petersburg, FL, measured 9.5 feet in diameter, 20 feet deep and weighed almost 6,000 pounds! The ranger above sits in a replica aerie found at Hueston Woods State Park in Ohio.

In Memoriam



Lois Dorothy (Benson) Hamm of Urbana, IL, Class of June 1943, died on June 17, 2023.

Priscilla Joy (Dean) Christensen of Elk Grove Village, IL, Class of June 1946, died on June 12, 2023. She was preceded in death by her brother Duane Dean, Class of June 1944.

Kenneth Dale Uding of Forney, TX, Class of June 1950, died on April 5, 2023.

Arthur Surfass Eichlan of Billings, MT, Class of January 1953, died on April 22, 2023. He is survived by his wife Marian (Heinz) Eichlan, Class of June 1966, his sister-in-law Barbara (Heinz) Olle, Class of 1970, and brother-in-law Ron Olle, Class of 1985.

Judith Ruth (Moers) Hardman of Mount Prospect, IL, died on May 24, 2023.

Wilbert Owen "Bill" Galitz of Surprise, AZ, Class of January 1954, died on January 25, 2021. He was preceded in death by his brother Robert Galitz, Class of January 1950.

Paul Louis Gerhardt of Sarasota, FL, Class of January 1954, died on February 23, 2023. He is survived by his wife Barbara (Peterson) Gerhardt, Class of June 1956.

William Richard Campbell of Seeley Lake, MT, Class of June 1957, died on June 7, 2023.

Diana Louise (Scholl) Perham of Chicago, IL, Class of June 1957, died in October 2012. She was survived by her sisters Sandra (Scholl) Steiner, Class of June 1960, and Virginia (Scholl) Linowiecki, Class of June 1967, and her brother Edward Scholl, Class of January 1963.

Kenneth Lee Frizane of Mount Prospect, IL, Class of June 1960, died on May 4, 2023. He was preceded in death by his brother Paul Frizane, Class of June 1967. He is survived by his brothers Daniel Frizane, Class of June 1963.

Michael Clayton Molay, DPM of Des Plaines, IL, Class of June 1960, died on March 18, 2023.

Karen (Kaitis) Johnson of Chicago, IL, Class of June 1962, died in 2023.

Robert Steven Satkiewicz of Lake Villa, IL, Class of June 1962, died on June 7, 2023. He is survived by his wife Marilyn (Romano) Satkiewicz, Class of June 1962.

Lee Arthur Hettinger of Pound, WI, Class of June 1964, died on December 9, 2021.

John Allen Marchak of Des Plaines, IL, Class of June 1964, died in December 2022.

Louise Emilie (Johannsen) Menter of Deerfield, IL, Class of June 1964, died on May 17, 2023. She is survived by her sister Joyce (Johannsen) Stackhouse, Class of June 1960.

Gregory Alan Freeman of Merrillville, IL, Class of January 1967, died on January 15, 2009.

Virginia Doris (Scholl) Linowiecki of Chicago, IL, Class of June 1967, died on May 12, 2023. She was preceded in death by her sister Diana (Scholl) Perham, class of June 1957. She is survived by her sister Sandra (Scholl) Steiner, Class of June 1960, and her brother Edward Scholl, Class of January 1963.

Robert Joseph Pary of Springfield, IL, Class of 1969, died on May 21, 2023.






Patrick Allen Thornton of Park Ridge, IL, Class of 1969, died on June 3, 2023. He is survived by his sisters Judy (Thornton) Lewis, Class of June 1959, Sherron (Thornton) Lamka, Class of June 1961, and Blanche (Thornton) Pistorio, Class of 1975.

Noel Eugene Lucas of Boerne, TX, Class of 1970, died on June 21, 2023.

Sandra Lynn Olsen of Hoffman Estates, IL, Class of 1970, died on December 22, 2022.

Donna Marie Walker of Racine, WI, Class of 1981, died on May 23, 2023. She is survived by her sisters Carol (Walker) Juszcyk, Class of 1984, and Lee (Walker) Stephenson, 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	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		\$20.00	\$ 3.00	\$
	Bumper Sticker “You Can’t Hide That Eagle Pride”	----	Temporarily Out of Stock	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.00	\$
	T-Shirt , gray cotton printed with TAA logo	Medium		\$10.00	\$ 4.00	\$
		Large		\$14.00	\$ 4.00	\$
		X- Large		\$14.00	\$ 4.00	\$
		XX- Large		\$15.00	\$ 5.00	\$
		XXX- Large		\$15.00	\$ 6.00	\$
	Fleece Jacket with embroidered Taft Alumni logo	Medium		\$55.00	\$ 8.00	\$
		Large		\$55.00	\$ 8.00	\$
		X- Large	Temporarily Out of Stock	\$55.00	\$ 8.00	\$
		XX- Large		\$55.00	\$ 8.00	\$
Total Remitted						\$
Please use a separate order form for separate addresses.						
Print Name:		Grad Month/Year:				
Address:						
City/State/ZIP:		Phone: ()				
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 or 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 has not changed** ☐ **Do not publish my information in Class Notes**

*First Name (PRINT CLEARLY)	* Last Name at Graduation	* Current Last Name (if different)	
*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? _____		
Additional Education, Degrees, Military Service, Years			
Occupation	Retired? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Semi	Elementary School Graduated From	
Other news you'd like to share?			

About Your Taft Graduate Spouse

*First Name	* Last Name at Graduation	* Current Last Name (if different)	
Primary Phone	Email Address		List in Email Directory? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
*Month/Year Spouse Graduated	Higher Education, Degrees, Military Service, Years		
Additional Education, Degrees, Military Service, Years			
Occupation	Retired <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Semi	Elementary School Graduated From	
Other news you'd like to share?			

Your Membership Choices

Send Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/> Online <input type="checkbox"/> By mail <input type="checkbox"/> Both online and by mail	TAA Use Only
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 (2-year individual) <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 (2-year Taft alumni couples) <input type="checkbox"/> Donation \$ _____ Total Remitted \$ _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mail a check <input type="checkbox"/> Online bill-pay through your bank: Note your graduation name and year in the comments Remit to Taft Alumni Association, 6530 W Bryn Mawr Ave, Chicago, IL 60631-3185	

Taft Alumni Association Board of Directors

Anne Lunde	1969	President, Historian	Art Kay	1961	Director
John Prochaska	1961	Vice President, Treasurer	Jim Kepner	1961	Director
Wayne Schimpff	1959	Second Vice President	Judy Jacobsen	1970	Director
Marybethe (Hirth) Kelly	1978	Secretary	Paul Madsen	1971	Director
Paulette (Zemaitis) English	1967	Editor	Ryan Glowacz	2006	Director, Faculty Liaison
Kevin Krieger	1973	Webmaster			

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 eagleemail39@gmail.com

TAFT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
6530 W. BRYN MAWR AVE.
CHICAGO IL 60631

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit NO. 215
Des Plaines, IL

