

Alumni Notes

Keep in Touch

Lab Notes allows alumni to connect with Lab and fellow classmates. Please contact your class representative or the Office of Alumni Relations and Development (ARD) with any updates about yourself or friends who attended Lab. If your graduation year is without a representative, please consider volunteering to serve in this fun and important role. Please email notes, information, or questions to labnotes@ucls.uchicago.edu. Please note that ARD reserves the right to determine what is included in the publication.

30s & 40s

Classes of 1940–43*

1944 Class Representative

RuthAnn Johnson Frazier
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1945 Class Representatives

Bud Gibbs
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Susie Stein
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1946 Class Representative

Judy Daskal
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Mitchell Heller writes, “Kirsten Flagstad was not the only diva knitter, as mentioned by Larry Wolf in his review of Pierpaolo Polzonetti’s *Feasting and Fasting* in *Opera*. In 1971, WFMT-FM, a Chicago fine arts radio station, presented the very first stereo broadcast from Chicago’s Lyric Opera: *Semiramide*, starring Joan Sutherland, Marilyn Horne, and conducted by Richard Bonyngé. I was the engineering-producer of that broadcast, which earned several awards. Dame Joan Sutherland was busily knitting away backstage during rehearsal breaks. She told me it was a sweater for her husband,

Richard Bonyngé.”

Class of 1947*

Class of 1948*

1949 Class Representative

Ernest J. Dunston
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505-466-4346

Robert Lichtman writes that the third book in his late-career spurt as a lawyer-historian—*Barred by Congress: How a Mormon, a Socialist, and an African American Elected by the People Were Excluded from Office* (University Press of Kansas, 2022)—was released in January.

50s

Class of 1950*

1951 Class Representative

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Marilyn Feitler Greenberg reports from southeast Florida, Palm Beach Gardens, where she and husband Burt have lived for 32 years. Burt is still practicing cardiology, and they both are well. Marilyn volunteers doing animal rescue and loves it. She is saddened by the loss of her older son two years ago but enjoys visits with her daughter and other son, grandkids, and step-grandkids.

Charlie Knight writes, “Lots of excitement here last week with that remarkable fire. Really bad luck to have such a strong wind at the

same time as a severe drought. The powers that be may never be able to figure out how it got started. Several possibilities: one that it may have been caused by a long-time, underground coal mine fire under Marshall that worked its way to the surface. I remember decades ago (we came to Boulder in 1962) smelling coal smoke reportedly from that fire when the wind was from the right quarter. Colorado has many such fires that are evidently impossible to put out, and are known sometimes to emerge at the surface.

I live with my faithful cat, and, being emeritus at NCAR, still have a small laboratory where I’m pursuing some interesting questions about ice crystal growth. Karyn and I are planning a road trip to Death Valley next month and a couple of small-boat cruises later in the year: Scotland and the Faroe Islands with Viking, and then later, the Svalbard archipelago with Hurtigruten—pretty pretty far off the beaten track. I’ve seen polar bears in the wild, and lots of whales—snorkeling with them, even—but never walrus, yet. I’m slowly losing my sense of balance, I think partly psychological, losing confidence in what used to be automatic, and (the doc says) mostly due to nerve signals from my feet (lots of tests) getting less sensitive.”

Art Koff continues to post information of interest to seniors, retirees, and people planning their retirement. He still consults with companies interested in reaching older Americans and lives on the near north side with his wife of 50 years and their little Westie, Brie. His posts contain a multitude of useful data for people of our age. If you are on Facebook you can see his posts [here](#).

Nancy Lee Johnson writes, “Ted and I moved from our home in New Britain, CT to Seabury, a life care community, nine years ago. We had not planned to move so soon, but when we saw this free-standing cottage that met our needs so perfectly, we instantly reserved it. It was all at Ted’s initiative and had a lot to do with the die-out of his circle of friends. With me gone three days a week and a lot of outside work to keep our home in shape, he began looking on his

own. We have continued to be enthusiastic about our choice. With two bedrooms and a den, we have plenty of room and accommodate our children and their husbands easily as they drop by en route to business or family destinations. With a cottage, we garden as much as we want (a lot!) but also participate in the Adult Learning Program offered by UConn but presented here.”

She continues, “Next time I will write about my ‘project,’ which I am racing to finish while I still have a fairly accurate memory, at least about the past. I still come to Chicago a couple of times a year, so anyone interested in lunch, let me know at nlj129d@gmail.com. Best to all, and huge thanks to Lynn.”

Stuart Lerman writes, “We’ve been pretty much in situ for the past two years. . . finally had the courage to take a drive to see the kids in Phoenix in March ’21, and went there again (Southwest Air this time) in December. Otherwise, fairly static and content to stay in place until Covid simmers down to a tolerable (for us) level! Thankfully, we’ve remained mobile and vertical, with a few minor (fortunately) glitches, but at this point, NO complaints! Our kids are all doing well: the English professor is starting her second sabbatical (time flies when having fun), and our occupational therapist has retired from clinical gigs; their guys are still full-timers.

“I finished doing the medical consultancy with Social Security before the pandemic, so we were both already ‘prepared’ for the life of relative isolation! Actually, we’re fortunate to have very congenial neighbors and wide open spaces!”

Michael Padnos reports that despite being almost killed in an explosion on his boat, spending five months in the hospital, and losing all his possessions in the fire on his houseboat, he is now back on his electric bike and buzzing around his local town daily and into Paris a couple of times a week. He says, “I’m still plugging away, and in fact I plan in the next few months to publish (on Amazon), three novels that I’ve been working on for some time. The first, which is a book I began almost 30 years ago,

*Classes of 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1947, 1948, 1950

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is the story of a real-estate deal that almost made me rich but which eventually cost me a fortune, the second is a fictionalized story of the woman I moved to France with, and the third is a thriller about the port in which I live, to be called *Murder on the Marné*.

“As these three books are mostly finished—I’m just doing some final polishing—I needed a new project, and a friend who has led a much more conventional life than I suggested that I write an autobiography, which is what I’ve just started. In fact, I’m now working on my Lab School experience, which was in many ways formative for my whole life. To sum it up, I’d say that except for my back I’m in good physical shape and my brain doesn’t seem to have lost too many cells—yet!”

1952 Class Representative

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(L to R) Amy Tate Billingsley, '58, Dewey Jones, '56, Eiichi Fukushima, '57, and Arlena Hester Jackson, '52, at Lynn Small's memorial service.

Eiichi Fukushima writes, “I moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, from Los Alamos almost 37 years ago and worked at a series of research labs, each privately owned, and each smaller than the last. I got hit by a car in 2017 as I bicycled to work resulting in significant loss of short-term memory that forced my retirement from being a researcher. I married Alice during the COVID pandemic in April, 2021 followed by a postponed reception in November with mostly local friends including **Arlena Hester Jackson, '52**, my classmate at LAB. Prior to that, I attended **Lynn Small, '52's** memorial at the end of 2019 with classmates **Amy Tate Billingsley, Dewey Jones**, and Arlena. I attach photos from both

events. Now, Dewey is gone, too. Best wishes to all, still alive, who know/knew me; hope you are doing well.”

1953 Class Representative

Cordelia “Corky” Dahlberg Benedict
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815-677-0093

Dorothy Hess Guyot and Jim, her husband of 61 years, recommend forming your own short story club. Food for thought lies at <https://www.classicshorts.com>

1954 Class Representative

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Class of 1955*

Class of 1956*

1957 Class Representative

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1958 Class Representative

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Allen Musikantow writes, “**Dan Eby** and **Murray Dry** are the last of my class to turn 80. **Bob Goldberg, Cephus Butler**, and I made a very bad rendition of Sh-Boom and sent it to Dan. February 6 is a four-day annual reunion with **Murray Dry, Eliot Finkel, Barry**, and **Lee Preston** in LA. I spoke recently with **Ira Fistel** who is well and traveling. Please contact me with any news. My new email is allenmusikantow@gmail.com.”

Class of 1959*

60s

1960 Class Representative

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L to R: Bob Metcalf, '60, Mary Beth Metcalf, Ellen Leavitt, '60, and Phil Leavitt, '60.

Ellen Leavitt writes, “Thanksgiving holiday, we spent a week with Phil’s brother, **Richard, '63**, and family and then connected with two classmates in the northern CA area. First we visited **Bob and Mary Beth Metcalf** in Sacramento. I had the best albondigas soup I’ve ever had at a local restaurant. We spent the night and a good part of the next day, visiting with them and getting to know Mary Beth; we enjoyed their hospitality so much they could hardly get rid of us. Bob, a retired microbiologist, and Mary Beth, a retired pediatrician, are now heavily involved with their clean water project in Kenya. Hearing about their commitment and hard work to help African communities with this basic need was inspiring.

The next night we enjoyed an Ethiopian dinner and spent the night with **Shane and Sally Spiegel Weare**, both working artists. In the morning Ellen got a tour of Shane’s home studio and some of the Covid-inspired work he is producing. Then the four of us were able to fit a large heavy table, that looked impossibly awkward, into their vehicle for transport up to their canyon studio-home. I’d like to think that our Lab-educated brains were utilized in assessing the problem and figuring out what needed to be done to solve it. It also helped that we pressed a passing jogger into contributing some momentary extra muscle-power.”

Sophia Hall writes, “I always think of the wonderful preparation for life that the Lab School gave me. Presently I am a Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois. This position has provided me an opportunity to help people through their disputes by providing a space for them to peacefully find a resolution of their issues. This process can lead to settlement, or my decisions which can move

them forward. This opportunity still drives me. In the growing discords in our society, our need for the justice system has grown to be even more. Hope to ‘not’ see you in Court, but we are here for you when you need us.”

1961 Class Representative

James Orr
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Kathryn Posin writes, “I was quite excited about [this review](#) of my company’s performance at the Gene Frankel Theater next door. It says we pay tribute to Bond street and its history and energy. Thank you for your valuable time and interest.”

Steve Riskind writes, “Last year I completed a photography book about four artisan businesses located in and around the old industrial city, Paterson, New Jersey. Along with photographs of the skilled artisans at each business, I wrote a short introduction telling the story of the business. Mary’s and my friend, the economic historian Phil Scranton, wrote an overview for the book. I was honored earlier this year when Kirkus Reviews gave my book *art | commerce* a [starred review](#). And the news I’d like to share today is that Kirkus just named my book one of the 100 best independently published books of 2021. *art | commerce* is the product of eight years of work. Kirkus is known for tough reviews, and I’m excited that they have chosen to honor my book.

Mary and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you happy holidays and a wonderful new year.”

Class of 1962*

1963 Class Representative

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1964 Class Representative

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Class of 1965*

*Classes of 1955, 1956, 1959, 1965

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Class of 1966*

Stewart Herman self-published the letters his father wrote home during a 1939 trip. The six-week adventure involved traveling up through the Baltics, Finland, Lapland, and Norway by train, bus, and boat—with the major stop being Spitzbergen (Svalbard). The book is available on Amazon under the title *Going to Extremes: Berlin to the Arctic, 1939*. Further volumes of Berlin letters are planned—of his time as pastor of the American Church in Berlin and his service in the US Embassy until Hitler declared war on the US in December, 1941.

1967 Class Representative

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1968 Class Representative

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1969 Class Representative

Kelley Anderson
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Sonya Baehr writes, “Happy 2022 to the members of the Class of 1969! When the pandemic hit in March of 2020, my husband and I managed to get out of New York City and spent some months living in our daughter’s basement in Oakland, CA, as we took care of her two preschool-aged sons, keeping them safe and allowing her and her husband to work from home. As time went on, it became clear that things weren’t getting better, and we moved into a rental. A few months later we bought a home in Berkeley, as we continued our labor of love as preschool teachers. Meanwhile, we started writing a musical with our daughter, inspired by her experiences as a federal prosecutor: *IN JUSTICE*. Hopefully, you will hear more about this work when things begin to open up this spring. We are now back and forth between Brooklyn and Berkeley, trying to continue with performing arts activities as best we can under the circumstances, as well as returning

to teach in our family preschool, where we now find ourselves. Looking forward with optimism and thanks for the anchor of family in these challenging and topsy-turvy times! Best wishes to all!”

Professor **George Lewis** has been elected to the Akademie der Künste, Berlin. Founded in 1696, the ADK is one of the oldest cultural institutes in Europe. It is an international community of artists and has a current total of more than 396 members in its six sections (Visual Arts, Architecture, Music, Literature, Performing Arts, and Film and Media Arts).

70s

1970 Class Representative

Hannah Banks
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Bill Green writes, “I’m doing the stereotypical retired-guy genealogical projects as well as continuing my archeology writing. I was honored to receive the Distinguished Career Award from the Midwest Archeological Conference in October 2021.”

1971 Class Representative

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1972 Class Representative

Colin Smith
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1973 Class Representative

Kevin Spicer
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Amy Bernstein writes, “In the last ten years I have worked to transform myself from an actor into a fiction writer. I have found this new work very satisfying as I gradually became better at it and started to get my stories published. I am working on a full-length project

now, to which I have so far had satisfying responses. Meanwhile, of course, the last two years have been taken up by the plague. I was forced to stop teaching and, like everybody, am going stir crazy! Volunteering online with Common Cause searching the internet for disinformation. My husband is back to teaching in person at his university. This makes us all very nervous but trying to teach acting in masks has been almost impossible so... My daughters are all grown up. Luckily they both have jobs. Both are working at fundraising for good causes. Actually, the older one is now working for Harvard...is that a good cause? Waiting with not-too-much patience for grandchildren. We live in Worcester, MA now. Still spending every summer in Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. I hope that by the time of our 50th reunion (who can believe that?) we will be over all this and be able to gather.”

1974 Class Representative

Dan Kohrman
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202-966-2445

Colin Hamilton Sacks writes, “I still teach psychology at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, California. I have also started teaching guitar, bass, and piano lessons at a local Guitar Center. I enjoy passing music on to the next generation.”

1975 Class Representative

Goddess Simmons Drew
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1976 Class Representative

Stuart Field
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Class of 1977*

Rachel Duffy writes, “I’ve just begun my final semester teaching high school (English and Humanities). I believe I’ve taught for 36 years—finishing my 29th in my local high school in Morrisville, Vermont where I’ve lived since

1984. My husband, Duffy, and I are looking forward to traveling after spending most of the summer in



Leah Taylor, '78, and her niece in Maui

Vermont and, most likely, foliage. We’d like to spend time with our daughters in LA and Montana and visit other people here and there. Today is brilliant though nippy (-15.5° earlier this morning). But it’s warmed to +8.1°, and in a little while we’ll meet friends for an afternoon cross-country adventure in Vermont’s majestic Northeast Kingdom. I’d like to send a shout out to U-High’s 1977 Facebook group (which includes a few older and younger participants). I’m grateful to have this form of communication with you throughout the years!”

1978 Class Representative

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Leah Taylor writes, “Hi class of ’78, what a challenging time the past few years have been! Taking time to relax is so important. The highlight of last year was going to Maui with my niece.”

1979 Class Representatives

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Jessica DeGroot
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*Classes of 1966, 1977

Interested in volunteering to serve as your class representative? Email the Alumni Relations and Development Office at labnotes@ucls.uchicago.edu.

80s

1980 Class Representative

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1981 Class Representative

Paul Robertson
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1982 Class Representative

Eliza Tyksinski
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608-334-2795

David Reid writes, “In October I had the distinct pleasure of attending an unveiling of a portrait of **Earl B. Dickerson** at the University of Chicago Law School, honoring him as the first Black alumnus of the institution. Earl B. Dickerson was also the first African American student at the Lab School in the early twentieth century. His life was filled with exemplary achievements, including serving as an officer in the first world war, being elected alderman, and winning the landmark case *Hansberry V. Lee* which struck down restrictive covenants in the sale of real estate to minorities. Mr. Dickerson’s grandson, **Josh Cohen**, was a classmate of mine at Lab, and we often speak about his life and how he has affected so many that have followed. I truly hope the Lab School will also find a way to honor its first African American student with a fitting tribute to an alum who has inspired so many students that have followed in his footsteps.”

Tiffney Kitawaki writes, “Hi everyone!! As some of you know, I lived in Kyoto, Japan for a long time (30 years), where I got married and raised our 3 children: Emi (33), Yuji (30), and Shinji (29). I was also an English teacher there. In 2010, I moved back to Chicago with Shinji, where most of my family lives, so he could finish high school. After graduating, he attended Columbia College for two years, which he loved!

In Chicago I was able to develop my own tutoring & translation company. I was teaching English to Japanese families in the area, and helping the moms by going with them to parent-teacher meetings and doctors appointments to translate for them, and helping them navigate life in the US in general.

In 2014 Shinji was diagnosed with a mental illness, and we ended up moving to Long Beach, California in 2019, where Emi and Yuji live, to be closer to them and because it seemed to have better mental health care. They have a system called IHSS or In-Home Supportive Services that pays family members to be the caregiver of their loved ones with disabilities, which is my main job now. I am also very active with NAMI or the National Alliance for Mental Illness. Their support groups have pulled me through and helped me navigate this uncharted territory.

I also continue to teach some English lessons on Zoom now which is really fun because my students live all over the place. Another side job I started doing is dog walking with the company called Wag. I love dogs but am not able to have one of my own, so it was the perfect solution, and it also helped me feel like a part of the community. And a temporary job that I did that also helped me become familiar with Long Beach neighborhoods and surrounding areas was working for the Census—a job I never thought I would do—but it turned out to be quite an interesting and educational experience.

I love life in California, especially the weather and being close to the beach (of course!). I was getting tired of the Chicago winters. I am grateful that we were able to make the move (unknowingly) before the pandemic. It has made a huge difference to be able to be close to my other kids too, who I wouldn't get to see as much because of Covid if I were still in Chicago. Feel free to contact me any time! I'd love to hear from you!

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Thank you! Wishing you all the best in 2022!”

1983 Class Representative

Cheryl Buckingham
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1984 Class Representative

Susan Mack Taple
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Susan Mack Taple, '84, and Jack McDonald, '84

Susan Mack Taple got together with **Jack McDonald, '84** in Frederick, Maryland in December.

1985 Class Representative

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1986 Class Representative

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1987 Class Representative

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Class of 1988*

1989 Class Representative

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90s

1990 Class Representatives

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1991 Class Representative

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1992 Class Representative

Shrunali Rai
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1993 Class Representative

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Alan Heymann is the author of *Don't Just Have the Soup: 52 Analogies for Leadership, Coaching and Life*, a collection of analogies from his executive coaching practice. Learn more at thesoupbook.com.

1994 Class Representative

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1995 Class Representative

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1996 Class Representatives

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1997 Class Representative

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Class of 1998*

1999 Class Representative

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00s

2000 Class Representative

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2001 Class Representative

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*Classes of 1988, 1998

Interested in volunteering to serve as your class representative? Email the Alumni Relations and Development Office at labnotes@ucls.uchicago.edu.

Annie Padrid writes, “My name is Annie Padrid Jordan, and I’m an ’01 alum (my daughter is in N3). I opened a gym in Hyde Park in 2012, have expanded 3 times since, and we were just voted the #6 gym in Chicago by *Time Out Chicago* magazine! We are a 2- hour facility, offering memberships, training, classes, massage therapy, and aesthetician services. Visit us at fitthespace.com”

Class of 2002*

2003 Class Representative

John Oxtoby
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Andrea Ellis was honored to be named to *Crain's 40 Under 40* list this past November.

2004 Class Representative

Marcelo Pappas
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Darja Djordjevic ’04 holds an MD PhD from Harvard Medical School and Department of Anthropology, a Master 2 from *École normale supérieure and École des hautes études en sciences sociales*, Paris, France, and an AB from Harvard College. Her doctoral research and dissertation, which she completed under the guidance of Professors Arthur Kleinman, Paul Farmer, Jean Comaroff, and John Comaroff, focused on public oncology infrastructure in Rwanda, in which she has been involved since summer 2010. She received extensive clinical training in hematology and oncology at Harvard’s hospitals, Hôpital Tenon in Paris, and Butaro Cancer Center of Excellence/Butaro Hospital in Rwanda. She also trained in clinical psychiatry at Yale. Her initial investigation and analysis in Burera District coincided with the nation’s first prevention campaigns, which focused on breast and cervical cancer. During residency at Yale, she contributed to an ongoing trial comparing interventions for opioid use disorder in pregnant women. Women’s health has been at the core of Darja’s work since college. Her AB and Master 2 research projects as a student-activist-advocate both focused on African refugee women’s health and political asylum rights in France, even involved lobbying the French government. Her current scholarly projects

include a book manuscript, *The Cancer War(d): Onco-Nationhood in Post-Genocide Rwanda*, based on research conducted from 2010 through the present. She also serves as Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Global Health Equity in Rwanda, Research Associate at the Wits Institute of Social and Economic Research (WiSER) at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, and Fellow at Brainstorm: The Stanford Lab for Mental Health Innovation. Her publications have appeared in *BioSocieties*, *Journal of Global Oncology*, and *Medicine Anthropology Theory*.

2005 Class Representative

Mark Berberian
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Class of 2006*

Lindsay Cook worked closely with the author and illustrator of a [multi-page spread](#) that appeared in the February 2022 issue of *National Geographic* about the history, medieval construction, and current restoration of the Gothic cathedral Notre-Dame of Paris.

2007 Class Representative

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2008 Class Representative

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2009 Class Representative

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10s

Class of 2010*

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2013 Class Representatives

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2014 Class Representatives

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Boluwatife (Bolu) Johnson
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2015 Class Representative

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2016 Class Representative

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2017 Class Representative

Jonathan Lipman
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Class of 2018*

2019 Class Representative

Alex Pietraszek
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Class of 2020*

*Classes of 2002, 2006, 2010, 2018, 2020

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In Remembrance: *Alumni Obituaries*



Bud Beyer, '57, is the man I deeply loved for 45 years. Born in Chicago on January 29, 1940, he passed away on October 8, 2018. He is a Professor Emeritus of Northwestern University's School of Communication, serving in the Theater Department as Head of Acting and Chair, and as Director of the Northwestern Mime Company during his 34 years of teaching. He has worked with musicians and orchestras for over 35 years, focused on emotional connection with musicians in relation to their work, to themselves, to each other, to their composers, and always, to their audiences. Using the art of music as its platform, his book, *Completing the Circle*, was written to share these ideas about the performing arts and as an inspiration to all artists seeking to complete the great circle of communication that ebbs and flows in concert halls and theaters, and indeed, in any empty space.

He loved life, he loved the human spirit, and he was honored and humbled by those who shared his voice into their life-work, both in theater and in [music](#). As Verne, of mime and theater, said of Bud, "Paths leading to paths. Life intensely lived and calling for others to live their lives as intensely and fully." He loved being Godfather to dearest Rose Beth, and he loved the role of Grandpa Bud for little Carson and Drew. Named River Wind by one of his Norwegian soul mates, Hilde, we most gratefully thank all his beloved musician-friends, who truly gave him some of the best years of our lives. We also thank his doctors, led by Dr. Magrisso, who encircled Bud with support and care through the years. Bud's love of the arts was equaled only by his love for the wilderness of the Superior National Forest. In

lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center on Saganaga Lake, celebrating the area's cultural and natural history. Beautifully, Bud's voice can be heard as the narrator of Gunflint Trail Pioneers, one of the exhibits at the Chik Wauk Museum (28 Moose Pond Drive; Grand Marais, MN 55604; 218-388-9915).

I leave you with a quote by Robert Edmond Jones, the words Bud would speak at the close of every presentation and performance. For Bud, these words held the essence of life.

"I think of a tale by Olaf Stapledon, *Last and First Men*. It begins in the manner of the science fiction romances one reads in *Astounding Stories*, but then it grows and grows and it ends in speculations almost too vast to comprehend. Mr. Stapledon traces the progress of mankind through eons of triumph and despair. At last, untold billions of years hence, when the universe is darkening down to its final end, a great teacher sums up the meaning of human life. 'It was like a melody,' he says.

That is our story. We are here for a little while between mystery and mystery. We live for a little time on this earth that is so fair. Could we, here, protean as we are; could we sense for a brief moment the melody of our being? And having sensed it could we impart it to our fellow men? Follow this dream into the light. The road is long but the rewards at the end are greater than you know. Take with you as you go the words of Plato:

'For those who have once set foot upon the upward pilgrimage do not go down again to darkness and to journey beneath the earth, but they live in light, always.'
Godspeed to you all,
Patti Beyer

Garrett Lowell Vander Veer, '50, of Jacksonville, FL, died November 14, 2021. A family gathering was held on November 19, 2021 at Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home.

Bruce Klafter '72, passed away at home surrounded by his family after an 18-month battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 64. Bruce Samuel Klafter was born

on December 12, 1955, in Chicago, Illinois. He grew up in an apartment in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago where he lived with his parents Herman and Bernice, his older brother Cary, his younger sister Andrea, his grandparents, and his uncle. Summers were spent with his family traveling across the country on roadtrips.

After graduating from University High School in 1972, Bruce attended Tufts University, graduating in 1976 with a degree in city planning. After working as a paralegal back home in Chicago gave him a taste for the law, Bruce's brother Cary convinced him to pursue his legal degree at UC Davis. Bruce received his Juris Doctor from Davis in 1980, and chose to move permanently to the Bay Area, in part because of his appreciation for the lack of freezing-cold winters. Bruce's professional career began with a focus on environmental law, first at the California Attorney General's office and then at the law firm Orrick. After leaving Orrick for Applied Materials and later Flextronics, he began to transition away from the law and into the fields of environmental health and safety, and then sustainability, which would become the focus for the rest of his career.

Bruce understood that the move towards a more sustainable and equitable future for all required the participation and cooperation of the business world. His colleagues appreciated his calm demeanor and his ability to focus on the problems that really mattered and work toward consensus and real results. He was instrumental in the development of multiple professional organizations, including the Global Reporting Initiative Sustainability Standards Board, the Sustainable Accounting Standards Board Advisory Group, the FMC Sustainability Council, Acterra, and the Responsible Business Alliance where he served as vice-chairman and board member. Bruce also believed in the importance of mentoring the next generation of leaders in the sustainability field, serving as one of the first experts-in-residence at the Presidio Graduate School. Even in his final weeks, Bruce continued to respond to requests for advice and counsel.

Bruce was an avid player of tennis, another passion he continued to pursue even as he underwent chemotherapy last year and into early 2020. He collected toy robots and pursued photography as a creative outlet. He loved to travel and did so widely, both for work and with his family. He enjoyed action films, science fiction and detective novels, and a fresh slice of cheese toast on sourdough bread. He was a loving husband and proud father and never missed an opportunity to express those feelings. His family hopes he understood how deeply he has always been loved in return. He fought bravely and with dignity against his cancer diagnosis until the very end. His insight, his strength, and his caring presence will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Bruce is survived by his wife of 34 years, Michelle; children Adam and Lauren White (Scott); brother Cary and sister Andrea Klafter-Rakita (Bob); and his extended family of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

The family is hoping to hold an in-person memorial in about a year's time, depending on restrictions, to further honor Bruce's memory. Donations may be made to Bruce's preferred charity, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCan).

James Spear, '60, died November 27, 2021, in Glendale, AZ of cancer. Jim attended Indiana University, where he was a roommate and fraternity brother of **Douglas Cohen, '60**. He and Doug met in 8th grade and remained close friends until his death. He got his law degree from Kent College of Law, then worked as an attorney and CPA in Chicago and then Phoenix, AZ. Jim was an avid bridge player and played socially for many years. He often paired with classmate **Nancy DeLee Frank, '60**. Jim and his wife Enid were world travelers, taking many cruises and tours, often with friends or grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his brother **Scott, '63**, and is survived by his wife Enid, five children, and ten grandchildren.