30s & 40s
Classes of 1940–43*

1944 Class Representative
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1945 Class Representatives
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Joan Irwin Walker writes, “I wonder how many of the class of 1945 remain in the land of the living. Were we the 15 and 16 year olds who graduated from 10th grade after completing four years of high school beginning in 7th grade and went on to the four-year college as part of Robert Hutchins’ experiment. It is sad that his idea was not accepted by the traditional scholastic community, because we had an amazing education. I stayed for two years at the College, then followed in the footsteps of my older siblings and parents to the University of Toronto. Although I was a year younger than my classmates in Toronto who had had five years of traditional high school, I was much better prepared for university.

I was sorry to learn of the death of my childhood best friend and classmate at Lab, Betty Wright Rose, when I was not able to reach her on her birthday in May. She had died peacefully in February in her apartment at the seniors’ complex in New Jersey where she had lived for many years. We became friends when my family moved to Harper Avenue in 1933, a few doors down the street from the Wrights. I was three and Betty was four. We were in the same class throughout the Lab School. Even though our paths separated in later years we remained in touch. I feel privileged to have had a friend for 88 years with whom I could share memories. We were two of a large group of University of Chicago faculty children who attended Lab during the depression and the years of World War Two. One of the perks for faculty at that time when salaries were low was reduced tuition for their children at Lab. I remember several faculty families on Harper Avenue. Betty’s dad was Sewall Wright, a famous geneticist. My dad, William Andrew Irwin, was a Biblical scholar and taught at the Divinity School, The Chicago Theological Seminary, and the Oriental Institute. I also remember John Wilson, an Egyptologist at the Oriental Institute, and his family, and Enest Chave, whose daughter Margaret later worked for University of Chicago and became provost. All five Irwin children graduated from Lab: Bob ’37, Mary ’39, Ruth ’41, me ’45, and Susan ’49. Susan and I are the only ones still living. Susan lives in Tucson. I married a Canadian and have lived happily in Barrie, Ontario for many years. I returned to Lab several times for class reunions over the years, the last being our 65th in 2010 and enjoyed reconnecting with classmates, Bud Gibbs, Nancy Hensel, Susie Stein, and Jean Mayer to name a few. I am 91 now and living in a retirement residence. I feel fortunate to still be active in mind and body. My daughter with whom I lived for over 30 years died of cancer in 2018. I have one remaining child, a son, his wife, and two grown grandchildren, all of whom I adore and who keep in close touch. My siblings all had more children than I did, giving me a large extended family who live across the U.S., Canada, and the world. I thank the pandemic for bringing me Zoom and the ability to keep in closer touch with family and friends than ever before. Even while locked down, I attended concerts, lectures, family get-togethers, a gala, and a wedding. It is certainly a good time in history to be an old person!"

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1948* Class of 1948*

1949 Class Representative
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50s
Class of 1950*

Berenice Fisher writes, "Together with my life-partner Linda Marks (BA from the University of Chicago) I will be moving soon from our Brooklyn home to a continuing care community in Sarasota, Florida. I would be happy to hear from folks who attended the Lab School during my time there. I entered first grade around 1942 and stayed until about 1950."

1951 Class Representative
Lynn Manaster Alperin
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Lynn Manaster Alperin writes, "Who celebrates the 70th anniversary of their graduation from high school? It turns out that on May 22, 2021, our class may have set a record. We must be grateful to Zoom for making it possible for 16 members of our class, from Paris, Florida, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Texas, Colorado, Indiana, and of course Chicago, to come together virtually. The U-High graduates who attended the gathering were Bob Abrams, Catherine Allison Marshall, Martin Dillard, Judy Friedman Meyers, Art Koff, Joe Kreines, Nancy Lee Johnson, Stuart Lerman, Lynn Manaster Alperin, Gail Meyer Elden, Michael Padnos, Ben Ravid, Shirley Ricketts Winer, David Terman, and Marilyn Vickman Lichtman. Several other former classmates from earlier Lab School days were Marilyn Feitler Greenberg, Phil Lyons, and Bobbe Press Wolf who participated also in the reunion.

The school’s Heather Tamburo deserves our deep appreciation for her contributions to the reunion’s success. When we signed off after more than two hours, several classmates were already clamoring for another reunion next year. We’ll have to see about that.

Meanwhile, please keep the news coming and send me your most recent contact information if you make any changes."

*Classes of 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1948, 1950
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reunion in early October. While not as long or as personal in some ways as our previous in-person reunions, many of us came who might not have been willing or able to come to a celebration in Chicago. Connections from long ago were reestablished and strengthened. We also realized how fortunate we were to have been together at the Lab school, both because of the friendships we made and the life-long traits so many of us developed. Two notable examples for me are curiosity—both deep and broad—and caring about and commitment to others. The 27 class members who attended the reunion came from time zones ranging from England to the West Coast. Since this was our first reunion in seven years, 28 of us contributed to a “Memory Book,” giving us a chance to share contact information and life experiences before and after the reunion itself. I hope that any class members we were not able to reach or who did not respond to our invitation will get in touch with me or other classmates so that we won’t miss them at our next reunion.

Helen Hughes Brock writes, “Old archaeologists never stop, they just get older. It must be curiosity and suspense that make archaeologists have a high life expectancy—you never know what the soil may reveal tomorrow morning. I am still writing articles on Greek archaeology, publishing as Hughes-Brock. With interesting work to do at home, with good health, church life, a demanding cat, garden, and a friendly street, my husband and I during this strange time have fared so much better than so many people that we feel almost guilty. I was sad to see on the internet that Ilana Porte (D’Ancona) died a few years ago. She was at Lab 6th-9th grade, then moved to Boston. We were close friends in touch until the 1980s. Miss Flickinger told my parents that Helen Hughes and Ilana D’Ancona were the biggest gigglers she had ever known.”

Class of 1955*
Class of 1956*

Nemen Taylor writes, “I retired in 2006 after a 45-year career of accounting and income taxes. My wife of 55 years Carol and I moved from Park Ridge, Illinois to a retirement community in Appleton, Wisconsin 10 years ago where I am in my 16th year as a volunteer income tax preparer for AARP. I still talk weekly to two of my old U-High friends Andy Beretvas and Jerry Coates.

Andy suffered a serious stroke last year and is confined to his long-time home in Woodridge, Illinois. Jerry was my bicycling buddy for many years, first in Chicagoland and later around Fennville, Michigan where he moved 20 years ago. We finally gave up biking together four years ago when the drive to Fennville became too much for me.”

Jerry Woolpy writes, “I’m having a good life in retirement in Northern Wisconsin. I enjoy cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in the winter, and rowing and paddle boarding in the summer. Additionally, I review books and write articles, as well as clip news and other publications for my friends.”

Class of 1958*

Allen Musikantow writes, “Every three weeks Murray Dry, Eliot Finkel, Barry Preston, and I have a Zoom call. We plan to meet in early January for our semi-annual mini reunion.”

Dan Eby will celebrate his 80th on September 28. “He and his son Curtis share the same birth date. Cephus Butler and I talk often and hope to meet in the last fall for lunch. Jean Crawford also stays in touch and meets my wife and me for lunch when she visits her Florida home. Please contact me with any news or to just catch up. allennmusikantow@gmail.com or 352-671-1919.”

Class of 1959*

*Classes of 1955, 1956, 1959

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Rick Schmidt writes, “Hope all of us 60-year celebrants have been staying safe from COV! As I mentioned in the last issue of Notes, a documentary on myself, my movies, and books, is in the works. What’s presented will include my Penguin book, Feature Filmmaking at Used-Car Prices, and the numerous filmmakers like Kevin Smith and Vin Diesel who used it to begin their careers. Also movies I wrote and directed will be discussed, including Showboat 1988 - The Remake (which premiered at Gene Siskel Film Center), Chetzenokt’s Curse-Dogme#10, and many others, with interviews of stars and collaborators who helped in their creation. My son Morgan Schmidt-Feng is the doc’s writer/director, and he’s co-producing with my daughter, Heather Schmidt Feng Yau, who has jumped from her 20+ years at Pixar Studios to Skydance Animation in L.A. She recently produced their first animated movie, Blush, by filmmaker Joe Mateo, that’s now available at AppleTV+. So my dear and talented family production is finally happening.

Much of the documentary’s material—stories I’ll cover about growing up in 1950s Chicago and California, delving into all-budget movie-making at FCA art school in Oakland, CA—will be culled from my 2017 memoir, Twelve Dead Frogs and Other Stories. Back cover notes explain, “This is [Schmidt’s] spiritual journey, from South Side Chicago to art school, Sundance, and beyond.” Up next, the documentary’s film crew are soon taking me on the road (Roadtrip!) to Death Valley and beyond, so I can relive some of my hitchhiking adventures for the camera. I’ll be the old guy standing by the highway, mask on, thumb out (will anyone actually stop?), wondering what happened to the promise of the 1960s Woodstock nation.”

Class of 1962*

1963 Class Representative
David Stameshkin
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My Lab experience was mostly hard, back in February of 2020, before Covid really struck the US and I got married just a week or so north to Winnetka to be in the Fredericksburg area. Belinda and I started up a new business. Leaving the slow pace of the South, coming to Hyde Park, and adapting to an urban setting was all very new, unsettling, and exciting to me.

My dad suggested I take the entrance exam for Lab even though his anticipated ‘plan B’ was to move north to Winnetka to be in the New Trier school district or if or when I failed to get in at Lab as he fully expected. To my dad’s surprise (and mine) I passed the test, so we settled in Hyde Park right across the street from Lab: 5757 Kenwood.

In my first summer in Hyde Park, I talked my way into running the chair rental concession at the Court Theater productions when plays and concerts were still held in the courtyard of Mandel Hall. Everyone thought I was a UC undergrad and I never let on I was just a high school student. I rented lawn chairs to the theatergoers for 50 cents and got to keep half as long as I stowed them away at the end of the evening, so this was both a paying job as well as my way to meet people. I even acted occasionally in some of the Shakespeare productions in bit parts. The after-parties were where I learned to drink and get stoned, a habit that was my demise when I went away to college.

My Lab experience was mostly positive although I never found my footing among the other students who were mostly just acquaintances to me. They shared a close common history of their years together as a community at Lab and I never felt I was fully a part of the social culture. (Although I’ve come to realize this is probably common for most high school kids.) My few good friends came from my participation in the U-High jazz band where I played baritone sax. Playing jazz and learning to improvisate was my great outlet and joy for me at Lab. When I went to Syracuse I played in jazz and R&B bands on and off campus and did everything but study. At the end of my freshman year, the dean suggested I wasn’t cut out for academics and so I left the security of a college military deferment just when Vietnam was ramping up.

I ended up at the University of Miami in the late 1960s and lived in a garage apartment in Coconut Grove (aka, psychedelic central) when the village was still an eclectic artist community. I finally graduated and then moved with my first wife to San Francisco where we lived on Potrero Hill. I took odd jobs (film production, news writer, sales, security guard). ‘We’ decided that I wasn’t suited for marriage, so we split up.

I went south to L.A. where I took a succession of unfulfilling jobs

*Classes of 1962, 1965

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at small ad agencies. I had hoped there would be something there to inspire me. There wasn’t. So, as a last resort I cashed in my only asset, an insurance policy, and enrolled in the MBA program at UC Irvine. Something clicked. After I graduated the dean asked me if I would like to run the program. Why not?

Since then, I’ve designed and managed graduate management programs (MBAs) as an associate dean at four top-ranked B-schools, earned my doctorate, designed and launched the corporate university at a Fortune 500 aerospace firm, served as the Executive Director of the California Space Authority, and taught a portfolio of management courses as an adjunct at several Southern California universities until my retirement. All this while trying to be a loving and decent father, husband, friend, and cat wrangler.

This past spring my book, *The Cosmos Economy: The industrialization of space*, was published and has received positive reviews. Next spring, my wife, Chihiro, and I will celebrate 35 years together in Whittier, California. Our son, Thomas, has his master’s degree from Tokyo University and lives in Japan.

I often wonder if my life would have been different if I failed the entrance test at Lab. The teachers I had at Lab were far better than any professor I experienced at any of the schools I later attended or managed: more rigorous, more engaged, more focused on teaching, more willing to forgive the missteps of an adolescent making missteps in the back of the class. At Lab, I got a sense of positive possibilities which has sustained me even to this day. Thank you, Lab.

Now, I am planning to dust off my old sax to see if I still have the chops. Wish me luck. Jackgregg001@gmail.com.

**Class of 1966**

Joey Kenig writes, “I’m still working as a semi-itinerant troubadour, performing both solo and with other musicians, in northeastern MN and St Louis, MO. I mostly work in coffee houses and restaurants but occasionally do small concerts. I’m deeply grateful to be able to do this kind of work after making a living in other ways for many years. If you’re interested in what I’m up to, please visit my website.”

Anne-Marie Nicol (Ringer) writes, “Here in the UK (Scotland to be specific) lockdown conditions started easing in April of this year. Finally, we were allowed to travel outside our own 5-mile radius. We could stay in a holiday cottage, but only with members of our own immediate family. We decided to take advantage of these new freedoms and rented a vacation home in a small fishing village called Pittenweem, located on the north side of the Firth of Forth in Fife. We had not travelled anywhere in over a year! While Pittenweem was less than 2 hours from home, it still felt marvellous to see somewhere that we were not familiar with.

The upside of the restrictions on non-family groups getting together was that rents were very low on larger properties. We had a three-storey house directly opposite the harbour. The living room was upstairs (UK 1st floor—US 2nd floor) so we could watch the boats coming and going whatever the weather. We learned that the fishing boats in the area only fished for shellfish (lobsters, crab, langoustine, prawns, etc.) while white fish, mackerel, and sardines were landed much further up the North Sea Coast at Peterhead, Aberdeen, or Ullapool. This was no hardship and we enjoyed lobster caught and cooked on the day as well as the other local seafood.

Following this successful outing we released our caravan from its two-year hibernation and spent three weeks in Staffordshire just north of Stoke-on-Trent where the Wedgwood pottery & others are. Our caravan site had formerly been a camp for Polish soldiers and airmen who stayed on in the UK after the Second World War. There were still some of the concrete huts they had lived in scattered around the edges of the campsite.

Then we got really adventurous and took a UK-only cruise starting in Liverpool and calling in Portsmouth (huge navy base), Portland (where the stone for St Paul’s Cathedral in London comes from, as well as other London edifices built around that time), Belfast (The Titanic Museum), and the Scilly Isles. Unfortunately, we missed out on Falmouth as the seas were too heavy for the ‘tenders’ that were to take us ashore. The swell was only 2 metres which barely registered aboard ship, but would have proved challenging when stepping from ship to tender as you can imagine.

Home again we set off once again with the caravan—this time to Northumberland on the northeast coast of England. We visited Holy Island (Lindisfarne), where the Lindisfarne gospels were illustrated in the 6th century. We marvelled at the many coastal castles built to defend against everyone including the Vikings. The area borders Scotland. ‘The land around the border has been the scene of many battles, but none this century!’ We have thoroughly enjoyed our “staycations”! It has been great fun to learn so much more about the country we live in.

However, now that the world is opening up so much more we are planning to venture away from the UK in November. We are still being ultra cautious as my husband is considered very vulnerable. We have both been double vaxxed and have had our flu vaccines. I get my Covid booster next week and my husband the week after. We cannot hibernate forever!”

**1967 Class Representative**

Barry S. Finkel
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Barry Finkel writes, “The class of 1967 is having a reunion next May. As ‘Class Agent’ let me be the first (or maybe second) to invite all my classmates to attend. Thirteen months ago (on Yom Kippur 2020) I had heart surgery—one bypass and a mitral valve replacement. I am doing fine after the operation.”

**1968 Class Representative**

Richard Dworkin
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Delia Pitts reports that she has published short fiction in three major anthologies this year. Her story, *The Killer*, was included in *Best American Mystery and Suspense 2021*. The series editor called *The Killer*, “a smooth, lean story that feels quintessentially American: a private detective driving a gangster and her toddler daughter from New York to Tampa, a confrontation with a hitman in a small-town diner.” Another story, *Midnight Confidential*, was included in *Midnight Hour*, an anthology of new fiction by leading crime writers of color. A third short story, *Talladega 1925*, was included in the Anthology of Black American Literature issue of *Chicago Quarterly Review*.

In addition to her short fiction, Delia continues to expand her contemporary noir mystery series, featuring a private eye based in Harlem. The most recent book, *Murder My Past*, was published in February 2021.

**1969 Class Representative**

Kelley Anderson
cembranceart.net

Merrit Widen writes, “I am thrilled to announce that I have launched a new venture in the behavioral telehealth space. Clarity Telehealth has assembled a world-class team of psychiatrist executives, healthcare industry leaders, and world-renowned surgeons and physicians. Clarity provides structured mental-health support including assessment and treatment to patients undergoing major surgical procedures. Our first four areas of focus are neurosurgery, cardiovascular, bariatric, and spinal surgeries for chronic pain. We will later also target amputation, major reconstructive surgery, mastectomy, oncological interventions, etc. In just a few months of operations, we have initiated very prestigious partnerships including with several departments of UCSC, Stanford Medical Center, USC Keck Medical Center, Dignity Health, Surgery Partners, and many others. We...”

*Class of 1966*

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are first to this market, are seeing patients in California and Florida now, and expect to launch services in Texas and Illinois next year. **Check out our website.** We partner with surgeons, physicians, hospitals, and healthcare systems to improve surgical outcomes and patient satisfaction through mental health support, at no cost to the practice or facility. We are also raising a second round of seed funding for Accredited Investors only. If partnering with or investing in Clarity Telehealth is of interest, please contact me at merritt@ClarityTH.com.”

**Paula Fan** writes, “It’s been a devastating year-plus for performers, but I’ve been one of the lucky ones. Being retired with a pension is a good thing, as well as the attitude, ‘Been there, done that, nothing to prove!’ that I guess is the product of age. Still, it’s been stimulating to find ways to skirt round restrictions, from performing at online festivals, lots of recording (until the engineer behind the glass doors was exposed to Covid), to staying fifteen nights in a third country to get my British performance partner into the US. If anyone wants to book a lovely Airbnb in Montego Bay, Jamaica, let me know. Our hostel is a dream, welcoming us for three stays in thirteen months. ‘See you next time,’ she trilled as we left in mid-October. The ban ends on November 8, and we’ve never told her that she has been part of a Master Plan. Sad to think we may never return to that beautiful spot.”

The first live performance in June 2021 brought back the old high as I stepped on stage. Being part of a masked audience was pretty special too for the opera *Scalia vs. Ginsberg* in Vegas, and for three productions in Santa Fe. The whole company, some 800+ people, was tested every other day. After that, more performing: a concert on San Juan Island over Labor Day, a residency in Virginia in October, four concerts in California in November, one in Wales in December, and finally, an Earthwatch project with turtles in Costa Rica before Christmas. Guess what I’ve missed most!!! Triple jabbed and double masked, onward into a new normal!”

### 70s

**1970 Class Representative**

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**1971 Class Representative**

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**Curtis Cohen** writes, “Minerva and I moved to Alicante, Spain from Barcelona a few years ago, after the Catalan insurrection and independence movement and the terrorist attack on the Sagrada Familia both made life there much more exciting. We had begun visiting Barcelona years earlier on holiday while we were living in Lagos, Nigeria, where I was Managing Director for two private Nigerian indigenous oil independents. One of them, Britannia, doubled net oil production on my watch with the company’s first horizontal oil well. The other, Sahara, drilled its first oil wells under my direction, made first oil production, first international new venture acquisitions, and first producing oil asset acquisition at auction, including the international financing arrangements. Details on these works can be found [here at LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/curtis-cohen-81562034/) and [here at ResearchGate](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Curtis_Cohen). For the past few years in Spain I’ve been exploring offshore Mozambique in the Comoros Islands in deepwater for a private US company with three licenses there. I presented results at petroleum conferences in London, Cape Town and Buenos Aires and published them [here](#) and [here](#).

In the past two years during the pandemic the world changed and of course exploration did too until recently. I remained busy though and wrote an article on Tsunami Earthquakes in Sumatra, Indonesia, which was published in January in *Earth and Planetary Science Letters here.*

Today in Alicante, life is great; sunny, chill, cheap, and Espana. Next month for the first time in almost two years I’m heading to Palm Beach, FL for Thanksgiving and the chance to see the kids and grandkids. Eldest daughter Naomi, UC’99, will host with twins Chloe and Charlotte (4) and big sister Madeleine (8 going on 18), son Pierre and kids Ellie (4), and Luc Louis (2), after great grandmother Dr. Louis Cohen, SB’48, MD’53 and daughters Emili and Jennifer along with her boys Jake (10), and Max (7), will also join in from Dallas. ‘Can’t wait. Best wishes to all.”

**1972 Class Representative**

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**1973 Class Representative**

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**1974 Class Representative**

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**1975 Class Representative**

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**1976 Class Representative**

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**Class of 1977**

**Aaron Stern** writes, “I experienced some major life changes in 2021. In January, I became an empty-nester, with two children in college in person. In September, my adorable twelve-year-old dog Missy died, and the house was suddenly very quiet. In November, I retired after a 40-year career at NYC Transit. At least I’m still married! Still, I feel great coming to the end of these important phases in life, and very ready to embrace the next phase. Friends ask me for my retirement plan and I generally say that ‘once retired, I’ll have plenty of time to prepare one!’ Having seen a number of friends and family members in our age bracket experience major medical problems. I am firmly of the opinion that if you can afford it, don’t postpone all the things you are looking forward to doing in retirement—do it now while you have the good health to really enjoy it.”

**1978 Class Representative**

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**1979 Class Representatives**

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Jessica DeGroot  
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**Hans Massaquoi**  
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### 80s

**1980 Class Representative**

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**1981 Class Representative**

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*Class of 1977*

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nephews and father still live in Luxembourg (my sisters, banking in New York, London, Columbia University, and one is currently Chair of the Department of Computer Science. I’m also an associate editor for the journal of the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers for the 2021 Women of Color in STEM Outstanding Professional Achievement in Government Award. This award is a great honor, as I was selected out of hundreds of nominations. I owe much of my success to the academic rigor and foundation gained from my University of Chicago Laboratory Schools grade- and high-school education. I am most thankful to the leadership, teaching, patience, mentorship, and support of Ms. Hanna Goldschmidt, Mrs. Susan Shapiro, Mr. Sanford Patlak, Mr. Joseph McCord, Ms. Corinne Siegel, Mr. Hozinsky, Mr. Montag, Ms. Williams, Ms. Laura Gill, Ms. Keane, Mr. Ron Drozd, Madame Chantal Courièr-Cooke, Mr. Fowler, and Mr. Bernstein (there’s more) and my fellow U-High Class of 1988 classmates.

Erica M. Scavella, MD, FACP, FACHE, Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC, is a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine and Fellow of both the American College of Physicians and the American College of Healthcare Executives. of highly complex National Program Offices composed of five interrelated and fully aligned functional areas within VHA: 1) Office of Compliance and Business Integrity; 2) Office of the Medical Inspector; 3) Office of Internal Audit; 4) Office of Research Oversight; and 5) National Center for Ethics in Health Care. The National Program Offices contained in the portfolio act in an integrated fashion to promote a just culture rooted in trust, accountability, and ethical decision-making as VHA strives to steadily achieve the best care, service, and value with safety and clinical excellence.

Erica M. Scavella writes, "It is my pleasure to share with my alma mater great news that I was selected for the 2021 Women of Color in STEM Outstanding Professional Achievement in Government Award. This award is a great honor, as I was selected out of hundreds of nominations. I owe much of my success to the academic rigor and foundation gained from my University of Chicago Laboratory Schools grade- and high-school education. I am most thankful to the leadership, teaching, patience, mentorship, and support of Ms. Hanna Goldschmidt, Mrs. Susan Shapiro, Mr. Sanford Patlak, Mr. Joseph McCord, Ms. Corinne Siegel, Mr. Hozinsky, Mr. Montag, Ms. Williams, Ms. Laura Gill, Ms. Keane, Mr. Ron Drozd, Madame Chantal Courièr-Cooke, Mr. Fowler, and Mr. Bernstein (there’s more) and my fellow U-High Class of 1988 classmates.”

Erica M. Scavella, MD, FACP, FACHE, has been appointed to serve as the Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC. With over twenty-five years of service and clinical experience with VA, Dr. Scavella is recognized as a national thought leader and expert in healthcare quality and risk. This is her second appointment to the Senior Executive Service. Dr. Scavella is a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine and Fellow of both the American College of Physicians and the American College of Healthcare Executives.

The Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Health provides executive leadership on the national level in the formulation and establishment of effective health care policies, programs, and initiatives to ensure health system quality and integrity for over nine million enrolled veterans. Dr. Scavella is responsible for executing enterprise risk, compliance, oversight, and ethics activities across Veterans Health Administration (VHA). She mitigates risks identified through a consortium approach.

Katherine Davis writes, “I published my first book! My Old Friend, Then is a philosophical, kid-friendly take on the rewards of being present” (Kirkus Reviews). It is available...
online and at local shops in Santa Fe, NM, where I live with my husband and two daughters."

**1989 Class Representative**
Mekeda Johnson-Brooks
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773-783-0445

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**Dara Henning** writes, “A fantastic experience to have **Reese Carr** join me and **Miriam Kass** at Akiba-Schechter Jewish Day School in Hyde Park to kick off our new Artist-in-Residence program! Reese moved back to Chicago after living in New York and working as a musician and music educator since college. The three of us were in the same kindergarten class. Miriam and I (and probably you too) remember Reese drumming at least since we started Band Class back in fifth grade. These days, Miriam is the amazing Principal at Akiba and I am the Art Teacher and Marketing and Communications Coordinator. This school year, Reese is working with all the students at Akiba leading them on a Journey Through Rhythm—composing unique music, creating sounds, and telling stories. Between workshops, Reese and I have had the chance to reminisce about shared Lab memories, Lower School art class projects, gym teachers, who and what really inspired us. It is amazing to see what wonderful educators my classmates have become—they are making the world a better place!”

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**90s**

**1990 Class Representatives**
Dan Kirschner
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River Forest, IL 60305-1710
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312-346-3191

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**Tara P. Shochet**
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**Class of 1998**

**Inger Burnett-Zeigler** writes, “Black women are beautiful, intelligent, and capable—but mostly they embrace strong. At times, this strength can get in the way of addressing physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, and other traumas that are commonly experienced among Black women. *Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen* (Amistad; June 29, 2021; 9780629598292) explores how trauma and adversity have led to deep emotional pain and offers Black women a new framework within which to understand their life experiences, heal, and thrive. ‘In this excellent debut, clinical psychologist Burnett-Zeigler provides a road map to help Black women find “a healthy balance between strength and vulnerability.” ... This thorough analysis effectively pulls back the curtain on the emotional and health barriers Black women face to suggest practical strategies for change.— Publishers Weekly’

**Todd Belcore** writes, “*Chase Chavin ’97, Todd Belcore, and Dr. Anthony Williams* are part of a national nonprofit called Social Change (Anthony and Chase are Board Members and I’m the Executive Director). Social Change is doing work in Illinois, Indiana, Georgia, California, Louisiana, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, and Wisconsin. Social Change is currently featuring its 10th Annual International Social Change Film Festival; has successfully passed over thirty pieces of legislation around the nation relating to police accountability, sentencing, justice reform, and access to education, housing, jobs, and business ownership; and distributed over 500,000 pounds of food, 100,000 masks, thousands of hand sanitizers, and thousands of vaccines in response to COVID-19.”

**Michael Hoy** writes, “Happy to share that in the midst of the pandemic I was fortunate to direct my first feature-length TV movie in August of 2020, and have since directed two more. The first two had broadcast premieres on Lifetime and Lifetime Movie Network. Making movies was a childhood dream of mine, and I fondly recall asking teachers at Lab to make videos instead of writing papers. To my surprise, that request was often met with a yes, along with some, albeit few, caveats. I’m happy to say that thankfully my interest in filmmaking was encouraged at Lab, and I was able to develop that interest in both regular classes and extracurricular activities.

Thanks to teachers like John O’Connor and Craig Reubelt, I was able to make original videos exploring topical historical subjects in English and Spanish respectively. I honed my photography skills with Liese Ricketts and explored storytelling with Wayne Brasler through feature writing and photojournalism for the *Midway* and the yearbook. I practiced my video editing skills when teachers like Susan Shapiro encouraged me to assemble a video montage for the JSA to play along with a live string quartet in memoriam of the Holocaust for an all-student assembly, and I was able to lose myself in drama and improvisation with John Biser, feeding my desire to explore theatrical performance. Of course there are many more who deserve to be named, and to all who encouraged and inspired me in my lifetime at Lab, thank you.

Currently, I am happily working on the digital content creation team for *The Kelly Clarkson Show* at NBC Universal in Los Angeles. I’m wishing all my fellow Labbies and faculty well, and please do look me up on IMDb or visit *The Kelly Clarkson Show* YouTube Channel to check-in on me, and don’t forget to say hello if you’re out West!”

**1999 Class Representative**
Katherine Le
katherinlej@yahoo.com

**Richard Siegler** writes, “My wife, our toddler, and I recently moved to the north suburbs of Chicago where we now have another on the way. After Lab and NYU, I joined the Peace Corps and served in Benin from 2004 to 2007. I then got a master’s and moved to Rwanda in 2010 on a Fulbright. By great luck, I co-founded a scholarship program there that I led from 2011 to 2017. This is now run by my old students and has helped about 300 African students to accept about $75 million total in U.S. college scholarships to more than 80 universities. Today I’m the CEO of a healthcare non-profit that works to treat the sick and strengthen health systems failing the poor on the continent of Africa, with a focus on maternal and child health. So far this year, our teams have treated more than 50,000 patients in Uganda, including more than 2,700 surgery patients, with a budget of about $1 million per year. I’m grateful for my education that started at Lab and would be glad to connect with anyone else who shares similar interests!”

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*Class of 1998*

Interested in volunteering to serve as your class representative? Email the Alumni Relations and Development Office at labnotes@ucls.uchicago.edu.
Richard Siegler  
23310 N. Kelsey Road  
Barrington, IL 60010

00s

2000 Class Representative  
Tiago Pappas  
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773-330-8583

Noah Roth and Janet Massey were married on October 9 at the Chelsea Register Office on King’s Road. Jon Dorsey and Neil Dasgupta were in attendance and were afterward locked in a basement by a wealthy capital markets attorney and made to watch The Purge.

2001 Class Representative  
Greg Kohlhagen  
gkohlha@gmail.com

Class of 2002*

2003 Class Representative  
John Oxtoby  
joxtoby@gmail.com

Ryan Sturgill writes, “After six years in Jerusalem, we have moved to Amman, Jordan where Ryan is starting a sabbatical to write and reflect on a decade of work with businesses in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Palestine. We also welcomed our second child, Laith, to the world this summer!”

2004 Class Representative  
Marcelo Pappas  
marcelopappas@gmail.com

2005 Class Representative  
Mark Berberian  
2540 North Spaulding Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60647  
berberian3@gmail.com  
773-348-7233

Siesan Bullock writes, “I recently became a real estate agent and had the privilege of helping the non-profit organization Coffee, Hip-Hop, and Mental Health find their new location. Their organization serves the Chicagoland area by providing free therapy sessions. If you would like to donate, please visit their website.”

Class of 2006*

2007 Class Representative  
Molly Schloss  
molly.j.schloss@gmail.com

2008 Class Representative  
Victoria Rogers  
victoriamrogers@gmail.com

David McAlpine writes, “I was recently named Manager, Broadcast Media Relations at General Motors. I’m now leading up GM’s broadcast and digital media strategies for corporate and product and brand initiatives, and I serve as a spokesperson on general corporate issues.

It’s an exciting shift for me (I started in May) and a fun return to working with more Midwesterners... I’m staying in New York, but working with plenty of people based at our HQ in Detroit!”

2009 Class Representative  
Jaya Sah  
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2010 Class Representative  
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2012 Class Representative  
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2013 Class Representative  
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Boluwatife (Bolu) Johnson  
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2015 Class Representative  
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2016 Class Representative  
Julian Lark  
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2017 Class Representative  
Jonathan Lipman  
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Class of 2018*

2019 Class Representative  
Alex Pietraszek  
apietraszek@uchicago.edu

Ace Zhang writes, “Currently, I’m a sophomore undergrad at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, and I’m majoring in psychology. Things have been really crazy for the past two years, what with online university and school and whatnot, but otherwise, I’ve been doing pretty well! I’ve met a few fellow alumni on campus which was really cool. Aside from all of that, I’m planning on studying abroad at some point, though I’m not sure where I want to go just yet.”

2020 Class Representative  
Ace Zhang  
acezhang@uchicago.edu

2020 Class Representative  
Ace Zhang  
acezangh@uchicago.edu


Interested in volunteering to serve as your class representative? Email the Alumni Relations and Development Office at labnotes@ucls.uchicago.edu.
Roger W. Stone, '51 passed away peacefully at home in Lake Forest, IL on September 12, 2021. He will be remembered for his love of family, lifelong passion for business, kind and generous spirit, quick wit, and unassuming manner.

Roger was born February 16, 1935 to the late Anita and Marvin Stone in Chicago, Illinois. In 1955, he married his college sweetheart, Susan Kesert, and together they raised their three daughters in the Chicago area. Roger attended the University of Chicago Lab School and Lake Forest Academy, and earned a B.S. in Economics from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania in 1957.

While in college, Roger’s entrepreneurial spirit took root. He managed the concessions at his fraternity and created an innovative business by converting stamp machines into ballpoint pen vending machines. Building businesses became his avocation, and throughout his life he enjoyed nurturing others by providing professional advice and investing in small companies in need of growth capital.

Roger began his career as a box salesman at Stone Container Corporation, a company founded by his grandfather, father, and uncles, and worked his way up to chief executive officer to become an international leader in the paper industry. As CEO, he transformed Stone Container into “the world’s largest producer and converter of brown paper-unbleached containerboard, Kraft paper, bags, and corrugated boxes” with over 30,000 employees and $6 billion in revenue. (New York Times)

Roger retired from Stone Container in 1999 following the merger of the company and Jefferson Smurfit in 1998. At an age when most business leaders would have retired, Roger went on to build two additional paper companies, BoxUSA and KapStone Paper and Packaging Corporation, with his son-in-law and business partner of 40 years, Matthew Kaplan. Together, Roger and Matt built KapStone into the fifth largest producer of containerboard and the largest producer of Kraft paper in North America over the next decade.

Throughout his professional life, Roger worked to make the paper industry stronger and more successful. He touched many people as a team builder, mentor, and inspirational leader in his modest and understated way. He considered himself lucky and was quick to credit others for each company’s successes. The Chicago Tribune described Roger as a “savvy workaholic” who worked for business and pleasure. In his signature plaid shirt, khakis, penny loafers, and a plastic watch, Roger possessed a “hands-on attitude... not ashamed of getting into the trenches to help his personnel.”

Roger believed in the American Dream and worked to help preserve America as the land of opportunity. He and his wife, Susan, have dedicated their philanthropy to “help people to help themselves” by providing economic and educational opportunities for all, often anonymously.

Throughout his life, Roger was actively involved in numerous national and international corporate boards, including Abitibi Consolidated, Autoliv, Empaques de Carton Titan, S.A., First Chicago/First National Bank of Chicago, GTE Corporation, Interstate Brands, McDonald’s Corporation, Morton International, Prairie Packaging, Stone Consolidated, and Stone Tan China, among others. He was the chair and board member of nearly a dozen paper industry organizations, including American Committee for Air and Stream Improvement, American Paper Institute, and International Corrugated Case Association. He also served on the boards of many educational institutions, such as the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Lake Forest Academy, North Shore Country Day School, and the Wharton School.

Roger was honored with numerous industry achievement awards and recognitions as a business leader, including RISI’s “Top 50 Power List” and its first Lifetime Achievement Award, Paper Age Magazine’s Executive Papermaker of the Year, and TAPPI PIMA Man of the Year. He was recognized six times by Wall Street Transcript as Top Chief Executive Officer and Chief Executive Officer of the Year, Forest and Paper Specialty Products Industry by Finance World Magazine. The New York Times described Roger as “a dynamo who will go down as one of the most astute managers that the industry has ever known.”

While he will be remembered as an iconic figure in the paper industry and the business world, Roger maintained that his greatest achievement was the family he raised with his wife, Susan. He truly enjoyed the simple things in life, and his favorite pastime was indulging in quiet moments at home with his loved ones, who will remember him for his kind and gentle spirit, generosity, distinctive laugh, and the occasional pun. He loved singing favorites from the American Songbook, hot dogs, Tab, Oreo cookies, and the White Sox.

An eternal optimist, Roger was often quoted as saying, “The best is yet to come.” He was good natured and always hopeful about the future. Despite serious health setbacks and challenges in his final years, he faced them with grace and humility.

Roger is survived by his wife of 65 years, Susan; his children, Karen and Matthew Kaplan, Lauren Stone, and Jennifer Stone; his grandchildren, Allison, Alex, Doug, Lindsay, and Daisy; his great-grandchildren, Hale, Charlie, and Ryan; and his sisters-in-law, Patricia Stone and Joyce Hicks and their families. He was predeceased by his brother, Avery.

The family would like to thank Nancy Strugalla, Roger’s invaluable executive assistant for more than three decades; trusted caregivers Frank Vasiq, Jane Kirubi, Darwin Adeva, José Bríznez, Abraham Ferrer, Rendani (Kenny) Mulaudi, and Lee Young; supportive senior care advisor, Julie Fohrman; and hospice care nurse Nanci Osner for their compassion and loving care.

Yuliang Ruan, ’96: beloved husband of Emily; loving father of Amelia; devoted son of Jing Zhang and Shengyang Ruan; cherished brother of Yuxin (Hong Ni) Ruan. Visitation Friday, October 29 from 3 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, October 30 from 8:30 until time of service 9:30 a.m. at Dalcomo Funeral Home.

Cremon Oak Ridge Cemetery.

Gregory Cowell, ’71, passed away unexpectedly on August 17, 2021. He was born on January 20 in Chicago to George Cowell and Vivian Joan Forsythe. He spent his childhood in Hyde Park after his parents moved from Grand Rapids, Michigan to Chicago. For the last 26 years, Greg has resided in Riverside, IL with his wife, Jeannine, and his two children, Cathryn and Matthew.

Greg lived life to the fullest, constantly developing new interests, and was always on to the next adventure. He loved learning and had endless energy. His sense of adventure led him to flying planes, mountain climbing in Africa and Mexico, motorcycling throughout the United States and Mexico, and boating in Florida, where he could parallel park a trawler with ease. He was an avid golfer, skier, exercise enthusiast, and enjoyed riding his bike to work. He was a music lover, who sang in various choirs, and enjoyed playing the piano, guitar, and flute.

Greg attended the University of Chicago Lab Schools in Hyde Park and was a proud graduate of St. John’s College in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he earned degrees in Philosophy and Chemistry. He pursued a medical degree at Rush University, and graduated in 1984. He completed an internal medicine residency in Little Rock, Arkansas and a fellowship in nephrology at the University of Illinois Hospital, where he met his wife Jeannine. For the last 29 years, Greg practiced emergency medicine at various hospitals throughout Illinois.

Greg enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, whether it was arranging family reunions, attending concerts, playing chess, or going on vacations. A family favorite was the Wisconsin Dells. He was very proud of his two children Cathryn and Matthew who picked up his love for music. He spent countless hours listening and teaching them to play the violin or piano, or playing music with them. Greg was admired for his kindness to those in need. His melodic voice, infectious laughter, and sense of humor would light up any room he entered. Most important to Greg was the love of his family and...
friends. A sign of a life well-lived is how we are loved; Greg was loved by all who met him.

Greg is survived by his beloved wife of 28 years, Jeannine Glavas Cowell; two loving children Cathryn Joan Cowell and Matthew Liam Cowell; his cherished sister Laura Cowell (Jim Losek); two brothers-in-law Mike Glavas (Arlene) and Matt Glavas (Mary); a loving mother-in-law Rita Glavas; and four step-siblings Peter (Carol) Forsythe, David Forsythe, Nancy Sullivan, and Mary (David) Hall. He was also a loving uncle and grand-uncle to 12 and a friend to all. He was preceded in death by his father, George Cowell, and mother, Vivian Joan Forsythe.

**Dr. Kay Diane Debs, 52**, with sadness, love, and admiration, the family of Dr. Kay Diane Debs announces her peaceful passing on August 25, 2021 just shy of her 85th birthday. She died at her home in Berkeley, CA surrounded by family. A staunch supporter of women’s and human rights, Kay’s death represents a loss to all who knew her and to the many community members and organizations that were positively impacted by her passion and care for the needs of others.

Born in Chicago, Illinois to Jerome H. Debs and Ruth Kay Debs, Kay spent her early years on the South Side of Chicago where she went to the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools and attended occasional Chicago Bears and White Sox games with her father. Her family later moved to Winnetka, Illinois where she developed a love for water sports, spending her summers as a camper and then camp counselor in Wisconsin. Upon graduation from New Trier High School, Kay headed west to attend Stanford University where she majored in Political Science and was a member of the Public Relations Board. This was the start of a lifelong love of the Bay Area, which became her permanent home in 1985. While pursuing a Master’s Degree in Political Science at Stanford, she met and married Dr. M. George Zaninovich with whom she had five children. As was typical at the time, Kay abandoned her graduate studies to raise her growing family but still thrived on the life of the mind as the wife of a professor, living in such college communities as University of California, Berkeley; Columbia University, and University of Oregon. She was a participant and organizer in the activism of the 1960s and 1970s, attending the 1960 Democratic Convention, hosting discussions about race in her home, and participating in anti-war marches. She was community minded, serving as PTA president at her children’s schools and as a member of the University of Chicago Women’s Board.

Shortly after Kay was divorced in 1974, she returned to school and earned a PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Oregon, launching a 40-year career as a clinical psychologist, all of this while continuing to raise her five children as a single mother.

Kay was an avid sports fan, political junky, arts aficionado, and travel enthusiast. She loved her Oakland Athletics, Stanford Cardinals, University of Oregon Ducks, Golden State Warriors, Brahms, Beethoven, Dvorak, The Art Institute of Chicago, London, and Tim Russert in equal measure. However, her greatest source of joy was her family, in whom she instilled these same passions, inspiring them to pursue vocations and avocations, support philanthropically, and enjoy the arts, politics, travel, and sports. Some of her happiest moments were spent travelling with her children and grandchildren to her favorite destinations and attending the San Francisco Symphony’s Deck the Hall, the Sing-Along Messiah, the Final Four, college bowl games, the NBA championships, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and Commonwealth Club events with them.

Kay’s family wishes to offer a special thanks to Mirna Salazar who became her caretaker and closest friend in her final years. A true angel, Mirna enriched Kay’s life during this time and showed all of us what it means to care for and support a loved one.

Kay is survived by her five children Kathy Layendecker, Michael Zaninovich, Tom Zaninovich, Susan Zaninovich, and Jamie Zaninovich; her seven grandchildren, Katie Layendecker, Brooke Layendecker, Yuki Zaninovich, Keenan Zaninovich, Georgia Zaninovich, Maxwell Zaninovich, and Lucas Zaninovich; her son-in-law Glenn Layendecker and daughters-in-law Keda Moore and Karen Chin; her brother and sister-in-law John and Catherine Debs; brother Robert Debs; and her beloved cat Ella.

According to Kay’s wishes, a small memorial service was held with her family. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to **The Kay Debs Women’s Student-Athlete Memorial Scholarship** at the University of Oregon.

**Elsie Hughes Schneewind, ’57, AB’59** died in June at her home in Brooklyn, New York. She had Parkinson’s disease and had been living for about a year in a wheelchair, reading and listening to music but unable to play her beloved flute because her hands were too weak, and missing visits from her daughters and grandchildren during lockdown. Until late 2019 she had still been working part-time, commuting from Brooklyn to the Lower East Side of Manhattan to train social workers. She left her husband Jerry, who is 91. Their three daughters provided her with four grandchildren, two of whom are now graduates.

**David S. Chernoff, ’56, AB’60, JD’62** retired Associate General Counsel of The MacArthur Foundation, died peacefully at home, surrounded by his loving family, on September 18, 2021.

David was born in the Chatham neighborhood of Chicago and grew up in South Shore and Hyde Park. He attended the University of Chicago Schools from fourth grade at The Lab School through the College and The Law School. He stayed in Hyde Park until he met his wife, Loreen. After they married, they moved to the Old Town neighborhood and then settled in Lincoln Park, where they raised their family.

While practicing law with a small firm, he was approached by the General Counsel of the MacArthur Foundation to come to the Foundation to handle the sale of its New York Residential Portfolio. He then handled numerous Program Related Investments, successfully co-chairing an ABA project that resulted in the IRS issuing new regulations for PRIs. He traveled to India and Nigeria, meeting with Country Coordinators to develop Population Programs. He became the unofficial historian of the Foundation, a position in which he took great pride, regaling people with amusing stories whenever he had the opportunity.

David was active in many non-profit organizations, including The Chicago Architecture Center, VanderCook College of Music, Good City, Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, and The Donor’s Forum, always making sure people understood the importance of philanthropy in a well-functioning society. The Donor’s Forum published his booklet, “Rights and Responsibilities of Directors and Trustees of Private Foundations.” He was an active member and past president of The Cliff Dwellers, an organization for people either professionally engaged in or who support the fine and performing arts. He also was a member of the Cubs Prognosticators, happily sitting in the cold on Opening Day every year.

One of David’s lifelong passions was the Judo community. He earned a third-degree Black Belt, working with Grand Master Kyung Sun Shin throughout his adult life. After his retirement, he taught children along with Grand Master Shin. He also taught Negotiation in the LLM program at John Marshall Law School and taught celestial navigation with the Chicago Sail and Power Squadron.

David’s main passion was his loving family, wife Loren, son Marc (Cynthia), daughter Carolyn (Richard Hoak), and three grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother Michael (Eunice) and four nieces and nephews. He will be sorely missed by all.