

CORD *magazine*

News from Union College

summer 2014

HONORING UNION'S MILITARY VETERANS



HARRY HAAS: GIVING SOMETHING BACK

Elder Harry Haas '48 felt so blessed by Union College's Medical Cadet Corp (MCC) that he chose to pass his training on to others by instructing Army doctors on how to administer first aid.

Harry trained in the MCC before being drafted during World War II. He was assigned to an Army medical aid station where he passed along his first-aid training to the doctors he worked with. "It was such a blessing to have the MCC training," Harry explained. "I showed (the doctors) how to quickly splint a broken arm and bandage a wound." They were so impressed with Harry's skills they were willing to trade two or three other soldiers so they could keep him in their aid station.

In 1944 Harry was honorably discharged and returned to Union College where he studied business. A professor in the business department had a profound impact on Harry. "R.W. Fowler inspired me through his kindness so I dedicated my life to working for the church," Harry explained. After a long career working for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Harry eventually retired as treasurer of the Central Union Conference (now Mid-America Union).

"Union College means so much to me and I feel others did a lot so I could attend. I would like to pass that help on in my old age," Harry said about his desire to support Union College. So when Harry and his wife, Lois Cummings Haas '48, (now deceased) formulated their estate plan they planned to include Union College.

Harry and Lois wanted to retain control of their assets while they were both still alive, but ensure Union College would receive a gift from their estate.

What should they do?

With the help of the Union College Advancement staff, Harry and Lois set up a living trust so they could retain control of all their assets while they were both still alive, and when Lois died in 2010, their estate plan became irrevocable. "A trust is a very nice vehicle to lock in the estate plan for a husband and wife," Harry said. "When Lois died the trust locked in everything so I couldn't change it."

Before Harry remarried years later, he told his fiancée that he had set up a trust and nothing would be going to her. "She and her (previous) husband had done the same thing," Harry explained, "so we both knew where we stood before we got married."

Harry believes a trust is the best agreement for married people. "Your money and investments go where you both want them to go." In this case part of Harry and Lois' estate will go to support the mission of Union College as an unrestricted gift, to help with whatever is most needed after Harry's death.

"I owe a lot to Union College, so I'm giving something back," Harry added.

Learn more

If you want more information on how you can set up a living trust and give a gift to Union College through your estate plan, please contact Scot T. Coppock, director of Leadership Giving at scoppoc@ucollege.edu or 402.486.2503. Scot is eager to help with arranging the best estate plan for you.

*It takes
ForeSight...*



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About the cover:

Drawing from his own experiences in the military during the Vietnam War, Dr. Bill Fitts, professor of English at Union College, has provided mentorship for generations of veterans who attend Union College, including Christina Schmersal '12. Photo by Steve Nazario.

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Union welcomes a new president/12

Dr. Vinita Sauder, formerly vice president for Strategic Initiatives at Southern Adventist University, has been named Union College's next president.



photo: courtesy of Southern Adventist University



photo: Scott Cushman

Farewell to Dr. Wagner/14

President John Wagner retired in June, ending his third term of service at Union College.



photo: courtesy of Union College Library collection

Training for military service/16

In the 1930s, Union College pioneered a program that prepared young Adventists for life as conscientious objector's in the armed forces.

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Recognizing military veterans

by Dr. Bill Fitts, professor of English

Most veterans appreciate being recognized, not only by the military, but also by the civilians they serve. For many of us who served in Vietnam, that recognition was a long time coming. I returned from the war through San Francisco late at night because we had been warned that the war protesters might go after those of us having to fly in uniform. Feelings over the war were so strong that years later a colleague told me, “I was smart enough to stay in college, so I didn’t have to go.” He was telling the truth in my case, but the sarcastic tone he used was hardly Christian. Civilians need to listen to veterans to establish a context before they engage us in conversation.

Perhaps my story will help make my point. I spent my teenage years smoking, drinking and playing in a rock band, hardly cracking a book, not paying attention in history class until I had to register for the draft. I was baptized in 1966 and drafted a year later. Because Seventh-day Adventism is not really a religion but a lifestyle—encompassing every aspect of a person’s life—I chose to wander away from the Lord in Vietnam.

I went through the Tet Offensive six weeks after arriving in the country and continued unloading medevac choppers and working to save lives in a surgical intensive care unit at the 91st Evac Hospital. Changing dressings on napalmed and white-phosphorous-grenaded patients, suctioning tracheostomies on people whose jaws were wired shut, administering IPPB (intermittent positive pressure breathing) treatments to help chest wounds heal, carrying body bags off Hueys to Graves Registration, and, probably most of all, seeing friends’ names in the KIA column (Killed in Action) took their toll. I began to smoke, and when I was asked to form a band for the officers’ club, I took it. I quickly learned that alcohol can ease the pain of working with the severest wounds and death in a war zone on a daily basis.

I blame no one but myself for the choices I made—I had a support group of other Adventists who met whenever they didn’t have ward duty on Sabbath. They listened to tapes from the Voice of Prophecy, held Sabbath school class and listened to the Kings Heralds tapes provided by the church. Midweek prayer meeting dealt with tracing the journeys of Paul. What I really needed was Paul’s God ministering to my pain. However, because I had not really been grounded in a personal relationship with Jesus, I doubt that I would have listened. I tried reading my Bible through and quit at Numbers.

I returned to the States at the end of 1968, I went to church with my mother to keep her happy. Transitioning is important—and often challenging for those who have served in a war zone. I suffered from mild Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, but many suffer traumatic brain injuries (TBIs), and for women in particular, military sexual trauma (MST). Fortunately after my discharge, my cousin encouraged me to go back to school at an Adventist college. I laughed because I had dropped out of college the first time. I also laughed when I was accepted: “Well, I won’t be there long.”

At first I struggled, but Someone had something in store for me. One night some men in my dorm wing came to my room and gave me some practical tips on how to raise my grades—including the Basic 8 from Ministry of Healing. I spent an hour in my Bible every day. I became a vegetarian, against my will. I exercised. The cigarettes and alcohol had gone when I arrived (I remembered that much about the church.). I went to bed at ten o’clock. I began to study with a group of serious students from Ozark Academy. My grades began to rise.

I began experiencing Jesus Christ on a personal level, especially through the prayer bands at Afterglow. I began seeking Jesus for Jesus—and my sake—not just to pass a Bible class. We veterans began to talk among ourselves (no one knew about PTSD back then). We shared in speech class. I wrote an essay about Tet and my English teacher, Mr. Roth, read it aloud and I listened, a mixture of embarrassment and “It’s about time you kids woke up and knew what’s going on over there!” A girl across the aisle was crying.

I had the vague idea that perhaps this too might be education.

One afternoon during freshman comp, a squadron of Hueys flew over the building. I bolted from my seat and was halfway to the women’s dorm when I realized that the chopper pad was nowhere in sight. I stood there on the sidewalk wondering just how crazy everyone would think I was if I returned to class. I needed the information, so I walked back into class.

Dr. Roth never even looked at me. He went right on with the class discussion. Afterward, I waited until the other students had cleared out and walked by his desk, embarrassed. “Thanks.”

“Korea,” he responded. I had made a friend.

This is how veterans bond. I knew that he had been through what I had, and he respected me. “Don’t worry. If it happens again, we’ll repeat the process. If anyone asks and you feel comfortable, we’ll talk with the class.”

“I have your back,” today’s vet might say. It usually takes a vet to help a vet.


That spring Dr. Roth brought “Dulce et decorum est,” a poem about a gas attack in World War I to class. Suddenly, the quiet, shy student who had come to campus almost a total stranger started dialoging with the teacher about the experience of the poem. The other students disappeared. I didn’t care what anyone thought about our conversation because we were talking about life . . . and death . . . and how to really live.

I walked out of that class knowing what I really wanted to do with my life. And I’ve never looked back.

I was loved at that college. We love through listening to veterans and learning to understand understanding them. If you are a parent, encourage your son or daughter to check out a veteran’s counseling center or the VA.

Or just be a friend. Peers can go out to eat or watch a ballgame. Do not ask questions like “Did you kill anybody?” In fact, do not initiate conversations, especially about combat. The vet will do that when comfortable doing so.

Five years after my mother died, my father called me from his little apartment in New Mexico and finally opened up about his experiences on several islands in the Pacific during World War II. He had taken seventeen lives that he knew, and suddenly everything was coming up. He had stuffed his experience down all those years his children were growing up, and it had led to alcoholism. This time I was empowered to help my dad.

Encourage the vets in your life to visit a nearby veterans center or the Lone Survivor Foundation. Let’s keep the conversation going. Dr. Roth did. College students did. The counselors did. It helped me. And it helped Dad. 

Ribbon cutting at graduation officially opens Krueger Center

by Ryan Teller '98

Even when angry skies drove the ceremony indoors, more than 200 employees, students, alumni and friends of Union College found reason to celebrate as the new Krueger Center for Science and Mathematics was officially opened with a ribbon cutting on May 8.

The event, which brought together many of the people who supported the Krueger Center project with time, energy and financial resources over the past 10 years, featured remarks from former Union College president David Smith, Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska Lavon Heideman, and lead donors Calvin and Sue Krueger.

Teachers and students began using the Krueger Center in early March when the doors opened to the 57,000 square-foot facility that features ample, flexible space and state-of-the-industry technology for lectures, lab exercises and research. Attendees to the event were able to wander the building and see lab and classroom demonstrations by faculty and students.

The building has become the new home of the Division of Science and Mathematics, replacing 66-year-old Jorgensen Hall, a building that had outlived its usefulness. "The new building is a lot better," said Keith Wade, a junior physics major. "We now have a dedicated physics lab and an engineering lab, which is great. The building has the potential to greatly expand the physics department."

The sentiment is echoed throughout the ranks of science, math and health science majors—nearly 60 percent of the student population.

A home for research

"Our research projects were spread out all over Jorgensen Hall, wherever we could cram them in," said Bradley Carlson, a junior biology and pre-med major who has been heavily involved in two original research projects over the past couple of years. "The Krueger Center has seven labs dedicated just to research."

Carlson has spent this school year working with a team of faculty and students creating early detection tests for certain types of cancers using carbon nanotubes. Last school



The Krueger Center grand opening ceremony featured a ceremonial ribbon cutting by Thomas L. Lemon, chair of the Union College Board of Trustees, LaVon Heidemann, lieutenant governor of Nebraska with lead donors Jerome and Ramona Lang, Sue and Calvin Krueger and Jay Dunlap from Union Bank and Trust.

year he worked on a team to develop a less expensive, quicker DNA test for certain genes to be used as a collegiate training tool.

The new building includes plenty of space for a variety of learning styles and growth. Two configurable classrooms allow for group learning and many other activities. A total of five labs and two lab and lecture spaces are dedicated to biology, five laboratory and lecture spaces to chemistry, and three labs to physics and pre-engineering.

Technology improves learning and safety

Chemistry professor Richard Clark sees lots of advantages in all the technology built into the new building. From software that allows each teacher's tablet computer to automatically transmit images and video to a classroom's projection system to a central vacuum system that provides a vacuum port at each lab station in all the chemistry laboratories, technology will improve the learning and safety of science classes.

"Our hood capacity is much better now," Clark explained. "Sometimes hoods become bottlenecks because everyone needs to conduct a lab experiment under a ventilation hood. That won't happen any more."

And improved ventilation also improves safety. "Each hood has flushing alarms," he continued. "If levels of certain chemicals get

too high, the air in the entire room is flushed out either through the hood or through the ceiling ducts. It's as though the whole lab is in a hood."

A comfortable place to learn


Claude Iradukunda, a freshman pre-engineering major, can often be found poring over an assignment in one of the three study areas in the new building. He likes a lot of things about the Krueger Center—the large classrooms, the labs—but he especially likes the study space. "It's quiet and comfortable," he said. "Most of the time I prefer to study here instead of the dorm."

"It's a place students like to study," Clark said of the study spaces, including the one right outside his office. "They like to use the whiteboard to work out problems together and it's nice that I can just pop out there and answer questions."

Funding the future

The grand opening event also honored the donors who gave the \$14.9 million to build the Krueger Center. A number of lead donors were on hand including Cal and Sue Krueger; Jerome and Ramona Lang; representatives from Union Bank and Trust; and representatives from Union's parent organization, the Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

"God has blessed Union College with this new facility," said John Wagner, recently retired president of Union College. "The generosity of the many donors who made the Krueger Center possible is a testament to the impact that Union College has on the lives of students, alumni and our community. This building will allow us to provide an even stronger academic experience for our students for years to come."

As a scientist, Clark agrees that the building demonstrates a strong commitment to the future of science education. "It's not just talk," he said. "We are here experiencing it now and enjoying it very much." 

Nursing students' new classroom: the Nicaraguan jungle

by Ruby Ruano '15

“Lindsay, get up, there is a woman in labor who needs our help.” The voice from the darkness jarred Union College nursing major Lindsay Harrison from her midnight slumber. As her mind cleared of its sleepy grogginess, suddenly the hot Nicaraguan jungle, the villagers and her Frontier Nursing class came flooding back into her consciousness.

She quickly jumped from her resting place and discovered the disembodied voice belonged to Adam Neep, a Union international rescue and relief student who had come to take her to the laboring mother in the nearby village.

“We took care of the woman in labor all night,” Harrison said. “At one point she became very dehydrated and the doctor prescribed coconut water from one of the trees outside and that’s how we got her hydrated.”

Venturing out of the hospital

Harrison, along with eight other students in Union’s Frontier Nursing class spent spring break serving people in remote Nicaraguan villages—delivering babies, treating parasite infected children, educating and much more—on a ten-day mission trip along with a group of IRR students already in the Central American nation for the semester.

They collaborated with doctors and nurses from a local mission called Wings Over Nicaragua. A clinic offering everything from women’s health services to a pharmacy was set up in six villages—a new village each day—serving anyone in need of medical attention.

“We had pregnant women walking four hours through the jungle just to reach our clinic to get checkups and help,” said Amy Golter, one of the Frontier Nursing instructors. She estimates they cared for nearly 800 patients.

Finding the funding

The students raised more than \$30,000 to make the trip possible. “I didn’t think I would be able to go because of the cost,” said Marie Johnson. “But God is amazing and through a pancake feed, selling cookie dough and donation letters sent to family, friends, Union faculty and nursing alumni, I was able to raise all the money I needed.”

With aspirations to be a world traveler, Johnson decided it was time to travel outside of the country for the first time in her life. “I was ready for an adventure of a lifetime,” said the senior nursing major. “I knew I wanted to go on a mission trip but I never had the opportunity until I had the chance to take this class.”

We’re not in Nebraska anymore

The Frontier Nursing students were accompanied by instructors Amy Golter and Kristine Follett. Their goal is to prepare students for procedures not normally used by nurses in America such as wilderness medicine and suturing. “Doing health care outside of the U.S. is kind of a shock at first, it’s a very eye opening experience and it changes your views on health care,” said Golter. “We get to do a lot of learning of policies and procedures in nursing school that just really are not criti-

cal in developing countries where resources are limited, such as wearing gloves for almost everything.” And students often get the hands-on learning experience that would usually be limited to doctors or advanced practitioners.

“You learn to improvise a lot and be flexible,” said nursing student Renee Souza. One of Souza’s most critical patients was a young pregnant girl who had not felt her 36-week-old fetus kick in weeks. “It was difficult to communicate with her and get straight answers because we could only talk through the translator,” said Souza. After a fetal monitor failed to pick up a heartbeat, the mother was told to walk for a few minutes and come back for another assessment.

Stress rose after the mother didn’t come back for a checkup. “In America it is abnormal for a mother to lose a baby,” said Souza. “But there it is common for a mother to lose several children throughout her life.”

The mother eventually returned and was told to go to the hospital so the doctor could remove the deceased fetus. “There were no tears or sadness from her like you would see here in the U.S.,” said Souza. “You have to know that not every person you meet will you be able to change to a new point of view. You have to accept them and their beliefs and know what your role is at that moment in time.”

Wings Over Nicaragua was able to provide doctors and nurses to assist the nursing team during clinical days and house visits. “All the doctors had their own clinic groups during our clinic days, but none of them were too busy to take time to teach us,” said Harrison. “That would never happen in a clinical setting in the United States, because doctors don’t really get involved with us like that. If I ask doctors here for anything, they will give me a weird look and redirect me elsewhere.”

Many of the students found instruction from doctors a valuable learning experience. “Those doctors were so appreciative that we want to learn,” said Harrison. “All the doctors really made you feel comfortable when asking questions and they would take their time explaining the disease and treatment.”

Forever changed

For many of the nursing students, nothing has been the same since setting foot back on American soil. The memories that were formed in a little over a week have forever changed the outlook on health care and general life in America. “I will never again take clean gloves, running water, sanitization and an unlimited supply of medication and supplies for granted,” said Johnson. “It was even a bit difficult to get used to being in America again. I felt spoiled just taking a shower.”

“I learned that we have to find ways to treat anyone looking for care,” said Marissa Peacock. “I need to be the best nurse that I can be and give my patients awesome, compassionate care.”



Nursing major Lindsay Harrison treats a patient at a remote clinic in the Nicaraguan jungle during spring break.

Math professor explores the benefits of online classes

by Ruby Ruano '15



This past school year Dr. Larry Ray taught calculus and precalculus using online courseware that allows each student to use a computer to learn at his or her own pace.

This is a different kind of math classroom. To start with, it's very quiet. Most of the students wear headphones, and the teacher isn't standing at the front. Instead of lecturing, Dr. Larry Ray, professor of mathematics, has pulled up a chair beside a student to help work through a tricky problem. As soon as that student understands, he hurries off to the next raised hand. This is a new online/offline hybrid mathematics class at Union for students taking precalculus and calculus.

Lectures? Grading? That's the software's job. This new model gives the teacher time to focus on what really matters: individual attention.

"Students are preferring more and more online material, and most do well online," said Ray. "But there are people who need more than just a computer to help them understand, which is why we also have laboratories set up where students can come in and get helped by a teacher or teaching assistant."

Structuring the Classes

Forty new HP Probook 4440 laptop computers in the new mathematics lab make it possible for students to come into a classroom to work on assignments, quizzes and tests, or seek help from Ray or a teaching assistant. These new computers were made possible in part by a \$20,000 gift to the Krueger Center made in honor of Clifton and Leonora Ray by their children and grandchildren.

The newly structured classes were built using courseware from Hawkes Learning Systems, which is installed on the HP Probooks, but can also be used by students on their per-

sonal computers. This enables them to learn calculus and do their homework on the go.

The online system caters to a wide variety of learning styles by allowing students to listen to the lecture, watch videos or read the course content. The online-based class also removes the need for textbooks, cutting back on costs for students.

"The lecture, quizzes, homework and exams are all online," said Ray. "Students move on to the next lesson once they have mastered a section. They master it after going through the lecture, doing the review and getting a passing score in the homework assignment. If a student does not have a passing score, Hawkes is able to essentially 'see' where the student is struggling, present a review of the specific concept, and then give the student another chance to redo a parallel assignment until mastery is achieved."

"I was very skeptical when he first said the course would mostly be online," said freshman Katie Dieter. "I tried doing precalculus online in the past and I ended up having to join a traditional class because the system was really frustrating. Hawkes is a very different system. The assignments are a lot more focused and it is really easy to handle all the material."

The courseware allows for individualization, too. "I really like it because it allows me to go at my own pace," said freshman Larissa Bovee. "Dr. Ray is always there if we need help. We can go slower in some lessons, but I can get my work done ahead of time if I want, too. For math, I really like it more than the traditional classes."

For those who need a little extra help with an assignment or the whole course, Ray designed outside class time to provide them with one-on-one assistance. "Five days a week, students can come in during those lab times and get help," said Ray. "No appointment is needed, assistants are available during those times to help students, even if it's just on one problem they can come in to get help and keep on going at their own pace."

The success of calculus and precalculus online may soon open the door for students to take other courses online including Math 017, a beginning course for students who need to work on various math skills before taking regular college courses. "Students don't particularly like remedial courses because they don't count toward their graduation credits," said Ray. "But online courses could give students the opportunity to work ahead and move on more quickly to college-level courses."


Enabling Success

Ray hopes the new online approach to mathematics will benefit both students and instructors. "Students have instant results for assignments and exams," he said. "Grading is done by the Hawkes system and scores are recorded immediately in the teacher's online grade book. The program generates help if there are any misunderstandings with some of the questions."



Without lectures, math professor Larry Ray has more time to give individual help.

Being able to see mistakes or incorrect answers instantly gives students the opportunity to fix mistakes immediately or ask for help from their instructor on the spot instead of waiting a few days for assignments to be graded.

Online math courses that can be individualized for learning style and pace is one more way Union College is seeking to give the best educational experience possible for every student. 

More than practice: pastoring practicum builds real-world connections

by Joellyn Sheehy '14

“Even in the first week, I’ve seen God work in so many ways this semester, and it has been such a blessing,” said Hector [Ricky] Melendez, who spent first semester of his senior year as a student pastor for Maplewood Academy and the Hutchinson church in Minnesota. “We had a spiritual retreat with the academy, and God poured Himself out. For five hours these students just studied the Bible. We gave them the opportunity to leave, but they wanted to stay, and we were all just bombarded with Jesus. That’s the kind of event that has had a year-long effect on these kids.”

The first of its kind among Adventist colleges in North America, Union’s new student pastoring practicum has seen eight senior theology majors acting as associate pastors throughout the fall semester in seven churches across the country.

Responding to the needs articulated by new pastors and conference administrators, the Division of Religion sought to better prepare graduates for their future roles—and found there is no better preparation than real-world practice. “You graduate, a conference hires you, and suddenly you have 50 sermons to do, prayer meetings to host, and Pathfinders to lead: it’s overwhelming,” explained Robert Fetrick, chair of the Division of Religion and associate professor of religion. “There was an obvious need to prepare students to be more comfortable and know what to expect.”

“We haven’t had a good mentorship process,” said Wayne Morrison, senior pastor for the Hutchinson Seventh-day Adventist Church and mentoring pastor. “Graduates are often dropped in a two-to-four church district on their own without any experience or really knowing how to cope.”

The program for the new semester developed gradually, the confluence of three forces: the church’s needs, the graduates’ needs and a generous donor’s contribution. “The

conference presidents always ask for practical, real-life experience from new graduates,” said Fetrick. “In the past, we’ve had practical sessions through the Biblical Preaching and Church Leadership classes, where students would be paired with a church. They’d preach a few times and attend board meetings etc., but they didn’t get actual experience.”

Reacting to high expectations placed on new pastors, recent alumni consistently encouraged greater hands-on preparation for undergraduates.

sermons, conducting prayer groups, and giving Bible studies under the mentorship of the presiding pastor.

“I preached four times a week for a whole month during an evangelistic series in October,” shared Chavez Morris, who served as the student pastor for Allon Chapel Seventh-day Adventist Church in Lincoln. “My theme was ‘Jesus is calling,’ and we started planning for it a year in advance. Some of the topics were on core Adventist doctrines so I used other sources, but for the most part I wrote all the sermons myself.”

While practical sessions are common among Adventist institutions in other countries, Union’s student pastoring semester is the first of its kind in North America. “In Australia, they assign students to a church for six months, where they do essentially the same thing as our students,” said Fetrick. “That kind of inspired our program. I talked to a few people from Australia and adapted it to suit our needs.”

An indispensable learning experience, students have done everything from visiting sick church members to reviving vespers programs and empowering new leadership. “I don’t think sitting in classes can paint ministry as a whole,” said Melendez. “I can learn all the theology, Hebrew and Greek in the world, but it doesn’t matter until

I see how it applies in someone’s life. That’s what this semester has done. It’s taught me about what ministry really is: asking yourself ‘how am I going to build a relationship with a hurting church member, and help bring them to Jesus?’”

Though still in its early stages, the program’s core concept has been lauded by all of its participants. “It’s been awesome for us,” said Morrison. “I think it’s a great opportunity for the students to have some exposure to what a real church looks like, but we’ve also benefited extensively from the energy Ricky has brought to the church. We are at a point



May 2014 graduate Hector Melendez spent the first semester of his senior year in Hutchinson, Minn., where he experienced the real world of a pastor.

The creation of the new practical semester was catalyzed by an alumnus’ donation. “The division received some money for theology students to give Bible studies, but we really didn’t have an effective way to facilitate that,” said Fetrick. “In a class with eight students, I can’t just follow them to people’s houses and keep an eye on them.”

The religion professors discussed strategies to enable students to conduct Bible studies while gaining real-world experience, deciding on the new semester-long practicum. Conference presidents place students in compatible churches, where they take on roles preaching

where we need a youth or associate pastor, so having him around has helped us catch a vision of what we might need.”

“Obviously there were some kinks in the first semester,” said Melendez. “But I think they’ve hit the nail on the head.”

Functioning as the Personal Witnessing I, Biblical Preaching II and Church Leadership II classes, students and mentoring pastors write reports of their progress and activities to be reviewed by Fetrick. “It’s very rewarding to see how students develop and grow,” he said. “After they’ve preached in church several times, there’s a difference about them, and by sermon six they’re usually pretty good. I think they’ve also all learned a bit more about time management.”

Dispersed between Lincoln, Minnesota and California, the majority of the students returned to Union’s campus for another

semester of regular classes. “Five came back for more classes second semester,” said Fetrick.



Hector Melendez baptized Apollo Valleramos while serving as a pastor at Maplewood for the first semester of his senior year.

“And four of those five have all said they would rather just stay in their church.”

Impassioned students for their forthcoming career, the program has lots of potential. “It’s gone super, super well; much better than we expected,” said Fetrick. “All the students have been involved in Bible studies, had preaching experience, interacted with church boards and done home and hospital visitations. It’s the real, full experience.”

“I can’t imagine graduating without going through this program,” said Melendez, who graduated in May and was hired as a pastor by the Dakota Conference. “This semester has taught me more about being a pastor than I could ever learn as a student. I had four baptisms in my practicum semester, which was incredible. To have salvation in your hands and see someone be reborn; that epitomized my semester.”

Union students named “heroes” by the American Red Cross

by Pablo Colindres '14

For students in Union College’s new Red Cross Club, being a hero doesn’t always mean committing acts of selfless bravery such as rescuing someone from a burning building or raging river.

Sometimes it’s the little things that count.

At their annual Tribute to Heroes banquet on May 1, the Cornhusker Chapter of the American Red Cross honored the Union College students with the Tribute to Heroes Disaster Relief Award for “unconditional service and support to the Cornhusker Disaster Action Team.”

The campus club, formed this school year by International Rescue and Relief program director Rick Young, assists with Red Cross disaster response throughout the state of Nebraska—supporting first responders fighting fires, helping to provide for the immediate needs of disaster victims and assisting with tornado damage assessment.

“I don’t have the coolest of stories,” said Jonatan Rojas, a senior IRR premed major. But Rojas was deployed in the aftermath of several tornados last fall. “Mostly, we reviewed damages done to communities and were available to help out however we could.”

He finds the experiences as preparation for his life calling. “Being in the club allows me to be more focused on serving others while at the same time giving me valuable experience for my future as a medical doctor.”

Nursing major Shelby Hayes also understands the value of serving her community. “The importance of a cup of water is huge,” she said. “Most of the calls I’ve responded to have been canteening calls.”

Canteening refers to providing first responders, such as firefighters, with water and food during an emergency response. During the winter months, this usually means making coffee and hot chocolate at a time most people are sleeping soundly.

“One canteening call came around 2

“I’m very proud of these students who give of themselves to serve the Lincoln community.”

a.m., and the temperature had dropped to a horrible minus 22 with the windchill!” Hayes remembered the firefighters covered in ice. “A house had caught fire and we went out in the Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicle. We had snacks, hot chocolate and coffee, and one of the firefighters later told us they couldn’t do it without us.”

Union College’s International Rescue and Relief Program is a baccalaureate degree that combines survival, rescue, emergency medical and disaster response training to prepare students for careers in health care, law enforce-

ment and emergency management.

As part of their training, IRR students already had to take the American Red Cross courses in Shelter Operations and Disaster Services Overview. Young thought it would be a great idea to not only allow students to put those skills to work, but provide another way for Union to connect with and serve the Lincoln community.

Thus, the Union College Red Cross Club was born in fall 2013. The club usually handles all Red Cross emergency calls one week each month. Active members include IRR staff members Young and Tyler Anderson and students Arelli Dicken, Emilian Grigore, Jeremy Howard, Connor Kraegel, Amy Matsuda, Megan Prescott, Tobias Watson and Lauren Young in addition to Rojas and Hayes.

For Hayes, being a hero isn’t always doing the big things that get noticed. “These experiences have shown me time and time again the importance of the little things,” said Hayes. “In service, no matter whether you go on a mission trip far away or next door, you can share those little things.”

“I’m very proud of these students who give of themselves to serve the Lincoln community,” said Young. “They embody the spirit of Union College and truly are heroes.”

CAMPUS NEWS

Anonymous donor gifts \$1 million to Union College

by Pablo Colindres '14

This school year brought a lot of good news. Last summer, the physician assistant and international rescue and relief programs moved into their new facility in a renovated section of the Don Love Building.

In early March, the first classes were held in the new Krueger Center for Science and Mathematics, and the building was officially opened during graduation weekend on May 8.

And President John Wagner dropped an unexpected surprise on the campus shortly after classes resumed in January. In a letter sent to college students and employees, he explained that an anonymous donor had given a gift of stock holdings to the college. According to an official valuation of the stock, the gift amounted to \$1 million.

Union soon learned they were one of a number of organizations in southeast Nebraska to receive a portion of \$33 million given away by the same benefactor—including Southeast Community College Educational

Foundation, Nebraska Wesleyan University, University of Nebraska Foundation, Friendship Home, Bryan Health, and Salvation Army, among others. According to an email from a bank trust officer, the donor wanted to “show sincere appreciation to the community of Lincoln.”

This is the first time Union has received an unsolicited gift of this scale. However, Union College has a rich tradition of philanthropic support from alumni, friends, and church organizations as well as the Lincoln community. The vast majority of the funding for the Krueger Center came from nearly \$15 million raised by the *Our Promising Future* campaign.

The Union College Board of Trustees has voted to place at least half of the money into an endowment for maintenance and upkeep of the campus.

“The college board is considering several possibilities for the other half of the gift,” said

LuAnn Davis, vice president for Advancement. “At the moment—and nothing is set in stone—trustees are considering how this gift could help the campus boldly move forward in such a way that Union College is better positioned to both enrich students’ educational experience while also being able to better serve the Lincoln community. Up to half of the gift could be used as seed money to start such a project.”

If potential projects are not deemed feasible, the entire gift will be placed in an endowment fund for campus upkeep.

“God has blessed Union with this gift,” said Wagner. “However we ultimately use the money, it will help Union continue to provide an outstanding educational experience for our students. We thank not only this generous benefactor, but everyone who helps support the mission of Union College.”

Davis honored by board for fund raising efforts

by Ricky Amino '16

LuAnn Davis, vice president for Advancement at Union College, was presented a leadership award at the Union College Board of Trustees meeting on February 10, 2014. The award acknowledged Davis’ efforts in guiding the *Our Promising Future* campaign for the new Krueger Center for Science and Mathematics. Board chair Tom Lemon and campaign chair Kent Thompson presented the award to a surprised Davis at the February meeting.

A firm believer in the adage “there is no ‘I’ in team,” Davis took the opportunity to acknowledge the various groups and individuals involved in the campaign including her staff, without which she exclaimed her efforts would be “futile,” the Union College trustees for their leadership in philanthropy, and the Mid-America Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for their exemplary support.

Davis, who graduated from Union and has worked at the school for 22 years, attributes her progress to the various individuals with whom she has come in contact while working in philanthropy. “I am fortunate to have grown in this profession working with some

of the best,” she said. “Basically I learn from everyone who has taken time to share with me and encourage my work for Union College, and I am blessed to say that list is lengthy.”

“As vice president for Advancement, it was LuAnn who gave leadership to all the necessary planning of the campaign from feasibility study to energizing and recruiting volunteers,” said John Wagner, Union College president. “Every aspect of the campaign was imagined and led by her.”

Davis began the fund raising project in 2006 during what was termed the “silent phase” of the project where the practicality of raising the necessary funds was tested.

“Once the possible location was identified,” said Kent Thompson, “[the board] needed to see what was needed for the future uses in math and science and how this proposed building could meet those needs. We created a mountain for LuAnn by the time all of this processing was completed.”

After working with consultants and donors, the board decided to scale back the original plan to make the goal more realistic, meaning Davis and her staff had to go back

and persuade potential donors to support the slightly altered project. Subsequently, she and her staff, with help from more than 3,000 donors, exceeded the \$14.5 million campaign goal in November 2013.

“People are very appreciative of the culture of Union,” said Davis. “When they hear our vision for what we strive to accomplish for Union’s future, they are quite responsive to our requests for philanthropic investment. It’s been so rewarding to see how each and every donor’s gift plays a role in achieving a goal. What really gets me excited is when donors share how their faith in God and His blessings make it possible for them to become philanthropic partners with Union College. Nothing can be more rewarding than that.”

Davis received a commemorative plaque and a bouquet of roses in appreciation for her efforts and contribution to this campaign. Union College celebrates LuAnn Davis for her incalculable role toward Union’s cause as well as her constant dedication to better the institution, herself and the people around her.

Cookie Call:

How care packages kept alumni connected to Union College while serving in Vietnam



By Ricky Amimo '16

For Allan Stone, there was nothing like a cookie and the latest issue of the *Clocktower*, especially when stuck in a war zone thousands of miles from Union College's peaceful campus.

It was 1969 and Stone had been drafted into the U.S. Army and shipped to Vietnam just months after graduating from Union with a degree in business administration. So far from home, he and his fellow soldiers often found it difficult to stay connected with loved ones.

"These were the days before Twitter and Facebook," Stone recalled. "The only time I ever called home was on a MARS (Military Auxiliary Radio System) station where the operators forwarded my call and I would say a few words then say 'over' like it was a walkie talkie." The time difference and busy schedule made calling home difficult, so mailed letters and packages became the primary means of communication even though delivery usually took several weeks.

Cookie Call

Dr. George Stone, then chair of the education department, and his wife, Jo, decided to keep their son connected with Union College and express their love by sending cookies and issues of the *Clocktower* to him. "It was always good to get any type of mail," exclaimed the younger Stone. "And to get cookies was just out of this world. We didn't have anything like that out in the combat zone."

When Stone first started receiving cookies from his parents, he gladly shared them with his friends, who proved most willing to eat the delicious cookies. "I remember some of my friends asking me, 'Isn't it about time you got some of those cookies?'" he chuckled.

Stone's parents wanted to reach out to other Union College graduates and Adventists in Vietnam, so they requested names from both Allan and the families of other GIs. With that, "Cookie Call" was born. Many of the women at College View church volunteered to bake cookies and then package them to survive the trip halfway around the world. The volunteers wrapped each batch of freshly baked cookies in plastic wrap and packed them in a coffee can filled with popcorn to protect them from the inevitable jostling and temperature extremes. The cans were then wrapped with the latest issue of the *Clocktower* and mailed to Asia.

As word spread about the Cookie Call, volunteers at College View received more and more names from soldiers' families. "A lot of guys

would also write back and send in their buddies' names because they wanted to receive cookies, too," chuckled Stone.

For more than 100 Adventist soldiers in Vietnam, the Cookie Call was a lifeline to home. See the insert for an example of the many notes of thanks sent to the volunteers who dedicated so much time to bake and mail the goodies.

Dear Dr. Stone:

Thank you very much for your continued interest in the servicemen overseas and we all really appreciate it. Your last "Cookie Can" was great, not just because of the good cookies, but because the *Clocktower* enclosed contained letters from two of my very good buddies whom I went to school with and then later went through army training with—Larry Austin and Jon Carlson. It was really great to know that they are doing fine, and it is letters from 'Nam that make me able to accept Korea, even though it does smell. Keep up the good work and God bless.

—Carl Spaulding

No heroes' welcome

When Allan Stone returned to Nebraska in March 1970 after serving two years overseas, it was not to the heroes' welcome he and other veterans expected, but to a country embroiled in debate over whether the United States should be at war at all. "When we came back we were shunned, spit on, and called 'women killers,' 'drug addicts,' and just about any other name you can think of," Stone remembered. "We were not received well."

Stone spent the next year sending cookies to Adventist soldiers still on the battlefield and eventually joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars to help make sure other returning soldiers didn't share his experience. "We vowed to let none of the veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan feel like that," he said.

The VFW raises awareness of the benefits and opportunities available to all veterans as well as meets their needs and the needs of their families. "Nobody does more for veterans than veterans themselves," said Stone. "We are veterans helping veterans, as goes one of our mottos." Stone's involvement with VFW has opened opportunities for him to meet congressmen and senators in Washington D. C., as well as plan the upcoming 2014 Veteran of Foreign Wars state convention, all geared toward providing for the various needs of all war veterans.

Moving on

Allan Stone now lives in Colorado with his family and has the joy of watching his grandchildren grow up. He visited Vietnam in 2001, where both the memories of weary war life and the positive joys of friendship and love attributed to the Cookie Call came flooding back. Stone keeps himself busy volunteering with the VFW, but also serves his community as chairman of the Board of Adjustments and Appeals of Greenwood Village, Colo. "You have to give back," Stone advised. "A lot of people have given for you. So now I am trying to help give back to my community, to Veterans of Foreign Wars, and to all the people who helped me earlier in my life." 🙏



UNION WELCOMES A NEW *President*

by Ryan Teller '98

Dr. Vinita Sauder, who most recently served as vice president for Strategic Initiatives at Southern Adventist University, has accepted the invitation of the Union College Board of Trustees to serve as Union's next president. She will transition to her new role at Union over the summer.

Sauder brings extensive experience in higher education—starting as public relations director at Southern Adventist University (then Southern College of Seventh-day Adventists) in the early 1980s. Since then, she has taught in the School of Business and Management, served as director of Institutional Research, associate vice president for Academic Administration, vice president for Marketing and Enrollment Services, and in her most recent role as vice president for Strategic Initiatives.

After earning a bachelor's degree in journalism from Southern Adventist University in 1978, Sauder worked in public relations and as a reporter until joining the Southern staff in 1983. She later earned an MBA from the University of Tennessee Chattanooga School of Business in 1989 and a doctorate in leadership from the Andrews University School of Education in 2008.

"Dr. Sauder understands and resonates with the Union College culture," said Thomas L. Lemon, chair of the Union College Board of Trustees. "Her experience as both a faculty member and an adminis-

trator in Adventist higher education has prepared her for this new role, and I believe she will interface well with our current administrative team to effectively lead Union College into the future."

We caught up with Dr. Sauder during her busy transition to Lincoln and asked her a few questions about herself and her new role at Union.

CORD: Dr. Sauder, what first drew you to Union College?

Sauder: As I've spent more time here, I've discovered so many things to like. But what first attracted me to Union is the size and spirit. I am passionate about small colleges. Schools such as Union can deliver an excellent education because of personal connections. Small colleges create an environment where students can grow and live up to their full potential.

My entire life has been dedicated to small college education, and I have been interested in transitioning to a presidential role on a small campus like Union because I know small schools have all the right tools to deliver a transformative, well-rounded education.

From what I have seen so far, Union College embodies all the great qualities of a small college. The personal, family nature of the campus is very appealing. And the Union spirit is quite evident in the way students are treated and in the way students lead.

CORD: Why did you develop a passion for small colleges?

Sauder: I did not grow up a Seventh-day Adventist, and attended public elementary and high schools. As a new Adventist, I enrolled at Southern College (now Southern Adventist University). The way in which the professors and staff interacted with me changed my life forever. I have also seen the same results in my children and in those of my friends.

In fact, my 28-year-old son attended the Carolina camp meeting this summer and he started texting me when he met a couple whose son just graduated from Union. “Mom, they talked to me for 20 minutes about what an awesome experience it has been for him and how it changed his life.”

CORD: You have been a part of some research projects that put some hard data behind these ideas. Tell us more about what you have learned.

Sauder: When I did my doctoral dissertation, I was blessed to be involved with the Adventist Association of Colleges and Universities—a collaborative effort among all the Adventist colleges in North America. I dovetailed the research I conducted with AACU into my dissertation, so I became closely involved with the project.

We held focus groups and telephone interviews with both Adventist parents and students, comparing the perceptions of Adventist students who were public high school graduates with graduates of Adventist academies. We made some astounding findings, namely that Adventists who attended public high schools didn't have any awareness of the 15 Adventist colleges in North America. But when we described the benefits of a private college experience to them, including professors who had time to mentor, the spiritual environment, opportunities for service and ministry, and the excellent academic and career preparation possible, we discovered both parents and students became very interested in Adventist colleges.

As a result of that study, AACU dedicated resources to reaching out to all Adventist students across America to share the tremendous difference in values and benefits that investment in a private education can make. We'd like every Adventist student to at least have the chance to consider an Adventist college when they are making their college choice.

I was also involved in a second research project that is just now concluding. We surveyed alumni databases of all Adventist colleges—including Union—as well as Adventists who attended public universities. Again, the results were dramatic. This research indicated overwhelmingly that Adventist schools provide a personal touch, personal mentoring, and relationships—dramatically increasing educational satisfaction—in a way that just doesn't happen in public universities or high schools.

The results show that students are more satisfied with the education they receive in a small college that provides personal relationships between students and faculty and a faith-based environment. We always suspected this, but now we have the data to back it up.

That's why students choose to attend Adventist colleges. And that's why people come to Union College. My son listened to those parents in North Carolina for 20 minutes. That father said his son is a walking, living testimony to Union College.

CORD: You have spent most of your career working at Southern Adventist University as a public relations specialist, professor and administrator. As you look back, what are you most proud of?

Sauder: It's hard to realize I worked at Southern for nearly 25 years all together. But of all those great experiences, I think I'm most proud of being able to work with teams to accomplish goals. It didn't take me long to learn that a task is never about just one person. A team can generate ideas and excitement, and working on a successful team is my biggest joy.

As vice president for Marketing and Enrollment Services at Southern, I led a very talented team whose work ultimately led to growing the school by 1,400 students—more than 80 percent growth in 12 years.

More recently, I was asked to lead a team tasked with retention of students. Instead of just focusing on academics or student services, areas which often lead these type of teams, we considered this a university-wide strategic initiative and assembled an action-oriented team from across the entire campus, including faculty, administrators, researchers, enrollment managers, and residence hall deans. This group did a lot of remarkable things, slowly boosting retention rates. I loved helping each team member find their passion and strength and let them go. There's a lot of power in that.

CORD: What experiences do you feel have best prepared you for your new role as president of Union College?

Sauder: I think that until you have experienced a new role, it is difficult to know if you are prepared. But I have been blessed by the mentorship of a really great college president in Gordon Bietz at Southern. I couldn't ask for a better mentor. He taught me how to lead collaborative teams and actively mentored me in a variety of ways.

The work I have done in strategic planning over the last three years has also been a shaping factor for me. I have learned the importance of seeing the campus as a whole and helping all the parts to work together to accomplish a common goal.

CORD: Looking in as an outsider, what do you think is Union's greatest strength?

Sauder: I didn't have to be on campus very long to see that people are Union's greatest strength. Yes, Union has strong academic programs and a beautiful new science and mathematics building, as well as a great new facility for the physician assistant and international rescue and relief programs. But I can see the strength of the school in the personal connections made on campus—between the employees, between students, between students and teachers. As I mentioned earlier, those connections are the key to a quality education.

I see strength in the commitment and dedication of the faculty and staff. I see strength in the students who are equipped and then given the opportunity to lead. I see strength in an environment that seeks to facilitate spiritual growth through fellowship and service opportunities. This is the kind of place I'd want to send my kids to for college.

CORD: Speaking of kids, tell us about your family.

Sauder: I am very blessed. Greg, my husband of nearly 33 years, and I have two grown sons who have married wonderful Christian women.

My older son, Dustin, served in the Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan. He and his wife, Kristin, have decided to move to Lincoln so he can earn a degree in international rescue and relief at Union.

My younger son, Nick, is a business analyst for Adventist Health corporate headquarters in Sacramento, Calif.

Greg has worked at McKee Foods for 29 years in a variety of roles from quality control to floor supervisor. He has retired from McKee and hopes to continue in a similar type job with a company in Lincoln.

We love to travel and explore small towns, so we are really looking forward to exploring what Union, Lincoln and the entire state of Nebraska have to offer.

CORD: Thanks for your time. We look forward to your arrival on campus.

Sauder: Thank you. Please pray for me as I make this transition and pray for Union College. Union has long provided excellent educational opportunities to thousands of students and I am very excited to be part of God's plan for the future of this school. 卐



Dr. John Wagner retired from his third term of service at Union College in June. He served as academic dean from 1981-83 and president from 1986-1991 and 2011-2014.

FAREWELL TO

Dr. John Wagner

by Elena Cornwell '15

The sunny Sabbath afternoon found six or seven students at Dr. Malcolm and Sharon Russell's home. The two Union College employees, he the vice president for Academic Administration, and she the director of guest services, often invited students to their home. As we settled in, talking and laughing, the smell of lasagna drifted from the kitchen.

Within a few minutes, Dr. John Wagner, president of the college, strolled in to join us. We exchanged greetings and then gradually moved to the kitchen for the blessing and to dig in. Dr. Wagner made everyone feel at ease and soon the initial awe of eating and chatting with the college president began to wear off.

Presently, dessert had come and gone and most were now casually sipping water. I glanced up from my water to see Dr. Wagner take a huge bite of the lemon slice from his water, chew and swallow it—peeling and all. “Dr. Wagner, did you just eat that entire lemon slice?” I asked as he put the other half in his mouth.

“Yeah, it's really quite good, and good for you as well!” Pretty soon, the entire table of college students was reduced to laughter and funny faces

as we ate our lemons, rinds as well. Dr. Wagner didn't ask us to try it, so why did we do it? Dr. Wagner was being Dr. Wagner. He led by example and made every person he encountered feel valued and appreciated. His attitude and leadership that got us to eat our lemons made Dr. Wagner such a cherished part of Union College for more than 30 years.

Dr. Wagner's relationship with Union College began in 1981. Called from his job as superintendent of schools for the Colorado Conference to be academic dean, Dr. Wagner worked with then President Dean Hubbard to create many academic innovations including Union's personalized degree program. Designed to allow students to create a degree with unique classes that fit with their future careers, the personalized degree program is still available today. In fact, I am a beneficiary as I am in the process of designing my own personalized degree.

After three years at Union, Dr. Wagner left to serve as president of Southern College (now Southern Adventist University). But just three years later the Union College Board of Trustees called him back to lead the school through the difficult task of paying off a debt of more than \$9 million. A new Larson Lifestyle Center, computer terminals in every

dorm room and the campus radio station had advanced and improved Union, but came with a high price tag. The new president dug in with all the college employees, and by the time he left in 1991, the college had cut the debt in half.

Don't expect Dr. Wagner to take much credit, though. "I see myself as a cheerleader," he said. "I don't get much done by myself, but I can be supportive of the people who have the expertise." This support is what has galvanized Union time and time again to accomplish great things. Ask any student and they will exuberantly express their appreciation and admiration for Wagner. "It's hard to gain the respect of young people, but I've never heard anyone say a bad word about Dr. Wagner," said senior religious education major Tyler Morrison.

I, too, have found this to be true. I have passed Dr. Wagner many times on my way to class. He never fails to stop and ask how I am and wish me well in class. I wrote an article once and received a handwritten card of thanks for a job well done. He takes time each year to learn students' names, and often surprises students by knowing their names even before they have officially met. He demonstrates how much he cares by attending almost every single school activity, whether put on by the administration or the student association.

Dr. Wagner left Union in 1991, and for the next 20 years worked for a number of non-profit organizations around the country. He visited hundreds of colleges and universities distributing grants from a private foundation to support volunteer community service. One of the grants he gave was to Union College. "That was fun because I got to see students really doing things in their communities," says Wagner of his first experience with non-profits. He then became founding president of a corporate foundation and later became the CEO for Prevent Blindness Indiana.


In 2011, Union College once again asked Dr. Wagner to lead the school to completion of a critical project. Though he was partially

retired and serving as assistant administrative pastor at Sligo Adventist Church in Maryland, Wagner—with his typical enthusiasm—agreed to serve as interim president as Union finished the school's largest capital campaign to date and began construction on the first academic building to be erected on campus in more than 30 years—the Krueger Center for Science and Mathematics.

Ultimately, the one-year interim presidency stretched to three as full-time president to see the Krueger Center—and several other projects—to completion. During his presidency, the physician assistant studies and international rescue and relief programs moved into newly renovated spaces formerly occupied by AdventSource. AdventSource also built a new production and warehouse facility on the southeast corner of campus. "God blessed in so many ways, including increased enrollment this past year," said Wagner.

I count myself blessed to have watched Dr. Wagner put his entire heart into leading Union College. His fundraising efforts never ceased, from jumping off the diving board—in suit and tie—to encourage students to give to a mission project, to rappelling down the clock tower to raise scholarship funds, he does not let a single chance go to waste.

I think some of my fellow students best described Dr. Wagner and what he has meant to Union College. "You usually don't see people of his position just go to all the basketball games or a late night joint worship about health," said Ricky Melendez, who graduated in May with a degree in theology. "He shows up to everything. Whoever you are, no matter what sport you play, what club you're in, what your major is, you can always count on Dr. Wagner to be there to support you."

"His friendly attitude is reflected on campus," observed J-Fiah Reeves, who recently finished his freshman year at Union. "When you hear that Union is friendly and welcoming, it starts at the top with Dr. Wagner. He's friendly, he's welcoming, he's approachable. He embodies the spirit of Union." 



A fixture at every campus event, Wagner was not afraid to don plaid PJs for campus pajama party to open the Krueger Center in March 2014—along with students Rostin Dieter and AJ Valcin.



The Medical Cadet Corps taught Union students basic military and medical training.



PREPARING FOR MILITARY SERVICE:

Union's Medical Cadet Corps
trains potential draftees

*by Michael Rohm '14 and Pablo Colindres '14
photos; courtesy of Union College Library*

*Bonita Cozad (attended 1941) and Glenn Davenport '43
dressed up for a Medical Cadet Corps dinner.*

When people complain about completing a task “under fire,” they rarely mean it to be interpreted literally. For former Battalion Surgeon Bill Swan, there is no other way to interpret it.

During his year of active duty in Vietnam, Swan operated under enemy fire more than thirty times, all of which he survived unscathed. “One time I had to close off a femoral artery in the field under heavy fire,” he recalled, before moving to another memory in which he had to dodge bullets to locate and administer aid to a wounded child, all without wielding a weapon. “Good thing they were bad shots,” he chuckled.

While Swan’s experience may not be unique among veterans of war, his training certainly was.

Medical Cadet Corps

Following his tour of duty during World War I, Union College legend Dr. Everett Dick sought to create a program that would train young Adventists for crisis while upholding the values of their faith. Recognizing the inevitability of violence in the shadow of World War II, Dick structured the program to provide young Adventist recruits with skills that would serve their country while offering an alternative to armed combat. He appealed to Union College and in 1934 the first class of the Medical Cadet Corps (MCC) was offered on campus.

When veteran and Union alum Frank Forbes spoke of the Medical Cadet Corps, he recalled the practical value of skills such as bandaging and splintering, but even more he remembered the unifying value of training together as Adventists, a lesson he would cherish during his time overseas.

“To realize there were other soldiers going into service as conscientious objectors,” said Forbes. “It was a good thing.”

The success of the Medical Cadet Corps on Union’s campus inspired schools around the nation and ultimately around the world, providing an example to Adventist institutions in Asia, South America, and regions of the Middle East. Because of their specialized medical training, graduates of the MCC were drafted into the army as medics, one of few positions that allowed for conscientious objection, or the refusal to bear arms in war.

“The young people were looking for something better than just going in the army and training to fight,” said Forbes. “It gave them an option to do something worthwhile while still serving their country.”

And even though many of these Adventist recruits were given extra duty stoking furnaces or cleaning kitchens, it was a small price to pay in serving both God and country. And they were very often admired for it. Swan remembered how the young recruits coming out of the Medical Cadet Corps were respected for their skill and their lifestyle. “We weren’t out there drinking or raising hell,” he said. “We were always where we were supposed to be and doing what we were supposed to do.”

Honoring the Memories

It has been 44 years since the last military draft, and the end of the Korean War signaled the end of the Medical Cadet Corps. Many memories have faded and some have been lost to time.

But Kelti Dickerson, senior history major and granddaughter of Frank Forbes, decided to revisit this chapter of Union’s history for her Honors Research Project. “Originally, I chose this project because it was something the library needed done,” she laughed, “but I was also very interested partly because our generation has never had to face a draft.”

Dickerson’s attachment to the project soon became personal. “It wasn’t until later on I found out that my grandpa took MCC training at one of the camps,” she said. “So now it has become part of my family history as well.”

Dickerson dove deep into the archives for information. Sources included Adventist periodicals, boxes of unpublished photographs, and letters. “The project came together slowly because of the massive amounts of materials,” says Dickerson. “There are over 450 pictures and boxes full of documents that have never been organized or evaluated for content.”

Though daunting, it was also exciting. “We had no idea what might be uncovered in those boxes,” said Dickerson, who recently discovered nine 16mm films of the Medical Cadet Corps. With funding, she has digitized the first, a film portraying Union College students performing close-order drills, stretcher exercises, and gas mask demonstrations

“It was amazing to see the exercises the MCC was doing back in the late 1930s,” she said. “I can’t wait to get more funding to digitize the rest of the films.”

For Dickerson, this project turned into more than a grade. “There are plans for interviews with historians, church history experts, and maybe military experts,” she said. “Hopefully, interviews with any surviving cadets who either took MCC as a class or attended one of the camps.”

Her ultimate goal is to compile all the information and interviews into a documentary that can be made available to the public. “Very little secondary work has been done concerning the MCC,” she said. “It’s something most younger Adventists don’t even know existed.”

And in the current global crises, such information could be invaluable for young Adventist recruits.

“The way is paved for them to do something other than destroy lives,” said Forbes. “There is something else besides killing. We can do good and help rather than take lives.”

“The young people were looking for something better than just going in the Army and training to fight. It gave them an option to do something worthwhile while still serving their country”



Three cadets demonstrate their field medical skills on a fellow cadet.



by Nicole Meharry '04

photo: Steve Nazario

STUDENT VETERANS

★ AT UNION COLLEGE ★

Two young men from two different home states: two branches of the military and two different stories to tell. Their experiences, their words and their outcomes, however, are similar. One college. One faith. One God. Union College is privileged to claim two young men who not only served their country honorably, but who now also serve God through the sharing of their different and yet remarkably similar stories with others.

Chaz Spellman—United States Marine Corps

Chaz Spellman grew up in an Adventist home in Aberdeen, S.D., and attended Dakota Adventist Academy for one year—a blessing he says he was regretfully ungrateful for as a teenager. Spellman joined the Marine Corps at 17, shipped out to boot camp in 2007 and will be finished with Inactive Ready Reserve this coming June. He can't wait to be a "free man."

Although he tested very well and could have had his pick of assignments, Spellman chose to be a grunt in the Marine Corps, stationed at Camp Pendleton, Calif. "We have a lot of sayings in the Marines, and one is, "If you think up the absolute dumbest, worst possible way to do something that will make no sense and put unnecessary pain and strife on the grunts, that's the way we're going to end up doing it.'" Spellman has myriad health issues to deal with now from the physical stress of his assignment.

"Another saying in the Marine Corps is 'those who understand don't need an explanation and those who need an explanation will never understand.' Now that I'm on the other side of my service I understand

that saying even more," Spellman said. "It's definitely difficult to try to explain my experience." Spellman tried his best to relate some of his frustrations with various aspects of his assignment including being at the mercy of the whims of higher officers and the influence of helicopter moms interfering with the training of junior Marines. Despite the frustrations though, Spellman clarified, "I love my men, and I loved what I did. I was good at it—very good. Everything else was pretty miserable. Miserable kind of sums up the Marine Corps. But we were miserable together."

Was it miserable to try to uphold his beliefs as a Seventh-day Adventist in the military? Not at first, Spellman explained, because he didn't have a deep understanding of what it meant to stand firm in his convictions. While he'd grown up in an Adventist home, Spellman was still a baby when it came to his own Christianity. When he was about halfway through his active duty, Spellman began to turn to God for comfort and a relationship he realized wasn't available anywhere else. "I began to grow more in my personal beliefs and make my religion my own, between Jesus and myself, and it became a little harder to stand by my beliefs once I actually had some beliefs to be grounded in."

Although Spellman didn't begin to keep the Sabbath or really work on his other convictions until he left the Corps, he believes, "God used war to shape me and my injuries to mold me into who I am as an adopted son of God today."

Spellman has grown up and into a deeper walk with God now—he expects to graduate from Union in 2015 with a degree in theology and a view to serve God in both word and life work. He may have begun his studies at Union as a pre-dental/international rescue and relief major, but Spellman didn't feel as though either of those really "fit" him and sought God's leading in prayer—both his own and his mother's. He felt called to the ministry, inspired by the bonds of brotherhood he had witnessed in the Marine Corps. "The bonds you form with your brothers in the Corps are like nothing I've seen in the civilian world, and though it hurts me to say, it's also like nothing I've ever seen in the church. I think if Marines accepted Jesus they would make the most dedicated, loyal and selfless Christians. We could learn a lot from the Corps' demonstration of strong loyalty and simple connectedness."

Nathan Huggins—United States Air Force

Nathan Huggins found Union College through a very different path, having grown up a mile from the Idaho border in the Inland Northwest. Less than a year after graduating from East Valley High School in the small town of Newman Lake, Wash., Huggins joined the United States Air Force. Following six months of basic training, technical school and advanced training, Huggins found himself bound for Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha, Neb., where he would remain stationed for the duration of his active duty—five and a half years.

Although he remains frustrated with some aspects of his time in the military, Huggins spoke with respect and an almost-reverence of what the experience taught him. "It was a life changing experience, a test of character, a test of faith, a builder of courage, fortitude, dedication, resiliency, and integrity, yet it was also humbling, sobering and painful. I am happy to have served despite my grievances and disagreements with the military and my personal opinions aside, it taught me a lot about myself." Huggins explained that in his home he had experienced the kind of discipline that made adapting to military life a little bit easier, but that joining the Air Force compelled him to grow up quickly, to mold his worldview, to change his perceptions.

It was, of course, not without trials and hardships. "The sheer will to persevere through some of the training that was psychologically and physiologically brutal to oneself makes me smile often knowing I had the drive and heart to push past those things," he said. Huggins spent a harrowing total of 383 days in the Middle East and credits his missions there with turning him back to the God of his childhood. "The suffering, pain, death and injustice I witnessed over there cannot be described," Huggins remembered. "I knew there had to be a God; the scope and magnitude of all that happened made me think about the Bible stories, principles and prophecy I had been taught as a child. I knew then there had to be a God and that the Holy Spirit was working on my heart."

As a self-proclaimed atheist when he joined, Huggins did not

struggle with trying to uphold a religious belief system until he began to struggle with God. During his tours to the Middle East, Huggins began to see a need for God in his life and turned back to Adventism to help bring him into a closer walk with Jesus. He attempted to keep the Sabbath without finding any support to do so. "It is incredibly hard to uphold principles as a Bible-believing Christian in the military; in fact, it is nearly impossible," Huggins explained. "The only way it is possible is if God makes it so. The military doesn't care what you believe. For them,

the mission comes first, everything else is secondary. Therefore it becomes extremely difficult to uphold and practice your beliefs in that setting."

Thankfully, Huggins isn't finding it difficult to keep the Sabbath anymore. After attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant E-5 and separating honorably from the Air Force in 2010, Huggins found his way the short distance from Omaha to Lincoln, Neb., and began attending Union College. He expects to graduate in December 2014 with a degree in international rescue and relief. Finding a niche in civilian life has allowed Huggins to look back at his time in the Air Force with gratitude. "The experience is something I hold very dear; it isn't who I am now, but it is what brought me to this point in my life and helped mold and shape certain aspects of who I am. I attempted to discard the worst things out of my military service and tried to use the best it

had to offer me." Huggins shared, "God took what I now see was a bad decision [joining the military], and He used that bad decision to bring me back to Him."

Parting Advice

When asked to give advice to other young people who might be considering a career in the military, both Spellman and Huggins were extremely cautionary. "I recognize those individually who serve and/or have served, but the military itself is simply no place for sincere Bible-believing Christians. I can personally attest to the fight I had

when I came back into the church and I can promise you it is not easy. You will fail if you decide to join; you will lose your faith." Huggins intimates, "I feel blessed that even though this happened to me, I did regain my faith in the end."

Spellman agreed, "My advice would honestly be, don't join. Everyone has different experiences

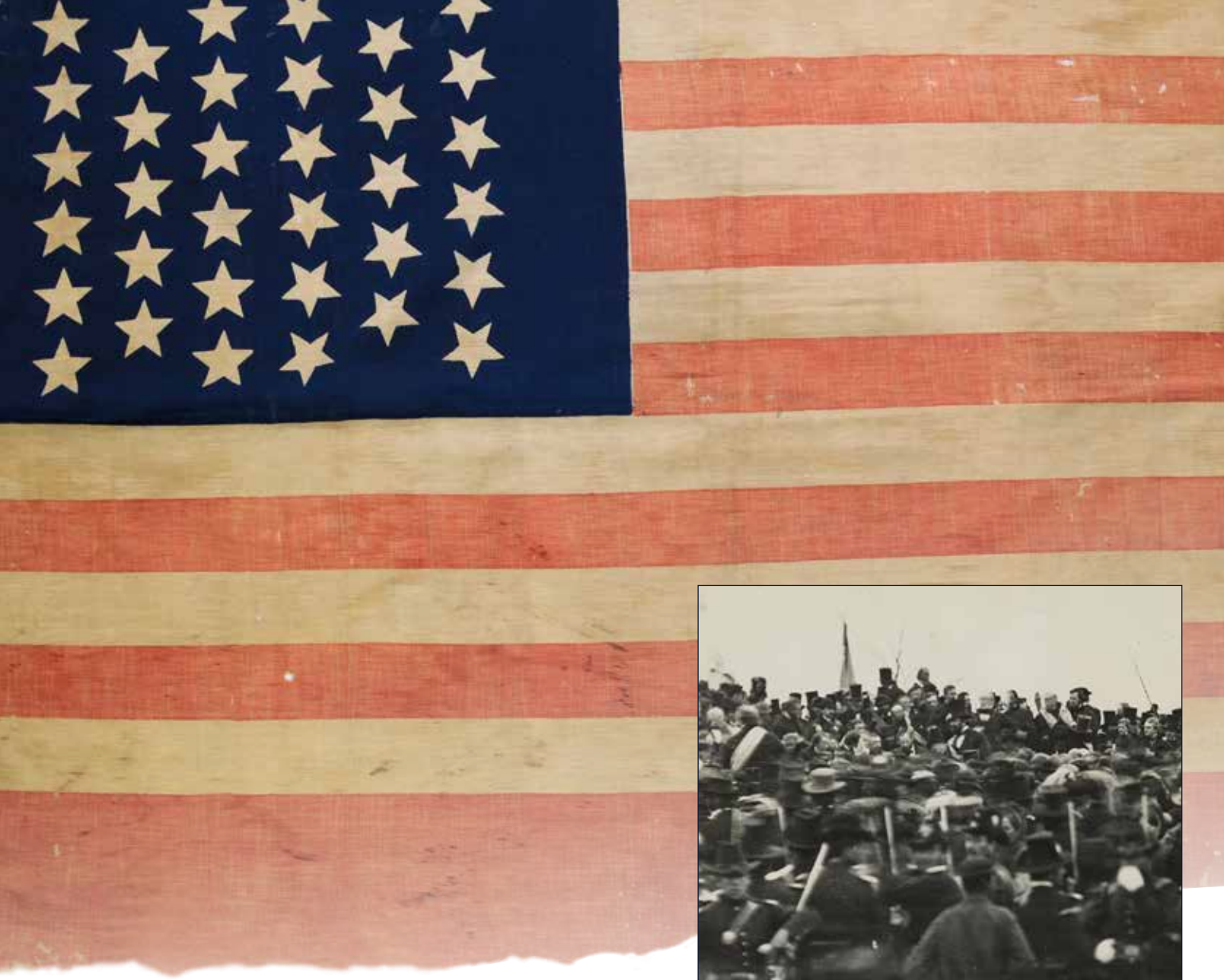
and it may sound hypocritical, but I wouldn't change mine. Yet, when my little cousins and friends ask if they should join, especially those who are Christian, I say, no, you shouldn't." He is not convinced that the war people are sent to fight today has meaning worthy of the cost. Spellman explained, "We were taught to believe it was patriotic to fight these wars and to defend our 'freedom'. Yet, if my friends hadn't died and I hadn't gotten hurt, American freedom would be no different. No one would be less free or more safe had we not gone to war."

Two young men. Two avenues of military service. Two sets of mental and physical war wounds from which to endure. Two conviction stories and two hearts for Jesus. Their two lives followed different paths to one school, one faith and one response to military service. Union College is grateful and honored to share, and share in, the unfolding life stories of Chaz Spellman and Nathan Huggins.



Theology major Chaz Spellman with his girlfriend, 2014 Union graduate Mandy McCrary

"The bonds you form with your brothers in the Corps are like nothing I've seen in the civilian world, and though it hurts me to say, it's also like nothing I've ever seen in the church. I think if Marines accepted Jesus they would make the most dedicated, loyal and selfless Christians."



The Mystery of the Gettysburg Flag

In honor of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, Union College library director Sabrina Riley recounts her attempts to discover the authenticity of a flag reputedly flown at the Gettysburg Address.

Sabrina Riley, Library Director

In 1985, alumna Muriel Fleming O'Connor gave the Union College Library Heritage Room a 34-star United States flag that—according to her family history—was one of several decorating the platform where Lincoln stood to deliver the famed Gettysburg Address on November 19, 1863. However, various family accounts present significant differences in the Flemmings'¹ wartime experiences and the subsequent history of this flag.

I started researching this mystery in 2008, starting with photographs. Unfortunately, the three known photographs of the event only

show the large group of people present and do not provide enough detail to be of any help. So next, I turned to the family. If they were not living in Gettysburg in 1863, then the story becomes highly improbable. Genealogical sources turned up surprising facts.

Finding the Family

The family patriarch, Andrew W. Flemming, Sr. moved with his family from Baltimore, Md., to Gettysburg, Pa., in 1850. Prior to this move, it is not clear how he made a living, but we do know he incurred

a lifelong disability from an injury suffered while serving as a seaman in 1839 during the Second Seminole War in Florida.

The Flemmings were never wealthy. According to John K. Mahon, enlisted servicemen in the 1830s were not well paid.² The 1860 census does not list an occupation for Flemming, but newspapers reveal that he cobbled together a living from several sources including his own auctioneering business and work for the Adams County Court. He was also actively involved in the Gettysburg community.

At the time of the Battle of Gettysburg Flemming, his wife Julia, daughter Dora, and four sons, James, Solomon, Andrew, Jr., and Joseph were living on Breckinridge Street. On June 30, Dora, a teenager, joined other young ladies in singing to cheer on the Union soldiers as they marched through town. The group of young ladies included Dora's cousin, Alice Powers, who would later publish an account of her experiences during the battle.

A portion of the Flemming family tradition claims that Dora helped nurse the wounded following the battle. Although no documentation has been found to verify that Dora helped care for the wounded, this record of her return to town the day after the battle puts her in the right place at the right time. There were certainly other teenage girls who did help, including Alice Powers and her sisters,³ but no more has been discovered of the Flemming family's actual involvement with the battle, its aftermath, or the dedication of the National Cemetery.

Dora Flemming became a schoolteacher, ultimately became the executor of her father's will and guardian of her nephew William Frederick Flemming. In her old age she relocated to Nebraska where she lived near her nephews Ray and William. It is presumed she inherited the flag and then gave it to Ray, who had been born in the family home in Gettysburg.

The earliest record of the flag is found in the March 7, 1938, issue of the Sargent, Neb., *Leader*. In this article, the flag is said to have been borrowed by one of Ray's sisters for temporary display in Des Moines, Iowa, and to have been recently returned to him. In February 1963, the story of the flag and the Flemming family are again told for the *Denver Post*. Both articles make the claim that the flag was used as decoration on November 19, 1863. However, the *Denver Post* article includes many additional details, none of which are supported by the historical record. For example, O'Connor claimed her great-grandfather had served as master of ceremonies. It is well documented that Ward Hill Lamon, Lincoln's chief marshal and a personal friend, was master of ceremonies for the cemetery dedication.

David Wills, a Gettysburg leader and lawyer who directed the creation of the National Cemetery and the dedication ceremonies, wrote a detailed report of all activities associated with the cemetery for the Pennsylvania State Legislature. Nowhere in this comprehensive document does the name of Andrew W. Flemming or any other member of his family appear.

Clues on the Flag


So with the historical record providing no credible evidence as to the authenticity of the flag or credibility of the Flemming family tradition, we turn to the flag itself. Studying the object for internal evidence can be another valuable source of information.

As already noted, our flag has 34 stars. The 34-star United States flag was official from July 4, 1861 until July 3, 1863 and was the flag used during the battle. West Virginia's admission to the union on June 20, 1863 required that a 35th star be added to the flag on July 4, 1863. While it is entirely possible less wealthy citizens might retain and continue to use an obsolete flag, we do know that at least three new 35-star flags were created specifically for the dedication of the cemetery. One was flown in the Gettysburg town center, one on Little Round Top, and one on the flag pole on stage visible in the photographs of the occasion.

Our flag is large, approximately 3 feet x 5 feet, but would not have been flown outside for very long. The stripes, field of blue, and stars are stamped or screen printed on one side of a single lightweight piece of cloth. The cloth is either cotton or linen. When viewed horizontally, the left edge is attached to a moderately thin rope. These characteristics indicate that this flag is a parade flag; one intended for temporary display during an event and then disposed. Similar to the flags we fly today, in the 1860s a flag intended to be flown from a pole was sewn and embroidered from durable materials and used metal grommets.

Even more intriguing are the stars on the flag's field of blue. Prior to the early 1900s, there were few standards for the United States flag. Size, arrangement of the stars, even the number of stripes were subject to the artistic taste of the flag maker. Standards for the display and use of the flag were also lacking. The stars on our flag look odd when viewed horizontally. Turned vertically, the visual effect is much more pleasing, although to the modern eye this feels backwards because it moves the field of blue to the upper right-hand rather than left-hand corner. Our flag was meant to be hung vertically.

So what's the truth? We may never know.

While the historical evidence conflicts with the Flemming family tradition, their involvement with Gettysburg community life and internal evidence provided by the flag itself suggest that it could have special significance. We can be fairly certain it is authentic to the time period and that it belonged to the family. 



Muriel Fleming O'Connor '40 gifted a flag to Union College that reportedly was flown during President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

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¹ While Muriel Fleming O'Connor spelled her maiden name with a single m, earlier generations spelled their name with the double m.

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³ Kathleen R. Georg, *Summary of Damage Claims from the Battle of Gettysburg for Adams County, PA*, 1985, Pennsylvania State Archives, 31.

Serving with Pride



Graduates from Every Era Serve God and Country at Home and Abroad

by Lauren Bongard Schwarz '04

Drafted and volunteers, land and air and sea, male and female, medical staff and combatant, wartime and peace, Union College alumni have participated in military service since the school's founding.

But for most veterans, their military career didn't end when they were discharged. The military changes people. The weight of duty, the experiences of being a soldier, and the life-changing responsibilities and new brand of patriotism stick with soldiers long after they've put away their uniforms.

Below, seven Union College alumni from different eras tell their stories of service, survival and sacrifice for God and country.

Dr. Willard Regester '49

At age 19 and newly drafted, Regester faced mild hazing for his religious beliefs. "I asked for and got Sabbaths off, but every Monday, the sergeant would make fun of 'that Advent guy that doesn't do any work on Saturday,'" he remembers. "I was just a kid, and his comments hurt because he picked on me in front of everyone." Regester also gave up an invitation to attend West Point because it would have required him to resign his non-combatant status.

But he also recalls kindness that came out of his struggle to maintain his beliefs as part of the 45th field hospital stationed at Fort Bragg. "Before we shipped out, they gave us a week-long furlough," Regester says. "The sergeant in charge was the same one who regularly picked on me. Instead of giving me a pass, he told me, 'I'm in charge here, not your God. There's no furlough for you.' I went back to my bunk and cried like a baby."

Knowing he wouldn't have a chance to spend it, Regester wired his savings back to his family and prepared to wait alone at the base for deployment. But a summons to the lieutenant soon had Regester face-to-face with his tormenter. "The lieutenant told that same sergeant to get me a ticket and put me on the train. When I told him I'd wired all my money home, the sergeant had me taken to the Red Cross to get some money for the trip. The devil had been working on his heart, but so was the Lord."

Regester and fellow soldiers in his platoon made the rough overseas voyage to England and were billeted at Upton-on-Severn from March until June. They were scheduled to land at Utah Beach on D-Day minus four hours. But a twist of fate delayed them four days, until June 10, 1944, almost certainly saving Regester's life.

Regester's experiences ring of places and events in well-known history. His contingency landed on the Cherbourg Peninsula and moved east across France. He was in Paris the day it was liberated from Hitler's army. He was standing just feet from Frances Slinger, the first

American nurse killed in Europe, when she was hit by German artillery. He worked in a field hospital on the rim of the Battle of the Bulge. The bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki caused his unit to be sent home instead of a planned move to the Pacific theater of operations.

Back stateside, Regester enrolled at Union College where his girlfriend was waiting for him. They married that summer. After graduating, he moved on to medical school in Loma Linda. The couple raised five children and Regester practiced medicine in Sunnyvale, Calif., until 2000, when he retired and moved to Oregon. He remained active speaking around the world, and was a regular on the Better Life Broadcasting Network until his death in 2014.

In 2013, Regester preached for the fifth time in Romania, where he spoke in churches he had helped build on earlier mission trips. He also visited the Henri-Chappelle American Cemetery in Belgium where nearly 8,000 American soldiers are buried. While there, he happened upon a tour group of American students, who were thrilled to meet a surviving G.I. Regester admits he shed a few tears while there. "It was emotional," he says. "I could easily have been one of the men buried in that cemetery."

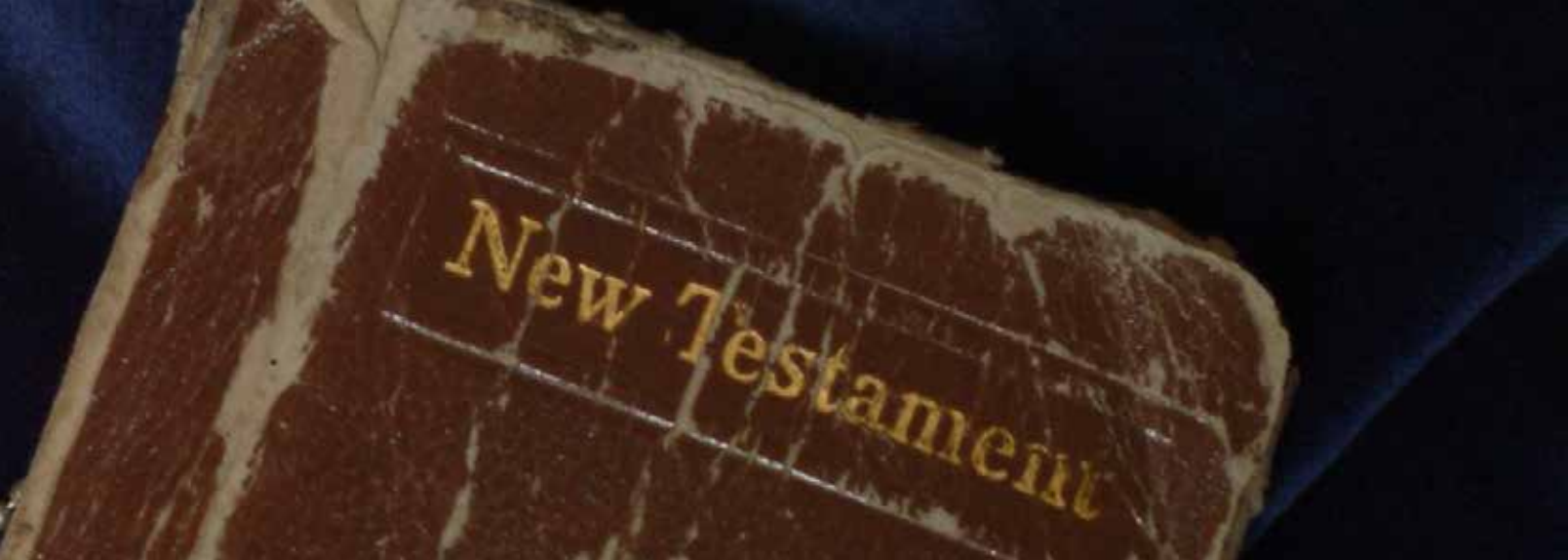
Margaret Mishima '50

Margaret Mishima was born in Hawaii to Buddhist parents. But when Mishima was 12, her father sent her to Hawaiian Mission Academy because he had heard it was a school with good moral standards where his girls would flourish. "This was my introduction to God," shared Mishima. "It changed the course of my life."

After graduating, Mishima applied to study nursing at Union College. "I didn't tell my parents I'd applied," she remembered. "I was always very independent. So I worked at the Dole pineapple company to raise tuition, and I announced that I was leaving for Nebraska."

Mishima excelled in her classes and decided to join the Air Force after graduation. She had been warned that women who went into the military were a rougher sort, but she found the opposite. "Some of the nicest people I've met were the girls I worked with in the military," she says.

She was also surprised to find it freeing to be a woman serving in the armed forces. "I never felt restricted, and it gave me the chance to go everywhere. I visited Hong Kong, Korea, Thailand, India, and the Taj Mahal," she said. "Being in the armed forces gave me a freedom to see and do things I would have never been able to do otherwise." She also felt a certain freedom in the operating room. "Working in the Air Force was a very good experience," she said. "We worked alongside the men and other medical personnel as equals."



Mishima was on call in the operating room during her service, where she treated soldiers wounded in Vietnam. This, she admits, sometimes caused her to feel conflicted between duty and faith. "It can be hard to practice the Adventist religion while in the armed forces," she shared. "When you're on call, you have to work on Sabbath, especially when you're working in the operating room; it's a busy area and the patients can't wait."

In all, Mishima spent three years on active duty and 18 years on active reserve. During her reserve years, she worked at a civilian post during the week and served weekend duty with the Air Force. Some of her duties included teaching in-flight patient care to other medical personnel on flights to locations including Hawaii and Japan.

"I'm proud to be a veteran who served my country well," said Mishima. "My nursing training at Union gave me the skills and confidence to join the Air Force, which allowed me to serve my God and my country."

Vern Thompson '57

As a freshman at Union College, Vern Thompson didn't do so well. "I was a total failure," he said. So it was no surprise when the Army wouldn't grant him deferment. "They took one look at my grades and told me, 'You don't qualify for a college deferment because you're not in college.'"

Trouble piled up for Thompson when he arrived on base—a paperwork error meant he wasn't registered as a noncombatant, and was instead placed in a tank battalion. When handed a uniform and rifle, Thompson told his overseeing officer that he didn't carry a rifle. "He said to me, 'You have two arms. Why don't you carry a rifle?' I told him I was Adventist and didn't believe in carrying a weapon."

Instead, Thompson was instructed to stand at attention in the direct sun in 113 degree heat. "In the Medical Cadet Corps at Union, they'd taught us not to lock our knees when we stood at attention, and that was the only thing that kept me from fainting," he said.

Thompson credits his participation in the Medical Cadet Corps under the direction of Dr. Everett Dick with helping him survive the armed forces. "They taught us skills that put us ahead of the other recruits, and information that helped us maintain our faith," he said. Thompson also acknowledges a higher power. "God gave me the things to say and the strength to do what I knew was right."

After being discharged, Thompson returned to Union with a new focus. "Serving my country helped me discover what I wanted out of

life," he said. He graduated in 1957 and taught in Adventist and public schools before transitioning to a career in nursing home management and consulting. He is the author of two books and earned his Ph.D. He is also a father of five. In fact, one of Thompson's daughters followed in her father's military footsteps, serving three tours in Iraq.

"If I could share anything with the young people of today, I'd tell them to relax and trust in the Lord," he said. "Don't try to do everything on your own; ask Him what to do and He'll help you. He'll give you the wisdom and the words."

Owen Berthelsen '61

As a 20-year-old newlywed, Owen Berthelsen said being drafted was like a punch to the gut. "I wondered, what did I do wrong to deserve being drafted?" he remembered. "But that was the way it was for a lot of my generation—there was a war in Korea, and when they called you up, you had no choice but to report."

Berthelsen reported as a noncombatant and was assigned to a dental lab where he was trained in making dentures and partial sets of false teeth. He found himself in Panama the day before Christmas, providing dental care and false teeth to soldiers, their families, and some civilians.

Despite his religious beliefs, Berthelsen says he didn't experience religious discrimination during his time in the Army. "Even in boot training, they let us off for Friday night and the Sabbath," he said. "They had a quiet place we could go on Friday nights to get out of the barracks, and we could trade Saturday duty for Sunday duty so we had time off on our day of worship."

He gives much of the credit for his easy transition to Dr. Everett Dick and his noncombatant training program at Union College. "He'd taught us how to march, so I had a leg up on some of the other guys who didn't know their left from their right," he laughed. "They got picked on, but I didn't have any trouble with that part of training."

Berthelsen's young wife, Jeraldine Swim Berthelsen ('63), who was pregnant with their first child, joined him in Panama.

When Berthelsen's two-year commitment was over, his family moved back to Nebraska and they worked their parents' ranch for three years. Eventually, Berthelsen used his Army education funds to finish school at Union and the couple raised five children. Now, married for 62 years, Berthelsen and his wife are retired and still living in Lincoln. Berthelsen and his siblings all attended Union, as did all of his children and eight grandchildren. His granddaughter, Annie Buck, is a current student.



Owen Berthelsen '61 served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict.

Dr. Gary Bogle '64

When Dr. Gary Bogle received draft orders, he knew he didn't want to serve in the Army. Instead, his love for ships and Navy blues drew him to sign up for the Navy, and he was sent to Okinawa and Vietnam with the Marine Corps.

"Being a dentist for Marines was a different experience," he said. "I'd ask them if they were feeling any pain. It could be a root canal, and they would almost come to attention and say, 'No, sir!' I'd remind them that I was a doctor and they should tell me if they were in pain, but they were Marines and they didn't want to show weakness to anybody."

Bogle remembers the servicemen's center in Okinawa where he and other Adventists would spend Friday evenings and Saturdays. The center was run by a missionary couple whom he remembers fondly. "The church services were nice, and it was a good place to keep in touch with other Adventists," he said. "Being there with other Christians from all branches of the military was a big change from the other six days a week when we were surrounded by Marines.

It gave us a place to be and worship where we felt safe and part of a community."

After he was discharged, Bogle and his wife lived in the Loma Linda area for 45 years, where they raised a daughter and two sons. He taught at Loma Linda University and owned a dental practice in Redlands. He and his wife relocated to St. Helena, Calif., three years ago to be closer to their three grandchildren.

Like most veterans, Bogle is proud of his military background. "It's powerful to visit the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C.," he said. "To see those names—and to know some of those names—is very touching."

Elder Jose "Jac" Colon '64

After graduation, Elder Jose "Jac" Colon earned an advanced degree in chemistry. He accepted a job as a chemical engineer with Boeing and was then drafted. Not wanting to serve in the Army, he volunteered for the Air Force. He earned the rank of captain, and was assigned to a B-52 bomber. During two six-month tours of duty, Colon flew 105 combat missions high above the Vietnamese jungles.

Colon quit attending the Adventist church after leaving Union. When he returned home from Vietnam, he moved into a new career as a stockbroker. But the fast lifestyle soon began to feel empty, and Colon wanted more. On a vacation to Tahiti, he rededicated his life to God. After returning home, he felt called to share his faith. A local evangelist offered to mentor him, and Colon quit his job and embarked on a new path.

Colon says his time in the military made him very patriotic. "Serving my country was my duty. I knew I'd be going to Vietnam, but I believed in serving my country," he shared. "I've been all over the globe, and I know there is no place like America."

Colon lives in Washington with his wife, with whom he's raised two sons. He officially retired three years ago, but he still preaches around the country. "The imprint Union College made on me brought me back to the church," he said. "I've been back for 40 years now, and I'm

making up for lost time." He attended Union's 2014 Homecoming Weekend—his first time back on campus in 49 years.

Kimbra Cardwell '94

There was an abundance of nurses in the profession when Kimbra Cardwell '94 earned her nursing degree from Union. So instead of jockeying for a bottom-level job in the civilian force, she signed on as a commissioned officer in the Air Force. She earned the rank of second lieutenant and is a veteran of Desert Storm, although she never had the opportunity to deploy. The war was ending, so Cardwell served in the military hospital at Scott Air Force Base.

Military service was a positive experience for Cardwell, who specialized in oncology and worked with veterans who were battling cancer. "The military was very accommodating of my beliefs," she said. "I never felt any discrimination for being an Adventist, and I was surprised to find other people of like-minded faith there." She added that being in the medical field was a unique experience because working on Sabbath in a service capacity wasn't a disputed issue.

Likewise, Cardwell never felt her gender got in the way of her goals. "There were never barriers for me as a woman in the military, especially in the medical field," she said. "The military has gotten more progressive, and there are more women on active duty all the time. There are a lot of opportunities for women, and I was in a very supportive environment." She acknowledges that nursing, a field dominated by women in the civilian world, is split about 50/50 in the Armed Forces. "The setting I was in was supportive and equitable. I learned to stand up for myself and be assertive as a woman and a professional. That made me a better person and taught me to be a leader. It was very character-building."

After her four-year commission ended, Cardwell returned to civilian life. She and her husband, John Cardwell '93, have a young daughter and continue to live in the St. Louis area, where Cardwell serves as an adult nurse practitioner in oncology at Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

"Being a veteran gives you a feeling of brotherhood with others who have served; those who were willing and prepared to give their lives for the protection and freedom of others," she said. "You never again take freedom for granted—that old cliché is true: freedom is not free, and I understand that in a different way now that I've been in the military. I know people who fought and bled for this country, who served at great personal cost."

Cardwell recommends military service, especially for medical professionals. "My daughter is six, and if she has any interest in the Army, I will encourage her to pursue it," she said. "My service is a great source of pride for me. I have a whole new perspective on our country that I couldn't have gotten any other way. My service shaped my career, and it built me as a professional and as a person." ♪



Jose "Jac" Colon '64 served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War.

*"Serving my country was my duty.
I knew I'd be going to
Vietnam, but I believed in
serving my country."*

- Jac Colon

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'67 denotes graduation year
 ('67) denotes last year attended or preferred class year

Nursing alumni from the class of '55 gathered for a reunion weekend, Nov. 4-6, 2013, in Loma Linda, Calif. Several class members living in the area sparked the idea: Laurene Cleveland, Mary Olson and Gladys Hulse. Friday evening everyone met at Mary and Ellis Olson's home for dinner provided by those living in the area.



Back row: Gladys Seibold Hulse, Elsie Schlup Ward, Carolyn Daily Mace, Dorie Dygert Bietz, Patricia Lounsberry McCormick, Ellis Olson, Front row: Althea Rea Roderick, Sylvia Spaulding McCormick, Laurene Stacey Cleveland, Mary Henkelmann Olson

Personal submissions for publication from college alumni and friends will be printed at Union College's sole discretion. The college may choose not to publish any information that will conflict with the values and beliefs of Union College and the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

During the evening each class member shared their life story and God's leading since leaving Union College. There was so much laughter and tears that time ran out and some stories were continued on Sabbath afternoon. After church and Sabbath School at the University church, lunch was served at a clubhouse near Laurene Cleveland's home. Guests joining the group included Ralph and Pat Watts, Dan and Betsy Matthews, and Ken and Beverly Hutchins. Classmates continued telling their stories and photos were shared and displayed. Saturday evening Gladys and Leon Hulse opened their home to all for more food and fun. Sunday morning everyone met at Laurene Cleveland's home to say goodbye and enjoy a breakfast of waffles, pancakes, lots of toppings and fruit. That evening there was more food at a Chinese restaurant nearby, and a commitment to someday gather around God's wonderful table in Heaven. Althea Roderick says, "The most fun of all was sharing and retelling the fun times we had while attending Union College. Our faith in God and unforgettable

times together are treasures that no amount of money can buy."



Sharon Lewis

A biography of the life of **Dick Stenbakken '62** has just been released by the Review and Herald Publishing Association. The book titled *The Man with the Reversible Foot* is written by Susan Phelps Harvey. To review the book and order it online, go to <http://www.adventistbookcenter.com/the-man-with-the-reversible-foot.html>. It is available in Adventist Book Centers.

David '65 and Gaylene Kaasa Wolkwitz '65 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 4, 2013, with family and friends at the Village Church in College Place, Wash. The couple met during their freshman year at Union College. Two years later they were married in Lincoln on Aug. 4, 1963. After their graduation in 1965, they moved to Iowa, where David started his denominational career in the Iowa Conference as a pastor and singing evangelist. The couple and their two small children spent a short time as missionaries in Brazil. They spent more than 40 years in denominational work in pastoring, public evangelism, conference administration, and planned giving and trust services before retiring in 2010. They reside near Walla Walla, Wash. Their daughter, Jacinda Garner, lives in Lincoln, Neb. **Jonathan '96**, their son, lives in Roswell, N.M. They have three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction has selected **Sharon Lewis '75** as recipient of the State Instructional Management Coordinator (IMC) of the Year Award. Lewis was nominated and selected to represent the western regional IMCs at the state level, where she received this award and a standing ovation at the presentation luncheon in Greensboro, N.C. Lewis is well known statewide for her workshops on classroom management and creative teaching ideas. For many years, Lewis was state trainer for all newly hired IMCs. Her philosophy of education is to "train students (and teachers) to be thinkers and not mere reflectors of others." She currently works with 60 middle school and high school teachers.



Kerrie Schnell receives award

Kerrie Seltman Schnell '87, a high school English teacher at College View Academy, is the latest Teacher of the Month honoree recognized by the East Lincoln Rotary Club and U.S. Bank in Lincoln, Neb. In his nomination letter, school principal Brian Carlson wrote: "Kerrie is a talented master teacher who is creative in the classroom and always trying new things." This year she rearranged her English curriculum to create a new honors class. She also started a student mentorship program to help 9th graders transition to high school. She is the sponsor for the Student Association. She also started a 'senior survival' weekend for 12th graders. They spend the weekend bonding and spending time on self-growth.

(Continued on p. 26)

CLASSIFIEDS

A native of Nekoma, Kan., Kerrie came to Lincoln to attend Union College. She earned a master's degree in English curriculum and instruction from the University of Colorado. Her husband of 31 years, **Ralph '87**, teaches at Lincoln Northeast High School. They have two children – **Kylie '11**, a teacher in Nepal, and Laryssa, who will enroll at Union College next year.

Kerrie enjoys working in her flower garden, does church visitations through College View Seventh-day Adventist Church, and enjoys reading and cooking. She has taught for more than 20 years, including a stint in New York, 11 years in Ohio, 2 years at Lincoln North Star High School, and 4 years at College View Academy, where she is in charge of a student hunger drive in which 70 students collected over 2,000 pounds of food. She organized the annual community service day at school, and has helped with campaigns against cancer and muscular dystrophy. Wayne Casper, chairman of the East Lincoln Rotary Teacher of the Month committee, gave her a certificate and a \$100 check for her personal use. Patrick Spethman, representing U.S. Bank, gave her a \$100 check to buy classroom materials.



Terry Forde

Terry Forde '93, the executive vice president and chief operating officer for Adventist HealthCare (AHC), has been named the organization's interim president and CEO. Forde began his new role April 2014 when current president and CEO William G. "Bill" Robertson will take on a new position in Washington State. He joined AHC, based in Gaithersburg, Md., in July 2011.

Since then, he has overseen the organization's Maryland entities and operations, recruited several top executives and helped AHC successfully adapt to the many changes that have occurred at both the state and national levels. Forde previously served as an executive for eight years with Centura Health, the largest health system in Colorado.



Eli and Arthur Calkins

Michael '95 and Ginger Holman Calkins '95 welcomed Eli Duncan on May 30, 2013. He weighed 11 lbs 12 oz, and joins older brother Arthur Benjamin, who was born April 26, 2011. Michael is a computer technician for information systems at Union. After Eli's birth, Ginger resigned from *AdventSource*, where she worked as a graphic designer since 1995, to take on the new challenge of raising two active little boys.



Andrew Jahn

Andrew Jahn '02 has been named president and CEO of Sonora Regional Medical Center (SRMC), according to Bill Wing, senior vice president of Adventist Health. Jahn, currently chief financial officer (CFO), will replace Jeff Eller who became the

Northern California Network president. Jahn assumed this role effective February 3, 2014. "I am delighted to see Andrew promoted to president of Sonora Regional Medical Center," said Jeff Eller, current CEO of SRMC. "It has been a privilege to work with him in his CFO role and to personally see his dedication to this organization. His leadership experience and outcomes-based approach will help continue the growth of our services in the Sierra foothills."

Since 2011 Jahn has been a part of the SRMC executive team as its vice president and CFO. In this position, he managed the hospital's \$200 million operating budget and oversaw business development, growth and acquisitions with direct oversight of key hospital service lines. Prior to this, he served in key roles in other health care facilities including director of finance at Shawnee Mission Medical Center in Merriam, Kan., and assistant to the CFO of Adventist Health System in Altamonte Springs, Fla.

"I am honored to be part of the continued growth of Sonora Regional Medical Center," said Jahn. "It will be a privilege to collaborate with this excellent team of physicians, staff and community partners in serving the needs of our community." Jahn holds a bachelor's degree in business management from Union College and a master's degree in business administration with an emphasis in health care administration from University of Central Florida in Orlando, Fla. Andrew and his wife, **Marlena Koch Jahn '02**, have three boys: nine-year-old Ethan, five-year-old Camron and three-year-old Payton.

Tony '03 and Taryn Moore Rouse (Current staff) are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Connor Michael. He was born Apr. 29, 2013, weighing 8 lbs 11 oz and 21 1/2 inches long. He joins big brother, Carson, at home. Tony is the primary engineer at Five Nines Technology in Lincoln, Neb. Taryn is director of student financial services at Union College.



Connor Rouse

Curtis '04 and Ellen Carlson Cascagnette '07 welcomed Claire Juliette on Dec. 22, 2013. She weighed 7 lbs 11 oz and was 20 1/2 inches long. Curtis is a custom order specialist at Home Depot in Maumee, Ohio. Ellen is a nurse for Hospice of Northwest Ohio.



Claire Cascagnette

Alia Michelle Detwieler was born to Kevin and **Jody Dye Detwieler '04** Dec. 25, 2013. She weighed 6 lbs 9 oz and was 20 1/2 inches long. Jody is the field director in the social work program at Union College. Kevin works at Academic Advantage in Lincoln, Neb.



Alia Detwieler

Amanda Sauder Maggard '04 and **Michael Maggard '05** welcomed Griffin Jonathan on Oct. 14, 2013. He weighed 7 lbs 9 oz and was 20 ½ inches long. Amanda is the administrator of Florida Hospital Winter Gardens since September 2013. Michael is a stay-at-home dad. Previously he worked in the admissions and enrollment office for Adventist University of Health Sciences in Orlando, Fla.



Griffin Maggard

Matthew '05 and **Trista Peterson Roque ('08)** are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Tenley Lynn, born on Feb. 10, 2014. She weighed 7 lb 1 oz and joins big sister Emily, 2 ½, at home. Matthew is the director of institutional research at Union. Trista is a registered nurse and the MDS coordinator at Sumner Place in Lincoln, Neb.



Emily and Tenley Roque

Sarah Doering Sandoval '05 and **Sandro Sandoval '11** welcomed Stella Elise on Dec. 12, 2013. She weighed 8 lbs 4 oz and was 20 inches long. Sandro is the pastor of Grand Island and Lexington Hispanic churches and the Fairfield church in the Kansas-Nebraska conference. Sarah is an occupational health nurse at Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Neb.



Stella Sandoval

Greyson Bo Carlile was born to Michelle and **Stephen Carlile '06** on Feb. 3, 2013. He weighed 6 lbs and 1 oz and was 19 inches long. Stephen is the lead pastor of Adventist Fellowship in Tulsa, Okla. Michelle is a physical therapist for ages 0-3 with developmental delays at Sooner Start.



Greyson Carlile

Tania Deeb Miller '07 and her husband Philip are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Julianna Lila. She was born on Feb. 7, 2014 and was 8 lbs 4 oz and 20 ½ inches long. Tania teaches grades 1-8 and is the principal of the elementary school in Enterprise, Kan. Philip is a field technician and salesman for Kansas Broadband Internet.



Philip, Tania, and Julianna Miller

Aubrey Lynn Johnson was born to **Matthew '08** and **Hannah Hilliard Johnson '08** on Dec. 10, 2013. She weighed 7 lbs and was 20 ½ inches long. Hannah is a labor and delivery nurse at Methodist Women's Hospital. Matthew is a pathology resident physician at the University of

Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha.



Aubrey Johnson

Jennifer Raimondo Garbrecht '09 and her husband Henrique welcomed Lucas Alberto on Jan. 9, 2014. He weighed 8 lbs 6 oz and was 22 inches long. Jennifer was a kindergarten assistant at Captain Gilmer Christian School in Fletcher, N.C., for the fall semester. Now she stays at home with Lucas while her husband works in landscaping.



Lucas Garbrecht

Seth '09 and **Mary Jo Murphy Groeneweg '10** welcomed Jack Samuel on Feb. 10, 2013. Jack weighed 7 lbs and was 19 ½ inches long. Seth is an insurance agent with Country Financial and Mary Jo is a part time social worker at Overland Park Nursing and Rehab Center in Overland Park, Kan.



Jack Groeneweg

Geoffrey Doctoroff '14 and **Ariel Webb '11** were married on January 30, 2014 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Ariel works for Enterprise Rental Car in Omaha in their management program. Geoffrey graduated in May 2014 with a degree in business administration. After their honeymoon in the Dominican Republic, the couple lives in Lincoln, Neb.



Geoffrey and Ariel Doctoroff

Adele Harper Nelson was born on July 7, 2013, weighing 6 lbs 4 oz and was 19 ½ inches long. Her parents are Vaughan and **Nadine Nelson (current employee)**. Nadine is vice president for Enrollment and Student Financial Services at Union. Vaughan is a senior systems engineer at Five Nines Technology Group in Lincoln, Neb.



Adele Nelson

PEOPLE PLACEMENTS

Darcy Jo Percy is the new office assistant for Union Manor. After graduation from Union College with a music education degree in 1983, she earned a master's in music and masters in education from UNL. She has enjoyed various careers as a public school music teacher, homeschool teacher and studio voice instructor. She and her husband, Marvin, have one son, Kyle. She directs the choir at Piedmont Park Church and loves to go on long bike rides in the country.

Sarah Fredregill is the new office coordinator for the Division of Nursing. She was born and raised in Lincoln and graduated from College View Academy and Union College with a degree in elementary education. She is married to Aaron, and is a Disney fanatic who enjoys spending time with her dog Tayla, being a Husker fan, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

Manuela Coppock is the new office coordinator for the physician assistant program. Manuela most recently ran a child care center before moving to Lincoln with her husband, Scot, director of leadership giving at Union. She and Scot have three children, Angela, McKayla and Christian.

Rhonda Derr is the new Union Manor facility manager. She previously served as a licensed practical nurse at Hays Medical Center and Family Practice Clinic for 15 years in LaCrosse, Kan. She has been married to Pete for 27 years and raised three children on a farm in Western Kansas. She is learning to enjoy her new home in Lincoln and loves to spend time with friends and walking their dog.

Megan Heidtbrink is the new clinical director for the physician assistant program. A Nebraska native, she graduated from Tulane University in New Orleans, La., with a degree in exercise and sports medicine and then from the Union College PA program in 2010. She has previously worked with Nebraska Orthopedics and

Sports Medicine. She lives with her husband, Tyler, and son, Heston. In her free time she enjoys baking, gardening, exercising and traveling.

Krystal Todd is a new clinical instructor for the Division of Nursing. A Nebraska native, she graduated in 2006 from Bryan College of Health and Sciences and then Nebraska Wesleyan in 2010. In 2013 she earned a master's degree in nursing from Nebraska Wesleyan. For the past seven years she has been working at Bryan Medical Center-East campus and has been an adjunct professor at Union College for the past year and a half. She enjoys being outdoors, fishing, spending time with family and friends and loves to spoil her niece as much as possible.

Addison Hudgins is the new campus visit coordinator for Enrollment Services. The Maryland native graduated from Union College in 2013 with degrees in communication and English. After graduation she worked for a small professional organizing business. She enjoys praising, writing and music and likes living in the tight-knit community of Lincoln.

Transitions:

Shane Flowers '02 is the new network administrator for Information Systems. He most recently served as assistant network administrator. He and his wife, Kate, have two children, Mara and Mark.

Salli Jenks is the new director of campus housing, transportation and financial projects for Financial Administration. She was previously office manager and housing manager for Financial Administration. She and her husband, Paul, the director of Plant Services, have two daughters who currently attend Union, Mattison and Megan.

Becky Daniel '08 is the new enrollment services director of marketing. She has been working for

Enrollment Services since 2010 as guest experience coordinator. She is married to **Derek Daniel '08**.

Michael Steingas '10 is the new assistant director of admissions systems for Enrollment Services. He was previously director of marketing for Enrollment Services.

Kevin Erickson '06 is now the director of enrollment and admissions for Enrollment Services. He has previously worked at Union as an enrollment counselor and as assistant director of enrollment. He and his wife, **Jeanee Gates Erickson '08**, had their first child, Cooper Charles Erickson, in October 2013.

Leah Schaber '94 is the new communications specialist in Student Financial Services. She previously taught parenting classes at St. Elizabeth's Hospital and was office manager as well as department advisor for international rescue and relief. She has two children, Luc and Caleb.

Adam Schaecher is the new plant services assistant boiler operator and mechanic. He has been working as a mechanic on campus for the past 14 years. He and his wife Crystal have two children, Miles and Blain.

IN MEMORY

Death dates and/or obituaries have been received for the following individuals.

Evelyn Kellstrom von Pohle '38, New Smyrna Beach, Fla., died July 16, 2013, at age 101. She was born Nov. 16, 1911 in Sioux Falls, S.D. She was a denominational employee for 40 years and served with her husband, **Donald J. von Pohle '46**, in South America and in the Inter America Division. Evelyn is survived by her daughter, Esther Bailey, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Lois Anderson Hanson ('39), LaFollette, Tenn., died Dec. 20, 2013, at age 96. Survivors include daughters, Judith Tate and Janice Anderson; son **Gaylord Hanson '73**; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Anna Sorensen Erickson '40, Parker, Colo., died Oct. 19, 2013, at age 97. She was born Sept. 2, 1916, in Minneapolis, Minn. Anna was the youngest daughter of Danish immigrants, Jens and Anna Hansine Olsen Sorensen. She started school in a rural one-room school and graduated from the Boulder-Colorado Sanitarium and Hospital School of Nursing (an affiliated program of Union College) in 1940. She was a registered nurse and was licensed in five states. On Feb. 14, 1941, Anna married Melvin Erickson in Denver, Colo. They were able to celebrate 54 years of marriage before Mel died in 1995. Through the years, Anna enjoyed deer and elk hunting, skiing, hat making and fabric painting and counted cross stitch. She is survived by her daughter, Karen Stover; three granddaughters and six great-grandchildren.

June Layman Herr '41, North Port, Fla., died Dec. 19, 2013, at age 96. She is survived by her son, Larry and daughter, LaDonna Krenz; two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mildred Cotte Kendall ('41), Walla Walla, Wash., died Oct. 19, 2013, at age 90. Millie was born Jan. 3, 1923, in Shelby, Iowa, to Blanche and Florence Cotte. She graduated from high school in Blair, Neb., before attending Union College and taking courses to be a physical therapy assistant. On Aug. 31, 1951, she married Paul Kendall. They moved to Walla Walla, Wash., in 1968 with their three children, David, Karen Sue and Jimmy. She enjoyed sewing, quilting and reading books. She was loved and respected for her strong faith in God and genuine love and concern for everyone. Survivors include her three children, six grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Junius Olson '45, Castle Rock, Colo., died Jan. 5, 2014, at age 93. The youngest of five children, Junius was born Oct. 4, 1920, in St. Louis, Mo., to Sven and Ellen Skoglund Olson. He grew up in St. Louis and graduated from high school in Cuba, Mo. In 1945, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in theology from Union College. In 1969, he earned a master's degree in education from Black Hills State University in Spearfish, S.D. After serving several years as a pastor in Nebraska, Junius earned a South Dakota teaching certificate and pursued his passion for teaching children. He taught 6th grade and 7th grade social studies and English in the Rapid City school system from 1954 to 1983 when he retired. Junius enjoyed mechanical projects, home building, old cars, do-it-yourself projects, history, reading, gardening, listening to music and travel. Survivors include his son, Barry; daughter, **Julie Deisch '77**; three grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Harriet Howe Macomber '46, Fredericksburg, Iowa, died Jan. 24, 2014, at age 86. She was born Feb. 28, 1927, in Dodge Center, Minn., to Harry and Winnifred Babcock Howe. She graduated from Maplewood Academy in Hutchinson, Minn., and then attended Union College for a short time. On Sept. 23, 1946, she married Wayne Macomber at Pleasant Corners Church in Dodge Center.

Throughout her life, Harriet worked in several types of employment including waitress work and cleaning homes and churches. She dispatched ambulances from her home for the Fredericksburg location of Chickasaw Ambulance and was a sworn matron for the local law enforcement department. She also worked for twenty years as a certified nursing assistant at the former Sunrise Guest Home in Fredericksburg. She is survived by two sons, **Larry '66** and **Ron**; daughter, **Shirley Kammeyer**; four grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and one

step-great-grandchild; sister, **Leberta Payne**; and brother, **Gerald Howe**.

Calvin Lorenz '47, Loveland, Colo., died Nov. 3, 2013, at age 88. He was born March 10, 1925 in rural Weld County, Colo., to Chris and Sarah Bohlender Lorenz. He graduated from Gilcrest High School in Gilcrest, Colo., and also attended Union College for three years. Calvin served in the U.S. Army during WWII in the Pacific as a medic. Throughout his life he worked as a heavy equipment operator and welder, and did cattle feeding and farming in Colorado. Calvin was a member of the Seventh-day Adventist church, American Radio Relay League, and Northern Colorado Private Pilots Association. He was an avid amateur ham radio operator. Survivors include his daughters, **Wanda Buderus** and **Jan Nickerson '86**; sons, **Terry** and **Ted**; brother, **Virgil**; and four grandchildren.

Clarita Kaufman Burden '48, Chehalis, Wash., died Sept. 12, 2013, at age 84. She was born in Beaumont, Calif., but spent her youth in Colorado. She earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Denver, majoring in music and education. But her sophomore year was spent at Union College, where she met her future husband, **Kenneth Burden '48**. They were married in 1950 and lived their first two years in Los Angeles while Ken finished the medical course. He interned in Maryland, where their first child, **Gary**, was born. Ken was working for the U.S. public health service at Warm Springs Indian reservation when the twins, **Dan** and **Don** were born. The next twelve years were spent in Puerto Rico, where their daughter, **Debbie**, was born.

In 1969, after moving back to California, Clarita earned a master's degree in piano performance and musical education. She spent fifty years teaching piano, organ, and marimba before retiring nine years ago.

Survivors include her husband, **Kenneth**; sons, **Gary**, **Dan** and

Don; daughter, **Debbie Sasser**; six grandchildren and two step-grandchildren.

Dorothea "Dora" Kaufmann Malone '48, Tulsa, Okla., died March 12, 2013, at age 87. She was born Aug. 1, 1925, in Chicago, Ill., to Jean and Dorothea Korner Kaufmann, both from Germany. She lived in Chicago until she went to nursing school in Denver, Colo. It was there she met **Jim Malone**. He was taking her nursing school graduation photographs. The story goes that he told her she was the woman he was going to marry. She went back to her room, fell on the bed laughing to her roommate that "silly" **Jim Malone** thought he was going to marry her. She said he was "the devil in disguise trying to lure her away from her religion." Something must have changed along the way because they were married May 25, 1947. Dora and Jim lived in Denver until Jim was transferred to Oklahoma. Dora cried and said no one moves to Oklahoma, they only move away. They ended up loving Oklahoma with all the Indian culture and made many friends. Survivors include her daughters, **Maureen "Mimi"** and **Sheila**; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Doris "Dee" Berlin May-Dickinson '49, Apopka, Fla., died Oct. 3, 2013, at age 86. Doris was born July 3, 1927, in Kandiyohi Township, Minn., to Herman and Johanna Berlin. She lived in Minnesota until she left to attend Union College, where she met and fell in love with **William "Bill" May '48**. They were married in the summer of 1947. Doris complimented her minister husband's career with her many musical talents as an accomplished pianist, organist and vocalist. She played lovely vibraharp solos, directed choir groups, sang in duets and quartets, and was greatly appreciated for her music ministry.

Over the years, Doris worked as a secretary, became a licensed real estate agent and worked as a trust officer. In July 1997, Doris

and **Bill** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, but sadly **Bill** passed away later that year. Over the next few months, **Doris** renewed her friendship with **Kent Dickinson**, who also grew up in Minnesota. They fell in love and were united in marriage in 1998. Over their fifteen-year marriage, they lived in both Southern California and Florida and were devoted to each other.

Doris will be remembered for her kindness, sweet smile, wonderful culinary skills (in particular, her delicious homemade bread), love of family, and devotion to the Lord. She is survived by her husband, **Kent Dickinson '49**; and his sons, **Gary** and **Kevin** and four grandchildren; and her children: sons, **Bob May** and **Mike May**; daughter, **Nancy Cotta**; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Dalrie Berg '50, Westminster, Colo., died Dec. 16, 2013, at age 86. He was born July 5, 1927, and grew up in the farmlands of Iowa. His early years were spent on the farm of his Danish immigrant grandparents. He graduated valedictorian of his class on May 17, 1945, from the Underwood Consolidated High School. Though his many interests and talents took him from the farm, he still owns successful farms not far from his boyhood home. One farm has been given a regional award for "best conservation practice."

He graduated from Union College with a bachelor's degree in 1950 and from the Kansas City School of Osteopathy with a doctor of osteopathy degree in 1956. Education was important to him. He studied law, chemistry and biology at various universities. Besides having a very active medical practice, **Dr. Berg** devoted much time and energy into civic, community, and professional activities. He served as councilman for both Thornton and Northglenn and became a candidate for the mayor of Northglenn in 1983. In 1986, he ran for office in the U.S. Congress from the second district of Colorado. (continued on pg. 30)

IN MEMORY

Along with all of his interests, family was number one on Dr. Berg's agenda. He is survived by his wife, **Joan ('51)**; sons, **Barry '84** and **Eric**; daughter, **Sonja Hults '87**; and six grandchildren.

Wilhelmina "Minnie" Oschner Davis '50, College Place, Wash., died Nov. 30, 2013, at age 85. Minnie was born in Torrington, Wyo., on Nov. 18, 1928, to David and Martha Beierle Ochsner. Following her elementary and high school years in Lyman, Neb., she earned a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Union College. In 1949, she married Lee Davis. After her graduation from Union in 1950, she and Lee settled in Caldwell, Idaho, where she spent the next twenty years working in various hospitals as a nurse, nurse supervisor and nurse administrator. Following her nursing career, Minnie began taking in foster children. During the next 25 years, she cared for more than 40 children, in particular those with special medical needs. Minnie was an active member of the Seventh-day Adventist church and dedicated tireless hours leading out in the children's divisions, working with Community Services, feeding and clothing many deserving individuals, and coordinating fellowship meals and benefit sales. In 1998, Minnie and Lee retired to Milton-Freewater, Ore., and in 2005, they relocated to College Place, Wash. Minnie is survived by her husband, Lee; son, Ron; two grandsons; brother, Robert Ochsner; and two sisters, Rose Coleman and Lillian Jordan.

Delmar Tonge ('50), Modesto, Calif., died Sept. 27, 2013, at age 82. Dr. Tonge was born in Los Angeles, Calif., on Nov. 5, 1930 to Dr. Archie and Eloise Tonge. He was the third of their three boys. Shortly following his birth, the Tonge family moved to Africa to work as medical missionaries. His father's example of building hospitals and providing compassionate medical attention to the African people laid a firm foundation for the passion of his life.

After graduating from

Modesto Academy as valedictorian of his senior class, he attended Union College for one year. He completed his undergraduate studies at Pacific Union College, majoring in history with minors in biology and communications. After completing his medical degree at Loma Linda University in 1957, he did specialty training in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles County Medical Center. On completing his medical training, Delmar proudly served his country for two years as a Navy physician. He returned to Modesto to join the Modesto Arts Medical Group founded by his father, Dr. Archie Tonge. Together, the Tonge family provided medical care to the city of Modesto for over 70 years. His philosophy of medical care and medical politics was reflected by his mother, Eloise Tonge's statement of the Modesto City Hospital, "This is our home, and these people are our guests."

Delmar's interests in medicine, community development, education and the fine arts resulted in the creation of successful for-profit and non-profit organizations. His visionary leadership and charismatic style was respected by many. His enjoyment of life encompassed backpacking in the Yosemite high country, snow skiing, snow shoeing, tailgating at '49er games, yachting and regatta racing in the San Francisco Bay, sports cars, Rotary Club, and his daily routine of blowing leaves off his Dry Creek residences. He is survived by his wife, Cher Warner Tonge; son, Archie; daughters, Adorey Kramish, Kathleen, and Kristine Johnson; seven grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Bonnie Syfert Bodnar ('51), Bellevue, Neb., died Feb. 11, 2014, at age 84. She is survived by her husband, Louis; daughter, **Jeanne '87**; son, **Alan '92**; two grandchildren; siblings: **Louise Gusso '49**, **Eugene Syfert ('47)**, **Marian Page**, **Marjorie Campbell ('56)**, **Jeannette Williams '62**, **James Syfert '62**, **Donald Syfert ('63)** and **Bobbi Babiuk '67**; and many nieces and nephews.

Reece Cunningham '51, Lincoln, Neb., died March 9, 2014, at age 87. He was born to Milton and Ida Lewis Cunningham on Dec. 3, 1926 in Flat River, Mo. Reece grew up in Flat River and graduated from Broadview Academy in Lafox, Ill. After he served in the army during World War II, he attended Emmanuel Missionary College—now Andrews University—and Washington University in St. Louis before graduating from Union College. On June 5, 1949, he married Esther Heras in St. Louis, Mo. He was a credit manager for several businesses before he began a career in healthcare.



Reece Cunningham

Besides positions in several hospitals, he was the administrator of Twin Pines and Santa Paul Healthcare skilled nursing facilities until he turned 82. He spent his life serving others in his workplace and in his church. He was the treasurer of the St. Louis Central church for over 20 years and filled many other positions in the churches he attended. He was the assistant Pathfinder director and coached the young men in the church on a baseball team. Survivors include his wife of 64 ½ years, Esther; daughters, **Denise White '74**, **Nancy Hein '75** and **Jamie Krein '82**; three granddaughters; sister, Kathryn Francis; and nieces and nephews.

David Hensel ('51), Inchelium, Wash., died Aug. 6, 2013, at age 79. He was born to Walter and Rose Sievert Hensel on Jan. 4, 1934, in Heron Lake, Minn. After graduating from Maplewood Academy, he attended Union College before transferring to Walla Walla College to complete an engineering degree in 1956. While there he met and married Caroline Tupper on May 30, 1954. David achieved countless things in his lifetime including designing and building many churches, schools, hospitals and retirement facilities, both in the states and in many foreign countries. To some, David was father figure, and to others, a pillar to lean on. He had a great sense of humor and always looked at the positive aspects of life. Dave is survived by his wife, Caroline; son, Kenneth; daughter, Linda Schumacher; sister, **Esther Hensel Hamel '58**; brother, Richard; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Ronald Lang ('51), Frederick, Md., died on Feb. 1, 2014, at age 84. Born July 26, 1929 in Stutzman County, N.D., near Cleveland, N.D., to Samuel and Emelia Wohl Lang, he grew up in rural North Dakota and graduated from Sheyenne River Academy in 1947. He married **Louwana Johnson ('48)** in 1959, and they were blessed with two daughters, Sally and **Melanie '86**. Ron loved the Lord and greatly enjoyed spending time with family and people of all backgrounds, travel and the outdoors. He worked through the years in custom combining, car transport, garage door manufacturing and farming. In 1978 he returned to his beloved state of North Dakota and full-time to his first love of farming. Shortly before retiring Ron's brothers introduced him to golfing which combined his love of people and the outdoors. His final job after retirement was a golf marshal at River Marsh Golf Course in Cambridge, Md. After 37 years of marriage, Ron tragically lost his beloved Lou in July 1996. Thereafter he lost his beloved daughter, Sally Bertsch,

in February 2004. He was blessed with a second happy marriage in 2000 to Marilyn Johnson. He is survived by his second wife, Marilyn; daughter, Melanie; step-children, Jack Upchurch, Barc Upchurch, and Jill Upchurch; four grandchildren, three step-grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Donald Copsey '52, Avon Park, Fla., died Nov. 25, 2013, at age 85. Don and his wife, Lenora, had recently gone to North Conway, N.H., to be with family, after a period of declining health. He was born June 24, 1928, in Omaha, Neb., the second son of four children born to James and Wilna Copsey. He enlisted in the army with his older brother in 1946, served during World War II in occupied Japan and worked as a medical laboratory technician.

Raised in the depression, and after witnessing the death of a five-year-old sister and struggling himself with polio, he had a strong desire to be a medical doctor. While enrolled as a pre-med major at Union, he was convicted to be a pastor in the Seventh-day Adventist church. While at college he met the love of his life, Lenora Herr. They were married on April 19, 1950. After graduating with a theology degree in 1952, Don ministered in South Dakota, Washington and Michigan as well as serving as a missionary in Brazil. He served in multiple conferences for the church and in the Lake Union Conference office, where he retired in 1990 after 40 years of service. Don placed a high value on education, earning two master's degrees in theology and pastoral counseling. He was an avid reader, had a great love for building, and a passion for flying. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Lenora; sons, Terry and Tim; brother, Dave; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Richard Pettey '52, Siloam Springs, Ark., died July 14, 2013, at age 80. Born March 7, 1933, in Tulsa, Okla., he was the son of Martin Pettey and Delia Ruth

Bland Pettey. Richard served his country in the army during the Korean conflict. He and **Jeanette Barnett '55** were married Nov. 23, 1953, in Gentry, Ark. He was manager for Oak Park Broom Company in Nevada, Iowa, and Columbia Broom Company in Spangle, Wash., before retiring. He was a member of the Seventh-day Adventist church in Gentry, Ark. Survivors include his wife, Jeanette; daughter, Juanita Edge; son, Vernon; six grandchildren and two step great-grandchildren; and sister Alice Wellnitz.

Robert Rider '53, Keene, Texas, died Sept. 3, 2013, at age 82. He was born Oct. 17, 1930, in Terrell, Texas, the long-prayed for child of his parents, Dewey and Eva Rider. As an only child, he was given a strong moral code, which was tempered by a well-developed sense of humor. He went to school in Keene, Texas, graduating from Southwestern Adventist University (then a junior college) in 1951. He then earned a bachelor's degree in religion from Union College in 1953. His summers were spent as a literature evangelist, serving as the student leader for one summer.

When Robert was just a teenager, he spotted a beautiful brunette walking across the college campus. He kept his eye on her through the years until the right age for dating. Robert and **Hattie Lee King '55** were married in the old Keene church on June 7, 1953. After graduation, he was a minister for 41 years, serving in Texas, Oklahoma and Oregon. He was president of the Oklahoma Conference for more than 18 years.

Following retirement the couple moved to Keene and built a home. After battling cancer for several months, Robert decided to help start a branch Sabbath School in Grandview, Texas, which became the Grandview church. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Hattie Lee; daughters, Lorrie Reagan and Marcia Dyche; and six grandchildren.

Don Engelkemier '56, Huttonsville, W.Va., died April 20, 2013, at age 80. He was born March 12, 1933, in Newkirk, Okla., to Charley and Fannie Engelkemier. He served in the Army from May 1956 to April 1958. His occupation was first with computers, then as a contractor and builder of homes and a medical center. He retired from computer programming at the Department of Public Debt in Parkersburg, W.V. He enjoyed mentoring children, fruit farming and gardening. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Frances; brother, **Bob '54**; sister, **Betty '58**; sister-in-law, **Gladys '50**; sons, David, Alex, and Tim; and grandchildren.

Neil Addington '58, Wheat Ridge Colo., died Dec. 30, 2013, at age 77. He is survived by his wife, Muriel; daughters: **Karan Griffith '82**, **Jill Wooten '87** and **Nicolle Walters '87**; sister, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Clarence Newton '58, Alvarado, Texas, died Jan. 19, 2014, at age 82. He was born Jan. 13, 1932 in Oklahoma City, Okla., to Clarence and Laura Ethel Baker Newton. He married Judy Weigley on Nov. 22, 1979, in Keene, Texas. Clarence served in the U.S. Army. He was a teacher and a principal for Seventh-day Adventist schools, retiring with 35 years of service. He was a member of the Joshua Seventh-day Adventist Church. Survivors include his wife, Judy; sons, Clarence III and Wayne; four step-children: Gary Fancher, Shelly Fancher, Dana Hansen and Dawn Janzen; and thirteen grandchildren.

Lee Field '59, Riverside, Calif., died Jan. 10, 2014, at age 77. He was born Feb. 12, 1936, in Colorado, son of Frank and Ethel Field. Lee was a salesman of construction supplies for over 50 years. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; daughter, **Tami '84**; son, **Kip '81**; five grandchildren; and siblings, Larry Field, Artie Miller and Judy Neuharth.

Warner Rice '59, Ellenwood, Ga., died Sept. 25, 2012, at age 79. He was born Oct. 29, 1932, the seventh of eight children in the family, in Minneapolis, Minn., to Warner and Myra Rice. His mother, who was the only Seventh-day Adventist Christian in the family, had a lasting influence on his life.

After having a somewhat tumultuous youth, he gave his life to the Lord and felt the call to gospel ministry. On his own to provide money for tuition for college, he became involved in colporteur ministry to obtain the necessary funds. After attending Oakwood College, he graduated from Union College. He earned a master's degree from Andrews University and took other graduate work at Loma Linda University and Vanberbilt University.

Warner met his first love, **Shirley Smith '52**, at Union College. They were blessed with two sons; Lowell, who died of cancer at age seven, and Shannon. Warner pastored a number of churches in Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Michigan and Georgia. Pastor Rice later married Georgia Bryant, his last love, with whom he served in ministry during his final years. Survivors include his wife, Georgia; son, Shannon; godson, Northern James, and a host of other cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Jerald McMillen '60, Walnut Grove, Mo., died Nov. 5, 2013, at age 75. J.L. was born to George and Mildred Janeway McMillen on Dec. 16, 1937, in Enid, Okla. He grew up in the area and graduated from Waukomis High School in 1955. He graduated from Union College in 1960 and then from the University of Nebraska College of Dentistry in 1964. He practiced dentistry in Springfield, Mo., since 1965 at the McMillen Dental Office. J.L. and **Fonda Swann '60** were married Dec. 26, 1960. They were privileged to share almost 53 years together.

(Continued on pg. 32)

IN MEMORY

Jerald is survived by his loving family, including wife, Fonda; son, **Trent '89**; daughter, **Tonya Boone '91**; five grandchildren; aunts, Frances Miller and Mary Butler.

Alvin Morford '60, Collegedale, Tenn., died Oct. 26, 2013, at age 82. Al graduated from high school in Valley City, N.D. He served four years in the Navy, spending time in Korea. He then earned a bachelor's degree from Union College and a master's degree from Notre Dame University. He used his education to teach science and math at Plainview Academy, Oak Park Academy, Madison Academy, and the last 19 years at Collegedale Academy. His students remember him as patient and kind, a devoted Christian with a twinkle in his eye, a big smile, and—almost always—a bow tie. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, **Mary Jane Morford '56**; daughters, Lori Harr and Vonda Kittle; son, **Randy Harr '88**; three grandchildren; sisters, Dorthy Morford and Kay Hanson; and brother, Don.

Marvin Carnahan '61, Nixa Mo., died Feb. 11, 2013, at age 71. A long-time resident of Nixa, Marvin is survived by his wife, Donna; son, Frank; daughter, **Brenda Conyne '87**; three stepchildren, two brothers, two sisters, 12 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Gerald Colvin '61, Ooltewah, Tenn., died Oct. 2, 2013, at age 74. He was born June 9, 1939, near Jefferson, Texas. Gerald completed grades 1-7 in the Olla-Standard Elementary School and grade 8 at LaSalle Parish High School, where his classmates chose him class favorite and president. After his baptism into the Seventh-day Adventist church following tent meetings, he completed four years of secondary studies at Ozark Academy, where he graduated valedictorian and class president. He then received a scholarship to Southwestern Junior College, where he graduated student body president and valedictorian.

Later at Union College he was voted senior class president and awarded High Distinction with triple majors in English, history, and religion. Gerald's initial teaching posts were at Ozark Academy 1961-66, Union College, 1967-70. La Sierra College 1970-72, and Southern Adventist University, commencing in 1972 as chair of behavioral sciences. He later served as dean of graduate studies and research at Walla Walla College, as well as assistant dean of graduate education at Ashland University, vice-president for academic affairs at Southwestern Adventist University, and director of counseling services at several two-year institutions. He also completed doctorates in administration at the University of Arkansas and in psychology at the University of Georgia as a Regents Scholar. A career high was his stint as superintendent of the Etowah K-8 Public School District.

From an early age Gerald showed an interest in writing, starting with a VFW contest for fourth graders on "Why I'm glad to be an American." The principal tempered Gerald's thrill at winning by reminding everyone his was the only entry. Nevertheless, he continued as the 4-H Club reporter, later devoting a semester paper on Longfellow's *Evangeline*. After considering a copyediting post at Pacific Press, he thought it more exciting to stick with teaching. However, he continued perfecting his craft by serving as faculty sponsor of the school paper, contributing editor to the *Journal of Adventist Education*, and as a member of the editorial board for American Secondary Education. His poem books include *Days of Lilacs* and *Now Will I Sing*—as well as a 34-chapter unpublished religious manuscript hiding somewhere inside his Toshiba. Finally, during select moments of exalted bliss, whether painting or writing poetry or digesting literary masterpieces or blending gospel chords on an antiquated tube-type Hammond organ with rotating Leslie speakers, Gerald claimed to

have sensed the transcendent rush of angel wings. He is survived by his wife, Vivian; children, Guy and Gaye; step-children, Pamela Parker, Gary Howe, Don Howe, and Ross Howe; and eight grandchildren.



Myrna Wadsworth Kahler

Myrna Wadsworth Kahler '62, Kimberly City, Mo., died Dec. 21, 2013, at age 75. She was born Aug. 21, 1938, in Brainerd, Minn., to Darold and Florence Roberts Wadsworth. Myrna was a retired school teacher who had taught for 28 years in Virginia, North Dakota, Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri. She was a professional porcelain doll maker, vocalist and pianist. For the last five years, she designed and made quilts with others in her church for children who were displaced from their homes. She is survived by her husband, **Emil Kahler '60**; sons, Emil III and Michael; brother, Gaylan Pegel Sr.; sisters, **Debbi Furrie '78**, Jan Borden, Verna Mitchell, and Shirley Jones; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Burton Cox '63, Poplar Bluff, Mo., died Oct. 11, 2013, at age 82. He was born Nov. 18, 1930, in Winterset, Iowa, to Sylvanus and Susan Cox and named after the retired doctor who delivered him. When his father was stricken with Guillain-Barré Syndrome, Burton had his first experience with "doctoring". He attended the local church school

and became a lifetime friend to Richard Affolter. To pay his way to attend Oak Park Academy, he worked in the broom shop and dairy. For two of those years at the dairy, he made the very early rounds delivering milk to local customers. In 1950 he married LaVonne Thomas, leased land near Nevada, Iowa, and began farming. Katherine joined the family in 1951 followed by her brother Burton, Jr. in 1956. After further studies at Union College, Burton completed his medical degree at the College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City. He practiced in both Kansas and Missouri, retiring in 2011. He and his wife, Clara, who he married in 1982, enjoyed traveling in their motor home, visiting family and friends. He took particular delight in his grandchildren. Survivors include his wife, Clara; son, Burton Jr.; stepchildren, DelJean Benton and Douglas Brown; and six grandchildren.

Patricia Troyer Reiner '64, Gordon, Texas, died Oct. 30, 2013 at age 78. She was born to James and Vera Troyer on April 28, 1935 in Ottawa, Ill. She graduated from Sunnysdale Academy in 1953 and earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Union College in 1964. It was in Lincoln while teaching elementary school that she met **Cordell Reiner '53**. After a whirlwind romance they were married on June 11, 1967. She followed him as he entered the ministry and after frequent moves, they settled in Texas in 1998. Patricia was an elementary school teacher for over 30 years, retiring in 1995. She was passionate about making a difference in the lives of her students and came alive in the classroom. Some would be surprised to learn that she was extremely shy in her youth. Throughout her life she maintained a sweet and simple demeanor that won the trust and hearts of many, who even now are being changed by her witness of constant love and faith. Her signature gift of joy, shown through her constant smiling,

will never be forgotten. She was an active member of her church and supported her husband in his ministry. She loved to read and solve puzzles, and was a secret artist and poet. Patricia is survived by her husband, Cordell; children, Bethany Jones and Kevin; eleven grandchildren and siblings, Marilyn Russell and **John Troyer '63**.

Lloyd Brenneise '66, Lutz, Fla., died Dec. 25, 2013, at age 70. He was born to Jonathan and Olga Rueb Brenneise in Eureka, S.D., on May 1, 1943. He grew up on his parent's farm near Leola, S.D., and in Lodi, Calif. Lloyd graduated from Lodi, Academy, Union College, and with a master's degree in counseling from Northern State University in Aberdeen, S.D. He met and married **Charlotte Heatherly '62** on June 7, 1964, while at Union. Lloyd taught school in the SDA school system for over 33 years. This ministry took the family to various schools throughout the U.S. His students have fondly remembered him as "a gentle soul" and "an amazing teacher". He is survived by his wife, Charlotte; daughter Lori Jabakji; three granddaughters; sisters, **Clarice Murphy '69** and Lois Rogers.



Lloyd Brenneise

Mary Feese Davis '69, Omaha, Neb., died Oct. 2, 2013, at age 65. She is survived by two children, John Davis and Janelle Montgomery; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren;

brothers: **Michael '70**, Kenneth, Emerson, Tom and Scott; and sister, **Beth Corbin '71**.

Orville "Phillip" Blackburn '73, Huntsville, Ark., died Dec. 31, 2013, at age 74. He was born Feb. 2, 1939, in Craig, Colo., the son of Ralph and Florence Smith Blackburn. He was a retired pastor and U.S. Army veteran. Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Carol; sons, Sean and T.J.; daughter, Kym Alexander; brothers, **Ira '74** and Blacky; fourteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Janet Affolter Enders '73, Olympia, Wash., died March 6, 2014, at age 63. She was born February 4, 1951 in Estes Park, Colo. She is survived by **Steve '73**, her loving husband of almost 43 years; children, Jason, Matthew and Heather Dietrich; mother, Bette Affolter, brother, **Gary Affolter '69**, sister, **Karen Johnson '72**; and five grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her father, **Richard Affolter '44**.

John Siewert '76, Higbee, Mo., died Nov. 16, 2013, at age 56. He was born in Bay City, Mich., on Dec. 7, 1956. He worked as an electrician from 1976 to 1988 and was a history teacher in Irving, Texas, from 1993 to 2002. John was a member of the Petoskey, Mich., church. He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Sherry; son, Richard; daughter, Kellie Delmores; two grandchildren; parents, Don and Myrtle; brother, **Richard '79**; and sisters, Susan Marke and Faith Fowler.

Anthony Livingstone Roach '77, Nassau, Bahamas, died Nov. 27, 2013, at age 60. He was born Oct. 4, 1953, the sixth child of Leon and Blunetta Roach. Tony, as he was affectionately called, attended Bahamas Academy. It was here that he formed a singing group, Kings Voices, which performed for many events.

Tony was a quintessential athlete, playing volleyball, softball, running track and most of all soccer. In 1972, he graduated from

West Indies College in Jamaica with a high school diploma. He worked for almost a year saving money to enter Union College in 1973. While there, he sang in the college choir and graduated in 1977 with a bachelor of arts degree in communication. Returning to the Bahamas, Tony was a physical education teacher at the government high school and was widely known as "Coach Roach." In just a few years he met and married Carla McIntosh. Besides teaching, he was successful in various business endeavors. He once told his pastor, "I could sell ice to the Eskimos," and indeed he could.

Tony's family was of utmost importance to him. He determined to raise his children as he had been raised, with Christ and music as the focus.

Throughout his life, he served the Philadelphia church in many positions, including choir and men's choral group director. He is survived by his wife, Carla; sons, Alcott and Anthony, Jr.; daughter, Toni; two granddaughters; sisters, Clara McPhee, **Veronica McGee '71**, Leona Roach, **Annette Dorsett '76**, and Adelma Roach.

Ruth Lucas Rolls (Former Faculty) Grand Terrace, Calif., died Nov. 29, 2013, at age 91.

She was born March 28, 1922, in Maitland, Fla., to Lloyd and Clara Estridge Lucas, the baby sister to Sue and Mary. Ruth lived in the Loma

Linda area for 25 years, after her retirement from Union College where she was a college associate-professor from 1972 to 1982, teaching secretarial and business communication courses. She was a member of the College View SDA church. From 1968 to 1972 she taught typing and shorthand at Monterey Bay Academy in Watsonville, Calif. She loved sponsoring class groups, hiking at Big Sur and leading the jogging club. At Union and Monterey Bay Academy she was known for giving inspirational talks at chapel services, bravely discussing the difficulties and challenges of being a divorced mother of five children who

went back to college at age 43 to earn a master's degree and teaching credentials in order to support her family. She participated in school plays, had the reputation of being a great banquet planner, and mentored her many students, who describe her as being loving, kind and fun. She was a gracious hostess, routinely inviting students to her home for meals or to play games, listen to music, or bake. Ruth enjoyed quilting, weaving, reading, participating in church groups and traveling. She cherished spending time with her children and grandchildren. To them she left the amazing gift of her memoirs in the self-published book, *This Life of Peanut Butter & Honey Sandwiches*. She is survived by five children: Dollie Moulton, Johnnie, Jana Russon, Jeannie Cornish and Bonnie Larson; ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Notice of the following deaths has been received:

Willis Dick '33, Bakersfield, Calif., died Dec. 9, 2013, at age 100.

Alma Fletcher Sonnenberg '38, Loma Linda, Calif., died Nov. 12, 2013, at age 97.

George Gantz '47, Palmetto, Fla., died Jan. 9, 2012.

Alice Forste Pierson '50, Moberly, Mo., died Aug. 15, 2013, at age 87.

Lyle Schmidt '51, Fargo, N.D., died Dec. 2, 2013, at age 88.

Dorothy Neuharth Meier '72, Scottsbluff, Neb., died Sept. 23, 2013, at age 87.

IN MEMORY



Vada Leonhardt

Vada Korgan Leonhardt '67, Lincoln, Neb., died Jan. 30, 2014, at age 95. On Dec. 20, 1918, she was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa, to Albert and Louise Messman Korgan. After graduating from Oak Park Academy in 1936, she accepted the position of teacher at the Adventist church school in Council Bluffs. It was during this time that her relationship with **Earl Leonhardt '50** grew stronger and they married in 1941. The years that followed took Earl and Vada through his military service, years of his pursuing degrees in math, the beginning of his teaching career and the raising of their children.

When asked to help in her daughter's first grade classroom, which was very large that year, she agreed to be the teacher's assistant. By the next year she was hired to teach her own classroom. Throughout her career she taught for 29 years in the Adventist school system, most of them at Helen Hyatt Elementary School in Lincoln, Neb. During this time she also completed a master's degree in education from the University of Nebraska.

After she retired from teaching, she continued to serve as the school librarian for at least twelve years. She called alumni from Union College and College View Academy for many years to invite them to support the schools she loved so much. She loved flower and vegetable gardening and spending time with her family. She is survived by her children: **Darrell '69**, **Dwain '72**, and **Marcia Austin '75**; brother, **Julius Korgan '45**; sister, **Alberta Eichman '48**; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

AnnaLee Schander

AnnaLee Lyon Schander ('44), Lincoln, Neb., died Jan. 31, 2014, at age 87. In the early 1920s AnnaLee's parents and three siblings were en route from Colorado to Missouri to establish a new home when her father became extremely ill. As a result of the illness they were forced to stop in Lincoln to seek medical assistance. They were taken into the loving home of an Adventist family named Davies who lived just two blocks from Union College. During the recovery process they became good friends with the Davies who shared their Adventist faith with AnnaLee's parents. Her family embraced the Adventist faith and decided to join the College View church and remain in Lincoln permanently. It was here that AnnaLee was born May 7, 1926.

She attended Union College, was very active in the music department, sang in the Unionaires and was vocally involved at Union even after she met her husband, **Eugene Schander ('47)**, also a student at Union, and established a family. AnnaLee was well known in the Lincoln area for her beautiful soprano solo voice. Because of family obligations she was unable to complete her education at Union. She worked at several clerical positions in the Lincoln area including Christian Record Services, and for many years she served as department secretary at the Union College music department.

After she retired she volunteered for several years in Union's alumni office. She loved this work because having lived her whole life in "the shadow of the clock tower," she knew many Unionites and SDA Lincolnites. She was a great resource to the alumni office. AnnaLee also played major roles in organizing both the 75th anniversary of Union College in 1966 and the 1997 Unionaires alumni reunion concert. She dearly loved Union College.

She is survived by three daughters: Lonnie Wise, **Julianne Chunestudy ('70)** and Cheryl Woods; eleven grandchildren and nineteen great-grandchildren.

The Union College Advancement Office pays humble tribute to these two long-time volunteers who devoted countless hours to encouraging and assisting Advancement staff and students.



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ForeSight honors those who have generously supported, or plan to support, the mission of Union College through their will, trust, or other planned gifts.

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Bernard & Eunice Owen
Alfred Pancake
Gladys Phillips
Nola B. Plumb '21
Oliver & Barbara Pogue '49 & '50
Ira Pound '44
Lillian Reiner '40
Hulda Roper '31
Neil Rowland '47
Greta Royal
Ellen Saito-Heblish '50
Genevieve A. Siebenlist '31
Cleo Smith '38
Bernice G. Speth '24
Pearl L. Strawn
Warren & Thelma Swayze '36 & '36
Emanuel Tebelius
LaVerne Turner '47
Lowell Welch '32
Ruth Wenzel '41
Ruth Whitfield
Alex A. Widicker '29
David L. Wiltse
Esther Youngs
Lois M. Zuberbieber '27

*It takes
ForeSight...*

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experience

watching them
spread their wings

What did you want to be when you grew up? As a kid, answering that question was easy. The closer I came to choosing a major—making my decision real—the less sure I was.

That's why I'm glad I chose Union College. Here, my education isn't just learning skills like administering an IV, writing an article or programming a computer. It's a journey to discover the person I'm meant to be and how to

use my skills to the glory of God.

I know my professors are just as concerned about who I become as what career I chose. They've taken a personal interest in my education, and I've seen their commitment to helping me succeed. If your child or grandchild is looking for a school committed to helping them discover their God-given calling, encourage them to try Union College.

Help the student in your family find much more than a career.

Schedule a FREE visit to Union at www.ucollege.edu/visit or call 402.486.2694.

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