

CORD MAGAZINE

FALL 2021 | NEWS FROM UNION COLLEGE

FIT FOR THE FUTURE

Union's new building campaign will triple the size of the current wellness facility.

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE



photo: Joseph Lee/Union College

Students provide help in disaster zones *by Ryan Teller '98*



photo: Joseph Lee/Union College

When disaster strikes, the Union College international rescue and relief students are ready to respond. As emergency medical technicians with certifications in a variety of rescue and disaster management areas, IRR students are uniquely positioned to help in the recovery efforts when called upon.

In September, they were called to help Grand Isle, Louisiana, a small town on the Gulf Coast that experienced extensive damage from Hurricane Ida. A team of 22 students and faculty spent a week covering damaged roofs, helping residents clean up debris and distributing donated goods.

Student teams also most recently responded to disasters in Belle Plain, Iowa, in 2020; Malawi, Africa, in 2019; and Port Arthur, Texas, in 2017.

IRR teams must be self-sufficient when they work in a disaster zone, and gifts from alumni and friends of Union College make it possible for the students to get this

hands-on experience that plays a vital role in their preparation for careers in public safety, emergency management, global development and the medical field.


Learn more about the recent trip to Louisiana—including an appearance on the Weather Channel—and find out how you can support future relief efforts at ucollege.edu/hurricane-ida 



photo: Joseph Lee/Union College

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ABOUT THE COVER

As a part of Union's Gymnares acrosport gymnastic team, Adam Anderson looks forward to expanded facilities where he can exercise and stay in shape. Read his story on page 20. Photo by Scott Cushman.

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photo: courtesy of Darlene Tabelius Morford

“Education is something no one can ever take from you, and is the first step on your ladder to obtaining your goals and dreams,”

— Darlene Tabelius Morford ('58).

Like father, like daughter by Ken Farrow


“Education is something no one can ever take from you, and is the first step on your ladder to obtaining your goals and dreams,” said Darlene Tabelius Morford ('58).

Even though she ultimately graduated from another college, Morford wants to help a new generation of students achieve their dream of a college degree from Union. So now she gives regularly to the Emanuel Tabelius Scholarship, a fund established by her parents nearly 30 years ago.

Morford attended Union College for two years and met her late husband, Ken Morford '60, during that time. “While I ended up completing my degree at a different college, I will always remember the pride I felt when walking across that stage to receive my college degree and I want to help other students to fulfill their dreams through my dad’s scholarship fund,” she said. “It’s such a joy to hear from the student recipients of my father’s scholarship, and in their words share appreciation for the help these funds have provided.” Giving appreciated securities makes it easy for Morford to continue to support her family’s scholarship. She appreciates

that gifts of stocks help her avoid capital gains taxes, receive a full tax deduction on her gift, and provides a consistent source of cash flow. Another benefit Darlene and her late husband Ken took advantage of was giving gifts during times they both worked for corporations that matched their gifts to Union College. Therefore, every dollar they donated became three dollars.

Thanks to donors like Darlene Morford and her family, Union can continue to help students become highly sought graduates while living a lifetime joyfully in God’s calling. We offer many ways to support students and their education experience.

If you know someone who may want to hear what’s going on at Union, or just be remembered as a Union College alum, please let us know. Or, if you have a passion to help students achieve their goals and dreams, please contact me, Ken Farrow, at ken.farrow@ucollege.edu or call 402-486-2600, ext. 2200. 

WHAT'S ONLINE



Facebook

Union hosted volleyball and soccer teams from Adventist high schools across the country for the annual Fall Tournament October 21-23. Check out the photos and albums on Facebook (and replays of many of the games) at ucollege.edu/falltournament2021



Instagram @ucollegeNE



#teamtuesday

On Tuesdays we introduce new employees and reintroduce some who have been around awhile including Kim Lee Wong, who now works as the office manager in Student Life. Check it out at instagram.com/ucollegene



UTV

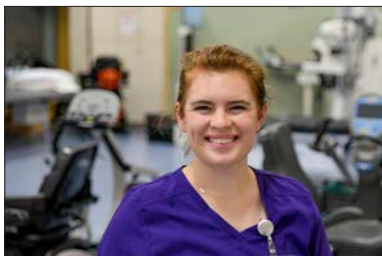


Warrior sports

Warrior sports—Rewatch Warrior volleyball games and watch upcoming basketball games live at ucollege.edu/utv



ucollege.edu



Finding a meaningful career

Abigail Logan has found a fulfilling career as an occupational therapy assistant. Read Abigails and many more stories at ucollege.edu/news



Youtube



Project Impact 40

After a year off due to COVID, Union held the 40th Project Impact in September. Project Impact is a day off from classes when students and employees serve the Lincoln community. Watch the video at ucollege.edu/project-impact



Already ready

Internships get Union students ready for the workplace long before they graduate. After making the switch from business to communication, Jacob Sanchez took an internship in the communication department of a Southern California health plan. He had great experience and a confirmation that he was on the right path for a career: <https://youtu.be/ChmCRoFJTZE>



Heartscan

Agustin Ramirez tried HeartScan as a way to avoid going to campus worship. He found a closer connection with a staff member and a more real sense of the presence of God. https://youtu.be/-cj0GFPs_v8

Project Impact is back

by Annika Cambigue '24

"Service is one of Union's core values," said Megan Fleming, a Campus Ministries Group Leader and a senior business administration major. "Organizations I've talked to know us. They say, 'Oh, you came and helped us organize this thing one time. We know Union!'"

Every year, Union College takes a day off classes to spend on service projects in the Lincoln community. After having to cancel last year due to the pandemic, this year's Project Impact is even more anticipated by students than usual, especially since this is the 40th service day Union College has held.

Project Impact began in 1981 as BRUSH (Beautifying Residences Using Student Help). Union students spent the day painting and doing yard work at individual homes. Over the last four decades, the program has expanded to include serving those who serve Lincoln all year—nearly 40 local nonprofit organizations. Along with yard work and painting, students sort donations, serve food, clean facilities and read to children.

Jadyn Anderson, a 2021 Project Impact




Photo: Alan Orinson/Union College

coordinator and junior biomedical science major, described her first experience with Project Impact, "My freshman year, I went to sort through foods that were donated to a shelter. We sorted through potatoes, cans, bread and all sorts of stuff. I was new and didn't know anyone here, so Project Impact helped me actually form some friendships that I wouldn't have otherwise. It was a really nice relaxing day." She adds that she's not the only Union student with this opinion. "Everyone I've ever talked to always says how fun Project Impact is. It's just a great time."

Not only is Project Impact an enjoyable experience for Union students, but it is also a chance to develop relationships with the Lincoln community. "It's nice to get to know these organizations and to see their why: what drives them, what their passions are," Fleming explained. "Connecting with them is a

big part of it for me now."

"It's a great way for the students to get involved with the community and to spread awareness about Union and our mission," Anderson added. "Our values are to be a school of service and to have a mission-serving heart. They set us apart and teach our students to include acts of service in our regular lives... In previous years people have said that Union students are faster and more efficient than the organizations expected. We run out of things to do!"

The service doesn't end after Project Impact. Union students are encouraged to stay involved in the community by serving local organizations all year long. Many students choose to return to the organizations they volunteered with during Project Impact. Learn more at ucollege.edu/project-impact. 

U.S. News ranks Union among America's "Best Colleges;" 783 students agree

by Scott Cushman

As Union was welcoming 783 students to campus this semester (a 2.4 percent increase from last fall), the annual *U.S. News* "Best Colleges" special edition was going to press. The annual rankings provide the most widely read direct comparison between institutions of higher learning in the United States. With a rank of 31, the magazine placed Union in the top tier of Midwestern colleges for the sixteenth consecutive year.

"When I see us in these rankings each year, I think about the stories behind the numbers," said Dr. Vinita Sauder, Union College president. "The stories of faculty and staff who put their whole hearts

into training successful graduates. The stories of students who persevere despite or because of the difficulties they face at home. The stories of the alumni who sacrifice to support future generations. For those of us who get to see behind the scenes, the statistics reflected in these rankings aren't just numbers. They're the headlines of heart-warming and mission-affirming stories."

In addition to the traditional rankings, *U.S. News* also rated Union highly in two supplementary lists emphasizing economic diversity and accessibility.

The college took eighth place as a "Top Performer for Social Mobility" in its category. That means *U.S. News* found low-income students are

more likely to enroll at and successfully graduate from Union College than most other schools. According to national statistics from the U.S. Department of Education, only nine percent of students from the lowest quarter of incomes complete a college degree by the age of 24. In comparison, 77 percent of students from the highest income quartile graduate within the same window of time.

"It's no secret that low-income students face pressures many of their peers don't have to worry about," said Sauder. "The national trend over the last year has been particularly disheartening. The instability of the pandemic meant fewer low-income students enrolling in college and many

dropping out to help their families. I am so proud of the work we've done at Union to support students and families through the pandemic, and I cannot say 'thank you' enough to the alumni and friends who fund desperately needed scholarships."

Union is also listed in the top tier in its category on the list of "Best Value Schools," a

ranking which tries to balance academic quality with the total cost of attendance. This is the fourth consecutive year Union has earned this distinction.

"At Union, we work hard to keep our tuition low and provide opportunities like the Bridge to Union Scholarship that make a quality education accessible to as many

students as possible," said Sauder. "Those of us who work in higher education have seen the analyses of the *U.S. News* and similar rankings. We know the methodology puts highly diverse schools like ours at a disadvantage. And yet, Union shines through despite the obstacles. That makes the dedication of our faculty, staff and students all the more impressive." 📌

The next generation of entrepreneurs

by Maria Kercher '22

"I've learned that running a business is a lot harder than it seems. But stuff I knew about woodworking helped me understand my classes better," Joseph Peden said. After high school, he had no intention of going to college and decided to take time to develop his skills in woodworking. He later came to Union to learn to be a gateway between the older generation of woodworkers and technology.

A computer science turned business major, Peden has been woodworking since his teens. He started out making high quality cutting boards, furniture, and wooden bowls. But he discovered that he didn't have storage space for much inventory. Now Peden runs a small business, Jojorokenbok, creating unique pens handcrafted right here at Union. "It's good to get away from the classroom and do something with my hands," he said.

RacingDownMainStreet is a Disney-themed Etsy store run by another student, Hannah Drewieck. She sells unique mouse ears made by hand, snatched up by people planning trips to any of Disney's parks. Drewieck is a double major in business and communication, and she has been able to use her store as a learning tool. "My accounting

skills have grown. And last semester, I did a project on changing consumer behavior," she said. "I applied real strategies to my Etsy store that I learned in class."

Drewieck also learned to personalize her Mickey ear enthusiasts' experiences with her products. "I love writing a short, sweet note to include in each package," she said. She takes pride in her products, ensuring high quality for every pair of mouse ears she sells. "I definitely have the business mindset and could see myself operating my own business full time. I really enjoy it."

Rachel Torres, a graphic design major, and 2018 business graduate Senga Rutebuka partnered up to create Unknown, a store selling streetwear, from t-shirts to bandanas. "We eventually want to get our shirts into small stores, just to get it out there," Torres said. She works hard to be original and create good clothing designs. "I like to be challenged. I enjoy negative feedback because I want to know what's going to help me grow as a graphic designer."

When Torres came to Union, she had a deep interest in photography. Since Union didn't offer a photography major, Bruce Forbes recommended she try out graphic design. "I wasn't really sure about it, but I caught an interest in it," she said. Her professors, especially Alan Orrison, push her to excel. "It makes a huge impact on my designs. You really have to think about how other people are going to look at what you've made." In addition to working clothing design, Torres also manages the site's web design and currently has the site under construction.

Summer Nguyen, a 2021 Union College PA graduate, started her online business,



Hannah Drewieck models a pair of her custom made mouse ears.

EvenTent, at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic when cotton masks were hard to find. "I posted my masks on eBay, and within a matter of minutes the first 25 masks were gone," she said. The business grew until she graduated in May—with her graduating class wearing her customized masks.

The PA program recommends that students avoid holding jobs to focus on their schoolwork, and Nguyen discovered why. Her business selling her own handmade masks was so successful, she struggled to balance the orders to be filled with the weekly rigors of her program. When the demand for masks became too much for Nguyen, her fiancé, and her little brother to fill, she sent her design to her family in Vietnam and worked with them to get the orders filled.

Now Nguyen sources EvenTent's items from small businesses in rural Vietnam. Her merchandise includes handmade craft items such as coconut bowls, cross-back Japanese-style aprons, and EvenTent's signature customizable masks. And after being in operation for a little over a year, the store already has over 7,800 sales and five stars on Etsy. "I'm glad that I did what I did, because it's a step forward to something bigger and to trust in myself," Nguyen said. "I couldn't believe that I could do that much until I did it." 📌



Summer Nguyen shows off one of her masks.

Building a better Union

by Maria Kercher '22

Big changes came to Union this past year, with renovations to several areas of campus bringing improvement to the learning and living experiences of Union students.

Rees Hall

This summer, Maranatha volunteers installed new flooring, cabinets, and windows in another 27 rooms in the east wing of Rees Hall—bringing the total to 63 of 170 sleeping rooms in the women's residence. Renovations began in the summer of 2019 with 34 rooms on the third and fourth floors, where mainly freshmen and sophomores live. The summer of 2021 brought the renovations to the first and second floors.

"Normally the East wing has been an area that the ladies avoided, and they would want to stay on the West wing," said Emily Patterson, one of the women's deans "Our East wing is completely full right now, and that is a first ever in all my years here." The dorm



Photo: Steve Nazario/Union College

renovations have a great impact on students, making them feel safer and more at home in their living space. "They're sleeping, hanging out with their friends, and studying in the dorm rooms—that's where they spend the majority of their time on campus, so it's really important that they have a nice place to stay."

Alyse Wash, a junior transfer student who worked on the renovations this summer, is happy with the finished dorm rooms.

"When I first saw them, they were definitely older and not the best in terms of the floors and walls," she said. "Now I'm very happy to be living in my room, and since the renovations, no one has lived there except for me. The color of the floors and the cabinets really give it a modern feel. It's completely different and I love the upgrade."



Photo: Steve Nazario/Union College

Business Classrooms

Thanks to a generous gift from AdventHealth, one of the business classrooms on the third floor of the Everett Dick Building has been renovated into the AdventHealth Innovation Classroom. Plant Services installed new carpet and windows as well as new tables and chairs arranged in pods rather than rows to create flexible workspaces. Eight smart touchscreen TVs were also installed to enhance

student engagement. Finishing touches are in progress, meant to represent Union's brand and enhance the interactive potential of the classroom.

"Before, the layout made it really difficult to see the board from the back of the room. If you were sitting at the front, there was more pressure to answer questions, but in the back of the room it was easier to zone out and disengage."

said Shelby Jongema, a junior business administration major: "I think it's a better environment now. I can see my classmates better, so it's better for collaboration and group discussion. It's easier to feel engaged even when you're at the back of the room."

"I think that we've found quite a bit more learners in this room when the technology is used," said Jodie Trana, one of Union's business faculty. The Smart TVs allow multiple students to work on the same device, making collaboration on group projects and class activities much easier. "I think that as much as possible we need to keep up with what's going on in the real world. We need to be able to provide the kind of technology and the type of experiences that they're going to get outside this classroom."

"From their first year on, we want to get students involved in the classroom. We want them to start working in teams," Trana said. New teaching techniques are designed to provide students with necessary collaboration skills employers are looking for: "I hope having this classroom, where it's set up for group work and group activity, is going to lead to that collaboration. And we believe that collaboration leads to innovation, and that's going to make them successful."

Student Success Center

Last school year Union launched the Student Success Center thanks to funding from a U.S. Department of Education Title III Grant. The grant provides funding for higher education schools to invest in resources and infrastructure to better aid at-risk students.

The new center for academic and coaching resources is now housed in a renovated section of the library. "We wanted to have a one-stop shop for student and academic resources so students can come in here and we can help with any questions they have and provide them with any service they need. And if we don't have what they need here, we know where to send them." Student Success provides life coaching, tutoring and academic assistance, career coaching and disability services.

"Prior to being in this building together, three of us were downstairs in the Career Center; three other coaches were in the old Teaching Learning Center. Student Services was downstairs," Rouse explained. "We were in three different areas, which is not conducive to functioning as a team or for students to know where we are."

Now, Student Success is thriving and serving students more effectively—including providing a life coach for all



photo: Steve Nazario/Union College

first-year and transfer students to better prepare them for their time in college. "Getting students engaged academically with activities and with each other is just one of the biggest keys to their success," Rouse said.

Rouse especially emphasized that the Student Success Center is open to

all students, no matter their background or their level of need. "Any student that wants to come in for help, we'll talk to them," Rouse said. "The Student Success area is for everybody. We are here for all students on campus, not just freshmen. This is what we care about, and it's what students are owed. It's our mission."



photo: Steve Nazario/Union College

Prescott Hall


Plant Services renovated the Prescott Hall Lobby last summer; repainting the walls and redoing the ceiling, tiles, and lights. The biggest project was removing the old student workers' desk in the lobby and replacing it with a new brick one in a new location.

"It looks significantly better; we're excited about it. We really needed the facelift," said Daniel Force, one of the men's deans. "We're happy for the residents to have something new, and we hope we can continue to have more improvements in the dorm." In the future, he hopes to renovate the dorms in Prescott along with installing an announcements monitor in the lobby. "We just want to keep making Prescott Hall a better place to live."

Student Center

After the Student Success Center opened last year in the library, renovations began on what used to be the Teaching Learning Center to become new home for the Student Life team. Student Life is responsible for overseeing many activities and services offered at Union, such as varsity athletics, residence hall management, Student Association activities, and more.

Currently, the primary Student Life office is located on the first floor of the Everett Dick Administration Building. However, several of the staff are scattered around campus. The new offices renovated by Plant Services will provide a central location for the entire team. Kim Canine, vice president for Student Life, also believes moving the team into the Student Center will help her goal to turn the center along with the entire Don Love Building Atrium into a hub of student activity—which would include the library, new Student Success Center and Campus Store.

"The renovation will help us provide better services to our students and enhance their college experience beyond the classroom," she explained. 

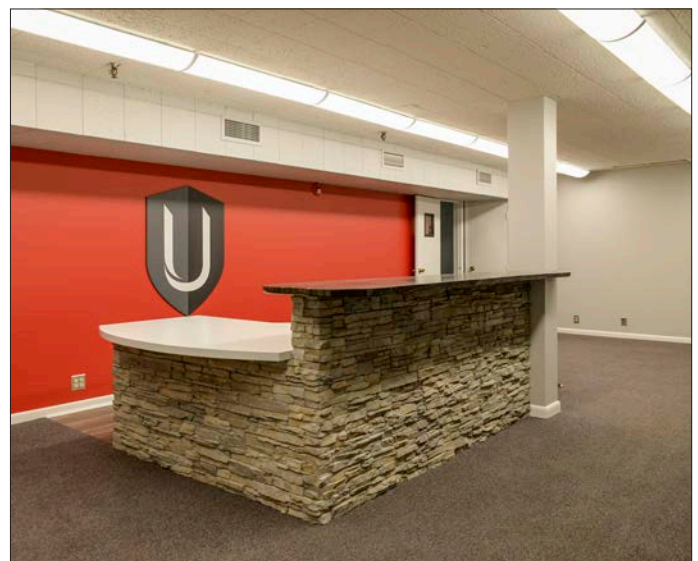


photo: Steve Nazario/Union College

Occupational Therapy Assistant Program earns full accreditation

by Maria Kercher '22

Union College's newest academic offering, the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program, has received full accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). Four years in the making, the accreditation became official in April, just before the program's first cohort of twelve students graduated.

The OTA team received a seven-year accreditation with no areas of concern—a highly unusual occurrence for a new program. Most programs begin with only five years of accreditation, and most also have at least a few areas of concern noted by accreditors.

"We are proud and thankful for the hard work put in by Laurel Radley and the rest of the OTA faculty who helped us surpass accreditation requirements with flying colors," said Vinita Sauder, president of Union College. "We are also so thankful for the support of the wider school community and our alumni. This would not have been possible without them."

What is occupational therapy?

Sometimes—due to physical injury, mental illness or learning disability—people face challenges in their ability to do everyday tasks such as cooking a meal, getting dressed, working or leisure activities. Occupational therapy assistants partner with occupational therapists to help clients engage in the activities they value and return to independence.

"This program creates a great opportunity for students to get the full Union College experience while working toward a calling..."

Union launched the OTA program to prepare students for one of the highest demand careers in the country. OTAs work in many different settings and can earn a \$60,000 annual salary right after graduation with just a two-year associate's degree.

"This program creates a great opportunity

for students to get the full Union College experience while working toward a calling—a passion for helping others to live independently," said Sauder.

"Our faculty designed it for excellence, and it's my hope our students will leave us with an edge in a crucial field and a genuine heart for the people they serve."

Building a quality program

"We had a really small class, so we had a lot of interaction with our teachers and each other. Our teachers were always available," said Brittany Fast, who was a part of the first OTA cohort. "Professor Rumery's teaching style hit everything that I needed personally—it had hands-on, it had visuals. I really appreciate her as a teacher."

"I'm very excited to have that process done, and just to be able to share with prospective students that we are accredited," said Rumery, who replaced Radley as director when the latter retired this summer. She's looking forward to the future, certain that the new, high-standing accreditation will attract prospective students from all over the country to earn a degree at Union.

Union's first cohort of occupational therapy assistants graduated on May 7 and are now studying for their board exams to receive their licenses and begin practicing their passion. The third cohort of OTA students will begin their general education courses in the fall and their journey through the program will commence in Spring 2022. The second cohort of sixteen students will graduate in May of that year.


"Our class was a smaller group, so it was a very personal education, which I loved. We had amazing instructors, and our new OTA lab and classrooms were just top-notch," graduate Claire Harless said. "The Union experience speaks for itself. You can tell that they truly care about each and every one of you, and the OTA program was no different." 



photo: Scott Cushman/Union College

Passing on a passion for fitness

by Ryan Teller '98

One morning while shaving, Rich Reiner made a discovery that proved to be a wakeup call. "I found a bump on my neck," he said. "That shouldn't be there."

At the age of 39 with three young children, he was shocked when a barrage of medical tests determined he had Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma with a less than desirable long-term prognosis.

That was more than 30 years ago.

"It was a wake up call," said Reiner. He and his wife, Lynnet, began to place a greater emphasis on their health—both changing their diet and becoming much more intentional about exercise.

The couple continued to grow their commitment to fitness as their kids grew up and then into retirement. Lynnet runs the Walt Disney World Marathon every January as well as various half marathons, and the couple love to hike, bike, and ski.

"I have joked with many people about trying to keep up with my wife," Reiner said. "I do my best." In addition to the marathons, Lynnet enjoys adding Colorado 14ers to her list of mountains hiked. During the pandemic, they have increased their biking mileages and are enjoying doing rail trails in different states. And they continue to ski every winter in Colorado as well as Switzerland and Italy with a trip planned to Austria this winter.

"We both have a commitment to staying healthy so we can ski with our grandchildren," he said.

The couple have also long been supporters of Union College, the place where they met. Rich has served on the Board of Trustees for 20 years and the couple established an endowment fund for student scholarships. But Union's plans to build an expanded wellness center felt personal.

After Rich retired from Adventist Health System (now AdventHealth), Union asked him to serve as interim CFO for several months in 2016. "I stayed in one of the guest rooms," he remembered. "For years I had gone to the gym every morning, so I went to the Larson Lifestyle Center to exercise. I was not impressed with the facilities."

Sweating on old workout

"It was a wake up call," said Reiner. He and his wife, Lynnet began to place a greater emphasis on their health."

equipment crowded into small spaces that were not adequately cooled, he thought to himself, "I think we can do better than this."

So he and Lynnet championed what would ultimately become the Fit for the Future fundraising campaign to build an expanded wellness center at Union College.

Reiner now serves as the campaign chair, and the couple gave a leadership gift for the Reiner Wellness Center inside the

The Reiners, who gave a lead gift for Union's expanded wellness center are committed to staying health "so we can ski with our grandchildren."



Photo: courtesy of the Reiners

Rich and Lynnet Reiner embrace an active lifestyle—including hiking 14ers in Colorado.

new AdventHealth Complex which will nearly triple the size of the current Larson Lifestyle Center.

The couple both grew up on small farms in the midwest with limited resources, but throughout Rich's career, first working in higher education and then healthcare, the couple invested wisely, including building and purchasing rental properties when they lived in Lincoln after college. "We've been blessed financially beyond our wildest dreams," he said. "We both feel it is important to give back to society and those who come after us."

Now they are giving some of those properties to Union to help make the project a reality. This becomes a win-win, because the tax consequences for the Reiners can be minimized with the financial benefits going to the Fit for the Future project.


The couple believes in the importance of wellness and hopes to pass that value on to college students as they form their own priorities and life goals. "This project really resonates with us and our values. That's why I've gone all in on our fundraising," said Rich. "It is really important for us to give back to the college where we both had four great years. We believe this is a project whose time has come." 



Photo: courtesy of the Reiners

Union announces plans for an expanded wellness center

by Ryan Teller '98



renderings: Ayars & Ayars/Archi+ETC.LLC

The new AdventHealth Complex will nearly triple the size of the Larson Lifestyle Center and provide expanded courts and fitness facilities for Union's campus.

Modern technology increasingly makes our lives easier, but rarely healthier. Today's college students find it increasingly difficult to maintain the active lifestyle they need to relieve stress, stay healthy and improve their ability to study.

"Many people think that exercise is just about looking better, but it's actually making you a better person from the inside out," said Boss Sirisatit, who graduated in 2020 with a degree in international rescue and relief. "Exercise is the way I give myself time to improve and think things through. Exercise every morning gives me a sense of accomplishment and the motivation to start the day."

Union College is now building on a tradition of helping students live healthier, well-rounded lives and officially launched a \$13 million capital campaign on June 16 to fund the construction of a new wellness center. The campaign will significantly expand the college's fitness and athletic facilities.

Current plans call for a new 54,000 square foot building next to Larson Lifestyle Center that will contain expanded workout rooms, athletic courts, a walking track and a turf field. The new facility will connect to the existing facility so patrons can continue to use the 25-meter pool that has served Union and the Lincoln community for 40 years.

Why build a new wellness center?

Updated fitness facilities have long been at the top of the list for students and employees when asked what Union should build or improve. "Students are asking for a better wellness facility," said Vinita Sauder, president of

Union College. "We believe this is the next logical step as we continue the master plan to transform our campus to support the great learning experience our students already receive."

Many fitness-minded students now purchase memberships at off-campus fitness centers because they don't like to wait in line in the crowded workout rooms to use the few cardio machines, weight machines or free weights. "I started working out at Larson when I was a freshman, but I found very often that all the machines were taken and that it was crowded—I would actually bump into people while I was exercising. And when I wasn't exercising, I was waiting in line to get the weights," said Jean Étienne Ramos, a 2020 graduate. "I got a membership at Good Life Fitness, and I lifted there with a couple of buddies."

"I really wish there was a running track," said Brittany Fast, who graduated in May with an OTA degree. "Running on the treadmill gets boring after a while. A running track would make it easy to come run inside—especially in Nebraska winters. Plus Larson is so convenient because it is right here on campus."

Union alumnus Rich Reiner became passionate about the project when he came out of retirement briefly in 2016 to serve as Union's interim CFO.

"Every day I like to work out," he explained. "I was not too impressed with the space capacity and variability of the cardio and strength equipment at

the Larson Lifestyle Center."

He quickly saw the value students put on recreational activities. "There's only one gymnasium on campus and it is used constantly for gymnastic practice, PE classes, intramural sports, varsity volleyball and basketball practice and it really excludes the majority of the student body," he explained. For the last five years, he has been dedicated to realizing this vision of better facilities for a healthier Union, and Reiner is now the campaign chair—helping to raise money for the new facility.

Room for growth

According to Frankie Rose, Union's vice president for academics, current research shows that a key component of a thriving college is to offer quality wellness facilities. "It's also an important part of your curb appeal," he explained. "When people visit, they're trying to envision themselves there on your campus. If your facility is really out of date or unattractive, it does factor into a student's decision to enroll or not."

Forrester Research found that 75 percent of college students use recreation centers and 68 percent of



renderings: Ayars & Ayars/Arch+ETC, LLC

A new fieldhouse in the Advent-Health Complex will be the home of the Warrior basketball and volleyball teams.

Fit for the Future

After his experience trying to exercise at Larson Lifestyle Center, Reiner is now a champion for the new project and serves as chair of the \$13 million Fit for the Future capital campaign to fund the new building.

Reiner and his wife, Lynette, also gave a leadership gift and the Reiner Wellness Center will be named in their honor. "I believe Union needs a new wellness facility to support the needs of our students and employees, to attract our local community and to live out the health principles of our faith," he said.

Union publicly launches this campaign with more than \$9 million in gift commitments for the project. In addition to the Reiners, several other individuals and organizations have given leadership gifts, including AdventHealth of Florida; Allo Communications of Lincoln; Cary and Pam DeCamp of Kansas; the Edna Harris Estate of Oregon; H&B Communications of Kansas; Kettering Health of Ohio; J S Lang Enterprises of Lincoln; Mid-America Union of Seventh-day Adventists of Lincoln; Nelnet of Lincoln; Jeff and Shelly Peterson of Tennessee; Paula Shaw of Florida; the Thompson family of Nebraska; and Union Bank & Trust of Lincoln.

Thanks to a lead gift from AdventHealth, the entire facility—which will house the Reiner Wellness Center, the Larson Aquatics Center, the Nursing Program and the Health and Human Performance Program—will be called the AdventHealth Complex. AdventHealth is a Florida-based healthcare system affiliated with Union College's

“Union College students proved this to be true when the 2018 Student Association leadership decided to give \$120,000 of SA funds to the project.”




parent organization—the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The second-largest private healthcare system in the country, AdventHealth operates nearly 50 hospitals, including several in the Kansas City and Denver metro areas.

Construction is expected to begin in 2023, and the college plans to have the building ready for the 2024-2025 school year.

The new 54,000 square foot facility will be built next to the current Larson Lifestyle Center building. Plans call for tripling the current space for cardio and strength training equipment, a field house with bleachers for varsity basketball and volleyball games, new locker rooms for home and visiting teams, an additional basketball court for recreation and a turf practice area for soccer. The facility will include a walking track and will be connected to the current Larson building so patrons can continue to use the 25 meter swimming pool.

The project will also add a new entrance with wheelchair accessibility for the Nursing Program on the upper level of the current Larson building. It will also cover some structural issues that need to be addressed on the 40-year-old building.

Union College plans to continue to use the Thunderdome, its current gymnasium, for classes and athletic team practices even after the new facility is completed.

Learn more and support the Fit for the Future campaign at ucollege.edu/fit 

A turf field will give soccer players a chance to practice during winter months. In addition, an indoor walking track provides a comfortable environment for walkers and joggers.



renderings: Ayes & Associates+ETC LLC

AdventHealth Complex quick facts

Cost

- The new building will cost \$13 million
- The Fit for the Future campaign has already raised \$9 million of the \$13 million goal.

Size

- The new facility will be a two-level, 54,000 square foot structure, and combined with the existing Larson Lifestyle Center building, the entire AdventHealth Complex will be more than 76,000 square feet.

Location

- The new building will be built north of the current Larson Lifestyle Center building. Including additional parking, the new facility will fill the empty lot located along Calvert Street between 51st and 52nd Streets.

Building features

- A field house with a college-sized basketball court and retractable bleachers. This court will also contain two high-school sized courts across the main court
- Locker rooms with showers for home and visiting varsity athletic teams
- Large fitness center with cardio and weight training equipment
- Additional basketball court for recreation
- Turf field
- Walking track
- The 25-meter pool in the current Larson building will be connected to the new facility

Timeline

- Construction is set to begin early in 2023.
- The building will be completed in time for the 2024-2025 school year.

Teamwork for a better life

by Maria Kercher '22

"I really enjoy the challenge of finding the right combination of people to match up against those five on the other side," said Brian Carlson. "I love finding the best way to get five people to work together on the court. They're more than just players, they're like family, and I love each one of them in a different way."

Two years ago, Carlson joined Union's staff as the part-time basketball coach for the women's Warriors team in addition to his day job as a digital media manager for Christian Record Services. In his own experience as a student athlete, working on a team is important to building community.

"I played basketball on the varsity team for four years as a student here and made some great memories and friends," Carlson explained. Becoming a Union Warrior after playing high school basketball for three years both challenged Carlson and enriched his life. "People picked and played defense harder and didn't call as many fouls as in high school. It was a much more aggressive and physical version of the game," he said. The men's and women's teams would travel together, sometimes as long as five hours. The long times they spent together travelling and working as teams fostered friendships among the players.

Now Carlson sees that same fellowship developing with the basketball players he coaches now.


"The more I've been involved with different levels of coaching, the more I see that the individual relationships with the players are more important than when you get the X's and O's right," Carlson said. "Some of them have come from the same school, so they're reigniting friendships they had in years past. They're working together building these relationships and memories with people that you don't get sitting in a classroom."

As a coach, Carlson is very excited about the Fit for the Future campaign and the new facilities it will bring. His team has struggled with getting in Union's Thunderdome for practice, as they share the single gym with three other teams and any health classes taking place during the day. "As a coach, I want to create opportunities for current students to make memories that will carry on for years to come," he said. "Having more availability to use the full court or full gym would be very helpful to me as far as planning practice and for kids making it work into their schedule better."

"If athletics is a big deal to you, which it was to me, being able to see something

"greater access to maintain fitness would benefit students' mental health"

new and nice and accessible would be a big draw. If you're trying to encourage someone to come to Union College, the nicer the facilities are, the more excited they will be," Carlson said. But gaining the interest of prospective students isn't the only reason new facilities would be beneficial.

"As a coach building a team, your players have to be physically fit to play basketball. We're looking for people who can perform their best playing a sport," Carlson explained. "The players need to be in shape and have lots of opportunities to lift weights and have a place to run inside in the winter. Those are the things that are going to be very helpful as a coach, and they'll be helpful for winning basketball games." Carlson also notes that greater access to maintain fitness would benefit students' mental health. "Physical activity and mental health have a close tie together. I want the mental health of all to be taken seriously, to be respected and supported." 

"They're more than just players, they're like family, and I love each one of them in a different way."



Photo: Kim Proffman/Union College

Growing men into leaders

by Maria Kercher '22

The Warrior men's basketball team play an annual exhibition game against some alumni.



photo: Scott Cushman/Union College

“Coaching is bigger than basketball or wins and losses, it’s about growing young men into leaders,” Drew Mekelburg said. The Union graduate has coached the men’s Warriors basketball team since his days as a player—first as an assistant and now as the head coach. “It’s developed me into more of a leader. I don’t just go in with a vision for the team and push us toward that vision, I allow the players to cast their own vision as well. I want them to feel it’s something they can buy into because they created it.”

“I grew up being on campus,” Mekelburg said. His parents worked at Union from when he was in kindergarten until he was in college. “I knew I wanted to be a part of that community someday. I visited a few other schools, but never seriously. I always knew I would end up at Union.” Teaching and coaching were both things he knew growing

up that he wanted to do. Now, he teaches PE at Belmont Elementary on 14th Street and coaches the men’s Warriors team at Union

As a coach, Mekelburg places a high value on mentoring his team and helping them grow personally. “Being there for these guys when they’re struggling with things on and off the court is great,” he said. “They’ve got to rise to the occasion and overcome those struggles, and I’m not going to do it for them but I am certainly going to encourage and help them along the way.”

One student Mekelburg coached came into his role as a Warrior wishing to be a star player without wanting to play as a part of the team. It was a hard road of butting heads, but Mekelburg saw that student grow into a better athlete. “He’s a strong leader on the team now, and it’s cool to see him in that role,” Mekelburg said. “He seems happy now and loves being around the team.”

One consistent challenge Mekelburg has faced both as a student and as a coach has been the overcrowding of the Thunderdome, Union’s only gym. “When I played, there were times that we were practicing from 10 p.m. to midnight because that was the only time we’d get

the court to ourselves,” he said. “Right now we share the gym with three other teams, sometimes four depending on the time of year, so having actual practice time can be difficult.” Union’s Fit for the Future campaign plans to rectify this problem by providing another gym and more weight room space for students and athletes to work out and practice.

“As a basketball coach, I’m excited for a bigger weight room so we can go in and have some team lifts,” Mekelburg said. “That’s something we’ve never done before because we’ve never had the opportunity. The research is there, being active helps you academically, emotionally, and mentally and it’s also a big deal in terms of the Adventist mission. The health message is a big part. So if we can put our money where our mouth is, that’s going to go a long way.”

“I want them to feel it’s something they can buy into because they created it.”



photo: Steve Nazano/Union College



photo: Scott Cushman/Union College

A commitment to fitness by Annika Cambigue '24

If you go down to Larson Lifestyle Center on a weekday afternoon, you might meet Katie Tahay in the weightroom. The junior English language arts education major from Colorado exercises there five days a week.

"At first I wanted to do an evening routine, but that didn't work out. Then I realized that I have this hour between classes. I thought, 'I'm going to use that hour.' So within that hour, I run for 30 minutes, and then do weights for 15 minutes and in those last 15 minutes I get ready for my next class. I do this Monday through Friday and take breaks on Saturday and Sunday."

Tahay began her exercise habit last year, when she took Concepts of Wellness. She credits the class with giving her the commitment to work out every day. She said, "My fitness life became a lifestyle because of that class. We had an assignment where we had to work out 30 minutes a day four days a week. Once I started there, it became a habit, something I had to do. If I didn't, it felt like something was missing." Her favorite part of exercising is the way it makes her feel. "I feel better about my body and myself. I see the changes. Exercise is also a way for me to be more alert. After I run and do my workout, I feel awake. I'm not as groggy and I have energy to finish the day."


"My go-to exercise is the treadmill," Tahay shared, "I also do a couple weights. I do the basics, a couple arm exercises, and some crunches. One class I'm taking now, Weight Training, requires a test on crunches, so I've added them to the routine."

"Once I started there, it became a habit, something I had to do"

Tahay feels that there is a connection between education and exercising. "There's education in the whole idea of exercise," she said. "Exercise is a learning process. Running is self-explanatory, but when it comes to weights, you have to learn what each weight does, what it does work, what it doesn't work. You also have to learn what you can handle as well."

Although Tahay studied at the University of Northern Colorado her freshman year, she transferred to Union in August of 2020. She describes her decision to transfer as inspired

by God. "I chose to come to Union College by faith. As a freshman, the idea of coming to Union showed up. I was hesitant to step out of where I was comfortable, but I also knew I wasn't at a school where I belonged. When I got here, I realized this was where God wanted me to be. He brought me to Union eventually and it is a blessing to be part of this campus."

Tahay thinks the exercise center Union is planning to build will be an excellent addition to campus. "It sounds exciting," she said, "especially the indoor track and other equipment they want to add. The equipment they have now is good, but there could be more. It's good to know that they are trying to expand, because sometimes it gets a little crowded in there and the space would be nice." 

The basis for a strong base

by Annika Cambigue '24

Between attending classes, coordinating community service for Campus Ministries and being a Gymnares team captain, Adam Anderson's schedule is packed. However, the junior international rescue and relief major from Randolph, Alabama, always finds time to go to the gym. He said, "Fitness is so much more than staying fit for me. It makes me happy and gives me a goal and satisfaction in life. I just really enjoy doing it. It brings people together. If you do gymnastics with someone, you can build close friendships. I plan to never stop working out in some shape or form."

As a captain for Union's acrosport gymnastics team, the Gymnares, much of the exercise Adam does is to improve his gymnastics abilities. "My main job in gymnastics is being a base, lifting girls up and stunting. You have to be strong to do that. So that's why I incorporate a lot of overhead pressing, squats and deadlifting. Gymnastics is more skill-based, but being strong helps you get those skills faster. I don't do gymnastics to stay fit, I stay fit to do gymnastics. I also love tennis, basketball, football and volleyball, but the sport I do the most is gymnastics."



photo: Scott Cushman/Union College

Adam's exercise journey began at age 15, when he got his driving permit. "I'd drive myself to the gym," he said. "I got a job as a lifeguard at the YMCA so I could work out for free. I started working out five times a week. As a senior in high school, I joined my school's gymnastics team.

"Fitness is so much more than staying fit for me."

I've been doing gymnastics for four years now. I used to just do weightlifting and bodybuilding stuff, now I do gymnastics power workouts and body weight workouts. I've done Crossfit and

running. Any of it is fun; I enjoy all of it."

Adam's love of exercise isn't just a hobby; He plans to make it his day job. "I'm doing the Pre-PT route with a degree in international rescue and relief, so I plan to become a physical therapist," he shared. "I would love to go into sports medicine for a while because I'm interested in sports. I'm also very interested in geriatrics and making people's lives better as they get older. But I also love kids, so I could do pediatrics. I don't want to just stay in one job for my whole career. I want to do lots of different things."


Adam thinks that the new wellness center that Union is planning to build will be just what the campus needs. "Larson is super small and it's crammed full. You can't fit a lot of people in there. I don't go there at night because there's too many people there to get a good workout. A lot of people here have to buy memberships at local gyms because this gym is just inadequate for what they do. They need more space, or need better hours of operation. For gymnastics, having another gym would be huge, because we could potentially have our own space. Having a new facility would be a big deal on campus." 



photo: Scott Cushman/Union College



Photo: Steve Nazaro/Union College

Celebrating Pastor Rich's Legacy of Service

by Lauren Bongard Schwarz '04

In spring 2021, Pastor Rich Carlson announced his retirement after 40 years of service to Union College and its students. For many, his seemingly tireless mentorship and support helped shape their lives during and after college.

Helping students find purpose

Charles Thompson '86 was a founding member of the Down Home Boys, a bluegrass band that shared music, the gospel, and a taste of Union with academies and churches around the United States. Shortly after Thompson and three friends performed for the first time, Carlson invited the group to tour on Union's behalf. "We'd do a religious gospel bluegrass concert on Sabbath, and on Saturday night we'd cut loose with a comedy and bluegrass show," Thompson says. He recalls how Carlson used to remind the quartet of their purpose: "He'd give us a hard look in the eye and say, 'This isn't a show. It's a ministry. And don't you forget it!'"

Thompson has fond memories of how Carlson gave the little group the opportunity to do something big. "None of us were spiritual giants. But Rich took us under his wing and took a chance on us," Thompson says. "The original four of us are still in the church. Not only in the church—we all work for the church. I credit Rich for that. His influence changed our lives."

A living example

When Doug Bing recalls his early memories of Carlson, he thinks of kindness and acceptance. "I appreciated his personableness and consistent friendship with everyone," he says. "There was no clique that he hung out with. He was friends with everybody. He was a great example of what a pastor should be." Bing went on to serve as an academy chaplain and conference president. "Pastor Rich was such a good example of what I needed to be as a chaplain and leader. He encouraged the direction of my life."

Opening doors

"I'll always remember Pastor Rich as a strong supporter of student missions," recalls Pedro Perez '93. "One of the things that stuck with me was his advice that we shouldn't expect to go be somebody different. If we didn't have a good connection with God in our everyday life, we probably wouldn't have one while being a student missionary. If we were active in sharing our faith, that would follow us, too. He told us, 'Who you are today is who you'll be as student missionaries.' That gave me a frame and put realistic expectations around that year—who I'd be and how I'd let God use me."

Back at Union, Perez wanted to pursue a

youth-ministry degree, but that emphasis didn't exist. To his surprise, the college and Carlson made it happen. "They created a tailor-made program to give me a chance to explore youth ministry, and Pastor Rich supervised my independent-study course," he says. "I always knew I wanted to be in ministry, and it's where I've been since graduating. Pastor Rich gave me that opportunity. He was a big part of opening that door, and he was there for me during that stage where I needed incubation and tenderness to grow. I've worked as a youth pastor, family life pastor, senior pastor, and youth ministries director, and Pastor Rich played a huge part in the way God chose to use my life."

Listening and letting students take charge

Loralee Mendez '00 first experienced Carlson's trust and empowerment when she organized Project Impact and the Sacred Artist Concert Series through Campus Ministries. "He said, 'I have confidence in you, and I know you've got this. My job is

to support you.' And he sat back and let me do it," she says. "Anytime I ran into a snag, he'd ask me what I thought would be a solution." As a teacher, Mendez has adopted similar tactics with her own students. "I let them take ownership. Pastor Rich taught me to step back and let my students do what needs to be done."

Mendez saw Carlson masterfully show unhappy students a better outlook during her time managing the concert series. "We had a concert that went really well; people were touched and signed up for Bible studies," she recalls. "But the day after, a group of students came in, upset about the music. Pastor Rich listened and helped them understand that even though it wasn't what they preferred, God was still able to use it. That's helped me when approaching people with different viewpoints. We don't all worship God the same way, but we all love Jesus. For me, that was a good lesson in just listening and deescalating."

Entrusting students with big tasks

Jaime Serrano '02 worked as a volunteer coordinator in Campus Ministries. "Pastor Rich entrusted students to be passionate about ministry," he says. "He was very easy to talk to and allowed us to do our own thing. If we needed help, he'd give us his ideas, but he let us run with it."

Serrano remembers watching Carlson interact with others. "He would counsel a lot of people that needed help—people from the community, campus—he'd always take time to help everyone," he says. "Running a campus ministries department is big enough, but to do counseling on the side? That's a different level." Serrano also recalls more relaxed interactions. "He liked to play hockey and refed intramurals. We all liked hanging out with him, and it was really neat to watch him in different roles. He really cared about us. We could always tell that it was more than a job to him."

An example of servant leadership

"I could recount memories of Pastor Rich letting me use his garage and tools to change the oil in my car. Or the times we spent commiserating with each other

over another Minnesota Vikings' loss and saying, 'Well, there's always next year...'" says Kelli Wasemiller '15. "When I think about Pastor Rich, all I have are feelings of admiration and appreciation. Pastor Rich was such an example of godly, servant leadership and it amazes me how he just sat back and let us students dream and plan. His greatest desire was to create the environment and provide the opportunities for each student to have an encounter with the love of Jesus, and that inspires me still to this day."

Helping students make things happen

As a student, Daniel Ikpeama '17 stumbled into the role of men's ministries coordinator: "I was hanging out in Campus Ministries," he says. "The next thing I knew, they asked if I wanted to do men's ministries. That opportunity gave me a chance to work with Pastor Rich to get great things done." Ikpeama recalls Carlson helping him fund projects including prayer request boxes and cookies for men's dorm residents.

"I really appreciated how he made sure everything was student led; he did everything he could do help us and facilitate our goals and visions," he says. "When you look at the people who worked in Campus Ministries and the things they've done afterward, you'll see that we were able to take on greater and greater leadership responsibilities. In college we were able to figure out how to make our plans happen and then see the impact our ideas had. So, now, as adults, we remember that feeling and what it took to get there, and we know we can do it."

Ikpeama says that has given him the confidence to find ministry opportunities in everyday life, including the men's book club he hosts. "We get together to discuss spiritual stuff that people don't always feel comfortable talking about," he says. "Being able to take that initiative and realizing that I can reach out is something I learned from Pastor Rich. Him helping us do what we envisioned and figure out how to make it happen gave me self-sufficiency, especially when it comes to spiritual leadership."

There are thousands of stories like these stretching throughout the years of Carlson's service at Union. Charles Thompson, who began his freshman year the same year Carlson stepped into the chaplain role, says it's easy to see how Carlson's influence impacted students across the decades. "He understands that mentoring is where youth ministry is at," he says. "He's made Union feel like home for so many of us."


Read more student memories at ucollege.edu/pastorrich 



Photo: Steve Nason/Union College

"Pastor K" named Union chaplain

by Maria Kercher '22

"Every time I step on campus, it just feels like home," said David Kabanje, Union's new chaplain and vice president for spiritual life. "Seeing people who you love and knowing they love you back; I know this is where I need to be with my wife." Kabanje earned that familiarity the hard way—long hours serving as student chaplain, Union for Christ Director and ASB president. Just four years after graduating, the offer to return to Union to take the reins of Campus Ministries as Rich Carlson retires "felt like a calling from God," he said.

Pastor Kabanje—or Pastor K, as he prefers to be called by students—grew up a preacher's kid. At the age of seven, the family's ministry brought Kabanje from Zambia to the United States. At Rio Lindo Academy in California, Kabanje met his future wife, Kiana Myers. Both graduated from Union College in 2017: David with a degree in theology and Kiana majored in international rescue and relief. He has also earned a master's degree in organizational leadership.

For the past three years, Pastor Kabanje made an impact at Auburn Adventist Academy in Washington.

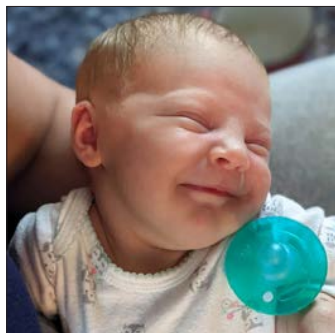
"I have full confidence that he is going to lead Campus Ministries and the campus to develop a stronger relationship with Christ," said Vinita Sauder, Union's president. "He's a man with God's heart for others, and you can see it when he walks around on campus. He has the Union spirit. He knows us and loves us."

BIRTHS

Cid '15 and **Tabitha Schumacher Coto '15** are excited about the birth of their second child, **Aurora Joy Coto**. She was born August 26, 2021 at 9:21pm, weighing 9lbs and 2 oz and was 20.5 inches long. She joins her brother, Enoch, who is a year and a half old (and totally in love with and proud of his baby sister).



Heidi and **Mark Christensen '05** are pleased to announce the birth of **Kensie Rose Christensen** on March 12, 2021. She weighed 7lbs 7oz and was 19 7/8 inches long. She joins big brother, Liam, at home in Parker, CO.



Sylvia Kristine Underwood was born to **Denton '11** and **Alesha Underwood** on August 17, 2021. She weighed 7 lbs 1 oz and was 19.25 inches long. Sylvia joins Spencer (3 yrs) and Savannah (2 yrs) at home with her family in Douglas, Nebraska.



Harper Nicole Carlisle was born on June 27, 2021 at 11:35am to **Jonathan ('03)** and **Lindsay Berthelsen Carlisle ('03)**. She weighed 8lbs 5oz and was 19.75 inches long. Harper joins her two older brothers, Crew Alan Carlisle (6 years old) and Case Alan Carlisle (4 years old) at home in Longmont, CO.



Daniel Force '08 and his wife, Roxanne, welcomed their first child, **Lincoln Joseph Force**, on July 15, 2021 at 2:12am, which happens to also be the couple's third wedding anniversary. Lincoln weighed 8lbs 11 oz and was 22 inches long at birth, and at 6 weeks was above the 99th percentile for his length. The Force family lives in Lincoln, NE.



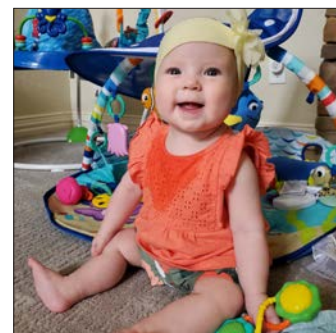
Whitney Reinke Mansy '09 and her husband, Shady, are pleased to announce the birth of their son **Cody Skyler Mansy** on November 3, 2020 at 11:08am. He weighed 5lb and 9oz and was 19 inches long.



Margaret Ann Burks was born on Nov. 24, 2020, to **Crystal '07** and **Phillip '06 Burks**. She weighed 8 lbs 4 oz and was 20.75 inches long. She joins big brother, Levi, at home in Orlando, Florida.



Shawn '11 and **Kacie Cardwell Perry '13** are pleased to announce the birth of **Hudson Raymond Perry** on Nov. 24, 2020. He weighed 5 lbs 15 oz and was 19 inches long. The family lives in Olathe, Kansas.



Aaron '08 and **Lindsay Sprenger Reinke ('07)** welcomed their daughter **Zyla Mollie Reinke** on November 29, 2020. She weighed 8lbs and was 20 inches long. The Reinke family lives in Wichita Falls, TX.



Breklyn Marlene Brueske was born on June 23, 2020, to **Heather Perry Brueske '08** and her husband, Frederick. She weighed 5 lbs 13 oz and was 19 inches long. The family lives in Grimes, Iowa.



Michael ('10) and **Christi Daniels Sweigart '14** are pleased to announce the birth of **Calvin Roy Sweigart** on May 2, 2021. He weighed 9 lbs 8 oz and was 22 inches long. The family lives in Dayton, Ohio.



Audrey Hatfield Cheever '17 and her husband, Adam, welcomed **Paisley Dawson Cheever** on March 12, 2020. She weighed 6 lbs 15 oz and was 19.75 inches long.



Annika Heleena Ortega was born on Jan. 10, 2020, to **Raul ('14)** and **Sanna Reeve Ortega '09**. She weighed 5 lbs 10 oz and was 19 inches long and joins sister, Emaliina, at home in Niles, Michigan.

WEDDINGS



photo: Steve Nazarno/Union College

Ryan Haakenson '21 and **Madison Kamarad '21** married on August 21, 2021. They live in Burtonsville, Maryland, where Madison is pursuing her master's degree in community and international development and working as an intern for Village Book Builders. Ryan is working as an EMT and will begin fire academy for Howard County Fire in November.

Mike Ayala '18 and **Carmen Mead '18** married on Aug. 23, 2020. They live in Mount Dora, Florida, where Mike is customer care specialist for Sunbelt Natural Foods, and Carmen is administrative assistant in the Pathfinder and Adventurer department for the Florida Conference.

KEEP IN TOUCH

1970s

Keith Heinrich '73 recognized Ryan and Tammie's love for each other as well as their love for Maplewood. "We are here to recognize the countless hours they spend volunteering," Heinrich said. "We honor their commitment to bringing folks together on their family farm with bonfires, and hayrides, and class reunions. They give so generously, whether it be vegetables from their garden, their homegrown popcorn, or their free-range eggs. Their passion is obvious and their support invaluable. They are the very best of Maplewood alumni."

1980s

Victor Issa '80, Creating Living Bronze™, is an award-winning sculptor and has a degree in Art Education from Union College in Lincoln. A required sculpting class at UNL sparked the interest which reached its fullness in 1988 when he moved to Colorado to pursue sculpting full time. He recently completed the monument-scale bronze "Power of Thought" in limited edition. This thought-provoking work depicts and celebrates the achievements of men and women throughout the millennia through the power of thought. The monument was sculpted in clay and cast in bronze in Loveland, CO. Three copies of the monument are installed at technology-focused campuses and a major public sculpture collection, and two copies of the life-size grace college campuses in the Midwest.



photo: Steve Nazarno/Union College

2000s

Ryan & Tammie Heinbaugh '00 of Hutchinson, Minnesota, were honored as Maplewood Academy's Alumni of the Year during its alumni weekend festivities Sept. 23-26.



photo: Steve Nazarno/Union College

2010s



photo: Steve Nazarno/Union College

Rachel Brupbacher '11 graduated from Union, summa cum laude, with a Bachelor of Arts in French, German, and history. She has subsequently been admitted to postgraduate studies in Theology and Religion at the University of Oxford. Her biggest news to date, however, is the publication of her first book. Miles Minor Kellogg and the Encinitas Boathouses will be released by The History Press on June 7, and tells the architect who built the Encinta Boathouses, along with several Adventist complexes in Michigan.



photo: Steve Nazarno/Union College

2020s

BA Music graduate, **Kevin Cornwell '20**, who specialized in romantic-era classical music composition, has had two of his works for piano performed during the Winter/Spring '21 VCFA composer's concert. Cornwell, who is pursuing graduate studies in composition at the Vermont College of Fine Arts, believes that tonal music is a critical component to soothe a soul-in-chaos amid a world gone mad. Cornwell often adapts traditional hymn tunes into his works in non-obvious ways. The performance by pianist Robert Frankenberry of Cornwell's compositions titled, Nocturnal No. 2, and Nocturne No. 9, can be heard online at bit.ly/3drpUdv and at bit.ly/3sc0O6k, respectively.



photo: Steve Nazarno/Union College

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IN MEMORY

1930s

Duane Cornell ('35), Eugene, Oregon, died July 8, 2020, at age 98. Survivors include daughter, Larena Cornell; stepsons, Lonnie Robinson and Jerry Richardson; stepdaughter, Sheryl Robinson; one grandchild, five step-grandchildren and five step-great grandchildren.

1940s

Eleanor Wagner Eno ('45), Hutchinson, Minnesota, died Feb. 5, 2019, at age 93. She was born Aug. 15, 1925, in Ness County, Kansas, to Adam and Mary Heil Wagner. She married **Roger Eno ('48)** on Jan. 29, 1950, and was employed for a few years at the Adventist Book Center in Minnetonka, Minnesota. Survivors included husband, Roger; children: **Douglas '74, Shelly Kinzli '76, Stephanie Ehman and Marci Halder '82**, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Ben Liebelt '45, Libby, Montana, died Jan. 30, 2021, at age 97. He was born Feb. 16, 1923, in Cleveland, North Dakota, to Carl and Christine Liebelt. On Aug. 27, 1944, he married Annabell Saby, and they pastored 14 different churches in Kansas, worked in the Colorado, Wyoming and North Dakota Conferences, Southern and Mid-America Union Conferences and was associate secretary of the Sabbath School Department of the General Conference. Survivors include his sisters: Olga Hieb and Delores Miller; son, Lonny; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Wayne Moore '46, College Place, Washington, died Aug. 21, 2020, at age 100. He was born March 8, 1920, in Blue Earth, Minnesota. Survivors include his sons: Carlton and Clayton; and three grandchildren.

Esther Fuller McIntyre Trial ('46), Piedmont, Missouri, died March 16, 2021, at age 95. She was born March 6, 1926, to Fred and Maude Miller Fuller in Waukon, Iowa. She and Loren McIntyre were married on Nov. 10, 1946. She taught school for many years in Illinois. After retiring from teaching, she became a beloved private-duty caregiver for numerous families. Esther retired to a farm in Piedmont, Missouri, with her second husband, Robert Trial, in 1988. She is survived by her son, Eugene McIntyre; daughter Sandra Zellers; stepdaughters: Linda Carter; Patti Clawson, Robyne Wright, Helen Lamberton and Trina Peterson; stepson, Jim Trial; four grandchildren, 15 step-grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

Agnes Nichols Barnes ('47), Anacortes, Washington, died Sept. 25, 2020, at age 92. She was born in Shanghai, China on June 6, 1928, to missionaries **Cecil '25 and Mabel Adams Nichols ('25)**. She married

Joseph Barnes '47 in 1947. In 1962 when the family moved to College Place, Washington, Agnes was secretary for the college church for six years and secretary to the chaplain of a Seventh-day Adventist general hospital for 10 years. She is survived by her children: Joseph; Sherlyn Wolford and Lorinda Snow; six grandchildren and eleven grandchildren.

Dorothy Nielsen Fisher ('47), Lamar, Colorado, died Oct. 30, 2020, at age 92. She was born Jan. 20, 1928, in New England, North Dakota. After getting a teaching certificate from Union College, she taught for a time before meeting the love of her life, Andrew Fisher, who was a veteran from Nebraska. They married Aug. 10, 1947 and moved back to North Dakota. Their church provided a foundation to form friendships, and her love for music and ability to play the piano was always a welcomed talent. She is survived by her children: Dennis, Dianne Kroll and Patty Odell; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Joyce Waugh Gray ('47), Norfolk, Nebraska, died Nov. 3, 2020, at age 95. She was born Aug. 29, 1925, in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, to George and Ilura Dinehart Waugh. Joyce was married to Fred Gray on Jan. 28, 1950. She was employed at Dudley's Dry Cleaning in Norfolk, Nebraska, from 1965 until she retired in 1987. Joyce became an accomplished artist with many pieces in homes in the Midwest. She is survived by her spouse, Fred; children: Wayne, Linda and Roy; and three grandchildren.

Ivas Sweeten Holmes ('47), Oregon City, Oregon, died Oct. 18, 2019, at age 95. She was born Feb. 23, 1924, in LaMoore County, North Dakota. Survivors include her son, Dennis; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Merle Tillotson '47, Grants Pass, Oregon, died Jan. 24, 2020, at age 94. He was born in Republican City, Nebraska, on July 18, 1925. Merle married **Mildred Alice Christiansen ('47)**, on June 19, 1947. They were well known in the area for NewStart Cooking Schools held at the Adventist Community Center in Grants Pass, Oregon. He is survived by his sister, Mildred Ringering, and many nieces and nephews.

Betty Kemmerer Koch '47, 93, passed away on September 4, 2021, in Hutchinson, KS. She was born June 12, 1928, in Nowata, OK to Hoyt Ray and Maggie Irene (Blanke) Kemmerer. Betty married Harold E. Koch in Great Bend, KS on February 19, 1950. The couple owned H&B Communications of Holyrood. She was an active member of the Hutchinson Seventh-day Adventist Church. Betty is survived by brother, Terry L. Kemmerer; her daughter, **Del Jeane Koch Nash '77**; son, **Robert Koch '81**; grandchildren, **Marlena Koch Jahn '02, Brandon Koch ('03), Allison**

Koch '09, Justin Nash '07, and Brent Nash '10; and 10 great grandchildren.

Ann Rorabaw Clark ('48), Collegedale, Tennessee, died Jan. 16, 2021, at age 93. She worked for many years in the English department at Southern Adventist University. Survivors include her children: Alice and Daniel; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Robert "Bob" Firth '48, Monroe, Georgia, died Dec. 29, 2020, at age 99. He was born in Duluth, Minnesota, on Dec. 19, 1921. Robert served in World War II where he was awarded a bronze star. After graduation, he was instructor and business manager at Union College there while earning a master's degree and doctorate degree from University of Nebraska. Robert then served as a business law professor, dean of the school of business and head of the university press publication at Andrews University. He is survived by his daughter, Holly; son, Francis; wife, Dorothy; four grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Cleo Speth Anderson '49, Tulare, South Dakota, died Nov. 1, 2020, at age 94. She was born Sept. 11, 1926, to Jake and Florence Ericson Speth in Tolstoy, South Dakota. Cleo married **Russell Anderson ('49)** on Jan. 12, 1950 and farmed west of Tulare. She completed teaching requirements at Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota and taught home economics at Plainview Academy until it closed in 1965. Survivors include: Randall, Rocky, Candee, Reginald, Reed and Ryan; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Jackie Faucher Beck ('49), Walla Walla, Washington, died Sept. 17, 2019, at age 91. She was born in Terrell, Texas, on June 10, 1928. Jackie and **Ed '46** served as missionaries in Myanmar (Burma),

Sri Lanka (Ceylon) and the Philippines. In the United States they served the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Washington, Oregon and Ontario, Canada. She is survived by her children: Peter; Jeanne James and Nancy Irland; nine grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Betty Glew Mathers '49, Wellford, South Carolina, died Nov. 8, 2020, at age 96. She was born in Sioux City, Iowa, to Lee and Ethel Lyons Glew on May 26, 1924. She married Melvin Mathers and served as an elementary school and high school teacher, and later as dean of women at Columbia Union College, Andrews University, and Union College. Survivors include her children: Arnet and Sonja Eberhart; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Bill Putnam '49, Tulsa, Oklahoma, died Jan. 12, 2021, at age 93. He was a prominent family practice physician in Tulsa for over 20 years and then became the director of family practice residency program at Glendale Adventist Medical Center in California. He continued practicing medicine in various group practices until the age of 85. He is survived by his children: John, Cathey Yamashiro, Vicki Hilvitz; stepdaughter, Ann Cassell; ten grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Carol Thomson Whittemore '49, Longmont, Colorado, died April 25, 2020, at age 92. She was born Dec. 23, 1927, in Brush, Colorado. She married **Sidney Whittemore '53** and stayed very involved in the Estes Park Adventist Church. She is survived by her children: Gene, Janae Weston and Merilee Rifkind;

six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and sister, **Wanda Beck '49**.

1950s

Ivogene Elliston '50, Hereford, Texas, died Oct. 26, 2020, at age 100. She was born Aug. 31, 1920, the second of six children, to Raymond and Jewell LaGrone Elliston. After completing her education at Southwestern Adventist and Union College, she taught school for 52 years in Fort Worth, Texas; Des Moines, Iowa; California and Seattle, Washington. Survivors include her brother, Wayne; sister, Evelyn Fitzpatrick; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Evelyn Adams Moon '50, Lincoln, Nebraska, died Oct. 11, 2020, at age 93. She was born on Aug. 4, 1927, in Hastings, Nebraska, to **Cecil '16** and **Zibah Beaman Adams '17**. Evelyn married **Aaron Moon '51** in August of 1947. Evelyn and Aaron were school teachers until retirement when they moved to Cheney, Nebraska. She is survived by her daughter: **Nancy Meier '75**; sons, **Jerry '71** and **Larry '75**; and three grandsons: **Brad Moon '05**, **Howard Meier '13** and **David Meier '16**.

Naomi Nogler '50, born June 19, 1928 and died May 22, 2021 in Grand Junction, Colorado. Survivors include daughter Pamela; sons Robert and Calvin; 1 sister; 4 grandchildren; 4 great-grand-children.

Dale Schwarz '51 of Grand Junction, CO passed away on March 29, 2021, at age 91. Dale is survived by sons, Steve Schwarz (Judy), and Joe Schwarz, grandson, **Jonathan Schwarz '02 (Lauren '04)**; granddaughter, Julia Timmerman (Travis); sister, **Phyllis Krueger '57 (Arlo '60)**, and numerous nieces and nephews. His wife, Uarda; parents, and brother, Gerald, preceded him in death.

Donald Beaman '51, Denver, Colorado, died Oct. 11, 2020, at age 91. Donald served in the U.S. Marines. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, **Jeanne Garner Beaman '50**; brother, **Willard Beaman '49**; daughter, **Sherry Muller '72**; son, Don Beaman; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Robert Chambers '51, Longmont, Colorado, died March 22, 2021, at age 96. He was born March 16, 1925, in Las Animas, Colorado, to Paul and Edith Christie Chambers. He married **Jeannine Sparks '50** on Sept. 3, 1950. Robert taught at Plainview Academy and Columbia Academy. He was an electronics technician at Hewlett Packard in Loveland, Colorado, for 28 years until his retirement in March of 1990. He is survived by his wife, Jeannine; daughter, **Sharon Christensen '74**; two granddaughters and three great-grandchildren

Lorraine Kinney Olson '51, Cleveland, Tennessee, died Feb. 3, 2021, at age 99. She was born March 26, 1921, in New Orleans, Louisiana. On March 12, 1942, she married her academy sweetheart, **Franklin Hudgins '50**. Lorraine worked beside her pastor husband as his secretary in Missouri, Oklahoma and Ohio. She also worked for Faith for Today and was administrative assistant to H.M.S. Richards and his son, H.M.S. Richards, Jr. at the Voice of Prophecy. She also worked at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as administrative secretary to Duane Johnson in secretariat and for A.J. Patzer and Neal C. Wilson in presidential. After Franklin passed away, she married Charles Hirsch until his passing 18 months later. Several years later she married Robert Olson until his death in 2013. She is survived by her five children: Barbara Stevens, Sonnie Harp, Beverly Wahine, Lonnie and Steve; 12 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Elmer Seale '51, Marion, Iowa, died Feb. 7, 2021, at age 96. He was born Aug. 27, 1924, in Cleburne, Texas to Elmer and Linnie Seale. After serving in military he enrolled at Union College in the fall of 1946, where he met **Joyce Erickson '47**.



They were married in Brainerd, Minnesota on Sept. 6, 1947. Elmer earned a Doctor of Dental Science degree from the University of Nebraska in 1955. The family settled in Brainerd, Minnesota, in 1959, where he practiced dentistry until his retirement in 1987. He is survived by his children: **Rosalyn "Rosie" Hilliard '72** and Stuart ('74); five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Karl Wheeler '51, Marsland, Nebraska, died Oct. 19, 2020, at age 90. Survivors include his wife, **Blanche Schick Wheeler '52**.

Donnis Krietsky Wick '51, Littleton, Colorado, died Dec. 28, 2020, at age 92. She was born in New York City, New York on Aug. 15, 1928. Survivors include her daughters: **Sharon '73** and Joan Fleischhacker; sons: **Kenneth '83** and Dennis; and three grandchildren.

Barbara J Burton '52, 87, of Lincoln, left us on August 6, 2021. Barb was born on March 24, 1934, in Rathbun, IA to Ed and Grace Simmons. She married **Richard Burton '55** in August of 1953. They owned and operated Burton's Flowers & Gifts, and then Barb worked at College View Printers. Barb then managed Peanut Hill Market and eventually purchased it, renaming it Village Market at the age of 58, she started her own landscaping business, "Barb Burton, Professional Gardening with a Personal Touch." Barb also started the Bags of Love project that provided

IN MEMORY

a bag with essentials for children who were removed from their home by Child Protective Services.

FloraMaye Bietz Dealy ('52) passed away September 12, 2020 and was born April 25, 1930, in Peru, Nebraska, to Melvin and Mary Denning. She married Merlin Dealy in 1951. She is survived by her children, Linda Dealy and Carol Ratliff, and Mike and Marian Mitchem; her brother Alan Bietz '68; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Bonnie Barker Lorenz '52, Greeley, Colorado, died Feb. 7, 2021, at age 92. She was born Jan. 19, 1929 in Calloway, Kentucky, to Frank and Mary Barker. In 1953 she married **Calvin Lorenz ('47)**. Bonnie was a nurse in Greeley, Colorado, for more than 40 years. Survivors include her children: Wanda Buderus, Ted and **Jan Nickerson '86**; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Carolyn Alcorn Wilson ('52), Walla Walla, Washington, died May 20, 2020, at age 87. She was born Dec. 9, 1932, in Arpin, Wisconsin, to Clarence and Nancy Freestone Alcorn. She married Herschel Wilson on October 18, 1953, and finished her college degree at Andrews University. She and Herschel taught in Michigan, Greater Miami Academy in Florida and Pioneer Valley Academy in Massachusetts. The family then moved to Houston, Texas, where she worked for several oil processing companies. She is survived by her children: Patty Wilson-Short; Ted and Linda Minty; seven grandchildren; and siblings: Nancy Wilson and Bill Alcorn

Jack Christenson '53, Riverside, California, died Feb. 2, 2021, at age 90. He was born Sept. 13, 1930, in Nevada, Iowa. After Union, he earned a master's degree from Andrews University and taught at Andrews University, Pacific Union College, La Sierra Academy and the advocate school system for special education children. He is survived by his daughters: Linda and Cheri.

James Reiswig ('53), passed away Dec. 23, 2020, Manfred, ND, at age 91. He was born in Harvey, ND, on Jan. 27, 1929, to Isaac and Emelia Tebelius Reiswig. On June 3, 1951, Jim married Mildred Miller. He served in the U.S. Army and then he and Mildred operated their farm until retiring in 1994. He served on the Fessenden Co-op Elevator board for many years, was Rusland Township supervisor. He is survived by his daughters: **Pamela Timothy '76** and **Susan Haines '78**; and brother, **Philip Reiswig '57**.

Alice Barker Downey ('54), Montrose, Colorado, died Feb. 1, 2021, at age 85. She was born in Jaroso, Colorado, to Frank and Mary Barker. She married Paul Downey. Survivors include sister, **Bonnie Lorenz**

'52 (now deceased); children: **Buster '84** and **Chelle Downey-Magee '84**; two granddaughters and two great-grandchildren.

Loren Heiser ('53), Rush Center, Kansas, died Jan. 11, 2020, at age 89. He is survived by his wife, **Viola Voegele Heiser '57**; children: Ron, Rick and **Janet O'Rear '90**; three granddaughters and one great-grandchild.

Jack Northcutt '53, Hendersonville, North Carolina, died Feb. 11, 2021, at age 89. Born April 10, 1931 to Otis and Edith Northcutt in Donna, Texas. After earning a nursing degree, he served as a nurse in the U.S. Army, became a certified nurse anesthetist at Madison College in Tennessee and earned a master's degree in healthcare administration at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. He was a healthcare executive for several decades in New Braunfels and San Marcos, Texas and later at Florida Hospital in Orlando, Florida. He is survived by his two children: Heather Brownlow and David; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



Frank Dupper '54, Granite Bay, California, died Dec. 31, 2020, at age 87. He was born Jan. 20, 1933, Beebe Draw, Colorado, to Henry and Caroline Dupper. Frank spent the first decade of his career teaching accounting and working as a treasurer for church schools. While at Fresno Union Academy, he married Norma Eder on June 24, 1956. He later served as vice-president of Glendale Sanitarium and Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Norma; children: Debbie Ashlock and Brent; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Jerry Beem '55, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, died Sept. 8, 2020, at age 87. He taught and was in administration in both elementary and academy schools, was associate superintendent of schools for the Texas and Oklahoma Conferences. Survivors include his children: Cindy Hiday, Jerelyn Moench, Arthur and Alan; second wife, Myrta Rivera Beem; and 12 grandchildren.

Norma Gould Musick '55, Pierre, South Dakota, died Oct. 28, 2020, at age 88. She was born in Pierre, South Dakota, on Nov. 26, 1931, to Stanley and Alice Cole Gould. Norma taught in rural country schools in South Dakota, the Pierre Adventist school and at Holbrook Indian School in Arizona. On Nov. 1, 1959 she married Roy Musick, Jr. Together they farmed and ranched—raising cattle and sheep. She later worked for the state auditor's office. She is survived by her

two children: Pamela Scott and Doyle; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Marian Syfert Page '56; Harker Heights, Texas, died March 9, 2021, at age 87. She was born Dec. 8, 1933, to Kenneth and Roma Syfert in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She is survived by one son, Bruce; one grandson; brothers, **K. Eugene Syfert ('50)**, **James Syfert '62**, **Donald Syfert ('63)**; and sisters: **Louise Gusso '49**, **Marjorie Campbell ('56)** and **Bobbi Litzenberger '67**.



William Robinson '56, Selah, Washington, died Aug. 22, 2020, at age 86. He was born Jan. 10, 1934, in Fairburn, South Dakota. He married **Velma Knauss ('58)** while attending College of Medical Evangelists in Loma Linda, California. They served as missionaries on Guam and eventually settled in Washington, where he practiced with **Everett Coleman '36**. He and his wife then ran a family practice for 43 years in Yakima, Washington, until his retirement in 2015. Survivors include his children: **Brett (former faculty)**, Greg and Lisa; seven grandchildren and brother, **Tom '65**.

James "Jim" Dale Spaulding '56, from Lincoln, Nebraska passed away June 3, 2021. He was born September 12, 1932 in Hinsdale, Illinois to George LeRoy and Alma W. (Bechtold) Spaulding. Jim married Jim **Patricia "Pat" (Gordon) Spaulding '56** and worked as a nuclear physicist at the University of Georgia. He served as Professor of Physics at Pacific Union College and Union College, and he also served as

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Radiation Safety Officer for Union College from 2000 until 2020. Survivors include sister **Sylvia (Spaulding) McCormick '56**; children Susan Jones, Ric, and Salli Jenks; grandchildren Jim II, Travis, **Brittany Sallee '08**, **Kevin (08)**, **Megan Jenks '15**, **Mattison Jenks '17**; and six great-grandchildren.

Edgar Browning '57,

Hendersonville, North Carolina, passed away July 29, 2021. Born September 10, 1933, in Topeka, Kansas.

He taught in Texas, Oklahoma, California, Iowa, Colorado, Mississippi,

Louisiana, and Missouri. Edgar is survived by his loving wife of 46 years, Etha Rae Harris Browning; daughter, Laura Hetterle; daughters Robin Fosler, Barbara Lawson and **Carol Cosaert '89**; sons, Jonathan Cooney, **Roy Edgar Browning '89** and Timothy Browning; 24 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren.



R. Michael Evard '59, passed away on July 23, 2021 in Norman, Oklahoma. He was born in Gland, Switzerland, in 1937 and married **Janene Odom '61** on July 22, 1962. He then went on to graduate from Loma Linda University and established his ENT practice in Ardmore, Oklahoma. Survivors include his wife **Janene (Odom) Evard '61**; son Remy Evard; daughter Melina Evard; and grandchildren Andre, Rose and Joelle Evard.

Marvin Moore '59, Caldwell, Idaho, died Sept. 27, 2021, at age 84. He

was born in Lima, Peru to missionary parents, **Fred Moore '10** and **Blanche Gilbert Moore Dick '30**.



Marvin was the founder and editor of Keene, Texas's first community newspaper, The Penny Gazette; published a book, Trial by Fire; and was the editor of Signs of the Times for 27 years. In addition to his career as an editor, Marvin was a prolific author and speaker, writing nearly forty books and hundreds of articles. He is survived by his wife Lois with whom he spent forty-four happy years. He is also survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Evelyn and Charles Griffin, his daughter Sheri Moore, his son Barry Moore, daughter-in-law Lisa Joss-Moore, and his granddaughter Mia Moore.

Robert Lang ('57), Ooltewah, Tennessee, died Oct. 29, 2019, at age 83. He is survived by his wife, **Wretha Griffin Lang ('57)**, children: Todd, Rob, Mauri and Chris; eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter; and sisters: **Kathy McKey '71** and Janice Olson.

Doris Browning Sanders ('57), Saint George, Utah, died Dec. 1, 2021, at age 82. She was born on July 19, 1938, to Ralph and Lois Browning in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She married **Leon Sanders '59** on Jan. 31, 1957. After raising their children, Doris returned to school and completed a bachelor's degree from Redlands University in 1981. She became a certified public accountant and ran her own accounting firm. She is survived by her husband, Leon; daughters, LeAnn Beauchamp and Teri Hochstedler; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

June Cole Sanchez '58, Plainville, Kansas, died April 17, 2021, at age 90. She was born in St. Helena, California, on June 10, 1930, to Roy and Bessie Wilson Cole. She met **Paul Sanchez '59** while earning a music degree, and they were married in 1958. June was a substitute teacher and music teacher for many years in the United States, Costa Rica and Brazil. She also held various administrative positions at Adventist organizations in the United States and Chile. She is survived by her husband, Paul; sons: **Ralph '85**, **Dan '86** and **Scott ('85)**; and three grandchildren.



Fred Norman ('59), Arvada, Colorado, died April 11, 2020, at age 82. He was a member of the Boulder Seventh-day Adventist Church and a longtime member of the Rocky Mountain Conference Executive Committee. Survivors include his wife, **Sharon Madison Norman ('59)**; daughters: Melissa Leddy and **Suzie Rimer '96**; son, **Andy '98**; five grandchildren.

1960s

Ester Swayze Ballard ('60), Ukiah, California, died April 8, 2021, at age 83. She was born Dec. 1, 1937, in Ignacio, Colorado, to Ralph and Viola Swayze. She married **Gary Ballard '59** on Sept. 1, 1957. After medical school and his service in the military, they lived in Colorado and California. Ester was church secretary at the Redland Seventh-day Adventist Church, and then at Ukiah Valley Radiology for more than 25 years. They also owned Photo Finish, a photo processing lab and portrait studio. She is survived by her husband, Gary; brother, **Ralph Swayze, Jr. ('75)**; sons, Daryl, Dennis and Scott; daughter, Sheri Hansen; and 11 grandchildren.

Emil Kahler, Jr. '60, Burtonsville, Maryland, died Nov. 6, 2020, at age 84. He was born April 19, 1936, in Goodrich, North Dakota, to Emil and Leontina Kahler. Emil spent 39 years as an educator, both a teacher and principal. He is survived by his son, Michael; one grandson, three step-grandsons and two great-grandchildren; brother, **Floyd '63**; and sister, **Grace Zamaro ('64)**.

Al Smith ('60), Lincoln, Nebraska, died Dec. 8, 2020, at age 92. Survivors include his wife, Onitta; daughter, Addie Zastrow; and sons, Walter and Michael.

Barbara Cannard Ragsdale '61, Concord, California, died Jan. 18, 2021, at age 82. After graduating from Union College, she was food service director at Wisconsin Academy, taught home economics at Denver Junior Academy and was librarian. She earned a master's degree in library science and was librarian at Columbia Union College, where she met her husband, Charles. She is survived by her husband, Charles; daughter, Melody Trauthwein; siblings: Ellen Bond '64 and David Cannard.

Alta Flemmer Krause '62, Emmett, Idaho, died Jan. 14, 2020, at age 79. She was born Dec. 9, 1940, to Jacob and Amelia Flemmer in Lehr, North Dakota. She worked as a nurse from Arkansas to Alaska. Survivors include her husband, Marvin; sons: **Bruce Ginsel '86** and Bryan Ginsel; stepchildren: David Krause and Lauri Jacobi; siblings: **Erna Hauck '69**, Ida Lehman, Mable Werner and Leo.

Herbert Lien '63, Billings, Missouri, died Oct. 4, 2020. He was born July 2, 1935, in Iowa City, Iowa, to Oliver and Geraldine Eden Lien. Herb was married to Joanne Schwerin for over 60 years when he lost her to cancer. He spent his life as teacher and principal for over 30 years. In 2011 he married Kathleen Dodson. Survivors includes his wife, Kathi; daughters, Debbie Gerard and Sheri Whitcomb; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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Karen Pace ('63) of Stockton, CA, died on July 28, 2021. She was born in Davenport, Iowa on May 14, 1943. She married Donald M. Pace. in 1963. She is survived by their only child, Kelly Pace.

Roland Marinkovic '64, Miami, Florida, died May 11, 2021, at age 81. He was born Oct. 2, 1939, in Chillan, Chile, South America, to Ernesto and Frida Wandersleben Marinkovic. On June 12, 1966, he married Lynn Smith. He was an accountant for Boulder Memorial Hospital, administrator of Americana Nursing Center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and then Rapid City Rehabilitation Hospital in Rapid City, South Dakota. Roland moved to Sarasota, Florida in the 70's and became a real estate developer. He is survived by his son, Kent; sisters, Glenna de Zafra and Janice Witt-Stephens; and Lynn Marinkovic, who remained a lifelong friend.

Dean William Dittberner '65, of Lincoln passed away June 17, 2021. Born April 28, 1943, in Mankato, MN to Ardie Reinhardt and Hazel Mary (Johnson) Dittberner. Dean retired from Union College as Assistant Director of Information Systems. He was a member of College View Seventh-day Adventist Church since 1960. Family members include his wife, **Beverly '70**; children **Sherri ('98)** (**Tony '95)** **Cash**, Lincoln; **Terri** (Randy) **Tanner '98**, Council Bluffs, IA, and **Brian Dittberner**, Lincoln; grandchildren **Andrew** and **David Cash**, Allison **Tanner**, and **Sandi Ingram**; sister **Lois Dittberner '65**, Lincoln.

Elbert Gibson ('65), Aurora, Colorado, died Aug. 19, 2020, at age 78. He was born Oct. 4, 1941, to Elby and Vernice Hamlin Gibson in Boulder, Colorado. On Aug. 26, 1963, he married Leona Hensel. Elbert served in the U.S. Army for 20 years before retiring to Aurora, Colorado. He is survived by his wife, Leona; children: **Gaylena '93**, Louanna and Eric; two grandchildren; sister, **Della Gibson Sapp ('72)**, and brother, Les.

Jim Green '65, Lincoln, Nebraska, died Jan. 30, 2021, at age 82. Born March 26, 1938, in Bengal, Oklahoma to Lewis and Myrl Mize Green. He married **Eunice Buck '83** in 1960 and graduated from Union College with a degree in business administration. After retiring from Union Drywall, where Jim did maintenance work at College View Church. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Eunice (since passed); children: Stephen and **Daina Podraza '95**; one granddaughter and one great-granddaughter; and siblings: Bill, Pat Foster and Betty Robinson.

Edmund "Perry" Hart ('66), Windsor, Colorado, died March 31, 2021, at age 80. He was born March 11, 1941, in Lincoln, Nebraska, to Rowland and Norma Volkmer Hart. He attended both Union College and University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Survivors include

his wife, Judy; children: Stephen, Julie Belieu, Melissa Hodgson and Natalie Porter; seven grandchildren; and brothers, Robert and David.

Eustace "John" Johnson '66, Queen Creek, Arizona, died March 26, 2020, at age 77. He was born May 8, 1941, in Waco, Texas, to Eustace and Edith Johnson. On June 28, 1964, he married **Diane Fuller '64**. John was a microbiologist and a medical technologist before he graduated from West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in 1981. John served as a medical officer in the U.S. Naval Reserves as a flight surgeon and in the emergency medicine department at the Air Force Academy. Survivors included his son, J.Z.; daughter, Michal Larkin; five grandchildren; and brother, Thomas.

Barbara Davidson Nelson '66, Gibsonia, Pennsylvania, died Nov. 29, 2020, at age 74. Born June 28, 1946, in Columbia, Tennessee, she was the daughter of Ray and Audrey Arner Davidson. Barbara was owner-operator of the first home healthcare agency in the greater Pittsburgh area, A-1 Action Nursing Care. Years later she shared her passion for travel and cruising with others by becoming a travel agent. She is survived by her husband, **Grant '70**; sons, Randy and Phillip; daughter, Jill; one granddaughter; and brother, James Davidson.

Janice Elaine Purkey '66, of Moberly, MO, passed away April 8, 2021 in Columbia, Missouri. She was born in Phoenix, Arizona to William Bardo and Mildred Downer Bardo. In 1964 she married Ken Purkey in Lincoln, Nebraska, and the two spent over 56 years together: Janice and Ken spent their working careers in many different states and even overseas before relocating to Moberly in the 70s. Survivors include her husband, Ken Purkey; children, Douglas, Sr and Susan Cysneros; four grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; siblings, Bill Bardo and Eva Sundean; step siblings, **Paulette Murphey '70**, David Pettit and Esther Visbal.

Twila Voegele Bauer '67, Dalton, Georgia, died Jan. 24, 2020, at age 84. She was born Jan. 16, 1936, to Julius and Magdalena Voegele. Survivors include her son and daughter: Leslie Hartman and Kay Stover; and three grandchildren.

Susan Brown Dahلمان '67, Lincoln, Nebraska, died April 4, 2021, at age 76. She was born Sept. 5, 1944, in Billings, Montana, to Gilbert and Esther Reichel Brown. She married **Victor Dahلمان ('68)** on June 5, 1967. Susan was administrative assistant at the Lincoln Regional Center for 44 years. She is survived by her husband, Victor; son, **Victor Jr. ('89)**; two grandchildren; siblings: Lois Ferguson, Becky, Jim, Gene and Leslie.

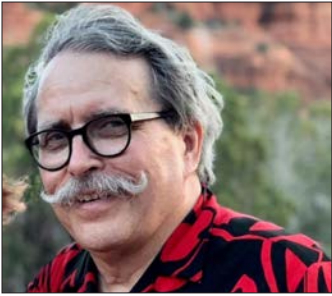
Merlyn Mead '67, Lincoln, Nebraska, died March 24, 2021, at age 89. He was born in Philip, South Dakota, on Nov. 18, 1931, to George and Rachel Raye Mead. After teaching for a number of years, Merlyn became a registered land surveyor and operated his own business, J&M Engineering. He is survived by his daughters: **LeiLani Glaser '86** and Sharon Cleveland; five grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Dave Penix ('67), San Antonio, Texas, died March 21, 2020, at age 72. After serving in the military, he finished a degree in accounting at University of Nebraska and married **Sylvia Pierce ('74)**. Survivors include his sons: **Patrick '02**, **Ashley ('01)** and Grant; siblings: Bonnie Hummer; **Judy Martin ('68)**, Essye Heddlesten, Lorraine Shoemaker; Ruth Underberg and Robert; and eight grandchildren.

Antoinette "Rosie" Lloyd '69, Eckert, Colorado, died Feb. 24, 2021, at age 87. She was born Sept. 3, 1933, in Montrose, Colorado, to Ernest and Mary Hammond Lloyd. After her graduation from Union College, Rosie taught home economics and secretarial classes at Campion Academy and Ozark Academy and junior high students in Eagle, Idaho. Later she worked for Union Carbide in Uravan, Colorado, and Blanding Utah. She is survived by her brother, **Harry '64** and numerous nieces and nephews.

1970s

Delmar Aitken '70, San Bernardino, California, died July 29, 2020, at age 73. He was born May 17, 1947, to John and Evelina Aitken. He graduated from Union and Loma Linda University School of Medicine. While in medical school, he met and married Cheree. In 1981 Dr. Aitken was asked to join a research team at The Ohio State University to develop standards for sentinel



lymph node mapping and biopsy using radioactive isotopes, now the gold-standard of care in breast cancer surgery. He later brought this gamma detection technology to the Inland Empire region of California. He is survived by his wife, Cheree; and daughters, Angeliq and Andra Aitken-Diaz.

Clyde Borton '70, Arlington, Texas, died Feb. 15, 2021, at age 77. He was born the fourth of five children to John and Jessie Reeve Borton, on Sept. 3, 1943, in Popular Bluff, Missouri. Clyde graduated from Southwestern Union College Academy in 1961 and married his high school sweetheart, Mary Norman, on Aug. 11, 1963. He was a self-employed carpenter. Survivors include his wife, Mary Borton; daughters, Kelly Curry and Beth Borton; brother, Tom; and sister, **Myrtle Thomas '70**.

Donna Ann Seltmann ('70), Lincoln, Nebraska, died on July 31, 2021, at age 73. She was born on January 19, 1948, to ElVerne and Mary Seltmann of Nekoma, KS. She is survived by her siblings **Shirley Opp ('55)**, **Bill Seltmann ('63)**, **Lyle Seltmann ('62)**, Terry Seltmann, **Rita Taylor '77**; Tim Seltmann; **Kerrie Schnell '87**.

Sandra Williamson '70, Twin Falls, Idaho, died Dec. 15, 2020, at age 75. She was born in Tonopah, Nevada, on March 8, 1945, to Rudy and Marie Williamson. Her first job after college was activity director at Sky View and Hazeldel Manor in Twin Falls, Idaho. She then worked for Loma Linda Medical Center Neurosurgery in the billing department for 49 years. Survivors

include her brother, Dewey; sister-in-law Phyllis Williamson and one nephew, DJ.

Bruce Buckley ('71) of Southern Pines, NC died unexpectedly on July 28, 2021. He married **Cheryl Tachenko '72**, who he met while at Union. They had two sons, Seth & Grant.

Errol L. Eder '71, passed away on August 2, 2021, at age 73. Errol served the Adventist church as a financial administrator and ordained minister for 37 years, then managed the Collegedale Credit Union. Survivors include his spouse, **Bonnie Eder ('68)**; sister, Maurine Schlisner; sons, Justin and Jeffrey; grandchildren, Ryker and Cadence.

Charles Muir '71, Lincoln, Nebraska, died Oct. 14, 2020, at age 91. He was born July 30, 1929, in Western, Nebraska, to J. Clifford and Olive Zieman Muir. On Nov. 5, 1966, he married Marilyn Johnson. He retired from BNSF Railroad after working there for over 30 years. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; son, Roger; daughter, Michelle; and two sisters: Marlys Babcock and Mary Howsden.

Maxine Smith '71, born on July 8, 1931, near Hot Springs, Arkansas to Arley Smith, Sr. and Velma Pittman Smith, and died on March 2, 2021, at the age of 88 in Edinburg, Tex. Affectionately known as Miss Smith, she taught in Adventist schools for many years. She later became a nursing home administrator. She also taught nursing home administration at Texas Southmost College in Brownsville, Texas.

Sharon Wooten '71, Muscatine, Iowa, died March 6, 2021, at age 72. She was born Dec. 6, 1948, in Marshalltown, Iowa to Jesse and Vivian Sharp Wooten. After graduating from Union College, Sharon worked as a cook at various academies. She enjoyed teaching Vacation Bible School, diamond art painting, crafting and children. Survivors include her siblings: Melody Waltemeyer and Dean Wooten.

Dennis Cushman ('73), Lincoln, Nebraska, died Jan. 20, 2021, at age 72. Born Oct. 21, 1948 to Oris and Betty Cushman. During the Vietnam war, he participated in Operation Whitecoat. Through connections at the Washington Sanitarium Church, he met Betty Froelich, and they were married on July 4, 1971. Dennis applied his uncommon logical abilities to problem solving in the U.S. Army and for employers such as Hinsdale Hospital and First Data Resources. He was part of the team that created the ZIP+4 system for the U.S. Postal Service. He is survived by his wife, Betty; sons, **Scott '03** and **Ted ('96)**; and brother Bruce.

Fred Crowell '77, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, died Oct. 28, 2020, at age 67. He was born Dec. 15, 1952,

to Gordon and Mary Sergent Crowell, in Hibbing, Minnesota. He married **Roberta Nelson ('71)** on Dec. 12, 1971. He participated in Project White Coat during the Vietnam War. In 1974, he returned to Union College and earned a degree in theology. He completed seminary at Andrews University and served the Adventist church in a variety of posts in Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri. He was also the chaplain for the West Des Moines Police Department in Des Moines, Iowa. Survivors include his wife, Roberta; two daughters, Kelli and **Amy Bower '03**; one granddaughter; sisters, Wanda Green, Laura Fjeld, Cheryl Rude; and brothers, Walter and Tom.

Karen Roehl '77, passed away at home on Sunday September 5, 2021, at age of 63. Karen was born in Columbia, South Carolina, On April 29, 1958 to James H Edwards and Aileen Mayrie Estey Edwards. She is survived by her husband, **Louie Roehl '77**, her son **Jesse (Sarah) Roehl ('05)**, **Senia '05 (Ed '98) Mejia**, granddaughters Livy, Amelie & Rosalyn and grandson Lennox, all of Lincoln, NE.

Esther Burton '78, of Lincoln, passed away July 24, 2021. Born October 6, 1933, in Valley View, TX, to William August and Josephine Bertha (Brandt) Hoehn. Esther taught Christian education all over the world, including Idaho, Guam, Palau, Vietnam, Texas, and Kansas. She is survived by siblings Mary Burton), **Joy Burton '81**, **Reginald Burton '83**, Jamie Snyder, and **Wilma Bing '85**; adopted children Yasko Mendiola, Surangel Whipps, Chely Dicken; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

1980s

Lillian "Lil" Bandiola Gibson '82, Lincoln, Nebraska, died Nov. 2, 2020, at age 61. She was born Sept. 9, 1959, in Iloilo, Philippines to Benjamin and Anita Javellana Bandiola. Her family immigrated to the U.S. and later settled in Lincoln. She was a registered nurse at the Dialysis Center of Lincoln for 17 years and was an instructor at Bryan Health. She is survived by her husband, **Jim '78**; and sons, **Jared '05** and **Justin '10**.

Eunice Mae Buck Green '83 was born to Charles and Esther (Anderson) Buck on May 5, 1937 in Freedom California. She passed away in Lincoln July 10, 2021. She met **Jimmy Lee Green '65** at Union College, and married him on May 24, 1960. She is survived by her son Stephen, daughter Daina; granddaughter Meghan; great-granddaughter Signe; and sister **Carol Rossow ('61)**,

Timothy Griffin '83, Honolulu, Hawaii, died Sept. 28, 2020, at age 61. Born in Pipestone, Minnesota, to Gerald and Joan Mouw-Griffin on June 23, 1959. He earned a degree in medical technology and

IN MEMORY

then a Doctor of Chiropractic degree in 1992 and began a practice in Honolulu. He was survived by his father, Gerald Griffin, who passed away shortly after in November 2020 from COVID; and two siblings, **Jeffrey ('83)** and **Miriam ('88)**.

Dan Sutton '86, Ashby, Nebraska, died April 12, 2021, at age 74, and born April 29, 1946, in Oshkosh, Nebraska, to Raymond and Margaret Kerr Sutton. For more than 42 years, Dan was faithful to the decision he made on July 20, 1978 to live a life apart from addiction. Through the years Dan reached out to other addicts, giving away countless numbers of books, DVDs and CDs and Bibles. He referred to himself as a "walking commercial". He is survived by his wife, Kathy; children: Gwen Ensrud, Corey, Ray and Dustin; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; brother, Larry; and sisters, Genelle Holder; Kay Sutton and Pam Bell.

Colleen Devnich Daniels ('87), Orlando, Florida, died Feb. 24, 2021, at age 54. Born in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, on July 10, 1966, to David and LaVerne Devnich. In 1987, Colleen married Chris Hallman and moved to Orlando, Florida. She earned a master's degree in family psychology and held various positions in long-term care and health insurance sales. In 1997 she married Rodney Daniels and they had three children. Survivors include her daughters, Lexi and Lauren; mother, LaVerne Devich; siblings: **Kimberly Buechele '90**, Kirk and Kendall.

1990s

Daryl Hauck ('94), York, Nebraska, died May 3, 2021, at age 48. He was born Nov. 26, 1972, in Lancaster, Massachusetts, to **Elmer '70** and **Mary Chamberlain Hauck ('58)**. Daryl married Sheila Reid on Nov. 23, 1997, in Lincoln, Nebraska. He was a plumber and enjoyed health and nutrition. Survivors include his wife, Sheila; children: Lola, Daniel, Damion and Dionna; sister, Debbie Bell; and brother, David.

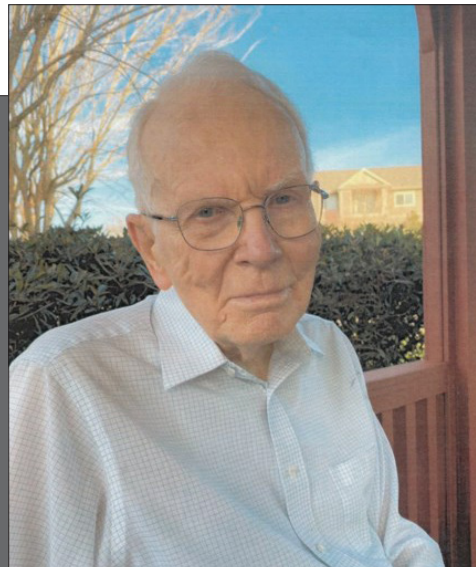
Tricia Baugher Herbel '94, Lincoln, Nebraska, died Nov. 21, 2020, at age 48. She was born April 20, 1972, in Lincoln, Nebraska, to **Ted '70** and **Sherry McHenry Baugher ('69)**. On Sept. 5, 1993, she married **Brian Herbel '89**, and after they graduated from Union College as nurses in 1994, they moved to Bakersfield, California, to pursue their careers. In 1998, they returned to Lincoln, Nebraska, and started Spring Valley Homes. She is survived by her children: Ben, Elijah and Lilly; parents, Ted and Sherry Baugher; sisters, **Amy Deming '92** and **Sarah Wallingford '03**; and grandmother, Mildred McHenry.

Jeremy Reiswig ('97), Haddon Heights, New Jersey, died Oct. 19, 2020, at age 46. He was born in Youngstown, Ohio, to **Stanley '67** and **Lila Hensel**

Reiswig '68, on Nov. 27, 1973. After attending Union College, he assisted his father in starting up and operating a custom harvesting business for several years. He later became a commercial pilot and earned a bachelor's degree in aviation flight technology. Hired by Atlantic Southeast Airlines (now ExpressJet), he earned his captain's title. In 2017 he began flying larger aircraft with Allegiant Airlines. He is survived by his wife, Maritza; daughter, Emilie; mother; **Lila '68**; father, **Stanley '67**; brothers, **Kerwin '05** and Ryan.

2020s

Owen Uhrmacher '21 died in the early morning on Thursday, July 15, near Manhattan, Kansas, at age 22. Owen was born on October 7, 1998, to David and Christine Uhrmacher. He attended Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Religious Education in May of this year. Owen is survived by his mother Christine Uhrmacher; two brothers, Daniel and Tony; and grandmothers Joan Duran, Kathy Uhrmacher, and Ed Pottratz.



Ralph Neall passed away on June 11, 2021, in Tennessee at age 93. Neall taught at Union from 1976 to 1994. His wife, Beatrice, also taught religion courses. Neall is remembered as a kind and gentle man. "He was a very thoughtful person," said George Gibson, former history professor at Union. "He was a calming force," said friend Carlyle Welch. "He didn't get all excited and I think that's such a gift for difficult situations."

Erwin Roy Gane passed away in Fort Collins, Colorado, on September 26, 2021 at age 90 and was born in Oakleigh, Victoria, Australia on March 18, 1931. He studied theology and served as a Bible teacher, religion professor, and pastor throughout his career. Gane was married to Winsome Lillian Baron from 1953 until her death in 2017, and together they had two sons, Roy and Calvin. After teaching and pastoring in Australia, Erwin emigrated to the United States in 1962 in pursuit of graduate studies in theology, which he obtained at Andrews University (MA, MDiv, and

Notice of the following deaths has been received:

Evelyn Grave Tidwell ('46), Collegedale, Tennessee, died Dec. 6, 2020, at age 94.

Ellen Widmer Council-Croak ('47), Berrien Springs, Michigan, died May 15, 2021, at age 99.

Lorraine Jonietz Thomas ('47), Portland, Oregon, died May 9, 2020, at age 96.

Janet Campbell Kirk '48, Paso Robles, California, died March 30, 2020, at age 94.

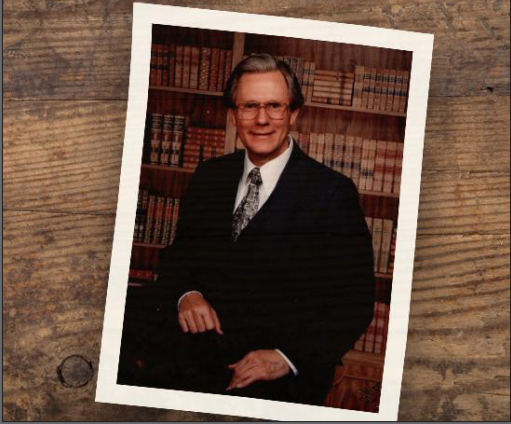
Shelley Roehl Kuninobu '49, Auburn, California, died March 31, 2021, at age 97.

Hallie Glass '51, Amity, Arkansas, died Aug. 7, 2021, at age 92.

William Brodie '52, Sandpoint, Idaho, died May 15, 2021, at age 94.

Ina de Bruin Eyman ('52), Mills River, North Carolina, died Oct. 1, 2020, at age 98.

Grace Wheeler Morris '53, Lincoln, Nebraska, died Aug. 19, 2021, at age 91.



MTh) and the University of Nebraska (PhD). Gane taught religion at Union College (1964 – 1973) and Pacific Union College and was a pastor in Michigan, New Jersey, and California. He served at the General Conference of the Adventist Church in the White Estate (1981-1983) and as the editor of the Sabbath School Adult Bible Study Guide (1986-1995). Over the course of his life, Gane wrote nine books and several scholarly and professional articles. Survivors include two sisters, Marie and Ruth; sons **Roy ('71)** and **Calvin '83**; grandchildren Adam Gane, Tiffany Gane, and Sarah Gane; and seven great-grandchildren.

Betty Hawthorne Jacobs ('54), St George, Utah, died April 19, 2019, at age 90.

Millie Runyan ('56), Robinson, Illinois, died July 8, 2021, at age 86.

Vicente Rodriguez '57, Lake Wales, Florida, died Oct. 15, 2020, at age 97.

Jerry Peterson ('60), Cleburne, Texas, died Sept. 10, 2021, at age 82.

James Fisher ('61), Mount Vernon, Ohio, died July 11, 2019, at age 79.

Allen Truax ('63), Lincoln, Nebraska, died Aug. 15, 2021, at age 79.

David Huso ('64), Wildomar, California, died May 21, 2021, at age 80.

Martha Spuehler Rexin ('64), Kansas City, Missouri, died June 10, 2019, at age 76.

Marie Cheng Anderson ('66), Seattle, Washington, died March 31, 2018, at age 73.

William George '66, Florahome, Florida, died Oct. 10, 2020, at age 79.

Dan Schreier '72, Buffalo, New York, died Sept. 15, 2020, at age 69.

Bess Hardcastle Hanff '73, Lincoln, Nebraska, died Jan. 16, 2021, at age 70.

Ginger Baker ('83), Murrieta, California, died Feb. 21, 2021, at age 59.

Rob Diede ('84), Springfield, Tennessee, died Aug. 13, 2021, at age 58.

THE LAST WORD

MORE THAN **JUST** EXERCISE

Eddie Luke, a sophomore theology major, told me how he exercises --“I think about my walk with God while working out,” he explained. “It’s a time for me to meditate and look at where I am spiritually. Something that I always realize after a run is how much God has helped me grow. And sometimes I’ll realize that He got me through a really tough run that I didn’t think I was going to be able to make happen.”

In this issue, you’ve read about our plans to expand our wellness facility so that our students have a place to build physical strength and lifelong habits. The new AdventHealth Complex will provide such a place even during cold Nebraska winters.

College is more than memorizing the periodic table of elements, diagramming sentences or practicing monochromatic scales. The best learning comes from experiences that teach, stretch and push students to become the people God created them to be.

Union offers an education that is uniquely Christian and uniquely Adventist. We commit to living fully and joyfully in God’s calling, nurturing the development of the physical, mental, and spiritual gifts with which our students have been endowed by our Creator.

“A campus that is taking our wellness seriously motivates me,” Eddie said. “It helps me to know why I do the things I do, why I go to the gym on



photo: Steve Nazario/Union College

days I don’t want to. I’ll be able to walk in there and say, ‘wow, somebody—a donor, a community member—believes in me, believes in this campus, this community, and they have gifted us with this amazing facility!’”

I hope you’ve been inspired by the stories in this issue. If you want to play a part in Eddie’s educational experience (and the rest of our students), please keep us in your prayers and learn more at ucollege.edu/fit

“I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.”
Psalm 139:14 ESV

Vinita Sauder
Vinita Sauder, President

Our mission

Union College is a Seventh-day Adventist community of higher education, inspired by Jesus Christ and dedicated to empowering students to learn, serve and lead.

Learn more about Union’s mission and vision at ucollege.edu/mission

CORD

MAGAZINE

News from Union College
Vol. 87, No. 1, Fall 2021

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Reminisce, Reconnect, Reunion **SAVE THE DATE** April 7-10, 2022



Contact a college classmate today and make plans to meet them on campus during alumni weekend. You won't want to miss the opportunity to visit with friends you haven't seen since graduation or be part of the Union College experience for a few days.

***Special recognition will be given for honor classes from;
1952, 1962, 1967, 1972, 19982, 1992, 2002, 2012***

We look forward to seeing you at Homecoming 2022