

# SOUTHWESTERN

NEWS AND STORIES FROM SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE

## Merriman to leave Southwestern

**D**ick Merriman, who has been president of Southwestern College since 1998, will leave the college at the end of this academic year to become president of the University of Mount Union in Alliance, Ohio. Merriman's appointment as president of Mount Union, a United Methodist institution with enrollment of about 2,200 students, was announced Dec. 8.

our growing enrollment of international students, and our service to adult learners have helped make Southwestern a lively and diverse school while increasing the relevance and impact of the college in our region."

Merriman encouraged growth in Professional Studies programs (which are aimed at working adults) and oversaw a transition to online offerings that

**I'm proud that Southwestern has become a strong comprehensive institution, serving both traditional-age students and adults . . . while increasing the relevance and impact of the college in our region.**

"President Merriman has given us many good years," said Dr. David Smith, chair of Southwestern's Board of Trustees. "Personally, I hate to see him go but this is a terrific opportunity for him as well as a wonderful opportunity for another college. His impact on the college has been profound: He came here during a difficult economic climate and led the college with great vision. He will be leaving Southwestern College in a position of strength."

During his service at Southwestern, Merriman has guided the college through years of unprecedented growth in scope and mission.

"I'm proud that Southwestern has become a strong comprehensive institution, serving both traditional-age students and adults, offering a wide range of undergraduate and graduate degrees, and providing instruction in a range of formats that meet the needs of many kinds of students," Merriman said. "Our outreach to low-income, minority, and first-generation college students,

allow nearly half of the college's total enrollment to study from around the world via computer. This has been especially attractive to military learners; during Merriman's presidency SC has been consistently recognized on lists of military-friendly colleges.

The college's first doctoral degree – a Doctor of Education – was approved by SC's regional accrediting agency, and now enrolls more than 60 students each semester. In addition, other graduate programs (both on ground and online) have been expanded to make advanced degrees accessible to persons whose geographic or economic conditions would have prevented this in earlier years.

President Merriman led two capital campaigns and several project-specific fund drives that raised more than \$50 million for college projects. This led to a number of campus improvements – construction of Cole Hall and Richard L. Jantz Stadium; creation of Richardson Performing Arts Center and the TOMARI technical theatre center; significant renovations of



President Dick Merriman speaks at the 2008 dedication of the newly-renovated Deets Library, one of many major campus improvements made during his 17-year tenure.

Mossman Hall and Deets Library; and the rebuilding of the college's landmark Mound and 77 Steps.

In addition, Merriman worked to foster cooperative relationships between the college and the Winfield community, including partnerships for community use of the college swimming pool, joint college and school district funding and use of Jantz Stadium, recent expansion of tennis facilities, and the creation of the SC Learning Center for young children in downtown Winfield.

"All of us at Southwestern are very grateful for the support of the Winfield community and the warm welcome it provides our students," Merriman said.

See information about the presidential search on page 2.

# Search begins for next SC president

The search for Southwestern College's next president is well underway, with a timetable that could have the 18th president on campus as early as July 1.

A search committee comprising trustees, faculty, administrators, and students was in place by early January. This committee is working with Dr. Tom Courtice, associate managing principal and senior consultant of AGB Search. AGB Search is a Washington, D.C.-based firm that specializes in higher education executive searches.

"Dr. Courtice's 10 years of successful search experience, with particular emphasis on the leadership needs of private comprehensive colleges, will help guide us through the work that lies ahead," Mike Lewis, chair of the search committee, told college employees. "He has also served three college presidencies, the most recent of which was at Ohio Wesleyan. We think he already has a good sense of Southwestern's place in the higher education landscape."

A presidential profile developed to attract and inform candidates begins with a description of the ideal candidate: "Attentive to mission, building on strength, and eager for additional initiatives, Southwestern College seeks a president with vision and energy, who is entrepreneurially inclined and committed to quality. SC's appetite for future growth will call for strategic thinking and planning, designed to sustain change while also unifying the comprehensive nature of its educational programs. Academically focused and committed to quality, the college seeks a president who will build on

Southwestern's historic strengths while providing bold leadership and decisive management toward distinctive institutional achievement."

Search committee members are trustees Michael Lewis (chair), David Smith (ex officio), Michael Lennen, and Vickie Bond; emeritus trustee Steve McSpadden; faculty members Cheryl Rude and Richard Cowlshaw; administrators Sheila Krug and Susan Backofen; and students Robert Hernandez and Gregory Cole.

For news and updates see [sckans.edu/president](http://sckans.edu/president). Nominators and prospective candidates may contact Tom Courtice at [tbc@agbsearch.com](mailto:tbc@agbsearch.com) or (614)395-3229.



## Farewell Events

The Southwestern College community will have multiple opportunities to greet Dick Merriman and Margot Kelman as they prepare to leave for the University of Mount Union. Many of these events are scheduled around Founders Weekend, April 17-18.

- ▶ Friday, April 17, 4 p.m.: Employee Recognition and Reception for current and former main campus and Professional Studies faculty and staff.
- ▶ Friday, April 17, 5:30 p.m.: Leaders in Service Hall of Fame for the Social Sciences, including dedication of Hall of Fame in President Merriman's honor. Space limited and reservations required. Call Susan Lowe at (620) 229-6334 for details.
- ▶ Saturday, April 18, 6 p.m.: President's Dinner for Donors and Heritage Club members. By invitation in the Roy L. Smith Student Center.
- ▶ Saturday, April 18, 8 p.m.: Richardson Performing Arts Center presents Cherokee Maidens & Sycamore Swing.
- ▶ Wednesday, April 22, 11 a.m.: Senior chapel. President Merriman will speak.
- ▶ Wednesday, April 22, 4:30-6 p.m.: Community reception/open house hosted by the Winfield Chamber of Commerce. 123 E. 9th, Winfield.
- ▶ Saturday, May 9, 4 p.m.: Honors Convocation.
- ▶ Sunday, May 10, 1 p.m.: Commencement.

## SAVE THE DATE

*Builder*  
**HOMECOMING**  
2015

OCTOBER 16-18

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**Southwestern College President**

Dick Merriman

**The Southwesterner**

Sara Severance Weinert, *editor*; Susan Burdick, *graphic designer*; Susan Lowe '95, *director of alumni programs*; Holly Peterson, *coordinator of alumni notes*.

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Sophomore Kayla Wilson has established herself as one of the best jumpers in the NAIA. Her record-setting leaps made her the third-ranked triple jumper and fifth-ranked high jumper going into national championships March 5-7.

# Know a future Builder?

**W**e are building our 2015 classes at both the Winfield campus and in online programs through Professional Studies. If you know someone who could benefit from an SC experience, our admission personnel would love to hear from you.

The residential campus experience in Winfield provides students with personal interaction with faculty, athletics, residential life, clubs and organizations to provide a strong academic as well as a formative experience.

2014 marks 20 years of SC serving the adult market through Professional Studies. Offering bachelor's, master's, and certificate programs in more than 30 majors and serving students around the

globe, SCPS offers quality education in a caring environment.

SC alumni who are interested in pursuing their graduate degree can 'fast track' through the admissions process. The application fee and letters of recommendation requirements are waived. Alumni who refer students who are enrolled through drop and add will receive a 'Thank You' gift of SC gear.

Please help us grow the Builder nation by referring a friend or co-worker. You can do so online at <http://ps.sckans.edu/forms/referral/> or by calling the admission office – for main campus in Winfield call (800) 845-1543, and for Professional Studies admission call (888) 684-5335.

## FOUNDERS DAY WEEKEND

### THURSDAY, APRIL 16

**3 p.m.** Readings and book signing by Strohl family members of *Fifty Years to Shape a Dream, 1933-1983*, by Helen & Orville Strohl. Deets Library. Books available for purchase.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 17

**2 p.m.** Book presentation, *Irenaeus on the Trinity*, by Jackson Lashier, associate professor of religion, Deets Library. Book signing to follow.

### Leaders in Service Hall of Fame for the Social Sciences:

**5:30 p.m.** dinner and induction, Deets Library  
 INDUCTEES: David Froman '68, Sandra Gasca-Gonzalez '94,  
 and John William "Bill" Todd '51

### SATURDAY, APRIL 18

**Fine Arts Hall of Fame: 8:30 a.m.** open house in Darbeth lobby/President's Gallery

**9 a.m.** \*Brunch and induction ceremony, Richardson Performing Arts Center stage  
 INDUCTEES: Michael R. Brummett '79, Terry L. McGonigle '73,  
 and Madeline (Magnusson) Norland '83

**Business Hall of Fame: Noon** \*Lunch and induction ceremony, Deets Library  
 INDUCTEES: Shawn L. Fanshier '83, Gregg A. Howell '73, Leo T. "Peter" Whalen '51  
 Business Builder Award: Winfield Economic Development Committee

**Educators Hall of Fame: 3:30 p.m.** reception, **4 p.m.** induction, Deets Library  
 INDUCTEES: Gyla (Brock) Conklin '58, Cheryl (Bernard) Schasteen '71,  
 Kenneth E. Valentine '70

**Scholars Hall of Fame: 3:30 p.m.** reception, induction follows  
 Educators Hall of Fame ceremony, Deets Library  
 INDUCTEES: Dale B. Sims '80, Philip R. Schmidt

\*Limited seating. RSVP necessary to [susan.lowe@sckans.edu](mailto:susan.lowe@sckans.edu).  
 For more information on these events, call (620) 229-6279.



Arthur (William Wade) and the Lady of the Lake (Mariah Warren) journeyed through Monty Python's *Spamalot* in Southwestern College's spring musical. The collaborative performing arts show was performed in Richardson Performing Arts Center March 5, 7, and 8.

RICHARDSON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER PRESENTS

## THE Cherokee Maidens AND SYCAMORE SWING



[sckans.edu/cherokeemaidens](http://sckans.edu/cherokeemaidens)



# Professional Studies marks 20 years of helping learners achieve dreams

By Jessica Schlageck  
PS Social Media and Public Relations Coordinator

## The genesis

A fundamental shift in how a college degree can be earned took place at Southwestern College 20 years ago. And while making higher education accessible to working adults now seems a natural extension of the college's mission, at the time the idea of a Professional Studies program seemed a daring proposition.

Carl Martin, president of Southwestern College from 1988 to 1998, smiles as he thinks back to how Professional Studies came to be. He recalls when managers from GE Aviation (which had a plant near Winfield) encouraged Southwestern to start a program that would allow its employees to earn their degrees while continuing to work. The need was increasing as more of its workforce was unable to fulfill a desire to further their education while earning a living.

Then Marvin Hafenstein, who had worked for the Sunbeam corporation before he relocated to Burden, Kan., paid Martin a visit.

"Marvin came into my office and offered to simply volunteer to help Southwestern create a learning experience for adult learners," Martin recalls. "He saw the importance of an educated workforce and he also understood how difficult it was for people who were employed full time to realize those education degrees."

But while Martin saw great potential in Hafenstein's eagerness to make an adult learning center a success, some were skeptical that it could work. Faculty on main campus was leery. After all, this model differed radically from the way things were done in the residential college setting. It would involve affiliate faculty, adult learners, and accelerated learning – concepts foreign to a college

servicing traditional students since it began in 1885. But after listening to other colleges' success stories, the Board of Trustees joined administrators in supporting a movement in education happening around the nation.

"There has been a commitment to excellence and that's what was the genesis," says Martin.



Professional Studies administrators accept the 2001 Kansas Quality Award.

## Putting the dream into motion

Hafenstein brought his background in business and manufacturing to higher education, focusing the early efforts of Professional Studies on business, supply chain management, and manufacturing technology.

"Marvin wanted the courses to be very career-focused and to be taught by practitioners, so he hired many affiliate faculty members who worked in industry," said Dick Merriman, current president of Southwestern College.

The first location offering such courses was opened in downtown Winfield in 1994. But as popularity for adult learning grew so did the need for space in a more highly-populated area. So Hafenstein worked on acquiring about one-third of the space in a building on Rock Road in Wichita. The doors to the East Wichita Professional Studies Center at Pawnee and Rock opened in 1996.

"When I first started the building

stopped at the bathrooms at the south end of the building," recalls Nancy Morse, Professional Studies assistant registrar. "There were three of us who worked here. We all sat at desks in the south lobby, so we were right there with the students, which was fun. We got to know the students really well."

"We gobbled up the building as leases of other occupants expired," says Merriman. "We unveiled the Jinx and Moundbuilder classrooms and the neighboring offices on the north end during a Board of Trustees meeting.

When we finally had the entire building for our use, considering how rinky-dink things looked at the start, that was a great moment."

In 1998 Professional Studies expanded to the west side of

Wichita, stretching the reach of the college to new markets. That location would close in the summer of 2013, but not before centers were placed at McConnell Air Force Base, Fort Riley, Oklahoma City, and Kansas City. However, technology began to change the pace in which students were learning, creating a demand for more than just on-ground education.

## Adapting with technology

Procedures have changed drastically since Nancy Morse began her career at Professional Studies 17 years ago. In that time she's held positions as an office manager and has worked in financial aid and the registrar's office, witnessing the evolution first hand.

"Our students would bring their financial aid material here and then it would have to be taken to main campus," said Morse. "Either someone would physically drive it, mail it, or we had a



The lists of Professional Studies graduates since the program began in 1994 lines the walls in Wichita's East Center, and includes more than 5,000 names.

courier service. We all shared one email address at the time.”

In the beginning, adult learners were offered mostly six-week classes at Professional Studies locations during the day, evenings, and on the weekends. But as the Internet grew in popularity, Southwestern College saw the growing need for flexibility for its students, who were balancing their education, jobs, and families.

Southwestern used its 2001 accreditation review by the Higher Learning Commission not only to extend its accreditation but also to request to begin offering online degrees. The permission was granted and Professional Studies began offering the first online degree program in pastoral studies.

“From there, our online offerings grew and grew,” said President Merriman. “The shift, though, was not driven by SC or by any other institution. It was driven by the preferences of adult learners. They clearly very much prefer the flexibility of online learning to the night school model that PS started out with.”

Offering online courses also paved the way for Professional Studies to create a relationship with military learners, beginning with the Army when it was selected as an eArmyU partner. And with the east location just a half mile away from McConnell Air Force Base, Professional Studies also made the educational needs of airmen a priority.

It was selected as one of only 10 institutions for the initial pilot program of the Air Force’s Air University Associate-to-Baccalaureate Cooperative (AU-ABC). The college also became a member of the National Association of Institutions for Military Education Services (NAIMES), participating in professional association meetings. In addition, more staff members with military backgrounds were added to the staff to further invest in military culture.

“Our military initiative and focus was multi-pronged and it grew over time,” says Karen Pedersen, vice president for Professional Studies from 2000 to 2011.

It was a focus that has paid off. Professional Studies was named a Best for Vets College, Military Friendly School, and Military Advanced Education Top School for 2015. Today military learners make up roughly two-thirds of Professional Studies students.

“Growing from literally no military learners to being in the top 50 institutions receiving military tuition assistance was an incredible accomplishment,” says Pedersen. “I remember the day when it was announced that SC was in the 30s. At that point, I knew we had made it.”

## Professional Studies in the future

Many would say the success of Professional Studies over the past two decades is simply its willingness to respond to the wants and needs of its

learners. The flexible online model, offering adult learners the chance to earn their degrees on their own time schedules has been well received.

“All of my classes were online and that gave me the chance to continue to use the disciplines I learned in the military by blocking out several hours each day and dedicating it to doing my classwork and assignments,” says Greg Cole, 2010 Professional Studies graduate and Wichita business owner.

The continued progression of Professional Studies is evident today in its offerings of new and improved programs in the fields of business and technology as it continues to respond to market needs. Its articulation agreements with community colleges across the region offer students a seamless transition to earning their bachelor degrees. The relationship with the military has grown with a partnership with the Defense Acquisition University, allowing its workforce members the opportunity to transfer and apply DAU credits toward their college degree. And its Organizational Partnership program offers training for employees of area businesses. It brings Professional Studies full circle, paving a way for adults to realize their academic dreams the way leadership hoped it would 20 years ago.

“I think the college’s sincere interest is helping adults achieve their dreams and have better lives has set us apart from many of our competitors,” Merriman said. “We’re in it for the right reason.”

## 1960s

**Dr. Stephany (Brown) Hughes '64** has a newly published book, *Mother as Emotional Coach: 8 Principles for Raising a Well-Adjusted Child*. The book, which can enhance the joys of parenthood and better equip parents to help their child reach their full potential, is available at [OutskirtsPress.com](http://OutskirtsPress.com), [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com), and [stephanyhughes.com](http://stephanyhughes.com).

## 1970s

**Dave Webb '70** is co-author of *999 Kansas Characters: Ad Astra*, a fact-filled, fully illustrated book featuring biographical articles about 161 characters with Kansas connections who have helped define the Sunflower State and its colorful heritage. The first volume in a planned series, *Ad Astra* is published by The Kansas Heritage Center, [www.ksheritage.org](http://www.ksheritage.org).

**LaMar Burks '79** continues to receive praise for the creation of the Booker T. Washington Sports Museum, which he started in his former high school. He is featured in the Jan/Feb issue of *Oklahoma Today* magazine, an issue devoted to African Americans who shaped the past, and are making their mark on the future.

## 1980s

**Tracy Cassidy '80** and her former morning show co-host, Brett Harris, are returning to Wichita radio with Brett & Tracy Mornings on Envision's new radio station, KKGQ, 92.3-FM. Envision's mission is to serve the blind and vision impaired, for whom radio is very important. The station, which will be known as Q92, the Beat, will have blind and vision-impaired employees and talent.

**Joni (Matthews) David '84** is now hospice administrator at Presbyterian Manors of Mid-America in Wichita.

**Jerry Kill '84**, head coach of the Minnesota Gophers football team since 2010, has been awarded the Big Ten Coach of the Year. In just four years, Coach Kill has turned the program around and is much appreciated, not only for his success on the field but also for his great community support.

## 1990s

**Paul McDonald '91** had an article published in the fourth quarter 2014 issue of *National Parliamentarian*. In Paul's words,

"Point of I Want to Say Something" is the first in what is hoped will be a series of articles about gross mistakes and misuse of parliamentary procedure, and how he has learned from them.

**Davo Muttiah '99** and Melissa Nivens were married on Dec. 6, 2014. After a honeymoon to South Africa and the Seychelles, they are at home in Washington, D.C.

## 2000s

**Jonathan Conard '00** co-authored a book that will be published in April 2015 through the University Press of Kansas. The book highlights trails throughout Kansas. For more information go to the University Press website, [www.kansaspress.ku.edu](http://www.kansaspress.ku.edu), and search by author name.

**Jeffrey N. Lowe '01** achieved board certification as a family trial advocate from the National Board of Trial Advocacy in January 2015. Board certification is the highest, most stringent, and most reliable honor an attorney can achieve. Approximately three percent of American lawyers are board certified. Lowe is a member of a very select group who has taken the time to prove competence in their specialty area and earn board certification.

**James E. Perry '03** and Charles R. Adams were married May 9, 2014, in Chicago. Jim runs his own consulting firm helping not-for-profit and community organizations. Charlie is an acupuncturist and professor at

Western Michigan University.

**Dane Brummett '06**, assistant golf professional at the Fort Wayne Country Club, has been named the 2015 Indiana Assistant Golf Professional of the Year. He received the award on Feb. 9, 2015, in Indianapolis.

**Adam C. Dees '08** is now a full partner of Vignery, Mason & Dees, L.L.C., in Goodland, Kan. The name was changed Jan. 1, 2015, from Vignery & Mason, L.L.C.

**Eric Webb '08/'10** has been appointed program coordinator within the department of institutional assessment at Texas A&M University.

## 2010s

**Caitlynn French '11** was written up in the Nov. 29, 2014, online publication of "The List," which highlighted eight Most In Demand English Voice Actresses of 2014. According to the article, which listed several of the roles she filled, "French is an actress to keep an eye on as the huge influx of roles for her this year could mean we'll be hearing a lot more of her as her career continues."

**John M. Furr '13** was recently hired with the AvisBudget Group, Tampa International Airport, as an operations manager. This career move is a direct result of his education at Southwestern College, after earning his BS in Business Quality Management in August.

## BIRTHS

A son, Tyson Dwain, born Nov. 13, 2014, to **Taylor '03** and Sarah **Struckman**.

A son, Lucas Clinton, born Oct. 24, 2014, to **Scott '07** and **Danielle (McCaulley) Morgan '07**. Lucas was welcomed home by big brother Jack (2). Danielle recently graduated from her pediatric residency and joined Tulsa Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine Clinic in Tulsa, Okla.

Twin daughters, Emma Ann and Maddie Grace, born Dec. 29, 2014, to **Joel '07** and **Lindsay (Morgan) Wilke '08**. Welcoming his sisters home was a brother, Luke (2 ½). Other family members are grandparents/great-grandparents: **Robert '80** and **Ann (Lowe) Morgan '82**, **Charlene Lowe '80**, **Steve '78** and **Beth (Richardson)**

**Wilke '78**; Eleanor Richardson, and Richard and Julia Wilke; aunts and uncles: **Laura Morgan '09**, **Blake '09** and **Kate (Topham) Morgan '09**, Krista Ranby and husband Scott, Katie Johnson and husband Adam, and **Julie Wilke '09**.

Twin sons, Gabriel Rylan and Elliot Robert, born Dec. 18, 2014, to **Blake '09** and **Kate (Topham) Morgan '09**. Maternal grandparents are Kim and Greg Topham; paternal grandparents are **Robert '80** and **Ann (Lowe) Morgan '82** and **Charlene Lowe '80**; uncles and aunts include **Andrew Topham '11**, Aaron Topham, **Seth Topham '17**, **Laura Morgan '09**, **Lindsay (Morgan) '08** and **Joel Wilke '07**.



**Roberta (Clark) McKnab Snyder '40** left this world on a beautifully moonlit night on Dec. 6 in Pacific Grove, Calif. Roberta lived her 96 years well and set a wonderful example for all who knew her. She is survived by her daughters, Laura George and Martha Haidle; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

**M. Frances (Landreth) Etheridge '45** passed away Jan. 19 in Plano, Texas. Frances taught math at USC, Baylor University, and Tyler Junior College. She was a graceful woman who demonstrated her faith through her daily life. Frances is survived by her husband, James; son, John; daughter, E. Elizabeth Plagens; and two grandchildren.

**Joyce (Henkle) Boone '50** died at her home in Garden City, Kan, on Jan. 8, 2015. She is survived by her husband, **Stewart Boone '49**; children **Jeff Boone '73**, Russ Boone, and Brenda Streele; brothers **James Henkle '52** and **Richard Henkle '56**; and Moundbuilder nieces **Barbara (Blackburn) Hays '65**, **Elizabeth "Betty" (Blackburn) Highfill '68**, **Donna (Norden) Dudley '70**, and **Jonelle (Blackburn) Turner '74**.

**Martin Keith Greeson '50** peacefully passed away on Jan. 17, 2015. Keith served two years in the Army before returning to Winfield to work for Drennan Motors and then retiring from Metropolitan Life Insurance after 28 years. He is survived by his children and their families, David, Eric, Melinda, Jeff, and Marty.

**Ralph H. Rosencrantz '50** died Jan. 22, 2015, in Lawrence, Kan. He is survived by his wife, Montie Marie (Brunson); children Ruth Ann Byrd, David Rosencrantz, and Daniel Rosencrantz; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Marion Rodney Freeman '52** died Oct. 14, 2014, in Huntersville, N.C. He spent his career in Denver, where he worked for *The Denver Post*, moving to North Carolina a few years ago to be closer to family. He is survived by his wife, Gay; daughter, Lynette and her husband Michael Mow; one granddaughter and three great-grandchildren.

**John Posey '52** died Jan. 24 in Arkansas City. John worked as an industrial engineer

for Boeing and later retired to become a farmer. Survivors include his wife, Myrtle; son John; daughter Louise Gulaskey; six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

**Patricia (Pierce) Flint '54** died Sept. 27, 2014, in Lakewood, Colo. Pat was a social worker in the public schools into the early 1970s and then stayed home to raise her boys. Survivors include her husband, Ben; sons, Richard and Jonathan; sister, **Nancy Pierce '72**; and three granddaughters.

**Evelyn (Parker) Mikesell '54** passed away Nov. 5, 2014. Evelyn was a homemaker. Survivors include her son, Kendall, and daughter, Elaine Webb.

**Larry Thomas '57** died Dec. 23, 2014. Larry taught music in several Kansas cities including Scott City where he produced eight Broadway musicals and his vocal groups earned high ratings in festivals. He moved to St. Louis, taught choral music, and retired from teaching in 1991. Larry sang with the St. Louis Symphony Chorus and was honored to perform in Carnegie Hall with the St. Louis Symphony under the direction of Leonard Slatkin. He is survived by his companion, Ed Beard.

**Richard (Dick) Hagen '59** died Oct. 18, 2014. His career included work for the Roman Meal Company, food chemist with Pillsbury, and quality assurance for Bristol-Meyers Squibb. Dick will be remembered as an intelligent, ever-curious, and hard-working family man with a kind and generous heart. Surviving Dick are his wife, Barbara; his daughters and their families, Kristi Johnson, Kate Norton, and Karen Kincaid; and sister, Doris Brainard.

**Georgia "Ann" (Wilson) Bedinghaus '66** died Jan. 30 following a courageous battle with cancer. She was a devoted mother and grandmother and loved her kids and grandkids "more than all the stars in the sky." In 1974 Ann received the Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Young Woman presented by the Hutchinson Jaycee Jaynes. She is survived by her son, Kale; sister, Sandra Smith; brothers, **Gerald Walker '64**, John Walker, and Dennis Grimes, and three grandchildren.

**Randy Iverson '74** died Dec. 18, 2014 with his family by his side. Randy was an accountant for Iverson and Iverson,

Attorneys at Law, and for Gregg and Simmons, CPA. Surviving Randy is his wife, Barbara, sons, **Aaron '97** and Cameron, brothers, **N.M. Iverson, Jr. '68**, **Rod Iverson '75**, sisters Carol Griffin and Jody Hicks, and six grandchildren.

**Lois Satterthwaite '78** died Dec. 3, 2014. Lois was the school nurse for USD 465 for 23 years and was known as Mrs. Sheriff after her husband, Fred, became sheriff of Cowley County. Lois is survived by husband, **Fred '50**; children, **Sheryll Elliott '69**, **Paul '72**, and **Bruce '74**; four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

**Arthur Eskridge '94** died Nov. 17, 2014. Arthur was one of the first headliners at the Southwestern Folk Festival in 1967. That festival has grown to be the Walnut Valley Festival. He is survived by his brother, Rod; three stepdaughters; and five grandchildren.

**Resa (Bowman) Robertson '02** died Nov. 16, 2014. Resa had worked as a nurse practitioner for MD Anderson Medical Center in Houston, the Cancer Clinic in Ponca City, and the Hutchinson Clinic.

## DEATHS OF FRIENDS

**Joe Freed**, who became a special friend of many Southwestern families at Homecoming 2014 when he brought Frank the kangaroo to visit, died unexpectedly of a stroke on Dec. 10, 2014. He is survived by his wife Janet. He had already agreed to come to Homecoming in 2015, and will be greatly missed.

**H. Dean Hess** died at home on Nov. 30, 2014, surrounded by his family. Among survivors are his wife Betty; son Terry; daughters **Diana Duncan '93** and husband **Craig '02**, and Karen Hess and life partner Laurie Gavenda; and Moundbuilder grandchildren **Spencer '01** and **Tessa Duncan '02**, and **Taylor '05** and **Tara Duncan '07**.

**Gregory James Osbourn**, son of **Herman "Swede" Osbourn '51**, died Oct. 4, 2014. Greg was a teaching professional and an avid fisherman. In addition to his father, he is survived by his mother, Fran Ames, stepmother Joann Osbourn, sister Vicki Ramsey, and brother Kevin Ames.



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