

# OWU

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY | SUMMER 2026

MAGAZINE

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While the rest of the world slows down, the academic heart of campus continues to thrive as students pursue their goals with purpose and determination at Slocum Hall.

*Photo by Corey Nolen*



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# features

## 6 The Pivot

Ohio Wesleyan will lead you where you never expected to go. For many alumni, the detour is the point.

## 14 Celebrating 100 Years of Annual Giving

This issue marks a century of annual giving at Ohio Wesleyan. While much has changed at the university, the collective power of alumni giving remains a constant force, propelling Bishops to their futures.

## 20 Comfort Zones

A trusty dog named Kerouac, deep discussions with students in Merrick Hall, and contemplations on what it means to cause “Good Trouble”—these are some of the elements that create Paul Dean’s Comfort Zone.

## 48 Gifts and Gratitude

You’ve heard it said that no one can live forever. But **Bruce Alton ’61** challenges that notion through his philanthropy and devotion to preserving the legacy of **Bryce Collier ’60**.

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Ohio  
Wesleyan  
University

# The Architecture of OWU's Ascent

Something historic is coming to Ohio Wesleyan this fall.

I want you to hear it from me first, because we need you to be ready.

Higher education faces real headwinds. The market is changing, and many institutions are retreating. But OWU is not managing decline. We are defining a new kind of ascent, one

OWU leads in American higher education, grounded in a strategic plan built to last.

Our efforts are yielding unmistakable momentum, and you are seeing the evidence. The largest first-year class in 17 years. Enrollment at a decade high. Resurgent retention and graduation rates. Record philanthropic investment.

into purpose. We teach students how to continually discover their own light—their purpose—so they can shine for others. In other words, self-discovery is not a luxury; it is the essential first step to a life of consequence and the ultimate tool to serve humanity in an unpredictable world.

The alumni stories in this issue

prove it. They majored in one thing and built careers in another. They didn't let a major define them; they defined themselves. Their OWU experience lit a fire that carried them forward in ways they never anticipated.

**“In your light, we shall see the light.”**

This fall, when we share our message with the world in characteristically bold fashion, I invite you to champion it. Share it with a prospective student. Tell a family navigating the college search. Post it. Talk about it.

As living proof of the light we promise, you are OWU's most credible voice. This uniquely pivotal moment in our university's history deserves everything we have.

This fall, let's shine together—for OWU, for each other, for the world.



rooted in the needs of our world and the potential of our students.

For three years, our team has worked with focus and urgency to challenge the status quo. We asked ourselves: What is OWU uniquely built to do for students that no other institution can do as well? The answer we found is bold. It's honest. And it stems from the core values we've held since 1842.

This fall, we share it with the world.

I won't reveal the details here. That moment deserves its own stage. But what we unveil is more than a tagline. It is a complete reimaging of how

The Milligan Library. The Palmer Center. The Smith Center. The Conrades School of Engineering. A partnership to transform OWU into Ohio's top campus for solar energy production. The list goes on.

Our vision and these wins are breathing new life into our long-underappreciated motto: “In your light, we shall see the light.” Too many colleges treat education as a transaction based on a 17-year-old's best guess about their interests. OWU believes college is a transition from curiosity into conviction and from possibility



*Matt*

**Matt vandenBerg**

President, Ohio Wesleyan University

Facebook: mattpvandenBerg

# A Divine 9 Celebration

For more than three decades, **Aaron Granger '93** kept a challenge coin awarded to him as a senior by the Omicron Rho Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Aaron received the coin for collaborating to recruit three new members, an undertaking that kept the light of the fraternity—one of the “Divine 9” historically Black Greek letter organizations—shining at Ohio Wesleyan.

On April 28, Aaron passed the challenge coin to another fraternity brother, **Jason Harris '26**. Like Aaron, Jason helped to recruit three new members as a graduating senior, ensuring that Alpha Phi Alpha would continue to exist and thrive on campus. But that's not all.

Aaron, working with his line brother, **Dimitrius Andre Oliver '93** (now deceased), helped to initiate, or “cross,” three brothers during the 1992-1993 academic year—**Leon Smith '95**, **Earnest Winston '96**, and **Jay Williams '96**. “They saved the chapter,” Aaron said of the three initiates.

“Jason, in his senior year as the only remaining brother at OWU, inducted three brothers to keep the light of Alpha shining at OWU, one of whom is the son of Jay Williams, whom I pledged,” Aaron said. “So, I would like to present Jason with the challenge coin I've held for 33 years.”

The Bishops crossed by Jason are **Jackson Williams '28** (Jay's son), **Matthew deGraft-Johnson '28**, and **Xander Kingery '29**.

In accepting the coin, Jason told those attending an OWU Divine 9 celebration: “I'm very proud to be an Alpha man. I'll cherish this for the rest of my life.”

In addition to Alpha Phi Alpha, another Divine 9 organization, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., is also active at Ohio Wesleyan. Two OWU students, **Dez Dorelien '28**, and **Kaylen Brandt '26**, crossed the sorority's citywide Nu Phi Chapter this year, along with Otterbein University's Daniela De Mata Hiciano '28. All of the new members were recognized during the campus celebration.

Together, the Divine 9 organizations comprise the National Pan-Hellenic Council. They seek to facilitate brotherhood and sisterhood within the Black community while emphasizing community service and impact, educational empowerment, leadership skills, and social advocacy.

Jason Timpson, OWU's director of Multicultural Student Affairs, served as master of ceremonies for the event, sharing with the newest Divine 9 members: “Don't let these letters become dormant. Show up, do the work, and serve with excellence.

“You are not just members; you are builders,” said Jason, a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. “You are the spark. ... Remember, one spark, many flames.”



Front row, from left: Jason Harris '26, Daniela De Mata Hiciano, Otterbein University, Dez Dorelien '28, Kaylen Brandt '26, and Xander Kingery '29. Back row, from left: Matthew deGraft-Johnson '28, and Jackson Williams '28.

## Share your opinions!

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## Goldwater Scholar

Ohio Wesleyan student **Ian Sander '27** has been named a 2026-2027 Goldwater Scholar by the prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in



Education Foundation. The highly competitive Goldwater Scholarship is widely considered the preeminent undergraduate award for students pursuing degrees in mathematics, science, or engineering.

Ian is one of 454 college sophomores and juniors nationwide selected to receive a Goldwater Scholarship this cycle. He was chosen from a pool of 1,485 students nominated nationwide. The one- and two-year Goldwater Scholarships provide up to \$7,500 a year for college costs.

At Ohio Wesleyan, Ian is pursuing a triple major in microbiology, pre-dentistry, and psychology, combined with a minor in chemistry. After earning his OWU diploma, he plans to pursue dual Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) and Doctor of Oral Biology (Ph.D.) degrees.

## Conrades School of Engineering

Ohio Wesleyan University announced the creation of an endowed School of Engineering, powered by more than \$17 million in alumni philanthropy and strengthened by collaborations with leading engineering partners. The school—the most ambitious academic expansion in OWU's 183-year history—will welcome its first mechanical engineering majors in fall 2027.

OWU's new Conrades School of Engineering positions the university as a national model for engineering education, says President Matt vandenBerg, one grounded in compassion, creativity, interdisciplinary thinking, and the power skills that prepare students to shape a rapidly changing world. The school is named in recognition of university alumni **George Conrades '61**, and **Patricia "Patsy" Belt Conrades '63**, who are supporting it with a lead gift of \$13 million.

"The Conrades School of Engineering does more than create a stronger Ohio Wesleyan," says vandenBerg. "It creates a stronger world. Our purpose isn't self-improvement but the public good—an act of boldness, kindness, and innovation that reflects who we are. By aligning our resources with the urgent needs of our community, we embody

the true promise of the liberal arts: to educate, empower, and serve.



Patricia "Patsy" Belt Conrades '63 and George Conrades '61

"We are ensuring that future engineers combine deep technical ability with humanity, curiosity, and the confidence to lead," vandenBerg says. "Columbus is growing faster than almost any other region in the country, powered by advanced manufacturing. With that growth comes an urgent, unmet need for engineers and creative solutions to workforce challenges. The Conrades School of Engineering addresses this need with bold thinking and a clear vision."

For the latest OWU news, visit [owu.edu/news-media](http://owu.edu/news-media)

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## Seeing the Frame

On a chilly fall morning, a group of high school students stepped onto the campus of Ohio Wesleyan University with a mix of curiosity and nerves. They were participants in *I Know I Can* (IKIC), a nationally recognized nonprofit that empowers Columbus students to explore and pursue college and career opportunities through individualized advising, innovative programs, scholarships, and grants.

The architect of the day, Director of Access and Strategic Recruitment Tenique Dennis, had a clear goal: create a space where students could explore, connect, and discover what OWU campus life truly feels like. Instead of a typical visit, she and the Admission team built something more immersive—a mini-class led by four faculty members whose work bridges disciplines and lived experiences.

Inside a classroom, the energy shifted from campus visit to intellectual exchange. Dawn Chisebe, Phokeng Dailey, Ashley Kennard, and Brianna Mack stood at the front—not as lecturers taking turns, but as collaborators modeling what co-teaching can look like at its best.

Their subject: *how we see the world—and how the world is shown to us.*

To bring the concept to life, they turned to a familiar figure: Muhammad Ali. Students examined newspaper headlines, radio clips, and media portrayals of Ali across different moments in his career. Some depictions celebrated him as a hero and champion. Others cast him as controversial, even divisive.

“What changed?” one student asked.

“Not always Ali,” a professor replied. “Often, it was the frame.”

The lesson centered on the idea of framing—a concept from media and communication studies that explains how information is presented. A frame highlights certain aspects of a story



while downplaying or ignoring others. It acts as a mental shortcut, shaping how audiences interpret people, events, and ideas. The media, the class discussed, doesn't just report reality—it helps construct it.

As the conversation deepened, students began applying the concept beyond Ali. How are communities portrayed in the news? How do social media platforms shape perception? What stories are amplified—and which are left out?

The room grew more animated. This was no longer about a legendary boxer from decades past; it was about understanding the forces that shape their own perspectives.

The session also offered a glimpse into OWU's Summer Bridge Program, a free, three-week residential experience that many of the instructors help lead. The program offers incoming students the chance to earn academic credit while building critical thinking skills and forming a supportive community before their first semester begins.

Rooted in leadership and inclusion, Summer Bridge invites students from all backgrounds—while holding particular value for those who identify as first-generation, LGBTQIA+, neurodiverse, or from other historically underrepresented groups.

Yet, as faculty explained, its impact extends across identities. Students often leave with a stronger ability to engage in meaningful dialogue, a deeper understanding of perspectives different from their own, and a willingness to challenge assumptions—to tear down walls and build bridges.

By the end of the mini-class, the IKIC students weren't just visitors anymore. They were participants in the kind of learning that defines the OWU experience: collaborative, reflective, and grounded in real-world relevance.

And perhaps most importantly, they left with a new question in mind—one that will follow them into classrooms, conversations, and communities:

*Who chose the frame—and what might I be missing?*

*The Dr. Charles Thomas Scholarship, which supports students from Columbus City Schools, Reynoldsburg City Schools, South-Western City Schools, and Whitehall City Schools, has cemented the partnership between OWU and IKIC. Each year, up to 25 high school seniors receive financial aid covering at least full tuition for four years—an investment designed to remove financial barriers and open doors to higher education.*

# THE PIVOT

For these  
OWU  
alumni, the  
detour was  
the point.

By Elizabeth Weinstein

A theatre major became a seminary president. A religion and psychology major started baking cookies during a presidential election and quit her day job six months later. A French major went to Tunisia, worked on Wall Street, and now creates abstract paintings from a studio in Boulder. None of these career paths followed a straight line.

“I’ve done everything from disease surveillance to an unconventional bakery,” says **Khadija Adams ’04**—one of many alumni whose career has taken her in directions her college major couldn’t have predicted.

The following stories are proof that a liberal arts education is an ideal foundation for any of life’s plans—and detours.



**Gordon Felt ’85** has spent more than two decades working to keep the memory of the Sept. 11, 2001 victims alive in the public conscience. As president of Families of Flight 93, he helped lead the creation of the Flight 93 National Memorial near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, delivered remarks at its dedication, accepted a Congressional Gold Medal on behalf of the passengers and crew, and received the Service Citizens Award from the U.S. Department of the Interior in 2015. He also spoke at the Tribeca Film Festival premiere of the film *United 93* and testified before Congress on the memorial’s progress. In addition,

he spent 32 years as owner and executive director of Camp Northwood, a nationally recognized therapeutic residential program for neurodivergent children in the Adirondacks.

**A deeply rooted connection:** Gordon’s grandfather’s construction company built OWU’s Beeghly Library, Branch Rickey Field House, and the new science building. “Having walked those construction sites as a child, OWU felt like home long before I enrolled,” he recalls.

**The summer job that became a calling:** Gordon arrived at OWU intending to follow his father into a law career, but a summer job working with neurodivergent kids at Camp Northwood shifted the trajectory of his life. He switched his major to elementary education, earned a master’s in special education from Bank Street College of Education, and returned to Camp Northwood, this time staying for 38 years: first on staff, then as owner and executive director. Working with the campers, “I learned a fundamental truth



about people: success is a product of environment, not just ability,” he says. “I realized that my greatest passion wasn’t just in the curriculum, but in creating a space where people feel they truly belong.” His OWU education professor **Amy McClure ’72** reinforced that conviction—challenging him, he says, to bring “fierce advocacy” and nothing less than excellence to the lives of every student in his care.

**The day the world changed:** On Sept. 11, 2001, United Airlines Flight 93 took off from Newark, New Jersey, bound for San Francisco. It never made it there. Hijackers turned the plane toward Washington, D.C. There were 40 passengers and crew members aboard, and through courage we can only imagine, they fought back. The plane crashed in a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

One of the passengers was Edward Felt—a 41-year-old computer engineer and technology director at BEA Systems, a husband and father of two daughters, from Matawan, New Jersey. He was on a last-minute business trip, and minutes before the plane went down, he called 911 from the plane and reported a hijacking in progress. The impact of the tragedy was imprinted on everyone with a TV or internet connection—especially Edward’s brother, Gordon.

**When grief becomes a mission:** The skills he cultivated at Northwood—patience, flexibility, and the ability to build a community in which struggling children can thrive—translated directly to what came after Sept. 11. “My grief and anger had the potential to be toxic if left unchecked. To protect my family and honor my brother, I pivoted toward fierce advocacy. This wasn’t a career change in the traditional sense; it was a mission,” Gordon says, adding that his background in education gave him the tools to collaborate, lead, and focus on memorializing the collective actions of the Flight 93 passengers and crew. “Over time, my relationship to that grief has evolved from a source of pain into a source of duty—a commitment to ensuring their story is told with the dignity it deserves,” he says.

**“Would I have the courage to do what they did?”:** In speaking with students and educators, Gordon says his “ultimate hope is that when they hear the story of Flight 93, they walk away asking themselves, ‘If it were me, would I have the courage to do what they did?’ The actions of those 40 heroes serve as a timeless call to service—motivating us all to step up when faced with challenges and choose what is right over what is easy.”

**Just a starting point:** Gordon also tells students that when it comes to planning for a future, your intended path is often just a starting point. “Look for opportunities in the unexpected,” he advises. “Success isn’t about sticking to the first plan you made at age 19; it’s about having the work ethic and courage to pursue a more fulfilling future when you find it.”

## Elementary Education to 911 Advocacy

*Gordon Felt '85  
President, Families of Flight 93*





**French & International Studies to Abstract Painter**

Will Day '93  
Founder, Will Day Art  
willdayart.com

**W**ill Day '93 majored in French and International Studies at OWU, served as a Peace Corps community development agent in Tunisia, worked on Wall Street, earned a master's in architecture from Pratt Institute, and worked at architecture firms in Los Angeles before committing full-time to abstract painting in 2008. He works out of a warehouse studio in downtown Boulder, Colorado, and his large-scale works have been exhibited domestically and internationally.

**The diplomat who wasn't:** Will joined the Peace Corps first, serving as a community development agent in Tunisia. It was there, connecting with locals through painting murals and photography, that he first started thinking about art as something more than a hobby. After that, he landed on Wall Street. "Those years were a search for impact," Will says, "though I didn't yet realize how creativity would ultimately become the thread tying it all together."

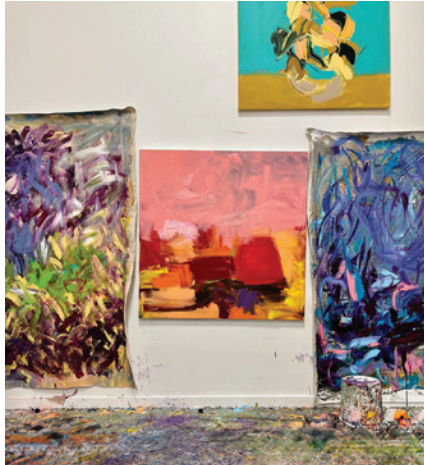
**A profound loss of normalcy:** On the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, Will, and his wife Aimee, were both working on Wall Street. Aimee worked on the 78th floor of the South

Tower of the World Trade Center, but she wasn't in the building when the second plane hit. Others in her office were not so fortunate. "In the months that followed, we grappled with a profound loss of normalcy—fear, grief, and an urgent need to rebuild meaning," Will says. "I left finance and enrolled in a master's in architecture at Pratt Institute, drawn to its structure and creativity as a way to process the chaos and create something enduring." Architecture was fulfilling, but the pull toward painting kept growing. When a layoff hit in 2007, Will was ready to make the leap.

**Painting with a plan:**

He started small—building an art inventory program, leasing his work to local businesses around Boulder, and leaning on family support. "It was a leap of faith, but one grounded in the realization that creating from chaos had always been my way forward," he says. "Over time, it grew into commissions, exhibitions, and a sustainable studio practice." In 2018, Will painted Peyton Manning for Mile High Stadium—an 8-by-7-foot abstract of the football star at the line of scrimmage, with the clock ticking and the crowd roaring. He titled it "Omaha."

**No straight lines:** Will credits Professor of Modern Romance Languages Margaret Fete with inspiring him to pursue the Peace Corps, and Kernan Robson Professor of Politics and Government Corinne Lyman with teaching him to see the world from multiple viewpoints. OWU first planted the seed, he says, "that there are no straight lines in life, which prepared me for a nonlinear path as an entrepreneur and artist." In a 2019 TEDxCU talk, he elaborated: Creativity emerges when you stop waiting for perfect conditions and instead treat chaos as raw material. "It's less a lightning bolt," he says, "and more a quiet conviction that chaos holds potential if you stay engaged."





**K**hadija Adams '04 double-majored in religion and psychology at OWU, served as a campus minister and chaplain, and then worked for government agencies before launching Deez Cookies in 2020 from her front porch in Central Ohio—conceding,

as she puts it, to the demand for her sought-after sweet potato chocolate chip cookies. A writer, justice advocate, and native New Orleanian, Khadija believes the stories we tell about food and the places they come from are as important as the food itself.

**Callings and cookies:** Khadija came to OWU expecting to become a Christian psychologist. By graduation, she had made peace with something bigger: a religious calling, which led her to work as a director of student ministry at a small Presbyterian church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Cookies were originally a ministry tool—Khadija baked with teenagers to build trust, and happily refereed their flour fights in her apartment. When she eventually left ministry, she did temporary work for government agencies, but it left her soul unfulfilled. Throughout it all, she never stopped baking, and at gatherings, people often fought over her signature sweet potato chocolate chip cookies.

**Election night, 2020:** In the days after the U.S. presidential election, with no clear winner called, her phone started ringing. Friends were scared and they needed to “eat their feelings.” “Get in the kitchen,” they told her. “We’ll pay you.” She registered an LLC online—just for the day, she thought—and had people pick up their cookie orders from her porch. She agreed to bake until they called the election. It took days, and she baked 30 dozen cookies. Then she decided to keep going—through Thanksgiving, Christmas, the inauguration, Black History Month. By July 2021, she had quit her day job.

**Storytelling through food:** Khadija credits then-Assistant Director of Student Activities Jennifer Merrill, who worked with a campus ministry organization at OWU, as the person who held her up through loss, talked her through heartbreaks, and helped her make peace with being herself. And writing—honed at OWU—became the backbone of her business. “Storytelling

through food is my thing,” she says. “It’s beautiful work. It’s hard work. It’s important to me.”

**Bridgebuilding, one box at a time:** Khadija built her small-batch bakery, Deez Cookies, around a simple conviction: food tells stories, and the stories she tells center people and communities that deserve to be celebrated. Her menu reflects it—“Georgia on My Mind,” a pecan crisp with peach coulis, was created in honor of Stacey Abrams, a politician, lawyer, and voting rights activist; “Ketanji’s Cookie,” a salted caramel brownie, earned a thank-you note from U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson herself. Boxes are curated around themes like Black History Month, Juneteenth, Hispanic Heritage Month, and women’s history. The business has faced headwinds—Khadija acknowledges that recent corporate DEI

pullbacks have cut into sales—but her resolve has only grown stronger. “Cookies are a bridgebuilding tool for us,” she says. “And there are still bridges to build.”

**Religion & Psychology to Cookie Entrepreneur**

*Khadija Adams '04  
Founder, Deez Cookies  
deezcookies.com*





## Microbiology to Finance Professional

Sarah Cunningham Kahaian '12  
Financial Advisor, Trivent  
[trivent.com](http://trivent.com)

**S**arah Cunningham Kahaian '12 majored in microbiology at OWU, began her career as a microbiologist at Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus, and eventually built a financial planning practice with her

husband, Jack, through Thrivent, a faith-based financial services organization. She describes herself as a financial professional, scientist, and bibliophile—in that order, which is not necessarily the order she expected.

**Passion vs. purpose:** Sarah arrived at OWU curious about science and left with a microbiology degree and plans to pursue a doctoral degree. When her graduate school plans fell through, she took a job as a microbiologist at Battelle Memorial Institute. Sarah loved the lab at Battelle, but “there is a significant difference between the enjoyment of learning about a subject and actually having a career based on that subject,” she says.

**An unexpected opportunity:** Her husband, Jack, was also in the midst of a career change; he planned to open his own financial advising practice, and he recognized something in her she hadn't fully claimed: a talent for analysis, organization, and teaching others that his practice needed. He asked if she would be open to building it with him. She said yes.

**Transferable skills:** Her science background turned out to be directly relevant to finance. Regulatory paperwork,

documentation, methodical thinking—none of it was new. “I've found a parallel between writing experiment reports and offering ongoing financial advice,” she says. “Both are taking big-picture goals and breaking them down into each step needed to arrive at the intended outcome.” Experiments don't always go as expected, she adds, and neither does the stock market—or human behavior.

**Above and beyond:** Sarah will never forget the lengths then-visiting assistant professor of physics and astronomy **Greg Mack '02** went to when a scheduling conflict threatened to keep her from taking his cosmology course. Long before asynchronous learning was standard practice, he recorded his lectures onto a USB drive so she and another student could still participate and get credit. “His effort and genuine desire for us to access that course is something I still reflect upon,” she says.

**Purpose, time, and faith:** At Thrivent, Sarah walks clients through a life values exercise that often reveals the same answers: family, health, faith, relationships. “Thrivent emphasizes that wealth isn't just about money; it's about purpose, time, and faith,” she says. “Though we work with investments and insurance, we are really talking about something deeper than that.” Her advice to current students: “Take the class outside your comfort zone—Shakespeare, ceramics, astronomy. Education isn't just job training; it is the gift of culture. Your path has more to do with your character and your relationships than your career—and it certainly isn't set in stone.”

**T**he Rev. Dr. Stephen Cady '01 majored in theatre at OWU, earned an M.Div. from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and a doctorate in practical theology from Princeton Theological Seminary. Before he was named president of Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas, Stephen served for 12 years as senior minister of Asbury First United Methodist Church in Rochester, New York, a Reconciling Congregation of more than 2,300 members dedicated to outreach and social justice.

**The CD-ROM:** When he was in high school in Olathe, Kansas, Stephen wasn't sure how to choose, or even identify, the right college for him. No one else in his family had been to college, but he knew he wanted to study theatre and that he was a United Methodist. The internet was in its infancy, so he went to the school counseling office, sat down at a computer, slid in a college search CD-ROM and checked two boxes: theatre and Methodist. "OWU popped up alongside a handful of other schools and I wrote to each," he says. "OWU sent me information right away and followed up with a call. It was the only school to which I applied and—to this day—the best

decision I ever made. It was also the place where I met my wife and partner in ministry, **Emily Hill Cady '01.**"

**Bound for the spotlight:** At OWU, Stephen pursued the performing arts with clear-eyed determination. "I was convinced that I was going to be an actor, and was barreling headlong into that profession," he says. "When I graduated, I had a job at a theatre company in Florida and was absolutely certain that I had earned my last degree." As it turned out, he never acted in Florida and now has a doctorate. Though he cared deeply about his faith and the inclusive and open church in which he had been raised, ministry was not yet on his radar.

**A gift of grace:** Between his junior and senior years at OWU, Stephen found himself \$1,200 short of what he needed to return for his final year. His father had lost his job and the money he'd saved over the summer had gone to help his family keep their home. He called now-professor emeritus of English Dennis Prindle—for whom he worked as a student assistant on the Sagan National Colloquium—to say he wouldn't be coming back. "Dr. Prindle paused after I told him the news and without judgment or condescension offered a simple solution," Stephen recalls. Prindle would give him the money; Stephen would pay it back over the semester from his student assistantship paychecks. "It was likely against a thousand university policies, but without that gift of grace, I don't know where I'd be today."

**Lessons from the stage:** It turns out, Stephen says, that a theatre degree was perhaps the best preparation he could have had for a life in ministry. "Yes, it helps to know how to speak publicly," he says. "More importantly, though, the gift of any artistic pursuit—including theatre—is that it forces you to pay attention to other human beings, and to care enough to connect with them." He adds, "I come back to the lessons I learned in the theatre department at OWU over and over and over again."

**The next generation:** One of Stephen's three children, **Ellie Cady '29**, is currently swimming, performing in musicals, and strolling down the JAYwalk at OWU. "Watching Ellie navigate that same campus is a gift that will last a lifetime," he says. "It reminds me of how quickly life goes. We were only at OWU for four years, but it has been with us ever since."

**Divine irony:** Stephen shares that the lowest grade he ever received at OWU—a C—was in a religion class. He now runs a divinity school. He deserved the C, he says, and it wasn't the end of the world.

## Theatre to Seminary President

Stephen Cady '01  
President, Brite Divinity School,  
Texas Christian University  
[brite.edu](http://brite.edu)



# IN THEIR OWN WORDS

More alumni insights on life's pivotal moments

“Every day is a blank Bristol board. If I’m going to create a day that is honorable and admirable, it starts with humility and patience.”

— Mark Cowper '90, sociology-anthropology major turned pen-and-ink illustrator

**Mark Cowper '90** arrived at OWU with the goal of eventually transferring to an architecture school—his dream was to design buildings. “I had been sketching houses and floorplans since I was a kid,” he says. Mark never made it to architecture school, but he never stopped drawing. Today he is the owner of Cowper, Ink., creating pen-and-ink architectural illustrations for clients across the country. His path there included a sociology degree, a stint as house advisor for his old fraternity, and years as an assistant golf professional in Delaware, Ohio. [cowperink.com](http://cowperink.com)



“At a certain point, I had to be honest with myself about what was working and what wasn’t. Walking away from something I had invested so much in wasn’t easy, but it reinforced that you’re responsible for your own path—and that making a hard call early can change everything.”

— Sam Duplessis '08, music education major turned higher education fundraiser

**Sam Duplessis '08** majored in music education at OWU and earned a master’s in conducting from the New England Conservatory. But even three concurrent jobs as a professional musician (church music director, freelance conductor, and professional singer) weren’t enough to sustain the life he wanted. A day job in admissions at the University of Chicago opened a different door. He now works in higher education development, bringing to donor relations the same philosophy he learned at the podium: “the performance only works when everyone is reading from the same score, so to speak.”



“Don’t be afraid to pivot or switch gears for a little while. Especially if you just need a paycheck while you look for something more on-brand for you. It doesn’t have to be permanent, and if it does become permanent, then was it really so bad?”

— Kevin Rossi '17, neuroscience major turned nonprofit and advancement professional

**Kevin Rossi '17** came to OWU planning to earn a doctorate in biology. By senior year, Kevin realized they were more energized by extracurriculars than research—leading their fraternity chapter, organizing in their community, and eventually chairing Laramie Pridefest. Kevin went on to work as a grant coordinator at a community foundation before returning to OWU as an advancement research analyst. And they’re currently enrolled at OWU again, taking classes thanks to a staff tuition benefit, for fun and to stay sharp.



“Hold your plans loosely, keep a learning and growth mindset, stay positive about many options, and be incredibly curious about what is next. Good to be prepared and have a plan—but also stay flexible, open, and curious about where life might take you!”

— Evelyn Walter '91, politics and government, and journalism major turned executive leadership coach



**Evelyn Walter '91** left OWU expecting to become a college administrator, went to graduate school for that, and worked on two college campuses before realizing higher education administration wasn’t the career for her. She moved into HR leadership, spending more than 25 years in global corporate environments at companies including Clorox, Vail Resorts, and Cummins before launching Next Up Leadership Group, her executive coaching and leadership consulting practice, in 2022. [nextupleadershipgroup.com](http://nextupleadershipgroup.com)

“Enjoy the journey—you don’t have to make up your mind. ... I’m grateful for the liberal arts education I had. It provided me the opportunity to take a leadership course, a math course, a science course, a musical theory course—I even took an athletic dance class.”

— L. Marshall Washington '91, elementary education major turned community college president

**L. Marshall Washington '91** was the first in his family to earn a college degree. The Columbus native spent three summers on OWU’s campus as a student in the university’s Upward Bound program before enrolling—and it was there that his path began to take shape. He majored in elementary education at OWU, where he met his wife, **Tonja Embry Washington '89**, while planning a Black History dinner—she handled the decorating; he did the cooking. “That’s still true today,” he says. Marshall has served as president of Kalamazoo Valley Community College in Michigan since 2018, and is only the third president in the institution’s history. [kvcc.edu](http://kvcc.edu)



# CELEBRATING 100 YEARS of ANNUAL GIVING

By Lindsey Allen P'28 | Alex Goldenberg '25 | Julia Prince Hatfield '06 | and Grace Lily '27

## **Julia Prince Hatfield '06** **Director of Annual Giving**

### *Grateful Hearts*

In 1926, Herman “Rusty” Shipps, Class of 1913, saw a future in which OWU’s success wasn’t tied to a few wealthy benefactors but was fueled by the collective power of its alumni. Alongside other Bishops, including Branch Rickey, Class of 1904, Rusty pioneered one of Ohio’s first annual funds, inviting every Bishop to give “in any convenient amount.”

That simple invitation sparked a 100-year tradition of transformation. From the classroom to the playing field, your annual gifts are the foundation of the OWU experience by supporting scholarships, faculty excellence, Battling Bishop athletics, internships, research, performing and fine arts, extracurriculars, and much more.

As we reflect on a century of impact, one thing remains clear: your continued support is the cornerstone of Ohio Wesleyan’s success. For 100 years, the collective generosity of Ohio Wesleyan donors has fueled the dreams of 39,009 graduates—and counting!

As your support has scaled, so has our ambition. From an expanding student body to the global impact of our alumni, your giving builds the OWU legacy. Join us as we celebrate an incredible century of giving and explore the history, milestones, and power of the OWU community.

**Here’s to another 100 years of excellence—made possible by you!**

## **Mark Shipps '70** **Former Vice President for University Relations and Special Assistant to the President**

### *A Century of Impact*

When we talk about the Ohio Wesleyan Fund turning 100, we’re not just marking time; we’re recognizing a legacy. A mindset. A commitment that carries generations of Bishops forward. To understand where that legacy began, we turned to someone who has lived it from both a personal and professional perspective: **Mark Shipps '70**.

For Mark, the story of the OWU Fund is deeply personal. He doesn’t speak of the Ohio Wesleyan Fund the way you might expect a former vice president for university relations to speak about it. He doesn’t lead with statistics or milestones. Mark leads with his grandfather. “It’s hard to think about my grandfather without thinking about Ohio Wesleyan,” he says. “He really exemplified the university to me.”

That grandfather is **Rusty Shipps, Class of 1913**, and if you spend any time in Delaware, Ohio, you start to understand what Mark means. Rusty wasn’t just an OWU employee. He was, in many ways, the connection between the institution and everyone around it.

### *Where It All Began*

In the early 20th century, higher education looked very different. Fundraising, as we know it, didn’t exist in a structured way. Colleges relied primarily on individual gifts,

without a consistent or organized system to sustain long-term needs.

Rusty saw something different.

After learning about the emerging concept of an “annual fund” at peer institutions, he brought the idea to Ohio Wesleyan, introducing a model to provide reliable, repeatable support year after year. It was a simple idea, but it forever shaped the OWU experience.

What began as a new approach to fundraising quickly became something more: a foundational piece of how OWU operates, connects, and grows. “Rusty was a pioneer,” Mark reflects. “He took an idea and built it into something that became ingrained in the culture of Ohio Wesleyan.”

For Rusty, this work was a calling. He served the university for nearly four decades, working across roles that today would span multiple offices. Fundraising, public relations, admission, alumni engagement, he did it all. But what made his impact lasting wasn’t just what he built. It was how he lived. “His life was Ohio Wesleyan,” Mark says. “Delaware was Ohio Wesleyan, and Ohio Wesleyan was Delaware.”

That deep integration, among the institution, alumni, and community, helped establish something that continues to define the Bishop experience: a sense of shared responsibility. From the very beginning, the purpose of the Ohio Wesleyan Fund was clear—tuition alone would never be enough. Then, just as now, there was a gap between what it cost to deliver an Ohio Wesleyan education and what students paid. The OWU Fund became the bridge, ensuring that opportunity, access, and excellence could continue.

That truth hasn’t changed in 100 years.

### ***Carrying the Legacy Forward***

For Mark, understanding the legacy didn’t happen all at once. It grew over time, first through his relationship with his grandfather, and later through his own involvement as an alumnus, volunteer, trustee, and ultimately vice president for university relations, the same role Rusty once held. “It became very clear to me,” Mark says, “that fundraising fills the gap. It’s essential to the institution.”



*Mark Shipp's '70*

Today, that work continues, not just in advancement offices, but across campus. In his current role as an OWU Alumni Partner with Career Connection, Mark sees firsthand how the impact of giving shows up in students’ lives. From internships and career advising to alumni mentorship and networking opportunities, the support provided through the OWU Fund reaches far beyond the classroom.

“It’s another example of the value of an OWU education,” he explains. “You see students come in needing guidance, and then leave prepared for what’s next.” Those connections don’t end at graduation. “They come back,” Mark says. “You build relationships with students, and those relationships continue. That’s been one of the most rewarding parts.”

While the foundation remains the same, the way we engage alumni and supporters has evolved. Over the years, giving has expanded beyond annual contributions to include comprehensive and capital campaigns, planned giving, and foundation support. The scale has grown. The strategies have adapted. But the core challenge, and opportunity, remain: How do we continue to inspire connection?

“There’s a lot more asking today,” Mark notes. “And people are asked for support everywhere. So the key is keeping it fresh, meaningful, and focused on the individual.”

## **Historical Timeline Events:**

The Alumni Annual Fund is established, raising \$5,289 from 863 donors in its first year.

**1926**



**1929**

The first class agents volunteer to support annual fundraising effort.



At its heart, that means telling the story of impact, clearly and authentically. It means helping alumni understand not just that they are needed, but why. Because the truth is, every Bishop's experience is made possible, in part, by those who came before them.

Today, Rusty Shipps' legacy is visible across campus, not just in a portrait on the wall, but in the growth of the institution itself. What was once a small, one-person operation has become a comprehensive effort involving teams of professionals, volunteers, and alumni worldwide. And still, the purpose remains the same: to ensure that Ohio Wesleyan continues to thrive, provide opportunities for students, and strengthen the connections that define us as Bishops.

As we celebrate 100 years of the Ohio Wesleyan Fund, we're honoring the past and looking ahead to the next generation of Bishops, the relationships they will build, and the impact they will make. "They all excite me," Mark says. "Watching students grow, succeed, and hopefully understand the importance of giving back, that's the most gratifying part."

And if Rusty could see Ohio Wesleyan today? "I think he would feel gratified," Mark reflects. "He had a good idea. He nurtured it. And it's grown."

**Robert "Bob" Holm '60**  
Former Vice President for University Relations,  
Co-Chair OWU Lifelong Learning Institute

*Building the Foundation of Impact: A 40-Year Journey*

When I graduated from Ohio Wesleyan in 1960, the Annual Fund goal stood at a modest \$200,000. My mentor at the time insisted it would never increase. Decades later, as vice president for university relations, I tossed balloons out the alumni office window to celebrate our first \$1 million milestone. When I retired in 2003, the Annual Fund



Bob Holm '60 and Mary Holm '60

had transformed from a simple fund for faculty salaries and student scholarships into a multi-million-dollar engine of opportunity.

OWU's Annual Fund focused not on fundraising mechanics but on the enduring power of long-term, personal relationships. Throughout my 40-year tenure, I fostered trust with our alumni. This philosophy of sincere connection became clear during the 1986 Trustee Challenge, where mutual respect with a trustee allowed me to make a bold ask that doubled his gift and sparked a 50 percent surge in support for OWU's Annual Fund.

Relationships remained at the heart of my work during capital campaigns as well. By truly hearing an alum's vision rather than just citing needs, I was able to transition a modest \$300 donor into a \$5 million partner in our mission. Today, campus buildings and OWU's growth are more than milestones; they represent meaningful relationships.

My wife, Mary '60, and I continue to nurture lasting connections through the Lifelong Learning Institute, honoring a legacy of lifelong bonds and personal growth that defines our journey with Ohio Wesleyan.

**Marvin Elias '66**  
Celebrated a 60th Reunion in May!

*A Flashback in Time: Marvin Elias '66 Reflects on Ohio Wesleyan's Annual Fund at the time of its 50th anniversary*

In 1966, Ohio Wesleyan's morning ritual had a distinct cadence. For Marvin Elias, it started with a nice breakfast of eggs, bacon, and homemade fries in Welch Hall, a relatively new dorm. Students walked past Gray Chapel on the way to morning classes at 9 a.m. He described it as a good life, a whole one. And it unfolded against a backdrop unlike anything OWU students had experienced before.

The OWU Fund was gradually approaching its 50th anniversary when Marvin was a student. Over the summer break, current students had the chance to interact with returning alumni during reunion weekends. "Meeting those alumni left an impression," Marvin recalls. He remembers alumni from the Class of 1916 staying with him to celebrate their 50th reunion. "They shared journeys to the Olentangy, football games—all before the fraternity houses on campus as we know them today were built."

Marvin distinctly remembers how proud the alumni were to have an education. "They had a very Wesleyan attitude, that since they got their education, they were going to use it." This was Marvin's first glimpse into the larger inner workings of the OWU alumni network.

That gap between student life and alumni identity would close only with time for Marvin and his classmates. In 1966, a lot was happening off campus that captured people's attention.

Perhaps more subtly than on larger campuses, OWU was affected by the Vietnam War, which hovered over the country's psyche. In 1965, troop buildups started,

and some OWU students participated in local protests and organizational meetings. However, Marvin recalls that the campus reaction was more conversation-focused than combative. The African Students Association and the Congress on Race Relations directed the energy of the time into deliberate, neighborhood-oriented discourse. "Activism remained peaceful," he says. "There was real awareness, but also real restraint."

The social and intellectual culture of campus life burned brilliantly at its core, while the political atmosphere simmered at its periphery. Sororities and fraternities had a significant role. Football Saturdays attracted loyal audiences. Additionally, nights frequently brought together a fairly diverse group of students, many of whom were from abroad, for lengthy, meandering chats and shared meals.

For Marvin, nothing better encapsulated the spirit of that time than Dr. Daniel E. Anderson's philosophy courses. Students were intellectually challenged in three-hour classes, which invariably spilled over into the pubs on Sandusky Street and North Church Street, where debates and discussions went on for hours. "These experiences weren't just academic," Marvin muses. "They influenced our growth, how we challenged one another, and how we thought."

As a student on campus in the late '60s, Marvin thought about philosophy seminars, football games, and late nights on Sandusky Street, not about the mechanics of alumni giving. What he knows now is that the OWU Fund was always working in the background during those years, creating and sustaining possibilities. Marvin's job is simply to return the favor, so that the next generation of students can also walk past Gray Chapel on a Tuesday morning, focusing on their studies and friendships.

The Class of 1936 dedicates their senior class gift to purchasing new lamps for Slocum Library, an example of our Senior Class Gift tradition, dating back to 1875, in action!

**Seniors to Provide Library Equipment**  
New lamps for the browsing room and \$100 for library books have been selected as the senior gift to Ohio Wesleyan university. The books will be popular ones for general reading which will be added to those regularly bought for the library.  
John Kirk and Barbara Lynch were recently elected to serve as president and secretary, respectively, for the outgoing senior class. Tracy Jones was chosen class agent. The officers will serve for a five year term.



1936



1941

**Million Dollar Drive Starts Centennial**

By Lyn Doudna  
"Even though we do have the national defense program with the draft, I'm sure the enrollment at Ohio Wesleyan will not decrease but rather increase because of the Centennial celebration next year."  
Dr. H. J. Borgestaker, president, told members of the Ohio Wesleyan student body when they attended the first chapel after spring vacation.  
**\$1,000,000 Drive**  
Dr. Borgestaker also referred to the current drive for a million dollar Centennial fund.  
With the initial pledge of \$100,000 made by some forty clubs in Delaware county the Ohio Wesleyan Centennial fund drive was launched April 1 with a banquet given by the Delaware Chamber of Commerce.  
Easier explained by four members of the student body and G. W. Young, director of publicity, in a radio broadcast over WHKC in Columbus which is under the direction of Michael Desmond, of the Columbus Citizen, the fund will be used for the liquidation of debts, erection of a freshmen men's dormitory, remodeling of old buildings and the building up of the college endowment.

Ohio Wesleyan embarks on a Centennial fund drive, seeking to raise \$1 million in celebration of the university's 100th anniversary.

The Annual Fund celebrates surpassing \$1 million with contributions from 6,000 donors.

1985



1991

The Tower Society, OWU's legacy giving society, is established.



**Donna Burtch '79**  
Former Assistant Director and Director of Annual Giving



Donna Burtch '79 and Ron Stephany '66

**From Data to Connection: Redefining Impact Through the Ohio Wesleyan Fund**

When Donna Burtch '79 led annual giving at Ohio Wesleyan, the tools of the trade were humble: the team shared “dumb monitors” on wheels, maintained paper-based records, and sent thank-you notes dictated and transcribed in a completely different campus office. She had no idea that

she was at the start of a revolution that would change Ohio Wesleyan's relationship with its alumni for future generations.

“The shift was huge,” Donna remembers. What previously took days or longer became far more efficient as technology developed. Previously delayed information became instantaneous, giving individuals involved in donor interaction additional authority. “This evolution substantially increased our ability to comprehend alumni needs, making our efforts more timely and impactful.”

Early outreach was simple but direct: widely distributed direct mail and straightforward segmentation to separate

previous donors from those who had not yet donated. Though it left a lot on the table, it did work. The environment was completely altered by the time Donna returned to OWU later in her career, with computers on every desk and data at her fingertips. The opportunities also shifted. Donors could now be separated into categories based on their tendencies, giving history, and even the season in which they were most likely to donate. Engagement aligned with donors' true identities and interests replaced generalized outreach.

Nevertheless, Donna emphasizes that increased data did not necessarily translate into improved fundraising. “One challenge was not over-measuring everything,” she said. There was a strong urge to monitor every aspect as information became more widely available. She recognized that maintaining focus on what really mattered was the key to perseverance in this area of work, and now mass data. “Impact” changed from a volume issue to a relationship issue. “An OWU giving experience should reflect the value of an OWU education: something lasting and meaningful.” Donna is confident that the foundation of the work remained unchanged despite all the technological advancements she saw and supported. “We made a conscious effort to keep things personal,” she says. Through phone calls, volunteer networks, and real human touch, the OWU team purposefully resisted the tendency for technology to turn the process into a transaction.

Perhaps the greatest takeaway of Donna's time at Ohio Wesleyan was the balance: embracing innovation without losing the human touch. She sees the OWU Fund's future as preserving that same discipline as it enters its second century: staying in step with the university's changing demands, learning from colleagues in the field, keeping an open mind to new digital tactics, and never losing sight of the fundamentals. “Supporting what OWU needs to thrive,” she says. “That's what it's always been about.”

**Lindsey Gale '98**  
Former OWU Associate Director of Major Gifts and Director of Donor Relations

**Impact Through Relationships and Lifelong Engagement**

My OWU experience transformed me. I participated as a student, especially in my sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma. My involvement in the organization provided the foundation for my career success. I served as recruitment chair for my sorority and oversaw recruitment for the entire university through Panhel. As a student, I formed meaningful connections by meeting people in those organizations and building friendships.

A few years after graduation, my Kappa advisor, Alissa Comella, encouraged me to become an annual giving volunteer for my class. Her leadership as OWU's director of annual giving inspired me to join and rapidly expand my volunteer responsibilities. I coordinated outreach across the decade's worth of 1990s graduates. My time as an annual giving volunteer led me to become a major gift officer, where I learned how to build authentic relationships, express gratitude for their gifts, and share the impact of their generosity. My time in annual giving at OWU launched my fundraising career. I spent more than 20 years in various fundraising roles.

The friendships born during my time at OWU are among the deepest I have known. We are a family. One thing that makes OWU special is that when I meet an OWU alum, regardless of class, our connection is immediate. Decades

later, I still treasure the friendships I built with those who endowed scholarships alongside me over 20 years ago, which taught me the value of relationships and stewardship.

A meaningful relationship for me has been with the late Pete Lee '65, whose friendship and mentorship spanned decades. We became dear friends when I worked the OWU lacrosse reunions in Lake Placid. We visited Bun's in Delaware and with each other's families at our homes in California and Ohio.

Throughout my time at OWU, I learned to prioritize two core values: integrity and empathy. Above all, action defines us more than promises; you are what you do, not what you say you'll do. Furthermore, I am moved by Maya Angelou's words, “People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but they will never forget how you made them feel.” This quote is why I lead with empathy and genuine care for people.

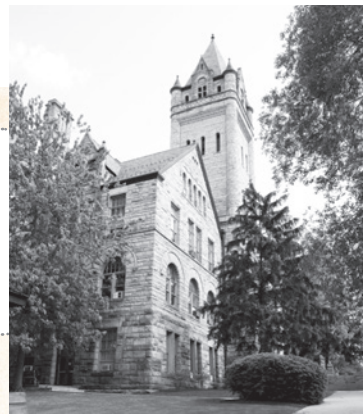
I have deep love and gratitude for all that OWU has given me. I can never fully repay, in time or money, everything I have received and continue to receive from OWU. My OWU experience anchors my entire professional journey.



Lindsey Gale '98 and Pete Lee '65

Stay in the loop with all of our 100th anniversary content at [owu.edu/100AG](http://owu.edu/100AG)

Mark Shipp's '70, as chair of the Ohio Wesleyan Associates, spearheads the \$1.1M “Raise the Roof” campaign to restore University Hall.



1996

2004



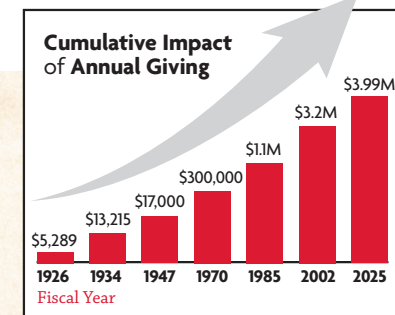
In celebration of the 100th anniversary of Branch Rickey's 1904 graduation, OWU launches Team OWU with the “Remembering Mr. Rickey” campaign in support of varsity athletics.

The Connect Today, Create Tomorrow Campaign, the largest in OWU history, concludes, raising nearly \$238M.



2021

**CONNECT TODAY**  
create tomorrow



2026



Celebrating the 100th anniversary of Annual Giving!

# comfortzones

## Paul Dean: Merrick Hall Classrooms

Classroom spaces are seen as functional, often lacking distinct aesthetics. Yet these spaces are where a professor is most at ease and where their calling comes to life. For Paul Dean, professor and chair of sociology and anthropology, the classroom is deeply personal—where he finds growth, purpose, and peace.

Paul's work in the classroom extends beyond theory. He is especially committed to first-generation college students, recognizing their entry into higher education often comes with unfamiliar expectations and a sense of isolation. He believes that the skills and resilience developed in their home communities are pathways for success.

### 1 Wear It. Live It. Belong.

OWU's *first-gen* community is growing, and Paul is integrally involved in collaborating with faculty and staff to ensure students are supported in relevant and intentional ways. "I want all students—including first-gen students—to know they belong here at OWU," says Paul.

### 2 Hidden Strengths

Paul's third authored book, *Class Cultures and Social Mobility: The Hidden Strengths of Working-Class First-Generation Graduates*, explores how first-gen students and graduates learn the unwritten rules of college and the professional world, finding ways to transform their class background into a strength and source of pride.

### 3 Rethinking the American Dream

In 2019, Paul traveled to Denmark with first-gen students—drawn by its top global ranking in social mobility—to better understand why it often outperforms the United States in achieving the "American Dream." The trip became one of his most impactful experiences, deepening his awareness of how structural barriers shape opportunity beyond individual effort.

### 4 "Good Trouble" Meets Good Teaching

Paul met his personal hero, John Lewis—a civil rights icon and fellow first-generation graduate—when John visited OWU to receive an honorary doctorate in 2014. As chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, he helped organize the March on Washington and was its youngest speaker, later earning the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2011. John's lifelong courage and commitment to equity are why he remains, to Paul, a true civil rights icon.

### 5 Lessons from Movements

Paul visited Argentina with students as part of a broader effort to study the power of social movements. More specifically, they examined a renowned women-led social movement. The ceramic art is from the *Madres de Plaza de Mayo*, whose white headscarves symbolize their struggle against the military dictatorship in Argentina.

### 6 The Wire

Paul stands 10 toes down on the belief that the HBO TV series *The Wire*, a drama focusing on the Baltimore drug scene, is the best television series of all time! Consequently, he taught a class centered entirely on the show to introduce relevant sociological concepts.

### 7 From Classroom to Community

In many of his courses, Paul uses service learning as a central teaching approach, placing students in the community through hands-on projects. This book reflects the meaningful work that emerges from those experiences and highlights the contributions of community partners.

### 8 Office Hours with Kerouac

If you visit Paul's office or see him around campus, you are likely to meet his very friendly and very cute dog, Kerouac, who is always happy to receive plenty of pets. Some folks have their fingers crossed that Penny, President vandenBerg's dog, and Kerouac might become OWU's next great love story.

### 9 Merrick Hall

"My comfort zone is in the classroom, working with our amazing students. I especially love teaching in historic Merrick Hall, where the classrooms are designed to enable seminar discussions and student interaction."



# Championship Teams

## Field Hockey

Ohio Wesleyan finished the year as NCAC Regular Season Tri-Champions, splitting the title with Denison and DePauw. The Battling Bishops earned the one-seed in the NCAC Tournament with an 8-1 record in the conference before ending the season at 11-6 following a 2-1 overtime loss in the NCAC Tournament Championship.

## Women's Cross Country

The Red and Black secured their first NCAC title in women's cross country with a team score of 43 at the NCAC Championship. Three Bishops crossed the finish line in the top-10 at the conference championship meet, led by NCAC Runner of the Year **Zoe Ward '27** in first with a time of 22:10.9. Zoe went on to earn All-Region honors alongside teammates **Brianna Montgomery '27**, and **Sophie Cotts '27** before competing at the NCAA Division III Championship, where she finished 42nd.

## Men's Lacrosse

The Battling Bishops collected their 23rd NCAC Championship with an unprecedented five-way tie for first place with Denison, Kenyon, Oberlin, and Wooster—all finishing with a 6-2 conference record. OWU would rise above all with their second-straight and fourth overall NCAC Tournament Championship with a 14-12 semifinal win over Denison and a dominant 12-4 victory at Oberlin in the title game. The Bishops earned their 36th NCAA tournament appearance and faced Grove City in the first round at Selby Stadium, unfortunately ending in a 14-9 loss and leaving their record for the season at 11-7.

# Record Breakers



**Major:** Undeclared  
**Hometown:** Westerville, Ohio  
**Katherine Dortmund '28** dropped four individual records and one relay record across indoor and outdoor track & field this season. During the indoor season, she put her name atop the record boards for the 60-meter dash at 7.72 and the 60-meter hurdles at 8.55. Her performance in the 60-meter hurdles earned her a spot in the NCAA Division III Indoor Championship final, where she placed third in the nation, earning All-American First Team status.

Katherine continued to dominate on the outdoor track, setting new marks for the 100-meter dash at 12.00 and the 100-meter hurdles at 13.84, as well as teaming up with **Kennedy Elfers '28**, **Alaina Nathan '29**, and **Aelyn Baumbarger '28** for a new record in the 4x100-meter relay at 46.99.



**Majors:** Biology/Exercise Science  
**Hometown:** Marysville, Ohio  
**Macy Miller '27** led the women's basketball team to an outstanding season in 2025-26, finishing with a 21-6 overall record—11-3 in the NCAC—and earning the Battling Bishops' fourth-straight NCAA Tournament appearance. On January 14 against Kenyon, she became the 20th player in OWU women's basketball history to surpass 1,000 career points. Two weeks earlier against Oberlin, Macy pulled down a career-high 20 rebounds—the most in a single game since 2000. After the season, she was selected as a consensus All-American by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association and D3hoops.com, as well as the D3hoops.com Regional Player of the Year and the NCAC Player of the Year. Macy also received academic recognition as a College Sports Communicators First-Team Academic All-American and a Jostens Trophy Finalist.

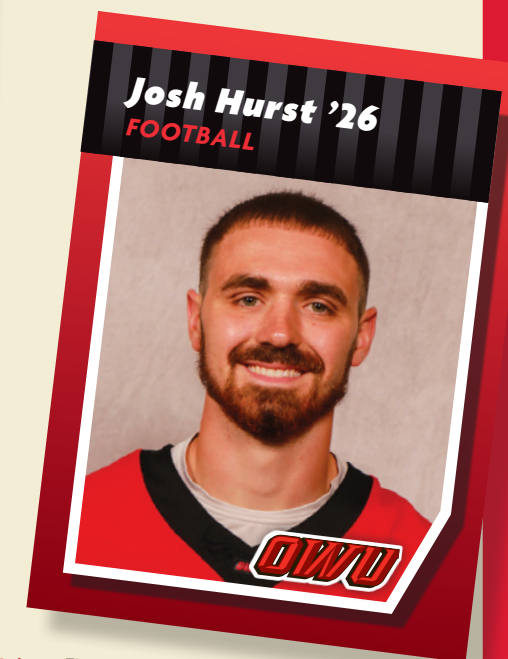


**Major:** Undeclared  
**Hometown:** Marysville, Ohio  
**Connor Smith '27** hopped his way into the history books during the indoor track & field season, becoming the first Ohio Wesleyan men's track & field national champion since 2002 with a mark of 2.12 meters (6' 11.5") at the NCAA Division III Indoor Championships in the high jump. He is the 19th individual national champion in school history—the first since 2019—and the 12th for the men's track & field program.

Connor also had his fair share of records on the track, setting two this season as a member of the Red and Black's sprint relay teams. During the indoor season, he teamed up with **Nate Snead '28**, **Ryan Tripp '26**, and **Joe Larkins '26** to run a 1:26.46 in the 4x200-meter relay. On the outdoor track, he was back at it with **Joel Adade '27**, Ryan, and Nate to set a new mark in the 4x100-meter relay at 41.36.



**Majors:** Pre-Med/Neuroscience  
**Hometown:** Long Beach, California  
**Noah Citek '26** was dominant on the faceoff for the Red and Black lacrosse this season and throughout his career. Most recently, he set the single-game record for faceoff wins with 27 as well as the single-game record for ground balls with 22, breaking both records at John Carroll on April 18. This season, Noah also broke the career records for faceoff wins and ground balls, doing so early in the season and continuing to create separation on the all-time OWU leaderboards, finishing his career at 800 career faceoff wins and 536 career ground balls faceoff wins. He also ended up setting new single-season records with 266 wins and 192 ground balls this year.



**Majors:** Finance  
**Hometown:** Port Clinton, Ohio  
**Josh Hurst '26** wrote his name into the 135-year history of the Ohio Wesleyan football program this season, setting the program record for career receptions. On November 15, in his final game at Selby Stadium, Josh caught seven passes to push his career total to 200—two more than the previous record set in 2014. He was a third-team all-conference selection and was elected to the National Football Foundation Hampshire Honor Society Class of 2026.

Long-time Ohio Wesleyan Sports Information Director **Mark Beckenbach '81** retired in 2025, turning over the reins of athletic communications to Brendan Eagan. OWU is grateful for Mark's dedication to the university and the impact he made on Bishop Athletics and the profession of sports information. Read more about Mark at <https://ncac.short.gy/K13u8p>



Meeting up at Bishop Fest during 2025 Homecoming & Family Weekend. From left, **Tom Boaz '77**, **Gordon Witkin '77**, **Mark Wallhauser '77**, and **Eric Tillman '77**.



Diving into OWU at the 2025 Swimming & Diving Reception at Homecoming & Family Weekend. From left, **Sabrina Amato '19**, **Shannon Bermingham '19**, **Grace Bulchik '18**, **Kari Seymour Green '18**, and **Tyler Mansfield**.



Gathering at the 2025 Reunion Weekend Affinity Social. From left, **Katriina Laine '00**, **Nadira De Abrew '00**, **Ellen Marukhlenko '00**, and **Ferry Oriyo '00**.



2025 OWU Near You, Houston Edition! From left, **Swetha Narayanan '13**, **Heather Roberts**, **Kelsey Ullom '14**, **Jennifer Schmitt '12**, and **Jenelle Collier '20**.



Members of the Class of 1975 enjoy their 50th Reunion Dinner. From left, **Sue Bottiggi '75**, **Chip Visci '75**, **Lynne Joanedis Doyle '75**, and **Brian Burby '75**.

2025 Winners of the David Hamilton Smith Greek Alumni Award: **Larry Spees '60**, Alpha Sigma Phi, and **Doreen DeLaney Crawley '91**, Delta Sigma Theta.



Bishops at the New York Holiday party include, from left, **Joe Lash '85, P'26, Marilyn Baer '14, Malcolm Clark '14, Kelly Tang P'26, Hamburg Tang P'26.**



Friends gather at the Class of 1976 50th Reunion Dinner. From left, **Debbie Hunt Kraft '76, Diane Maheras Johnsen Parks '76, Kathy Wenzlau Comer '76, Lynne Joanedis Doyle '75, Ruth Robbins '76, Milana Milanovich Milosh '76, Susan Craig Guernsey '76**



**Marge Hostetler Gillespie '61, Richard Gillespie '61, and Frank Middleton '61** take a break at the ice cream social during Reunion Weekend 2026.

Alumni board members enjoy the Columbus Holiday Party. From left, **Sean Harris '97, Victoria Joshua Gresh '88, Mitchell Briant '07, Denise Sabo Brenner '00, Wyatt Wells '23, Alex Goldenberg '25.**



## alumnicalendar

Alumni, families, and friends, join us for these upcoming gatherings. Visit [owu.edu/alumni](http://owu.edu/alumni) for details and to register.

**September 9-17, 2026**  
**OWU Near You**  
 Visit [owu.edu/nearyou](http://owu.edu/nearyou) for locations

**October 2-3, 2026**  
**Homecoming & Family Weekend featuring the 10th Anniversary of Women of Ohio Wesleyan (WOW)**  
 Includes "W" Association Hall of Fame Induction, David Hamilton Smith Reception, Bishop Tailgate, and much more. Visit [owu.edu/hfw](http://owu.edu/hfw) for details.

**December 2026**  
**OWU Holiday Parties**  
 Visit [owu.edu/alumni](http://owu.edu/alumni) for more information as it becomes available.

**May 14-16, 2027**  
**Reunion Weekend**  
 Celebrating classes ending in '2 and '7. Visit [owu.edu/rw](http://owu.edu/rw) for details.

**Kira Bailey**, department chair, neuroscience program director, and Endowed David O. Robbins Associate Professor of Psychology, published two peer-reviewed articles in *The International Journal of Human-Computer Interaction* and the *Journal of Environmental Psychology*. The first, “Bidirectional Longitudinal Associations Between Emotional Regulation, Perceived Stress, and Multiple Indices of Smartphone Use Among Young-Adult Women,” was co-authored with **Chris Modica**, associate professor of psychology. In it, they examine the prospective associations between perceived stress, indices of smartphone use, and emotion regulation among young adult women. The second, “When Science Isn’t Beautiful: Lab Aesthetics Impact Reaction Times and Reactive Cognitive Control,” was co-authored with alumni **Chandler Carr ’24**, **Audrey Propp ’24**, and **Kayla Saikaly ’24**. They explored the effect of decorating a lab space—through the addition of a rug, faux plants, artwork, and improved furniture—on participants’ inhibitory control and emotional reactivity.

**Josie Bair**, executive director of the OWL Program, had a very productive year. She published “Unlocking Poetry: A Classroom Strategy for Dialogue, Identity, and Interpretation” in the *Ohio Journal of English Language Arts*. The article explores instructional strategies that use poetry to spark classroom dialogue, support student identity development, and deepen interpretation. Bair shares practical approaches that help students engage with poems through discussion, reflection, and writing, demonstrating how poetry can create meaningful connections between personal experience and literary analysis. Bair and alumnus **Matthew Berkal ’91** presented “Remembering Ourselves: Integrating Poetry and Personal Narrative for Gifted Learners” at the Ohio Association for Gifted Children Fall Conference. Their session explored instructional strategies that use poetry and personal narrative to support identity development, dialogue, and interpretation among gifted students. Bair also presented “From Canvas to Composition: Using Art to Inspire Reading and Writing” at the Ohio Council of Teachers of English Language Arts (OCTELA) conference. Her session explored instructional strategies for integrating visual art into literacy instruction to enhance student engagement, critical thinking, and written expression. The presentation highlighted practical classroom approaches for using artwork as a catalyst for reading comprehension, discussion, and both creative and analytical writing activities.

**Paul Dean**, department chair and professor of sociology and anthropology, wrote a new book titled *Class Cultures and Social Mobility: The Hidden Strengths of Working-Class First-*

*Generation Graduates*. It’s a topic near to Dean’s heart, as he was the first in his family to attend college. The book tells the stories of upwardly mobile first-generation graduates who flipped the script and turned their working-class roots into a strength. This accessible and engaging book reveals how first-generation graduates overcame hardship while leveraging unique skills—their working-class cultural capital—in their college and professional careers. It demonstrates that there need not be a choice between economic success and maintaining authenticity to one’s roots; it is possible to balance the competing demands of both class worlds. Relatedly, Dean gave a presentation, “Why We Celebrate First-Gen Students and Graduates,” for the premier event of OWU’s First-Gen Week and was interviewed on WDLR’s “Off the Shelf” radio program/podcast to discuss the book.

**Lauren Hensley**, director of holistic advising, and **Amy Collins ’05** co-authored two publications centered on student success. Their article, “Defining Academic Success: How Health Sciences Undergraduates Describe Success in Terms of Performance and Mastery Orientations,” was published in the *Journal of Post-secondary Student Success*. Their book chapter, “Promoting Academic Success By Fostering College Students’ Self-Regulated Learning Skills,” is featured in the *Handbook on Postsecondary Student Success*.

**Sarah Kaka**, associate professor and Endowed Ralph & Ella Schaaf Rodefer Chair in Education, was highly productive this past year. She was the lead editor for the newly published volume by Bloomsbury, “Teacher Educators as Scholar Citizens: Activism and Resistance in Uncertain Times.” She and **Jamie Deitz**, assistant professor of education, co-authored “Building Brave Communities: How People Work Together For Change” in *Social Studies Research in Practice*. In it, they share a turn-key lesson for grades 3-4 that leverages three recent NCSST Notable Social Studies Trade Books to help students examine civic rights, responsibilities, and collective action while strengthening disciplinary literacy skills. Kaka published two articles engaging AI: “Bots and Beginners: A Comparative Study of AI- and PST-Generated Social Studies Lesson Plans” in the *Journal of Social Studies Research* and “Can ChatGPT Make Quality Social Studies Lesson Plans? The Answer Surprised



**David Johnson**, professor emeritus of botany and microbiology, published two companion articles on ecological transitions and long-distance bird dispersal of pantropical Bitterwood trees in *Frontiers of Biogeography* and *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*. The studies involved field and museum research, DNA-based evolutionary reconstructions, and biogeographic modeling. Co-authors of both articles include **Keegan Floyd ’26**, **Greg Stull ’10**, and **Nancy Murray**, curator of the Jason Swallen Herbarium, and collaborators in France and Australia. Alumnus Keegan Floyd’s research was funded by **Dr. Bruce Roberts**, adjunct professor of botany and microbiology, and the Jason Swallen Herbarium. In “Synchronous Miocene radiations and geographic-dependent diversification of pantropical Xylopia (Annonaceae),” the authors used the pantropical Xylopia (Annonaceae) genus to address the diversification of rain forest lineages over time, across different regions, and into novel non-rain forest habitats. In “Long-distance dispersals and ecological transitions underlie the biogeographic expansion of the pantropical magnoliid genus Xylopia (Annonaceae),” the authors examine how biogeographic and ecological transitions have shaped the genus’s present-day distribution.

Us” in *Social Education*. In the latter, they compare AI- and teacher-created lesson plans to show where generative tools like ChatGPT can support inquiry-based social studies instruction and where they fall short. She co-authored “Big Thinking for Little Learners: Making Social Studies Accessible with Micro-Inquiries” in *Social Studies and the Young Learner* and “Navigating ‘Divisive’ Issues in Social Studies Education: Practical Guidance for Teachers” in *The Councillor: A National Journal of the Social Studies*. Kaka also delivered numerous presentations at professional conferences: “Revolutionary Thinking: Exploring Historical Change Through Inquiry” at the Ohio Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference in Columbus, OH; “Empowering Teachers in Contentious Times: Building Communities of Practice,” and “Putting Designery Citizenship in the Driver’s Seat” at the National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.; “Teacher Educators as Scholar Citizens: Faculty Activism in Troubled Times,” “Bots and beginners: A comparative study of AI- and PST-generated social studies lesson plans,” and a workshop, “Making Inquiry Practical in Politically Contentious Times” at the College and University Faculty Association of the National Council for the Social Studies Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

**Donald Lateiner**, John R. Wright professor emeritus of humanities-classics, published “Silence and Stillness in Heliodoros’ *Aithiopika*” in *Classical Philology*. The article examines how female characters manipulate awkward situations to influence captors and kings to their advantage, focusing in particular on how they employ silence and stillness both as emotional responses and as strategies for evading unwanted outcomes.

**Chris Modica**, associate professor of psychology, co-authored and published three peer-reviewed articles in *Behavioral Sciences and Law*, *Journal of Family Psychology*, and *The International Journal of Human-Computer Interaction*. The first, “Public Estimations and Attitudes Towards the Insanity Plea in the United States: A Replication of Seminal Studies From the 1980s,” was co-authored with alumnus **Charis Blake ’23**, who recently

graduated from the University of Dundee in Scotland with a Master’s in Psychology. They offer insights into why attitudes and estimations about the frequency and success of the insanity plea may have shifted over the past 40 years and how this knowledge can be useful to lawyers or psychologists when considering jury pools. The second, “Developing A Measure of The Dialectics of Parenting Adult Children As Sources of Intergenerational Ambivalence,” introduces a new way to understand the mixed and sometimes conflicting feelings parents have about their adult children. Instead of focusing on emotional ups and downs, they examined situations in which parents hold beliefs or act in ways that seem to contradict each other. The last, “Bidirectional Longitudinal Associations Between Emotional Regulation, Perceived Stress, and Multiple Indices of Smartphone Use Among Young-Adult Women,” was co-authored with **Kira Bailey**, Endowed David O. Robbins Associate Professor of Psychology. In the article, they examine prospective associations between perceived stress and indices of smartphone use, and emotion regulation among young adult women.

**Chris Wolverton**, Endowed Albert M. Austin Professor of Natural Sciences, presented his research on gravity

sensing and space crops to the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Biological and Physical Sciences in Space. He also co-authored “Angle Dependence as a Unifying Feature of Root Graviresponse Modules” in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. His co-authors included research partners from The University of Leeds and alumnus **Iftexhar Showpnil ’13**.

**Julide Yazar**, Endowed James B. Heisler and Charles L. & Elizabeth Quayle Merwin Professor of Economics, presented a paper at the 28th Annual Workshop on Economics with Heterogeneous Interacting Agents (WEHIA) at Queen Mary University of London, England. The paper, “Estimating Fundamental News Innovations and Sentiment in Agent-Based Models Using Natural Language Processing of Market News,” uses a large language model to extract daily price outlook scores from financial news and incorporates them as predictors of the fundamental component. Her conclusion is that news-informed specification significantly outperforms the standard random innovation model. In other words, using news in this way does a much better job of explaining stock movements than older models that assume stock returns arise from changes in fundamental value and herding-driven sentiment swings among traders.



**Shari Stone-Mediator**, professor of philosophy, spoke about the need for fair and inclusive parole systems on a panel led by Project Sound Off and the MacArthur Justice Center’s National Parole Transformation Project. She joined award-winning author Ben Austen, State Representative Kevin Olickal, and community activist Jasmine Smith in a discussion about a variety of social movements and legislation that aim to transform parole, and by extension, the system as a whole.

## A Brighter Spectrum

**S**arah Kovit Hanna '07 is a member of a lost generation.

For years, women were not diagnosed with autism because the research focused on boys. Today, Sarah is anything but lost. With purpose and determination, she is navigating the world of autism through The Positivity Spectrum, a nonprofit she founded to build a more supportive and inclusive world for children with autism and their families.

It wasn't Sarah's diagnosis that prompted her to establish The Positivity Spectrum. It was her son Jacob's autism diagnosis that inspired her to jump into action. For a full-time corporate attorney and a single mom, the diagnosis was challenging. "I would have to get Jacob to these appointments," Sarah recalls. "I remember sitting in my car and having my laptops and stacks of papers. Because I was negotiating multi-million dollar contracts while my kid was in his appointment."

Despite her stress, it didn't take Sarah long to notice that other autism families experience even more roadblocks. "The more involved I got, the more inequities I saw," she says. "The more money you have, the more affluent you are, the more likely your kid is likely to be part of what is considered one of the 'successful outcomes' because you pay the equivalent of a mortgage per month for therapy services *after* insurance. Plus, you have to have a job that allows you flexibility."

Sarah counts herself fortunate that she has the means to pay for an autism diagnosis for her son privately and also that her company allows her to work remotely. Others are not as lucky.

"The diagnosis rate right now is 1 in 31, but there is often a two- to three-year backlog in getting your kid diagnosed if you're using insurance."



**"If you build it, they really will come."**

— Sarah Kovit Hanna '07 on building infrastructure for autism services

Sarah continued noticing inequities in the world of autism but the primary catalyst for starting a nonprofit happened when Jacob went to kindergarten. "Within my 45-minute surrounding area, there are no full-day, all-summer childcare options for autistic children" she says. "The social and emotional progress your child makes will regress when they are home alone."

Sarah explored options at her local YMCA and discovered autism is not a hurdle for a child to enroll in summer camp. "What they couldn't provide is an aid for my son because it would be overly burdensome for them and open the floodgates to them having to offer the same accommodation to anyone else who asked for it. I basically said, 'game on.'"

Emboldened with her purpose, Sarah is paving the way for children with autism to access recreational spaces such as Sky Zone. She started a school-based "Mission Inclusion" program to educate children and teachers about autism. The secret-agent-themed program includes a book Sarah wrote, *Sid the Kid Detective*, and a pamphlet for parents.

Sarah's next step was to set up a free legal clinic, which launched in August 2025. "We've received wonderful feedback from lawyers willing to help for free," Sarah says. "Phase 1 is IEP advocacy. Phase 2 will be special needs trusts."

Sarah will laugh and tell you energy drinks fuel her, but what ignites her is the opportunity to build infrastructure for autism services. "Goodwill is there—nobody is saying no they won't help. But the infrastructure needs to be there. I've found that if you build it, they really will come. I'm not afraid of the ask, and I'm not afraid of the no. My gift is in connecting the pieces."



**We want to hear from you**

Please send us your news using the form [owu.edu/classnotes](http://owu.edu/classnotes). Or email your news to [classnotes@owu.edu](mailto:classnotes@owu.edu). Submissions may be edited for space or clarity.

Include your name and class year as well as a daytime phone number. High-resolution photographs are welcome.

You can also submit your news to:  
Attn: Class Notes Editor  
OWU Magazine  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
Mowry Alumni Center  
61 S. Sandusky St.  
Delaware, OH 43015



# classnotes

Thank you to all who sent in submissions for Class Notes. Due to space limitations, we ask that entries be limited to 100 words. To submit Class Notes items, please use the form at [owu.edu/classnotes](http://owu.edu/classnotes).

## General/Multi-Year

Twelve OWU Sig Eps, including 10 from the class of 1980, recently celebrated almost 50 years of friendship at a reunion in sunny Siesta Key, FL. They hope to see all of the class of 1980 at the 50th class reunion in May 2030.



Pictured, left to right: **Dave Taylor '80, Tom Waltz '79, Rob Durham '80, Stu Tubbs '80, John Bartlett '80, John Joseph '79, Shawn Martin '80, Conrad Rugart '80, Gil Goetz '80, Steve Goldberg '80, Gerry Kenworthy '80, and Tim Koltun '80.**



In 2015, Write to Be was founded by **Kate Raulin Carney '12, Courtney Durham Shane '12, Rachel Vinciguerra '14, and Kelsey Ullom '14.** Write to Be originally operated at Pwoje Espwa in Haiti thanks to a connection from **Doug Dittrick '55.** It started as a pen pal program between American women and Haitian girls, now blossoming into a comprehensive, community-based support initiative. In its early years, Write to Be was run by Rachel, Kelsey, Kate, **Brenda Gable '15, Emma Sparks '16, and Lizzy Wynne '16.**

In October, OWU alumni and other WTB supporters gathered in Washington, D.C. to celebrate 10 years of their work in Haiti. In attendance were: **Emma Sparks '16, Kevin Martin '14, Kelsey Ullom '14, and Rachel Vinciguerra '14.** (Not pictured: **Ellie Magner '15**)



Phi Psi held a reunion at the home of George and Pam Sehringer in Bay Village, OH, in October 2025. Attendees came from 12 states extending from Arizona to Massachusetts. The reunion included Phi Psi Little Sisters—now couples!



Front Row: **Rob Shaw '80, George Sehringer '79, Jeff O'Sullivan '81, Jeff Clausen '80, Tom Kane '81, Bill Potter '81, John Hunger '80, Doug Brown '81, Carson Reider '82, Charles Murphy '79, John Whitaker '81, and Blair Woodring '82.** Second Row: **Jim Newman '80, Brian Cruse '80, Jim Wagner '80, Eric Baker '79, Joe Angel '79, Tom Blinn '79, Bob Buzzanco '82, John Berger '81, Bob Fishman '79, Brad Clippinger '82, Matthew Shoengood '77, Mark Rodan '80, and Steve Burns '79.**



**George and Pam Zell Sehringer '79, Tom and Libby Kane, Joe and Peggy Blinn Angel '78, Doug and Heather Hering Brown '82, Charles and Paula Finical Murphy '79, Eric and Karen Johnson Baker '81, and Tom and Angie Blinn.**

Annual Delta Zeta weekend is in the books! We drank lots of wine, of course, and had lots of fun. Back row, left to right: **Amy Prosenjak '94, Jennifer Montgomery Burgess '94, Jennifer Googins Hare '94, Kimberly Boggs Hull '94, Alison Martin Turner '94.** Front row: **Molly Kuhlman Haberbusch '94, Emily Barber Bowman '94, Shandelle Wertz Girdley '94, Lisa Norman Kleymeyer '93**

Brothers of Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji) present **John "Jack" McKinnie '54** with a Diamond Owl Award, which is a prestigious honor and certificate for brothers who celebrate 75 years of Phi Gamma Delta membership. The Diamond Owl celebrates "a lifetime of friendship and dedication."



From left: **John Guy '60, Tony DiBiasio '74, and Jack McKinnie '54.** Back row: **John Burns '60, Kobe Francis '26, George Pilot '84, and Paul Scull '26.** Front row: **Dan Bennington '68, JP Rosel '27, Marcus Valcourt '26,** Executive Director Emeritus of Phi Gamma Delta Educational Foundation **Ben Robinson, and Graham Mayberry '27.**

## 1960s

**George Conrades '61** retired from the board of Oracle, a software maker and cloud infrastructure provider. George has been on their board for 18 years. He previously served as the CEO of Akamai, a content network distribution company.

**Jo Ann Kiser '62X** published her third work of fiction. In *Sunday People*, seven characters—who range from a patriarch to an outlaw and rebel to a professor at a prestigious university—search in the Kentucky hills for meaning. It is available on Barnes and Noble and Amazon.

**Kent Taylor '62** published *The Night Always Keeps Something*, a book of poetry. It was published in the OH Library and Information Network (OHLINK). Several of Kent's books and poems were displayed earlier this year at the exhibit called "Cleveland Poetry Scene, 1960s-1970s" at the Kent State University Library.

**John Bassett '63** published a book, *Rachel Crothers: Broadway Innovator, Feminist Pioneer*. It was included in the list "24 Theater Book for Your Summer 2025 Reading List" by Broadway World.

**Edith Davis '63** received an award from the Laurens County School District 55 (SC). They recognized her years of outstanding service to the school district's arts program.



**Stuart McCall '63** reminisces on his time with OWU Radio, working there some afternoons and evenings, plus his own weekend program. He notes that he still has their midnight sign-off memorized 62 years later: "The students, faculty, and trustees of Wesleyan University all share a common faith in the freedom of communication. So long as a free press serves a free people, our institutions and our heritages are safe. WSLN now leaves the air, but will return again tomorrow for another broadcast day. Ladies and gentlemen: our National Anthem."

**Eric Gutnick '67** published a book *Heyday of Trek and Travel, Mendocino Musings in Rhyme*, available at Amazon books. It touches on the humor and irony of life on the road, the trail, and raising kids, especially before cell phones and the internet. Eric pulled from his time travelling and practicing medicine in Kenya and on the Mendocino coast of northern California.

**Robert Rupp '69** and **Lynn Gableman Rupp '70** (posthumously) were awarded the 2025 Extra Mile Award from West Virginia Wesleyan College. This award recognizes the college's non-alumni who have gone above and beyond in service. Both Robert and Lynn taught at West Virginia Wesleyan College, serving their community and impacting many students and serving their community.

**Linda Terwilliger '67** was appointed to the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents. She has taught International Baccalaureate English at Wausau East High School for the last 15 years.

A group of '68 classmates got together in March at Pelican Sound (FL).



Pictured, from left: (top row) **Bob Amoruso, Tom Trumble, Wes Poling**, (bottom row) **Dougie Dupee Trumble, Carol Young Poling, Sue Gooding Sarcevic, Donita Shaeffer Hill**.

## 1970s

**Victoria King Heinsen '70** released her sixth book, *Murder at the Port Clinton Boat Club*. As with the past four books, several fictional characters, protagonists, are graduates of OWU.

**Nicholas White '70** was appointed to the State Construction Code Commission by Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer. Nicolas is a retired architect and is appointed to the commission as a member of the general public.

**Renee Show '71** taught violin and string instruments in Zanesville (OH) City Schools from 1972 to 2007. She was involved with the Southeastern OH Symphony, Zanesville Concert Association, Thursday Music Club, and the annual Messiah concert.

**Sharlene Carter '74** wrote a book, *Hallelujah Poems: A Collection of Poetry*. It is described as a journey of therapeutic poetry that delves into cultural, social, political, religious, and personal themes. You may find Sharlene's book at Amazon.com.

**Helen Evans Fernald '74** published *Love, Helen: Letters to My Mother: Creating a Loving Connection after Loss*, a memoir. Upon its release, Helen was invited to do a book signing at the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books.

**Nicholas Calio '75** was presented with the 2025 L. Welch Pogue Award for lifetime achievement in aviation, as well as the 2025 Air Transport World Lifetime Achievement Award. He serves as the president and CEO of Airlines for America, leading the trade association into helping shape policy and modernization in aviation.

**Gregory Fisher '76** was inducted into the National Sailing Hall of Fame. He was an All-American sailor at OWU in 1975, winning 25 North American or national championships in seven different classes. He later worked in the College of Charleston's sailing team, leading them to win the Intercollegiate National Championship in 2017. He is now in the sailmaking business.

**Mark Lewis '77** retired as president and CEO of BIOQUAL, a company specializing in scientific research, especially in infectious and human diseases.

**Albert Hakaim '78** was presented with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award by Marquis Who's Who. He is a distinguished vascular surgeon, dedicating over 30 years to the Mayo Clinic in Florida before retiring in 2025.

## 1980s

**Greg Cielec '80** published his third novel, *My Rock and Roll Girl*. Differing from his other books, it focuses less on sports and more on friendships, romances, music, and surprises. Read more about it at [writergregcielec.com](http://writergregcielec.com) and order a copy at [pinkflamingopress.myshopify.com](http://pinkflamingopress.myshopify.com).

**Alton Doody '80** opened a restaurant, Lola's Bistro, in Chagrin Falls, OH. The Parisian-style bistro is named after Rick's dog, Lola, which is subtly shown in the space. Rick operates Next Cool Restaurants Ventures, which owns several restaurants in Northeast OH and Florida.



**David Byrd '81** was named acting director, office of central services by the newly elected Prince George's County, MD, executive in June. It is the largest department in Prince George's County government and David is responsible for all county facilities as well as the county fleet.

**Jeff Long '82** was appointed to the College Football Playoff Selection Committee for the 2025 season, after having previously served from 2014-17, including serving as the group's first chairman during the 2014-15 seasons. He has served as an athletics director or senior administrator in many of the nation's most prominent conferences, including the Big 12, Big Ten, ACC, and SEC. Before becoming a consultant, Jeff spent 22 years as the director of athletics at the University of Kansas, the University of Arkansas, the University of Pittsburgh, and Eastern Kentucky University.

**Gregory Ix '83** was promoted to executive vice president of leasing at Big V Property Group, a leader in retail real estate. Greg has more than 30 years of experience in retail real estate.

**Kathryn Barger Leibrich '83** received the Community Impact Award from the Los Angeles Business Council's Architectural Awards. These awards recognize organizations helping to recover, rebuild, and celebrate in the aftermath of the wildfires. Kathryn serves as the L.A. County board of supervisors chair, which was one of the 19 organizations accepting the Community Impact Award.

**Kenneth Nunnenkamp '83** joined Blank Rome's Washington, D.C. office as partner in the international trade practice group. His work focuses on national security matters, including extensive experience with export controls, economic sanctions, and more.

**Kara Trott '83** published the book *No One Alone: Humanizing Healthcare as an Outsider*. As founder and former CEO of Quantum Health, the first healthcare navigation and care coordination company, she shares how she grew the company from a start-up into a healthcare giant that supports, guides, and fights for consumers.

**Tom Shannon '84** and **Don Howland '80** released new music together. Tom is a guitarist in the band Cheater Slicks and Don was mostly retired from music, but the band and Don collaborated in the garage-punk single "Endgame." The two met in 1980 at OWU, where Tom was a freshman and Don a senior.

**Steven Edelstein '85** joined MyFBAPrep, an eCommerce warehouse and logistics network, as vice president of growth and partnerships. Steven comes to this role with more than 25 years of experience in health and beauty logistics, supply chain management, copacking, and direct-to-consumer fulfillment.

**Rosalie Hunter '86** was recognized among the nation's top wealth advisors on the 2025 Forbes "Best-in-State Wealth Advisors" list. She is the co-founder and managing director at her firm, The Hunter-McCormack Group. Rosalie is a member of the JVS Philadelphia Fund for Women advisory board.

**Christopher McComish '87** was appointed chair of the board at S&T Bancorp, the holding company for S&T Bank. Christopher has been with the company since 2021, serving as CEO and a director.

**Ann Osborne '88** was inducted into the OH Valley Athletic Conference (OVAC) Hall of Fame Class of 2025. Her time playing basketball had set the St. Clairsville High School record with 1,697 points, earning her a number of recognitions, including being named a four-time all-OVAC selection.

**Ingrid Williams Tucker '88** was named CEO of Madison Park Development Corporation (MA), an affordable housing developer and community development corporation. She has over 30 years of experience in education, nonprofit leadership, and community development, including her time since joining MPDC in 2021 as deputy director.

## 1990s

**Michael Reese '90** was nominated by the mayor for Cleveland Heights (OH) for the role of city administrator. Michael previously served 19 years in Columbus city government in a variety of leadership roles, including deputy development director and assistant director of policy. Most recently, he served as the city manager of Maplewood, MO, from 2021-23.



**Linda Gail Adams '91** recently published her first three books, *Uprooted*, *In Limbo*, and *The Shaking*. After graduating from OWU, Linda Gail went to Asbury Theological Seminary and earned her master's degree in youth ministry. She has spent the last 20 years serving her local church working with middle schoolers. She writes with her students in mind, but her books are enjoyed by people of all ages. Find her work on Amazon.

**Catie Butt '91** published a book about the surprising and uplifting story of her father. *Charlie's Way* describes how Bowdoin College coach and multinational top-tier athlete Charlie Butt escaped communist China and became a legendary figure in Bowdoin athletics, at Piping Rock Club in New York, at Springfield College, and in U.S. squash. With stories told in Charlie's own words, and content from figures throughout his life, this book tells an inspiring story of a man that left an indelible mark on the communities and students he encountered. Catie's book can be ordered at [store.bowdoin.edu](http://store.bowdoin.edu). Search for "Charlie Butt." All proceeds go to the Charles J. Butt Scholarship Fund.

**Michael Hamra '91** joined the board of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Mike serves as chairman and CEO of Hamra Enterprises, a family-owned franchisee of nearly 200 restaurants operating under the Wendy's, Panera Bread, Noodles and Co., and Caribou brands.

**Lori Houston '91** moved from Columbus, OH to New Hope, PA, in 2022. She holds a master's degree in social work, working toward PA licensure. She speaks Spanish fluently and a little Somali and Arabic. She currently serves the underserved as a mental health/substance abuse counselor in a dual diagnosis residential treatment facility. Lori enjoys spending time with family and friends, including her Doberman/Rottweiler mix, Cassie. She invites anyone in the Philadelphia area (or other) to reach out on Facebook or through OWU.

**Ann Piroumoff Kelly '92** was promoted to chief financial officer and treasurer of SJW Group, a national investor-owned pure-play water and wastewater utility. She previously served as chief accounting officer at SWJ Group and as chief financial officer of American Electric Power and AmeriGas Propane.

**Joel Schumm '92** was named Lawyer of the Year in Appellate Practice in Indianapolis in the 2026 edition of *Best Lawyers*. He is a professor of law at Indiana University, where he directs the law school's judicial externship program and teaches in the Appellate Clinic.

**Thomas Winston '92** received an honorary degree from Lourdes University. He is on the University's Board, and serves as the president and CEO of the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority. Thomas was also the Commencement speaker for Lourdes University in May, offering insights from his extensive business and leadership experience.

**Loretta Ishida '93** joined the National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT) as chief operating officer. NCAT is a nonprofit that focuses on regenerative agriculture and clean energy solutions in the U.S.

**Scott McBride '93** retired from his position as associate deputy chief counsel for trade enforcement and compliance at the U.S. Department of Commerce. After 25 years of service, he had defended the U.S. before numerous dispute panels; managed, updated, and drafted dozens of regulations and preambles; prepared over 100 briefs and motions; and reviewed and edited over 1,000 commerce decision documents. Government service took Scott around

the globe, from Cambodia to Peru. He recently joined the international trade law firm The Bristol Group, PLLC as Counsel, advising and representing U.S. manufacturers in federal courts and before U.S. government agencies.



**Deydre Smyth Teyhen '93** joined Medical Readiness Command, Pacific as commander. She brings experience from the Defense Health Network-National Capital Region and is an advocate for truly sustaining and optimizing soldier health and readiness.

**Deborah Jones Young '93** was named in the Top 50 Women Leaders of Cincinnati for 2025 by *Women We Admire*. She serves as the system director, nursing professional development and education of UC Health, a nonprofit health system. She first joined the team in 2020 as a clinical education manager.

**Jeffrey Molter '93** was named 2025-26 president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology. As a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) for more than 25 years, he began his career at Mt. Sinai Medical Center in Cleveland and has since worked at hospitals and surgery centers throughout OH.

**Michael Tiedemann '93** was awarded the inaugural Simone Biles Give Back Award from the Wendy Hilliard Gymnastics Foundation. He is the CEO of AlTi Tiedemann Global and serves on the board of multiple organizations. He both established and is the Chairman of the Board of RIVER FUND, a nonprofit organization that provides food, education, and support services to New York City families.

**Kevin Gosselin '94** joined Jack Martin U.S., a global brand experience agency, as SVP, senior executive creative director. He has more than 15 years of experience leading creative teams and managing projects for brands such as Amex, Verizon, Coca-Cola, Porsche, and Ford.

**Kevin Hinkle '94** was announced as the new managing director of CEBCO, a risk sharing pool offering wellness and health management services to OH counties. Prior to joining CEBCO in 2023, he spent the previous 17 years as regional vice president of sales at Anthem and held various other positions within Anthem for over a decade prior.

**Adam Lieb '94** joined Crescent Grove Advisors, an employee-owned boutique wealth management firm, as chief business development officer. He previously worked at BNY Wealth Management and Fidelity Family Office Services.

**Maria McCauley '95** was elected president of the American Library Association. She is currently serving as the director of libraries at Cambridge Public Library (MA) and is a member of the Association of College and Research Libraries, Core, and the Public Library Association.

**Rajesh Raman '95** joined Lanai, a company that helps enterprises navigate AI adoption, as chief technology officer. He previously has worked with companies such as Google, Meta, and Splunk.

**Matthew Tenerowicz '95** was featured in *Crain's Cleveland Business Who's Who*, a guide to influential figures in Northeast OH. Matthew is the Cleveland office managing partner at BakerHostetler, a law firm. He is also a board member of the Greater Cleveland Partnership and Business Volunteers Unlimited.

**Lane Warner '95** joined the OH High School Athletic Association Board of Directors. He currently serves as superintendent of Elgin Local Schools in Marion County, OH.

**Eric Schiele '96** joined Paul Haustings LLP as a partner and leader of their mergers and acquisitions practice. He most recently worked at Kirkland & Ellis, working on cases with clients such as Cheez-It, Disney, Constellation Brands, and Time Warner.

**Yihao Zhang '96** retired from GE HealthCare, a global healthcare solutions provider, as their president and CEO. Since joining in 2019, Yihao has been responsible for GE HealthCare's strategic development and operations in China.

**Kira Zeyer Baldonado '97** was promoted to executive vice president at Prevent Blindness, an eye health and safety organization. She has been with Prevent Blindness since 2003, serving in a number of roles before most recently serving as their vice president of public health and policy.

**Eric Nassau '97** was selected as the Honored Artist for the 2025 Community Festival, ComFest, (OH). He's still performing with his many music projects, including The San Francisco Threesome, The Devil Doves, The Goldsberrys, as well as his children's music persona, Mister E, who just received a grant from the Greater Columbus Arts Council. When he's not touring and performing, he teaches pickleball classes and private lessons at Pickle & Chill in Columbus.

**Michael Dowgiewicz '98** accepted the position of First Gentleman of The United States to The Bahamas when he married Charge d' Affaires Kimberly Furnish in New Providence, The Bahamas.

**Brian Danzis '99** was appointed global chief revenue officer at Seedtag, an advertising agency. He first joined Seedtag in 2022 to spearhead their North American operations.

**Mark Drever '99** was named Entrepreneur of the Year 2025 Mid-Atlantic Award winner by Ernst & Young LLP (EY US). Mark currently serves as the CEO of Xcelerate Solutions, a defense and national security company.

## 2000s

**Tom Oram '00** has been named director of music at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine, the nation's first parish, in St. Augustine, FL. Tom, Martha, and their five children return to Florida from Our Lady of Good Counsel (Plymouth, MI), where he served for the past decade.

**Michelle Bielanski Filander '01** was named director of athletics at Austin College (TX). She has been the head women's basketball coach at Austin since 2010, also serving as the assistant athletics director and senior woman administrator.

**Dana Bucin Diaz Vazquez '02** was inducted into Immigration Heritage Hall of Fame. She is an award-winning immigration attorney and partner at Harris Beach Murtha. As a leader of the Hartford immigration team, Dana represents businesses and individual clients on a wide range of immigration matters. Since 2018, Dana has been serving as Honorary Consul of Romania to Connecticut, a diplomatic appointment that enables her to establish various cross-border exchanges between Connecticut and Romania.

**Noel Anderson '03** debuted his largest solo museum show "Black Excellence" at the University Art Museum at the University at Albany (NY). The exhibition featured over 35 works, including stretched and suspended Jacquard tapestries depicting digitally altered archival and media images centered on Black identity, labor, and performance. These projects were exhibited alongside earlier works and archival materials capturing the arc of Noel's career.

**Alexander Varel '03** joined Cerebras Systems, a company accelerating in generative AI, as executive vice president of worldwide sales. He previously worked at MongoDB, Udacity, Zscaler, and Multiverse, expanding each company's reach worldwide.

**Ali Chaudhry '04** joined Hornblower Group, a leader in experiences and transportation, as executive vice president and lead of government partnerships. Before this role, he served as senior vice president and chief of development and government relations at AECOM, a global leader in infrastructure consulting.

## Switching Solutions: Trading Numbers for Speech Pathology

**M**ary Lou Brecht Johnson '73 arrived at Ohio Wesleyan intending to major in mathematics. But during her sophomore year, she hit the wall in advanced math. "By the time I headed home for winter break, I had no idea what other major I might choose," she recalls.

Mary Lou credits her mother, **Yvonne Renner Brecht '43**, for saving the day. "She suggested I accompany her to the volunteer job she loved, assisting a speech-language pathologist (SLP) in a language therapy group for young children at Akron Children's Hospital. I went, I saw, I was thrilled."

When Mary Lou returned to Ohio Wesleyan after winter break, the university enabled Mary Lou to pivot to her passion. Mary Lou met Dr. Barbara Tull, an SLP and assistant professor at OWU. Barbara's expertise and network gave Mary Lou access to her own connections. As a result, Mary received full tuition from the Central Institute for the Deaf (CID) in St. Louis, and upon receiving her master of science degree, embarked on a tremendous career at the Children's Hospital in Colorado.

Mary Lou retired from Children's Hospital after 42 years of service. She developed skills in multiple areas of practice, including guiding parents who wanted to learn more ways to support their children with delays or disorders in learning to talk. In the 1980s, she began presenting on that topic and writing handouts for parents at the CID. Ultimately, she wrote several manuscripts. "I wanted to self-publish, but knew that was a daunting task. Recent federal government cuts to funding for public sector services for young children with developmental needs pushed me to get past my publishing hesitancy and just do it."



*Mary Lou's guidebook was written to inform, coach, and guide parents and other caregivers of babies and young children to learn specific techniques to help their children speak.*



Mary Lou published *Help Your Child Speak: The Interactive Guidebook*. The unique guidebook helps parents help their young children learn to talk or talk better. With the high costs of private therapy and lengthy waiting lists for evaluations and treatment in both the private and public sectors, many parents want to do more, on their own, whether or not they are working with an SLP. The book is also very useful for SLPs who can use the exercises and methods to create a parent-child interaction coaching program, and for anyone caring for young children, from preschool teachers to grandparents to early intervention specialists from all disciplines.



**Mary Lou Brecht Johnson '73**, with Dr. Barbara Tull at Mary Lou's OWU Commencement. Mary Lou thanked Dr. Tull in her book's acknowledgment section. "In her teaching days, she was a bold person with a large and generous spirit," says Mary Lou.

**Leah Schilling Hendricks '05** joined the leadership team of Healthcare Capital Advisors' (HCA) new consulting practice. HCA is an investment bank and strategic advisory firm, and Leah brought her experience as the former corporate director of business development and admissions at Beyond Healthcare.

**Ashley Jones '06** joined Climb Bio, a clinical-stage biotechnology company, as senior vice president, people and workforce strategy. Ashley has nearly 20 years of experience supporting executive teams and building organizations in the biotechnology sector. Previously, she founded and led Cultivate Co., a consulting practice providing fractional human resources support to biotechnology companies.

**Andrew Warnock '06** was inducted into Delaware City Schools Hall of Fame (OH).

**Christy Sicher George '07** was named a 2025 Women of Excellence Honoree by The Chicago Defender. She serves as the president and CEO of Intersect Illinois, a public private partnership focused on global business development for the State of Illinois. Most recently, Christy served as Executive Director of the Chicago 2024 Host Committee for the Democratic National Convention. Christy was named *Who's Who in Crain's Chicago Business 2026*.

**Brent Perrin '07** joined the Trump Administration in April as a political appointee in the U.S. Department of Labor as the deputy director of the Center for Faith.

**Julie Peterson '07** was named interim director of University of Nebraska–Lincoln's West Central Research, Extension, and Education Center. She is an entomologist and extension specialist, currently serving as associate director of the center and leads their Agroecosystems Entomology Lab.

**Zachary Dennis '08** was named athletic director at Smithville High School (OH). He previously worked as an assistant football coach at The College of Wooster and head football coach at Tuscarawas High School.

## 2010s

**Gabriel Quick '11** earned his Ph.D. in the history of art and architecture at Boston University.

**Lauren Figy Cadigan '12** was named assistant principal at Westfield High School (MA). She has served for the past seven years as the supervisor of science, technology, and engineering for Westfield Public Schools.

**Anne Flowers '12** wrote a short film with the working title *The Deed*. Anne wrote and stars in the film, which follows a woman who returns to her small town after years away.

**Sarah Kahaian '12** started a new role as a financial advisor at Thrivent Financial. After a decade of research in microbiology and national security, she is excited to apply her analytical skills to help others achieve their financial goals. She is still located in the Delaware, OH, community and looks forward to supporting fellow Bishops.

**Logan Markins Havemann '13** joined Blanchard Valley Health System in Findlay, OH, as gynecological surgeon and obstetrician. She previously worked at the Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center in Fort Cavazos, TX, as an attending gynecologic surgeon and obstetrician, chief of the ambulatory OB/GYN service, and officer in charge of the obstetrics and gynecology department.

**Danielle Mužina '13** presented a solo art exhibit "Femme In the End Times" at Bruno David Gallery in St. Louis, MO. This exhibition of paintings explores themes of gender-based oppression through fractured, pink-drenched parallel worlds. They are a part of her Pink Apocalypse series, delving into the rituals, relationships, and acts of care that emerge when there is upheaval.

**Emily LeTourneau Gilliam '14** was honored in August as the Licking County Chamber of Commerce 2025 Young Professional of the Year. As owner of 2nd Street Market Newark and co-founder of The Archive Bottle Shop & Lounge, Emily has created unique spaces that bring people together in the heart of downtown Newark, OH. Beyond her entrepreneurial work, she serves as vice president of the Downtown Newark Association, mentors other entrepreneurs, and speaks frequently at local leadership programs.



**Zahki Davis '16** received the 2025 University of Cincinnati Law Distinguished Alumni Award. A National Black Lawyers Top 40 Under 40 honoree and Leadership Council on Legal Diversity alumnus, Zahki is active in his community, serving on the boards of the Cincinnati Ballet, Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation, MORTAR Cincinnati, and FundNoire.

**Abigail Horvat '17** was recognized in *People On The Move Chicago*. She currently serves as a Chicago associate in Cozen O'Connor's Global Insurance Department. Abigail has been appointed to two committee lead positions for the American Bar Association's Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section for the 2025-2026 year.

**Colin Stolly '18** was named head football coach at Lima Central Catholic High School (OH). For the past six years, Colin has served as an assistant coach in the school's football and baseball programs.

# classnotes

**Olivia Baylor '19** received her first two big screen credits on DreamWorks' *Gabby's Dollhouse: The Movie*, which is based on the popular Netflix preschool series. The movie stars Kristen Wiig and Gloria Estefan. Olivia was both a production assistant for the assets department and later became a production coordinator for the digimatte, FX, and lighting departments. This is DreamWorks' first-ever hybrid live action and animated film.

**Faith Best '19** earned her PhD in neuroscience from the University of Cincinnati in May 2025.

## 2020s

**Alexander Sanchez-Claudio '20** was named in Young Nonprofit Professionals Network of Chicago's 2025 Leadership Institute Cohort. He currently works as development services coordinator for Center on Halsted, where he has helped refine development operations processes

to maximize fundraising efforts for programs and services that help LGBTQ+ Chicagoans in need.

**Jasmine Spitzer '21** releases debut live album, *Here*. In February, she took the stage at Ginger Rabbit, a Columbus (OH) jazz bar, and recorded the album, which explores her journey through depression, rescuing her dog, sobriety, and finding a home in Columbus.

**Zachary Smith '23** is serving in the Peace Corps in Nepal.

**Brynn Blackstone '25** was awarded the Dr. James Sheehan Pre-Service Social Studies Teacher Award. This award is meant to honor outstanding social studies university students, and OWU professor Sarah Kaka nominated Brynn. Brynn is a first-year teacher at Big Walnut High School (OH).

## Births

**Kaden Thompson '18** and Caitlin Thompson welcomed Collin Vaughn Thompson in May 2025.



## hiddengems

# How well do you know the Ohio Wesleyan campus?

Here's your opportunity to demonstrate how well you know the Ohio Wesleyan campus!

Below are four photos of small visual treats, mini-artworks, or historic artifacts on the OWU campus. Some are in places that students have seen—or passed by—regularly for many years. Others are in campus spots a little more remote but in plain sight.

How many of these do you recognize? What is each image, and where is it on campus? Please send us your answers.

Email your answers to [magazine@owu.edu](mailto:magazine@owu.edu) or send them by mail to *OWU Magazine*, University Marketing and Communications, 61 S. Sandusky St., Delaware, OH 43015.





### Ford-Wallace Wedding

**Stephen Ford '13** and Katie Wallace were married in June in Marengo, OH. Pictured, from left: **Nick Gallagher '09**, **Dave Castignola '09**, **Amber Ryan '99**, Sean Ryan (former OWU men's lacrosse coach), **Colin Short '13**, **Ken Callahan '13**, **Matt Thomas '13**, groom, **Spencer Schnell '13**, **Colton Bloecher '15**, **Tommy Minkler '15**, **Nick Striller '13**, **Kyle Harrigan '13**, **Lauren Obrien '10**, **Molly Rosenthal '13**, **Scott Rosenthal '13**.



### McNaughton-Doig Wedding

**Caitlin McNaughton '16** and Chris Doig were married on May 24 in Tampa, FL. Pictured, from left: **Kelsey Morrison '17**, **David McNaughton '10**, bride, groom, **T.J. Trigg '09**, **Hallie McNaughton Trigg '05**, and **Jill Haddock McNaughton '70**.

### Raphael-Trogstad-Isaacson Wedding

**Elizabeth Raphael '16** and Colbren "Scout" Trogstad-Isaacson '16 were married on October 5, 2023. Multiple OWU alumni were in attendance, including **Wendy Kloss Raphael '76**, **Brittany Hupp '15**, **Madeline Oslejsek '20**, **Meghan Byram '16**, **Ivette Rubio '16**, **Eric Gnezda '79**, **Caroline Anderson '17**, **Aubrey Alamshah '13**, and **Caitlin Burton-Dooley Griever '17**.

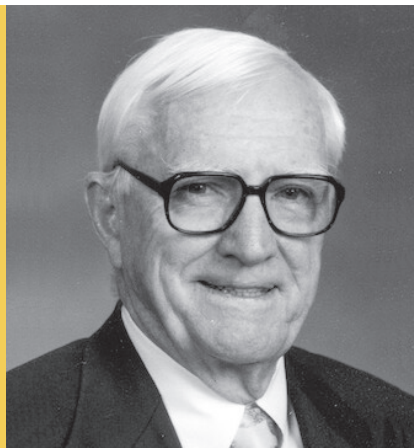


### Bottensek-Santos Wedding

**Corey Bottensek '16** and Delia Santos were married on Oct. 31, 2025 near Fort Worth, TX, in a formal ceremony at Lone Star Mansion with just a touch of spooky charm. Corey welcomed Delia's Weimaraner, Berkeley, into the family, and the couple celebrated their honeymoon in sunny Curacao. They live in Irving, TX, where Corey works in insurance accounting and Delia is a CNIM-certified neurophysiologist. Delia has always loved live music, especially the Jonas Brothers, and this year Corey joined her for two of their concerts—turning her tradition into a shared adventure. Together, they enjoy cooking experiments (with Delia's honest, often hilarious feedback) and are passionate about pet adoption and fostering. Looking ahead, they hope to start a family, and Delia dreams of visiting Delaware, OH, charmed by its "Stars Hollow" vibe.

## Honoring Enduring Legacies

Ohio Wesleyan pays tribute to three distinguished Life Trustees who passed away in 2024-2025. **Bill Blaine, Lloyd Ferguson,** and **Bob Gillespie** were men of great character who each left an indelible legacy of leadership at OWU. We are profoundly grateful for their commitment to the Rev. Adam Poe's vision of a university of "the highest order."



### William E. Blaine, Jr., '89 HON

Bill passed away on July 14, 2025. He served on the OWU Board of Trustees as a West Ohio Conference Trustee, a United Methodist Trustee, an At-Large Trustee, and a Life Trustee.

An honorary OWU alumnus, Bill and his beloved wife, JoAnn Merkle Blaine, were loyal supporters of the Ohio Wesleyan Fund, a Science Initiative in 2004, and the Richard M. Ross Art Museum; gave a transformative gift to the Campaign for Ohio Wesleyan; and became members of the Associate Founders' Circle.

Leadership and service were hallmarks of Bill's life. He loved flying and served his country as a Lieutenant in the United States Navy, where he piloted the amphibious plane PBY during World War II and the Korean War. Bill earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Bowdoin College, Juris Doctorate and Master of Business Administration degrees from The Ohio State University, and Ph.D. from Century University to practice law. He served as owner and CEO of one of the largest lumber and building material companies in the Midwest, and he served as a lecturer at Ohio State and Muskingum universities.

Bill's soulmate of 71 years, JoAnn, preceded him in death. He is survived by his son Michael, daughter Cathy Egner, son Judson (Monica); grandchildren, Ryan (Zhouie) Emerson, Myles Egner, Anna Egner (John Crisan), Max Blaine, Bridget Blaine, Jillian Beers (Zach), Chelsea Kuck (David), Tyler Blaine (Alexandria); great-grandchildren, Bear and Joanna Emerson, Elly Lehman, Duke, Lo, Romy and Rafe Blaine.



### Lloyd Ferguson '62

Lloyd passed away on August 26, 2024. He is a cherished Bishop whose legacy will forever be woven into the OWU fabric as a Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity brother. We remember Lloyd for telling good jokes exceptionally well.

Lloyd was a treasured volunteer; an emeritus member of the Advisory Board for The Woltemade Center for Economics, Business and Entrepreneurship; and an At-Large Trustee and Life Trustee of the OWU Board of Trustees. He received an Alumni Award in 2017, recognizing his exemplary service to OWU.

Lloyd and his wife, Martha Kemper, generously supported Ohio Wesleyan as members of the Tower Society, Founders' Circle, and President's Circle, providing significant investments in The Woltemade Center, scholarships, athletics, capital projects, the Richard Ross M. Art Museum, and many other initiatives. Gordon Field House recently underwent extensive renovations thanks to the generosity of Lloyd, Martha, their son **William '92**, their daughter Diane, and other members of the Ferguson family.

Lloyd was known for his leadership in business and leaves an impressive legacy in the packaging and communications industry. Lloyd is survived by his cherished wife of 57 years, Martha; loving children, Bill and Diane; beloved grandchildren, Michael and Charlotte; and his brother, Jack, and his wife, Sue. Lloyd is part of an OWU legacy that includes son, **William K. Ferguson '92**; nephews, **John K. Cannon Jr. '86**, and **G.K. Sehringer IV, Class of 2008**; and his mother-in-law, **Helen W. Kemper '86**.



### Robert Gillespie '66

Bob passed away on April 21, 2025. One of Ohio Wesleyan's most loyal alumni, Bob leaves a lasting legacy as an economics student, an Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity brother and president, a member and committee chair of the Board of Trustees, chair of the Campaign for Ohio Wesleyan, a member of Founders' Circle and Tower Society, an inductee into the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges' Hall of Excellence, an Alumni Award recipient, an Adam Poe Medal recipient, and a Life Trustee.

Bob and his wife of 58 years, **Ann Wible Gillespie '67**, supported their alma mater with philanthropy that has provided scholarships for deserving students; supported The Woltemade Center for Economics, Business and Entrepreneurship; helped to renovate Stuyvesant Hall, The House of Black Culture, and the Alpha Sigma Phi and Phi Delta Theta houses; built The Gillespie Honors House; and provided significant funding to restore Slocum Hall, including the creation of the Gillespie Honors Lounge.

Bob used his OWU economics degree, Case Western Reserve University MBA, and his training in the Harvard University Advanced Management Program to leave a towering legacy in the banking world. Bob often said his "greatest fortune came not from his career, but from meeting Ann at Ohio Wesleyan University." He is survived by Ann and their family, of whom he was ever-proud, daughters Laura and Gwen; son-in-laws Mike and Josh; and grandchildren, Spencer, Ella, Jack, Mira, Zoe, and Max.

For more detailed information about the alumni listed below, please see [owu.edu/InMemoriam](http://owu.edu/InMemoriam), which includes links to full obituaries. The webpage is updated frequently, and names remain on it for one year from the date of death. The list below includes alumni and others who passed away prior to February 1, 2026.

## 1940s

**Betty Hostetler Zarney '44**, of Medina, OH, Feb. 9, 2025, age 102. She is survived by granddaughter **Kara Simenz '01**.

**Mary Ziegler Stewart '45**, of Baltimore, MD, March 8, 2025, age 100. She was predeceased by brother **Charles Ziegler '41**. Mary was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**Allen Wiant '45**, of Columbus, OH, April 16, 2025, age 100.

**Dorothy Chambers Goater '46**, of Naples, FL, Jan. 25, 2026, age 101. She was predeceased by husband **Richard Goater '47**. Dottie was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

**Esther Duga Harper '46**, of Georgetown, TX, June 5, 2025, age 101.

**Merle Lashey '46**, of Marion, OH, May 13, 2025, age 101. He was predeceased by wife **Evelyn Ruth Lashey '46**. Merle is survived by son **David Lashey '71** and grandson **Mark Lashey '97**. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity.

**John Moss '46**, of Easthampton, MA, Dec. 21, 2025, age 100. He was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

**Martha Allen Pullen '46**, of Weslaco, TX, Jan. 23, 2025, age 100. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**Mary Newhard Adams '47**, of Albuquerque, NM, Jan. 24, 2025, age 99. She was predeceased by grandfather **John McCabe 1879**, grandmother **Effie Capps McCabe 1884**, great uncles **Robert McCabe 1883** and **Charles Manley 1898**, great aunt **Calista McCabe Manley/Courtney 1890**, mother **Josephine McCabe Newhard 1916**, aunts **Katherine McCabe Grinton 1919** and **Miriam McCabe Hoover 1912**, uncle **Harold Hoover '54**, cousins **Ann Grinton Kissaberth '54** and **Mary Grinton Beeghly '48**, and brother **George Joseph Newhard '42**. Mary is survived by brother **Horace Bixby Newhard '52**, sister **Persis Newhard Snoke '54**, daughter **Eve Adams '83**, nieces **Mary Snoke Dunham '74** and **Mary Kissabeth '79**, and great niece **Hilary Dunham '00**. Her great grandfather was Lorenzo Dow McCabe, interim president of OWU and a professor of religion and philosophy. Mary was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Dorothy Hickcox Koski '47**, of Scituate, MA, March 12, 2025. She was predeceased by parents **Percy Hickcox, 1918**, and **Sarah Belcher Hickcox 1920**, and sister **Barbara Hickcox Peters '44**.

**Marilyn Wakeman Schoettinger '47**, of Richmond, VA, June 19, 2025, age 100. She was predeceased by husband **Frank Schoettinger '47**, siblings **Ruth Wakeman Elliott '35**, **Martha Wakeman Welsch '41**, and **Geraldine Wakeman Sharp '45**, and nephews **John Elliott '60** and **P. S. Elliott '67**. Marilyn was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

**Clay Hepler '48**, of Perrysburg, OH, Feb. 22, 2025, age 98. He was predeceased by wife **Betty O'Rourke Hepler '48**, brother **John Hepler '49**, and sister-in-law **Janet Taber Hepler '44**. Clay is survived by niece **Kathy Hepler '69**. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**Caroline Issler McCleery '48**, of Prudenville, MI, July 27, 2025, age 99. She was predeceased by husband **Charles "Tony" McCleery '50**. Caroline was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

**James Noyes '48**, of Centerville, OH, Jan. 26, 2025, age 98.

**Elizabeth Kiehl Sidner '48**, of Grove City, OH, Dec. 30, 2024, age 98. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta fraternity.

**Henry Sakamoto '48**, of Portland, OR, Nov., 2025, age 98.

**Mary Schill Bennett '49**, of AZ, Feb. 18, 2025, age 97. She was predeceased by husband **William Bennett '50**. Mary is survived by daughter **Marcia Bennett Sinclair '74**, granddaughter **Elizabeth Sinclair Nida '03**, and grandson **Samuel Sinclair '07** and his wife **Meredith Brown Sinclair '09**. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Dorothy Curtis Brown '49**, of FL, Dec. 9, 2024, age 97. She was predeceased by husband **William Brown '48** and daughter **Ann Brown Nutt '76**. Dorothy is survived by son-in-law **Charles Nutt '74** and cousin **Caroline Williams Giorgi '69**.

**Mabel Powers Cheetham '49**, of Marion, OH, Aug. 12, 2025, age 98.

**Myra Rowley Gallant '49**, of Granville, OH, July 21, 2025, age 97. She is survived by husband **Thomas Gallant '50** and sons **Richard Gallant '80** and **Bruce Gallant '82**. Myra was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Elfriede Gehring '49X**, Feb. 24, 2025, age 97.

**Mark Wells '49**, of Centerville, OH, Sept. 25, 2025, age 100. He was predeceased by wife **Dorothy Dull Wells '48**. Mark was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

## 1950s

**Jean Hohns Brown '50**, of Sarasota, FL, March 27, 2025, age 97. She was predeceased by husband **Joseph Brown '49** and cousins **Robert Primm '47** and **Geraldine Viohl Primm '50**. Jean is survived by niece **Deborah Primm Mills '74** and her husband **John Mills '73** and their daughter **Jennifer Mills '05**. She was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Delta Gamma sorority.

**Doyle Cook '50**, of Waldo, OH, July 29, 2025, age 100. He is survived by daughter **Karen Cook Khazan '81**, son **Matthew Cook '83**, and niece **Carol Jones Lathrop '74**. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

**Thomas Gallant '50**, of Granville, OH, Jan. 10, 2026, age 97. He was predeceased by wife **Myra Rowley Gallant '49**, parents **Ellis Gallant, 1907**, and **Blanche Walker Gallants, 1906**, siblings **Ellis Gallant '39** and **Charlotte Gallant '39**, and cousins **James Walker '52**, **Anne Walker Ota '53**, and **Elta Rickley Fowler '31**. Tom is survived by sons **Bruce Gallant '82** and **Richard Gallant '80**. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Ned Myers '50**, of GA, Oct. 13, 2025, age 98. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

**Paul Stager '50**, of Westwood, CA, Jan. 18, 2026, age 96. He was predeceased by wife **Carol Anderson Stager '53** and parents **Paul Stager, 1922**, and **Olive Stager, 1924**. Paul was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Paula Gordin '51**, of Delaware, OH, Dec. 15, 2025, age 95. She was predeceased by husband **Richard Gordin '52**. Paula is survived by sons **Richard Gordin '73**, **Robert Gordin '75**, and **Douglas Gordin '78**. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

**Robert Johnston '51**, of Lancaster, OH, Aug. 11, 2025, age 95. He is survived by daughter **Lynn Johnston Curry '84**. Bob was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**William Jones '51**, of Toledo, OH, Jan. 27, 2025, age 95. He was a member of Beta Sigma Tau fraternity.

**Joan Bruckheimer Kerns '51**, Dec. 12, 2024, age 95. She was predeceased by husband **George Kerns '51**. She was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

**David Miller '51**, of Lancaster, OH, Aug. 1, 2025, age 96. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Joann Bowman Strauch '51**, of Wooster, OH, April 17, 2025, age 95. She was predeceased by husband **Howard Strauch '50**, sister **Allora Bowman Arnold '48** and brother-in-law **Frank Arnold '48**, and sister-in-law **Margaret Strauch Seklemian '46**. Joann is survived by brother **Ivan Bowman '56**. She was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

**JoAnne Taylor '51**, of Bloomfield, CT, Sept. 14, 2025, age 95. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Joan Daugherty Van Tassel '51**, of MN, July 21, 2025, age 96. She was predeceased by brother **Paul Daugherty '33** and niece **Judith Daugherty Butler '61**. Joan is survived by nephew **Daniel Forrer '62** and niece **Susan Daugherty Shafer '59**. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

**Wesley Vesey '51**, of Delaware, OH, Feb. 16, 2025, age 97. He was predeceased by parents **Martie Irwen Vesey 1920** and **Leslie Vesey 1918**, and aunts **Alice Irwen Warda 1923** and **Grace Irwen 1925**. Wesley was a member of Beta Sigma Tau fraternity.

**Marilyn Allomong Toner '52**, of Edon, OH, Aug. 26, 2025, age 95. She was predeceased by mother **Blanche Allomong, 1923**, and sister **Marjorie Allomong Cornell '49**.

**J. J. (Jim) Anderson '52**, of OH, Dec. 7, 2025, age 95. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

**Nancy Swanner Crowther '52**, of Houston, TX, March 6, 2025, age 94. She was predeceased by husband **James Crowther '56** and sister **Bonita Swanner Rosenberger '48**. Nancy is survived by niece **Janice Rosenberger O'Donnell '73**. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

**Carolyn Blair Ettinger '52**, of NY, Oct. 26, 2025, age 95. She was predeceased by first husband **John Blair '52**. Carolyn was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

**Joan Cole Groce '52**, of Tiffin, OH, April 10, 2025, age 94.

**Margaret Bonisteel Murray '52**, of Marietta, NY, Oct. 1, 2025, age 96.

**James Humphreville '52**, of Danbury, CT, Nov. 24, 2025, age 95. He was predeceased by wife **Ada Schleig Humphreville '53**. James was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

**Alice Amick Shoemaker '52**, of IN, June 3, 2025, age 94. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

**Mary Iseman Timmons '52**, of New Albany, OH, Oct. 14, 2025, age 95. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

**Barbara Walchli Austinson '53**, of OH, Oct. 30, 2025, age 94. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

**David Casto '53**, of Montclair, NJ, Feb. 2, 2025, age 93. He is survived by stepdaughter **Christine O'Hara '84**. Dave was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

**A. R. "Bob" Crawford '53**, of GA, March 11, 2025. He was predeceased by first spouse **Joanne Rutherford Crawford '53** and siblings **Margaret Crawford Hevel '55**, **Charles Crawford '57**, and **William Crawford '61**. Bob is survived by sister-in-law **Joanne Noble Crawford '69**. He was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity.

**Roberta Mitchell Curry '53**, of Gainesville, FL, Sept. 21, 2025, age 94. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

**William Davis '53**, of Carmel, IN, June 20, 2025, age 93. He is survived by daughter **Leslie Davis '81**. Bill was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity and formerly of OWU's Board of Trustees.

**Janet Funk Dutt '53**, of Tiffin, OH, July 23, 2025, age 94. She is survived by daughter **Laura Dutt Marsh '87**. Janet was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

**Mary Dell Wintermute Hibbert '53**, of Perrysburg, OH, Feb. 13, 2025, age 93. She was predeceased by husband **Frederick Hibbert '52**, brother **Paul Wintermute '64**, parents **Harold Wintermute 1925** and **Dorothy Brown Wintermute 1926**, and aunts **Frances Wintermute Wiborg 1926** and **Ruth Wintermute Drew 1927**. Mary Dell is survived by daughters **Helen Hibbert Kirk '79** and **Cynthia Hibbert Smithy '84**, and sister **Nancy Wintermute Gardner '56**. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Judith Robertson LaSalle '53**, of Arlington, TX, Feb. 18, 2025, age 93. She was predeceased by parents **Dorothy Fitzinger Becker 1927** and **A. D. Robertson 1928**, sister **Jane Robertson Mossbarger '56**, aunts **Ruth Fritzingler Slemmons 1911** and **Helen Fritzingler Shenberger 1915**, uncle **Paul Fritzingler 1913**, and cousins **Allen Fritzingler '44**, **Robert Fritzingler '46**, and **Barbara Pastor '42**. Judith was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

**C. Sue Brother Look '53**, of ME, July 5, 2025, age 83. She was predeceased by husband **Harold Look '53**. Sue was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

**William McCulloh '53**, of Gambier, OH, Dec. 5, 2025, age 94. He is survived by brother **Leon McCulloh '55**.

**Moynan O'Brien '53**, of Galena, OH, May 29, 2024. She was predeceased by husband **Richard O'Brien '54**. Moynan was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**George Rader '53**, of Ashburn, VA, Oct. 12, 2025, age 97. He is survived by wife **Bernice Andresen Rader '52**. George was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Paul Sharar '53**, of Glen Rock, NJ, Aug. 12, 2025, age 94. He was predeceased by wife **Helen Nichols Sharar '53**. Paul was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

**Martha Cecil Stauffer '53**, of Downer's Grove, IL, Jan. 6, 2026, age 94. She was predeceased by siblings **Thomas Cecil '50** and **Nancy Cecil Albrecht '47**. Martha is survived by brother **David Cecil '55**. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi Sorority.

**Marilyn Rosser Strickler '53**, of Arcanum, OH, Dec. 30, 2025, age 94. She is predeceased by parents **Harold Rosser, 1927**, and **Margaret Rosser, 1928**, brother **Richard Rosser '51**, uncle **Rollin Rosser, 1926**, aunt **Eloise Rosser '36**, and cousin **Alan Rosser '69**. Marilyn is survived by nephew **Eric Rosser '74** and cousin **Erin Donnally Drake '02**. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

**Mary Drury Campbell '54**, of Chambersburg, PA, Sept. 23, age 92. She is survived by brother **John Drury '60**. Mary was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority.

**Roland Evilsizor '54**, of Leawood, KS, Sept. 19, age 92. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**James Geiger '54**, of Perry, GA, Jan. 5, age 93. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**Martha Pierce Glatthaar '54**, of Ft. Thomas, KY, Sept. 13, age 93. She was predeceased by brother **John Pierce '56**. Martha was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Glenna Hartman Higgins '54**, of OH, Feb. 21, 2025, age 92. She was predeceased by husband **Charles Higgins '52**. Glenna is survived by cousin **Eugene Borish '71**. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

**Vernon Huston '54**, of Findlay, OH, Jan. 30, 2025, age 95. He was predeceased by brother **Talmage Huston '43**.

**Frances Kelley '54**, of Bow, NH, April 23, 2025, age 93.

**Kenneth Massar '54**, of Etna, ME, Nov. 11, age 93. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Mary Carol Creswell Short '54**, of Houston, TX, Sept. 11, age 93. She was predeceased by husband **Jack Short '55**. Mary Carol is survived by children **Melissa Short deCordova '82** and **Thomas Short '80**, and niece **Katherine Sandin Eckerson '79**. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

**Patricia James Simpson '54**, of Tucson, AZ, April 12, 2025, age 92. She was predeceased by husband **C. Dee Simpson '54**, mother **Dorothy Rice James 1928**, and aunt **Margaret Rice Wickham '31**. Pat was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**Marilyn Kaighin Townsend '54**, of Warren, OH, Oct. 19, age 92. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

**Clinton Vidic '54**, of Portland, OR, March 16, 2025. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**Kathryn Warren '54**, of Leipsic, OH, March 10, 2025, age 92. She was predeceased by sister **Ann Warren Wheat '57**. Kathryn was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

**Barbara Mueller Weller '54**, of Oakwood, OH, Oct. 30, age 93. She was predeceased by brother **John Mueller '64** and aunt **Mary Mueller Patterson '33**. Barbara is survived by cousin **Carolyn Patterson Gormont '64**. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

**Carolyn Huling Wenzelberger '54**, of Worthington, OH, May 26, 2025, age 92. She is survived by sister **Eleanor Huling Peirce '59**. Carolyn was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

**Helen Hynes Dray '55**, of Kissimmee, FL, March 19, 2025, age 91. She was predeceased by cousin **Robert Terhune '58**. Helen was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**Rev. George Goodwin '55**, of Ellicott City, MD, May 12, 2025, age 91. He was a member of Beta Sigma Tau fraternity.

**Cynthia Hibberd '55**, of Salem, MA, Oct. 5, 2025, age 91. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

**Jill Curtiss Macy '55**, of Iowa Falls, IA, April 27, 2025, age 92. She was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.

**Cynthia Evans Mock '55**, of FL, Jan. 9, 2025, age 91. She was predeceased by husband **Russell Mock '58** and cousin **Peggy Keller Cruse '48**. Cynthia is survived by sister **Susan Evans Thorbahn '54**. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Gay Odell '55**, of Boise, ID, April 17, 2025, age 92. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**Joel Peterson '55**, of Virginia Beach, VA, Feb. 9, 2025, age 91. He is survived by brothers **Wilbur Peterson '52** and **John Peterson '61**. Joel was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

**Raymond Thweatt '55**, of Mechanicsburg, PA, Oct. 24, 2025, age 91. He is survived by wife **Joan Spiller Thweatt '58** and daughter **Sharon Thweatt Kronyak '84**. Raymond was a member of Chi Phi fraternity.

**Donna Krieger Veller '55**, of IL, March 18, 2025, age 91. She is survived by daughter **Becky Veller '87**. Donna was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

**Malcolm White '55**, of Tipp City, OH, Aug. 29, 2025, age 91. He was a member of Chi Phi fraternity.

**John Ashworth '56**, of Cedarville, MI, Sept. 20, age 91. He is survived by wife **Rosemary Baxter Ashworth '57**. John was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Frederick Baver '56**, of Lewis Center, OH, June 7, 2025, age 90. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**Edgar Bircher '56**, Feb. 17, 2025, age 90. He is survived by son **Douglas Bircher '78**. Ed was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**Nancy Atma Brooks '56**, of Thornton, CO, Aug. 16, age 91. She was predeceased by ex-husband **David Nystrom '56**. Nancy was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**David Bryenton '56**, of New Knoxville, OH, April 2, 2025, age 91. He was predeceased by cousin **Eleanor Bryenton Guy '53** and her husband **Daniel Guy '49**. David was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Beverly Bauck Coppinger '56**, of IN, Feb. 23, 2025, March. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Barbara Gellhaus Dellinger '56**, of OH, Aug. 6, age 91. She was predeceased by sisters **Ann Gellhaus Jackson '50** and **Marion Gellhaus Munroe '42**. Barbara is survived by son **Robert Dellinger '82**. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**Richard Gall '56**, of Walnut Creek, CA, Oct. 22, age 91. He was predeceased by parents **Joseph Gall '35** and **Alice Miller Gall '33** and uncle **Howard Miller '50**. Dick was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

**David Given '56**, of Hilton Head, SC, June 7, 2025, age 90. He was predeceased by parents **Robert Given '33** and **Ruth Maurer Given '34**. Dave is survived by wife **Carol Apel Given '57** and sister **Carol Given Imm '60**. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Peter Parker '56**, of Winston-Salem, NC, July 9, 2025. He was predeceased by sister **Kay Parker Jex '50**. Pete is survived by ex-spouse **Pricilla Meacham Anderson '57**, sister **Ann Parker Miller '59**, and nephew **Jeffrey Jex '81**. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Joseph Shipman '56**, of Canton, OH, Nov. 7, 2024, age 90. He was a member of Phi Kappa Tau fraternity.

**Charles Tyburski '56**, of Louisville, OH, Jan. 31, 2025, age 90. He was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

**C. Russell Huston '57**, of Medina, OH, Jan. 7, 2026, age 90. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Edwin Stanford '57**, of Fort Walton Beach, FL, June 18, 2024, age 88. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

**Clifford Aikens '58**, of Pinehurst, NC, Oct. 23, 2025, age 89. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**Ron Carlson '58**, of Pinehurst, FL, Jan. 10, 2026. He was predeceased by brother **Charles Carlson '55**. Ron is survived by wife **Priscilla Morrison Carlson '58**, daughter **Rebecca Carlson Royer '85**, and brother **Robert Carlson '63**. Tom was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

**Elizabeth Plavcan Drumm '58**, of Akron, OH, July 30, 2025, age 89. She was predeceased by brother **William Plavcan '55**. Lisa is survived by nephew **William Plavcan '81**. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

**Henry Fisher '58**, of Kennett Square, PA, May 29, 2025, age 89. He was predeceased by brother **Frank Fisher '53**. Henry was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**Ann LeFerve Fryman '58**, of Granville, OH, Jan. 2, 2026, age 89. She is survived by husband **Richard Fryman '57**. Ann was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**Emilie DeWeese Kanitz '58**, of Saginaw, MI, Feb. 10, 2026, age 89. She is survived by sister **Suzanne DeWeese D'Ettorre '55**. Emilie was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

**James McCarty '58**, of PA, April 15, 2025, age 88. He was predeceased by sister-in-law **Judith Ronald McCarty '56**. James is survived by brother **Donald McCarty '56** and niece **Lynn McCarty Nutt '79** and her husband **David Nutt '76**. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

**William Russell '58**, Jan. 9, 2025, age 88. He is survived by wife **Linnie Russell '58**. William was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

**Barbara Wheatley Sweeney '58**, of Steubenville, OH, June 4, 2025, age 89. She was predeceased by mother-in-law **Ethel Deford Sweeney 1927**. Barbara is survived by husband **William Sweeney '58**. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

**James Conley '59**, of College Station, TX, May 16, 2025, age 87. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

**Sally Reiff Dickey '59**, of Glenview, IL, Dec. 19, 2025, age 88. She was predeceased by mother **Martha Huston Reiff, 1926**. Sally is survived by husband **E. James Dickey '57**, children **Deborah Dickey Shellard '83**, **Douglas Dickey '88**, **David Dickey '90**, and **Derek Dickey '97**, sister **Mary Reiff Pollock '61**, and granddaughter **Elizabeth Dickey '23X**. She was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**Judith Hopple Hagan-Bauza '59**, of Columbus, OH, May 15, 2025, age 88.

**Margaret Read Hammitt '59**, of Rapid City, SD, Nov. 15, 2024, age 86. She was predeceased by husband **Jackson Hammitt '59**. Peg was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority.

**Mary Kookootsedes Jannides '59**, of Sidney, OH, June 28, 2025, age 87. She was predeceased by brothers **Gust Kookootsedes '51** and **Chris Christy '53**, sister-in-law **Nancy Champion Christy '54**, and cousin **Mary Leakas '46**. Mary is survived by niece **Anne Christy Taylor '77**. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

**Thomas Jenkins '59**, of Williamsburg, VA, Oct. 17, 2025, age 88. He was predeceased by mother **Ruth Henney Jenkins, 1929**. Thomas is survived by wife **Constance Bartram Jenkins '59** and brother **Stephen Jenkins '62**. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**James Kitson '59**, of Webster, NY, May 19, 2025, age 87. He was predeceased by domestic partner **Marilyn Clasen '59** and mother **Wilma Talcott Kitson '32**. Jim is survived by sister **Joanne Kitson Palmer '67**. He was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**Rev. Lynn Homeyer Ramshaw '59**, of FL, Dec. 23, 2025, age 88. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

**Ronald Rathburn '59**, of Columbus, OH, Feb. 12, 2025, age 87. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

**Douglas Schmidt '59**, of NC, July 1, 2025, age 87. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**Henry Vigor '59**, of Hudson, OH, Feb. 26, 2025, age 87. He was predeceased by father **William Vigor 1925** and sister-in-law **Linda Weimann Vigor '62**. Henry is survived by brother **William Vigor '62**. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

## 1960s

**Ronald Filkill '60**, of Cleveland, OH, Aug. 17, 2024, age 87. He is survived by wife **Janet Lane Filkill '60X**. Ronald was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

**Earl "Kent" Gibbs '60**, of Logan, UT, Feb. 9, 2025, age 86. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**Lydia Chawner Hadley '60**, of Upper Arlington, OH, Dec. 9, 2025, age 87. She was predeceased by former spouse **John Detrick '57**. Lydia is survived by son **Andrew Detrick '89**. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Rev. Ellen Ratkovich Hill '60**, of Irvine, CA, Oct. 6, 2025. She was predeceased by sister **Lynn Ratkovich Becker '63** and survived by sister **Janet Ratkovich Kelly '64**. Ellen was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

**Sharon Rose Howard '60**, of Oriental, NC, Oct. 14, age 87. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**David Hume '60**, of London, OH, April 27, 2025, age 87. He was predeceased by wife **Carla Calhoun Hume '61**, mother **Virginia Hume 1928**, and sister **Gloria Hume Daly '56**. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**Lt. Col. Kenneth Kagiya '60**, of Carrollton, GA, June 30, 2025, age 86. He was a member of Beta Sigma Tau fraternity.

**Kenneth Lauterer '60**, of Gainesville, FL, Jan. 19, 2026, age 87. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**John Morrison '60**, of Lake Forest, IL, Feb. 17, 2025, age 88. He is survived by son **Jason Morrison '98**. John was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Max Neufeldt '60**, of Santa Barbara, CA, June 27, 2025, age 86. He was predeceased by sister **Carol Neufeldt Rose '58**. Max was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Cynthia Anslow Saponetti '60**, of Akron, OH, April 11, 2025, age 86. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

**James Schroeder '60**, of Madison, NJ, April 27, 2025, age 87. He is survived by daughter **Stephanie Schroeder Evans '08** and son-in-law **Clint Evans '05**. Jim was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**Dennis Appleyard '61**, of Chapel Hill, NC, March 13, 2025, age 85. He was predeceased by wife **Gwen Greenfield Appleyard '61**. Dennis was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

**Roger Brown '61**, of Naples, FL, May, 30, 2025, age 86. He is survived by wife **Sandra Chrisholm Brown '59**. Roger was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**Vivian Smith Evans '61**, of West Liberty, OH, and Columbia, SC, Dec. 12, 2025, age 86. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

**Marjorie Youker Hall '61**, of Orr's Island, ME, March 18, 2025, age 85. She was predeceased by sister **Celeste Youker Ferrell '53**. Marge is survived by sisters **Sarah Youker Seaman '66** and **Nora Youker Taylor '57**, as well as niece **Elizabeth Taylor-Herlevsen '94**. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

**Nancy Rickey Keltner '61**, of Davis, CA, Oct. 17, 2025, age 85. She was predeceased by parents **Branch Rickey Jr. '35** and **Mary Iams Rickey '35**, grandparents **Branch Rickey, 1904**, and **Jennie Moulton Rickey, 1903**, aunts **Nancy Iams Egbert '45**, **Mary Rickey Eckler '35**, **Jane Rickey Jones '38**, and **Sue Rickey Adams '44**, uncle **John Eckler '35**, and cousin **Jenne Eckler Pugh '68**. Nancy is survived by husband **John Keltner '61**, siblings **Branch Rickey III '67**, and **Caroline Rickey Hughes '59**, and cousin **Molly Eckler '69**. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

**Phillip Prather '61**, of Huntersville, NC, July 10, 2025, age 86. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**Martha Hayes Smith '61**, of Cranston, RI, Jan. 25, 2026, She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**Shirley Diefendorf Sommer '61**, of Chapel Hill, NC, Oct. 31, 2025, age 86. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

**Max Urick '61**, of Manhattan, KS, Nov. 21, 2025, age 86. He is survived by brother **Duane Urick '69**. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Jerry Vaughn '61**, of FL, Sept. 5, 2025, age 85. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Jan Elliott '62**, of Rockford, IL, Aug. 31, 2025, age 84. He was predeceased by wife **Sandra Howe Elliott '64**. Jan is survived by son **Michael Elliot '92**. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

**William Garrison '62**, of Lyndhurst, OH, June 20, 2025, age 85. He is survived by sister **M. Kay Garrison Callentine '63** and stepsister **Kathy Cryer Keller '68**. Bill was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

**Marilyn Redman Giles '62**, of St. Augustine, FL, Sept. 20, 2025. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

**Judith Linson Kramer '62**, of Chagrin Falls, OH, March 6, 2025, age 84. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**Vincent Matal '62**, of Raleigh, NC, June 16, 2025, age 84. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

**George Morris '62**, of Upper St. Clair, PA, Nov. 3, 2025, age 85. He was predeceased by brother **Kenneth Morris '60**. George was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

**Edward Sellers '62**, of Springboro, OH, July 31, 2025, age 85. He is survived by son **Daniel Sellers '92** and daughter-in-law **April Edwards Sellers '92**. Ed was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Creighton Spinn '62**, of Platte City, MO, Aug. 27, 2025, age 85. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**C. Thomas Swaim '62**, of MA, July 7, 2025, age 84. He was predeceased by his first wife **Jeanine Shepherd Swaim '62**. Tom was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

**Lt. Col. Christian Crooker '63**, of Dover, DE, Nov. 14, 2025, age 84. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Paula Bodwell Harvey '63**, of Shaker Heights, OH, Dec. 3, 2025, age 84. She was predeceased by mother **Virginia Kinnison Bodwell '36**, aunt **Frances Kinnison Vossler '41**, and grandfather **Paul Kinnison, 1907**. Paula was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**James Hilborn '63**, of Delaware, OH, Dec. 13, 2025, age 84. He was predeceased by first wife **Mary Meier Hilborn '63** and parents **Wayne Hilborn '36** and **Katherine Klinzing Hilborn '39**. Jim was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Marilyn McGarrity Minford '63**, of Winston-Salem, NC, June 14 2025, age 83. She was predeceased by parents **George McGarrity '34** and **Eleanor McGaughy Truxall '37**, and uncle **Howard McGaughy '36**. Marilyn is survived by brother **Richard McGarrity '69** and cousin **Judith Hogan Cline '64**. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

**H. "Jean" McBride Oaks '63**, of Hertford, NC, July 15, 2025, age 83. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**R. "Steve" Dawson '64**, of Coshocton, OH, June 4, 2025, age 82. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

**Sandra Pinschmidt Hutton '64**, of Milwaukee, WI, April 30, 2025, age 82. She was predeceased by mother **Marjorie Hartsock Pinschmidt '42**, aunt **Helen Hartsock Davis '38**, and grandparents **Jay Hartsock 1913** and **Grace Hartsock 1913**. Sandra was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

**Laura Hardy Imperial '64**, of Durham, NC, Feb. 27, 2025, age 82. She was predeceased by mother **Jane Gosling Hardy '34** and cousins **Elizabeth Gosling Spencer '57** and Arthur Gosling '58. Laura was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Judith Barney Karpinski '64**, of Wilmington, NC, Oct. 14, 2025, age 82. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

**A. Eric Kirvel '64**, of OH, Dec. 16, 2025, age 83. He is survived by brother **Robert Kirvel '66**. Eric was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**John Neff '64**, of Boulder, CO, Feb. 23, 2025, age 82. He was predeceased by father **Ralph Neff 1928**. John is survived by brother **Harry Neff '66** and sister-in-law **Marilyn Scheiner Neff '67**. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

**Philip Penry '64**, of Springfield, OH, April 14, 2025, age 82. He is survived by brother **Richard Penry '62**. Phil was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Betsy Barrett Pry '64**, of Pinehurst, NC, 2025, Aug. 14, age 82. She was predeceased by husband **C. Nicholas "Nik" Pry '63**. Betsy is survived by son Barrett Pry '91. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**Sandra Clark Reese '64**, of Waite Park, MN, March 24, 2025, age 82. She was predeceased by husband **Fred Reese '53**. Sandra was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.

**Suanne Cunningham Rowe '64**, of MD, Nov. 8, 2025, age 83. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

**Robert St. John '64**, of CA, Aug. 12, 2024. He is survived by wife **Sandra Bastian St. John '65**, brothers **Michael St. John '66** and **Thomas St. John '68**, and niece **Elizabeth St. John '93**. Robert was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**Susan Clodfelter Tuckley '64**, of Charlotte, NC, Feb. 17, 2025, age 82. She was predeceased by husband **Philip Tuckley '63**. Susan is survived by sister-in-law **Linda Tuckley '65**. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

**Barbara Coultrap Zachar '64**, of Clarendon Hills, IL, Dec. 26, 2025, age 83. She was predeceased by father **James Coultrap '32**, sister **Virginia Coultrap Kline '61**, and uncle **Paul Coultrap '36**. Barbara is survived by sister **Martha Doty Allen '65**. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**Ann Bowyer Boren '65**, of Cincinnati, OH, Feb. 1, 2025, age 81. She is survived by husband **Gregory Boren '64**. Ann was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

**Kay Erlenbach '65**, of New London, OH, Dec. 25, 2025, age 82. She is survived by brother **Thomas Erlenbach '57**.

**Joyce Fleming '65**, of CA, Feb. 17, 2025, age 81. She is survived by sister **Mary Carolyn Fleming Fisher '64**. Joyce was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**Cynthia Meyer Goldberg '65**, of Raleigh, NC, Dec. 26, 2025, age 82.

**Joseph Groscost '65**, of Sandusky, OH, Oct. 18, 2025, age 81. He is survived by daughter **Hannah Groscost Kennedy '91**. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity and OWU Swimming Hall of Fame.

**Ellen Vastine Hartz '65**, of St. Louis, MO, April 1, 2025, age 81. She was predeceased by grandfather **Charles McConnell 1907**. Ellen was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

**Peter Lee '65**, of Murrieta, CA, Nov. 1, 2025, age 82. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**Mary Smith '65**, of Lake Mary, FL, Aug. 7, 2025, age 81.

**Anne Rodgers '65**, of Hendersonville, NC, Feb. 13, 2025, age 81. She was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.

**James Russell '65**, of Glencoe, IL, July 7, 2025, age 81. He is survived by brother **William Russell '67**. Jim was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**John Vigor '65**, of Lexington, KY, Aug. 31, 2024, age 81. He was predeceased by mother-in-law **Wilda Legge Crosby '39**, father-in-law **Robert Crosby '39**, sister-in-law **Kristan Rinker Crosby '68**, and brother-in-law **Robert Crosby '64**. John is survived by wife **Catherine Crosby Vigor '65**, sister-in-law **Carol Crosby Mundy '67**, and cousin **Kristin Kelling '99**. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**William Bassett '66**, of Southbury, CT, Sept. 20, 2025, age 81. He was predeceased by wife **Judith Prasse Bassett '66** and brother **Richard Bassett '69**. Bill was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**Mary Williams Brown '66**, of Lanexa, VA, Nov. 4, 2025, age 81. She is survived by husband **Keith Brown '64**.

**H. LeRoy Deabler '66**, of Concord, NC, Jan. 16, 2026, age 81. He was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

**Julia Harvey Goldie '66**, of Rye, NY, Oct. 14, 2025, age 81.

**Alan Itzkowitz '66**, of Vernon, CT, Jan. 10, 2026, age 81. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**Melinda Miller '66**, of CA, Nov. 15, 2025, age 80. She was predeceased by father **Dwight Miller, 1927**. Melinda is survived by brother **John Miller '59**. She was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.

**Otto "Barney" Apel '67**, of Wilmington, NC, July 17, 2025, age 79. He was predeceased by uncle **William Apel '56** and first-cousin-once-removed **Martin Glockner '09**. Barney is survived by son **Jon Apel '96** and cousin **Molly Apel Glockner '80**. His son **Christopher Apel '92** passed away on Nov. 11, 2025. Barney was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**Jack Bowman '67**, of OK, Dec. 19, 2024, age 79. He is survived by siblings **James Bowman '70** and **Jane Bowman '76**, and nephew **James Bowman '93**.

**Loraine "Laurie" Brown Cowles '67**, of Northfield, MN, Aug. 5, 2025, age 80. She is survived by husband **William Cowles '67**. Laurie was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

**T. "George" Hess '67**, of Mansfield, OH, July 29, 2025, age 80. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

**Peter O'Neill '67**, of NY, Nov. 9, 2025, age 79. He was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

**Scott Corry '68**, of Iowa City, IA, April 4, 2025, age 79.

**Richard Fraunfelder '68**, of Bellingham, WA, July 18, 2025, age 80. He was predeceased by parents **William Fraunfelder '36** and **Marian Buchwalter Fraunfelder '36**, and aunt **Rosamonde Fraunfelder Naegele '44**. Rick is survived by wife **Nancy Wright Fraunfelder '70**, brother **George Fraunfelder '68**, sister **Elizabeth Fraunfelder White '71**, and niece **Katherine White Arendt '98**. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**Leslie Hanna '68**, of Miller, IN, Aug. 12, 2025, age 79. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

**William Hibbard '68**, of New Bern, NC, Nov. 26, 2025, age 79.

**Anne Sherwin Hitchcock '68**, of MA, Dec. 10, 2025, age 79. She is survived by son **Nicholas Merluzzi '07**.

**Lee Billings Kreinbuhl '68**, of New Philadelphia, OH, July 24, 2025, age 79. She is survived by son **Keith Kreinbuhl '99**.

**Martin Ligocki '68**, of Crown Point, IN, Jan. 25, 2025, age 78. He was predeceased by **brother Gordon Ligocki '65**. Marty is survived by siblings **Llewellyn Ligocki '63** and **Sylvia Ligocki Wagner '71**. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

**Edith Hall Luce '68**, of Athens, OH, Aug. 17, 2025, age 78. She is survived by husband **Thomas Luce '69**.

**Christopher Smith '68**, of Eureka, CA, Nov. 1, 2025, age 79. He was predeceased by cousin **Mary Fairbanks Shackelford '39**.

**Thomas Vandivort '68**, of Bixby, OK, Nov. 8, 2025, age 79. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

**Keith Burich '69**, of Buffalo, NY, Feb. 13, 2025, age 77. He is survived by daughter **Grace Burich '21**. Keith was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

**Robert Cliff '69**, of ID, Dec. 2, 2025, age 78. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**Diana Ferber '69**, of NJ, March 5, 2025, age 77. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

**John Glatfelter '69**, of West York, PA, July 23, 2025, age 78. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**David McDaniel '69**, of North Canton, OH, Feb. 7, 2025, age 78. He is survived by wife **Donna Jewett McDaniel '70**. Dave was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Clifton "Fenn" Pierce '69**, of Cincinnati, OH, Dec. 1, 2025, age 78. He is survived by wife **Carol Hess Pierce '68**, cousin **Robert Fenning '68**, and nephew **Kyle Foulkrod '02**. Fenn was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Richard Subel '69**, of Chagrin Falls, OH, 2025, May 30, age 78. He is survived by wife **Susan Struna Subel '69** and niece **Catherine Figgie '08**. Rick was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Robert Willis '69**, of CT, March 24, 2025, age 77. He is survived by wife **Barbara Schwab Willis '70**. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

## 1970s

**Cynthia Jones Godwin '71**, of Tucson, AZ, April 1, 2025. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**Emmanuel Kekumbe '71**, of Democratic Republic of Congo, Dec. 19, 2024, age 79.

**Kelly Ann McGarrity '71**, of Warwick, PA, Dec. 17, 2025, age 76. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**Alan Prescott '71**, of Halfmoon, NY, Jan. 21, 2025, age 76.

**Deborah Bell Stanley '71**, of IN, Jan. 9, 2026, age 76. She was predeceased by father **Donald Bell, 1929**.

**Linda Mackey Stude '71**, of North Hollywood, CA, March 4, 2025, age 75. She was a member of OWU's Tower Society.

**Robert Bauer '72**, of Westerville, OH, June 28, 2025, age 74. He was predeceased by brother **Jack Bauer '70**. Bob is survived by wife **Susan Williams Bauer '74**, daughter **Jessica Bauer '02**, niece **Claudia Henning '11**, and cousins **Julie Eliot Gulisano '93** and **Ann Eliot Naille '85**. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**David Gardner '72**, of Upper Arlington, OH, Feb. 10, 2025, age 74. He was predeceased by mother **Maxine Domigan Gardner '34**.

**Ellen Mallory Hayes '72**, of Potsdam, NY, Aug. 20, 2025, age 74.

**Kenneth Long '72**, of LaGrange, GA, Aug. 9, 2025, age 75. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

**Timothy O'Hara '72**, of East Liverpool, OH, June 3, 2025, age 75. He was predeceased by father **Delmar O'Hara '38**, father-in-law **C. R. Andrews '37**, and mother-in-law **Mary Dietz Andrews '38**. Tim is survived by wife **Rebecca Andrews O'Hara '72**, siblings **Delmar O'Hara '70**, **Kathleen O'Hara Hursh '73**, **Becky O'Hara '78**, and **Patrick O'Hara '81**, and niece **Jillian O'Hara '22**. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

**Laurence "Larry" Rosen '72**, of New Rochelle, NY, Oct. 5, 2024, age 74. He was a member of Chi Phi fraternity.

**Robert Stein '72**, of Houston, TX, July 18, 2025, age 75. He is survived by wife **Martha "Marty" Lewis Stein '73**.

**Christine Kouba James '73**, March, 20, 2025, age 73. She is survived by husband **Peter James '73**, son **Andrew James '02**, and cousin Carl James '74. Chris was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**David Pendergast '73**, of Boston and Mattapoisett, MA, Dec. 12, 2025, age 75. He is survived by niece **Emily Pendergast Laverack '09**.

**Catherine "Kate" Jones Mercer '74**, of Guilford, CT, Dec. 29, 2025, age 73. She is survived by former husband **Robert Mercer '73**. Kate was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**Linda Revay Mastroianni '74**, of Milford, CT, Aug. 26, 2025, age 72.

**Stephen Abarbanel '75**, of Hingham, MA, July 30, 2025, age 72.

**Kathleen Kelly Brucker '75**, of Salem, SC, April 5, 2025, age 72.

**Suzanne Leake Converse '75**, of Fort Thomas, KY, June 1, 2025, age 72.

**Brian Davis '75**, of NY, Jan. 18, 2026, age 72. He is survived by sister **Coral Davis Snider '69** and niece **Jill Snider Payne '00**. Brian was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**Pete Dow '75**, of West Milton, OH, Nov. 10, 2025, age 72. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**Thomas Pacconi '75**, of Jackson Township, OH, July 1, 2025, age 72. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

**Karen Broberg Palotti '75**, of Simsbury, CT, Sept. 23, 2025, age 72. She was predeceased by parents **William Broberg '50** and **Margaret Gilruth Broberg '50**. Karen is survived by sisters **Catherine Broberg Foerster '73**, **Donna Broberg Shum '77**, and **Linda Broberg Kilmer '77**.

**Karen Beacham Tarbell '75**, of Denver, CO, Jan. 14, 2026, age 72.

**Pamela Bradford Volk '75**, of Leesburg, FL, Jan. 20, 2026, age 72. She is survived by brother **Douglas Bradford '72**.

**Claire Brown Baker '76**, of IN, July 3, 2025, age 71. She is survived by former husband **Bruce Baker '76**. Claire was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

**Kathleen Snook Maxted '76**, of North Palm Beach, FL, Nov. 8, 2025, age 71. She is survived by husband **John Maxted '75**. Kathy was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**Eric Parssinen '76**, of Dallas, TX, Sept. 3, 2025, age 71. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

**Wendy Raphael '76**, of Whispering Pines, NC, July 21, 2025, age 72. She is survived by daughter Elizabeth Raphael '16.

**Kathryn Bye Simmons '76**, of Annapolis, MD, Nov. 23, 2025, age 70. She was predeceased by husband **William Simmons '75**. Kathy was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

**Margaret Raymond Stickel '76**, of Jeffersonville, OH, March 19, 2025, age 71.

**Laura Hale Clingenpeel '77**, of Mystic, CT, Feb. 20, 2025, age 67. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

**Robert Fahning '77**, of Grand Island, NY, Aug. 4, 2025, age 70. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

**John Holmes '77**, of OH, Aug. 14, 2025, age 75.

**Cynthia Hastas Morris '77**, of TN, Nov. 6, 2025, age 70. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

**David Nordholt '77**, of OH, Feb. 24, 2025, age 69. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

**Margaret Smyth Biringier '78**, of Roswell, GA, Sept. 1, 2025, age 69. She is survived by husband **Robert Biringier '75** and cousin **Andrea Smyth Arnold '74**. Margo was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Edward Jenkins '78**, of Savannah, GA, June 29, 2025, age 73. He was predeceased by step-parent **Sherman Roberts '36**. Ed was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Frances "Muffy" Bates Pope '78**, of MO, Aug. 27, 2025, age 70. She was predeceased by husband **George Pope '76**. Muffy is survived by sister **Dorothy Bates Engler '78** and son **George Pope '02**.

**David Shannon '78**, of OH, Dec. 10, 2025, age 70. He is survived by wife **Lisa Martin Shannon '78**. Dave was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Dwight Frazer '79**, of MI, July 27, 2025, age 68. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

**George Schimenti '79**, of Wilton, CT, Oct. 14, 2025, age 70.

**Starr Schlobohm Jr. '79**, of Mashpee, MA, Dec. 4, 2025, age 69. He was predeceased by father **Starr Schlobohm '50**, mother **Ina Gorham Schlobohm '52**, and uncle **Alvin Stapf '49**. Starr was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Charles Stone '79**, of Wilmington, NC, May 16, 2025, age 68. He was predeceased by parents **Charles Stone '55** and **Leanne Anderson Stone '55**, and grandfather **Charles Stone 1927**. Charles is survived by sister **Carol Stone '80**, niece **Katherine Stone '14**, and nephew **William Stone '13**. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

**Peter Workman '79**, of Harleysville, PA, Nov. 10, 2025, age 69.

## 1980s

**Brian Baker '80**, of Kansas City, MO, Feb. 26, 2025, age 66. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

**Lex Hartline '80**, of Delaware, OH, Sept. 22, 2025, age 67. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

**Marvin "Mickey" Holmes '80**, of Newark, NJ, June 25, 2025, age 66.

**James Callahan '81**, of CT, Jan. 1, 2026, age 66. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**Joel Fader '83**, of Owings Mills, MD, May 8, 2025, age 63.

**Lisa Miller Heller '83**, Atlanta, GA, Oct. 8, 2025, age 64.

**Laura Fliieger Phelan '84**, of VA, Oct. 31, 2025, age 63. She is survived by husband **Michael Phelan '84** and son **Michael Phelan, Jr. '11**. Laura was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

**Peter Krasnoff '85**, of Pennington, NJ, July 10, 2025, age 61. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**Kathleen Thaler Thompson '86**, of New Orleans, LA, Dec. 3, 2025, age 61. She was predeceased by father **Donald Thaler '52**. Kathleen was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

## 1990s

**Eric Wurzel '90**, of Charleston, SC, May 16, 2025, age 57. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**Amy Webster Biro '91**, of CO, Dec. 23, 2025, age 56. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**Christopher Apel '92**, of Etna, OH, Nov. 11, 2025, age 55. He was predeceased by father **Otto Apel '67**, great uncle **William Apel '56**, and cousin **Martin Glockner '09**. Chris is survived by brother **Jon Apel '96**, first-cousin-once-removed **Molly Apel Glockner '80**, and former spouse **Lindsey Apel '00**. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

**Candace Robbins '95**, of Agawam, MA, March 11, 2025, age 51.

**Eric Swartzentruber '95**, of Wooster, OH, Jan. 6, 2026, age 53. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Brian Buchanan '97**, of KY, Dec. 21, 2025, age 51. He is survived by wife **Grey Cavanah Buchanan '96**. Brian was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

**Jeffrey Meaney '97**, of Ashtabula, OH, Aug. 28, 2025, age 50.

**Thomas Cammock '98**, of Bay Village, OH, March 17, 2025, age 48. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

## 2000s

**Christopher Ploszaj '03**, of Washington DC, April 18, 2025, age 43.

**Elizabeth Curseen Agbottah '05**, of Detroit, MI, April 25, 2025, age 41.

**Priyanka Deobhakta '05**, of Prospect, KY, June 1, 2025, age 41. She is survived by sister **Shireen Deobhakta '00**.

## 2010s

**Nicholas Oleski '12**, of OH, Nov. 19, 2024, age 34.

## 2020s

**Tatum Brown Gardner '22**, of Cleveland, OH, Feb. 28, 2025, age 25. She was predeceased by grandmother-in-law **Marianne Ruple Gardner '64**. Tatum is survived by husband **George "Drew" Gardner '21**, grandfather-in-law **George "Gus" Gardner '64**, aunt-in-law **Abigail Gardner '94**, uncle-in-law **Bill Ruple '69**, and cousin-in-law **Dale Stewart '07**. She was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

**Alessandro Bruni '25**, of Brookline, MA, March 15, 2025, age 23.

## Faculty & Staff

**Bernard Derr**, of Delaware, OH, July 29, 2025, age 83. He was the rare books librarian at OWU from 1987-2018. He is survived by son **John Derr '00**.

**Clifford Cook**, of Howard, OH, Aug. 6, 2025, age 79. He was a professor of accounting and finance at OWU until retiring in 2015. He is survived by son **Andrew Cook '96**.

**Lewis Fikes**, of Delaware, OH, Aug. 29, 2025, age 82. He was a chemistry professor at OWU from 1985-2004. Lewis is survived by daughter **Lara Fikes Dominy '93**.

**Janis Fleischmann**, of Delaware, OH, Jan. 13, 2026, age 78. She worked at OWU for nearly 20 years, retiring as the secretary for the Woltemade Center for Economics, Business, and Entrepreneurship.

**Martha Goldstein**, of Delaware, OH, March 13, 2025, age 76. She was a part-time instructor in math and computer science at OWU. Marty is survived by husband **Gerald "Jerry" Goldstein**, a former professor at OWU, and daughter **Kaye Goldstein '03**.

**David Hull**, of Columbus, OH, Aug. 20, 2025, age 86. He was the Henry E. Parrott Professor of Mathematics and Statistics at OWU from 1970-2000.

**Bernard Murchland**, of Delaware, OH, June 24, 2025, age 96. He was a professor in OWU's philosophy department from 1967-2010, serving as department chair and later professor emeritus. Bernard received OWU's Bishop Herbert Welch Meritorious Teaching Award. He was predeceased by wife **Joan O'Neill Murchland '83**. Bernard is survived by daughters **Suzanne Murchland Luecke '88** and **Rebecca Murchland '92**.

**Mary Napier**, of Marion, OH, Feb. 26, 2025, age 63. She worked in food service at OWU.

**Dick Smith '05 HON**, of Delaware, OH, July 1, 2025, age 101. He was a professor at OWU from 1950-2014, as well as the namesake of OWU's annual Smith Lecture Series in Civil War history. Dick received OWU's Bishop Herbert Welch Meritorious Teaching Award. He was predeceased by mother **Mary Williams Smith 1917** and brother **David Smith '53**. Dick is survived by wife **Betty Jackson Smith '52**, niece **Rachel Smith Alternative '88**, and grandchildren **Jennifer Ripper '14** and **Rachel Lantz '22**.

## Friends

**John Eddy**, of Fort Worth, TX, Dec. 31, 2025, age 92. He was predeceased by son **John "Jeff" Eddy '90**, for whom the Eddy Lecture Series was named. John was a member of OWU's Tower Society.

## Sympathy To

**Sheila Peacock Allen '65** for the loss of her husband, James Allen, of Herndon, VA, March 5, 2025, age 82.

**Amanda Faust Collinsworth '97** for the loss of her father, David Faust, of Maumee, OH, July 28, 2025, age 77.

**Carol Nolan Drake '82** for the loss of her father, William Nolan, of Columbus, OH, June 27, 2025, age 98.

**Debra Irish '75** for the loss of her husband, Larry Irish, of South Lyon, MI, May 20, 2025, age 71.

**James Nelson '71** for the loss of his wife, Martha Nelson, of GA, July 7, 2025, age 82.

**Charles Quilhot '79** and **Dru Quilhot Conner '81** for the loss of his wife and her sister-in-law, Jane Mesic Quilhot, of Newport News, VA, Dec. 21, 2025, age 69.

**Lindsey Ganahl Savakinas '97** for the loss of her father, Jym Ganahl, of Columbus, OH, Feb. 3, 2025, age 76.

**Rebecca Wick '73** for the loss of her husband, James Wick, of Johns Island, SC, May 4, 2025, age 72.

## A Friendship That Became a Forever Gift

The year is 1956. The “baby boom” era is in full swing, Elvis Presley is exploding in popularity, Cold War fears are a part of daily life, and **Bryce Collier** arrives at Ohio Wesleyan from Rocky River, Ohio. Amid cultural shifts and national uncertainty, Bryce stepped onto the OWU campus ready to shape his own life.

Bryce excelled academically and was active on campus as a member of Delta Tau Delta, Psi Chi, the Men’s Glee Club, Circle K, and numerous other organizations. He was the business manager of *LeBijou* and the student body president. “Bryce was a model student,” recalls fraternity brother **Bruce Alton, ’61**. “He built the foundations of his career based on the opportunities OWU provides.”

After Bryce graduated in 1960, he enrolled at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, where he earned a reputation for academic excellence and as a caring physician. Bryce and his wife, Caren, also a graduate of the medical college, were selected as interns at Yale New Haven Hospital. Tragically, Bryce passed away in an accident two weeks after graduating from medical college.

Bryce’s passing left an indelible impact on Bruce’s life. However, he became busy with his own career in higher education, including serving as assistant dean of men at OWU at the invitation of Ron Stead, and as president of Rocky Mountain College. He continued his career as a consultant at Presidential Search Consultation Service, co-founded by former OWU president **Elden Smith**, and later at Academic Search. Through



During his internship at MetroHealth Medical Center, Ohio Wesleyan student Luke Przybys ’26 (left) was mentored by Prabhu Parimi, M.D., the hospital’s chair of Neonatology. Luke is a recipient of the The Bryce A. Collier, M.D., Endowed Scholarship Fund.

the years, Bruce didn’t forget about his friend, and he became determined to preserve Bryce’s legacy.

In 2016, Bruce and his wife, **Christie Lichtler Alton ’62**, established The Bryce A. Collier, M.D., Endowed Scholarship Fund. Soon, Bryce’s brother, Mark Collier, Ph.D., and his wife, Martha, also invested in the scholarship, which is awarded to “students majoring in pre-med who best exemplify the characteristics of leadership and human decency so perfectly represented by Bryce Collier’s life.”

“The scholarship is a way that I could ensure that Bryce’s legacy lives forever,” Bruce says. “Several other Delta Tau Delta brothers have also contributed.”

Though only partly funded, the remaining scholarship will be underwritten by several future estate gifts. The scholarship has already underwritten the tuition of six students, two of whom have completed medical school.

“I grew up in a single-parent family, and the Collier scholarship has significantly helped my family pay for my undergraduate education, which will enable me to pursue further education,” says **Luke Przybys ’26**. “After attending OWU, I plan to attend medical school and join the Navy through their HPSP scholarship, which will cover my full tuition.”

Empowering students like Luke to pursue their dreams is exactly what Bruce hoped the Collier Scholarship would achieve. “Even through the pain of Bryce’s death, it is a comfort to know his legacy will continue,” says Bruce. “In a sense, he will live forever.”



Bruce T. Alton, Ph.D., '61



Bryce A. Collier, M.D., '60

# 100 Years of Giving. A Lifetime of Impact.

## Let's Make it 100 More.

"The generosity of donors has impacted my time at OWU the most because it has allowed me to have the guidance and expertise from an excellent faculty and learning environment. With donors' help, OWU is able to attract the best of the best when it comes to students and professors. Programs supported by endowments provide a lot of opportunity for students, from study-trips to internships, special seminars, and network connections. I am grateful to be a part of OWU and every opportunity available to me."

—*Nathan Combs '27*  
Major: Finance  
Minor: Business Management

"The scholarships I have received make my academic journey possible and significantly contribute to my personal growth and resilience. I am grateful for OWU because OWU offers its students a unique experience. It is exceptional how the faculty and staff know our needs and passions and help us develop our strengths. There are many things to be thankful for and proud of during my time at OWU. I am most proud of my ability to navigate the challenges of college life while expanding my understanding of the world and its institutions."

—*Nyx Forsythe '27*  
Major: Fine Arts  
Minors: Spanish, Latin American Studies



As we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Annual Giving at Ohio Wesleyan, we reflect on the generosity of our donors, who have built the foundation of the OWU experience. We look back at the lives transformed and forward to the next century of impact that belongs to **YOU**. When you make your gift today, you will expand scholarships, strengthen academic programs, and foster new opportunities for every Bishop.



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A gift from **Cleo Ritz Schimmel '62** and **Paul Schimmel '62** made landscape renovations at the Schimmel/Conrades Science Center possible, including seating and the use of native plants. **Kimberly Mercurio '81** is the landscape architect.

Photo by Mark Schmitter '12