

Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 3 AUGUST 2017



Tree planted in memory of Coach Milt Martin by family and friends.....

A Rejoice Crabapple tree was planted on the Westmar Memorial Campus and dedicated to the memory of Coach Milt Martin in late June.

Family and friends assisting in the project included -- His wife, Ruth Martin, of Le Mars; Son: Jim (Kerry-Lee) Martin, '86 of Lisburn, Northern Ireland; grandchildren: Ben Martin and Grace Martin.

Step son: Aaron (Katie) Lee of Des Moines, step grandchildren: Blake and Oliver Lee. Step son: Adam (Amanda) Lee of Portland, Oregon, step grandchildren: Alexandra, Annabelle, and Madeline Lee.

Daughter-in-law: Angela Swanson Martin Wilson of Indiana, granddaughter: Michaela (Luke) Denlinger. Daughter-in-law: Melinda Oetken Martin (Dan) Stelling '88 of Pierce, Nebraska.

Merle Peterson, '73 and faculty.

Milt was preceded in death by sons Doug '83, Tom '87 and Mike.

The Eagle Flies.....

The dedication on June 10th was a tremendous success with about 200 people in attendance.

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Janice Kooiker, Wayne Marty, JoAnne Schleis, Terry Utesch, Al Maser, Barbara Wernli Collins, Cory Isenbrand, Steve Collins Eagle Project Committee

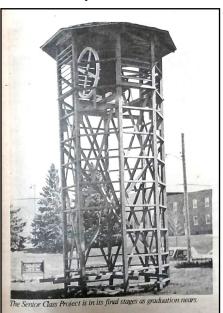
During the Last 100 Years

Le Mars Daily Sentinel May 14, 1979

RING THOSE BELLS

By Wayne Marty

Bells on the Westmar campus are a long standing tradition but became less of a presence during the latter years. Three examples come to mind: 1.The bell in the tower of Thoren Hall. Alumni through the 60's will frequently tell stories about Thoren Bell ringing pranks, often from afar, with wires or string, so the pranksters were well out of view. 2. A Hand-Bell, rung by the head waiter, was the traditional announcement for "Ready to Eat" when the Dining Hall was in the basement of Wernli prior to the change of food service to Weidler in 1958. 3. Classroom bells that marked the end of class periods were prominent in some buildings until the mid 1960's. All these ringing tones had become silent by 1970.



Circumstances in 1978 provided a new "ringing" opportunity. One of the many small United Methodist churches that were closing was in Hoskins, NE. There was a strong connection between that church and Westmar. Clarence Schroeder was an active Westmar Trustee. Dr. M. Gene Ulrich and others were students at Westmar and Dr. Ulrich returned as a member

of the Biology Faculty from 1967 through 1974. Members of the Hoskins United Methodist Church chose to give the bell from their church to Westmar. In July of 1978, Westmar Business Faculty member, David Weiler died suddenly, at age 42, leaving behind his wife Pauline (Polly) and nine children. This combination of events apparently initiated discussions that resulted in "The Senior Class project of 1979." The project "will be 'The Victory Bell Tower' in memory of Mr. David Weiler, . . . a Westmar professor who passed away this summer. . . . The tower will be constructed by the Industrial Arts Club under the supervision of Dr. Holman." (The Gleam, Oct. 3, 1978) The Bell Tower was dedicated and presented



Dedicate memorial bell tower

Participating in the dedication of a bell tower on the Westmar campus were (from left) Al Mangels, senior class president, president John F. Courter, Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Ulrich of Hoskins, Neb., and Mrs. David Weiler and family. The bell tower was presented by the senior class in honor of Weiler, assistant professor of business at Westmar until his death last summer. Photo/Westmar

to Westmar President, Dr. John Courter, by Al Mangels, Senior Class President as part of the Commencement Ceremonies in May of 1979. Dr. Ulrich's parents, Mr. & Mrs. Erwin Ulrich from the Hoskins Church were also present and added to the gift of the bell with a \$13,000 gift to Westmar from the sale of the closed EUB church. Thereafter the "victory" sound spread across campus following numerous athletic victories. It stood proudly north of the multi-use, multi-named, 1908 Gymnasium-Old Student Union-Home Ec.- Art Building.

The Bell sadly fell silent following the closing of the college in November 1997. In 2003 when the Westmar Memorial Park was established, the tower with bell was moved to a nearby but more appropriate location by Kooiker, Inc., a construction firm with equipment for such a task, and a firm with significant Westmar connections- Clayton Kooiker W'69 and spouse Janice (Dunbar) Kooiker W'67 (current WAFA Executive Director), Calvin Kookier and spouse Dixie (Dahl) Kooiker W'67. Although the tower and bell were preserved, the bell remained silent.



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During the Last 100 Years cont....

At the conclusion of the dedication ceremony for the "Westmar Eagle in Flight" on June 10, 2017, the bell sounded once again to mark a "victory" of "mission accomplished" by the Westmar Alumni and Friends. The Westmar Memorial Park is adjacent to the Le Mars Veterans Memorial Park which honors the sacrifices of the soldiers with a monument for each of the Wars of our country. The end of each war was a victory with mixed emotions – a mixture of sadness and the thrill of victory.

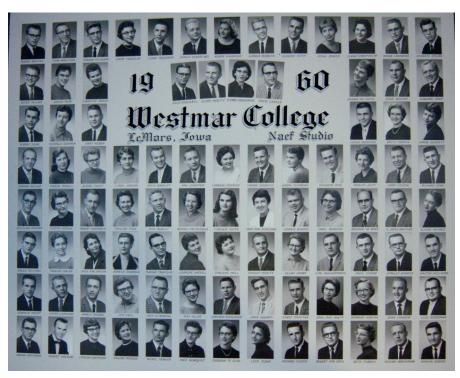
It seems appropriate to continue the use of the bell in some orderly fashion. With that goal in mind it is the intent that the bell be rung at 8:30 AM on the following annual dates to commemorate the end of each war:

- February 3, 1848
 End of the Mexican-American War
- February 18, 1815
 End of the War of 1812 (2nd Revolutionary War)
- 3. February 28, 1991 End of the Gulf War
- 4. May 7, 1975 End of the Viet Nam War
- 5. May 8, 1945 Victory in Europe (VE) Day WW II
- 6. May 9, 1865 End of the Civil War
- 7. July 4, 1776
 Signing of the Declaration of Independence
- 8. July 27, 1953 End of the Korean War
- 9. August 14, 1945 Victory in Japan (VJ) Day WW II
- 10. September 3, 1783 End of the Revolutionary War
- 11. November (variable)
 Election Day
- 12. November 11, 1918 End of WW I
- 13. December 10, 1898 End of the Spanish-American War

May the tones of this honorable Bell continue to ring as a memory of significant victories and accomplishments.

By: Wayne G. Marty

Alumni News



Class of 1960 wins Membership Contest.

The winner was based on the percentage of members to living members of the class as we know. The prize was a display in the Westmar Memorial Room at the Plymouth County Museum in Le Mars.





Unfortunately, I couldn't find much to work with. The jacket belonged to Larry Voas who received it in '60 and we just had a few booklets so added pages from the Gleam. We may have a few items not logged into the archives but I didn't find them. Sorry. The '60 are a very important part of our Alumni and Friends. Congratulations!!!

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Alumni Deaths

'38 Western Union- Sadie G. Rikkers Kosters, 98, of Orange City, IA died May 2, 2017. She was a school teacher, a housekeeper at the Orange City Municipal Hospital for 20 years, worked at K-Products for 7 1/2 years and cared for her mother for four years. She encrocheting, gardening www.oolman.com

'44 Western Union - James J. "Jim" Beck. 94 of Granville, IA died May 22, 2017. Jim attended Western Union before entering the US Air Force in Jan '43 and serving in the South Pacific Theater from New Guinea to Tokyo, Japan across the street from the Emperors Palace. After his honorable discharge, he was married and operated a farm service store in Granville for more than 30 He was active in church and VFW. vears. www.siouxcityjournal.com

'46 - Western Union - Lennace Philips Mitchell-Brandt, 90 of Lake Park, IA died June 8, 2017. She taught elementary school until her marriage in '49. They then farmed and raised a family. She was active in church and community and several organizations. She loved entertaining, gardening, cooking and sewing. www.siouxcityjournal.com

'58 - Viola E. Grass Megill, 80, of Seneca, KS died June 9, 2017. She worked as a Church Administrator for Santa Cruz UMC in Espanola and later was bookkeeper and co-owner if KEVR radio station with her husband Keith. She was active in church and United Methodist women as well as volunteer work, playing the piano and singing. Survivors include her husband Keith, York '54. daughters Denee '82, Susie '84 (her husband Rev. Dean Trapp '83) and son, Rick '91. Also, sister-in-law Esther Megill York '46. www.lauerfuneralhome.com

'60 - Floydelle "Kay" MaKay Sudenga Nieuwendorp, 78, of Sheldon, IA died Nov 17, 2016. She taught school before her marriage and worked at a grocery store for a few years. She later was a teacher and Life Skills Instructor for the Village Northwest in Sheldon until she retired in '94. She was active in church, community and family. Vander Ploeg Funeral Homes

'60 - Jack Kooker, 82, of Storm Lake, IA died June 17, 2017. He served in the US Army until his honorable discharge in '56 when he attended Westmar. Jack was an Elementary Principal for Storm Lake Schools for many years. He served on several boards and groups. Family outings and school sports were favorite things. He was preceded in death by his wife Sally Shearer Kooker '63. www.fratzkejensen.com

'63 - Sally Jean Shearer Kooker, 77, of Storm Lake, IA

died May 22, 2017. She was the wife of Jack Kooker '60 above. She worked as a teacher's aid for the AEA which she enjoyed as well as being active in church, her traveling and other family, activities. www.siouxcityjournal.com

'68 - Judy Kay Pry, 71, of Sanborn, IA, died July 9, 2017. She was active in her church, choirs and organizations. While at Westmar, she was a member of Chorale. She could remember details about everyone she met and took many photos. Many will miss hearing her singing birthday and anniversary greetings and handwritten notes. For those that attended Westmar Reunions in LeMars, Judy was usually helping at the memorabilia table. Among survivors is sister Jana Fitzgerald '91. www.sanborn-hartleyfuneralhomes.com

'69 - Carol S. Brandt, 69, of Freeport, II died May 13, 2017. She worked many years at the Freeport Public Library and was active in church. She enjoyed her pets, genealogy and collecting dolls. She kept in touch with several friends from Westmar through the years. www.walkermortuary.com

'72 - Dennis M. Vanos, 68 of Coon Rapids, MN died May 7, 2017. He was a long-time employee of Cenveo. www.siouxcityjournal.com

'73 - William "Bill" Jackes Jr., 69 of Le Mars, IA died May 25, 2017. Bill started Jackes Pizza in Le Mars and opened a second location in Cherokee, he also served in the Army National Guard and began selling insurance in '94 until he transitioned to Hope Haven as a Community Treatment Worker in '04. Bill established Royal Charters bus line with his son Jason until Jason's death in '14. He was active in church and youth activities and organized mission trips. He was an Eagle Scout and Boy Scout Leader. He was also a member of the Plymouth County Civil Defense Team. Among his survivors is his wife Jo Lvnn "Jodee" Anliker **Jackes** '74. www.lemarssentinel.com

Faculty:

James Zottnick, 87, of Orlando, FL died June 10, 2017. He attended Westmar in '49-'50 and then returned to Westmar in '59 as a teacher and served as Chairman of the Dept. of Education. He was also Chairman of the Iowa Teacher Education and Professional Standards Commission. Jim was an ordained United Methodist Minister and in later life served as a seminary professor in India, at the South India Biblical Seminary and also served with Dr. Thomas Gnanamuthu in the Christian Counseling Center in Bangalore India. He was married to Marjorie Beeman Zottnick '53

www.degusipefuneralhome.com



Alumni Deaths continued

Board of Directors:

Harold H. Harms, 90, of Brunsville, IA died May 24, 2017. On his 18th birthday he enlisted in the US Navy where he attained the rank of signalman third class. After being honorably discharged in July '46, he attended college and graduated in '50. Harold worked at First State Bank, now lowa Prairie Bank for 67 years. He served on the Westmar Board of Directors '89 to '91. www.siouxcityjournal.com



Donations made in honor or in memory of someone gives them a page in our book in the Westmar Memorial Room with picture and biographical information if available. Visitors look through the book and remember those on the pages. Any size donation works. A good way to memorialize someone you feel is special.

Donations can be sent to the WAFA office or made online at our WAFA website. Information on back page of this newsletter.

All donations are greatly appreciated and honor your special friends and relatives.

Recent donations—In Memory:

Ellen Oliver (Faculty)

By Gary Sitzman '64

G. O. Thompson '26 (Faculty &Dean of Students '38 to '70)

Karen Thompson Johnson '61

Mrs. G. O. Thompson '64

JoAnn Thompson Wer '59

Robert '58 and Charm '64 Bitterly

Robert '70 and Sharyn '67 Taylor

JJ Vollmecke '93

Marilynn Vollmecke, Staff

In Honor:

Westmar Chorale

By Lynn Becker '83

New WAFA Facebook **Page** from the WAFA office with news and announcements to keep you in touch, and up to date. Please join us at facebook.com Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association—please "LIKE" us.

In Memory:

Milt Martin '53 and Wrestling Coach '63 to '97

Michael '92 and Sarah Fouts JK '72 and Pam Banks Keith '84 and Marsha Emerson Keith and June '57 (Holzworth) James Frank Summerside, Faculty Janice Dunbar Kooiker '67 Dixie Dahl Kooiker '67 John and Linda Payton E. Rod Black '56 Dave Copenhaver '86 Jim and Carol Beckwith Gene Boerger '85 Vera Braun Keith '79 and Shelly '82 (Haar) Brown Glenn and Cheryl (Braun) Buse Roger and Judy '74 (Merchen) Cambier Tim DeLarm '86 Julie (Johnson) Dirks '75 Marilyn (Obye) Finstad '76 Bob '63 and Joan '62 (Clark) Franklin Clark Goodchild Brad and Tamara (Braun) Johnson Steve '84 and Diana '84 Lemke Frank and Ruth Postma Al and Deb Pottebaum Tom '73 and Carolyn '73 (Swenson) Vance Marilynn Vollmecke, Staff Jean (Morton) Stone '72 Federal Home Loan Bank Mary Peshek '71 Chuck Pfaffle '63 Dave Chittenden '67 Derek Briggs '93 Julie Lehman

Do you have any Westmar items you would like to donate to the Archives or for room display?

We are also looking for Sports Memorabilia as well as items from other groups for display.

Good copies of photos or certificates are also welcome.

Robin Stevens'73

Still receiving your newsletter by mail? If you have an email address, please consider helping us cut costs by allowing us to send a link to the newsletter file on the internet. We will email the link to you and you will be able to read the newsletter as long as you have the free Adobe Reader program. You will also be able to print a copy if you choose.

Alumni News



Pictured are some of the thirty-seven persons gathered for a well-organized Nebraska Westmar Reunion on June 17, 2017, at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Lincoln, NE. They enjoyed a delicious potluck meal and sharing time together. One couple came from South Dakota and another couple came from Iowa.

The Steering committee consisted of Jolane Blakely, Bill and Shirley Armold and Charlyn Shickell. During the meal, folks were asked to share a good, funny or sad experience they had while attending Westmar. There were amazing stories many of us had not heard before. After the meal, all the attendees took the microphone to share with the entire group, what they have been doing since graduation as well as interesting things that happened while they were at Westmar. There was much hilarity as the group shared together.

After singing "O Westmar College" the remaining group gathered for a picture. While this was our first Nebraska reunion, there was a consensus this should be continued in the years ahead. (from Charlene Shickell)

Our Westy is getting a new coat of paint! Board Member Jeff Neary '81 is working with a committee to sandblast and repaint this special bird. He is also looking at restaining the wooden signage and benches in the "Arboretum area" (volunteers are always welcome)



Don't forget to visit the website (www.WestmarCollege.org) for your membership needs. Please keep us posted when you move or get a new email address or phone number. We no longer get updates unless you let us know. Thank you!



Amazon Smile!

When you order from Amazon and are signed up for AmazonSmile, you are asked to select one of over a million charities to support. When you click on our unique link, you are asked if you would like to support Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association Inc. This costs you nothing but Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to us.

Click on this link

http://smile.amazon.com/ch/42-1489883



Alumni News



Jane Boegler (Menno) and Robert Kolbe (Sleepy Eye) walked down the aisle to see the world together. They had no jobs & worried parents, but they had each other. A half century later they have no jobs, are seeing the world and still have each other. They will celebrate with friends June 23 & 24 at their home. A gift of \$50 to your favorite charity would please them.

Robert and Jane Kolbe combined their 50th Wedding anniversary with a Westmar Alumni Reunion June 24,25 at their home in Sioux Falls, SD.



Bill & Laurie Tudor, the Marty's & Ginnie Cook closing down the party on Sunday night. In spite of a National Youth Soccer Tournament in Sioux Falls, 70 people helped make an enjoyable and memorable event.



Wayne Faber DVM '58/'59 – writes that he has come out of retirement at age 86 and has started two LLC Corporations: PureFresh is a product for pets and people and Veticus is for veterinary use by veterinarians. This is a new product patent pending by a company in Seattle, WA. Wayne serves as the outlet for veterinary use in the US and Canada. The product is pure HOCl acid which is safe on skin and in eyes and is the only skin spray that will kill all microorganisms. The product is the chemical white blood cells use to kill bacteria.

Wayne's son, Jay Faber, is the business and development Vice President. We are beginning our entry into the market and are on the internet at:

www.purefreshlic.com, www.purefreshforpets.com, and www.veticuslic.com. More information can also be found in an article in the Sioux City Journal entitled "Family launches pharmaceutical firm"

www.siouxcityjournal.com

"Dr. Hershberger would be pleased!"

Congratulations...

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds appointed **Wayne Marty** of Le Mars to the Iowa Centennial Memorial Foundation effective July 1. He was one of 158 from across Iowa and one of 15 from north-west Iowa.

Reunion Support Guidelines

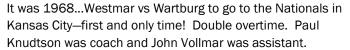
Guidelines adopted by the board at the Oct. 2015 meeting:

- Publish reunion information provided by Committee on Facebook, WAFA Web Site and in WAFA Newsletter.
- Provide mailing labels or mailing list for sending invitations. (USPS only or USPS plus e-mail)
- Provide use of group e-mail for invitation and updates. Committee would provide copy of message to send.
- Provide information on a personal PayPal account to accept registrations. Alternative to accepting checks only.)
- Provide contact lists of LeMars area hotels, caterers/restaurants, and meeting rooms.
- Make room reservation at LeMars Convention Center, if needed, to get 40% non-profit discount. Pay for room, to be reimbursed by Reunion Committee. (Reunion Committee would have to set up and take down the room. Reunion Committee would make alternative room arrangements (i.e. church, restaurant).

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ALUMNI NEWS—Cont. Sports Room





Larry Jensen passed the ball to Art Oordt—Art said why would he pass the ball to me? - Football Coach Jack Scott, a spectator, was in the corner behind Art—Jack said "shoot the damn ball". Art said it just left his hands and went into the basket and the buzzer sounded!! They were on their way to Kansas City



Players: #54 Roger Moeller, #34 Pete Hansen, #44 Art Oordt, #20 Curt Strathman, #42 Larry Jensen and #30 Vince Erdman. John Vollmar is on the left side and Coach Paul Knudtson is on the right side.

Our thanks to Art for sharing!





Joel Huffman's '82, All American picture is shown on display with his singlet. On the right you can see the letter jacket donated by **Kent Pauling** '74 football.

The Board of Directors has approved the making the sports films digital and that would make them available (by purchase) for our athletes to share with their families and friends. We are asking for your knowledge. If you have had

movies, VHS or reals of film converted to a digital format please share your experience with us. Of course the older film will need some enhancements. Contact us by email at WAFA@westmarcollege.org or by phone or mail as shown on back page.



WAFA Dues Support These Activities:

- Work with the Iowa College Foundation to administer the Westmar Endowment Scholarship
- Provide Alumni & contact assistance for Westmar reunions
- Publish WAFA newsletters
- Help maintain displays in the Westmar Room of the Plymouth County Historical Museum
- Maintain Westmar Alumni, Faculty, Staff, and Administration database
- Help maintain the Westmar Memorial Park on the former campus
- Maintain the WAFA web-site www.westmarcollege.org

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ALUMNI NEWS—Cont...

Eagle Flies continued from page 1

In conjunction with the Eagle Dedication, Steve Collins has put together a video of the building and sculpting of the Eagle with additional photos of the dedication. Background music is from the Westmar Music departments. It is a wonderful video and can be viewed free of charge @www.vimeo.com/srcollins and purchased through the Westmar Office for \$20 plus shipping. This is a very special video you won't want to miss and a very special keep-

sake. Many of you made this possible and every day there are people stopping to see it and take pictures—such a special tribute to Westmar

A new t-shirt was also made for the dedication and can be purchased through the office or the website. Most sizes are just \$15 plus shipping.



Marty Kurth '87 of Le Mars and Gehlen Catholic Head Coach picked up his 500th win in baseball this June. He is the 68th coach in Iowa to reach this milestone. He began his career with Gehlen in 1989. In 1994 the team was state runner-up and in 1995 they returned to win their first state title and again won the championship in 1999.

This is Marty's last baseball season, not by choice but because he is losing his eyesight. Last summer he lost sight in his left eye and then 11 months later, he lost most of the vision in his right eye. He says nothing is very clear but he can get along in his own little area. His son Ty has helped as an assistant coach this year. Several stories and photos about Marty Kurth and this last baseball season can be found in the Le Mars Daily Sentinel, www.lemarssentinel.com and search for Marty Kurth.



James Engelbrecht MD '69 of Rapid City, SD is pictured with family members: from left - mother Lavonne Engelbrecht of LeMars, wife Marilynn Engelbrecht, James, sister, the Rev. Dr. Jean '71, Ziettlow of Le Mars, and her husband Rich '71, sister Mary Klemme of Menomonee falls, WI, brother Mark '80, and his wife Annie '80, Engelbrecht of Brooklyn, NY, when he was awarded Master, by the American College of Rheumatology (ACR) during the Nov. 2016 ACR/ARHP annual meeting in Washington, D. C.

Recognition as a master is one of the highest honors the ACR bestows on its distinguished members. Only 25 received the honor. This designation is conferred on ACR members age 65 or older, who have made outstanding contributions to the field of rheumatology through scholarly achirvement and/or service to their patients, students, and the rheumatology profession. Honorees have devoted their careers to furthering rheumatology research and improving clinical standards in the treatment of rheumatic diseases.

Additional information can be found in an article in the Le Mars Daily Sentinel "Le Mars native honored for rheumatology work" www.lemarssentinel.com



Westmar University Alumni & Friends Association

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Alumni Office Staff

Janice (Dunbar) Kooiker '67: Executive Director
JoAnn (Skinner) Schleis '64 + staff:
Communications Director and Newsletter Editor

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Most newsletters are now sent by email to reduce office costs of printing and postage. We send to a few who do not have email or who have a special request. Get it on line and get it in color—make the print as large as you like. Get it where ever you get your email whether at home or on vacation. It's the best way!! .

Be sure to check out our ever-changing website at: http://www.WestmarCollege.org/. We offer online shopping and membership. Suggestions are always welcome.

Current Members: You will receive **only one** reminder postcard when it is time to renew your membership. Please pass the form below on to other Westmar Alum and encourage them to be a WAFA member.

What's Happening with You? Tell Us!

We are interested in knowing what has recently (or not so recently) happened in your life. Promotions? Marriage? Births or deaths? Honors or awards? Graduate degree? Semi- or full retirement? Pass on the information so we can print it and spread the good news!

Name

Address		
City	State Zip	
Phone	E-mail	
Class year	Spouse also an alum	
Other relatives als	so alums	
News (attach a se	eparate sheet if needed)	

Return to: WAFA

335 First Ave. S.W. Le Mars, Iowa 51031

e-mail to: WAFA@westmarcollege.org



Or complete form online at:

www.westmarcollege.org/Membership.html

Westmar University Alumni & Friends Associ		
Name		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Telephone		
E-mail address, if available		
Can we e-mail your newsletter?		
Attended Westmar to Class of		
Membership fee: Single \$20.00 \$		
Couples \$35.00 \$		
General donation to help sustain your Alumni Association \$		
In Memory/Honor of \$		
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$		
Return this form to: WAFA		
335 First Avenue S.W.		

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Or complete form online at

Le Mars, Iowa 51031