



Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association

VOLUME 22 ISSUE 3

August 2020

Bill Kane '73 has retired after teaching math for 47 years. His first choice was to teach social studies, but he figured there were 2000 applicants for every job. Math, however, had better odds with approximately 200 applicants per job. He has spent the past 44 years at Kuemper Catholic High School in Carroll, IA.



In addition to teaching, Kane has coached 90 teams in six different sports: wrestling, football, boys' basketball, girls' softball, and boys' and girls' track. He's seen his students go on to achieve remarkable accomplishments. He says, "The students have been amazing...whatever they do, they've done amazing things out there."

Kane had a unique approach to teaching math. He says his math teacher was "dry as a piece of toast." He decided the best way for students to learn was to have fun while doing it. He's kept his students entertained with his storytelling and playing some jokes. He says he's always had fun, and he wouldn't have been here this long if he didn't.

That strategy has brought him multiple honors along the way. Now he's ending his career with the announcement that he was selected for an Excellence in Education Award from the Catholic Diocese of Sioux City, IA.

Now that he's entering into retirement, he says his plans are to golf, visit the grandkids and great-grandkids, and head south in the winter. "I don't like the cold anymore. I used to love it..." he said. https://www.carrollspaper.com/news/kuemper-s-kane-counts-rewards-of-47-year-math-career/article_43f544d0-a746-11ea-ba0f-

Check Presented in Memory of Husband's Service

Once again, Lorraine Davis of Onawa, IA and a former Westmar student, has given a generous gift to the local Veterans Museum in loving memory of her husband, Leonard Lyle Davis, who passed away in October 1988.

Leonard served in the U.S. Navy aboard the aircraft carrier USS Bunker Hill as a gunner during WWII. Lorraine remembers that on her 24th birthday, May 11, 1945, two kamikaze planes attacked the aircraft carrier instantly killing many. In total, 346 men were killed, 43 missing, and 264 wounded. Although badly crippled, the ship managed to return to Bremerton via Pearl Harbor.

During Leonard's stay in the navy, Lorraine worked at Douglas Aircraft in Oklahoma City, OK as a "Rosie the Riveter" until the end of WWII. She finished her degree at Morningside College in Sioux City, IA and later taught at Mapleton, IA.



Together, they had one son, Jim, who passed away from a heart attack. After Leonard's passing in 1988, she spent several years in Texas and had been with close friends. Lorraine has been at the Elmwood Nursing Home for one year now. At 94, she is still full of life and stories to tell. She says she has many good friends. *The Onawa Democrat*, Wednesday, May 6, 2020.

Scholarship Recipients

AWARD	NAME	CITY	WESTMAR RELATIONSHIP
\$1000	Nicholas Bomgaars	Sheldon, IA	Grandchild-Dorothy Poppen/Bomgaars '66
\$1000	Hannah Van Meeteren	Sheldon, IA	Grandchild Lois Funk Van Meeteren '60
\$1000	Cheney Vander Berg	Sioux Center, IA	Grandchild-Eldon Vander Berg '60
\$1000	Addison Weber	Le Mars, IA	
\$1000	Laura Brighton	Marcus, IA	Child-Mark Brighton '87
\$1000	Anton Funk	Sheldon, IA	Grandchild-Dorothy Funk '59
\$1000	Madeline Gude	Sheldon, IA	Grandchild-Margaret Nelson '60
\$5000	McKenna Weiland	Hinton, IA	Child-Erin Beck '97
\$500	Brody Cline	Cheyenne, WY	Grandchild-Alberta McCue Bashford '68
\$1000	Krista Zenk	Le Mars, IA	
\$1000	Michaela Kleinwolterink	Sheldon, IA	Child-Ruth Reekers Kleinwolterink '85
\$500	Brian VandenBerg	Mason City, IA	Grandchild-Terry Christensen '66 & Janice Davolt Christensen '66
\$1000	Ellianna Madsen	Le Mars, IA	
\$5000	Kyle Brighton	Hinton, IA	Child-Mark Brighton '87
\$1000	Jessica Harald	Sioux Center, IA	Child-Arvella Sneller '89
\$1000	Kelsay Parrott	Cherokee, IA	Child-Brian Parrott '92
\$1000	Joshua VandenBerg	Sioux Center, IA	Grandchild-Terry Christensen '66 & Janice Davolt Christensen '66
\$1000	Robert Gottburg	Sioux City, IA	Child-Lisa Zellmer Gottburg '86
\$1000	Jennifer Schneider	Le Mars, IA	Child-Pamela Brunsting '93 Thomas Schneider Staff
\$1000	Benjamin Nemmers	Le Mars, IA	Child-Douglas Nemmers '78
\$1000	Skyler Briggs	Akron, IA	Child-Derek Briggs '93
\$500	Taylor Meyer	Lake Park, IA	Child-Daryl Meyer '95
\$1000	Derek Anderson	Le Mars, IA	Grandchild-Koreen Draheim Anderson '64
\$1000	Patrick Gottburg	Sioux City, IA	Child-Lisa Zellmer Gottburg '86
\$500	William Tuchtenhagen	River Falls, WI	Child- John Tuchtenhagen '73
\$1000	Trenton Hilbrands	Remsen, IA	Grandchild-Hilda Snuttjer Hilbrands '51
\$1000	Trey Valentine	Cherokee, IA	Grandchild-Ann Krommendyk Staff
\$500	Tage Berendes	Omaha, NE	Child-Brad Berendes '97
\$1000	Briley Huls	Sioux City, IA	Child Mary Beaulieu '92
\$500	Cade Berendes	Omaha, NE	Child-Brad Berendes '97



Scholarship Thank Yous

Thank you for selecting me to be a recipient of a Westmar Endowment Scholarship. Your support through college has been a tremendous help, and I appreciate it greatly. It is my honor to represent Westmar and everything it stood for. I have just finished my junior year and just have one year left to complete my degrees in both chemistry and biology. I plan to attend graduate school for biochemistry following Morningside. Thank you again for your continued support.

Sincerely, Skyler Briggs

Thank you for the scholarship. It is greatly appreciated and will help me as I study business finance and economics at Northwestern College.

Brian VandenBerg

DONATIONS May—July 2020

\$0-\$49

5/5/2020	Rev. Darline Balm-Demmel	General
5/5/2020	Les & Hope Law	General
5/5/2020	Melvin Luetchens	General
5/5/2020	Mary Peshek	General
5/5/2020	Sheila Westegard	General
5/14/2020	Beverly Job	General
5/14/2020	Rodney & Carole Nelson	General
5/27/2020	Ray & Carolyn Zeisset	General
5/28/2020	Derek Briggs	General
5/28/2020	Don Featherstone	General
6/3/2020	Linda Brown	General
6/3/2020	Ben Bye	General
6/9/2020	Rosella Davis	General
6/9/2020	Denny & Mary Gruber	General
6/9/2020	James Oplinger	General
6/9/2020	Norma Schneider	General
6/24/2020	Garwood Mayer	General
6/24/2020	Leroy Pickett	General
7/14/2020	JoAnn Wer	General
7/21/2020	Linda Fricker	General
7/21/2020	Roberta Harris	General
7/21/2020	Mary Tindall	General
7/29/2020	Gerald & Judith Boutelle	General
7/29/2020	Carmen Hughes	General
7/29/2020	Allan & Jean Vrieze	General

\$50-\$99

5/5/2020	John & Elaine Blinn	General
5/5/2020	Melody Korlaske	General
5/5/2020	Rebecca Pierce	General
5/27/2020	Roger Withee	General
5/27/2020	Karen Johnson Memorial Dr. G.O. Thompson	
6/3/2020	Dorothy Carver	General
6/24/2020	Ralph Schultz	General
6/30/2020	Richard Molden	General

\$100 and up

5/25/2020	Virginia Huppe Memorial CJ Parkinson	
5/27/2020	Amy Parkinson Memorial CJ Parkinson	
6/3/2020	Darrell Gorter	General
6/3/2020	Darrell Gorter Memorial Warren Anderson	
7/5/2020	Rennae & Lloyd Petersen	General

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who donated funds to WAFA from May—July. Donations like these help to keep WAFA running and able to provide services to members like you.

Please consider making your own donation to WAFA. We greatly appreciate it!

Show your Westmar spirit!

Do you know classmates or other Westmar alums who are not yet WAFA members? Ask them to send their information and yearly dues to the office in Le Mars to be included in future mailings. Form and information can be found in the newsletter.

Donations may be sent to
WAFA
335 1st AVE SW
LeMars, Iowa 51031

Alumni Deaths

'48—Margaret Rahe Roth, 95, passed away on June 26, 2020 at the Leonardville, KS Nursing Home. After graduating from Westmar, she taught high school business classes until she married John Roth on October 16, 1949. She was a member of the Ebenezer United Methodist Church and was active in numerous church activities including playing the piano. She was also involved in EHU, Farm Bureau, and the family farm operation. She is survived by 3 children, 6 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. www.apfunerals.com

'48—Elsie Schnur Ryan, 90, of Cresco, IA passed away on May 15, 2020 after a lengthy illness. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. After graduating from Westmar with her teaching degree, she taught first graders for several years. In 1954, she married Tom Ryan. They had a farm outside of Cresco, and she was a full partner in the farming operation. She'll be especially remembered for her pies. She was also active in her church and community and enjoyed the company of friends and her food and drink. She is survived by her husband Tom, 4 children, 4 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. Due to the pandemic, a private ceremony and burial will be held. <https://www.crescotimes.com/obituaries/elsie-ryan-90>

'58—Ruth De Zeeuw De Jong, 82, of Spirit Lake, IA passed away on June 23, 2020 at the Avera Heart Hospital in Sioux Falls, SD. In 1958, she married Jacob De Jong, and they spent the first six years together in Kentucky as missionary educators through the Reformed Church in America. Ruth spent her career teaching until retiring in 1994. They enjoyed traveling together all over the world. She is survived by her husband Jacob, 3 sons, and 2 granddaughters. <https://turnerfuneralhomes.com/tribute-ajax/print-obituary.html?id=1615>

'59—Clair H. Gunther, 87, of Lampe, MO died suddenly on June 6, 2020 in Springfield, MO. After graduating from Le Mars High School in 1950, he attended one year at Westmar College before joining the navy and served during the Korean War. In 1956, he returned to Westmar and finished his degree. He then taught industrial arts for 33 years in Woodbine and worked part-time for the post office before retiring in 1994. Clair was also a member of several clubs and organizations including several church committees, and he enjoyed playing cards, golfing, boating, and auctions. He is survived by his wife Beverly, 4 children, 5 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. <https://www.lemarssentinel.com/story/2816189.html>

'71—Nathan E. Leidahl, 74, of Cherokee, IA passed away on May 9, 2020 at Sanford Heart in Sioux Falls, SD following a short illness. Funeral services were held

on May 23, 2020. After graduating from Westmar with a degree in Industrial Arts and Interior Design, he went on to get his Master's Degree from Drake University in Education Administration. He taught industrial arts, drove the school bus, coached football, softball, and track. Nathan was active with his church and community. He is survived by his wife Carol, 2 children, 3 grandchildren, 1 brother, 2 sisters, 2 sisters-in-law, 2 brothers-in-law and many nieces, nephews and friends. <https://www.chronicletimes.com/story/2796465.html>

'72—Myron D. Rozell, 71, of Mapleton, IA died unexpectedly on May 28, 2020 at his home. Funeral services were held in Sioux City on May 30, 2020. After attending Westmar with a bachelor of science degree, he served in the Air National Guard from 1969-1975. Early in his career, he taught high school business and coached football and girls' golf in Merville, IA. Later, he went on to become president of First State Bank in Mapleton. Even in retirement he continued to work as a relations consultant. Myron was also active in his church and with his community and loved spending time with his grandchildren. He is survived by 3 children, 8 grandchildren, 1 brother, 1 aunt, and many cousins, nieces, and nephews. https://siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/obituaries/myron-d-rozell/article_d92e023b-384f-52d2-864e-bc8cdaf4d461.html

'74—Gail Rubash Kummer, 66, of East Troy, WI passed away on November 16, 2018 due to natural causes. After graduating from Westmar, she became a payroll and business accountant for a computer consulting business. As a hobby, she flipped houses and was a very adept woodworker. She also enjoyed other crafts like knitting, sewing, beading, crocheting, and ceramics molding. She is survived by her son and 2 grandchildren.

Willard Trometer, 84, of St. Louis, MO passed away on June 26, 2020. He attended Westmar to continue his education before joining the work force. He was also a proud member of the United States Army Reserve for six years. He worked for the family and corporate farm and was a partner in the farm for many years. He later worked as a foreman and conductor for the Burlington Northern Railroad for 30 years. He was a devoted husband and father, and his faith in the Lord was strong. He is survived by his son, 2 grandchildren, 2 siblings, a sister-in-law and a brother-in-law. <https://www.meyerbrochapels.com/obituary/willard-trometer>

Dr. Cheul Weun Kang, 88, passed away on July 11, 2020. He arrived in the United States as a student in 1954. After earning his Ph.D. in economics, he began teaching at Westmar as an assistant professor in 1963. He earned tenure as a full professor in 1971. He en-

traveling with his son, classical music, playing violin and playing golf. He is survived by his 2 children. <https://www.hollomon-brown.com/obituaries/Cheul-Weun-Kang?obld=17043200>

Mary Riter Pickens, 74, passed away in Yakima, WA on June 28, 2020. After attending Westmar for two years, she changed the course of her life by moving to Yakima, WA where she met her husband James. Her passions were shopping and antiques. One of her greatest joys was owning her own gift shop, Pick-A-Dilly Corner. She will always be remembered for her strong faith in God and her unconditional love for her two children. She is survived by her 2 children. <https://www.lemarssentinel.com/story/2822651.html>



Honor and Memory Contributions

The following individuals are being recognized by a \$50 Honor Donation each for helping make the 60th class reunion of the Class of '59 a success:

Janice Dunbar Kooiker '67
Wanda Powell Schneider '60
Bill Wood '59
Dwight Vogel '59
Charlyn Shickell '59
Vernon Robins '60

Thank you to "Anonymous" for recognizing these individuals and for your generous contribution.

\$100.00 Memorial Donation for CJ Parkinson '61 from Virginia Huppe '60.

\$100.00 Memorial Donation for CJ Parkinson '61 from his daughter Amy Parkinson '92.

\$50.00 Memorial Donation for Dr. G.O. Thompson '26 from Karen Johnson '65.

\$20.00 Memorial Donation for Valda Embree '71 from Robert Embree '51.

\$25.00 Honor Donation for Dr. Wayne Marty from Darold '62 & Diane '65 Wolff.

\$10.00 Memorial Donation for Coach Milt Martin from Don Featherstone '75.

\$25.00 Memorial Donation for Norma Kehrberg '60 from Wendel Thompson '58.

\$50.00 Memorial Donation for Corbin Tindall '64 from David '67 & Cheryl '67 Hantke.

\$100.00 Memorial Donation for Warren Anderson from Darrell Gorter '78.

\$25.00 Memorial Donation for Karl Ostrem '74 from Greg '74 & Rena '74 Raecker.

\$25.00 Memorial Donation for Dr. Golden '26 & Helen Thompson from Jo Ann Wer '59.

MEMORY/IN HONOR BOOKS

Making a donation in someone's name who is deceased places that person's information in a special section of our **MEMORY** book on a stand in the Westmar Room. The page will also include donor names.

Donations may also be made in **HONOR** of someone living, with Westmar ties. A page will also be entered for that person in that section of the book.

Each page includes a photo, if possible, and a biographical sketch. Additional donations are added to the bottom of the page.

Remember Westmar in Your Will

Many people choose to make their alma mater a beneficiary of their estate. Although Westmar is closed, it is still possible to support your college.

If your current will includes Westmar, please make sure it reads "Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association, 335 First Ave SW, Le Mars, IA 51031."

If you have not thought about a gift to Westmar, please do so. As a guideline, it should be worded "I leave \$xxxx to Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association, 335 First Ave SW, Le Mars, IA 51031. This will ensure that your generosity will continue to support the alumni association.

WAFA is a 501(c)(3) and is considered a charitable organization.

Speak to your attorney about a gift to your college. Thank you.

Alumni News

Bruce Buller '55—Turned 87 on May 11, 2020.

John '55 & Betty '55 Drew—Celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on June 6, 2020. They raised their two children in California and are now enjoying retirement in Sun City West, AZ.

Laurice Streyffeler '58—of Sioux City, IA married Carolyn Yockey on June 20, 2020.

Leroy '58 & Mary Joyce **Pickett**—Have been married for 57 years on June 16, 2020.

Virginia Huppe '60—Is enjoying retirement in Berthoud, CO. She keeps busy writing poems for the Berthoud Surveyor, plays the harp and piano in church and sings in the choir. She is also Vice President of the Berthoud Chamber of Commerce.

Chuck '63 and Rona **Pfaffle**—Proud grandparents of granddaughter Alexandra Zele, who graduated from M.I.T. in 2018.

Ron '66 and **Lois** '67 **Hines**—Live in retirement at Pilgrim Place, Claremont, CA. They are both busy, despite "sheltering-in" because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Lois assists in the community's library, serves in leadership roles for Women's Perspectives and Eucharistic Circle planning groups, and she enjoys watercolor classes. Ron assists noted process theologian Dr. John B. Cobb, Jr. in many projects, and he is a board member for the newly formed Cobb Institute. Daughter Kirsten and son Adam live in south Florida.

Sheldon '67 & **Kerry Hubin Manthei** '68—Are enjoying retirement in Farmington, MN, which is near their grandchildren. They live on a nature lake with a walking path around it and are getting plenty of exercise as they remain homebound due to Covid-19. To keep entertained, they enjoy woodworking, card making, sewing, and golf. They always enjoy learning what their classmates have been doing and hope everyone stays well!

Norma Schneider '68—Has been retired from teaching elementary education since 2002. Prior to that, she received a Master's Degree in Talented and Gifted Education in 1995 from the University of Connecticut. Currently, she enjoys mission trips with TCMI to Heiligenkreuz, Austria once or twice a year and with For God's Children, International to Romania and Moldova once a year. Unfortunately, Covid-19 has, as she

described, "put a serious dent in my travel!"

Glenn Jagodzinske '69—Compiled a collection of memories from football players who played from 1964-1968 under Coach Jack Scott. He entitled the book "Five Gold Footballs." Copies are available for reading in the WAFA office.

Allan '70 & **Jean** '69 **Vrieze**—Celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 18, 2020 in Rochester, MN. Sadly, their daughter Lora passed away in 2012. However, their son and four of their granddaughters also live in Rochester.

Robin '73 and **Lynnette** '74 **Stevens**—Met at Westmar as Robin calls it a moment of "luck and weakness." They have spent their lives together in the education field, both love sports, and have a strong commitment to their family. The couple continues to remain physically active, and they also volunteer with their church and community. The couple currently resides in Gothenburg, NE. https://www.gothenburgleader.com/news/celebrate-the-decades-couple-shares-love-of-education-and-sports/article_bcae9a8-b621-11ea-85c8-932a497baf70.html

Peggy McAllister '87—Retiring from teaching elementary education after 33 years. Plans for retirement include crafts, visiting her daughter as well as her mother and other family and friends. She also hopes to volunteer more at church, and she is convinced her husband will take her on some fishing and hunting trips. <https://www.lemarssentinel.com/story/2822149.html>

Amy Parkinson '92—Lives in Longmont, CO and has worked for Longmont United Hospital for over 20 years.

Terry Pack '94—Operates Legends of Gold, a wrestling training center located in Beresford, SD. He says the difference between his program and a typical high school or middle school program is the ability to wrestle nationally and internationally. https://www.nwestiowa.com/sports/nwest-iowa-wrestlers-reach-for-gold/article_cf73bffc-a4ec-11ea-9bbb-3f3b6371fd82.html

Like us on our Facebook Page!

Reunions

PLEASE NOTE: The 50 year reunion, including the classes of '68, '69, '70, '71, & '72, has been cancelled due to COVID-19.

No other reunions are scheduled to take place this year. If you do decide to get together in smaller groups, please be sure to send us pictures so that we may include them in future newsletters.

Reunion Support Guidelines

- 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. WAFA will assist with this.
- 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).
- Make Westmar Memorabilia available for purchase in the Westmar Room and the Museum sales area.
- Publish reunion pictures in WAFA newsletter if pictures are provided with names and reunion identification.

If you are planning a reunion, please let us know and we will list it in the WAFA newsletter, our Facebook page, and on our website. We can also assist with sending an email to your classmates or providing addresses.

We also love pictures of reunions no matter how large or small. Be sure to include information and names. We will share them!

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 news!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Class year _____ Spouse also an alum _____

Other relatives also alums _____

News (attach a separate sheet if needed) _____

Return to: WAFA

335 First Ave. S.W.

Le Mars, Iowa 51031

e-mail to: WAFA@westmarcollege.org

Westmar University Alumni & Friends Assoc.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-mail address _____

Can we e-mail your newsletter? Yes No

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 (circle one) \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Return this form to:

WAFA

335 First Avenue S.W.

Le Mars, Iowa 51031

Or complete form online at www.westmarcollege.org/Membership.html

**Westmar University Alumni & Friends
Association**
335 First Avenue S.W.
Le Mars, Iowa 51031
Ph: 712-546-8759



**Kristin Olson: Executive Director
Staff of volunteers**

Please contact me with any questions about membership, newsletter, Facebook page, reunions, or anything else you may think to ask. Call me at 712-546-8759 or email me at wafa@westmarcollege.org. Thank you!

Volunteers Needed!

If you are considering what to do with any extra time you may have, consider volunteering for WAFA. We have quite a few projects that are currently on hold because of COVID-19. Once the restrictions ease up, we will need volunteers. If you are interested in learning more, contact Kristin Olson in the WAFA office.

*Don't forget to use **AMAZON SMILE** when you order from them. They will donate to Westmar Alumni and Friends Association at no cost to you. It all helps us!*

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

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

Do you have any Westmar items you would like to donate to the Archives or for room display? We are always looking for Sports Memorabilia as well as items from other groups for display. Good copies of photos or certificates are also welcome.

