Class of 1967 Memories

YALE DIVINITY SCHOOL

Convocation and Reunions | October 18, 2017 – October 20, 2017
Letter from Dean Sterling

YDS Class of 1967

October 2017

Dear Alumni/ae,

Welcome back to the Quad! It has now been a half-century since you graduated. You attended YDS during the tumultuous decade of the sixties. Some of you arrived at YDS as early as 1961 (one in 1945!), but all of you graduated in 1967 (with a couple of exceptions). It was the decade of the British Invasion in music, Cuban Missile Crisis, Civil Rights Movement, U.S. space program, Vietnam War, women's liberation movement, and the assassinations of JFK, RFK, and MLK, Jr. You experienced events that transformed the culture and politics of America and the world during the years you were at YDS.

It is heartwarming to read your stories. You have embodied and lived the YDS raison d’être. The Class of ’67 consisted of 115 people. Forty-five of you (39%) elected to go into ministry. You served Baptist, Disciples, Episcopalian, Lutheran, Mennonite, Methodist, Presbyterian, and UCC churches in varying capacities. Twenty of you (17%) went on to earn a doctorate and served as professors: ten in the field of religion; and ten in the fields of English, law, mathematics, philosophy, and psychology. Another score of you (17%) worked in social services. Still others worked for not-for-profits like the United Way and the YMCA as well as other NGOs. Yet others have done a host of things that defy simple groupings: you have been consultants, worked in law and politics, medicine and pharmacy, or in small businesses across a variety of fields. At least five of you are professional writers and journalists. Three of you are professional artists in music, painting, or theater. Most of you have not been content with doing one thing, but have done several things—sometimes simultaneously! You are a talented group of people.

You have had successful professional lives and meaningful personal lives. You have created families that now extend to a fourth generation. The Class of ’67 has parented 197 children, resulting in 164 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren and counting! You have served your communities as volunteers, and represented yourselves and YDS exceptionally well. Whether you were in major leadership positions or worked less visibly in supporting roles, we salute you and thank you for your lives. It is the quality of your lives that inspires me. I hope that you enjoy reading about the lives of your classmates and have time to reflect with one another. Thank you for what you have done the last fifty years!

With my gratitude,

Gregory E. Sterling
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The training in pastoral care provided a strong base for me in my roles of teacher, supervisor, and mentor.

Nils Dahl (Exegesis of the Greek NT) taught me to study hard and attend to detail. Gaylord Noyce called me into his office and suggested that while I was at YDS, I should take advantage of the opportunity to study mathematics as well. I practically ran from his office in panic at the suggestion. Several years later, as I learned that I should not be a church minister, his words brought comfort.
The YDS years 1966-67 are crucial in my life: a time of racism, Vietnam, of new friendships, mentors, insights, activism, preaching by Bill Coffin, walking the New Haven neighborhood with Liston Pope expounding on Oikos (Home. Dwelling) and economy-ecology, connecting ecological survival with economic greed, experiencing Martin Luther King, Jr.’s April 4, 1967, Riverside sermon “Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence”.....

Graduating, becoming the fledgling pastor of remarkable Lakeside Christian Church (Roseville, a city four miles north, apart from Detroit), confronting the deaths of three Black teenagers at the Algiers Motel Annex (“unsolved” to this day), where what had been intended as a welcoming home party for a pair of soldiers returning from Vietnam resulted in 43 deaths and more than a 1,000 buildings burned, a rebellion called “the 1967 Detroit Riot”.....

Would that I might embody the wisdom of Gustafson, Little, Muehl, Bainton, and Baker Adams and other Mentors and might I embrace that pastoral spirit of James Dittes as he dealt with Parkinson’s, and might I manifest the prophetic courage of Bill Coffin. Might I have what Judge Learned Hand called the spirit of liberty – “the spirit which is not too sure that it is right.”
My congregation grieved the assassination of Rev. Dr. King April 4, 1968, and then parishioners and I were jailed April 7, 1968, for advocating a worship service celebrating Reverend King.

After a rewarding legal practice, and being active on boards with the Disciples of Christ from 1989 until 2000, I have slowed down a bit, living with Parkinson’s for five years and with Type 1 Diabetes for 62 years, but I still love Life and find courage in confronting the principalities and powers which result in Racism, Homophobia, Gender Discrimination, Economic Greed, Homelessness, War, Starvation, and many other toxins of these times. Laura and I attend the stalwart University Congregational United Church of Christ (Seattle) where we are actively involved.

YDS and Lakeside stirred my passion for living social justice and for celebrating all that is holy and good.
From members of the Reunion Steering Committee:

As we write this attempt to capture for David Bartlett what YDS may mean to him on his life journey, David is still recovering from his stroke during which he sustained a fall and concussion; currently he resides at home with Carol and home health services.

Two primary objectives of YDS are teaching and preaching; these two passions have marked David’s days as a student as well as his professional career since graduation. While at YDS, David extended his BD program to four years in order to be more available to his Chinese congregation in downtown New Haven, his fieldwork. He graduated with our class, summa cum laude, because he was also committed to his studies. Already he was demonstrating his twin calling.

His friends at YDS all knew of David’s incredible intellect and analytical pursuits, but way more important for us ordinary mortals, he was Bartlett, a good friend and mentor, a buddy who easily offered counsel and just as easily called someone’s bluff when we proclaimed opinions, to remind us to base them on fact, not assumption. He contributed to the repartee in the Common Room after dinner when Bushnell House convened in the corner and bombarded each other with jokes and anecdotes amid lots of laughter and good-natured fun.

YDS offered David Bartlett a foundation on which to build his career as a professor as well as a leader in the organized church. David’s father was a leading American Baptist pastor, at one time president of Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, and thus we may suggest that YDS furthered and built on David’s inherited foundation from his family.
Class of ’67 Memories

David himself is a loving and beloved husband and father, devoted to his wife and children. In fact, he is also beloved and deeply respected by the YDS community – faculty and students alike. This fall he is due to accept the Alumni Award for Excellence in Theological Education.

David has kept up with the careers of his classmates, demonstrating his awareness of and interest in the larger world. Now those classmates are returning the favor, offering our support as he recuperates and resumes the journey in which YDS has played a part.
After spending two years as a student at Lexington Theological Seminary in Kentucky (1963-65), I transferred to YDS and completed my seminary education (1965-67).

Thus, two years of study in a denominational setting, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and two years of study in a non-denominational or multi-denominational setting. It was a wonderful combination which broadened my perspective in understanding the universality (the many parts) of the Christian Churches.

The professors at Lexington and YDS were outstanding in those years. (I’m sure they are now as well.) But where else could you meet and hear guest lecturers like Bishop James Pike and Billy Graham on the same field (YDS)?

I enjoyed my fellow students and how we “enlightened” one another in the classroom and tutorials. In that setting, the professors were very approachable, as well. Because of YDS, it felt natural to transition from parish pastor (30 years) to hospital chaplain (10 years). I went from a generalist to a specialist. But it was the same ministry – to three specific congregations – and then to a large hospital with 14 chaplains on staff. My education at YDS helped me to reach out from my Christian base (church) to a multi-faith, multi-cultural setting which turned out to be icing on the religious cake.

Thanks to YDS for an ever-changing world perspective!
Class of ’67 Memories

James A. Borchert
’67 B.D., ’68 S.T.M.

7129 Norma Street
Fort Worth, TX 76112
817-654-1349
Peggy@omegabiz.com

Non-denominational pastor/teacher, 2 churches, in Fort Worth and Dallas.

Margaret (Peggy) Borchert – retired public school speech & hearing therapist

Khara Borchert MacLean – b. ’69, husband Bill, VP Target Flavors; 8 children spanning elementary to post-college; Woodbury, CT.

Kirsten Borchert Sundell – b. ’72, retired public school teacher, now owner of The Red Apron, a repurposing business; husband Phil, financial analyst for American Century; 2 children, middle school, high school; Liberty, MO.

David Borchert – b. ’75, pastor, horticulturist, irrigation specialist, home remodeling; wife Mary, helpmate, bookkeeper, Spanish tutor.

Margaret Borchert – b. ’81, public school 3rd grade math teacher.

YDS affected my life profoundly.

I grew up un-churched and undisciplined until my third father made me go to the Lutheran Church. I knew right from wrong, but I always chose wrong, interested in my own happiness. I was a gifted artist. I expected to be an architect, invited to work under Frank Lloyd Wright, but, instead, I went to a small college in Illinois, Augustana Lutheran.

I never studied until my junior year in college, when I realized I knew nothing at all, then decided symbolically to erase my mind: putting nothing into my mind until I understood it thoroughly. I became a prodigious student after that!

I met an artist who created artwork for church bulletin covers. Convinced I could do this, though I knew nothing about God, I decided to go to seminary to learn about “God.” I chose Yale over Harvard, because it had notable Luther scholars. My goal was to get seven degrees because I saw Knowledge as the key to life. I loved it. I studied all the time, questioned professors. I wanted to learn everything. I started with Martin Luther. Yale library had an abundance of books by Luther; I devoured his theology.
Class of ’67 Memories

I identified with Luther, his fearlessness to know truth. He was religious; I was not! I had no fear of God. God was an intellectual concept, nothing more! He was part of western civilization. That’s all!

In 1964, the direction of my life changed forever. I was attending Ian Siggins’ Church History course regarding Luther’s Preface to the Romans. While looking out the window, I heard a loud voice say to me, “Vanities of vanities, all is vanity.” It cut through my heart. I did not believe in God, or in voices! But, I had to find out if there was a God. So, I went on a seven year journey, until I came to know and love the one true God, whom I now serve with all my heart, soul, and strength.

I teach in Uganda regularly, but have also taught in former Zaire, Mozambique, Zambia, India, Israel, Moldova, Ukraine, Nigeria, China, Zimbabwe, and Burundi. In addition to my congregations, I disciple men, I teach pastors, government leaders, and businessmen. My passion is for religious liberty for all on an equal basis, which is the foundation of just government.

I give thanks to YDS for their part in starting me on this amazing journey.
YDS prepared me to serve as a religious voice in my work as a chaplain, a Presbyterian minister, and a consultant.

After graduation, I was Director (General Secretary) of Dwight Hall, the Yale Christian Association; Presbyterian Chaplain; and Associate Pastor of the Church of Christ in Yale (Battell Chapel).

In Washington, I served as minister of Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church, National Presbyterian Church, Sixth Presbyterian Church, and First Congregational Church. As President Reagan’s Pastor at National Presbyterian Church, I chaired the President’s Advisory Committee on Ethical Values, USIA/VOA.

I have also served as a consultant to the Homeland Security Institute and the Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives of FEMA, as well as Lead Volunteer Chaplain for the Pastoral Response Team for the U.S. Senate Office of Emergency Preparedness, and coordinator of the Emergency Distant Shelter Program.

I have served as a consultant to IBM, PMA, Pfizer, Ethics and Public Policy Center, US News and World Report, National Organization for Marriage, and Alliance Defending Freedom.
YDS was for me a plunge into the deepest currents of the Christian tradition, a growth spurt I’d sought. The community of scholars and students provided a foundation upon which I could raise to consciousness the clues about the nature and substance of Christianity that were embedded within my Methodist background.

During that experience, the roots of what turned out to be an enduring religious imagination took hold and the vitality of theological diversity became legitimate. That goes under the heading of “equipping” I believe.

The scope and excellence of the faculty imprinted in me a level of respect I’d never had. As a youngster I’d worried that religious thinkers couldn’t hold their own in the court of modern debates about truth claims. My background was largely “heart religion,” and I’m thankful for it, but I wasn’t sure what to do with the head part. YDS gave me confidence that the faith could hold its own.

I associate that outlook to a wide variety of faculty members. Among those who come to mind among the many: Paul Holmer, Robert Calhoun, James Dittes, Paul Minear, Bernard Haring (first Catholic professor, extraordinary), David Napier, James Gustafson, Jaroslav Pelikan (his first year, my first year – I understood little of his elaborate bibliographies but came to see him as perhaps the greatest Christian mind of his generation), Liston Pope, Hans Frei, and I could go on. I got fortified, however inadequately.

From a wonderful, scintillating collection of classmates I gained a lasting gallery of humor, sagacity, and commitment. Woven into these forays into learning something about personal mission was the shock and blunt test of the civil rights movement to which many students witnessed eloquently. Nothing existed in isolation of that, especially
institutions that professed Christian ideals. For me, it pried open the common limitations placed on biblical ethics. Whenever after I met those who resisted such activism, I reverted to that formative belief that human rights belonged essentially to the Gospel’s call, not as an add-on or merely a worldly distraction. By contrast, to scoff at church pursuit of justice as a secular diversion was to miss the lesson Christians had already, for the most part, missed for 20 centuries.

The store of great thoughts and great examples remained inefficiently within my scattered mind through the years of work. After a brief stint as a parish minister, I jumped at a chance to combine my religious orientation to my early passion for journalism, which began as a writer for daily newspapers when I was 15. Bill Moyers, then publisher of *Newsday*, asked if I’d be interested in being the paper’s first religion writer if I’d agree to do general assignment work for a while. I jumped at the chance. The idea was to do religion reporting in a new way, covering the intersections between religion and the society at large, how one affected the other. After four years, the *NY Times* invited me to do the same on an expanded agenda, so I did. The past couple decades I’ve been a freelance writer of articles and books and taught in colleges.

None of it would I ever have braved were it not for the archive-witness store of resources from YDS. Not just knowledge, but the lived part too. Someone once called me from the *Times* desk in the middle of the night to ask if I knew anything about Bultmann. My response wouldn’t have been sufficient to impress you, but I knew enough to get by. At the same time, I carried with me the examples of YDS war resisters and freedom riders to bolster that broader view of what it meant to be baptized.

Pardon me, but I feel drawn to end on a down note. I saw the statement of the YDS/Andover merger and my heart sank. Perhaps I’m dead wrong, but I see in it an attempt to create an image of victory to fit the higher education mold of upward and onward, but I can’t celebrate. You may disagree with me, but I believe theological education has been knocked off its foundations by a powerful mindset that, as Charles Taylor eloquently describes, finds it all but impossible to conceive of a transcendent presence in our lives. I’d submit that we have lost our way, not deliberately or willfully, but by dint of cultural drift toward a this-worldly orientation that thinks of itself as self-contained. All churches are dwindling; evangelism doesn’t appear to work in the old ways. I see YDS portraying itself as sure of its course when, in fact, I believe it’s the only professional school at Yale that is sending graduates into a declining field (maybe humanities a close second). The unanswered questions: how do you prepare people to account for Christianity (or other faiths) in this kind of world and how do you minister to people who feel the ground crumbling under them? First step: look reality in the face.
Where would I be now had I not spent 1965-67 at YDS? I have absolutely no idea! But what I do know is that the people whom I met there are among the enduring treasures of my life, especially a tall Texan named J. Sears McGee. We met on my first night on campus at a beer blast in Porter Hall. Hmmm. I thought I’d gone to Yale to study, pray, and be pious. Oh well! I did study and pray. Not so sure about the “pious” part.

Sears and I married in 1966, rented an apartment on Orange Street, then moved to Lovely London in 1967 for two years, devouring theatre, music, and museums. His first teaching job was at Georgia Southern in Statesboro, where I began to introduce myself as Marni instead of Mary Arnall. (What did they know?) When an offer came to teach history at UC Santa Barbara, we cheered and packed our bags – and we’re still here. Sears has written a Western Civ textbook, *The Godly Man in Stuart England* and many articles. His *magnum opus*, *An Industrious Mind: The Worlds of Sir Simonds D’Ewes*, was published in 2015 by Stanford University Press.

Our daughter Elizabeth lives north of us in San Carlos with her husband Art and their two wonderful sons: Benton and Peter. Son Claude lives to the south in Carlsbad with his wife Eriko and two more beautiful Grands: Kai and Nami.

My work life has included church administration and several editing jobs, but mostly it’s been writing with an emphasis on children’s literature. After 15 years of rejection, some acceptances began to land in the mailbox. What a thrill! Now 22 books have been published in the US and UK, with co-publications in a dozen-or-so foreign countries. The illustrators chosen by my editors have been fabulous.

I’ve attached a picture of Sears and me; he has always been a loving, loyal partner to me, as I hope I have also been to him.

With love to you all, Marni McGee – a.k.a. Arnall Broach (Marnimcgee.com)
Class of ’67 Memories
I am grateful to YDS for teaching me how to think clearly and critically and how to become a life-long learner. Being a learner does not sound like a successful professional goal, but it does contain an element of humility because it means that you do not know everything. And it does imply that you have a desire to seek the truth, learn the truth, and then to teach it clearly.

I do not think any seminary can teach you how to function as a pastor of a church. The only way to learn that is to do it and make a ton of mistakes and then seek the forgiveness of God and the congregation. But I thank the professors at YDS for teaching me how to think and giving me a passion to learn.
David Cain  
’67 B.D.  
’76 Ph.D. Princeton University  
8903 Millwood Drive  
Spotsylvania, VA 22551  
540-582-5586, 540-388-7366  
dcain@umw.edu  
Retired as Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Religion;  
Pastor, United Church of Christ.  

Marlyne Kuykendall, retired as Chaplain and Chaplain  
Supervisor, Association for Clinical Pastoral Education;  
Pastor, United Church of Christ.  

Dr. Sarah Marlyne (Cain) Naylor – b. ’74; Associate Dean  
of Academic Services, UNC Chapel Hill.  
Kristin Lise (Cain) Geary – b. ’77; Licensed Clinical Social  
Worker, New York State.  

During 1963-1964 at King’s College,  
University of London, I applied to the Graduate Studies Program in Religion at Yale  
University and was accepted into Yale Divinity School by mistake. The mistake turned  
out to be no mistake. YDS humbled and challenged me. Good colleagues and friends for  
life. Here I met my dear wife, Marlyne Kuykendall. Professors were superb. Special to  
me were Paul L. (“Metaphysics? I’d write it on the board if I could spell it”) Holmer – his  
idiosyncratic and ironic style was appropriate to Søren Kierkegaard – and Julian N. Hartt,  
brilliant and bedecked with a stellar comedic timing. Happily, H. D. Lewis, who had been  
my advisor at King’s, was visiting at Yale during those YDS years, and I was able to study  
with him and to renew our friendship. YDS enriched my life immeasurably in every way.  
I taught religion at the University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, Virginia, in the  
Department of Classics, Philosophy, and Religion (CPR, Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation  
at the very heart of a liberal arts education) for forty-four years, retiring in 2014. I am a  
“literary theologian.” Dostoevsky showed me that real meat was in religion, and a lifelong  
pursuit has been the relationships between religion and literature (doctoral dissertation:  
“Reckoning with Kierkegaard: Christian Faith and Dramatic Literature”). YDS allowed  
and honored a literary approach to religious studies.  

I greatly look forward to seeing you again this October. I wish you well with your  
past and for your future. May gratitude ultimately outflank regret, agony, and grief for us  
all. Blessings.
Tom writes that his dad, now 85 years old, lives in assisted living and continues to walk with great determination and with the aid of a walker. However, he does not use the phone or email anymore, keeping life simple!

Tom still remembers living on Canner Street when he was in 3rd grade!
Following studies at Tokyo Union Seminary and ordination by the South Louisiana
Presbytery, I sold my business and entered the ministry. YDS influenced my life by
teaching me to develop a critical mind. We should not easily accept only one thought,
but rather use one argument against another. That is one of the ways to maintain a
progressive and improved mindset.

YDS also encouraged me to respect and mingle with friends of other
denominations, to integrate and associate with mainline Americans. For example, I
respected the group I met at the Baptists' Breakfast as well as those at the Presbyterian
Sherry Hour, which led to many new converts. I was active not only in Interfaith
activities in my ministry, but also outside the church in community work: Rotary Club
President in Delaware County, founding President of the Pennsylvania Chapter in the
Formosan Association for Public Affairs, Board Member for the FC Federal Credit Union,
and Program Chairman for the Taiwanese Conference/East Coast.

YDS prepared me to serve the Chinese Presbyterian Church of New Orleans, LA
English Ministry (2000-2003); the Taiwanese Presbyterian Church of Washington as an
interim (2006-2009); the Toronto Taiwanese United Church of Canada as an interim
(2010-2011); and the Grace Taiwanese Church in Berlin, NJ, as a pulpit supply (2013-2015).
Class of ’67 Memories

Neil D. Cowling  
’67 M. Div.

53 Sandstone Lane  
Sharpsburg, GA 30277-3351  
Facebook:  
https://www.facebook.com/neil.d.cowling

Honorably Retired – Pastor Emeritus, Kirk of our Savior Presbyterian Church, Westland, MI; member of Presbytery of Detroit

Paula

Stephen  
Joy Giannetti  
Donald Mathis  
Laura Bure

Sources –  
Yale Alumni Directory, YDS career roster, Student Directory, Facebook
Twenty years after ordination I was walking our dog in the western PA town where we lived while I served as the one minister for six small congregations tucked away on back roads. An older woman called to me from her porch. “Young man [inaccurate, but it sounded good], I hear you’re a minister. What’s your church?” I named all six. Obviously nothing rang a bell. She pondered for a moment, took a long breath, then beamed. “Isn’t that lovely! Perhaps some day you’ll have a church of your own!”

“Thank God for Harry Baker Adams,” I thought as the dog and I plodded homeward. “He’d understand.” Actually, he did understand, and had encouraged me when I encountered him a few years after graduation. The YDS experience was bending me in directions I never expected.

I can’t name everything that caused the bending, but certain elements stand out. I did an extra stint in field education with something called “experimental ministries.” I heard the name “Saul Alinsky” a lot, primarily from a few classmates. I audited Paul Holmer’s “Devotion and Theology” and encountered the writings of Quaker Douglas Steere, a mentoring spirit through all the decades since. Spring of our third year, I haltingly asked Brevard Childs if he would serve as my advisor for an STM year if I took one. He graciously said, “Yes.” For the next year I had the treasure of experiencing first hand his integrity and his joy. Most affectingly, among classmates I found friendships where differences, sometimes immense, enriched us rather than threatened. We were exploring things infinitely larger than all of us combined. Even in those young years, humility sometimes took hold.
The life-bending forces at YDS set me free. I entered the community with a clear picture of where I’d live for ministry and the people I’d be with. It looked just like the first twenty-two exceptionally privileged years of my life. Deeper visions than mine shattered this shell. I am profoundly grateful. And even more grateful that I found the wonderful Jean Fontaine as life companion for all the discoveries!
My feelings for YDS are mixed. After attending only one year in 1963/64, my friend, Jay Stoner, and I decided to study theology for a year in "West" Berlin, Germany, for "the year abroad" and then transfer the next year back to YDS. Well, the year turned into two (a bit of a challenge to become fluent in the German language in just a few months), which then included a wonderful life-changing adventure across North Africa and through the Middle East and back through Eastern Europe, arriving back in Berlin in late 1966. My life and my life-goals were changing just a bit too fast for my mind to keep up with.

I arrived back at YDS and received a year of credit for my two-year experience, graduating in 1967, but out of sync with my 1963 entering class. Following ordination in my home church in Raytown, MO, in the Disciples of Christ (Christian) Church in which I had grown up, I immediately made plans to return to Berlin, a city I had grown to love, to work with Action Reconciliation, a volunteer service organization, with official sanction from my denomination, which was already a well known option due to the connections of Alton Beaver and other YDS graduates.
However, very soon in that return experience, I fell in love with a West German citizen who would eventually become my wife, and with whom today I enjoy a grown son and his lovely Canadian wife and their two wonderful children. If you are not a grandparent, I recommend it highly! :)

I accepted an appointment to a congregation in the "Mark Brandenburg Evangelical German Church," in NeuKoln, Berlin city, and then rejected an offer of tenure in order to return to the States, realizing that I was ultimately an American who would not want to spend my life as an "expat" American in Germany.

Ilka and I married in Connecticut, and I completed the STM degree at YDS in 1971, already thinking of an academic career rather than a future in the pastorate.

I learned of the Holocaust of European Jews during my work in Berlin, taking young Germans to concentration camp visits, which had the effect of undermining my own traditional Christian faith. My academic life has been an academic journey in the search for a kind of faith that made sense for me, with a doctorate in religion and culture.

After doctoral study in Florida with Richard L. Rubenstein in Religion and Culture, I snagged a job in Vermont at Goddard College, an "alternative" college that suited my interests as I continued my journey to find a viable faith.

I love my life, and I love my work, but I’m just not sure I will come across anyone who might remember me, as I seem to have spent my life and career just a bit out of step with the "normal" career progression.
The Cooperative Movement – “God put us on earth for a little space so that we might learn to bear the beams of love” – a quote from William Blake in *Contemplative Prayer*: Thomas Merton, (p 9), a book I think I purchased at the YDS Coop bookstore. The Blake quote has inspired me, challenged me, and at times shamed me as a husband and father, grandfather and friend, and parish pastor over the last fifty years. My experience with the cooperative movement began at YDS and with the Yale Coop and stimulated my
involvement with cooperatives ever since, e.g. our retirement home is the Village Cooperative of Red Wing.

**Social Justice Ministry** – I eagerly registered for “The Church and Social Action” taught by Gaylord Noyce my first semester at YDS as a Rockefeller Fellow. Initially, I felt overwhelmed as one of the few 1st year students in the class. But soon my anxiety re-formed into passion as pastoral and prophetic Rev. Noyce introduced me to Dixwell Avenue Congregational Church and the housing for low income families, which that African American congregation had just built, and, in so doing, he introduced me to H. Richard’s *Christ and Culture*. Niebuhr’s final category “Christ the Transformer of Culture” has inspired and guided my ministry ever since. For example, during almost 25 years of ministry in Washington, DC (1968-1992), I provided ministerial guidance to a non-profit housing corporation that built the first housing completed in a riot area (1970) and helped to invent Hospice Care (the American form) while serving on the founding board of directors of Hospice of Northern Virginia.

**Field Work** – 1964-65 I was a Parish Associate at Dixwell Congregational UCC and was thus immersed in African American Church life and the local politics of the New Haven NAACP. My Dixwell experience foreshadowed the partnerships with Lincoln Temple Congregational UCC and People’s Congregational UCC that I was instrumental in forging while Associate Minister, Westmoreland Congregational UCC, Washington, DC.

Even more, my placement at Christ Episcopal Church, West Haven, as a member of the In Parish Pastoral Studies program, during my second year at YDS, set me on my course into parish ministry. Father Jerry Zimmerman demonstrated how a parish minister has the great privilege of being invited into people’s lives when they are delighted or despairing – “pastor please come and be with us as we rejoice over our baby’s birth... as we worry over our loved one’s grave illness... as we celebrate our daughter’s marriage... as we grieve the death of our beloved.” In these sacred situations, sometimes I bore the beams of God’s love well and sometimes I failed miserably.

**Brevard Childs** – Dr. Childs’ “Intro to the Old Testament” (1964 - 1965 edition) caused me to fall in love with the Bible and began my intellectual and spiritual formation as a parish minister. Dr. Childs’ wonderfully sensitive prayers with which he started every class, and the intellectual rigor with which he compelled us to deal with the scriptures, also shaped my ministry for the last fifty years.
After I left YDS in 1967, I was the Assistant Dean of Students at Marymount College in Tarrytown, NY, for one year where I taught a few courses of theology to the novitiate of the Sacred Heart of Mary, and was also in charge of student activities at the college. All student groups and clubs were under my supervision. I was responsible for bringing William Sloane Coffin to the campus for a lecture, and in instituting the SDS as a campus organization.

My time at YDS helped me to know that I was not going to make a profession out of pastoring. Drafted into the army in the summer of 1968, I sought a conscientious objector status to the Vietnam War, and was, of course, refused. I considered Canada, Sweden and jail; two of my YDS friends committed suicide over this issue. I temporarily sought refuge and support with the Berrigan brothers (Catholic priests) at Marymount. I did not resist the draft and entered the Army in the summer of 1968.

After basic and advanced individual training at Ft. Dix, NJ, I went to Fort Benning, GA, where I was trained as an Infantry Platoon leader in the Infantry Officer’s school.

Robert Ellis
’67 B.D.

’76 M.D., University of Louisville School of Medicine; further studies toward an MBA, Sullivan University; additional coursework in pastoral counseling, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

1460 Scott Station Road
Shelbyville, KY 40065
502-523-0954
robertellismd@aol.com

Medical consultant; currently raising thoroughbreds; Office:
9115 Leesgate Road
Louisville, KY 40222
502-719-0782; fax – 502-719-0787

Mrs. Robert Ellis – Businesswoman, world traveler, owner of travel agency

Matt – Owner of construction company
Emily – Nurse practitioner in private adult practice
Following my commission as a Second Lieutenant, my classmates and I were on buses leaving Ft. Benning to go to Ft. Polk, LA, to prepare for going to Vietnam as Infantry platoon leaders. Before we left Benning, by some yet to be explained miracle, my bus was stopped and I was asked to step off. A warrant officer asked me if I would accept a commission in Armor. I got off the bus, went to Fort Knox, KY, and trained as an armor officer. I spent the rest of my army career as a tank company commander and teacher at the Armor School. I did not go to Vietnam....

While working at Fort Knox, I commuted into Louisville (my home town) and took pre-med courses at the University of Louisville; upon release from the Army in 1971, I worked in pharmacology research at the University of Louisville for a year, while I completed my pre-med courses, and began my medical school training in 1972.

Since completing my M.D. degree and getting married, I have been practicing adult Internal Medicine. Over the years, I studied at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, where I trained in pastoral counseling, and pursued my MBA at Sullivan University.

For the last 25 years, I have lived on a farm in Kentucky raising saddle bred and thoroughbred horses, and angus cattle. My son Matt has a construction company and I am "allowed" to assist him on the weekends as his carpenter assistant installing woodwork and building cabinets. My daughter Emily is a Nurse Practitioner in private adult practice.

My practice as a medical consultant to one of the local hospitals in their pastoral counseling training program and as a medical consultant to one of the Good Samaritan counseling centers used to include about 6000 patients, but now I limit the number to about 500 in order to have a smaller, slower paced more preventative and wholistic practice.

I remember the days at YDS as a haven in the midst of a very difficult national and international crisis. It was, I guess, a moratorium for me, in that it gave me time to look at myself and mature more and learn what my personal and spiritual issues really were.

I cherish my relationship with Dr. William Sloane Coffin, whom I hold as one of the boldest and most honest spiritual people I have known. I miss him and his prophetic voice and spiritual vitality.
YDS is a very real presence in my life. The names and faces of fellow students, teachers, and encouragers often enter my thoughts, and the practices and habits of deep scholarship, which were developed and burnished in those precious years, have contributed greatly to my work.

I went on from YDS to Duke University to complete a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and, following my return to Australia, served as minister until 1975 with the Uniting Church. Afterwards I taught at Deakin University and then, until I retired, at the University of Sydney where I worked in the Faculty of Medicine.

I did not continue in the Christian ministry but that did not erase what I learned and experienced at YDS, and I believe those years earning a B.D. and S.T.M. were reflected in my service as sub-dean for students in Sydney’s graduate medical program. Now retired for almost twenty years, I bask in fond memories and deep appreciation for the learning and fellowship I was privileged to enjoy.

I wish you all a happy and enjoyable time full of rich reminiscences at the Reunion on October 18\textsuperscript{th}; I shall not be there as I am approaching 86 and not up to intercontinental travel these days.
The impact of YDS on my life was not personal academic achievement or theological brilliance. I was an accidental seminary student, not planning to be there but committing to a trial year and staying on for three. For me it wasn’t so much about Common Room conversations or worship in Marquand Chapel (although they were both important), and certainly not long hours in the library. I was more likely to be shooting baskets in the gym, flying kites on the playground next door with Jim Ward like ten year olds, or helping Frank White distribute the mimeographed newsletter he called “The Limb” (as in going out on).

What I remember and what influenced me most were friends and faculty who had a deep commitment to social justice, impressive intellectual power, the ability to articulate important theological meaning, and a determination to help create a more just world. (Confession: I did also discover Camus, the Niebuhrs, and Tillich. I napped through Barth.)

It was the heart of the tumultuous ‘60’s. Civil rights and anti-war demonstrations were multiplying. We were there. I saved Roland Bainton’s handwritten piece for “The Limb” making the case that the Viet Nam war was NOT a just war. There were other faculty members who were special for me: Davie Napier’s passion made the Book of Isaiah come alive. Liston Pope taught us to properly read the Sunday New York Times in his social ethics class (seriously). David Little spoke our language, and in Battell Chapel, William Sloane Coffin was the most powerful prophetic voice on the planet.

YDS introduced me to community social service through three years of field work with the New Haven YMCA. Forty-two years after graduation, I retired, following a local and national YMCA career in New York, Akron, Colorado Springs, Chicago, and Boston. YDS set my life journey in motion. I am truly grateful.
Although I have not used my YDS degree professionally, I appreciated my time there as well as the good friends and good discussions. A friend summed it up concisely for me: I liked the subject matter but not the job description!

My favorite course was David Kelsey’s on Bultmann, perhaps presaging my gradual move from my UCC upbringing to my thirty years’ membership in Unitarian Universalism. And like for many of us, I suspect, it is family life that has brought greatest meaning over the years. My husband John built many of the additions to our house before his death, and our grandchildren and their parents continue to provide me great joy today.
Ordained in The United Methodist Church, I have provided leadership, mentoring, and training for over 50 years within and beyond church settings. Having served in public leadership roles, organizational management, team leadership, and as adviser to other public leaders, I have helped bring to life new organizations, revitalized existing groups, and installed new systems for improving organizational mission.

I have traveled internationally and throughout the United States. I continue to lead training sessions on leadership and other subjects. In recent years I have mentored church leaders and provided intervention in conflict settings in a variety of Christian denominations. The YDS multi-denominational context gave me an important experience for my ministry.

I have published books, articles and tools on prayer, mentoring, supervision systems, cross-racial/cross-cultural clergy assignments, pastoral vocation, clergy sexual ethics, ministry evaluation and community organizing.

When not teaching and training, I enjoy hiking, gardening, and reading.
Ordained to the Christian ministry on June 18, 1967, by the Metropolitan Boston Association of the Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ; retired in 2011.

My YDS experience provided me with a number of classmates who have impacted my life greatly. Also, responding "Yale" usually terminated gratuitous curiosity into my qualifications for whatever, thus permitting focus to be fixed on the issue or personality requiring my presence and participation.
YDS prepared me well for my several jobs: Professor of English (39 years), Hemingway scholar (author or editor of 3 books—The Religious Design of Hemingway’s Early Fiction, Hemingway, Cuba and the Cuban Works, and Reading Hemingway’s Old Man and the Sea), pastor (18 years), academic administrator (Dean of Arts and Sciences, VPAA and Dean of the Faculty), and occasional poet. More important, it prepared me for a long and joy-full spiritual journey toward God’s great justice and even greater Shalom. Along that way, YDS graduates have joined me, befriended me, mentored me, cried with me, and laughed with me at crucial moments on that journey.

I retired from the Deanship on July 1 of this year after 47 years at Bethany College in West Virginia. I am sure YDS has prepared me well for retirement in most ways. I will edit a volume of my poems this fall, and I will continue my work as a Hemingway scholar, presently serving on the Board of the International Hemingway Society and as Treasurer of the Hemingway Foundation. I’m preparing a paper for next summer’s conference in Paris and leading a group working to bring the Society to Cuba in 2020. New members are welcome.

YDS did not, however, provide me with the fly fishing skills needed to fish the big waters of Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming and Northern New Mexico. It did teach me to learn to learn, so all should be well. Indeed, next August I plan to lead a “Theology and Fly Fishing” week in the Big Horns of Wyoming.
Class of ’67 Memories

Retirement will soon lead to permanent residence in Colorado. Once there, I will have the grandparent time I’ve longed for. We have plenty of room and will provide morning coffee or proper afternoon libations on the big porch looking over Bauer Lake to the front face of Mesa Verde. All are welcome.
Class of ’67 Memories

Bill Hanna
’67 B.D.

820 Lafayette Street
Denver, CO 80218-3508
303-906-3340
bill@billhanna.com

Retired Public Policy Administrator and Lobbyist

Cindy Hanna – retired graphic design business owner

Erick Hanna – b. ’82, director of staff training for organic foods grocery company
Andrew Becker – b. ’72, stepson, HR systems consultant
Anna Primavera Lamport – b. ’59, stepdaughter, family & children mental health counselor
Kirk Primavera – b. ’60, project manager in telecommunications

(A picture from my son’s wedding, July 26, 2016: From left - Bill, Cindy (wife), Erick (son), Toni (daughter-in-law), Arimas (step-grandchild), Andy (step-son)

The experience at YDS certainly influenced my life’s path. It helped me recognize that I was better suited to a career in public policy/social justice than in parish ministry or academic scholarship. It greatly expanded my understanding of what “ministry” or “calling” could include – words I don’t use much, but feel deeply inside. It also broadened my understanding of religious belief, and my respect for alternate views of the sacred mystery that aligns our lives and values.

I recall the words of Roland Bainton at the opening convocation when our class first gathered at YDS. A classmate asked whether he believed in predestination. Professor Bainton’s response was that he never really believed in predestination, but now that he was older and looking back on his life story, he was amazed at how things seemed to fit together. YDS has been a key part of my own story, and the gift of those years has been part of opening opportunities since that time as one thing led to another in a way for which I am profoundly indebted.

While I regret not being able to be at the reunion, I had a mini-reunion of my own in a visit to the YDS campus last year. Entering the quadrangle from Prospect Street and seeing the courtyard leading to the Chapel was a moving experience that brought back special memories. The hallways were filled with pictures of faculty who greatly influenced and challenged my thinking, most of whom are now gone. The pictures of classmates from the 60’s were equally impressive. I felt fortunate and honored to be included in one of those pictures with such outstanding classmates.

Enjoy your visit. My thoughts will be with you.
After graduating from YDS, I went into high school teaching while serving part time in a church in suburban Boston. In 1981, I made the transition into full time parish ministry. From 1982-1992 I served a church south of Boston, before being called to a church in Boston until 2003. From 2003-2008, I served 3 interims in Lexington, Massachusetts, where the American Revolution began in 1775, and then retired.

It is safe to say that three more tumultuous years in the second half of the 20th century or the first years of this century did not occur than during 1964-1967. We no sooner had arrived in that first year when there occurred both the passage of the Voting Rights Act following the horror of the bridge in Selma, Alabama; the Johnson administration escalation of the War in Viet Nam with the bombing that began in February; and the troops...more and more troops...were sent to fight in Southeast Asia in the three years we attended classes on Prospect Street. Our country became very divided as it had not been since the Civil War. Today we also are experiencing a divided nation.

But the Sixties also turned out to be a time of idealism and hope for a more just and equal society. Most certainly major progress has been made in the pursuit of justice for women, young people, minorities, and the area of gender (sexual) discrimination. To be sure, progress is never a straight line, but only the non-observant would not recognize many gains for millions of people both in this country and around the world.

My classes at YDS greatly enriched my understanding of the human condition. In my Biblical, ethical, historical and theological studies I gained a solid foundation for learning and growth. Over 14 years of teaching and 28 years in the parish ministry, I came to see and experience so many facets of the human condition that it is difficult to enumerate them, but I do know that without the education I received at YDS, I could not have been the least bit successful. What I learned from the likes of Mr. Childs, Mr. Gustafson, Mr. Ahlstrom, Mr. Holmer, and Mr. Dittes, just to name a few of my teachers, helped so much in my life.

Now in my "Autumn Years," I look at a society more polarized than at any time
since the 1960's. It is, I guess, a bit of déjà vu...all over again (Yogi Berra). In some ways this is quite discouraging. Much of the idealism to improve and change society has been replaced by a more self/centered ethic in which so many young people seek only to make their first million by the time they are thirty. So many interest groups seek only their own good. Self-interest in and of itself is not totally bad if it is balanced by a concern for the Commonwealth, the Common Good. Unfortunately, that seems to be lacking today.

I guess one of the best things about being alive this long, and having experienced so much, is the wisdom it might bring. Whether it is from Plato 2500 years ago or the Asian cultures, in my view, it is a good thing to have lived so long, although we all have family and friends not so fortunate.

At the end of the day I believe those of us at YDS 1964-1967 now have the opportunity to pass on what we were given to generations to come. I hope that all of us can be as generous as possible, considering our personal circumstances, to ensure YDS remains as strong and vital for those who come after us so that we will come to see in the future the just society and world that motivated so many of us to come to New Haven in that now distant year of 1964.
YDS helped me see that Christianity is not my path. In fact, religion is not my path. I don’t say this flippantly. It had to be thoroughly explored.

After YDS, I spent a few years in the Wilderness. And then voila, my Teacher appeared. Grace and Mercy. The way Home.

YDS gave me one of the finest experiences of community in my life: Human beings of the highest quality – sincere, cheery, delightful. My only regret is that I didn’t get to know more of you. But I was a young man then. We know what that’s like.

So, as we round the final turn, blessings to you all. What a life. What a dance.
I'll always remember sitting in Jim Gustafson’s office during my final year at YDS. I told him I wanted to go on for graduate study in psychology. He understood, was supportive, and agreed to support my application to Boston University. I had found my path, but it took four years.

I arrived at YDS in 1963 as a Rockefeller Fellow in the Trial Year program. I was unsure about my career objectives and seeking a place where I could find direction. After my trial year, I loved the place and decided to stay. The intellectual stimulation was intense; it became a safe place where I solidified the core of my intellectual, spiritual, political, and career identity. There was turmoil within me and the world outside. The
revolution in civil rights and the war in Vietnam forced me to deal with my place in a new social order. What an exciting time to take courses from the likes of Jim Gustafson, Robert Lowry Calhoun, and Jim Dittes: new ideas, a chance to raise questions of life and death, belief and non-belief, and challenges to my Swedish Lutheran belief system.

At the end of four years, I was more mature, had questioned many things, and developed clearer political and religious views as well as the foundations of a new social conscience. And, I had a hell of a lot of fun at various bars in New Haven, parties in Taylor House, and exciting basketball games in the old gym.

YDS provided other formative experiences: discussions in one of Uncle Ken’s evening groups, a trip to McComb, Mississippi (along with George and Nancy Rupp), working in voter registration in the black community, an internship in a Lutheran Church in Oregon (where I met my wife Sharon), and working at the Connecticut Mental Health Center in New Haven.

This was the context where, at the end of my work at YDS, I was in Jim Gustafson’s office with a sense of direction. Another blessing of my four years at YDS was meeting lifelong friends, Paul Hanson, George Rupp, Jonathan Hartshorne, Sid Johnson, Roger Paine, and Mike Lund, friends with whom I am still in touch 50 years later.

Sharon and I now live in retirement on the coast of Maine. Several of my grandchildren attend Hopkins School in New Haven so I occasionally visit 409 Prospect Street after watching a tennis match or attending a graduation. I walk the quad and remember the excitement of classes, chapel services, studying in the library, the old gym, and the coffee hours outside the refectory. When I am there, I feel a warmth inside and there is a smile on my face.
At YDS, I learned, as much as possible, to find the original source of information, whether it is theological, civic, governmental, business, or family. I learned not to trust secondary sources such as commentaries, editorials, news reports, or secondhand comments about people I know. Søren Kierkegaard taught me to focus on my relationship to my Creator and not get sidetracked with religious issues such as polity, ethics, or aesthetics.

My hobby and passion is maintaining and racing a 1962 Austin Healey Sprite in SCCA road racing events.
My YDS years seem so very long ago and so far, far away. I cherished my time as a student (though not a particularly diligent one!) and the excitement of a curriculum rife with ideas and challenges; I continue to dabble occasionally in theology and social ethics.

YDS gave me a view of the world much beyond that available from North Dakota – perspectives on all manner of meaning and being. Anti-war vigils on the Green and a trip to Selma fanned belief that change was possible and the YDS degree ‘credentialed’ me in pursuing social justice work. At the same time, faculty support for a ‘just war’ theory and US foreign policy gave me an awareness of the power of institutions and their members.

And last, but not least, I continue to believe the very best way of enjoying a morning cup of coffee is to be lounging in an oversized leather chair.
I am thankful to God for my time at YDS, especially for my studies with Jaroslav Pelikan and the friendship of Kenneth Scott Latourette.
My life journey has been and continues to be very interesting. YDS was a time of intense intellectual stimulation which equipped me for a life of inquiry and risk taking; it was also an experience of community when I was far, far away from home. I continue to seek to be in community and build community with others in need, for we are not fully human without it.

After YDS, I went on to a career in Juvenile Justice, developing treatment programs for children in residential treatment, and in a Juvenile Reformatory. I will be unable to attend the Reunion as I am a volunteer with Kairos Prison Ministry International and will be leading a weekend program in October, similar to Walk to Emmaus in prison. If you haven’t seen people raised from the dead, sign up for a Kairos weekend.
Greatly appreciated my time at Yale and the opportunities it provided for life beyond the seminary walls.

I wish all well on the success of the Reunion.
YDS changed Peggy’s life in every way possible, particularly due to the tumultuous centuries in which the country has been living. Art, religion, and music have woven together and created a very rich tapestry in her life. For many years, Peggy did social work in Durham County and later turned to administrative work.

Van’s retirement in June 2017, after 47 years as organist choirmaster at the Chapel of the Cross and many years teaching Religion and Philosophy, was a major event. Through the years he has earned love and respect by all he has encountered with his unique and deep understanding of the church, the varieties of religious experience, and his musical skill.
Class of ’67 Memories

Dr. Richard Jones
’67 B.D.

’78 Ph.D. St. Louis University

7011 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63130-4311
314-721-8535

Retired Educator

Linda

Todd
Blake
I have always viewed my YDS education as one of the greatest privileges of my life, and the foundation for 50+ continuous years in ministry. It was a privilege because I was part of the last group of women admitted under the infamous 10% quota system for women students. It provided the foundation for ministry in terms of practical training, but more importantly, in how it shaped my thinking religiously, and politically.

YDS, especially in our tumultuous days of the mid-1960s, stretched my capacity to think theologically, and it awakened my awareness of injustice and of my own privilege. Feminism as a movement was just beginning, and along with the peace and justice movements, I was able to ride the cusp of these social and religious changes and to have opportunities that I would never have dreamed possible when I arrived at YDS.

Somewhere in that exposure to the rich educational environment and the social change that was occurring in our world, I was transformed from a fairly naïve southern girl, into a woman with the passion to take on the world’s problems.

Over the years, in my service to congregations, the ecumenical movement, a brief venture into politics, and various life experiences, my Christian theology has changed radically. I have learned that I am a Christian largely by accident of birth, and had to reformulate what it means for me to continue to pursue a Christian life and work within the Christian community. I arrived at YDS deeply committed to ecumenism, and my experience at YDS only expanded that commitment, and gave me the knowledge of other
Class of ’67 Memories

Christian traditions to become an ecumenical leader in the conciliar movement (councils of churches).

All of this would not have happened had I chosen to attend some other seminary, either a denominational seminary or a seminary in the South. I owe many of the good things that have happened to me to YDS.
When I matriculated at Yale Divinity School in the fall of 1964, I was ready for something new and exciting, a kind of experience I thought I only could get by stepping beyond my sheltered life (as I suspiciously viewed it) at that point. What an awakening I had! I can honestly say those three years at Yale changed my life.

I already was involved in the ministry even in college, but Yale broadened my religious views. I wound up changing denominations, was ordained, and then somehow decided to get a doctorate in English literature, another I dream I had. But the church called me back.

Off I went to Florida to a church of senior parishioners who took me under their wings and gave me the opportunity to jump into those social issues we Yalies debated in the turbulent 60s. After serving a second church in Minnesota, I finally realized my ultimate dream of becoming an army chaplain.

I served on active duty for five years in Texas and Germany and continued my service in the Army Reserves for 24 more years. During that time I actually did change vocations. This time I returned to my home state of Pennsylvania to pursue a Ph.D. in Business at Penn State University. From that point I became first a college professor and eventually an administrator. My career took me to the University of Texas, El Paso; San Jose State University in California; the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; back to Texas at Texas A&M University International; and finally a return to California at California State University, East Bay. During that time my professional emphasis was centered on discrimination law.

However, my calling to the ministry continued to be reignited when I twice served as an interim minister, and many times as the officiant at Sunday services always within the United Church of Christ, the very denomination to which I was introduced while at Yale Divinity School. As you can see, my years at YDS shaped my future beyond what I ever could have predicted. It was an endeavor full of wonder, worth every minute of my time. Many thanks to those who taught me, inspired me, and befriended me.
Yale’s Unexpected Calling

One evening after an intramural basketball game, the unexpected happened. A brand new door opened. A fellow seminarian, Tom Beason, asked me out of the blue, “Would you be interested in spending a year at my alma mater, Saint Andrews Presbyterian College, to teach English Literature and Christianity and Culture?”

What?!

I had never conceived of myself as a University teacher. Never. Yet, as soon as Tom presented this possibility, I immediately knew that it was the next right thing for me. How I knew, I can’t say. As soon as a doubt-generating-panic knifed its way through me, it passed, and courage replaced it.

What happened? A “calling,” a “summoning,” addressed me in the depths of my being. It wasn’t like Isaiah or Jeremiah’s prophetic calls. They saw visions, heard voices, were touched on the lips by the celestial messenger, and were commissioned to speak in the name of the Lord. I was leaving that life behind. Instead, I was filled with a deep urging that seemed to be rising from the world itself, and this new possibility hit me with a powerful energy. It would open the door to my life’s vocation.

Teaching—sharing what I know with and learning from engaged students — became, as Confucius said in his Analects, a “Great Joy.” Soon, I would come to know that’s where I belonged.

Soon, I would come to taste the fruits of teaching, especially when teaching does not limit itself to transmitting information but is entered into with a spirit of trust in the back-and-forth process of dialogue.

From my book, A Life of Dialogue: Love Letters to My Daughters, pp. 54-55:
“Calling,” is a word that I would use in your upbringing, is a word I learned in Seminary and carried over into life. When you asked me: “How did you know that teaching was what you wanted to do,” I’d respond, “Because I was called to it!” And when you asked, Leila, “By what?” I always answered, “By the Universe.” That was the best answer I could give you. “It’s the Universe calling you into the way that you should go.”
Come visit the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota!

After living in Israel for three years, I entered YDS to prepare for a future involving interfaith dialogue.

While at YDS, I was highly influenced by the YDS community of faculty and fellow students and by the spiritual sustenance I found. I took a course in pastoral care and counseling with supervised clinical experience, taught by Ed Dobihal. That course changed my life. As I engaged in hospital pastoral care, and as I worked in a fieldwork placement visiting homebound church members, I discovered a call and commitment to pastoral care ministry. Eventually I was ordained and pursued training and a career with the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education.

I became a hospital chaplain in a large medical center and then pursued a career as an ACPE Supervisor/Educator. I retired after thirty plus years of rewarding ministry with patients, staff, and students in a medical center. The community at Virginia Commonwealth University became my colleagues and my congregation.

YDS provided the opportunities and the foundation shaping my personal spirituality and my professional growth in ministry.

YDS profoundly transformed my life journey.
Thomas (Tom) Lentz
’67 S.T.M.

Hamma School of Theology, B.D. 1966
Wittenberg University, B.A. 1963

5948 Bay Drive S.
Gulfport, FL 33707
419-234-1622 (mobile)
Tomlentz2001@yahoo.com

Chairman, Global Display Solutions, Inc.
Rockford, IL
Vicenza, Italy

Martha (Marty)

Thomas J. Lentz, M.P.H. Yale School of Medicine,
Ph.D. Cincinnati University School of Medicine

Laura Gage, Special Ed teacher, Columbus, Ohio

My education at YDS prepared me for a wide range of career opportunities in addition to parish ministry in Ohio; U.S. Virgin Islands; and Miami, Florida. Other careers included the founding of a religious publishing company; teaching in public schools; mission work in Haiti; acquisition editor for a publisher; and, for the past 18 years, executive with an Italian electronics company (I established the U.S. division.).

Professor James Gustafson helped me understand the importance of sound ethical principles in public life; Dr. Nils Dahl became a friend and godfather for our son, born in the Yale-New Haven Hospital. Friendships with Clint and Patti Terry (hours of playing bridge) and Elton and Emily Brown were a valued part of our time at YDS.
Class of ’67 Memories

Walt Lowe
’67 B.D., ’72 Ph.D.

220 Gaskill Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147-1589
215-787-0832
wlowe@emory.edu

Professor of Systematic Theology

Barbara DeConcini
Michael Lund
’67 B.D.

’70 M.A., ’80 Ph.D. University of Chicago, Political Science

6255 29th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20015-1558
202-966-4265
mslund@verizon.net


Formerly, taught at Cornell, UCLA, University of MD; did policy analysis at Urban Institute; created and ran the fellowship program at the U.S. Institute of Peace; consulted for international agencies and published books and articles regarding civil wars, genocide, conflict prevention, and democratization in developing countries.

Judith Bailey, Retired
Formerly, Deputy Director of Federal Trade Commission and on staff of House Judiciary Committee

Ingrid Virginia Lund – b. ’77, works for Advisory Board
Peter Bailey Lund – b. ’82, works for Whirlpool

Three grandchildren: Ellie Lund, Tristan Miller, Eden Miller

YDS sure did influence my career! Ever since my courses, especially with James Gustafson and David Little on social ethics, I’ve tried in whatever I do to develop practical and politically-feasible policies to carry out the Christian call to love thy neighbor.
Although my student residence at 409 Prospect Street was for only one academic year, the shortest among the schools and institutions I attended, YDS provided a decisive orientation for my entire academic career. After having completed my professional seminary studies, I began to pursue an academic degree in theology and I chose YDS for one main reason, namely, to hear then Yale Sterling Professor Jaroslav Pelikan. Professor Pelikan’s lectures on “History of Christian Doctrine” literally shocked and challenged me. His scope of the whole of Christendom, depth of insightful knowledge in the world surrounding the formation of Christian doctrine, and width of the interdisciplinary research in theology, literature, philosophy, and social sciences were simply amazing. Besides the rich and eventful experiences in the classroom, chapel, residence hall, refectory, etc., at YDS, my encounter with the lectures in the history of doctrine gave me a new direction for my academic career. As a matter of fact, I taught a history of doctrine course for nearly thirty years in a theological seminary and college in Japan, and my first publication (The Ecclesiology of Theodore Beza, Librairie Droz, Genève, 1978) and latest publication mentioned above have used the same methodology inspired by the YDS lectures on the history of doctrine.


Meredith Enman Maruyama, public health nurse, retired.

Kimi Maruyama – b. ’72
Sasagu Maruyama – b. ’75
Maki Maruyama – b. ’81
YDS has had an enduring impact on my life first of all through friends that I made. Steve Doughty, Del McAmis, Doug Stuart and the late Jerry Knoche became lifelong soulmates, and we still get together. Tim Lull and I spent years overlapping in Lutheran circles, and eventually I served as chairman of the Board of Directors at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary when Tim was the president there, giving me the joy of seeing Tim and Mary Carlton regularly. (Sadly, I would hold that post at the time of Tim’s premature death.)

I served as a Lutheran parish pastor for 38 years, and then worked in contextual education for a Lutheran seminary for ten years. I am a proud Lutheran (is that a contradiction?), but was consistently discouraged by the narrowness of many of my peers. The prevailing atmosphere was often that “we Lutherans” had this Christianity business down right, while those from other denominations could be respected for their faithfulness, but “we” knew that they didn’t have it “right” like we did.

Attending YDS made it possible for me to see the Christian spectrum in a different way, and to affirm other Christians whose points of view might have been different from mine, but were as equally “correct.” YDS prepared me to serve in warm partnership with a diversity of partners, which became a natural part of my ministry wherever I served, from downtown New Haven to suburban Minneapolis-St. Paul.

I was a simple midwestern Lutheran boy from Iowa, the graduate of a church college, when I arrived at YDS. That arrival was the beginning of a new life for me. I am grateful for those classmates who shared the journey with me, and for the institution that molded me.
After completing my first pastorate in Saskatchewan, Canada, I came to Yale with my wife Barb, a school teacher, and newborn daughter Trish to focus on ecumenical studies. At that time, my church, the United Church of Canada, was in serious talks about uniting with the Anglican Church of Canada. With a scholarship for further studies, I hoped to make a contribution to those talks.

At Yale, I studied under Yaroslav Pelikan, in the History of Church Doctrine and writing a thesis. I also studied with George Lindbeck in Comparative Dogmatics and Contemporary RC Theology, and with Hal Shorrock in his course on the Ecumenical Movement. These professors were major scholars in their fields.

My year of study at Yale was the most intellectually stimulating experience of my life. In Canada, at Queen’s Theological College, I had spent three years in a class of 17 theological students all of the same denomination. I lived in a boarding house where I was the only theological student. At Yale, I was immersed in a class of 300 theological students from many different countries and many different denominations. I lived in an apartment building with 84 different theological students and their families. What a contrast! What tremendous stimulation!

Yale was in a large city with many different intellectual and cultural experiences: first run tryouts of new Broadway plays, magnificent musical concerts. We were close to New York and could go there for further cultural experiences. We never again lived so close to such great cultural events.

The proposed union of United and Anglican churches in Canada collapsed shortly after I left Yale when the Anglican Church withdrew from it. I completed my ministry in United Church of Canada, serving five more pastoral charges. I retired in 1996 and now live with my wife Barbara in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Our daughter Trish lives in the US.
While teaching widely in philosophy and cross-disciplinary curricula, I have also published specialized scholarly work in health care ethics, including two books on moral questions about health care economics and a co-edited volume on the tension between treatment and prevention in health policy. I’ve also written widely about what constitutes economically informed justice in access to health insurance, defensible priorities in investing healthcare resources, and assertive end-of-life options. My teaching spanned moral philosophy, medical ethics, business ethics, human rights theory and practice, the nature of human well-being, human identity, and social justice in health. I served the university in various administrative positions, including Provost 1994-2002 and director of the Wild Hope Project (nurturing student and faculty exploration of vocation). Since retiring in 2012, I have continued scholarly writing, worked with medical school faculty in Thailand, and been a Visiting Professor at the
Chinese University of Hong Kong. I will be at the Monash Bioethics Centre (Melbourne) for much of this fall, 2017.

Before her death in 2007, I was married to Susan Blank, artist and junior high school art teacher. My family from life with Susan includes four stepchildren and six grandchildren. In June, 2013, I married Bonnie Steinbock of Albany, NY, also a philosopher and bioethicist. My personal interests include politics, cooking, art and architecture, travel, cycling and hiking, and dancing. Bonnie and I moved to Oakland, CA, in 2015.

Without my three years at YDS, my life and work would likely have been missing three major influences. (1) Pursuant to Charles Sherrod’s contacts with YDS, I spent the summer of 1965 in the black community of Albany, GA. I gained a different kind of commitment to the civil rights movement and a familiarity with and ease within black communities that carried on in my Nashville PhD years and at PLU and in Tacoma for the four-plus decades of my life there. (2) Largely because of Hans Frei and Paul Holmer at YDS, I gained an appreciation of truly liberal humanist theology and “form of life” conceptions of religious identification. Without these understandings, I doubt I would have been able to engage the various religious constituencies at PLU in the positive but critical way that hopefully I did. Time and again these understandings helped me be a more engaged member of the university community, and they helped me articulate the inclusive mission of the university to its diverse constituency. (3) Because I had the YDS and 1965 civil rights experiences, my subsequent philosophy PhD studies did not send me off to a faculty career focused on narrow academic achievement. I chose to spend my entire career at a largely undergraduate institution with a strong commitment to the moral and socially engaged elements of a liberal education. I never lost my passion for that or my readiness to appreciate the immense gratifications in teaching undergraduates.

While I have not kept in touch with many of my YDS classmates (really only with Chet Meyers), please know that I have not remotely forgotten my experience there in 1964-67.
I have always considered myself a member of the YDS Class of 1965. My wife Chris and I were married after my second year, and I was called by the UCC to serve a yoked parish in South Dakota for a year. Our intention was to gain some experience in pastoral ministry before returning to YDS for my final year. However, as the year was ending, the Methodist pastor left and the UCC and Methodist Conferences decided to experiment with a combined parish. I was asked to remain for another year to begin this process. When we returned for my final year at YDS, my classmates had obviously moved on. In addition, we now had a son, Jim; his brother David and sister Susan followed over the next five years, so my focus was not on getting acquainted with the Class of 1967. Following graduation, we returned to South Dakota and served another yoked UCC/Methodist parish for two years before returning to Maine where I served as pastor in Portland before leaving the ministry and joining a family insurance agency in Brunswick where I remained until I retired after 35 years.

Interestingly, I retired, in part, due to profound hearing loss which had been progressing for many years. I became increasingly dependent upon my wife and isolated from friends and social situations. We reside in Englewood, FL, in the winter and Harpswell, ME, during the summer. Our Florida home is located near a world class hearing research center where, seven years ago, I received bilateral Cochlear implants which restored my hearing. One of my missions is to visit with individuals who have serious hearing challenges and share my Cochlear story.

I am grateful for my years at YDS and my relatively few years as pastor. Hopefully, those experiences helped me to be a better parishioner.
YALE REVISITED...

As a freshman at UNC in 1959, I wondered how Christian faith could be relevant to life. The angst of Sputnik, launched 4 October 1957, was still present to me two years later. How could I measure up to the challenges above and around me? The thought of graduating after four years with so much unexplored territory left behind (forever) was frightening. My inadequacies would surely overshadow my aspirations.

The sit-in demonstrations by black students in February 1960 in Greensboro, NC, created an unexpected tension on campus. Rationally, I consented to their action, but inwardly I was ill at ease. How could I live one faith in Chapel Hill and another in my hometown where sit-ins were unwelcome?

Reverend Harry Smith was well versed in campus ministry and university education. I just knew he would never have time for me. Even in two years. I was wrong. In a fellowship of congenial sharing, the possibility of interdisciplinary bridges was beginning to appear. It was to be social ethics and the ecumenical pursuit of the Christian faith that would touch and link fragmented and expanding fields of human knowledge. Silently, Smith was translating Niebuhr for me.

In 1962, thirteen days of October angst descended on campus as the Cuban Missile Crisis unfolded. Boys in peach fuzz donned faded military jackets to display patriotism. Both sides of the Atlantic sighed with relief when the missiles floated away from the Caribbean. Graduating with a B.S. in Pharmacy in 1963, I did the unthinkable. I went to Yale Divinity School via a Rockefeller Fellowship.
This program was designed for undergraduates who had not prepared for ministry, yet somehow showed promise. Sixty grants given nationwide that spring, two at UNC involving a journalism and a pharmacy major. Imagine the surprise in New Haven that September when a geologist, a chemist, a psychology major, and a pharmacist showed up at 409 Prospect Street! Plus all the different flavors of Baptists, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and others from across the seven seas: many talents present, male and female. I knew so little that a welcoming community was decisive.

In the early minutes of Monday, November 25, 1963, several of us drove from New Haven to Washington, D.C., for the Kennedy funeral. Much deep sharing ensued in the quiet of the night. On the sidewalk near 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, we shivered in blankets and edged toward sterno stoves for warmth. The sun slowly rose in the East; weather-wise it was a beautiful day. Emotionally we were exhausted. Early afternoon the missing plane formation flew overhead. We headed back to Hopkins House at YDS.

A Danforth Foundation grant made possible a year in campus ministry at Michigan State University in 1965-66. Interdisciplinary bridges were built among students. I helped host a Christmas conference for international students unable to return home for the holidays. Stereotypes were shared and shed quickly, a new neighborhood was emerging across the miles.

In the summer of 1966, the National Council of Churches introduced 25 graduate students from across the U.S. to North Africa and the Middle East. In eight weeks we learned that not all Arabs are Muslim nor are all Muslims, Arab. Two weeks on campus at the American University in Beirut immersed us in the Sunni-Shia conflict. We knew so little about Islam or the antipathies created by the Crusades. No one had ever called us daily to prayer so early in the morning! The plethora of diversity in Lebanon amazed us. Students talked to each other freely on campus; however, if the two were in either home country, conversation at best would be stiff and formal. Freedom of speech in the western sense was a rare commodity. In Israel for a week, I learned of diverse antagonisms between Jews eastern and western. I had never imagined such.

YDS graduation was a joy, yet a terror. I saw the best and worst of ministry at Yale: the best in terms of student relationships and very competent teachers – and the worst in terms of those who compromised their integrity by accepting ordination in order to escape the draft. I hoped to start studies at Syracuse in the fall at the Maxwell School. That was not to be.

Following graduation in May 1967, I spent the summer in international education in Switzerland. “Expect the Unexpected” meant different accents, cultures, and smells than those in the Middle East. I bonded with five new (younger) brothers in Lucerne with help from a Frisbee. I knew no Swiss German and they, no English.

Returning home September 10th, I received my “Dear John” letter on the 14th. I joined Uncle Sam’s boys’ club soon thereafter, reporting to Fort Bragg, NC, and on September 30th, I celebrated my 26th birthday. In March 1968, I landed at Ton Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, at 3:30 AM on a starless night. Pitch black. Gunpowder smell everywhere. The TET offensive had begun.

I was needed as a pharmacist in Saigon and later at a field hospital outside Saigon until May ’69. In order to make something good out of war, I taught English after hours to Vietnamese youth wanting to develop a useful skill that could enhance their life after the war. The best gift to me of all, however, was meeting my wife Ginette before I returned to the US.

Because of my experience at UNC and YDS, I was viable in a new diverse cross-cultural environment. During the fifteen months I was in-country, I accidentally met a Vietnamese teacher blessed with the gift of languages; she spoke, read, and taught English, French, and
Vietnamese very well. As a Vietnamese Catholic, she never expected to become deep friends with an American Presbyterian, and vice-versa. Religion was still pre-Vatican 2. Social stratification was strong. When I left Vietnam in May, 1969, I knew that I would not re-enlist in the Army. I also knew that I loved Ginette though she did not love me; we were friends, and I knew I would never see her again. I was heartbroken.

In October 1969, a totally unforeseeable series of events brought Ginette to the U.S., and on December 22, 1969, we were married. Richard Niebuhr’s understanding of love was part of the liturgy. We are blessed with three UNC graduates as our children. Ginette led an ecumenical effort to help boat people from Vietnam start a new life here. In 1982, she launched a unique preschool (integrated) which she led from 1980 to 2002. I helped reunite the southern and northern Presbyterian churches in 1982, served on the Board of Education for 12 years, four as chairman, and in 2010, I began to serve as a county commissioner. Healing through pharmacy continued.

The impact of YDS on my life is significant. Without my mentors at UNC, there would have been no degree from Yale, and without Yale, I would not have had access to opportunities for learning and care-giving which were given to me in the States, Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, and the Far East.

For Ginette and me, it is still a beautiful and awesome mystery as to how or why God in His Providence brought an American Presbyterian pharmacist into a relationship with a Vietnamese Catholic teacher. We are best friends and blessed marriage partners who daily try to enhance life around us. Shalom!

This 2005 Father’s Day tribute from my family probably sums up best the values that were strengthened in me by my experiences at YDS. From Peter, “Dad instilled in me a love for reading and travel, for peacemaking, a thirst for truth, and care for the underdog.” From Ruth, “Dad has given me the freedom to think for myself and to stand firm in times of hardship and to persevere in what I believe.” From Stephen, “My siblings and I are grateful to be debt-free after graduation from college because Dad works hard for us; he’s given me the opportunity to experience many sides of business through trips abroad.” My wife Ginette concluded, “I am thankful for John’s encouragement and support when I went back to school to renew my teaching degree. I love him best when he cuts the grass still dressed in his shirt and tie, kills the moccasins, and carries out the trash, but most of all when he utters his simple catch-phrase, “I do the best that I can.”
My wife Angie and I have now been married 51 years. My work at YDS opened my attention to the history of Christianity through mentors like Professors Ian Siggins and Kenneth Scott Latourette. I have been teaching in this field for fifty years, including two years as teaching fellow at Drew, and am now entering my 32nd year on the faculty at Asbury Theological Seminary, where I have served in an endowed chair since 1988. I have published several books and articles and served in ministry (UMC) in the US and Austria. This March, I was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award of the Wesleyan Theological Society at its annual meeting on our campus.

I am currently serving as chair, and a plenary speaker, of the ATS Reformation500 week of celebration in October 2017 – an event which will overlap with the YDS alumni activities.

I will be thinking of my classmates at YDS and here send my greetings, thankful for the years we have all been able to serve in ministry since graduation in 1967.
I can't even begin to think of how else my life could have turned out! But then I can’t imagine not going to Carolina, not being involved with Wesley Foundation and *Motive* magazine and their week in New York studying art and theatre, not spending a summer with Constance Curry and Will Campbell with a total immersion into the very heart of the civil rights struggle in the summer of ‘63. Or not doing the summer ministry on Nantucket with a group sponsored by the National Council of Churches!

So with my background, going to YDS was a religious experience after growing up in Southern Methodism, which led to all kinds of exciting adventures. Theological people were deep thinkers who made important things happen. I had no background in the academic study of religion.

It was a shock to get to New Haven, to see so many people who were so interesting, to learn that there were whole areas of religious life to be investigated and studied. It set me on a path which still is fascinating. It gave me a glimpse of the past, a love of the present, and a hope for the future together with acquaintances who would interweave with my life in ways I could have never predicted.
I attended YDS twice – first as a Rockefeller student in 1959-60; then I taught in public schools and returned to finish my degree in 1965-67. I had two totally different experiences at YDS under two very different faculties. However, what I had in common was great classmates and two wonderful faculty advisors, H. Richard Niebuhr and B. Davey Napier. In addition to exposure to world-class professors, I had great experiences in a variety of field work assignments, notably with the New Haven Redevelopment Corporation at a time when it was leading the way nationally in urban renewal. Also, I shall never forget when the theoretical and the practical aspects of faith came together for me at YDS as professors and students participated together in Civil Rights and Vietnam demonstrations. I shall remember always marching in the streets of New Haven with Brevard Childs. I may not remember many details of his lectures, but I shall never forget his spirit! Those experiences led me toward a career in parish ministry (United Methodist) with a strong emphasis on social justice ministry. Through this avenue I also met Sandy.

While at YDS and later in life I always have needed time apart to “exercise” other aspects of my being. I loved playing in the old gym, dining at the Culinary Institute, sliding down the Canner Street hills, exploring the incredible diversity of the university and the proximity to NYC and New England. All of that carried over into my life in urban ministry. My exposure at Yale has led to the enjoyment of the culture of Washington and Baltimore, the opportunity to travel widely, the need to be physically active (I have won 41 national championships in masters track and field) and above all to advocate for the disadvantaged of our society.
YDS was my professional and liberal education as I had taken primarily technical engineering and management courses in college. I attended a Westminster Fellowship on the campus of Colorado University. My campus ministry mentor, Jim Harrison, had been a YDS graduate. At CU and in the WF fellowship, I met Bob Sieck who also became a YDS student. He and David Bartlett became YDS roommates and lifelong friends, along with Jim Harrison.

The most significant factor affecting my life journey was composing a paper in my third year suggested by the Danforth Study of Ministry, researched and written by Ken Underwood, a Yale scholar. The Underwood thesis was that ministry was only complete when it holistically included all four modes of ministry which he classified as the pastoral, the priestly, the kingly, and the prophetic. His research concluded that in parish ministry the latter two, especially the prophetic, were often not strongly included as they ought to be in the wholeness of ministry. I went forth, in the middle of the Vietnam conflict, vowing to use the Danforth model and to balance the priestly and pastoral with the kingly (i.e. organizing) and prophetic roles.

I was especially able to relate to the prophetic and organizing roles during my four years on a Minnesota campus during the Vietnam War and was effective in ministering to and with students and faculty in these roles. I also suffered the costs and consequences from my ecumenical board that was not ready for prophetic expression. I continued with
a career in parish ministry in upstate New York and was greeted with a power line fight and later a fracking fight in which I continued to stay true to the balance of the prophetic and kingly expressions of ministry.

Now retired, I am completing a thematic memoir with the working title-*Flying from the Cocoon*- that documents the prophetic character of my calling and my ongoing efforts to continue to live out the prophetic and kingly roles especially needed in a time of Trump.
Class of ’67 Memories

Robert M. Randolph
’67 B.D.

’84 D. Min. Andover Newton

94 Main Street
Rockport, MA 01966
617-594-2087
Randolph.robertm@gmail.com

Retired – Chaplain to MIT

Jan C. Randolph – Retired from Harvard Memorial Church

Kathleen – b. ’70
Margaret – b. ’76

YDS laid the foundation for a career dealing with religion in higher education.
Class of ’67 Memories

Luis N. Rivera-Pagan
’67 S.T.M., ’68 M.A., ’70 Ph.D.

B.D. Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico

Montebello Estates, Calle 4, E-10,
Trujillo Alto, Puerto Rico 00976
787-755-1991

Retired Professor

Nora
After graduation from Connecticut College, New London, and a year at YDS with courses at Yale Art School (with Albers and Peterdi), I earned an MA and MFA in Painting and Printmaking from the University of Iowa (with Lasansky, Ludins, and Myers). I moved to Seattle in 1968 where I have had a career as a professional artist and educator. I have exhibited my artwork widely and won several regional and national awards from the Seattle Art Museum and 4Culture: King County Arts Commission, a Rome Fellowship, and a Fulbright-Hays Travel Grant to Vietnam. I taught Art for 40 years at colleges and universities in the Seattle area and retired in 2009 from a tenured position in the Fine Arts Department at North Seattle College.

Currently, I’m a partner of BallardWorks, a Seattle artists’ studio building. I work daily in my Seattle and Nahcotta studios; you may see my work and resume at my web address.
A Lover’s Quarrel

I have had a lover’s quarrel with YDS.

In my first two years as a student, I was vigorously involved in both activist civil rights efforts, for example, as a member of the New Haven chapter of CORE (the Congress on Racial Equality) and especially in protests against the war in Vietnam. I was an early participant in the ARFEP (Americans for a Reappraisal of Far Eastern Policy), the organization that Staughton Lynd and Bill Coffin founded and led. I vividly remember the debate that Bud Ogle and I had with a professor of social ethics and his graduate teaching assistant about the war in Vietnam, in which our senior colleagues defended and we sharply criticized U.S. policies. I also know from insiders that when I was elected president of the YDS Association for my third year, administrators circulated memos about how the school had been overtaken by Communists!

I valued the fieldwork opportunities that I had—in particular the chance to work with Roger Kelsey, a pastor in Appalachian Ohio and brother of Professor David Kelsey, and I also have always been grateful for the education I received, perhaps most notably the course on Western philosophy that George Lindbeck offered.

I appreciated the invitation to continue at Yale for doctoral studies in theology, but I had become frustrated with the overall ethos at YDS of Neo-orthodoxy in general and Karl Barth in particular. Because I was very much attracted to the Center for the Study of Religions at Harvard, I decided to pursue my PhD there.
Class of ’67 Memories

Over the years, especially since my wife Nancy and I moved back to Connecticut, I have reconnected with YDS—in particular through the First Presbyterian Church of New Haven. I have found more and more in common with the school, and I have a very positive view of Dean Greg Sterling. As I have for most of the past 50 years, I look forward to continuing to place greater emphasis on my love for the institution and less on the quarrels of the distant past.
I cannot begin to put into words how much YDS and the greater Yale community, especially Battell Chapel, affected my life journey. (I lived in New Haven about 15 years after graduation from YDS.) Suffice it to say it was a profound experience that gave me so much – too lengthy to detail here. I only hope that I have been able, in turn, to give to others in some small way all that I was given. I shall always be grateful.
Melvin D. Schmidt ’67 M.Div.

5726 39th Avenue
Hyattsville, MD 20781
301-277-1362
melschmidt@msn.com

Retired clergy, Mennonite
Charlotte, retired family counselor
Kimberly – two children
Heidi and Tim – five children
Johnna and Chris – two children

Melvin D. and Charlotte Schmidt returned from four years of humanitarian service in Indonesia with Church World Service. They arrived in New Haven in September 1963, and on October 2, their second daughter Heidi was born to join her older sister Kimberly.

Charlotte and Mel worked hard to support the family while Mel was working on his M.Div. Charlotte took partial employment as a registered nurse while Mel worked weekends in churches as youth pastor. A heavy winter also gave Mel the chance to earn some money with a snow shovel.

Graduating in 1967, Mel’s first pastorate was in a small town in Kansas with the Mennonites; he continued to enjoy over four decades in pastoral ministry in Wichita, Kansas; Bluffton, Ohio; and Hyattsville, Maryland. After serving the church in one capacity or another for about 47 years, Mel retired in 2003. He and Charlotte live in Hyattsville where their three daughters and nine grandchildren have joined them, all living within a mile of each other and enjoying family togetherness.

Mel has always thought that his preparation at Yale Divinity School was probably the best that was available for him. It pushed him toward the “liberal fringe” of the Mennonite Church where he was perfectly comfortable. In 1969 he won a Merrill Fellowship at Harvard Divinity School, and in 2001, he and Charlotte travelled for three months in Indonesia while supported by a Lilly grant.

His memoir *Wholly Holey, Holy: Reverent (and not so reverent) Recollections of a Reverend* was published in 2016, dedicated to his wife Charlotte and their three daughters, and to the four congregations which he served.
The most major way in which YDS affected my life journey is that I met my wife Jinny there. However, beyond that, it instilled in me a concern for other people, as well as a concern for peace, justice, and care of the earth. All of these have been important in my professional and non-professional life.

For a year after YDS, I was ordained by the United Church of Christ and was assistant minister at First Congregational Church, Stamford, CT. Among my youth group members were John Thomas, former President of the United Church of Christ, and Kent Siladi, the current UCC Conference minister for Connecticut. I continue to maintain my ministerial standing in the New Haven Association.

After law school, I clerked for two years for a United States Court of Appeals Judge in New York and then joined the New Haven law firm of Tyler Cooper & Alcorn where I was a litigator until 2008 and Managing Partner for six years.
Studying for a B.D. at YDS in 1964-67, when Dr. King was marching, William Sloane Coffin was preaching, and the cities were exploding certainly strengthened (although it did not initiate) my passion to help Christians, especially evangelical Christians, develop greater concern for peace and justice. That, in turn, has contributed to my forty years founding and leading Evangelicals for Social Action (retired from ESA in 2013) and publishing the more than thirty books on peace, justice, and holistic ministry.
Class of ’67 Memories

Frederick W. Smith ’67 B.D.

’83 Ph.D. University of Minnesota

1425 W. 28th Street, Apt 221
Minneapolis, MN 55408-1978
home: 612-871-6879
smith009@umn.edu

Retired

Mary Martin

Jessica
Joanna

You have my best hopes for a memorable celebration.
Thinking about my journeys of life and faith, it’s clear that insights and learnings from the YDS experience have been formative and lasting. Both directly and indirectly, the affected areas of my life as a person and pastor have included:

* Affirming life and ministry as ongoing matters of *fides quaerens intellectum*;
* Focusing preaching, teaching, and the practice of faith in the Good News context of social justice and peacemaking;
* Seeking to see both the big picture and the small pieces of the whole puzzle in life and faith;
* Applying the belief that where there is no hope there can be no planning, and where there is no planning, there can be no hope;
* Being mindful of the power of words as well as actions in all relationships and activities;
* Understanding and practicing ministry as servant leadership reflecting the Way of Christ;
* Sharing with others the view that all are called to ministry as theologians and (in Nouwen’s language) as “wounded healers”;
* Enabling the practice of ministry, over the years, in multiple forms as pastor, educator, writer/editor, camp director, denominational and ecumenical church executive.
Well, enough of that! It strikes me all of a sudden that I’ve written a brief dossier in search of a new call to ministry. But, then again, on second thought, that’s been the profound, lifelong effect of the YDS experience. Each and all of us were prepared for a shared practice of ministry with our sisters and brothers who, alone and together, are called to varied journeys of life and faith in search of understanding.
After thirty years in parish ministry, I retired to Fort Lauderdale to a gorgeous view of the ocean. I am very happy!
Class of ’67 Memories

Rev. Stephen G. Thompson
’67 B.D.

51 Pleasant Street
Framingham, MA 01701-4752
508-879-9824
stephenthompson8@verizon.net

Retired Professor of Philosophy
I arrived at YDS with a sense of awe and amazement that I could really be studying and learning in this institution. I still feel this sense of awe, but even more, I now feel so much thankfulness for the years with all of you at YDS. So, I am deeply grateful and thankful to YDS, to each of you and each of the professors who touched my life.

I came with the hope that if I worked hard, dreamed big, took risks, and joined with others, we could make change happen, not only in ourselves but in our world. The environment at YDS and in New Haven, and indeed in our world, encouraged this optimism. Studying with Davie Napier helped us see that God doesn’t just act in Old Testament times, but now, in our world today through us. We learned from and were shaped by great wise teachers who modeled living faithfully—Gay Noyce, Russell Becker, James Dittes, Ed Dobihal, Bill Coffin, and more. How blessed we are.

Together at YDS we pursued social and political activism: We marched for migrant workers, civil rights, voting rights for blacks, better housing for poor people, with Dr. King in Selma, and against the Vietnam War. This social and political activism has continued as a lifelong endeavor for me.

One of the most important ways my life has been affected by YDS is meeting my husband and lifelong partner and friend, Bob Tiller, as well as other lifelong friends. I cannot even imagine life without these persons in it—I know it would not be as rich and full.

While at YDS, studying with Ed Dobihal at Yale-New Haven Hospital, I was introduced to a new concept of caring for the dying and their families called hospice. The concept was just being brought to this country from England and the first hospice in the U.S. was being explored. This exploring eventually became the Connecticut Hospice. This idea took root in my soul, and eventually I ended up in hospice work in the
Class of ’67 Memories

Washington, D.C., metropolitan area as a large part of my ministry and career. I am indebted to YDS and Ed Dobihal for planting these seeds back in 1966-67.

I thank YDS for this foundation in my life on which I continually strive to build and grow with ever new ideas, hopes, challenges and joys. However, looking back is not enough, I hope I will always look forward with wonder to each new day, being available and open to new directions, purposes and meanings.
This particular blank screen has prompted considerable reflection on a vocational struggle that YDS was instrumental in finding at least a livable resolution. The forty or so years of parish ministry that followed certainly included many ups and downs (i.e. “teachable moments”); slightly less than half that was as the settled pastor in two churches, and the remainder in intentional interim ministry, all in Vermont and New Hampshire. Ten or so years into retirement, I often wonder how I managed to keep a demanding day job as well.

Much against the strong advice of my home pastor/mentor, YDS was the only seminary that interested me, and I have no idea what I would have done had I not been accepted. I certainly found it to be intellectually challenging, and welcomed the opportunity to question and re-think most of the traditional history and theology I had absorbed until then. Unfortunately, I chose to back away from much of that in the face of a parish deeply divided over Vietnam, sensing that I didn’t need to rock the boat any further.

Several years into a second parish with a very stable summer community of seminary and university professors, foreign service diplomats, corporate executives, US supreme court justice, etc., I was led by a series of synchronistic events to a group founded by three Jungian analysts with sharp critical skills who study the synoptic gospels with the intention of getting behind what the church (including the earliest tradition)
wanted to say about Jesus compared to what Jesus himself wanted to say about being human in relation to God. This group has its roots in the work of Henry Burton Sharman, a New Testament scholar at Chicago in the earlyish 20th century, using his “Records of the Life of Jesus” (a brilliant division of the synoptic text that puts subsequent attempts to shame) in a modified Socratic seminar group striving for deep personal response to the leader’s questions rather than consensus. (Walter Wink became their unofficial academic apologist after spending considerable time with them.) Although YDS gave me the necessary tools for this work, I sensed an unspoken hesitation there to venture behind the canon to ask this more fundamental question. That said, I am profoundly grateful for a classmate’s two-word characterization of Brevard Childs: “reeks faith.” Amen. SDG.

Although I think I am well aware of the issues involved in quests for the historical Jesus and psychologizing hermeneutics (btw, Jim Dittes’ daughter Joanne is a fellow member of the church which I now attend), this work has profoundly influenced my preaching in particular and ministry in general, releasing me from my perceived post-seminary boundaries and deepening my understanding of the care of souls. I almost regret being retired, but not enough to do anything about it!

On a more personal note, between first and second year, I married Janet Birrell; notable shift in social circles between the Quad and Canner Street apartments. Marriage lasted twenty years and produced two daughters: Gretchen and Martha.

In May of 1993, I married Nancy Pollack, a college administrator and fabric artist. We’ve raised a foster daughter, Gina.

Nan and I live on fifteen acres in the boonies (could you guess?) with two dogs and two cats near Saratoga Springs, NY. My dad’s family has long and strong roots in the upper Hudson Valley, including Saratoga. They’re carrying me out of here feet first.
Yale Divinity School helped set the pattern for life-long learning. Seven years later, I earned a D.Min. from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary and since retirement in 2004, have taken and taught courses at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Duke. I still find fun in learning.

After YDS graduation in 1967, Nancy and I took two months to travel around Europe on our own, doing it on five dollars a day. This summer, we celebrated our 52nd anniversary floating down the Rhine ending our trip in the Netherlands. YDS inspired exploration beyond the classroom.

A field work placement as assistant to the chaplain at what was then the New Haven State Jail sparked an interest in prison ministry that has led me to visit inmates on a regular basis over the years. Even in retirement, I visit inmates weekly and serve on the board for the prison chaplain.

While I pastored a United Methodist church, Nancy (MAR 1966) served as a director of religious education at a different church. After five years, to make family life with two young daughters work better, she switched careers, and until retirement, taught math in a high school and community college.

I served churches in Chicago’s inner city and another racially changing community, and in other Illinois communities, did a co-pastorate with a friend, and served as senior pastor of two other churches. Helping provide leadership for congregational development and redevelopment for the Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church was a special interest of mine.

One of the highlights of pastoral ministry was the pulpit exchange with a pastor from Crawley, England, to celebrate the 300th anniversary of John Wesley’s birth. We made good friends there, lived in the manse, drove a little British-style car and pulled our trolley to Sainsbury’s for groceries.
Class of ’67 Memories

Over the years, Nancy and I have enjoyed the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado, twenty summers as guests and seven as volunteer senior staff where Nancy was a hikemaster and I worked as an assistant chaplain and then as a goodwill ambassador in the Philanthropy Department.
As a result of three years at YDS, I’m willing to question assumptions – ask why? sort out intentions if possible, find out the story beneath the surface, in order to ferret out the truth as best I can. I question the source of my faith even as I chat with God/Sustainer throughout each day. I recognize when grace abounds, when harmony surrounds, and I risk losing both when I question the underpinnings of either.

YDS freed me to think through my faith and figure out what made sense to me. If all those theologians could disagree with each other, certainly there was room for me to make up my own mind! Understanding the vocabulary of faith prepared me to be my own person when I married a man who became a Presbyterian minister; coming of age during Civil Rights and the Vietnam War introduced me to activism and informed my lesson plans in literature and its contextual history so that I could incorporate themes of social justice and the power of one person to make a difference both in middle school and high school.

Professors, friends, and colleagues nurtured my optimism, encouraged my objections, overlooked my southern accent, welcomed my need to socialize, invited me to join the group, and helped me grow up. You were a bunch of smart, funny people who made it exciting to live, love, and learn. YDS pooled us in a concentrated mass for a few years, to learn from each other, and then forced us from the nest into the larger world, placing confidence in us to continue a renewed pursuit of a decent life for us all, to bring healing and hope to our needy society. Memories of our time together have sustained me when I could not call us back together from our ongoing and separate lives. Thank you for your friendship.
Class of ’67 Memories

Charles Walls  
’67 B.D., ’68 S.T.M., ’74 Ph.D.

462 Ridge Road  
Blue Ridge, GA 30513  
home: 706-632-2509  
cell: 770-827-9205  
candbwalls@tds.net

Retired pastor and teacher

Becky Walls – retired teacher

Tobin, Heather, Barrett, Timothy, Hannah

Thank you for helping make me who I am.
Class of ’67 Memories

Rev. L. Alton Wasson, Jr.
’67 B.D., ’71 S.T.M.

24 O’Neil Road
Haydenville, MA 01039-9717
413-268-3534
altonwasson@comcast.net
www.altonwasson.com

Counselor/Consultant/Teacher

Rosalyn Driscoll
www.rosalyndriscoll.com

Sage and Matthew Goodwin (daughter and son-in-law)
   Sophia – 8 years
   Emmeline – 5 Years
I cannot imagine the course of my life without the Yale Divinity School. David Kelsey taught my very first course, entitled “The Nature of Theology.” He defined theology as faith seeking understanding, or, as he termed the classical Latin phrase, *fides quaerens intellectum*. As a member at that time of a denomination which seemed skeptical of the intellect, I felt like shouting for joy! I was home! After fifty years or more, I continue to look for more understanding.

Since I had chosen YDS over a denominational seminary, I knew that at times I should feel isolated from ecclesiastical politics and positions. Often in times of social and personal upheaval, I had a recurring dream in which I embraced the columns leading down to the Common Room and the Refectory. I understood those dreams!

My MA thesis dealt with the attitude towards race in the North Georgia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church from 1950-1972. The University of Georgia recommended it be published under the imprimatur of the United Methodist Church. The bishop, however, was not impressed! My wife Theresa felt that the bishop's
attitude sounded my death knell in the politics of the United Methodist Church in Georgia. I have been a Presbyterian for twenty-eight years now.

The most important gift to me from YDS provided a perspective of living in Southern culture. YDS allowed me to accept myself as a Southerner with all the contradictions and dynamics which continue to make the South a unique region. Flannery O’Connor and Eudora Welty go to church with me. John Berendt is my friend, and William Faulkner is my neighbor. YDS taught me to appreciate the passion and gentility of that culture while recognizing its darkness as well. I wear my white suits and bowties and my hats, knowing full well the truth of the Latin dictum spectemur agendo, for in participating in those stereotypical images of the region, people tend to listen when I speak.

I have served for the past twenty-eight years as the minister of the Boston Presbyterian Church in conjunction with a real estate business. I have three daughters and I have helped rear eleven children, the latest of whom is my young grandson Ivan. He and his mother live with me.

There is then the acceptance of elegance and quality as the norm from the ambience of the Refectory and Common Room to well renowned professors, none of whom insisted upon being addressed as “Doctor.” YDS gave me a vision of excellence and a sense of integrity and openness to the potential germ of truth in opinions which differed from mine. I have accepted my idiosyncrasies and refuse to give them up; otherwise, I should have to retire up North – and who would do that???
YDS was a major formative experience in my life and career. Although I never received a divinity degree or became ordained, most of my time at Yale enrolled in the Religious Studies doctoral program was spent deeply invested in the YDS community. (“Seabury House – not just a dorm, but an entire way of life.”) In addition to being immersed in the sometimes riotous social life of the Quad, I became exposed to the culture of mainline Protestantism and the combination of social activism and Neo-Orthodoxy that dominated the ethos of the time. I have subsequently had a rewarding career teaching American religious history and serving the Episcopal Church in many capacities, most of them growing out of my Yale education. It is sad, but inevitable, to see the Quad repurposed – some younger faculty don’t even know the names of the “pavilions” – but sadder to watch the passing of such vibrant and creative spirits as Ken Child, Ken Dill, John Irvine, Margie Lenn, Tim Lull, and Connie Mann. (Dave Bartlett hangs in the balance as I write.)

To paraphrase Hilaire Belloc:
Seabury made me, Seabury fed me.
What I had, she gave me again.
And the best of Seabury loved and led me.
God be with you, Seabury men.
The most important lesson YDS taught me as a student was the importance and difficulty of balancing the needs of the church and the academy in theological education. This task has occupied my whole professional career teaching in theological schools, first, briefly, at Union Theological Seminary in New York, and then at YDS. To its credit, YDS continues to struggle with this issue as new generations of students come and go.
YDS opened my life to the world stage through marches on Washington with William Sloane Coffin.

Coffee with Roland Bainton in the Common Room at YDS stands out in my 40 years of teaching religion; I continue to draw on his wisdom.

Steve Doughty, with whom I did field work at the Fish Church in Stamford, has retired in my hometown of Greenville, South Carolina, and he and his wife Jean continue as great friends.

Jenny Lee Yates
’67 M.A.R.

’73 Ph.D. Syracuse University
’92 Diploma, Institute for Analytical Psychology, Zurich
Visiting Distinguished Scholar, Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, UNCW

6 Corbett Street
Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480
910-208-3036
yatesj@uncw.edu

Semi-retired – Part-time professor in religion and Jungian psychology, UNCW
Our 50th Anniversary Memory Book, published in 2017, contains a Memorial section for classmates who have died since we graduated fifty years ago. We have relied on the Divinity School records and Gail Briggs, YDS Director of Alumni Relations, Yale Alumni Directory for 1995, as well as on information from surviving family and friends, and, in several instances, newspaper obituaries.

We will continue to include all who graduated in the class of 1967, as well as those who received the S.T.M. and Ph.D. degrees in that year. The authors of the memorials are identified in the articles.

We offer these memorials as tributes to the good works of our fellow class members who are no longer here to speak for themselves and whose absences are ever present reminders of our short time on this earth.

When you remember me…it means that even after I die, you can still see my face and hear my voice and speak to me in your heart. ... For as long as you remember me, I am never entirely lost.

—Frederick Buechner

(Whistling in the Dark, p. 100)
Class of ’67 Memorials

Rev. Earl Albert Abel
Died 31 January 1995
’67 M.A., working on Ph.D. in Systematic Theology

B.A. University of Rochester
B.D. Colgate Rochester Divinity School
studied at North American Baptist Seminary
studied at Westminster College, Cambridge, UK

Mrs. Mary Alice Abel
5 Horizon Drive, Ithaca, NY 14850
607-257-1848

American Baptist

Sources – ’95 Yale Alumni Directory, YDS ’67 roster, YDS 1967 Student Directory
A native Californian, born in Glendale, Philip was a descendant of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and traced his family tree back to the Mayflower Pilgrims John Alden and Priscilla Mullins, whose real-life romance provided the subject for the poet’s fictional “Courtship of Myles Standish.”

Active in the larger church, he served as a Director of the Southern California Nevada Conference of the UCC, as Moderator of the Central Association of that conference, as Chairman and Member of its committees, and as a Delegate to the UCC National Synod.

Past President of the Rotary Club in Sebastopol, CA, and Past President of the LaCanada Club, Philip authored a book, The Gospel According to Disney – Christian Values in the Early Animated Classics. He was active in numerous organizations in the Foothill communities, often called upon to speak, pray, or act as a master of ceremonies at special events. He offered eulogies for elected officials in Sacramento, CA, and often provided prayer before the LA Board of Supervisors. He organized travel groups, collected “Disneyana,” read mysteries, and appeared on several TV shows (Today’s Religion, Morning Devotions, Wheel of Fortune, The Price is Right, Card Sharks, and Password).

Philip died 20 June 2003. He is survived by his wife Patricia, daughter Katherine and her husband Phil, and his grandson, Philip Longfellow Markgraf.

Submitted by Patricia Anderson
At the time of his death, Jack was serving as minister at both Sardis United Methodist Church and Bethany United Methodist Church in the Charlottesville District. He began his career as Minister to Youth at North Broadway United Methodist Church in Columbus, OH; then served as Associate Minister at First United Methodist Church in Martinsville, VA; followed by serving as Minister of the following parishes:
- Foundry United Methodist Church in Virginia Beach, VA;
- St. John’s United Methodist Church in Staunton, VA;
- Cherrydale United Methodist Church in Arlington, VA;
- Manassas-St. Thomas United Methodist Church of Manassas, VA.

Born in Murray, KY, to John H. Bartee, Sr., and Evelyn Midgette Bartee, he was preceded in death by his parents and his son Thomas. He is buried in Oak Lawn Mausoleum and Memory Gardens in Staunton, VA.

My dear husband, Lou Bauer, passed away September 12, 2016. I have been asked to contribute to the memory book with some of my reflections about Lou and his ministry.

Lou and I met on a Cape Cod beach (ask Steve McKinley) during Memorial Day weekend 1967, just days after he completed his studies at YDS. He was enormously proud of, and grateful for, his rich, solid theological education. During the 1970s and 1980s Lou augmented his education with a 3-year CPE internship and residency at St. Elizabeths Hospital, at the time the largest psychiatric institution in the country; he studied group relations at the UK’s Grubb institute; and he completed the course work for a Ph.D. in medical ethics at the University of Tennessee.

Lou remained committed to parish ministry, and served congregations in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Tennessee, and North Carolina. Until...in 1992, while serving a congregation in Chapel Hill, NC, Lou and I took a 3-week Lutheran World Relief study tour to West Africa. We were hooked, and returned to Africa in 1993 and 1995. We wondered, in the words of Frederick Buechner, how our great gladness could meet the world’s great need. In 1997 we resigned from our jobs, sold our house and cars, and accepted calls from the ELCA to be missionaries in Africa. We became lecturers in seminaries in Namibia and Ghana for the next six years. Lou taught homiletics, spirituality, and church administration. He also served as Dean of Students at the seminary in Namibia. Those years were the most challenging and the most satisfying of our professional lives.

When Lou retired in 2006, he wrote two books of meditations, Alpha and Omega: Meditations on the Divine Mystery, volumes I and II and a children’s book, Archie the Archangel.
Lou was devoted to our two children and our grandson. Jason, our son, works for the federal government in Washington, D.C. in international development. Our daughter Megan is an oncology nurse who works in the field of oncology research.

Although I miss him terribly, I will be forever grateful that God blessed me with 48 years of marriage to this smart, loving, generous man.
Kenneth Henry Brown
Died
’67 M. Div.

’63 B.A. University of Rhode Island

Sue

Methodist

Sources – YDS ’67 roster, YDS Student Directory
Kenneth A. Childs
1942 - 28 July 1998, 56 years old
’67 B.D., ’68 S.T.M.

‘64 B.A. Beloit College, WI

26 years as Director of Campus Ministry, Springfield College, MA

Donna L. Leverett
Jeffrey, Lisbon, Portugal
Rebecca, Portland, OR

Ken grew up in Ripon, WI, and graduated from New Trier High School in Wilmette, IL. Following his graduation with an STM from Yale and ordination in 1968, he moved to Wilbraham, MA, to be an associate at Wilbraham UCC during which time he founded the New Covenant House. In 1973, Ken moved to Springfield to serve as Director of Jobs with Justice, Director of the Workers’ Rights Center, organizing team member and director of the Pioneer Valley Project, and an active member of the Greater Springfield Council of Churches. During this time, Springfield College hired Ken as chaplain. Ken’s first wife, Karen Hughey, died of breast cancer in 1986 and his adopted daughter Laura died in 1997.

Known throughout his chaplaincy for expressing his concerns regarding academic freedom and the future of free speech at Springfield College, in the May 8, 1997, edition of The Springfield Student, Ken wrote, “Here at SC we are coming dangerously close to that [‘official’ truth] by mandating a ‘politically correct’ agenda to which everyone is required to subscribe. We are tip-toeing on the edge of Institutional coercion, and in so doing risk losing the very essence of what an academic community is about.” (Blinn)

A year later, 22 July 1998, Springfield College President Bromery fired Ken for “outspoken and caustic criticism” of the school administration.

After receiving a letter of termination, which required him to vacate the premises by August 1, Ken went to his office on July 28 and found that the locks had been changed. Campus police opened the door, and Ken and his wife Donna packed his belongings. Upon returning home, even though his doctor had recently given Ken a clean bill of health, he suffered a massive heart attack at the age of 56. Associate professor of history, Fernando Gonzalez de Leon, remembered his friend as “a man who gave his life – literally – for the ideal of academic freedom. He was much more than a troublesome priest. He
was a beacon of moral, spiritual, psychological, and academic support.” Tom Shea, professor of economics and long-time friend, said, “He was the conscience of the college. ...This is most definitely an issue of academic freedom.” (Schneider)

Co-editor of the school newspaper, Joe McIntyre, wrote of Ken in September after his death, “Although many persons within our community did not know Ken, and others did not agree with his causes or tactics, ...Ken Childs cared for all of us. Every effort he expended to pursue his idea of what an institution of higher learning should be and how it should be administered was directed toward an educational environment where debate and discourse were encouraged. ...[where] Each of us is entitled to ‘take the floor’ and ‘speak our speech,’...to respect and honor ... the ideas of all members of the community.”

Professor Emeritus F. Cox, Distinguished Professor of Humanics (1992-3), wrote that he was saddened and shocked by [Ken’s] termination for raising concerns about some of the administration’s policies, since as “chaplain, it has been his role to participate in dialogue on both academic and moral issues that affected students, faculty, and the community. ... In my opinion Reverend Childs was fired for doing his job.”

In his “Principles of Humanics” speech, Dr. Peter J. Polito remembered Ken as “always there for us, both in times of joy and especially in times of sorrow and anguish...[As] a man of deep conviction and a man of conscience who risked his own wellbeing to speak out, so often for the silent majority. We remember his warmth, his gentleness, and his strength in the face of adversity. We also remember his special gift of humor and wit.” (Springfield College Archives)

Twenty years later, family, friends, and colleagues remember Ken’s presence with gratitude, respect, and joy. Ken is survived by his wife Donna, his children, and their families.

Sources –

Photo Courtesy of Springfield College, Babson Library, Archives and Special Collections.
From Gail, his widow.

Richard and I were married in November, 1967. I was a widow with four young daughters. We had Martha together and adopted six more children. Because eight of our children are of minority races, we opted to remain in Lake Mills throughout Dick’s career because Lake Mills was a town that was mostly very kind to our children. Also, as my mother grew older, I didn’t want to leave the area so we would be able to help her.

Dick served at the Lake Mills church for 33 ½ years. He then did an interim at the Evansville, WI UCC church for two years. He was devoted to his church and its members. Not only did he deliver wonderful sermons, he performed outstanding weddings, funerals, and baptisms; led countless Bible Studies; took extraordinary care of his flock, averaging 85 pastoral calls a month, and up to 125 during Advent. Because he concentrated on doing the very best he could with his local church, he seldom participated in Association or Conference activities as he felt he could not spare the time. Though he could have moved up to larger and more prestigious congregations, he was content to remain in Lake Mills and continue to serve with complete dedication.

Dick entered Yale, knowing he wanted to be a pastoral minister and thus needed the B. D. degree. In the early years following graduation, he mentioned particular professors and also good friends he made at YDS. Unfortunately, I can’t recall the professors, but I remember John, Matthew, Tad, Noel, and other friends he never forgot. He valued his internship at the New Haven inner city church. So, I can say that getting
the needed credentials to become a pastor was important, and the influence of particular professors and the association with new friends all contributed to who he ultimately became as a person and minister.
Class of ’67 Memorials

Rev. Dr. David Lee Jones
Died 10 March 2009
’67 S.T.M.

’90 D.Min. Dubuque University
’62 B.A. Grambling College
’66 B.D. Howard University

Mrs. Sarah Jones
6621 Virgo Drive
Shreveport, LA 71119
318-636-3761

Retired from Hollywood Presbyterian Church, Shreveport, LA

Sarah Jones

David Jr.
Christina

Sources – Yale Alumni Directory, YDS rosters, YDS Student Directory
Born in Franklin, MN, and raised in Pasadena, CA, David was a successful real estate developer. He was a charismatic man, a great friend, and a loving father. He will be dearly missed by all whose lives he touched.

Survived by his four children and six grandchildren, David passed peacefully surrounded by his family at Eisenhower Hospital in Rancho Mirage, CA, and was buried at Pacific View Memorial Park and Mortuary, Corona del Mar, CA.

For further info – peytonwk@yahoo.com (Peyton Whitney Kelly)
Published in the Los Angeles Times, 12 June 2010.
www.legacy.com/obituaries/latimes/obituary.aspx?pid=...
Following his 1967 ordination by the Maryland Synod, Lutheran Church in America, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Baltimore, Bishop Knoche began his career as assistant pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Westminster, Maryland, a "town and country" parish of 1,700 members.

In 1969, he took a new position as assistant chaplain at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where he was promoted to associate chaplain in 1971. He continued his work on college campuses when he moved to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, to be campus pastor with Lutheran Campus Ministry in 1974. In 1984, he was promoted to director of that program. During that time, he received both the award for Outstanding Campus Pastor in the United States and the Joseph A. Sittler Award.

Bishop Knoche came home to Maryland in 1991, accepting a call to be pastor of New Hope Lutheran Church, a young mission congregation of 250 in Columbia, worshiping in a local elementary school cafeteria. During his nine-year tenure, he brought the congregation through two building programs and saw the membership grow to almost 1,100. The congregation was about to undertake a major capital fund drive when he was elected the third bishop of the Delaware-Maryland Synod on 17 June 2000, at the annual Synod Assembly in Westminster, Maryland. He was re-elected to a second term on June 3, 2006, at the Synod Assembly in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. On October 31, 2009, he retired mid-term for health reasons.

H. Gerard “Jerry” Knoche
Died 5 May 2016
’67 B.D.

’64 B.A. Harvard University
’73 S.T.M. Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg, PA

Bishop Emeritus of the Delaware-Maryland Synod

Author –
*The Creative Task: Writing the Sermon, 1977*
*The Gift of the Gospel, 1984*

Nathan (Wisconsin)
Nina (Randallstown, MD)
Nelson Gerard
Class of ’67 Memorials

In his time as Bishop of the Delaware-Maryland Synod, he was known for speaking about moving the church "from maintenance to mission," and for his dedication to ecumenical relationships, particularly with the Catholic Church. He also strengthened the synod’s commitment to racial justice ministry, and helped to create the Lutheran Community Consortium, now the Lutheran Development Alliance, which brought the synod its first Regional Gift Planner. He was one of 52 accomplished statewide leaders selected for the Leadership Maryland Class of 2002, an eight-month program designed to inform top-level executives from the public and private sectors about the critical issues, challenges and opportunities facing the state of Maryland and its regions.

Source – The Baltimore Sun
Rev. Gary R. Kuhns
Died 16 May 2001
’67 M. Div.

B.Mus. Ithaca College

Janet, wife of 38 years

Jay and wife Liz
   Audrey Kuhns
   Jeffrey Kuhns

Julie and husband David Moulton
   Melissa

Retired senior pastor, Tabernacle United Methodist Church, Binghamton, NY

Rev Gary Kuhns, a resident of Fort Myers Beach, FL, formerly of Owego and Binghamton, NY, died on 16 May 2001, his 61st birthday, in Ft. Myers.

Gary, who graduated from Ithaca College School of Music, was an extremely gifted pianist. He served for 34 years as an ordained Minister in the Wyoming Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church: in Newark Valley, NY; Scranton; Central United Methodist in Endicott, and Tabernacle United Methodist in Binghamton. Throughout his career, Gary fought tirelessly for the rights and needs of those less fortunate. While in Newark Valley and Endicott, Gary helped develop Project Neighbor and Project Concern, which provided free clothing to those who were unable to purchase clothing. In Binghamton Gary served for years on the Board of Directors of the First Ward Action Council which helps provide housing to those in need in Binghamton. His efforts to bring reconciliation to the community were recognized by the New York State Bar Association when Gary was recognized as their Citizen of the Year. Also in Binghamton, Gary was the driving force behind the Steps In Faith Program which provides a free meal, alternative worship service, and Christian Education every week for the people of the community. Gary was very passionate about life, and showed the energy and enthusiasm with his family, his ministry, and his love of the piano.

Published in Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin, 18 and 21 May 2001
Bev lived most of her life in North Carolina, in Lincolnton, Valdese, and Barium Springs. She was born in Lincolnton and died in Winston-Salem.

The third child of Rev. Albert McClure and Mary McGehee McClure, Bev grew up with her older sister Mary, her older brother Mac, and younger sister Emily. She loved basketball, dogwoods in bloom, a soft breeze, and a mountain view.

Her younger sister Emily remembers watching her big sister play varsity basketball. “She was tall and held the ball high over her head, threw a two handed shot and most often the ball would go swish through the net. I wanted to be able to make that shot and play like Bev.”

During internships in the 1960s, Bev was on the staff of the Madison Street Inner City Ministry in Lynchburg, Virginia, and directed The Coffee House Ministry at Yosemite National Park. In the 1970s and the 1980s, Beverly served as a counselor. Her experiences ranged from Westminster House at Winthrop College to Western Piedmont Community College in Morganton, NC. For eight years she served at Barium Springs Home for Children, then worked with an outreach program for Appalachian State University in Lenoir, NC.

Bev’s sister Emily and Emily’s husband John shared details of Bev’s life through the website forevermissed.com.
Dr. James P. McDermott
Died 2 February 2002
’67 B.D.

B.A. Wesleyan University
’70 Ph.D. Princeton

Former professor; Chairman, Department of Religious Studies; Dean of Arts and Sciences, Canisius College, Buffalo, NY

Rev. Alice Coffman McDermott, Pastor, Salem United Church of Christ, City of Tonawanda, NY

Lisa McDermott, Tonawanda, NY
Kevin McDermott, Kenmore, NY

Dr. Jim McDermott, Dean of Arts and Sciences at Canisius College, died unexpectedly in Millard Fillmore Hospital, following a fall on the stairs in December which left him incapacitated. He was 59.

Jim joined the Canisius staff in 1977 as associate professor of religious studies, and by the mid-1980s was appointed a full professor. He served as chairman of the department for six years before being named Dean in 1999.

A native of Cleveland, Jim began his college teaching career in 1970 as assistant professor at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, ME. He was a member of the board of trustees of St. Joseph’s Collegiate Institute and of Salem UCC Church where his wife was serving as pastor.

He is survived by his wife of 33 years and his two children. He is buried in Elmlawn Cemetery, Town of Tonawanda.

Published by The Buffalo News, 4 February 2002
https://www.highbeam.com/doc/1P2-22448882.html/print
Rev. William C. Mielke  
Died 16 December 2010  
’67 B.D.

’64 B.A. College of Wooster

Retired Presbyterian pastor, having served parishes in PA and Iowa.

Margaret, married 46 years

Joan and husband Stephen, Albuquerque, NM  
Stephen and wife Jacqueline, West Hartford, CT  
Edward and wife Mary, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY

Rev William Mielke, 72, of Susquehanna Township, PA, and Shawano, WI, died peacefully at Hershey Medical Center surrounded by his family.

A graduate of Appleton, Wisconsin, High School, Bill attended the University of Wisconsin and graduated from the College of Wooster before arriving at YDS, after which he served in the Army during the Vietnam War.

He enjoyed carpentry, photography, canoeing, bird watching, eating popcorn, and spending time with his six grandchildren. Surviving siblings live on Hilton Head Island, SC; Two Harbors, MI; and Appleton, WI.

Following retirement, Bill lived in Harrisburg, PA, where he volunteered with the American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, Downtown Daily Bread, and Lend-a-Hand, an outreach program of the Presbytery of Carlisle.

Class of ’67 Memorials

Rev. Kenichiro Mochizuki
Died 16 March 2007
’67 S.T.M.

’55 B.A. Doshisa University
’57 B.D. Doshisa University, Japan
Th.M. Doshisa Theological Seminary
studied at Andover Newton, MA

United Church of Christ in Japan

Mrs. Kaoru Mochisuki

Sources – Yale Alumni Directory, YDS rosters, YDS Student Directory
Class of ’67 Memorials

Rev. John William O’Neill
Died 24 December 2015
’67 S.T.M.

’54 B.A. University of Toronto
’57 M.Div. University of Victoria, Toronto

Rev. K. Eleanor O’Neill
Suite #622 1353 16th Avenue
Campbell River, British Columbia
V9W OC4 CANADA
250-914-8339

Retired minister, Lynn Valley United Church
(Canada) North Vancouver, Canada

K. Eleanor O’Neill
Mark Elliott
Kent Douglas
Graham Paul

Sources – Yale Alumni Directory, YDS rosters,
YDS Student Directory, Eleanor O’Neill
Rev. Gail Reynolds was the chaplain at the Emmaus Homes in St. Charles and was ordained in the United Church of Christ. She was buried in Emmaus Cemetery, St. Charles County, MO.

Gail McKeen Reynolds
15 November 1941 – 4 April 1997
’67 attended B.D. program

Rev. Levering Reynolds III of St. Charles

Levering Andrew Reynolds
Peter John Reynolds, St. Charles, MO
Timothy Earle Reynolds, Albuquerque, NM
The Rev. Dr. David Wallace Robertson, born in Chippewa Falls, WI, graduated Grand Haven High School (MI), The College of Wooster (OH), YDS, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and studied at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. He served as a Presbyterian minister for 42 years at churches in Newaygo, MI; Fourth Church, Chicago; River Forest, IL; Battle Creek, MI; and finally at Orchard Lake Community Church – Presbyterian for 14 years.

David served as Moderator of Chicago Presbytery in 1981 and was a leader in the Detroit Presbytery; he completed numerous mission trips to Africa, Mexico, Korea, and Japan. A gifted athlete and avid sports fan who played football in high school and college, he ran daily and was never happier than on a golf course, a passion he shared with both his father and his sons. He was a person of deep abiding personal faith who faced his health struggles and the end of life with grace and calm assurance.

David died peacefully, surrounded by his family at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, MI, after a valiant battle with cancer.

Source – Obituary submitted by the family to the Elton Black & Son Funeral Home, EltonBlackandSonWhiteLake.com.
In 1992, Helen wrote for the 25th anniversary, as an ex-member of the Class of ’48 who had become an “adoptee of the Class of ’67.” She entered YDS in 1945 and met Hal Shorrock her second year. They were married in June of 1947 in the YDS Chapel and took a leave of absence to teach in war-devastated Japan for three years. Hal wrote, As a new bride, Helen accompanied her husband Hal to Japan in 1947 as United Church-related missionaries sent by the Disciples of Christ, initially teaching an English Bible Class to Japanese students. Hal graduated with the Class of ’52 while Helen postponed her degree in order to study at the Yale School of Japanese Language to prepare for their return to Japan.

Hal’s narrative continues, He and Helen were engaged in postwar reconstruction work which initially involved high school teaching in Tokyo, nation-wide church youth work, and international student work camps. Hal became the director of the Church World Service programs in Japan and Korea, and then for two years served as the Asia Secretary of the World Council of Churches’ Inter-church Aid & Refugee Program. After Hal accepted President Nobushige Ukai’s invitation to become vice president for financial affairs and finance trustee for International Christian University (ICU) in 1962, Helen and their five children moved from Geneva, Switzerland, to the ICU campus, in April of 1963. The on-campus experiences of each member of the Shorrock family were, according to Hal, unforgettable. Helen was an active member of the ICU faculty wives’ group and Church Fujinkai and was always a gracious hostess.
In 1966, when Hal was invited to be a visiting lecturer in missions at YDS, Helen writes, “I jumped at the opportunity to finish that coveted degree ... and became a member of the Class of ’67. That was an unforgettable year – especially a year of consciousness-raising for the tragic Vietnam War led by people like Bill Coffin. Memories of the great debate in the Common Room still remain. The years in between have taken us in and out of Japan with our five children to Korea, Switzerland, New Haven, and Santa Barbara, CA, and then back to Japan five years ago [1987] when Hal accepted an invitation from ICU again, to be the president’s special assistant and dean of international affairs, thus closing the circle of work in Japan that began in 1947.

My own experiences during the years in California from 1970 to 1986 focused on teaching and working with pregnant teens, school-age parents and their children. I founded and directed a parent and child enrichment program for school-age parents and their infants on a regular high school campus...convincing high school administrators and teachers that these teenagers deserved and needed a high school diploma to survive and support their children! When I retired in 1986 to return to Japan, another YDS graduate, Lois Capps, followed me as director, thus continuing a ministry for which YDS well prepared us both. Hal writes, Following 17 years (1970-1987) as an Associate Director of the UC-EAP based in Santa Barbara, (University of California System-wide Education Abroad Program had established its first Asian Study Center on the ICU campus), Helen returned to ICU for a four-year period (1986-1990) when I was to serve as President Yasuo Watanabe's Special Assistant and the 1st Dean of International Affairs. I was responsible for the launching of the Study English Abroad (SEA) Program and for the existing international student exchange program. In October 1990, Helen and Hal joined the Pilgrim Place retirement community in Claremont, California.

Source – This information is included in the biographical material submitted by Hal Shorrock to the International Christian University.
subsites.icu.ac.jp/fundraising/namedrooms/donor/604.html
The US Navy Japanese/Oriental Language School Archival Project
studylib.net/doc/.../the-us-navy-japanese-oriental-language-school-archival-project
Helen Shorrock’s 13 January 1992 letter responding to Elaine Tiller, class secretary
Rev. Myong Gul Son
Died 4 January 1997
’67 S.T.M.

’51 Diploma at Methodist Theological Seminary of Korea
’59 S.T.M. Southern Methodist University
’74 Ph.D. Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University

Retired as Assistant General Secretary of the United Methodist Church, 475 Riverside Drive, NYC

Mrs. Chong Yul Son
31 Wescott Street
Old Tappan, NJ 07675-7432
201-767-1272

Mrs. Chong Yul Son

Children –
One
Young
Yoon

Sources – Yale Alumni Directory, YDS rosters, YDS Student Directory
From Donald Tinder:

Following graduation from Wheaton College in 1965, Edie joined Don at YDS after they were married in 1965. Don was a student in the Department of Religious Studies (PhD ’69). Derek was born in September, shortly after Edie graduated in June, and Craig, in 1970.

From 1967-1988, Edie served in various Christian Education positions while Don was an editor with Christianity Today (69-79) and then a professor (79-88). From 1988-2009, Edie and Don served in Europe in Netherlands and Belgium. While Don worked as an administrator and professor in two seminaries, Edie continued with local church activities with children and teacher training.

Edie’s health suddenly declined in 2009 and so the family returned to the States. Don began working with a small Korean-founded school, Olivet University, where he now administers the DMin program.

Edie passed away in early 2011.
James Edward Ward III
Died 11 November 2013, (74)
’67 DIV – no degree

B.S. Vanderbilt
’64 M.A., ’68 Ph.D. University of Virginia

Mrs. Mary Lee Ward
16 Longfellow Avenue
Brunswick, ME 04011
207-725-7352

Retired in 2010 from Bowdoin College, ME

Mary Lee Parker Ward, married 1962

James E. Ward IV, Falls Church, VA
Robert Parker Ward and wife Sara, River Forest, IL
Margaret Ward Scott and husband Derek, Atlanta, GA

Grandchildren – Katherine Ward, Ellen Ward, Jack
Ward, Sadie Ward, Jake Scott, Andrew Scott, William
Scott

(Courtesy of Bowdoin College)

Born in Greenville, SC, Jim grew up in Nashville, TN, where he attended the
Peabody Demonstration School, affiliated with the George Peabody College for Teachers.
Jim graduated Vanderbilt, studied at YDS, and earned his masters and Ph.D. in
Mathematics from the University of VA.

Jim was a faculty member at Bowdoin College for 42 years, serving as professor of
mathematics and retiring in 2010. He loved Bowdoin and its students and, in addition to
being known as an outstanding teacher, served as Chair of the Department of
Mathematics, Director of the Senior Center, and Dean of the College. He was elected to
the Board of Governors of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) and held
several offices in the Northeast section of the MAA. He was an avid member of the
Class of ’67 Memorials

Bowdoin noon-time basketball association (NBA) for many years and was widely recognized for his red hair and his bicycle which he rode around campus.

Jim’s life was an embodiment of the spirit of the liberal arts and an example to his students and others. He was curious, thoughtful, energetic and deeply engaged in a range of activities as well as local, national and international causes that were important to him. As a young graduate student, he spent a year teaching at Spelman College in Atlanta, GA, during the height of the civil rights movement. Later he taught as a Fulbright scholar on two separate occasions in Africa. He served the people of Brunswick and Midcoast Maine in various capacities, including as a board member for organizations supporting middle-income elderly housing, vocational education, Head Start, regional anti-poverty efforts, behavioral and mental health services for children and adults, healthcare, and musical theater. He was also a two-term member, and chair, of the Brunswick School Board. An active member of the First Parish Church in Brunswick, Jim also served on the board of the Bangor Theological Seminary.

Above all, Jim possessed a kind and generous spirit and looked to help others at every turn. He will be missed by family and the many friends and others whose lives he touched. In his thoughts on life at YDS, John Ferrell ’67, remembered that instead of studying, he was “more likely to be flying kites on the playground next door with Jim Ward like ten year olds.”

Source – Obituary provided to the Brackett Funeral Home by the family; published in Portland Press Herald/Maine Sunday Telegram 16 November 2013.
Frank P. White, a leader in the interchurch effort to challenge the ethical practices of corporations, died of injuries he suffered in an automobile accident in New Hampshire. He was 49 years old and lived in Brooklyn.

Mr. White, a graduate of the Yale Divinity School, was founder and director of the Corporate Information Center and the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, both related to the National Council of Churches.

Mr. White came to church work with a business background, as a sales manager in the home-heating business and as a Volkswagen salesman. He began studies of theology at Yale at the age of 34, but decided when he graduated in 1967 that he would remain a layman. From 1967 to 1971 he was in charge of experimental ministries for the National Council of Churches.

In 1975 he left his position with the council and became an independent consultant to church agencies on corporate ethics, working closely with the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. The work of the two organizations he founded in 1971 has led to action by 150 Roman Catholic orders and 14 Protestant denominations in filing 80 stockholder resolutions with corporations, many dealing with company practices in South Africa.

Mr. White was survived by his son Frank P., Jr., his brother Erskine N., and his parents Mr. and Mrs. Erskine N. White of Center Sandwich, NH. A memorial service at
Class of ’67 Memorials

Riverside Church in New York City was officiated by the late Rev. William Sloane Coffin, senior minister at the time.

Submitted by Ken Briggs to The New York Times obituary section, 2/9/79

Former classmates George Rupp and John Ferrell remembered their days at YDS in the company of Frank White. George commented:

Frank and I met almost right away when we both arrived at YDS. We were close as collaborators on social action projects, especially opposition to the war in Vietnam. We also worked together on the publication that John mentions and that Frank edited: The Limb...dedicated to going out on.... In addition, we were co-authors (along with Walt Lowe, Bud Ogle, Roger Paine, and Mary Hinz) of an article in the June 12, 1967 issue of Christianity and Crisis with the title "A Prescription for Seminaries--Surgery, not First Aid."

We stayed in close touch after graduating and visited each other in Massachusetts (where I continued my studies), in New Hampshire where Frank’s parents lived and had nice escape facilities, and in NYC, where Frank lived and worked. In sum, we were good friends and constant conversation partners for the 15 years from 1964 when we first met until 1979 when Frank died in a tragic car accident in New Hampshire. I spoke at the NYC Memorial Service for Frank on February 13, 1979, and I will always have fond memories of our times together.

John Ferrell also remembered his days with Frank at YDS:

The impact of YDS on my life was not personal academic achievement or theological brilliance. I was an accidental seminary student, not planning to be there but committing to a trial year and staying on for three. For me it wasn't so much about Common Room conversations or worship in Marquand Chapel (although they were both important), and certainly not long hours in the library. I was more likely to be shooting baskets in the gym, flying kites on the playground next door with Jim Ward like ten year olds, or helping Frank White distribute the mimeographed newsletter he called “The Limb” (as in going out on).
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Fr. Barry Lee Winningham, S.J.
Died 9 October 2013
’67 B.D.

’64 B.A. University of Southern California
’80 Ph.D. Balliol College, Oxford, UK

Last known address (business and home) in ’95:
1654 Brill Way
Bullhead City, AZ 86442

Author,
Dramatist,
Screenwriter,
Coordinator for Committee on Radical Drama.

Joined the Society of Jesuits.
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• Rev. Donald Boyd
• Keith Brenner
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• Carolyn Little
• John Lynes

• Dean Martin
• Kyle McGee
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• Richard Nolan
• Bud Ogle
• Hugh Parker
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• James Slocum
• Ross Smith
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Class of ’67 Picture