



Jan. 15, 2015

Between The Lines

A publication of the Baylor Alumni Association

Share Your Baylor Family Holiday Photos With Us: Lost in our admittedly long holiday e-mail messages (except for a few eagle-eyed alums) was a request that you send us your photos of Baylor Family members sharing their holiday spirit. [We've posted a few on our website](#), but would love more. Please send your photos -- with names and graduation of those who are either Baylor alums or future grads -- by hitting Reply to this e-mail. Don't hold back if a non-Bear or two are in the photo; everyone in your household is a member of the Baylor Family!

Search for the Perfect Beach House, Baylor Style: Set your DVRs for an appearance this coming weekend by Pamela Berberich-Boston '91 and husband Ken Boston on HGTV's Beachfront Bargain Hunt show as the New Jersey couple looks for a family-friendly rental/vacation home on the Jersey Shore. The episode will run this Sunday, January 18, at 7 p.m. Central. For more on Pamela's experience, [check out this post on Line Notes](#).

Members Sic Six Flags Over Texas Discount Tickets: Baylor alumni and students traveling to (or living in) the Dallas-Fort Worth area during the holidays purchased more than 200 discounted tickets to Six Flags Over Texas in Arlington, despite the bad weather. Keep your eyes peeled for more offers like this on our website or [subscribe to Line Notes](#). Thanks to Tracie Seltzer Stewart '03 of Six Flags who set up the promotion.

Starting Next Issue...We'll publish a few links to interesting stories or services that we've stumbled across over the previous few weeks. Feel free to participate and submit ideas by hitting Reply and sending us a link. Please try to make sure that access is free (i.e., readers won't have to pay for access to the stories or services), that you restrain yourself from being blatantly self-promotional, and please recognize that this is a (Baylor) Family crowd.

In Memoriam:

- **Mark Daniel McLean, BA '67** (Spanish and French), passed away in Houston on Nov. 15, 2014. After receiving his MA at the University of North Carolina, Dan taught for many years at North Harris College in Houston. He also worked with several charitable organizations after getting his Master's in Social Work from the University of Houston. Dan is survived by two brothers, Rod McLean (BA '70) of Waco and Jim McLean (BA '74) of Dallas. Jim can be reached at jmclean@tx.rr.com.
- **Judson (Jud) Lattimore Porter '53**, age 83, of Chicago, passed away Nov. 22, 2014. Married to Peggy Mesaros Porter '53 and a father of four, grandfather of six, and a great grandfather, Jud was a retired captain in the U.S. Air Force. He was a long-time active leader in the Chicago business community and was passionate about

his family and work -- and about the Chicago Cubs and Rotary. A member of both Delta Sig and Nose Brother, Jud was a man of unwavering integrity who would help anybody and could fix anything. Memories in honor of Jud may be made to the Mayo Clinic at 200 First Street SW, Rochester, MN 55905. Peggy can be reached at 2901 Kassarine Pass in Austin, TX 78704.

- **Dr. Randy Lofgren (B.M.Ed. '62, M.M. '70, and Ed.D '74)**, age 74, of Waco, passed away Dec. 26, 2014. Randy retired from Baylor in May 2014 as associate vice president of constituent engagement and served as the BAA's executive director from 2001 to 2002. Randy met his wife, Jeanine, as a student at Baylor and upon graduation served as minister of music at Calvary Baptist Church and choral director at Waco High School before moving to Jefferson City, TN, in 1974. While there, he served as part of the music faculty at Carson Newman College and created and directed the touring music group, Something Special. Randy returned to Baylor in 1988 to serve in Baylor's Office of Development and spent the next 26 years here until his retirement. In addition to Jeanine, Randy is survived by his daughter Wendy and son Kevin, their spouses, and six grandchildren, and by his sister Karla and her family. Donations may be made to The Randy and Jeanine Haube Lofgren Endowed Scholarship Fund in Music--440SFAN, at Baylor University (One Bear Place, #97050, Waco, Texas 76798) or to The Doc and Jeanine Lofgren Skybird Music Scholarship (Carson Newman University, Carson Newman Advancement, P.O. Box 529, Jefferson City, TN 37760). A more complete obituary from the University [can be found here](#).
- **Jack Loftis, '57**, age 80, of Houston, passed away Dec. 29, 2014. A native of Hillsboro in Central Texas, Jack worked for the Houston Chronicle for 40 years, serving as editor from 1987 until his retirement in 2002, when he was named editor emeritus. Jack guided the newspaper through 15 years of changing ownership and technology, and an increased investment in national and international reporting that included opening bureaus throughout Texas and Latin America. Jack also served as a director of the Baylor Alumni Association from 1998 to 2005. Jack played baseball as a Baylor freshman before becoming a sportswriter to pay for school, spent his early journalism career as a sportswriter, received the BAA's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1988 and the Baylor Media Award in 1997, and saw the press box at the Baylor Ballpark renamed in his honor in 2001. A more complete obituary written by editors and reporters from his beloved Chronicle [can be found here](#).
- **Ralph Storm, '49**, passed away on Jan. 7, 2015. Ralph served Baylor as a trustee and Regent for 27 years and was known -- with his late wife, Jean -- for his dedicated years of service to and support of the University and its students. The Baylor Alumni Association presented Ralph with its Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1978, and the University awarded him the Herbert H. Reynolds Award for Meritorious Service to Students in 1985 and the Founders Medallion -- one of its most prestigious honors -- in 2007. In its [press release on Ralph's death](#), Baylor President and Chancellor Ken Starr said his life "reflected the heart and soul of Baylor University." Ralph made his mark in the oil and gas business and he and Jean were known as leaders at First Baptist Church in Corpus Christi. Ralph is survived by his two daughters, five grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to First Baptist Church, 3115 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas 78404 or to Truett Theological Seminary, Baylor University, One Baylor Place #97050, Waco, Texas 76798-7050.

This newsletter will be published twice monthly. Story ideas for Line Notes, the Baylor Line, or this newsletter can be submitted by hitting Reply or [using this form](#). If you'd like to

*include a photo in the In Memoriam section, please send it to
baylorline@bayloralumniassociation.com.*

[Click here to unsubscribe.](#)

Officially recognized as the general alumni organization of Baylor University,
the Baylor Alumni Association is an independent legal entity.



Between the Lines

Jan. 29, 2015

Between the Lines publishes twice monthly. Story ideas for this or other BAA publications can be submitted by hitting Reply to this newsletter or by going [here](#). If you are submitting a death notice, we're really appreciate it if you'd include a photo (particularly if you have one with other Baylor Family members), the year of graduation, and any interesting stories about the deceased.

Recent Posts on the Line Notes Blog

- **[Happy 100th Birthday, Baylor Student Government](#)**: We commemorate this milestone, but really want to hear from those of you who either participated in student government or were impacted by their activities. The Comments section is open!
- **[Don't forget to floss...and here's your lucky bullet](#)**: Dr. Edward Bridgeman spent 47 years as a dentist to both private patients and the U.S. military patients. Dr. Bridgeman shared a secret with Line Notes after taking down his shingle about something he did that meant a lot to those military patients.
- **[Artist Annie Green uses her artwork to remember](#)**: Annie Green survived a near-fatal car crash at the end of her freshman year and made what family members still call miraculous 30 years later. She attributes that recovery to her faith in God and support from the Baylor Family.
- **[Baylor grad makes Forbes 30 Under 30 list](#)**: Brennan Potts '08 says his family's DNA includes both entrepreneur and Baylor genes, but he says it's something different that helped put him on the prestigious magazine's list.

If you're interested in receiving Line Notes posts when they're published, you can subscribe in the right-hand column of any post by providing your e-mail address.

Other News of Interest

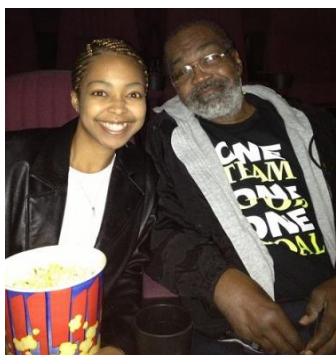
- **Curtis W. Freeman**, who received his BA from Baylor, his M.Div from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and his Ph.D from Baylor, has published [Contesting Catholicity: Theology for Other Baptists](#). Freeman is Research Professor of Theology and Director of the Baptist House of Studies at Duke Divinity School.
- **Does Football Success Imply Academic Quality?** Higher football achievement by a university leads administrators and professors at other schools to raise their estimates of the university's overall academic quality, says a study promoted recently by Harvard Business Review. Specifically, a 301-vote increase in the Associated Press's final football poll at the end of the season has the same effect on

outside administrators' and faculty members' opinions as a 20-point increase in the school's entering students SAT scores. [You can read a copy of the report here.](#)

In Memoriam:



Mona Rogers Burchette, '58, wife of former BAA Executive Vice President Ray Burchette '57, passed away peacefully on Jan. 20, 2015, at age 77. **A memorial service and reception will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 31, at Highland Park Baptist Church in Austin, where Ray served as senior pastor for 25 years.** Mona is being remembered for her grace, wisdom, and sense of humor, for the recipes that she brought to church potluck dinners and served to friends and family, and for her love of Baylor. Mona was married for 57 years to Ray, who introduced a number of innovative programs and services that enriched the sense of tradition and community among the Baylor Family before he retired in 2000. That sense of community was important to Mona, who was [quoted in a 1998 Lariat article](#) bemoaning the loss of traditions like the slime cap and freshman paper and stressing the importance of class loyalty and rivalry. She is also survived by her son Matthew Rogers Burchette, a 1989 undergraduate and 1998 master's graduate of Baylor and his wife Julie. The Burchettes moved to Denver, CO, after Ray's retirement to be closer to Matt and his wife. Those waiting to make a memorial gift are encouraged to consider the Alzheimer's Association, the Organ Fund, or The Endowment Fund at Highland Park Baptist Church. *Highland Park Baptist Church is located at 5206 Balcones Drive, Austin, TX 78731.* [A copy of Mona's obituary can be found here.](#) *Notes of condolence can be sent to Ray Burchette at Park Place, 111 Emerson, #1026, Denver CO 80218.*

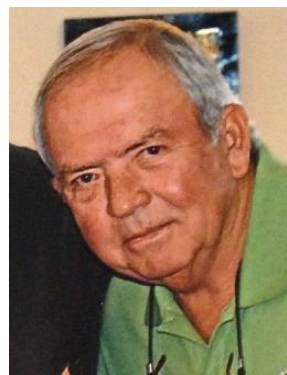


James "JJ" Jordan, BBA '81, of Jefferson, Texas, died Dec. 21, 2014, at age 61. JJ ran track for Baylor in the 1970s running the 440 and Mile Relay, two events that his daughter Jennifer '99 (pictured with JJ above) would also run when she attended Baylor and achieved All-American status. One of the first minorities to run for Baylor, James "was an outstanding individual who anchored our 4x4 relay team and contributed a lot to our track team," said legendary Baylor coach Clyde Hart. "Jennifer inherited a lot of her father's competitiveness." JJ worked with the Texas Department of Public Safety for 38 years

where he served as Corporal for 16 years. He got the job shortly after graduation as a result of his prevention of a "snatch and grab" robbery at a Zale's jewelry store in the Richland Mall. "James took off after him and ran him down," Coach Hart said. "That thief made a really bad decision with James around." JJ is survived by his wife of 39 years, Jocelyn Jordan, and daughters Jennifer (Jordan) Washington BA '99, MSW '01; LaVatia Plummer, and LaKasha Smith.



Betty Ruth (Wansley) Hardin, '44, passed away peacefully on Nov. 27, 2014, in Kerrville, Texas at 91 years of age. Betty Ruth was born to Dr. Reuben and Matie (Byars) Wansley and raised in Cleburne, Texas, where her father practiced dentistry for 30 years. Betty married William 'Bill' Hardin in September 1944 while he was serving in the U.S. military. After her youngest child started school, Betty became a substitute teacher for several years in the Houston ISD. In 1972, she and Bill moved to Kerrville where they purchased the Smokehouse newsstand, bookstore, and tobacco shop and operated it for 20+ years. Betty was a member of the "redhead" club while a student at Baylor and routinely made visits to Homecoming and class reunions for many years to visit with old classmates. She was preceded in death by her husband and parents and is survived by her children and their spouses, by her grandchild, Jennifer (Hardin) Murillo '96, and many other grandchildren and great grandchildren.



David Hayse Goodrum, '71, a hard-working product of the West Texas oilfields, died unexpectedly Saturday, Dec. 20, 2014, at his home in Pecan Plantation, Granbury TX, at the age of 65. **A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 7 at Pecan Baptist Church with a reception from 3-5 p.m. at Pecan Plantation Country Club.** A deft storyteller with an eye for the comical, David was known for tales that drew upon his early life in West Texas, his time at Baylor in the 1960s and '70s, and world travels with his wife of 21 years, Frieda. An active member of Kappa Omega Tau fraternity while at Baylor, David received his business degree and went to work for then-President Herbert Reynolds and as the bookstore accountant. After serving in the U.S. Navy, Joe returned to the oil business in Midland as a vice president of Joe Melton Drilling Company before

taking over the reins of Goodrum Oil & Gas Production Accounting in 1986 after his mother's retirement. He also became office manager for legendary Midland oilman Joe Parsley in 2000. After David and Freida retired in 2007, he enjoyed golfing, world travel, and Baylor sports, rehashing nearly all of the games with longtime friends Stephen Stuckert, David Fuller, Mike Connell, and Chris Evans. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to the Pecan Plantation EMS, Pecan Baptist Church, or Baylor Athletics. *Pecan Baptist Church is located at 9205 Plantation Drive in Granbury and Pecan Plantation Country Club is located at 8650 Westover Court in Granbury.*

The next Between the Lines newsletter will be published on or around Feb. 15.



Between the Lines

Feb. 13, 2015

Breaking News/Spoiler Alert: Baylor Senior Savion Wright has made it to the Final 48 contestants on Thursday night's American Idol. It is Wright's second visit to the show's Hollywood Week. After making it through his group performance on Wednesday night's show, Savion sang Sky Full of Stars by Coldplay (although the performance wasn't part of the one-hour show. He'll sing on next week's show in front of a live audience at House of Blues. You can see more of [Savion's performances on YouTube](#) and follow him on Twitter at @SavionJWright or on [Facebook](#).

Recent Posts on the Line Notes Blog

- [Melissa Stangle '87 likes teaching after 15 years as a stay-at home mom:](#) Recently chosen as Cibolo Creek Elementary School's Teacher of the Year, Melissa says dealing with parents has been a lot easier with her previous experience in the corporate world and with discussing her own children's classroom performance with their teachers.
- [Brooke Bonordon '13 digs for investors for spring excavation in Belize:](#) The grad student in archeology has turned to [crowd funding](#) (asking for small donations from a very large audience to finance her upcoming dig. It's an exciting time for Brooke, whose path has included learning a valuable lesson about focusing on God's plans over your own.

If you're interested in receiving Line Notes posts when they're published, you can subscribe in the right-hand column of any post by providing your e-mail address and then verifying you want to receive the posts. We've also made it easy to share individual Line Notes posts with your networks with just one click -- something many of your fellow members are doing -- and have also made it easy to comment on each post.

Other News of Interest

- **Coming Soon -- Six Flags Discounts for the BAA Family!** The BAA has negotiated online-ticket discounts for the Baylor Family with Six Flags over Texas in Arlington and Six Flags Fiesta Texas in San Antonio. More information (and a link to the online ticket offices to the two parks) will be distributed through our Line Notes blog later this month and through the next Between the Lines.

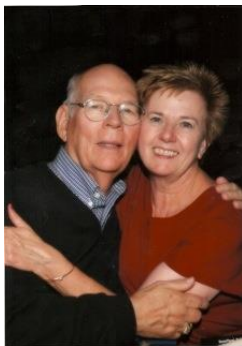
- **Rebecca Bridges Dinnin, '88**, has been named executive director of the Alamo. She previously served as vice president of image and communications for the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce.
- **Dr. Roger Kirk** is the 2015 recipient of the American Psychological Association's Charles L. Brewer Distinguished Teaching of Psychology Award, the highest teaching honor given by the nation's largest professional psychology organization. Dr. Kirk is in his 56th year of teaching at Baylor.
- Books by Baylor Professors **Dr. Jerold Waltman** and **Dr. Timothy Burns** have been awarded Outstanding Academic Titles by Choice, a publication of the American Library Association. Dr. Waltman was recognized for his book, ["Congress, the Supreme Court, and Religious Liberty" \(Amazon link\)](#), while Dr. Burns was recognized for ["Shakespeare's Political Wisdom" \(Amazon link\)](#).
- **All-Session tickets for the 2015 Phillips 66 Big 12 Women's Basketball Championship** in Dallas from March 6-9 are now available, and are priced at \$105 and \$85 plus applicable service charges through Ticketmaster.
- **Attention, Charlotte (NC) Alums:** The West Virginia and Oklahoma alumni-association presidents are planning on doing a Charlotte Big 12 basketball game watch on Feb. 21 at Brazwells Premium Pub, 1627 Montford Drive. The day kicks off at noon with Oklahoma vs. Texas Tech. Baylor plays Kansas State at 1, and the final game (Kansas vs. TCU) tips off at 4 p.m.

Please send us your news items by hitting Reply or filling out our [Story Ideas form](#) on the website.

The BAA on Social Media

- We've seen a big jump in connections on the new Baylor Alumni Association LinkedIn profile. We'd love to have you connect with us through LinkedIn, where we are planning a free webinar in March (topic to be announced soon). Our first-degree LinkedIn connections will have the first chance to sign up. [Just go here](#) to connect (assuming you're a Baylor grad or soon-to-be Baylor grad).
- If you'd like to get your copy of Between the Lines sent to a different e-mail address OR you've changed your contact information and haven't let us know, you can do it online by clicking on Update Your Information or [going here](#).

In Memoriam:



- **Sanders Letbetter, '56**, passed away on October 28, 2014, at the age of 81. Sanders, pictured above with his wife, Esther, was a resident of Bryan, TX, and a long-time member of Central Baptist Church in College Station, where he enjoyed singing in the choir, being in many Easter Pageants, serving in the Prayer Room, the Billy Graham Phone Center, and anything he was called to do. Although he was a

proud Bear, he was employed with Texas A&M for 25 years, with the last 11 years as the director of collegiate licensing. Sanders served in the U.S. Army and the Texas National Guard, and was known to be the first to always stand for the National Anthem at any event he attended. He was a long-time, proud member of the Kiwanis Club, serving as president in 1968 and recognized as the Kiwanian of the Year in 1986. Memorials can be made to Central Baptist Church Children's Wing.



- **The Honorable Larry W. Starr, J.D. '60**, was honored posthumously on Jan. 1, 2015, when his portrait was hung in the newly renovated Gregg County (TX) County Court at Law 1 where he served from 1981 to 1986. Judge Starr's judicial career included service as the second judge of the 188th Judicial District Court and was appointed by Governor George W. Bush to the Texarkana Court of Appeals. Judge Starr's widow, Nancy Ogletree Starr, BA '61, and his three children and their spouses have earned eight Baylor degrees, and his two oldest granddaughters will enroll this fall.

Please let us know when we lose a member of the Baylor Family by either hitting Reply to this e-mail or using our [Story Ideas form on our website](#).

The next issue of Between the Lines will be out around Feb. 28.