



May 30, 2016

Between the Lines

A publication of the Baylor Alumni Association

Kicking it off....

- [We have published a post on the website that provides links to coverage of the Board of Regent's reaction](#) to the contents of the Pepper Hamilton report and offers you a more permanent place than Facebook to post your thoughts. We will be continuing to update this post as more stories come in, and we're doing our best to include links to positive stories.
- **The BAA Annual Meeting** will be held June 11 at 10 a.m. at the Waco Hippodrome. We hope to see you there!
- **Tickets are going fast for Onward!**, a celebration of the Baylor Alumni Association and our future as The Baylor Line Foundation. The June 11 dinner at the Texas Sports Hall of Fame will honor the inaugural Alumni-Elected Regents: Dan Chapman, Wayne Fisher, and Julie Turner and thank The Honorable Ed Kinkeade for his role in negotiating the settlement. Proceeds will benefit the BAA's Legacy Scholarship Program, and dress for the event is Business Attire. [You can click here to get the Onward! 2016 Legacy Scholarship Event Center for more information on tables, individual tickets, and sponsorship opportunities.](#)

Recently Published on the Line Notes Blog

If you'd like to receive new Line Notes posts right after they're published, please consider subscribing to receive them by e-mail. Just provide your contact information in the box in the right-hand column of any post. Don't forget to confirm your subscription from the e-mail you receive after subscribing.

- [Getting to Know...Frank Jasek '73](#). A book preservationist with Baylor Libraries, Jasek edited a terrific coffee table book on the Baylor alumni and students who died serving our country – it's the stories behind the lampposts commemorating their ultimate sacrifice.
- [Today is a painful day for the Baylor family](#). Includes our view of the situation, links to local and national articles, and a place for comments from our readers.
- [Tug of War](#): Baylor responds to a Congressional inquiry on the use of its endowment to reduce tuition for low- and moderate-income students. From the Spring-Summer issue of the Baylor Line.
- [Relentless preparation drove \(Michael\) Johnson's track success](#). A big Baylor contingent turned out for Johnson's speech at a United Way of Metropolitan Dallas luncheon.
- [Mr. Baylor: Dutch Schroeder '49](#). Electronic link to the Baylor Line feature on a campus icon.

- **BREAKING NEWS: Baylor sophomore Kelsey Landrum** has been selected from more than 56,000 applicants worldwide to be one of six amateurs to represent North and South America in the ASICS Beat the Sun relay race around Mont Blanc on June 21. We'll be publishing a full profile of Kelsey early this week on our blog and in the next issue of the Baylor Line! [Here's a link to the ASICS race page.](#)
- **Evelyn Rossler Stroder '51** and her husband Charles were recognized for their years of teaching to Crane (TX) High School by having the school's auditorium renamed in their honor as the result of a petition by a number of ex-students. Evelyn started at Crane in 1955 as a middle-school English teacher and then taught English in middle school and then taught high-school journalism and English in the high school until her retirement in the late 1980s. She also served four terms on the Crane Board of Trustees.
- **David McHam '58**, a renowned former Baylor journalism instructor who left Baylor in 1974 and retired from the University of Houston last year, has been honored as a distinguished alumnus by Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism.
- **Dr. Cary Tanamachi '68** has retired from the Mesquite ISD after three decades as a trustee. Dr. Tanamachi, who owns the Mesquite Orthopedic Clinic, served on the school board from 1983 to 1992 and then from 1995 until his decision to step down in May.
- **Joel Allison '70** will receive the J. Erik Jonsson Award from the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas on June 2. It's the highest volunteer honor that the United Way chapter gives.
- **Doug Rogers '82** has designed the Enchanted Storybook Castle, the crown jewel of Disneyland Shanghai, which will open in June.
- **Dr. Jon Singletary '93** has been named dean of Baylor's Diana R. Garland School of Social Work. Singletary has been serving as the school's interim dean since June 2015. He succeeds Diana Garland, who passed away in September following a battle with pancreatic cancer. The committee who recommended Singletary unanimously nominated him after "an extensive, painstaking national search."
- **Amy Keith '07** and her husband Braden Keith are proud to announce the birth of their son, James Anthony, on February 2, 2016.
- **Kelsey Leigh Ervi '11** has been named associate artistic director at the WaterTower Theatre in Addison, TX. Ervi has been WaterTower Theatre's artistic and marketing associate and co-producer of the Out of the Loop Fringe Festival since 2014. She will now have overall responsibility for artistic and production-related matters. Kelsey is considered one of Dallas' top young directors and is also a busy actress in the Dallas area.
- **Elizabeth Arnold '16 and Ashton Brown '16** were chosen by Arik Hanson of ACH Communications as two of his "PR Rock Stars of the Future." Arnold was editor in chief of the Bundle and Brown was honored by Baylor faculty with the award for top public relations career portfolio.
- **Lindsey Trosso**, who is pursuing her doctorate at Baylor, has been named to the position of assistant professor of New Testament at Campbell University's Department of Christian Studies, beginning this fall. She is finishing her dissertation on the Gospel of John.

Fond Farewells

Please note that we cannot always provide the deceased's graduation year from Baylor, particularly if they are not a BAA member or their information is not available elsewhere. We apologize and mean no disrespect. While we don't run photographs of the deceased in this newsletter, we would appreciate you sending them, with graduation years, to baylorline@bayloralumniassociation.com for use in the magazine. We also received a

number of older obituaries as an unintended consequence of the settlement vote, so we're including those here too.

- **Almarie “Amy” Best** passed away May 20, 2016, at the age of 95. She is survived by her children Robert, Betsy, and Susan and their families, including 11 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Alfred Clinton Best.
- **Katherine Craun Conte ‘44** of High Point, NC, passed away on May 25, 2016, at the age of 89. She taught for 18 years in Texas and 17 years in the High Point Public School System, retiring in 1992. Katherine was selected as Teacher of the Year in Texas in 1976 and later was nominated as Teacher of the Year in High Point, NC. She also received her Masters of Education from the University of Texas and later worked toward her Doctorate in Psychology there. She did all this while raising a family, teaching full time, tutoring students in reading, and working for the Austin Parks and Recreation Department in the summertime. Other doors opened for Katherine during this same period of time, when Behavioral Research Laboratories (BRL), a company that specialized in state-of-the-art reading methods, asked Katherine to join their company as a reading consultant. She facilitated workshops and held training sessions for school districts in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee for many years. Katherine was filmed teaching and the movie was used for many years to train teachers in advanced techniques for teaching reading. Katherine is survived by her children, Larry and Carol (Henderson) and their spouses; four grandchildren and two great grandchildren; two stepchildren, Samantha Wagaman and Susan Atherton and their families. She was preceded in death by her former husbands, Louis Leal, Dwight “Ike” Craun, and Clayton Conte.
- **Joseph Platt Turner Jr. ’47** of Houston passed away January 27, 2016 at the age of 96. He graduated from Mars Hill College in North Carolina in 1940 and then served four years in the Air Force before earning a second degree from Baylor and meeting his future wife Kathryn Moore ’47. The Turners ultimately moved to Houston where he became head of an oilfield equipment manufacturing company in Houston, and Edmonton, Canada. In late 1977, Mr. Turner acquired Temple-based Centrifugal Castings and then Sugar Land-based Texas Precision Metalcraft. He was recognized in multiple ways by Mars Hill College for his philanthropy, and also created an endowed scholarship at Baylor. He is survived by his wife Kitty and two daughters (Mary Conner ’75 and Martha Manley ’83) and their families, including four grandchildren (three of whom are Baylor graduates) and three great-grandchildren.
- **Oliver McMahan ’49 of Waco** passed away May 18, 2016, at the age of 88. He graduated from Baylor after returning home from Texas Tech University after the death of his mother. While he was at Baylor, Oliver began his career in the life-insurance business at Amicable Life Insurance Company where he met his future wife Barbara Jean West, who became his wife in 1951; and also enlisted in the Texas National Guard. He was commissioned at a 2nd lieutenant in 1952, and went to Fort Benning for officer training and then again in 1969 for airborne training. He worked for Texas Life Insurance Company from 1969 until his retirement in 1993 and also retired from the National Guard in 1980 as a lieutenant colonel after 32 years of service. He is survived by Barbara, his wife of 64 years; and three sons and their families, including five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.
- **Mary Ann Campbell Hilgartner Benning ‘56** passed away April 18, 2016, at the age of 81. She taught elementary school in Yorktown and Victoria, TX, and later served as a middle school counselor until her retirement in 2007. Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Lee, and her son, Louis, and remarried in 2008 to Carl Benning Jr. She is survived by Lee; daughter LeeAnn, and a number of other family members.
- **Marvin L. Gardner** passed away on April 22, 2016, at the age of 84. Following graduation, he joined the Air Force and served as a physical fitness sergeant in

Germany, overseeing the construction of athletic facilities for several branches of the military. After marrying Shirley Pasternak in 1954, he joined his father-in-law at Dallas Cap and Emblem and was honored by President Nixon for working with NASA in developing the official Apollo 11 emblem worn by the astronauts. He was known for his generosity and integrity and loved sports, golfing, movies, traveling, playing cards and spending time in Las Vegas. He is survived by Shirley, his wife of 62 years; his five children (three sons and two daughters) and their families, including 22 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren; and his sister, Claire.

- **Betty Jean Gauthreaux** of Overton, TX, passed away May 5, 2016, at the age of 77. She received her degree from Baylor in nursing and taught psychiatric nursing at Baylor and Texas Women's University, where she received her Master's degree. Her nursing career included teaching, rehab nursing, director of a methadone treatment center, clinical psychiatric nursing, psychiatric drug researcher, and bereavement coordinator for a hospice agency. She is survived by her sister Patsy Moore and her extended family.
- **Knox Pittard '66, MBA '68**, of Fort Worth passed away April 24, 2016, at the age of 72. Knox lettered in football at Baylor and met his future wife, Pam, whom he was married to for almost 52 years. He spent 40 years in high-tech roles at AT&T, Southwestern Bell, GTE, and Intervice, and taught at Tarrant County College as an adjunct professor for 55 years, receiving the Outstanding Adjunct Award in 2004. During the 1980s, Know and Pam worked together to form the Mid Cities Baylor Club and served as president of the Baylor "B" Association in 2002 and was instrumental in starting the Baylor Wall of Fame. He is survived by Pam; son Steve and his wife Belinda and son Kirk and his wife Lisa – all of whom are Baylor graduates. He also had four grandchildren.
- **Esta Mourine Stewart '67** passed away May 24, 2016, at the age of 91. She used her degree in Special Education to teach at West Junior High School in Waco and volunteered with Meals on Whells and the Waco VA Hospital, and was famous for her pecan pies. She passed away a few weeks short of her 70th anniversary with David F. Stewart and is also survived by three children (Frances, Ruth, and Wayne; "adopted" children Paul Cummings, Richard Braun, and Ginger; seven grandchildren; and 14 great grandchildren.
- **Jeffrey Jones '86** of Waco passed away May 17, 2016, at the age of 56. Jeff taught and coached for Waco ISD for 26 years. He is survived by his wife, Sheryl; his son Jeffrey "Jay" Jones; his mother and a number of other close family friends.
- **Colton "Coho" Menk '16** of Matomedi, MN, passed away May 14, 2016 at the age of 22, six days after receiving his BS in neuroscience. The cause of death, according to his obituary, was an epileptic seizure. He was a youth minister at Richfield Christian Church in Waco. Menk is survived by his parents, Roger Menk and Beth Messerly; his siblings Britta and Spencer; and his grandparents, Jan Messerly and Tom and Bev Menk.

University News

- Former Wake Forest Head Coach Jim Grobe has been named interim football coach at Baylor, replacing Art Briles. Shortly after the announcement, Athletic Director Ian McCaw announced his resignation. [There are links to stories on these announcements on our website post about this situation.](#)
- **Dr. Johnny Henderson** has been named the 2016 Cornelia Marschall Smith Professor of the Year. Dr. Henderson is the Distinguished Professor of Mathematics in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- **Joshua Brownlow**, a doctoral candidate studying geology at Baylor, received the Farvolden Award from the National Groundwater Association for his presentation of his research regarding the relationship between hydraulic fracturing and groundwater

contamination.

- Baylor's School of Engineering and Computer Science is working with the U.S. Army Research Laboratory and professors from Purdue University to develop next-generation radar hardware for future radar systems planned to begin operation around the year 2030.
- Officers with the Waco Police Department, McLennan County Sheriff's Office, Balor Police Department, Waco Fire Department, and East Texas Medical Center used Baylor's Martin Hall to conduct a mock firefight with three men playing the role of terrorists. Martin Hall is being renovated. Officers rushed into the residence hall to evaluate the situation and eliminate the threat. Officers encountered wounded individuals, played by police volunteers and made decisions on how much access to allow other emergency responders.

We're looking for your story ideas! If you are (or you know) a Baylor alum or faculty member who has achieved a milestone, celebrated a special anniversary, passed away, or is working on something really interesting, please let us know by [clicking here on our Story Ideas form](#).

[Click here to unsubscribe.](#)

The Baylor Alumni Association is a 501(c)(3) organization that is separate and independent of Baylor University. Our mission includes fostering a spirit of loyalty, service, and fraternity among members of the Baylor family (alumni, students, faculty, and friends). The vast majority of our members are Baylor alumni.