



Cobber Class of 1961 Chronicle

Vol. 58 Issue 1

Fall 2019



Concordia College celebrated the completion of the largest comprehensive fundraising campaign in the school's history by unveiling a goal-topping figure of \$157.3 million on Wednesday, May 1.

Speaking at a small ceremony held on campus, Concordia's President William Craft said the funds came from nearly 19,000 individual donors and they will be used in a number of areas, including efforts aimed at supporting inclusivity and diversity.

He added that this year's incoming class was the most diverse in the history of the college, which was founded in 1891 with 12 students.

Money from the RISE campaign will be utilized in various areas, including:

- endowment funding — \$37 million
 - scholarships — \$23 million for 120 new student scholarships
 - PEAK experiences, a new, experiential learning program for students — \$4 million
 - capital projects — \$45 million
 - inclusivity and diversity support — \$3.7 million
 - Korean Language Village — \$5 million
- The Korean Language Village is to be designed as an authentic Korean village, and it will be located at the Concordia Language Villages site.

Part of the \$45 million raised for capital projects will go toward renovation of the Integrated Science Center, where Wednesday's ceremony was held.

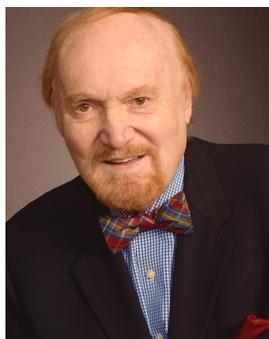
Jim Senske, a 1975 graduate of Concordia who is the school's board of regents investment chairman as well as co-chairman of the RISE campaign, said past and present members of the board of regents gave almost \$45 million to the campaign.

Concordia and Concordia Language Villages staff, faculty, emeriti and retirees gave more than \$25 million to the campaign, Senske said.

Concordia's last fundraising campaign, which was completed in 2007, raised \$102 million, surpassing the drive's \$80 million goal.

The class of 1961 is on the internet. Join our group and add your comments and pictures at [Facebook](#)

FROM THE CLASS AGENT



Herb Morgenthaler
Class of 1961

Greetings once again to the **biggest**, the **brightest** and the **best** class ever to graduate from Concordia College. It's always a pleasure to bring to you the news of our classmates and to share the latest activities at Concordia.

I invite each you to invest some time in reading Dr. Crafts and regents Board Chair Dr. Earl Lewis address about [The Concordia That Is Yet To Be](#). You will learn of the outstanding programs and changes occurring at Concordia College and the process to prepare the college and students for a world perceived to be in flux.

Once again the class of 1961 is a leader in financially supporting the college. Congratulations and thank you to all who contributed. Let's not get out of the habit. Please contribute again this year to help sustain the mission of Concordia. When we give what we can, we have the satisfaction of knowing we are investing in the future by helping prepare young men and women for leadership in an ever-changing world. Thank you again for keeping the Cobber spirit alive and well and for your support of the college and the class of 1961.

There are several new members to our Facebook page. Take a minute to examine the site, go to: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/cc1961/> Sign in and join the group. There are pictures and messages that will be of interest to you. I encourage those of you who have other photos or comments to post them on the page for all our classmates. Technology is changing faster than ever, let's get on board and enjoy the benefits of new and improved ways to communicate.

You will notice several hyperlinks throughout this newsletter. Be sure to open them as they contain some great additional information about Concordia today.
Soli Deo Gloria



2019 Alumni Achievement Awards

Paul Dr. Paul Brandvik '59



Dr. Brandvik is a professor emeritus of music at Bemidji State University, served as director of choral activities for 31 years.

Dr. Kristi (Martinson) Ferguson '71



Dr. Kristi Ferguson is professor emeritus of General Internal Medicine and served as director, Office of Consultation and Research in Medical Education at the University of Iowa.

Rev. Ann Svennungsen '77



A 1977 Concordia graduate, the Rev. Ann Svennungsen is the bishop of the ELCA Minneapolis Area Synod, the first female bishop to serve in any of the ELCA's six Minnesota synods.

Dr. Thomas W. Samuelson '81



Dr. Thomas Samuelson '81, a board-certified ophthalmologist, is a founding partner and attending surgeon at Minnesota Eye Consultants, P.A., Minneapolis.

[Click here for complete 2019 Alumni Achievement Award Recipient Bios](#)

2019 Sent Forth Awards



Dr. Matthew Culloton '98

Matthew Culloton, founding Artistic Director of The Singers - Minnesota Choral Artists, is a 1998 Concordia graduate and earned a master's and a doctorate from the University of Minnesota. He is Choirmaster at The House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, Minn., and an adjunct faculty member at the University of St. Thomas. Culloton received the VocalEssence/ACDA of Minnesota Creative Programming Award (2003) and MN ACDA Outstanding Young Choral Conductor of the Year Award (2004). As a composer, he has been commissioned to compose works for The Singers and the Dale Warland Singers, among several others. He is co-editor of the "Matthew and Michael Culloton Choral Series" and editor of the "Christmas with The Singers Choral



Betsy (Strebel) Grams '98

Betsy Grams, co-founder and executive director of CycleHealth, is a 1998 Concordia graduate. CycleHealth was founded in 2014 to equip kids to power their own wellness. CycleHealth's programs are based on adventure and self-directed goal attainment, and are prescribed by pediatricians in more than 50 Twin Cities clinics through an innovative platform called **Sweat Rx**. Prior to co-founding CycleHealth, Betsy was a high school English teacher, and director of an alternative school for students at risk for graduation.

*Every class to attend Concordia College strives to be the best class ever. The class of 1961 still leads all classes in Alumni Achievement Award recipients., Ours may not be the biggest class but we are the leaders in achievement, the highest in the colleges history, and of course we are **"The Biggest, The Brightest and The Best"***



Things you should know

Notes from Classmates

Most of will be 80 this year and I wish happy birthday to all of you. In July we'll be taking our family on a Rhine river cruise. This will be a great chance to show our grandkids where we lived on the Rhine in Düsseldorf. All four of them are already studying the areas we'll be seeing. Nancy and I are so fortunate to be able to do this, both financially and health wise. Thank GOD for his blessings and the prayers of many of our friends. (Cancer appears to be in remission!)

Randall Erickson

I received this note from Randy in late March to share in this newsletter. Randy passed away June 8, 2019, one month before the Germany trip he so very much hoped for.



www.cord.edu/cornfeeds

- Massachusetts: Boston
- Minnesota: Eagan, Eden Prairie, Maple Grove, Brainerd, Alexandria, Willmar, Rochester, Litchfield, Duluth, Moorhead, Bemidji
- South Dakota: Sioux Falls
- North Dakota: Bismarck
- Oregon: Portland
- Montana: Kalispell
- Arizona: Phoenix
- California: Thousand Oaks
- Nebraska: Omaha
- Wisconsin: Milwaukee, Menomonie
- Washington, D.C
- Idaho: Boise
- Iowa: Des Moines

Fundraising Update:

Class of 1961

- ◆ Concordia continues to have fundraising success due to generous supporters in each class. In the past few years, Concordia has continued to surpass fundraising goals and can create new opportunities for students, including the completion of the Integrated Science Center and student scholarships.

This past year, our class had **32.58%** participation and gave **\$57,228**. Since graduation, our class, **the biggest, the brightest and the best**, has given **\$1,793,455** in outright gifts.

◆ **THANK YOU! TUSEN TAKK! GRACIAS! MERCI ! DANKA! ASANTE! CNACHÓO! DOMO ARIGATOU!**



[Homecoming Registration Click Here](#)

Cobber News

Concordia Language Villages



2018 was a busy one for Concordia Language Villages. We had over 4700 villagers and families from all over the world attend immersion programs at our Turtle River Lake sites just north of Bemidji and at other leased camps in northern Minnesota. This strong enrollment demonstrates the value families are placing on world language and culture education.

Thanks to a generous gift of \$5 million from the Simone Corporation and its CEO Kenny Park, we will soon begin the first phase of construction of *Sup sogüi Hosu*, the Korean Language Village, on Turtle River Lake. The first Village to be built was *Skogfjorden*, the Norwegian Language Village, and that happened 50 years ago this summer. A special event to commemorate this milestone will be held on July 13. *Sjölundén* the Swedish Language Village, celebrates its 45th summer with a *midsommar* event on August 3. International Days are July 5 and August 9 where we will also celebrate 50 years of offering four-week high school credit sessions.



Music

Dr. René Clausen announced that he will retire following the 2019-20 academic year, concluding his service as professor of music and conductor of The Concordia Choir. Clausen is a leader in choral music as both a conductor and a composer. He is the artistic director of the Concordia Christmas Concerts. In addition to composing arrangements and original pieces for Concordia ensembles, he has written dozens of commissioned compositions including "MEMORIAL" and "Crying for a Dream" for the American Choral Directors Association. Clausen was also commissioned by Concordia to create a major work in observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The work is titled "The Passion of Jesus Christ" and premiered at Orchestra Hall in 2017. President William Craft noted in an announcement to the Concordia community that throughout his work at the college Clausen has lived the mission of The Concordia Choir "to uphold a sacred choral tradition through the uncompromising and unrelenting collaborative pursuit of musical integrity and spiritual expression."

The Concordia Choir completed a highly successful tour through the Pacific Northwest in March. The tour featured concerts in Washington, Oregon, Montana, North Dakota, and Minnesota. The Choir also had engagements with ten high school choirs, as well as The Choir of the West at Pacific Lutheran University and a collaboration concert with The Singers – Minnesota Choral Artists at the Ordway in St. Paul. Work is now being done to plan the Choir's 2020 tour to the Southeast United States. Updates and more information can be found at www.TheConcordiaChoir.org.

The Concordia Orchestra completed a very successful fall domestic tour with performances in Appleton, Wausau and Chippewa Falls in Wisconsin and Roseville, Sartell and Brainerd in Minnesota. Repertoire included *Symphony No. 3* by Florence Price, *Scheherazade* by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and *Concerto for Trombone* by Jim Pugh, which featured Concordia Professor of Low Brass Dr. Nathaniel Dickey on trombone. Also joining the tour was guest conductor Christoph Rehli-Fankhauser, professor of conducting at the Lucerne University of Music in Switzerland.

The Concordia Band was invited to perform at both the Minnesota Music Educators Association Mid-Winter Clinic in Minneapolis and the North Dakota Music Educators Association Conference in Bismarck. In addition, the band was also invited to be the featured collegiate band at the Westman Honour Band concert at Brandon University in Brandon, Manitoba. As part of their annual domestic tour, the band performed a joint concert with the Encore Wind Ensemble in St. Paul, MN as well as concerts in St. Anthony Village, Albany and Staples-Motley, all in Minnesota. The band is in the beginning stages of planning their international tour to Spain in May of 2020.

Cobber News

Cobber Athletics

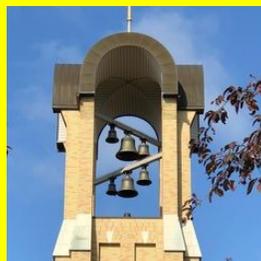


In the spring of 2018, Concordia had only one team – women's basketball – with a female head coach. Fast forward one year, and with the hiring of new volleyball head coach Faith Dooley, the Cobbers now have 5 additional female head coaches mentoring student/athletes. Dooley, who was an All-American at the University of North Dakota, joins women's golf head coach Kari Weidner-Ceniceros, Maureen Greiner of women's hockey, Rebecca O'Shura from women's soccer and NDSU All-American Laura Januszewski who coaches both the men's and women's cross country teams. The rise of female head coaches was recognized by University of Minnesota's Tucker Center for Research on Girls and Women in Sport in their 2018-19 coaching report card that cited Concordia as the top college in the MIAC for the increase in female head coaches over the past year.

Concordia men's track and field junior Matt Bye, Moorhead, won the heptathlon at this winter's MIAC Indoor Championship Meet and went on to finish 11th in the event at the NCAA National Indoor Meet held in Boston, Mass. Bye won the MIAC title with the second highest point total in school history.

The Cobber men's hockey team earned its seventh consecutive berth in the MIAC playoffs this season. Concordia finished conference play with nine league wins which was the most since the 2013 season. Sophomore forward Tyler Bossert, Fargo, led the MIAC in scoring and went on to earn All-American Second Team honors to become the ninth All-American in program history.

Other News



Concordia's outstanding tradition of preparing students for medical school is now available to those who have completed an undergraduate degree. This intensive, 1 year program is designed for highly motivated individuals with excellent academic records, who have earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year institution, but lack most or all of the prerequisite science courses needed for admission to medical school. Our program is ideal for career changers, and individuals deciding later in their academic journey, to pursue a career in medicine.

Concordia sent 12 members to the American Forensic Association National Individual Events Tournament (AFA-NIET) at the University of Alabama, where 60 colleges and universities from across the United States competed for top honors. Concordia was one of only a few smaller colleges that placed in the top 15, which is dominated by larger research institutions.

The Center for Student Success has a new home in the Normandy. The beautifully renovated space is open and light making for an inviting space for students. The center includes academic support, Orientation and First-Year Transition Programming, the Peer Mentor program, and the Diversity Coordinator for Student Support Services. More than 300 students presented their posters or spoke at concurrent sessions during Concordia's 2019 Celebration of Student Scholarship (COSS) on April 10. Some students participated in multiple presentations. New at this year's COSS was an art display with printmaking pieces and two sessions presented in Spanish. "Our goal is to keep building on the diversity of research," says Krys Strand, director of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity and coordinator of the Celebration of Student Scholarship.

A dinner was held April 4 to celebrate the naming of Dr. Dan Biebighauser as holder of The Sigurd and Pauline Prestegaard Mundhjeld Endowed Chair of Mathematics. Biebighauser is a 2002 graduate of Concordia and joined the faculty in 2006. The holder of the Mundhjeld chair is to be a person who has provided exemplary service in teaching and scholarship in the field of mathematics and who is known and respected in the field. All of the past holders of the Mundhjeld Endowed Chair were present. Past holders include Dr. Bill Tomhave, Dr. James L. Forde, Dr. Alexander Sze and Dr. Gerald A. Heuer '51.

Cobber News



A Letter from President Craft Regarding The MIAC

A lot has been written, spoken, tweeted, and posted since the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference announced on May 22 that the University of St. Thomas would be transitioning out of MIAC within the next two years. There has been indignation that St. Thomas would be led to leave for “winning too much,” and indignation that the MIAC presidents haven’t been willing to say more than what appeared in the press release and on the MIAC website.

I want to address the second issue first: We let the MIAC media statement stand without further comment because we understood that we had agreed to do so. We would speak with one voice. A look at the full-page statement available on the MIAC website can be helpful now.

The full MIAC statement notes that “while no formal vote was held, all 13 MIAC presidents agreed to a transition that will end St. Thomas’ membership in the conference.” In other words, we all, St. Thomas included, ultimately agreed to this transition plan, which was negotiated in good faith by MIAC leadership on behalf of the conference as a whole.

Most of the protest about our action has been focused on the conference statement that “athletic competitive parity” was “a primary concern.” All those familiar with the MIAC will know that it was not the only concern: some were troubled about problems with sportsmanship; some about the safety of students in contact sports; still others about the approach to varsity sports in the first place. Different member schools were influenced by different considerations to different degrees. Yet the concern about competitive opportunity was real. Over the last 15 years, St. Thomas won 47% of the conference championships across all sports; over the last five years, it won 56% of those championships: 62 of them. The next closest school won 14.

The MIAC presidents acted to preserve our conference. Presidents’ Council Chair Rebecca Bergman notes in her remarks on the full-page statement that “after extensive discussions, the Presidents’ Council determined that there was no path forward that preserved the MIAC in its current form.” Had the presidents not negotiated an exit for St. Thomas, it was clear that the MIAC, one of the very best Division III conferences in the U.S., would soon no longer exist in anything like its current form, and a great strength for our schools—and more important, our students—would be lost.

Concordia College prizes the focus of the MIAC on the education and well-being of our students who play varsity sports. We value the opportunity for our students to play sports for the love of it, seeking competition among peers who will test them and build their skills, as they develop the team identity and pride that is one of the greatest joys of Division III athletics. Athletics in the MIAC are a wonderful source of school spirit for fans and families, yet they exist, first and last, for the students who play.

William Craft
President
Concordia College

Cobber News



Dr. Joan Buckley 1931-2019

She was a great friend of the class of 1961

Joan will be remembered for her passion for teaching, her high expectations for her students, her ability to stay in touch and continue mentoring long after students graduated, and her knowledge in offering individual help to students to improve.

A note from Dr. Buckley about her many years at Concordia

Thank you for inviting me to send a short biography of my forty-nine years of teaching English at Concordia. Specifically, I began my career in 1956 and retired in 2005. I taught college English, American Literature, Writing for Management, and Scandinavian Studies for half a century including a year I taught English at the Martin Luther Schule in Rimbach, Germany. I enjoyed every class, and I happily add that I still receive many yearly greetings from former students. I treasure these connections; keep sending me your Christmas cards and updates!

From the time I played school with my grandmother, who encouraged my dreams by telling me her exciting story of crossing the ocean from Norway as a five-year-old with her siblings and mother to a new home in America, I had great admiration for her goals of having a good education and better life for her family.

I know I chose well by staying at Concordia to fulfill my dream. The steps to achieve that goal began with one year as a single teacher. Then I met my husband, Wendell Buckley, a professor of Vocal Music at Concordia. He was a graduate of Oberlin Conservatory. I had graduated from St. Olaf and had a Masters in English from the University of Chicago. My further education was sidetracked when I told then President Knutson that I wanted to continue to teach even though I was expecting our first child in May 1958. He told me in no uncertain terms that I would be bringing up juvenile delinquents if I continued to teach and raise a family. Needless to say, I was sure that he was wrong, and I am happy to report that our children are high-achieving adults today. My husband and I each completed our PhDs from the University of Iowa and I continued to teach full time. Incidentally our son is chief of his radiology group in San Diego, and our daughter is also a radiologist in Palo Alto, California. Our careers do not compete, but each of us enjoys what we do.

Although my emphasis was in teaching, I have co-edited a two-volume translation of the Norwegian-American comic strip describing immigrant life called Han Ola og Han Per by Peter Julius Rosendal, written articles on literary topics, and am now completing a family history book, From a Rocky Farm in Norway. I have enjoyed writing the story of my great-grandmother who brought her children to America. Our family dedicated their lives to faith, family, community and education. I feel truly blessed.

Class of 1961 Deceased Members



Adrian Anderson



Norton Berg



Peter Boe



Randall Erickson



Harold Hanson



Robert Markwardt



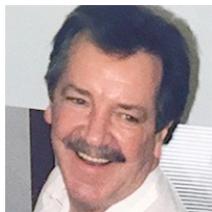
Ivan Wambheim

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	MAIDEN LAST NAME
Adrian	Anderson	
Dennis	Albertson	
Roger	Andersen	
Brian	Anderson	
Judith	Anderson	Olson
Gerald	Anderson	
Dennis	Arndt	
Wilfred	Behl	
Robert	Bengtson	
Norton	Berg	
William	Bjerke	
Sharon	Blilie	Nord
Peter	Boe	
Marietta	Brenna	Haugen
David	Bromstad	
Duane	Bush	
Ralph	Chase	
Louis	Deere	
Robert	DeWall	
Nanette	Donato	Thysell
Luverne	Eid	
C Rand	Elness	
Arland	Erickson	
Randall	Erickson	
Thomas	Faaland	
Robert	Fiechtner	
Dennis	Fiske	
Philip	Gjevre	
Darwin	Gorder	Ferguson
Sharon	Gunderson	
John	Hafstad	
Philip	Hofstad	
Harold	Hanson	
Philip	Hanson	
Roderick	Hass	
John	Hedlund	
Susan	Herbert	Torgerson
Thomas	Hoghaug	
James	Hoxeng	
Corinne	Hurd	Stene
Alice	Jacobs	

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	MAIDEN LAST NAME
Lola	LaMont	Floe
Gary	Larson	
Joanne	Larson	
Paul	Larson	
Robert	Lee	
Ralph	Lee	
Howard	Lona	
Paul	Lovaas	
Rodney	Lundeen	
Bruce	McCoy	
Jacqueline	Malone	Reed
Robert	Markwardt	
David	Mathre	
Astri	Matson	Erickson
Peggy	Myers	Hogoboom
Howard	Nellermoe	
Lois	Nelson	Quamme
Luther	Ness	
John	Nightengale	
Jeanne	Nilsson	Ruikka
George	Nordahl	
Robert	Nordvold	
Hazelle	Nyberg	Bjornson
Charles	Olson	
Dorothy	Oltman	
David	Olufson	
Barbara	Orvik	
Wallace	Pearson	
Karen	Rasmussen	Malvey
Greg	Rufer	
Richard	Rosetter	
Daniel	Saarinen	
Gerald	Sachs	
James	Serkland	
Johannes	Skarsten	
Avis	Skinner	Brustuen
Earl	Spong	
Robert	Stefonowicz	
Truman	Sunde	
Robert	Teigen	
Roger	Torvik	
Donald	Ulmer	
Harold	Underdahl	
Gail	Van D'Huynslager	Johnson
Ivan	Wambheim	

Class of 1961 Recently Deceased Members

Adrian A. Anderson



Anderson, Adrian A. Age 79, of Roseville, passed away peacefully on January 18th, 2019. Preceded in death by mother, Nettie, sister, JoAnn, and brothers, Tollef & Lynn. A native of Alexandria, MN, Adrian was a graduate of Concordia College, Moorhead, MN. Adrian worked in the automotive distribution and sales industry. A son, father, brother, uncle and friend to many, Adrian enjoyed travel, golfing, a sports enthusiast, and spending time with family and loved ones. Survived by sons, Troy & Brad, sisters, Aldoris, Marilyn & Kathleen. Memorials preferred to donor's favorite charity, Gillette Children's Specialty healthcare.

Obituary for Norton Kieland Berg

Norton Kieland Berg, 79, of Guthrie, MN died as a result of a farm accident at his home on Tuesday, August 28, 2018.

Norton Kieland Berg was born on September 21, 1938 in Fargo, ND to William and Selma (Kieland) Berg. Norton grew up on the family farm in Horace, ND. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. His faith and work ethic are what grounded his whole life. At the age of 17 he joined the Air National Guard in Fargo to put himself through college. He attended Concordia College in Moorhead, MN where he graduated with a business administration degree in 1961. He secured a high school teaching position in Arnegard, ND right out of school. He met Carol Zarek who was also teaching in Arnegard at the time, and shortly after they fell in love. The two were wed on August 5, 1962 in Butte, ND. The couple moved to Stephen, MN and then to Starbuck, MN to teach through the years 1963-1968. In the spring and summer of 1968 the family spent four months in Montgomery, AL where Norton completed squadron officer school. He later retired as a Major after 27 years of service in the Air National Guard. In the fall of 1968 he received a financial aid officer position at Bemidji State College, and he and Carol purchased a farm in Guthrie, MN. As a financial aid officer, Norton worked diligently for 29 years with students so they could achieve their goals and dreams. Norton and Carol purchased eight heifers for their farm that fall which grew to be 75 head of Red Angus. He farmed until his death. The couple also opened their home and loving arms to foster children for 46 years. Norton believed in serving his community. He was on the Farm Service Agency Board, a member of the Gideon's where he also served as treasurer, a member of the Lion's club and served as president, an active member of Calvary Lutheran Church and served on numerous boards, and was a volunteer in hospice to help write health care directives. He continued to farm alongside Carol after his retirement from Bemidji State and was so excited to share his love of farming with his grandchildren. He was especially tickled when his grandson Ryan started his own small herd so he could talk about farming and the land. All the grandchildren have fond memories of the farm, hayrides, and checking the cattle with their grandpa. Norton and Carol were honored by the University of Minnesota as Hubbard County Farm Family of the Year in 2015.

Norton had a love for adventure. Together Carol and Norton travelled all over the United States often letting the road take them where it may. They also travelled as far as Norway, Ireland, the Netherlands, Germany, France, and Switzerland. Out of all the places they travelled, the wide-open spaces of Western North Dakota were a touchstone destination. Most importantly, Norton loved his family and friends. He had a faith and love for Jesus that made whoever was around him feel at peace. He was a soft-spoken and humble man. He loved visiting over coffee and pie, going out for breakfast, and attending cattle sales to talk farming. Attending his grandchildren's activities gave him great pride and joy.

He is survived by his wife Carol Berg of 56 years; daughter Lennae (Mark) Stevens; son Nicolai (Alyson) Berg, both of Bemidji, MN; and foster son Thomas (Toby) Larson of Raymond, MN; grandchildren Ryan Stevens, Rochelle Stevens, Isaac Berg, Riley Berg, and Lauren Berg, all of Bemidji, MN; brothers Wesley (Shirley) Berg of Abercrombie, ND, and Russell (Donna) Berg of Horace, ND; and sisters-in-law Adeline Hudz of Redding, CA and Lynn Zarek of Minot, ND; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Condolences may be left at ceasefuneralhome.com. Memorials may be directed to Sanford Health Foundation or Bemidji State University Foundation.

Class of 1961 Recently Deceased Members

Peter V. Boe, 80, of Sioux City, died Monday, Oct. 22, 2018 at a local hospital. Funeral Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, October 27, 2018 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Rural Merrill, Iowa with burial to be at a later date near the family cabin in Northern Minnesota. Visitation will be on Friday, October 26th, from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. with family present at 6:00 p.m. at Meyer Brothers Morningside Chapel. Online condolences may be offered to the family at www.meyerbroschapels.com.

Rev. Peter Volodja Boe was an orphan during WWII and did not know when or where he was born. His earliest memories include living with a caring woman who was likely his biologic mother. He also recalls occasional interaction with a man who could have been his father. Originally named Volodja Sinegins, Peter learned that he was likely of Jewish and Belarusian ancestry, either in southern Latvia or northern Belarus. He and his brother, Tolja (Tom), were transported to the United States after the war. They were both adopted by Rev. Victor and Hilda Boe in 1950. Peter graduated from Moorhead Senior High School in 1957, and from Concordia College in 1961. He graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary in 1965. Following ordination, he was commissioned as a missionary at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead, MN with his adoptive father participating as Ordinator. In the fall of 1965, he departed for Nigeria, West Africa, and returned in 1971. While on furlough from 1967-1969, he earned his MA degree in English at the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, and he also met his wife, Betty. They married in 1971. Peter enthusiastically served the Lord at numerous parishes in North Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa, ministering until his last day at St. Paul Lutheran, Merrill, IA. He was able to visit some of the children's homes where he stayed in Latvia with members of his family in 1998 and again in 2007.

He enjoyed fishing, playing Rook and chess, writing, playing accordion, reading, photography, fellowship with others, time with family, and being a crossing guard at Nodland Elementary. He was looking forward to the release of his book this December.

Peter is survived by his wife, Betty of Sioux City; four children: Nathan Volodja Boe (Ruth) of Texas, Sarah Elizabeth Boe Carlson, Justin Joel Boe (Michelle) of Oklahoma, and Steven Peter Boe (Dana) of Ohio; sister-in-law Roxanna Boe of Minnesota; ex son-in-law Stephen Carlson of Minnesota; 12 grandchildren: Ethan, Annabelle, David, Claire, Peter, Jeremiah, Gabriella, Brayden, Isabella, Leighann, Landon, and Lawson, along with several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Rev. Thomas Boe, and adoptive parents, Rev. Victor and Hilda Boe.

He will be greatly missed not only by his family, but by the many lives he positively influenced.



Randall L. Erickson, PhD

Age 80, of North Oaks, was received into heaven on June 8, 2019, after a long illness. Randall leaves behind his beautiful wife, Nancy (DeJoy).

He is also survived by his loving daughters Amy (Jon) Bartholomew and Lisa (Eric) Cepek, grandchildren Zachary Gertken, Elizabeth, Colby and Brady Cepek, and Tyler and Zoe Bartholomew, brother Joel (Jan) and brothers-in-law Gary (Pat) DeJoy and Jack (Joyce) DeJoy. Randy was preceded in death by daughter Susan, and brothers

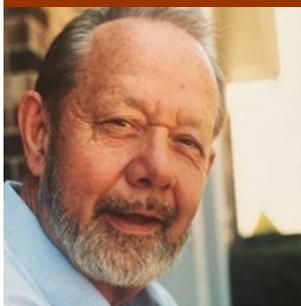
Terry and Dennis.

Randy graduated from Concordia College, Moorhead, MN and got his PhD in Chemistry from North Dakota State University. He spent 30+ years as a Technical Director of Reflective Products at 3M, which allowed him to travel throughout the world. His last assignment was running the research lab in Dusseldorf, Germany, where he and Nancy lived for two years. He shared some of his favorite experiences in a book titled "Travelling Business Class" which was published in 2012. After retirement, Randy and Nancy continued their travels abroad. He passed on his love of travel to his children and grandchildren. He is now on his own journey, and was ready to meet God and see his daughter, Susan, again.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Incarnation Lutheran Church and the Science Museum of Minnesota are being accepted in Randy's memory.

Church, 4880 Hodgson Road, Shoreview MN. Private family interment at a later date.

Class of 1961 Recently Deceased Members



Harold Tollef Hanson, 79, passed away on November 19, 2018 at his home in Mundelein, Illinois after five years of surviving cancer and stroke. His loving wife of more than 52 years, Mary Smedstad Hanson, was at his side through it all. Harold was born to the late Reverend Dr. Tollef (T.C.) Hanson and Marian Oppegaard Hanson in Holt, Minnesota on July 1, 1939. He enjoyed a happy childhood with his brothers, Luther and David, and graduated high school in Breckenridge, Minnesota. He went on to earn a bachelor's degree in math and philosophy from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, a Diploma of Education from the University of East Africa in Kampala, Uganda, and a Bachelor of Divinity from Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. His love of adventure led him to fight forest fires in northern Idaho, and travel and hunt throughout Africa as he spent two years teaching math and science in Malangali, Tanzania. He served in multiple leadership roles for 37 years within the Lutheran Church, including 15 years as Director for International Personnel for the Division for Global Mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He was a passionate advocate for the global context of God's work and, through his support and guidance of missionaries, touched the lives of countless people around the world. He was known as a groundbreaker, instrumental in developing ecumenical training programs (bringing together multiple denominations). He introduced young adults to global mission and helped create the Horizon program of international internships for seminarians. He was deeply respected and loved for his passion for people, his visionary leadership, his impish sense of humor and his ability to help people find wise solutions to complex situations. Harold was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He married Mary Smedstad on August 13, 1966 at Indherred Lutheran Church in Starbuck, Minnesota. They raised four children on Long Island, NY and in the Chicago suburbs. He lovingly supported his kids' interests and instilled in them the importance of doing the right thing and having respect for all people. He loved music, camping, the beach, gadgets of all kinds and entertaining friends and family as "captain" of his boat on Loch Lomond. He also had a special love for and skill in photography and helped people see color and beauty in new ways through his photographs. He was known for his unwavering faith, integrity and his warm, fun-loving spirit. Everyone who came through the door was welcomed and got one of his famous bear hugs. He is survived by his wife, Mary; his four children: Sarah Hanson, Martha (Phillip) Nava, Todd Hanson and Scott (Lisa Camponeschi) Hanson; five grandchildren: Sofia Nava, Nikolina Nava, Ruben Nava, Cristian Nava and Mayme Hanson; and his brother, David (Sharon) Hanson, and nine nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Tollef (T.C.) Hanson and Marian Oppegaard Hanson, and his brother, Luther Hanson. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the [ELCA World Hunger Fund](#), the T.C. and Marian Hanson Scholarship Fund at [Concordia College](#), or [Mary Kay Foundation](#) (supporting domestic violence programs and cancer research).



Longtime Havre resident Robert "**Bob**" **Markwardt** 79, passed peacefully on February 21, 2019. Bob was born in 1939 in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, to Roy and Hattie Markwardt.

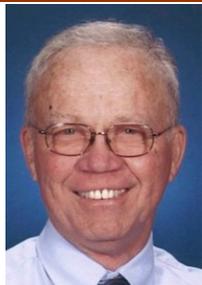
After graduating from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, he married Nancy Thysell and began a journey selling farm equipment that would take him through many stops in Minnesota and Illinois.

In 1976 the family traveled to Havre, a place Bob would call home for the rest of his life. He continued selling farm equipment for Big Bud, Case I/H, eventually retiring from John Deere.

Bob was an avid hunter and outdoorsman and loved living in Northern Montana. He was actively involved in Pheasants Forever, was a big Northern and Havre High sports fan, and enjoyed visiting friends and family.

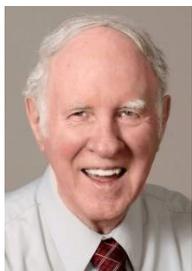
Bob was preceded in death by wife Nancy and is survived by sons Rob, Tom (Seattle), and Jon (Bend, Oregon); brother Tom (Grand Rapids, Minnesota); sisters Mary and Janice (Minneapolis, Minnesota); grandchildren Ava, Emma, and Ben; and his many friends in the Havre area. He will be missed greatly.

Class of 1961 Recently Deceased Members



Philip Hofstad, 82, of Bemidji, MN died Tuesday, September 25, 2018 in Sanford Bemidji Medical Center. Phil was born on April 14, 1936 to John and Lillian (Anderson) Hofstad in Bertha, MN, and was raised on the family farm in Eagle Bend, MN. On November 19, 1960, he married Carole (Olson) in Moorhead, MN. Upon graduating from Concordia College, Moorhead, MN in 1961, they spent 1 year at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, IA before moving to Bemidji, MN.

Phil received his teaching certificate and Master's Degree from Bemidji State College. He spent his entire 30-year teaching career at Bemidji Jr. High School and Bemidji Middle School. He was known to be strict, but fair in the classroom. He cared about his students and challenged them to do their best. He also spent many summers working for various construction companies. Following retirement in 1993, Phil and Carole enjoyed spending time with family at their home on Lake Movil and camping with children and grandchildren. They took advantage of travel opportunities with the 55 Connection Group and made many lasting friendships. Phil was a long standing, active member at First Lutheran Church putting his faith into action by serving on many boards, committees and participating in the Men's Group. He enjoyed Senior Bowling and most recently, his days at the Adult Day Services. Phil worked hard to provide for his family, and even when times were tough he strove to find something good in everything. Despite dealing with many health issues that eventually limited his independence, he never complained. He will be remembered for his warm smile, his kind ways, and his welcoming handshake. He is survived by his wife, Carole Hofstad of Bemidji; children, Jon (Sonja) Hofstad of Sioux Falls, SD, Susan (Curt) Cavalier of Moorhead, Karen Hofstad of Baraboo, WI and Steven (Lisa) Sethre-Hofstad of Moorhead; 5 grandchildren, Sarah (Arlyn) Rusche, Cate Cavalier, Ben Cavalier, Dane Sethre-Hofstad, Annika Sethre-Hofstad; sister, Ardis (David) Braaten of Grand Forks, ND and brother-in-law, John (Ruth) Ferguson of Northfield.



Ivan George Wambheim, age seventy-nine, of Alexandria, MN passed away on Monday March 4th after an extended battle with Parkinson's Disease and Lewy Body Dementia. His funeral will be held at First Lutheran Church, 822 Douglas St, Alexandria, MN on Thursday, March 14th at 11 AM preceded by visitation from 10-11 AM. There also will be a visitation at Anderson Funeral Home, 659 Voyager Drive NW, Alexandria, MN on Wednesday, March 13th from 5-8 PM. Interment will be at a later date at Saint John's Cemetery in Hatton, ND.

Ivan was the second of four children and grew up on the family farm near Hatton, ND where he played basketball and baseball. He attended Concordia College in Moorhead, MN and graduated in 1961 with majors in History and Political Science and a minor in Mathematics. He and Lois were married in August of that year. After a year teaching high school math in Tioga, ND, he chose to enter the Lutheran ministry. He graduated from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN, spending one year as an intern in Malta, MT. During his time in seminary, their son Roger was born. Ivan accepted his first call serving a two-point parish in Bigfork and Effie, MN for five years where daughters Jane and Sarah were born. He then accepted a call to First Lutheran Church in Mahnomen, MN where he served for twenty-nine years followed by one more call to Lac Qui Parle Lutheran Church near Dawson, MN where he served for five years. Upon his retirement from the ministry in 2006, Ivan and Lois settled in Alexandria, MN where he continued part-time ministry as an interim visitation pastor for First Lutheran Church and as an interim pastor and pulpit supply for Lutheran Churches in the area. Ivan will be remembered for his amazing memory for people and their connections to other people and places. He regularly struck up conversations with strangers and within minutes would have connected them with one or more people or places in his extended network. He enjoyed traveling, closely following his favorite teams: the Boston Red Sox and Minnesota Vikings, reading about and maintaining automobiles, playing golf, working around the house and yard, being an active member of the First Lutheran Church congregation and choir in Alexandria, actively participating in the local retired pastors' group, being a mentor in the Alexandria Lunch Buddy program, and visiting with friends and relatives. He was preceded in death by his parents, Allen (Buddy) and Gudrun Wambheim, brother Glen Wambheim and sister Marian Bangs. He is survived by his wife of fifty-seven years, Lois, son Roger and his wife Denise Morrow of Alexandria, MN, daughter Jane Olson and her husband Randy of Sidney, MT, daughter Sarah Kennedy of Minneapolis, MN, and seven grandchildren: Benjamin, Elizabeth, Joshua, Noah, Tyler, Zachary & Destiny, sister Marjorie Foss and her husband Duane, brother-in-law Keith Bangs and his wife Jane, sister-in-law Diane Wambheim, and eight nieces and nephews. Our family would like to thank the memory care staff at Bethany on the Lake in Alexandria and the staff of Hospice of the Douglas County for their loving care of Ivan during his last six months. The staff, along with the other residents of the memory care unit and their families, have become part of our extended family.