



Class of 1963 Alumni Notes March-April 2024

Erik Jensen reports: “On the evening before the 2023 Yale-Harvard Game, a group of veterans of the 1960 undefeated and untied football season gathered for dinner at the New Haven Lawn Club. Present were **Chuck Duncan, Hank Hallas, Tom Iezzi**, Erik Jensen, **Ian Robertson**, and **Stan Riveles** from the Class of 1963, Sherm Cochran, Class of 1962, and Bob Blanchard, Brian Kenney, and Willie Welch, Class of 1961. Tom Singleton’s wife and many family members also attended. There was a lot of good conversation and sharing of memories both football and personal. The high point for the ’63 attendees was the presentation of a bust of Handsome Dan to Ian in recognition of his many contributions to the Class of 1963 and the 1959 Bullpups. The inscription on the Bulldog’s base reads: “To Ian Robertson, With Admiration and Gratitude From the 1959 Bullpups And the Yale Class of 1963” Ian was surprised and quite overwhelmed to be so honored by our Class.”

On October 2, 2023, **Richard Rosenfeld** gave a talk at Timothy Dwight College’s Rosenfeld Hall entitled “When Yale Buildings Speak: the Eponymic Voices of Timothy Dwight College.” In his talk, Richard described the long struggle to bring Yale to full acceptance of the Enlightenment values of scientific reasoning, democracy, and toleration over the competing values of Congregationalist orthodoxy, championed by both Presidents Timothy Dwight, and of eugenics, supported by President James Rowland Angell. Richard paid tribute to the vital role played by Reverend William Sloane Coffin, after whom the common room of Rosenfeld Hall is named. President Peter Salovey (who attended the talk) wrote to Richard: “Your talk was a tour de force, and very well received, too. I learned so much about how to frame a very important message as well as about Yale’s own history.” The full text of Richard’s talk, together with a video link to the talk as Richard

delivered it and Richard's discussion thereafter with Peter Salovey, faculty, and students, can be found on the Yale '63 Class Website at www.yale63.org/rosenfeldtalk..

Ridgway M. Hall, Jr. died on October 20, 2023. Ridge was a pioneer in the field of environmental law. After graduating from Yale College magna cum laude (1963) and from Harvard Law School (1966), Ridge began his legal career with Cummings & Lockwood in Stamford, CT, and later served as Associate General Counsel for Water at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He was a founding partner of Crowell & Moring in Washington, DC, where he started the environmental law practice in 1979. Ridge was an officer of the Environmental Law Institute, a member of The American Law Institute and The American College of Environmental Lawyers, and repeatedly named one of the top lawyers in the field. After retiring in 2011, he became Vice Chair of the Chesapeake Legal Alliance, where he helped to create a network of lawyers to handle on a pro bono basis cases relating to the protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay, its watershed, and its natural resources. Ridge was a former World Champion in Blue Jay class sailboats and a finalist in the U.S. Olympic Trials sailing in the Finn Class in 1968. He is survived by his wife, Anne (Jill) Harken Hall, their three children Ridgway (Taddy), Alden, and Anne, and four grandchildren.

Bob Dickie writes: "Ridge and Jill, often with their children and grandchildren, traveled widely and often vigorously. They had recently returned from a visit to California that included four or five days of rigorous but lovely hikes in the hills behind the Big Sur. A few days after they got home Ridge got up one morning, went to their kitchen to make coffee, passed out so quickly that he couldn't break his fall, and landed hard on his head. Jill got him quickly to a hospital, but the doctors even in surgery were unable to stop the bleeding. Ridge was a man of instinctive magnanimity. His world view is well articulated in the words he wrote in our 60th Reunion Class Book: 'Let's do what we can while we can.' Amen." **Geordie du Pont** recalls: "I first met Ridge in Jeremiah Crump's Freshman English class. When called on to read aloud, Ridge used the same strong voice that served him well as the public announcer for Yale Polo, on the racecourse for Yale Sailing, and

cheering for Yale Hockey. After Yale his powerful voice was useful as an acting sergeant in the Army Reserve, yelling “track” while bombing down a ski slope, in the courtroom, and advocating for his team in the charades contests we enjoyed when our families met over Yale football weekends. We were godfathers of each other’s oldest sons and the Halls boarded our son when he was a Summer intern in Washington. A pick-up game of soccer in 95-degree heat and 100% Washington humidity was the Hall family’s idea of fun. Ridge was a world-class sailor who put aside glory to help our family around the racecourse.” **Jon Rose** adds: “I have gotten to know one of Ridge’s grandchildren, his grandson Khuan – a Junior at Yale and a talented city editor for the Yale Daily News.” **Charlie Yonkers** shares: “At our 60th Reunion in May, it was great to spend so much time with Ridge and Jill, so full of life and adventure . . . just as we all have always known him and them as a couple. All of Ridge’s world-class warm and energetic traits were on full display. From Yale days, to Harvard Law, to DC law firm life, and then to the Chesapeake Bay, we shared so many rich topics with Ridge and then Jill. One unique relationship Ridge and I shared was a common heritage in the two law firms that FDR’s Attorney General Homer Cummings founded, one in Connecticut and one in DC. Also, it was great to see Ridge’s great love and work for the health of life on the Chesapeake Bay, something we shared in later life. I treasure the length and breadth of memories with him, and then to have last seen him so robust and vital helps too.”

William E. Johnson died recently in Arizona. **Bob Dickie** and **Dick Foster** write: “Bill was one of the extraordinary guys in our Class and was blessed with a quick mind, a fabulous wit, and a generous spirit. No one was more fun to spend a time with including weekends at his parents’ penthouse on East 72nd Street that were a barrel of fun. Bill was also unusually strong and skilled. He stroked our freshman heavyweight crew to a great year. During Junior Year he met the lovely and delightful Barbara Gnieser of Goteborg, Sweden, and they married in June 1962. Barbara produced their son Tom, named after his Yale roommate and friend, Tom Tilson. Having been in Yale's Army ROTC, Bill spent the two years after Yale stationed in Europe. He then went to the Harvard Business School,

where he was a Baker Scholar, and went from there to McKinsey. While at McKinsey, Bill was called in to lead a team advising General Electric. Reginald Jones, the then CEO of General Electric, realized that GE's complexity was limiting its growth. Jones hired McKinsey to find solutions and Bill, then about age 35, was put in charge of the team of some 15 to handle the task. All but one of McKinsey's suggestions were adopted. For years afterwards Harvard Business School cases were taught about the restructuring of GE. Soon after finishing his work at GE, Bill left to become CEO of Scientific Atlanta, a then small medical products company which, under Bill's leadership grew to become an industry leader. Bill had drive, charisma, warmth, exceptional intelligence, good looks, presence, and charm.”

Richard Eugene Moser passed away on October 22, 2023. In early October he discovered he had advanced cancer that was found to be untreatable. He died peacefully at home with his wife and family by his side. Dick came to Yale on a Navy ROTC scholarship and majored in Psychology. His NROTC training earned him a commission in the Marine Corps when he graduated from Yale. Dick became a helicopter pilot and flew over 600 combat missions in the Vietnam War, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross and 33 awards of the Air Medal. After Vietnam, Dick was assigned to fly Marine One, the Presidential helicopter, and transported Presidents Johnson and Nixon to various locations around the world. When Dick left the Marine Corps in 1968 he earned an MBA degree from Stanford and spent the rest of his career in California, working at a large conglomerate for 11 years and then moving into the venture capital world, where he spent the next 40 years working with a wide spectrum of technology companies as an investor consultant, director, and CEO. One of Dick's favorite pastimes was choral singing which he enjoyed through his high school years, his Yale years in the Glee Club, and in Bay Area choral groups. He is survived by his wife of almost 31 years, Donna, his four children, and seven grandchildren. His years at Yale meant a great deal to him and he faithfully attended as many Reunions as possible in which he enjoyed reconnecting with his classmates and their significant others – a brotherhood that stayed with him throughout the passing years.

John Hagedorn writes: “I first met Dick when we were both in the Yale Freshman Glee Club in 1959-1960. I gained joy and pride from hearing Dick sing with his volunteer group at the San Francisco Palace of Fine Arts. I enjoyed a number of Yale '63 Class lunches that Dick hosted at the Marines’ Memorial Club in San Francisco.” **Jon Larson** shares: “Dick was one of the giants among us I discovered after our 25th Reunion. He was a proud Captain in the US Marine Corps. As a helicopter pilot he earned many medals in recognition for his brave achievements in Vietnam flying medevac missions into active war zones. After earning an MBA from Stanford Business School, he soldiered on through a number of career changes in the Bay Area, where he enjoyed the challenges of helping small businesses get funding and support to be successful. Most recently he started his own business, hiring and managing 50 employees and as many trucks to make 40,000 deliveries a day to Bay Area customers of Amazon. His most enjoyable times were spent with Donna in their beautiful home north of San Francisco.” **Victor Sheronas** writes: “I got to know Dick through our Class Reunions, regrettably, not as an undergrad. I was stunned to learn of his passing because we had had a lively and intense Saturday lunchtime conversation during our last Reunion, under the tent just outside the entrance to Davenport’s dining room. Dick’s daughter Leigh shared this remembrance of her father: ‘He has always been there for me. But there is one picture that sums it all up. I did a race in the Marin Headlands in May 2009 that should have taken me about 10 hours. The rain started before the race started, then the winds picked up to about 70 mph on the bluffs, the trails turned to puddles of mud. Dad was my crew person who met me at every aid station to feed me and put warm dry layers on me. He wasn’t going to quit and neither was I. It was about a 16-hour day in the worst conditions. I started in the dark and finished in the dark.’”

Byron Stuhlman writes: “My wife of 55 years, Hester, née Kruse, died on October 9, 2023 of Alzheimer’s Disease. She had been well cared for since January in a memory care cottage. Hester graduated from William Smith College. After taking a master’s degree at Vanderbilt, she taught as a volunteer for mission in Malawi for two years. On her return, she taught French for a year in Setauket, NY. We were married in 1968 in Christ Church Cathedral, Hartford. After our marriage she taught in various school systems. She served as a docent at the Wadsworth Atheneum and at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Art Institute in Utica, where she also trained docents. In 2007 we retired to Maine, where we

had summered since 1969. Here Hester was active in book groups and in the church choir and Tapestry Singers.”

Guy Miller Struve, Secretary
90 The Uplands
Berkeley, CA 94705
E-Mail: guy.struve@davispolk.com
Class Website: www.yale63.org
