



CLASS OF 1963 – ALUMNI NOTES NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2022

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SAVE THE DATES! After months of waiting, we finally have the dates for our Free 60th Reunion next year in New Haven: **Thursday afternoon, May 25, 2023 through Sunday morning, May 28, 2023**. Even if you have never before come to a Reunion, we look forward to seeing you there. In fact, especially if you have never before come to a Reunion, we look forward to seeing you at this one. It will be our best and most inclusive Reunion yet.

Wally Grant, who is chairing our 60th Reunion, is looking forward to learning your ideas about how to make this Reunion special. You can e-mail Wally at wallygrant@msn.com. **Jon Larson** is chairing our pre-Reunion activities, and is also on the lookout for ideas. He can be reached at jonlarson99.jl@gmail.com.

The deadline for inputting your material for the 60th Reunion Class Book into the Reunion Technologies website is **September 15, 2022**. Please input your material! The more complete our Reunion Class Book can be, the better it will prepare us for our Reunion. If you need a reminder about how to log on to the Reunion Technologies website, please e-mail me.

Chuck Lubar reports: “After 51 years practicing as a U.S. Lawyer in London, the last seven of which have been with McDermott Will & Emery, I have finally retired from active practice. It has been long and exciting journey including starting with a boutique law firm in the early ‘70’s, running my own international tax practice from 1974 until early 1981, setting up the first office of Morgan Lewis outside the U.S. and practicing with them 34 years until the end of 2015, and finally becoming a Senior Counsel with McDermotts until this past June. Because of the exposure to the entertainment industry through my initial firm in London, I ended up

doing a significant amount of international tax work for the film, television, and music industries. This led in recent months to an agreement with a U.S. publishing house to publish my autobiography, which will include some of the very unusual stories which have been part of my unorthodox career. So I am not quite retired from the world I have been in and will continue to provide advisory services for some existing clients, working with various teams at McDermotts. I will be staying in London and am now reachable at charles@lubaradvisory.com or my personal e-mail at charleslubar@gmail.com.”

Stanton Samenow writes: “The 2022 edition of my book *Inside the Criminal Mind* has recently been published in paperback by Crown Publishers. Fifty years ago, I was licensed to practice in Virginia as a clinical psychologist. In my mostly forensic practice, I have evaluated and counseled juvenile and adult offenders. I have served as an expert witness in criminal and child custody cases, some being high profile (e.g., the sanity trial of the younger of the two Washington, D.C., snipers). The current edition of my book draws on this experience. It includes new cases to illustrate concepts presented. Topics newly treated include a focus on specific mental processes before, during, and after a crime, a discussion of how criminals use language differently, the relevance of criminality to the opioid crisis, a discussion about how crime causation theories actually contribute to more crime, and a new chapter on criminal justice reform. I am continuing to work in this always fascinating area of human behavior.”

Doug Weller shares: “I started editing Wikipedia in 2004. Since the 1990s I’d been using Bulletin Boards to counter fraudulent archaeology and then moved to the English language Wikipedia, the largest of the 328, six of which are indigenous to North America. Upon retiring 15 years ago I began spending a lot of time on it and am now the 166th most active editor out of a huge number. In 2008 I passed a review to become an Administrator, also known as an Admin or Sysop. Among other things I can block and unblock user accounts, IP addresses, and IP ranges from editing, edit fully protected pages, protect and unprotect pages from editing, delete and undelete pages, rename pages without restriction, and use certain other tools. In late 2014 I was elected to the ‘Arbitration Committee’ for two two-year terms. Neither role deals with content, and ‘Arbs’ only deal with disputes between editors that can’t be resolved by the community itself through various means. Content itself is meant to reflect what reliably published sources say about a subject, and unlike an essay, you can’t combine sources to make an argument; the source must directly make it. We’ve got numerous policies and guidelines covering content and behavior. I get a great deal of pleasure out of researching and verifying sources, but my Admin work takes up a lot of time. I now have the systems access to detect

when a person is using more than one account (a ‘sockpuppet’), which only a few have, and also to delete particularly problematic material so that even other Admins can’t see it. It’s all fascinating work, and at times leads to being attacked on the Internet, something that started for me even before Wikipedia because of my debunking of fake archaeology and got worse later. Everything from websites attacking me, a ‘newspaper’ article and a fake Facebook profile. Active editors and Admins get to know and support each other on and off Wikipedia so I feel very much part of a community, an international community with friends from Sweden to India. My various roles mean I also have a lot of contact with the Wikimedia Foundation (WMF) that runs everything. One particularly interesting operation they run is the Disinformation Response Task Force. I’ve taken part in ‘tabletop’ disinformation exercises which involved quite a number of WMF staff and key players from the relevant language Wikipedias. Issues have included the 2020 U.S. elections, this year’s elections in Uttar Pradesh (I work with a number of Indian editors, something that has just naturally developed over the years, not because of an interest in India, although I have developed one in the Indian Hindutva ideology), the Ukrainian war, and of course plans are being made for this year’s U.S. elections.

“Unfortunately in the last year I’ve gone from being able to walk four miles a day to struggling to get through the day. In January I was diagnosed with secondary liver cancer caused by bowel cancer. That’s been cut out and I’m having chemotherapy, which has made my minor Parkinson’s problem much more acute, and I’m unable at the time of writing to do any outside walking at all and am very weak (hopefully this will have changed by the time this is read). During this time the Wikipedia community has been tremendously supportive, and that, the fact that I am still able to contribute constructively and with enjoyment to Wikipedia, and the support of my put-upon loving wife Helen have made all the difference.”

Nicholas V. Niven, M.D. of Santa Cruz, CA passed peacefully the afternoon of April 19, 2019 in the company of his immediate family, due to complications from pneumonia. Born in Los Angeles, Nick went to school in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara and then graduated from Yale as an English major, developing a lifelong interest in reading and writing, prose and poetry. Nick earned his M.D. in Internal Medicine at UCSF and later moved to San Diego and joined the United States Navy, two years later honorably discharged as Lieutenant Commander. Nick married Rebecca Allen in San Antonio, TX in 1965. Eric was born to Nick and Becky in 1972. The family moved to Santa Cruz in 1975 and Nick joined the newly formed Gastroenterology Santa Cruz, where he practiced medicine for 40 years. Sarah (Niven) Nielsen was born in 1979. Nick remarried in 1992 to Corinne (Pate) Niven and in 1997 Camille Niven

was born. In addition to his three children, “Papa Nick” had five grandchildren. Nick loved to garden, especially tomatoes, and really enjoyed the outdoors. He was a fan of every kind of sport, especially the 49ers and college football. But mostly he was a great dad and granddad.

John Hagedorn remembers: “In our upper-class years, Nick and I shared a suite of rooms in Silliman College with seven other roommates. Nick was the only English major among us. He had developed a lifelong interest in reading and writing prose and poetry while in high school. In our Junior Year at Yale, Nick encouraged me to take the Daily Themes course in which we wrote short stories each week. The story for which I received my highest grade was based on a tale told me by Nick that was set in the California coastal country between Carmel and Big Sur.” **Jon Larson** shares: “Upon arriving in New Haven Freshman Year, being from Hawaii I initially felt most comfortable associating socially with my colleagues from Hawaii and also with the California recruits. I fell in right away with a northern California group known to each other including **Peter de Bretteville**, Nick Niven, **Bill Robbins**, and **Dick Thieriot**. Nick was super handsome, dressed well, and always dated amazingly attractive women. After marriage and medical school he returned to Santa Cruz, CA near Carmel and Monterey Bay and joined a large HMO group where he practiced gastroenterology for 40+ years, lived the good life in one of the most beautiful communities on the California coast, and raised three great kids.” **Gerrit Osborne** writes: “Nick was my ‘go to’ guy when I needed someone to talk to. I spent the Summer after graduation in LA, and saw him frequently. His dad and mine had known one another in New Haven 30 years earlier. My favorite recollection of him was as my best man.”

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