

Alumni

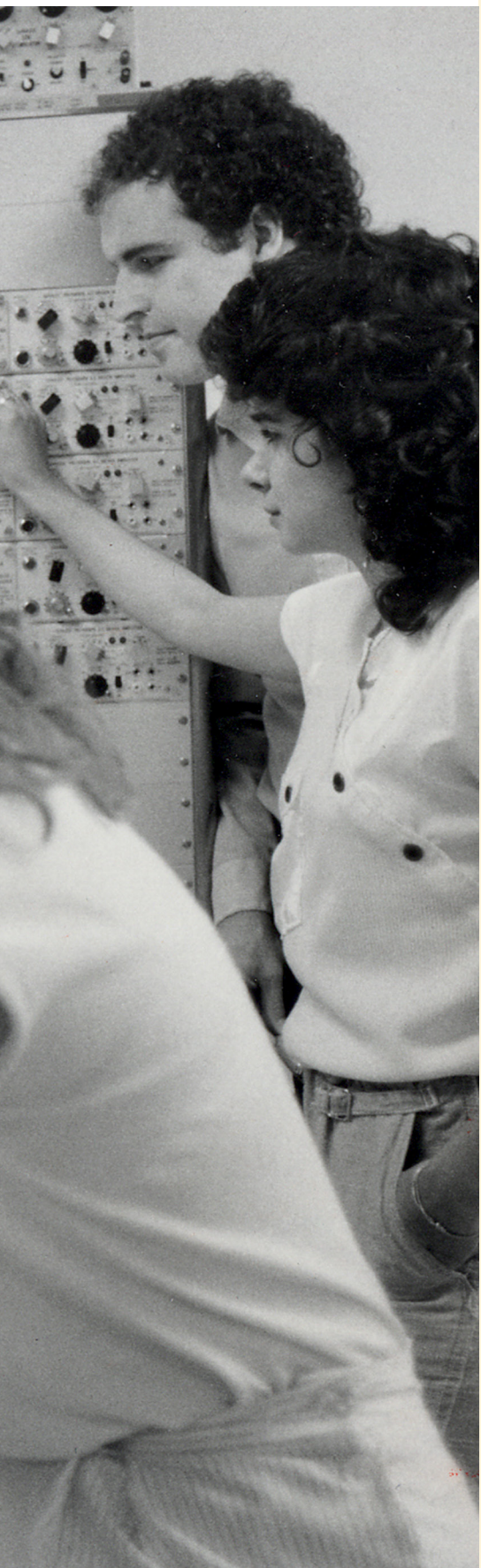
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PURSuing DISCOVERY

— — — — —
A group of students circa 1980s
works in one of Stevens' research
labs. Can you identify them? Tell
us at editor@alumni.stevens.edu



Portrait: Barry Falls; Photo: Archives & Special Collections, Samuel C. Williams Library

TOWARD A PROMISING FUTURE



Dear Fellow Alumni,

I am excited to write to you as the new Stevens Alumni Association (SAA) president, a role I have been building toward through consistent volunteerism since graduating from Stevens in 2015.

Before sharing my outlook for this term, I would like to thank the SAA Board of Directors, the Stevens leadership team and staff, our team of SAA officers, and especially our outgoing SAA President John R. Dearborn, Jr. '79 M. Eng. '81 and our SAA Executive Secretary Megan Stevens for their generosity of time and knowledge to ensure a smooth leadership transition. Thanks to their support, I was able to hit the ground running.

The SAA has an accomplished past, a storied legacy and a promising future. In this role, I look forward to all of us continuing to support Stevens in achieving its strategic plan, amplifying our sense of camaraderie and community among alumni and strengthening our alumni volunteer experiences.

As we in the SAA Board and Stevens leadership ramp up this year, I have a charge for all alumni: Get involved and connected. Be sure to join us on StevensConnects, where you can engage with Stevens alumni who are in your industry or geographic region or who share your interests. Show up at alumni events, mentor students, wear your Stevens gear and be proudly engaged with your alma mater. Whatever way works for you, your interests and your schedule, we want to connect with you.

Please feel free to reach out to me directly at saapresident@alumni.stevens.edu. My email inbox is open for business and I look forward to learning about your ideas for making the SAA a more robust community, dedicated to the success of Stevens. I will continue listening, to ensure that your involvement is as meaningful for you as it has been for me.

Michael Cahill '15 M.Eng. '15
President, Stevens Alumni Association
SAAPresident@alumni.stevens.edu



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Editor's Note:

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‘GOING GREEN’
WITH THE
DIGITAL
INDICATOR

Stevens Indicator readers have the option to “go green” and subscribe to the digital *Indicator* only. The online magazine features all the stories — including the Class Logs — that are found in the print issue. Simply visit the *Indicator* website at stevens.edu/indicator and, under the header “Keep in Touch with *The Indicator!*” click on the “Update Your Mailing Preferences” button to become a digital-only subscriber.

Class Logs

1951

July 2024 — Two communications were received since the last *Indicator*, both concerning the deaths of classmates. Philip Corwin wrote that his father, **Melvin (Phil) P. Corwin**, died in July 2023. Trish Fischer wrote that her dad, **Herbert C. Fischer**, passed away in April 2023. Both deaths occurred over a year ago, but word was just recently received.

Phil Corwin (1927-2023) retired after a 30-year career with Beckton Dickinson, specializing in syringe sterilization. While working he earned a master's degree in geology from Columbia University. He had an avocation of mountain climbing, but a disappointment occurred when climbing Mt. Rainier. After reaching 500 feet from the summit, Phil encountered bad weather which forced him to turn back.

Herb “Speed” Fischer (1929-2023) had a stint with GE and the Navy before his 33-year career with IBM. He also earned a master's degree from Syracuse University. After the loss of his wife Pauline, Herb remained in their five-decade home in Raleigh, North Carolina, and began his world travels.

I attempted five email contacts from my “presumed living” list, without success. Sadly, that goes with the territory since our ranks are thinning. It has been over 73 years since graduation, and our 75-year diamond anniversary is rapidly approaching. I plan to celebrate the occasion here in Texas with a toast to all.

There is good news to report. I have been selected for an expense-paid Honor Flight trip to Washington, D.C. in September, along with about 40 other World War II veterans. Its purpose is to visit the nation's war memorials and Arlington National Cemetery. My report on this trip will appear in the next '51 Log.

Another personal note is that Arlene and I recently celebrated our 70th wedding anniversary. We met at a dance at Hunter College in New York City that I attended with a ticket given to me by **Charles Strohbeck '53**, a Sigma Nu brother at Stevens.

He became my best man two years later in our New York City wedding. I returned the favor as best man at his wedding in Ohio a few years later.

Let's keep this '51 log alive.

Your input by sending an update will help. Incidentally, I sold my K&E log-log duplex slide rule at a retro-tech show. How many '51 classmates still have theirs?

— **Charles Wetter;**
817-348-0509;
charleswetter@yahoo.com

1954

July 2024 — I haven't heard from any classmates since my last submission. Hopefully, I am not the last living member from my class. After all I just turned 92 and think I have a few more years left. So, if there are any of you men (we had no women classmates then) left please give me a call and we'll swap life stories. I'm planning to head North (VA, NJ and PA) in the fall to see some of my family members. I live here in Homosassa, Florida, which is just north of Tampa. So, drop me a line for inclusion in the next issue of *The Indicator*. Regards to all.

— **George Hromnak,**
45 Glenridge Blvd.,
Homosassa, FL 34446-4450;
(352) 382-7445;
ghromnak@brighthouse.com

1955

Editor's Note: James A. Spady, a past Stevens Alumni Association president and longtime class secretary and log writer who enjoyed an illustrious career at the University of Pennsylvania, died in October 2023. The Indicator staff sends its deepest sympathy to his family.

James A. Spady, a highly respected administrator and professor at the University of Pennsylvania and a past leader in the Stevens Alumni Association — and longtime writer of the '55 class log — died on October 21, 2023. He was 90.

Mr. Spady enjoyed a long career at the University of Pennsylvania, where he most recently served as the director of the Fels Institute of Government and had previously served as vice dean of the university's former School of Public and Urban Policy. Spady

served in a variety of dual faculty/administrative roles at Penn during his career and was a popular professor of undergraduate courses on American government and politics. In 1979, Dr. Spady's role became primarily administrative when President Martin Meyerson appointed him director of the Office of the President. In 1982, he became director of the Fels Institute of Government as well as chairman of its graduate program in government administration, roles he held until his retirement in 1997. During the 1970s, Dr. Spady was also chair of the University of Iowa's graduate program in urban and regional planning.

Spady earned a law degree from Columbia Law School in 1960, and during the 1960s practiced intellectual property law in New York City with the Sullivan & Cromwell firm. In 1970, he was admitted into the Harvard Kennedy School as a Littauer Fellow. He completed his Ph.D. at Harvard in 1976.

During the early 1960s, Dr. Spady entered politics as a volunteer, running campaigns for U.S. Congress and the New Jersey Assembly, and then served as a part-time legislative aide to New York City Mayor Ed Koch.

The past Stevens Alumni Association president received the Stevens Alumni Award for his volunteerism, also serving as class log writer, fundraiser and career counselor for Stevens seniors.

His family recalled that Dr. Spady often received emails and phone calls from Penn graduates letting him know of his impact on their lives and careers. In a recent email, Seattle City Councilman Alex Pedersen commented that “Nearly every day I am reminded how generous and valuable Dr. Spady's training was.”

Mr. Spady is survived by his wife, June Kinney; his three sons, Jefferson, James, and John; and four grandchildren.

— **Richard Muller,**
muller@berkeley.edu

1958

July 2024 — Hey '58 Guys, Once again, another log has arrived ... not a lot of news but that can be good if it's because there are no obits. It was great to hear recently from one of our stalwarts, **Bob Walker**. He wrote: “Just a little

note to let you know what Barbara and I are up to these days. Like all our contemporaries, we keep busy making the rounds of all our doctors. Most notably, we both have the pleasure of getting regular shots in the eye to control our wet Macular Degeneration. We're thankful for Medicare and lifetime supplementary coverage from United Healthcare which Barbara earned from her 21 years as the nurse at our local public high school.

"We enjoy the benefit of living nearby Stony Brook University. We both just signed up for our 17th year as members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University. A selection of over 50 courses is offered, including something for every taste. We enjoy it, and it keeps us out of trouble.

"On the family front, our oldest grandchild, Kate Walker, recently got engaged to Dylan White. Their wedding is scheduled for this December. An interesting side note is that Kate is 5-11 and was the captain of the lacrosse team at Yale, and Dylan is 6-6 and played football at Princeton. Perhaps some good little athletes could result from this union."

I'm onboard with Bob on the eye injections and thankfulness for good medical coverage. I also am getting eye injections, every eight weeks, to counter a macular issue. I am also lucky to have lifelong learning courses with professors from local universities, both at my town facilities and at my fellowship community. I continue to always find them very informative and enjoyable. Also, similar marriage news that my son Bob recently got engaged to a lovely lady in a promising second marriage for both. No engaged/married grandchildren yet though, but it's nice to think about. In fact, my grandson, Jack, is now hiking the Pacific Crest Trail (~2,600 miles long) after graduating from Lewis and Clark University earlier this year. He's already almost halfway through! God bless the young ones!

I've had some great vacations lately and am looking forward to more. I really enjoyed relaxing in Aruba at the beginning of the year, and then at Palm Springs with my sweetheart Helen, visiting my daughter MJ. One highlight of this last trip was meeting up with grandson Jack for lunch, about a mile off the Pacific Crest Trail near Palm Springs, California.

For the rest of the year, I've booked vacation trips to the Jersey Shore and to Florida, as well as to New York City. Having the Marriott flexible timeshare program keeps the fun flowing!

It's tough getting together with classmates anymore, but it's great to be able to share a few words in our *Indicator* log. So, I'm hoping to at least get an email from a few of you in our dwindling group out there. Share what's on your mind and/or going on in your life now, please! Best wishes to all!

— **Bob Fiocco;**
5120 Fellowship Rd,
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920-3907;
908-660-9038;
bobfioc83@gmail.com

1959

July 2024 — I tried to reach my friend **Pete Lewis** in December but didn't hear back from him. Concerned, I found this obituary in the San Francisco Chronicle:

"Francis ("Pete") Hotchkiss Lewis, Jr., 86, died in Belmont, California on November 6, 2023. Francis was born on August 14, 1937, to Irma Singer and Francis Lewis, Sr. in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Francis attended Stevens Institute of Technology and graduated with the degree of mechanical engineer. He earned a Ph.D. in physics from Stanford University and was a nuclear physicist at Lawrence Livermore Labs before earning a law degree from the University of San Francisco. Francis established a law practice, Lewis & Lewis, with his former wife, Marilyn Foley, in Alameda. He later worked as a patent attorney for Hewlett Packard, Fenwick & West LLP, and as a solo practitioner. Francis was an avid musician, having played the piano from an early age, and he picked up other instruments along the way including percussion, the alto saxophone, and the clarinet. He was a chess player, mathematician, and crossword puzzle enthusiast."

Although the obituary covered many of Pete's notable achievements, I thought I would add a few thoughts. My own memories go back to Reid House (aka the Sigma Nu house) on Castle Point Terrace in 1955 — our freshman year at Stevens. Pete was a tall fellow with a shock of unruly black hair,

black rimmed glasses and always had his K&E slide rule at his belt, as well as a little 5x8 notebook in which he made copious notes in classes. He had a brilliant mind and a warm but subtle sense of humor.

We found common interests and soon became good friends. Pete would come out to Long Island on the weekends for my mom's home-cooked dinners, and I visited his family up in East Aurora, near Buffalo, where we were royally treated by his folks, Frank and Irma. We often studied together and Pete introduced me to modern jazz. One summer we drove out to Chicago to hear the Modern Jazz Quartet, and we went to hear Stan Kenton when he played in New York City. He was an excellent chess player and although I was able to make the Stevens chess team, he almost always beat me.

After Stevens, he moved out to California. Pete got his Ph.D. in physics and worked at Livermore Labs for a few years as a theoretical physicist. Following Livermore, he went back for a law degree, worked in patent law and also formed a partnership with his second wife Marilyn, who was also an attorney. We would often get together when Lynn and I visited California.

Pete finally retired but kept busy. He got a saxophone, taught himself how to play it, and joined a local band that entertained folks at senior citizen homes. For a number of years, we always got together whenever I would visit my son, Carl, who lives in Oakland, California — until this last time, when his phone went unanswered. There are only a few really good friends during a lifetime, and he was one.

On a happier subject, I had a nice email from **Béla Lipták**:

"Dear George, Reading your column brought back warm memories of the days when, having just arrived from fighting the Soviets and not speaking a word of English, I tried to figure out what the professors at Stevens were talking about. Your column also first prompted me to list my replaced body parts, but that list is too long. On the other hand, my gray matter is still functioning (thanks to lots of coffee in the morning hours), so I still write my column in *Control Magazine* on the differences between AI and HI (human intelligence), global warming and also some new ideas about reversible hydrogen fuel cells

CLASS UPDATES

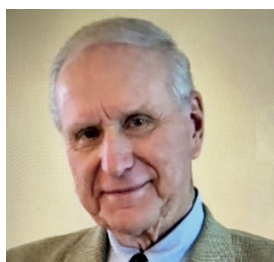
alumni-log@stevens.edu
 or call 201-216-5161.



His family recalled that Dr. Spady often received emails and phone calls from Penn graduates letting him know of his impact on their lives and careers. In a recent email, Seattle City Councilman Alex Pedersen commented that "Nearly every day I am reminded how generous and valuable Dr. Spady's training was."

Above:

James Spady '55 attends a 2013 celebration at the University of Pennsylvania's Fels Institute of Government, where he served as director and had a seminar room named in his honor. Spady, who passed away in 2023, is remembered in the 1955 log.

**Top and middle:**

The Class of '60 log remembers departed classmates Dick Budin, top photo, Marty Fernandi, middle row, left, and Bob Koudelka.

Bottom:

Spyros Polemis '61, second from left, who passed away in July, is remembered in the '61 log and on page 41.

and albedo applications. These I discussed in my recently published book titled, *Controlling the Future*.

"As to family, Martha and I have two kids and five grandkids. Son Ádám is the chief legal correspondent at *The New York Times* reporting on the Supreme Court, while Ágnes is running Fresco, her well-known interior decoration firm.

"I too sing (ancient Hungarian folk songs), not in public like you, but only when no human can hear, and only to my dog Muki, who is both tolerant and hard of hearing, which helps.

"Best regards to you and our class, Béla Lipták"

Another classmate, **Richard Miller**, also sent a nice email to bring us up to date on what he has been up to for the last 60-plus years:

"Howdy from **Richard Miller** in the great state of Texas. Before I go into history, let me first share my impression of Texas. When I first arrived in College Station, my impression was that the typical Texan guy was arrogant. As I acclimated, I changed my perspective. What I first thought of as arrogance is, in reality, pride. Texans have deep-seated pride and a lot to be proud of. I'm delighted to be here and to have been so patiently received. I've lived in New York, New Jersey, Georgia, Michigan, Ohio, Washington, California and Texas. Texas is my home.

"During my years at Stevens, not only did I take the requisite program, but also a couple of graduate courses in the Mathematics of Chemistry under Professor Luigi Pollara. I graduated with the B.E. and accepted a position in the Aerospace Division of The Boeing Company in Seattle. That lasted 3-plus years. As a result of my positive experience with Dr. Pollara, I found it necessary to return to academia to earn a Ph.D. in chemical physics. I enjoyed the experimental and theoretical sides of the science. I was given the opportunity to return to New Jersey to postdoc at Princeton and spend quality time at MIT and Penn State. By the way, I was acquainted with John Nash and am resentful of the Hollywood portrayal of him. Yes, he did write on the windows of the Math/Physics Library.

"I held professorial positions at Michigan State University and The Ohio State University but succumbed to administrative roles at department and college levels.

I was recruited to Texas A&M University where I served for 23 years at the college level and in research administration and taught advanced courses. All of my energies were aimed at causing successful research efforts, particularly for the distinguished and the new faculty. It's incredibly rewarding to see discovery happen and be part of it. While at Texas A&M, I also had the opportunity to pursue an MBA. That experience has served me well since.

"My wife Mary and I were then recruited to the University of California to help start up a new UC campus, the tenth, in Merced, California. What an incredible opportunity to witness an academic birth. I promised them two years; Mary was committed to about five years. After seven years on the job, I had an epiphany and concluded I wanted to retire. Mary was on board. We stayed in California for another four years, but eventually received the calling from home and returned to Texas.

"While in California, I looked up **John dePillis '58**. After earning his doctorate in math at Berkeley, he accepted an academic position at the University of California, Riverside, a sister campus. Worthy of note, I visited him 30 years after our Stevens connection. I recently met the challenge and contacted him after 30 more years. John is still as brilliant as ever. He has contributed much to mathematics through teaching and refereed publications and has authored textbooks. Yes, he also was the resident cartoonist for the Riverside newspaper and has a plethora of philosophical works and life lessons. To enjoy a sampling of John's unique world, take a trip to his homepage and thank me later. He is a true Renaissance Man."

My final thoughts are on how we live our lives. I joined a Rotary Club almost 40 years ago. It is one of the most rewarding efforts and commitments of my life, after my family. I highly recommend it for all my friends and their children and grandchildren. It's important to ... care!

— **George Carl Pezold;**
120 Main St.,
Huntington, NY 11743-8001;
(631) 271-8817;
george.pezold@transportlaw.com

1960

July 2024 — By the time this is published in *The Indicator*, an ad-hoc 65th Reunion Committee will have decided whether and how to celebrate the 65th anniversary of our graduation from Stevens. Several classmates have expressed interest in getting together. Three classmates who we'll truly miss, **Dick Budin**, **Marty Fernandi** and **Bob Koudelka**, passed away recently.

In May, I learned that **Dick Budin** had passed away in Clearwater, Florida. His Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity brother, **Richard Rasulis**, wrote to tell me that in addition to a successful engineering career, Dick also followed his love for community theater, becoming a playwright in retirement and producing plays. His first play was a pirate musical based on the story of Jose Gaspar (Gasparilla) performed by the Gulfport Community Players. He also wrote and produced several other musicals including "Crimson Sails," "The Greatest Christmas Villain" and "The Orange Belt Railroad." Dick was admired for his wisdom, great sense of humor and never-ending imagination.

Marty Fernandi passed away in June. Marty began his professional career in 1960 at W.R. Grace, followed by Allied Chemical, then Borg Warner in Parkersburg, West Virginia, in 1974. Returning to New Jersey in 1977, Marty took on the position of senior VP of marketing at Ampacet Corp. in Tarrytown, New York. Marty retired in 1997, moving first to Scottsdale, Arizona, next to a golf course, then returning to his home state in 2009, settling in Cape May. Besides golf, his lifelong passions included music, football, shooting, fishing, cars, dogs, gambling and bourbon Manhattans. His parting words: "To have educated children and grandchildren is the best legacy."

Bob Koudelka passed away at the Villages, north of Orlando, in April. Bob was an exceptional defender for the soccer team that, in our senior year, beat Rutgers 4-3. It was the equivalent of Slovenia beating the U.S. in a World Cup round! In baseball, he caught for fellow Brooklyn Technical High School alum **Joe Kaminski**. Bob joined the Linde Industrial Gases division of Union Carbide after graduation and spent his entire 31-year career

with Linde. He and Sonia moved ten times to various regional, home office and overseas assignments. In retirement, he earned master's and doctoral degrees in history from Florida State University and taught history for three years.

Finally, a note from Joe Kaminski: "This year, the 2024 Stevens Awards Gala on October 5 will be truly special for our class. John Dalton, who continuously works for the success of Stevens and has done so for many years, will be honored with the Lifetime Service Award. I know that you'll join me in adding our congratulations and special thanks for all that he does to keep our class current on the exciting developments at Stevens." (Read about the Awards Gala on p. 49.)

So much for "six months ago I couldn't spell injuneer & now I are one." Those humanities courses did make a difference!

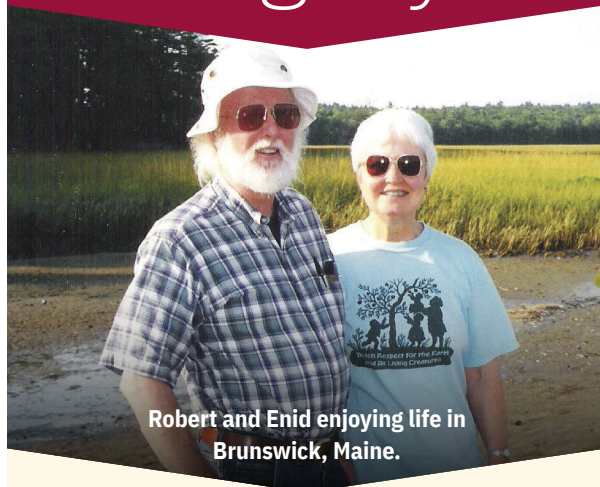
— **John Dalton**;
jjdalton1@verizon.net

1961

July 31, 2024 — Greetings, '61ers. We made a major change in our life early this year. After 20 years of having two houses, one in Rochester and bought in 1968, and one in Dallas, bought in 2004, we only have the Dallas house now. Rita's physical condition made living in a multi-level house impossible. Some of my friends think I did a near-miraculous thing: Spending three months fixing up the Rochester house by myself and putting it up for sale "as is" via a real estate agent at the end of 2023. My biggest problem currently is dealing with two housefuls of "stuff" in a house with no basement and a tiny attic. Not easy for a pack rat.

Two weeks ago, the deadline for submitting an article occurred, and having no recent news from y'all, it was an easy decision. Sad to say, but considering our respective ages, no news can be good news. Three days ago, that changed. The Stevens administration learned that **Spyros Polemis** had recently passed, and that sad info was relayed to the Class of '61 leadership, eventually to me. Spyros maintained a strong connection with Stevens after graduation despite his returning to Greece and eventual relocation to London to continue his family's involvement with maritime shipping.

CREATE YOUR Legacy



Robert and Enid enjoying life in Brunswick, Maine.

"In June 1960 I graduated from Stevens and in September Enid became a member of the faculty, apparently only the second woman to hold such a position. We met in 1975. The scholarship reflects our shared connection to Stevens, her leadership as a peace activist and social justice advocate, as well as our shared support for access to higher education in science and engineering."

— **Robert Marshall '60**, Member, Stevens Legacy Society

Dr. Marshall established the Dr. Enid H. Sharp Endowed Scholarship in 2024 with a blended gift which pays tribute to his life partner and a former instructor in the Physics Department from 1960 to 1962. This scholarship celebrates Robert and Enid's ties to Stevens as it honors Dr. Sharp as a genuine trailblazer. The first scholarship will be awarded this fall. Stevens is profoundly grateful to Dr. Marshall for his generous support and inspiring gift planning.



An Invitation to Join the Stevens

Legacy Society: We invite you to join the Stevens Legacy Society if you have made a commitment to support Stevens through a gift in your will or other planned gift, including a tribute gift. To join the Stevens Legacy Society, visit: stevens.giftplans.org/Join

For answers to your gift-planning questions and information about estate-gift planning for Stevens, contact: **Michael Governor**, Director of Planned Giving, at **201.216.8967** or michael.governor@stevens.edu

He accepted the appointment of Stevens Trustee in the 1990s and served for a number of years. The news of his passing was reported in many maritime shipping publications, a clear measure of his importance and stature in that field. You will find a separate article about Spyros on page 41.

My recollection of Spyros during our four years at Stevens was not strong. We didn't have many classes together, and our activities didn't intersect much. The pic and write up of him in the '61 *Link* showed a good-looking guy active in leadership in his Pi Lambda Phi fraternity, in IFC and interclass sports, and a member of the Yacht Club in his senior year. At our 50th Reunion, he was friendly, open, and reticent in bringing up his accomplishments. I remembered receiving some input from Spyros a number of years ago that he was taking on some new tasks in his semi-retirement, watching his weight, etc. and looking forward to the "golden years." I did find *The Indicator* article, written in the Fall of 2019, and think it appropriate to include it here, as it's indicative of a life well lived. He will be missed.

"My wife Stacia and I spend most of our time between Greece and Cyprus, having left London in 2017, where I had been for 47 years, following my 3 years working in New York, 1967-1970. We are currently in Athens, surrounded by beautiful scenery, sea, and people.

"The biggest event of this year has been the graduation of our daughter Katerina from the University of Michigan, with a degree cum laude in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering. During her 4 years, she achieved much, notably being chosen Commodore of the Quarterdeck Society of SNAME. She remained there to get her master's, whilst at the same time, she is a GSI (Graduate Student Instructor), teaching 75 freshmen programming. Stacia and I go to Ann Arbor periodically to spend some time with her.

"As for me, I go to the gym twice a week, and walk and swim almost daily, so I am quite fit for an 82-year-old, despite various health problems. I continue to work daily albeit less hours and am still active within the shipping industry. I also keep busy with personal writing projects, namely an autobiography, the history of my family in

shipping, and the history of Greek shipping starting in 10,000 BC.

"As for my hobbies I returned to one very dear to me since I was 10, namely making boat models. At the moment, I am working on 'America' the first America's Cup boat which won the trophy for the United States in 1851; and Columbia, which won the America's Cup for the United States in 1958 and whose model was tested at Stevens in 1957/1958, when I was part of the small group that carried out the tests and did the calculations. The third project is still in the lines-drawing stage, a model of a traditional Greek fishing boat, which my amateur-fisherman father built in 1954. An even bigger hobby of mine is cooking, for which I will eventually complete my own cookbook." George Denzer, who sadly passed away on June 3, 2024, will be remembered in the next log.

— Jay Wartell;
letraw@yahoo.com

1962

July 22, 2024 — In late spring, **Ray Kent** notified the committee of his intent to resign as vice president. We all, individually and collectively, expressed our appreciation of Ray's advice and insight and so, on behalf of the class, we thank him for his many years of dedicated participation. Subsequently, **Lou Capuano** has accepted our nomination for vice president. In that role Lou will represent the class on the Old Guard committee, and both monitor and report on the status of our Class of 1962's Endowed Scholarship and track its student scholarship recipients. Additionally, **John Zupko** has agreed to become our class fund captain, thus rounding out the list of officers.

Our Class Committee has spent a good part of the year assembling a collection of archival material that it feels will be of interest to classmates and viewable on StevensConnects.

Frank Derato, class historian, has forwarded from his personal collection items that we feel will stimulate interest and bring back memories from our early days at the Stute. One area that caught our interest was the Spring 2024 *Indicator* article that lists Stevens' digitized collection of 150 years of *The Indicator*, *The Stute* and *The Link*

yearbooks. To date, we have found 11 of 12 class logs, including photos, written following each of our five-year anniversaries since graduation. An example of one is the 1982 summer class log submitted by **Tom Guidera** following our 20th reunion, where he writes, "Thirty-one of you attended our reunion on Alumni Day: **Bill Birely, Frank Calabrese, Jim Canfield, Lou Capuano, Len Course, Frank Derato, George Duve, Bob Felderman, Ray Kent, Phil Kimball, Leon Kirschner, Hans Kurzik, Steve Letavish, Les Lewandowski, John Lupi, Frank Meo, Carlton Mitchell, Kevin O'Connell, Gene Olsen, Howie Oringer, Al Peck, Mike Pellet, Frank Perrotta, Joe Picco, Bill Ringle, Dick Sard, John Singlevich, Bill Smith, Mike Stupinski, Dick Ward and John Zupko**. The class anniversary gift topped \$20,000, with our class ranking third overall and tops in the 50s, 60s and 70s decades. Many thanks to all who made this possible. **Bob Boey** is manager of engineering for Anaconda/ Ericson in Sycamore, Illinois. **Rich Franconeri** is a project manager with the United States Testing Co. in Hoboken. **Ben Tirabassi** is a scientific advisor for the Department of Defense in Washington, DC. Special thanks to **Lou Capuano, Len Course, Phil Kimball, Joe McCabe, John Singlevich and Bill Smith** for their very successful efforts on the anniversary gift committee; and my thanks to you, **Bill Smith**, for keeping me informed on the doings at our reunion."

Paul Rank is currently incorporating this collection of archival material on our Virtual Class Page, which when it is ready for prime time, will be reachable by logging on to stevensconnects.peoplegrove.com. Establish a username and password and click on "Groups" to find our 1962 page. Voila!

I recently received a health update from **Alex McKenzie**, who explained, "After a fainting episode, and four days in the hospital last March, the doctors identified a benign tumor on my pituitary gland. If it keeps growing it could press on my optic nerve and cause vision problems, but that hasn't yet happened. However, the tumor is currently interfering with the correct operation of the pituitary, specifically it is sending the wrong signals to my thyroid and my adrenal

glands. As a result, the thyroid and adrenals are not producing the hormones they should. The good news is that a couple of drugs make up for this lack of production. I'll have an occasional MRI to check the size of the tumor, and some specialized eye tests to watch for degradation of my field of vision, an indicator of optic nerve pressure. All in all, life continues to be good and modern medicine is wonderful."

Finally, it just occurred to me that 2024 marks 62 years since our graduation in '62! While you ponder this fact, please consider sending me an update for our next log.

— Philip Kimball;
Pbkim25@gmail.com

1963

July 16, 2024 — Hi guys, This is one of those "bad news — good news" letters.

Unfortunately, I received a long note from **Les Cohen** about Bill Proscow's passing. Les wrote, "It is my sad task to report that **Bill Proscow**, my Alpha Sigma Phi brother and roommate, best man at Libby's and my wedding, and close friend for more than 64 years, has passed away. After leaving Stevens, Bill earned an M.S. in physics from Northeastern and an MBA from Rivier College. He held increasingly senior engineering positions at Raytheon, Sanders and at Redstone Arsenal. While being challenged by the stock market during his technical career, Bill decided to change this hobby into a lifelong career, and he became chief investment officer of Merchants Bank, and then president of Bank East Trust and senior VP and investment advisor for Northern Trust. Following his retirement from Northern, Bill managed portfolios for several individuals. He is survived by his wife Mary Stubbs of Stratham, New Hampshire; his daughter Christine of Newbury Park, California; and his son Leigh of Thousand Oaks, California. He is also survived by his siblings, Joy Sullivan, Linda Proscow, Richard Proscow and Robert Proscow, and several stepchildren and their families. He was predeceased in death by his daughter, Denise. A memorial service was held on June 21, 2024, his birthday.

The good news is that **Dick Magee** wrote with the following message. "We did it! The Class of '63 successfully captured the 2024 Castle Point Cup, awarded in recognition for achieving the highest-class giving participation rate. This is our ninth consecutive year and the 10th time in the 11 years since its inception in 2014. Importantly, this again earns us an award of \$2,500 to the '63 Class Scholarship along with bragging rights.

"On June 6, we found ourselves in third place, trailing the leader by almost 4%. But 20 of our classmates responded to our appeal and, as of July 12th, we had established a 10% lead over our closest challenger (1974), and Stevens is still counting the last remaining donations. Your class fund committee cannot thank all of you enough who made this effort successful. Let's aim for 10 in a row in 2025."

Other than Dick and Les, the rest of you must have lost my email address or something similar 'cause I've heard essentially "nothin' from no one." (This excludes **Mike Delevante**, and we have to reschedule our Niagara-on-the-Lake get together.)

The only other thing I can add is that we are moving to a condo at The Nottingham, a senior living facility near Syracuse, New York. As all of you know, this getting old stuff is a pain, and we're getting to the point where tending the yard and the gardens and all that goes along with a house is becoming more difficult. When you read this, we will be in the new place and will have figured out what to do with our years of accumulations! I suspect I'll sorely miss the garage "playroom."

In memory of Jules and Joe, thank you again for donating to the scholarship.

— **Nev Sachs;**
nevsachseng@gmail.com

1964

July 21, 2024 — Dear Class of '64: Thank you to the members of our class that ventured to Stevens to celebrate our 60th reunion. We had the following classmates attend: **Joe Weber, Jim Mersfelder, Rich Cundari, Roger Nagel, Mark Cardillo, Len Miller, Bob Salfi, Frank Jagisch, August Ruggerio**

and myself. Also celebrating was **Rich Ilaria**, who received his master's degree with us. Some classmates notified us that they wanted to attend but could not due to reasons beyond their control, **Peter Astor** and **Art Block**. **Bob Bison** was also missing after responding positively. I finally heard from **Victor SooHoo** who could not make it due to medical reasons. We came from near and far, California, Florida, Connecticut and nearby Jersey City. We were glad to have you with us for dinner. On Friday many of us attended the Old Guard Luncheon inducting the Class of 1974 into the Old Guard ranks. The special class 60th reunion dinner was held Friday evening. It was preceded by the presentation of the Class of '64 Scholarship donation check to President Farvardin.

The amount was approximately \$846,000. Thank you all for your generous contributions to the class scholarship fund. Remember, even though we presented the check, you can still donate to the fund.

Joe Weber writes: "So, we were planning our 60th reunion and the Wednesday evening beforehand the phone rang. It was my two-year dorm roommate, **Gordon Spoelstra**. We hadn't spoken in over eight years back when he was singing in a local church choir, and we met. (I was the Glee Club guy, not he.)

"It was like yesterday all over again for over an hour! What a treat. He apologized that now living in Williamsburg, Virginia, he and Maryann would not be making the reunion, but wanted to be remembered to all.

"We went on about everything under the sun in our lifetimes, and recalled so much about our Stevens years, too. I'm waiting a couple months and will then return a call.

"Well, in the end there were only eight of us at the reunion dinner which, from other earlier classes' history, appears to be typical of us octogenarians. (Health and relocations being the culprits.) That said, Gordy's phone call was such a treat. I suggest you all keep that class spirit and make an effort to contact/call one of your old classmates/buddies and give them, and yourselves, a treat. It will be a boost to both of you ... I know.

"I have an old alumni directory and a pretty recent phone list;

[NEWS BYTES]



REMEMBERING SPYROS POLEMIS

Spyros Polemis '61, a former Stevens Board of Trustees member and a widely respected leader in the global shipping industry, died on July 21, 2024, at the age of 86. A member of one of Greece's oldest shipping families, Polemis was an international business leader and owner of Polembros Shipping and Polembros Bulking. He also served as chairman and managing director of Seacrest Shipping Co. Ltd., the London representative of a large group of shipping interests with a history of more than 200 years.

Notably, Polemis was one of the first in the shipping industry to call for a global levy on greenhouse gas emissions from shipping, an idea he championed during his tenure as chairman of the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS).

He earned his mechanical engineering degree from Stevens in 1961. Polemis also served on the Stevens Board of Trustees. In recognition of his outstanding professional achievements, he received the 2007 Stevens Honor Award, the university's highest honor. Polemis is survived by his wife, Stacia, and children, Leo Polemis '90, Anna Polemis Alisafakis and Katerina Polemis. He was preceded in death by his son Michael Polemis '84 M.Eng. '85.

Above: Stacia and
Spyros Polemis '61



Leading the Future of Technology

Darío Gil '98

BY BETH KISSINGER

By 2030, scientists and engineers will have the ability to create an entirely new class of supercomputer, predicts Darío Gil '98, senior vice president and director of Research for IBM.

“Our ultimate goal is to create a quantum-centric supercomputer that is going to bring the best of classical computers, the best of AI and the best of high-precision computation, with the best of quantum, all working together,” Gil says. “And that’s what we want to deliver by the end of the decade.”

This supercomputer could greatly compress the time it takes to discover

solutions to profound challenges, Gil says, from building better batteries to power the world, to creating a better type of fertilizer to feed it.

Gil is leading the effort to create this supercomputer — and whatever’s next in computing — as he oversees research strategy for AI, hybrid cloud, semiconductors, quantum computing and exploratory science for IBM’s more than 3,000 researchers at 19 locations across six continents.

An internationally recognized technology expert, he chairs the National Science Board, which oversees the National Science Foundation. He also co-chairs the MIT/Watson AI Lab, which is advancing fundamental AI research.

Gil, an international student from Madrid, transferred to Stevens as a junior. Stevens gave him his first

Darío Gil '98, IBM senior vice president and director of Research, with the Artificial Intelligence Unit (AIU) cluster, at the company’s research headquarters in Yorktown Heights, New York.

research experience, he says, and he loved the small scale of the campus that allowed him to get to know his professors, who guided him on his path to MIT. There he earned a Ph.D. in electrical engineering and computer science. He joined IBM in 2003 and has spent his entire career there.

This past summer, Gil sat inside IBM’s Think Lab at the company’s research headquarters in Yorktown Heights, New York, surrounded by Quantum System Two — IBM’s latest quantum computer.

Quantum computing’s great strength lies in its ability to do calculations much faster and much more thoroughly than classical computers, he explains. IBM was the first company to build programmable quantum computers and make them available through the cloud. Since then, it has built more than 80 quantum computers, for clients including the Cleveland Clinic.

Also displayed in the Think Lab is the Artificial Intelligence Unit (AIU) cluster, a glass-enclosed chamber that powers IBM’s watsonx AI system for corporate clients and organizations.

The most profound development in the future of computing, Gil says, is creating a new class of supercomputers that seamlessly integrate the power of quantum, AI and traditional computers. At IBM, Quantum System Two is the platform for this future technology.

As he looks to technology’s future, Gil places his faith in the power of people. “The purpose of technology is not for us to follow the path of technology. It is that we only create it to solve problems for ourselves,” Gil says. “It’s all about people in the end.” ♦

Read more from Darío Gil — who offers career advice and other insights — at stevens.edu/indicator/dariogil

Gil was the featured speaker at Stevens’ President’s Distinguished Lecture Series this past October. See: stevens.edu/dariogil/lecture

the Alumni Office should help, too. But do call, it'll be a hoot!"

In closing, we hope to see you at Alumni Day next year or better yet, write and let us know how you are doing.

— **Harley Graime**,
hgraime@att.net

1965

July 22, 2024 — On my recent STATUS CHECK, I had 79 positive returns out of 149 presumed alive. Unfortunately, some emails and phone numbers no longer work. My online search services don't yet show them as deceased, but the lack of working contact information is troubling. I hope they have just moved and forgotten to update their contact information (hint).

Recently, ex-roommates **Jeff Brown** and **Don Nelson** and their wives met for dinner in Massachusetts.

As usual, **Bob Albrecht** escaped to Michigan to avoid summer in Arizona.

Karl Auerbach is great and moving from Troy, New York, to Ticonderoga, New York, a small town nestled between Lake George and Lake Champlain.

Joe McDowell has moved from Henderson, Nevada, to Georgetown, Texas, but still uses: joeskyline@aol.com

Dave Kameron has homes in Denver and Beavercreek, Colorado, but travels to Spain and other countries when he needs to escape the U.S.'s hostile politics.

Best Status Check replies: **Gus Koven**: not fertilizer yet; **X Minervini**: still stirring (mostly martinis).

Melvin Buchwald and his wife will visit Paris after the Olympics and plan to stay about a month.

Martin Gornstein is a president of his homeowners association and, on the side, programs for a laser engraving company.

This year, Elaine and **Mike Harris** enjoyed a cruise to Australia and New Zealand; next year they're planning one to Africa.

Joe Malik is still breathing! Living in Middletown, New Jersey, and enjoying the Jersey Shore summer. "I finally retired in December 2023 from my fulltime job after being employed since graduation. The bulk of my career was as a software

engineer and project manager at Bell Labs. I retired there as a development VP in 2001. Since then, I've worked in various roles for several companies, finishing with Spirent Communications in Holmdel, New Jersey.

"My beloved wife Carole passed away last November, so I'm rattling around our house which serves as a visiting spot for our five daughters and five grandchildren. They're scattered all over: Hawaii, West Virginia, Maine, New York City and New Jersey, so I have plenty of travel opportunities. I am busy as a board member, house manager and treasurer of the Premier Theater Company, a community theater that has been around since 1990, and in various sailing activities, which are my other passion. I am currently the corresponding secretary for the North Jersey Yacht Racing Association and a life member of the River Rats, a sailing club in Fair Haven, New Jersey.

"A bunch of pills keeps me operating and, as a friend said, 'Any day you wake up and see the sky and not roots is a good day!'"

Dave Munson: "Still on the green side and keeping in touch with my Chi Psi brothers via Zoom. My wife and I will join **Terry Ewalt** and his wife sailing off Canada in October. Terry and I were roommates in our freshman year and have stayed in touch ever since!"

Ed Ryan: "Back in Scotland after attending my granddaughter's graduation from the University of Manchester. She received a dual language degree in Chinese and Japanese. No idea where she got her language skills, she certainly didn't inherit those genes from me!"

Betty Lou Joe Scott: "Still in 90-plus degree Texas for appointments at our VA hospital through July 16. On July 17, we're off to a three-month stay at our western North Carolina cabin, where 80's are more the norm."

Jim Kiel: "This summer, South Jersey's excessive heat has definitely reduced my outdoor activity. During Alumni Weekend, I stayed in the new campus high-rise with its spectacular views of New York City."

— **Steve Cochran**;
cochransm@aol.com



The Class of '64 marked its 60th reunion this spring and gave a generous donation to their alma mater. With them is Stevens President Nariman Farvardin, second from left.

"Back in Scotland after attending my granddaughter's graduation from the University of Manchester. She received a dual language degree in Chinese and Japanese. No idea where she got her language skills, she certainly didn't inherit those genes from me!"

Ed Ryan '65



Top:
Ruth and Tom Hammell '66
visited Stockholm, Sweden;
here, they stop at the Ice Bar.

Above:
Fran and Bob Eisenberg '67
on vacation in Morocco.

Left:
Betty and Jack Sheridan '67
enjoy the Stevens Alumni
Weekend this past June.

1966

July 15, 2024 — Hope that you are all doing well!

Recently, I reached out to several missing alums, including **Charlie Costanzo** and **Frank Ruhle**, without much success. If you have been in contact with Charlie and Frank and have information to report, please drop me an e-mail.

Last fall, I spoke with **Joe Cariello**, only to discover that he has become a budding author! He sent me a copy of his book, *The Wingy Chronicles*, but he never quite explained the meaning or source of the “Wingy” name, although “Wingy” is his alias. Interesting read about his life growing up in Hoboken, and I found some parallels with my own childhood up through my teen years. Like Joe, I was engaged for a period of time as a financial advisor, but I preferred the management and technical side of business and returned to that in 2006.

In addition, Joe shared that after Stevens and an MBA from Columbia in '68, he ultimately became a financial advisor with Wells Fargo, and moved to Irvine, California, but now resides in Hudson, Ohio (which is not far from my former homes in Akron and Sharon Center, Ohio).

Tom Hammell and I spent some time on the phone in mid-June. He's still living in Connecticut with his wife, Ruth. During that conversation, he shared some interesting trivia that he was once on a ski lift with Ted Kennedy. During another trip, he also met Henry Kissinger, by chance at a marine air terminal, and at one point was lowered by cable from a helicopter to a tanker.

Tom's primary focus has been his 25-year consulting business, which involved him in simulation and training, including submarine tactics, sonar and port/waterway development, multi-agency incidence response, plus counter-terrorism and DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency). Sounds like Tom has all the makings to be a great speaker for Rotary and other community groups! He has also been an adjunct professor at the University of Connecticut.

I also received an e-mail from **Al Kuntz**, who announced that he retired from the nursing profession and had been an alternate charge nurse on the med-surge unit with the VA in Gainesville, Florida.

Al observed that many career decisions are pure Kismet — when one door closes, another opens. He reported that he is living the good life in the Asheville, North Carolina, area, and has established rental property in the area.

This afternoon, I had a good discussion with **Phil Brower**, who shared that he was recently diagnosed with cancer. On the positive side, he was also diagnosed as a good candidate for immunotherapy. That treatment has now contained the side effects and seems to have stopped the spread of this disease. In addition, he has dropped 25 pounds. Please keep Phil in your prayers ... all of us are going to need prayers before we get out of this life!

This from **John Millard**
“Thanks for taking the time to do this. After graduation, I married my wife, Ginny, and spent four years in the Air Force operating satellites at Cape Kennedy, finishing this service, as a captain. I then became a teacher and coach, spending 28 years at Park Ridge High School, followed by 25 years at Immaculate Heart Academy, a Catholic girls school. Both schools are in New Jersey. I retired last year. I still wonder how I survived Stevens. I was ill-prepared, immature and over my head, but somehow I managed to graduate. I think I learned more from my classmates than I did from my professors. You guys taught me how to be a student ... I need to thank you all for that. When I taught, I believe that I shared a large portion on how to go about being a successful student. I hope everyone else is doing well.

“As a math teacher of 52 years, I taught everything including computer science. I remember our first one-credit computer course. I worked my way up through all the topics, teaching remedial, regular and honors. My last few years, I was teaching AP Calculus. I have to say that there have been some wonderful advancements in math education. When I look back on it, the calc book we used was horrible compared to what we have today.

"I saw that you were in Theta Xi. I was pretty good friends with **Harry Pappas** and **Douglas Brookbank**, and I got to know **John Vander Sande** TX '66 (he actually helped me get one of my students into MIT), and I still keep in touch with **Hank Fiaccone** and **Don Faul**."

Howard Sumka reports that he doesn't feel much older since he last posted to *The Indicator* a couple of years ago, and he is still following a regular running and workout program, of course, in an ultimately futile effort to deter the forces of aging. Unfortunately, his wife Michele has had some recent health issues. More extensive comments will be included in the Spring *Indicator*. Until then, please keep Michele in your prayers!

Just prior to sending in this column, I heard from **Richard Seeley**, who was concluding an extended family trip to Costa Rica, but I'll postpone those details to my next *Indicator* log.

— **Gerry Osborne**;
704-425-5722;
gerryo44@yahoo.com

1967

July 19, 2024 — **Jack Sheridan** wrote, "There were three of us '67ers with our spouses at the recent Old Guard Luncheon as part of Alumni Weekend: **Louis Milano** and **Richard Hrusovsky** and me. Betty retired about a year ago after 57 years in healthcare. Now, we are able to golf twice a week, read lots of books, dine at fabulous restaurants and tour museums in New Jersey on Saturdays; there are more than 75 museums in New Jersey. We just completed #14, the ex-oyster capital of the world at Fort Norris. In mid-July, we will be touring the Danube. Can't wait. Retirement is a good thing."

Bob Eisenberg wrote, "We just returned from an 11-day trip to the LA/Pasadena area to attend our grandson's high school graduation and then to Colorado to visit some relatives in Boulder and Colorado Springs. We also had a marvelous trip to Morocco. The natural beauty of the Atlas Mountains, the coastal cities (e.g. Essaouira) and the desert is astounding. And the medinas and markets in the larger cities are colorful and fascinating. Also fascinating were the ruins at

Volubilis, an ancient Roman ruin that resembles the Acropolis in Athens. The Roman Empire stretched further south than we previously knew. And yes, the Jews did settle all over Morocco after their expulsion from Spain and Portugal in the late 15th century. However, there was a mass exodus from Morocco when the state of Israel was established in May 1948. We did see some synagogues in Essaouira. Plus, we really enjoyed the French fries wherever we ate. I think they cook them in camel fat???"

Mike Groberg wrote, "Sandi and I are still in Longwood, Florida, just north of Orlando, and our two daughters and their families live within 20 minutes of us. So, we have a lot of time together with them. It's been almost four years since I retired from my last job at Martin Marietta-Lockheed (of 39-plus years). It is hard to believe and sort of sorry I waited so long to retire. I don't miss the 90-minute commute for the 4 am to 5 pm time assignment of managing computers. We are feeling pretty well, apart from some hip replacements. We just returned from a three-week cruise: Florida to Barcelona and then to Italy. Wonderful time and weather. Next up is a family trip to Hawaii and then a river cruise in France with time at Disneyland Paris. Can't wait!"

— **Jeffrey I. Seeman**;
jiseeman@yahoo.com

1968

July 21, 2024 — As promised in my last log, I want to provide you with any information I have on our deceased classmates. I have additional information on **Bill Luckert** and **Bob Grippardi**.

William "Bill" Ludwig Luckert, age 76, of Roswell, Georgia, passed away on April 30, 2023, in his home. Bill was born to the late Ludwig and Elfriede Luckert on December 23, 1946. He grew up in Union City, New Jersey.

After graduating from Stevens with a degree in engineering, and from the University of Virginia, where he earned an MBA, Bill enjoyed a wide ranging career spanning the Air Force, consulting, retail technology and retail management. He was married to Margaret (Pearl) from 1968 until her passing in 2009. Bill was a lifelong runner, a volunteer

at the All Saints Catholic Church, and was heavily involved with the Knights of Columbus. He was warm and funny and never met a stranger.

His memory will be cherished by wife Suzy Godbersen, his sister Barbara Pelligrino, and his three children Will, Noeleen and Megan, as well as many extended family members and friends.

Robert "Bob" P. Grippardi, 74, of New Ipswich, New Hampshire, died on February 28, 2021, in the comfort of his home, after a period of declining health.

He was born in Newark, New Jersey, on September 15, 1946, the son of Peter and Lenda (Masti) Grippardi. He graduated from Irvington High School in New Jersey.

After graduation from Stevens, he traveled all over the U.S. as well as to Mexico and Brazil, working for various nuclear power companies as a nuclear engineer, eventually finding himself in New Ipswich, working between both the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant and Vermont Yankee Power Plant.

He married his wife Wendy Archambault at the New Ipswich Congregational Church.

He was a member of the New Ipswich Congregational Church for many years. He enjoyed gardening, tending to his Koi pond and New England sports teams, especially the Patriots and the Red Sox, and when not watching them, he enjoyed watching his grandchildren at their sports games. He attended the Bond Wellness Center for over 18 years.

He is survived by his wife of 18-plus years, Wendy J. Grippardi of New Ipswich.

If anyone has additional information on **George Leask** and/or **Jon Swenson**, please forward it to me so I may publish it in this log. (*Editor's Note: At press time, The Indicator staff learned that Mr. Leask died in 2023 and Mr. Swenson in 2022.*)

There's not much else to report, as I haven't received any info from classmates. **Walter Ulrich** continues to lead the charity, Medical Bridges, as CEO. Although they serve many nations worldwide, their focus as of late has been to provide medical supplies and pre-fabricated medical facilities to Ukraine, as their country is devastated by the war with Russia.

That's all for now. Stay healthy and safe!

— **Al Foytlin**;
foytlin01@gmail.com

"We also had a marvelous trip to Morocco. The natural beauty of the Atlas Mountains, the coastal cities (e.g. Essaouira) and the desert is astounding. And the medinas and markets in the larger cities are colorful and fascinating."

Bob Eisenberg '67



Left:
Ginny and Dennis Erdman '69 at the Alumni Weekend this past June.

Below:
"Annie," the 34-foot Nielsen-designed yawl owned by Phil Smith '69.



Above:
Gathering for their 55th reunion at Alumni Weekend in June, from left, are Ed Eichhorn, Dennis Erdman, Gerry Crispin, Tom Stanowski and Russ Eitel.



Left:
Ann and Phil Smith '69 at Alumni Weekend in June.

1969

July 2024 — Ann and Phil Smith report that they recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in New York City. They have taken up full-time residence in their home on Nantucket and occasionally return to the city to see friends and two of their adult children. Phil was an officer in the Navy after leaving school and served on two ships during the Vietnam War. Then he got an MBA from The Wharton School. Armed with these credentials, he began a career with The Bank of New York as a banker serving Fortune 500 companies in the New York area. After 20 years with The Bank of New York, he and a close Portuguese high school friend started their own investment firm, International Strategies Services, focused on creating joint ventures with companies in Portuguese-speaking countries and U.S. partners. Along the way, he and Ann had two boys and one girl who now range from 35 to 43 years of age. Though still engaged with the banking industry, Phil can usually be found sailing one of his two classic wooden sailboats. In addition to a John Alden daysailer, "Annie," a 34-foot Nielsen designed yawl, is actively raced and taken on cruises around southern New England every summer. She requires almost as much love as the girl he married 50 years ago.

Dennis Erdman writes: "After graduation, Ginny and I left for California where I worked for Southern California Edison. I had my most career fun working at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station where I worked on installing the super-large ocean water cooling pipes. We loved being in love while working and living near Capistrano Beach. A few years later, I began managing water and wastewater near the coast for 10 years. Then I used my water management skills in Mammoth Lakes in the beautiful Eastern Sierra mountains. The mountains were beautiful but freezing cold in the winter. I remember digging out our propane tank under 10 feet of snow one year! After our four kids left for college, we headed to the warmth and beauty of Pasadena, California. I retired from the Crescent Valley Water District, and then we moved

back to Capistrano Beach. I currently serve on the board of directors for the largest water district in the world, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Ginny and I enjoy our four children and our tribe of 13 grandchildren. We love our occasional motorcycle rides and our everyday convertible VW Beetle. Life is good! Dennis Erdman; Denniserdmanpe@gmail.com; 818-389-8777"

Tom Stanowski called me from a campground in upstate New York. He was pedaling his bike from Buffalo to Albany, a distance of 420 miles! I instantly knew this was not going to be a routine career path discussion, although Tom actually started out working for a large corporation, Sperry Systems Management. He used his technical skill to design and implement navigation systems for submarines and missiles for the Department of Defense. This required that he travel all around the world. The career he is most proud of was a company that he developed called Total Systems Integration. They developed and implemented systems to help law firms streamline billing and their word processing requirements. Tom now funds his retirement with apartment and commercial projects in Middlesex, New York. He and Nancy live in Greenwood Lakes. Tom still enjoys skiing (Utah and Austria), racing mountain bikes and cycling to stay in good health. (see his picture from our 55th reunion this past spring).

— **Russ Eitel;**
russ@eitelgroup.com

— **Ed Eichhorn;**
Ed.Eichhorn@medilinkgroup.com

— **Gerry Crispin;**
gerry@cxr.works

1970

July 22, 2024 — Father Gabe Costa let us know his time at West Point will be coming to an end, and he will be returning to Seton Hall University in New Jersey as a retired priest and a professor. He shared some reflections on the cadets, faculty, staff and the mission of West Point.

"I have been the most blessed of priests. It has been quite a trip, filled with many blessings. For the last third of my life, I have been able



Christine A. Miller M.T.M. '08
MBA '09, president and CEO
of Melinta Therapeutics, at her
home office in New York City.

Orchestrating a Corporate Transformation

Christine A. Miller
M.T.M. '08 MBA '09

It's never easy to take the helm of a new organization, let alone at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. But Christine A. Miller M.T.M. '08 MBA '09 did just that, at Melinta Therapeutics.

"It enabled me to build relationships with people in a different way than you normally would as a CEO," says Miller.

On her first day, Miller held a town hall over Zoom, inviting everyone on what she called a "journey to transform the company." During her first two months, she met virtually with each of the company's nearly 120 employees to discuss culture, goals and strategy. She had her work cut out for her; when she deployed an employee engagement survey, the results showed that only 69% of employees felt engaged.

Within a year and a half, under Miller's leadership, the Parsippany, New Jersey-based company had achieved 94% on the same survey — and defined a new mission, shifting

from an antibiotic-focused business to become a more diversified leader in the acute-care space. By mid-2023, Melinta had seven commercial-stage products, including newly launched REZZAYO®. It is the first new treatment option in over a decade approved for patients with candidemia (a bloodstream infection) and invasive candidiasis (which can include deeper infections in organs and joints).

Miller orchestrated this turnaround, she says, by "putting people first," proactively engaging her team and including them throughout the journey.

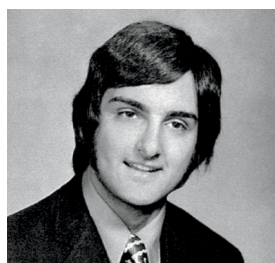
A 20-year industry veteran who has directed more than 50 product launches generating more than \$300 million in annual revenue, Miller discovered her passion for the pharmaceutical industry during a summer internship at Merck & Co., Inc., while she was a chemical engineering major at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She has since held leadership roles at Merck, Watson/Actavis and Sandoz, a division of Novartis.

She was drawn to Stevens' Executive MBA program for its flexibility, focus on industries and technologies, and the opportunity to apply real-world case studies to solving work challenges.

"My MBA is something I carried forward into my real world," says Miller, a member of Stevens' President's Leadership Council. "Stevens gave me the tools to think strategically about leading a science, tech-based company.

"My purpose in life is to help people live better lives," reflects Miller. "I was very fortunate to choose the pharmaceutical industry, where I'm able to use my problem-solving talents as an engineer to impact peoples' lives and realize my purpose.

"There's nothing more gratifying than having a career that gives hope to people impacted by disease." ♦



Top:
Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity brothers and significant others gathered in Estero, Florida, in May for a four-day reunion.

Above:
Lonnie Lauer '74 passed away earlier this year.

“None of this would have happened without my ‘Hoboken’ education. I am proud to have gone from the Kindergarten to a Ph.D. in the ‘Miracle Mile’ of Hoboken.”

Father Gabe Costa '70
M.S. '72 Ph.D. '84

to teach, minister and serve at the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. I was given this opportunity by my archbishop and both the Priest Community and the Mathematics/Computer Science Department of Seton Hall University.

“None of this would have happened without my ‘Hoboken’ education. I am proud to have gone from the Kindergarten to a Ph.D. in the ‘Miracle Mile’ of Hoboken.

“During my freshman year, I had a graduate student for Calculus II — **Richard Bronson (SIT class of 1963)**. He was a great instructor and took me under his wing. He has been a ‘Big Brother’ ever since. In fact, it was Dr. Bronson who made the initial connection, on my behalf, with West Point.

“West Point is not Heaven ... but it’s close. It is not only a Place ... it is also a Time. Bursting with Tradition and History, it is first and foremost a formational institution, much like a seminary. The men and women who enter through the hallowed gates seek only to serve and to internalize the building blocks of DUTY, HONOR and COUNTRY.

“These twenty-five years have flown by. I will be leaving the Academy in December of 2025. I will savor these last eighteen months.

“I have been privileged (beyond my wildest dreams) to serve the cadets, faculty, and staff in my capacity as a priest and a mathematics professor. That says it all.”

Until the end of 2025, Gabe can be reached at gabriel.costa@westpoint.edu.

After I submitted a log in July 2023, we found out **John Sonder** passed on July 1, 2023, from pancreatic cancer. My intended update did not make it to publication.

Hailing from Jamaica, New York, John majored in mathematics with a major interest in computers. John was on the dean’s list most semesters and enjoyed bridge, chess and analyzing handwriting in his spare time. After graduation John had a long and successful career in computer technology at AT&T and ETS, retiring in 2018.

We offer our most heartfelt condolences to John’s wife, Emily, their children, Lauren Sonder, Leslie Harris and Paul Sonder, and their grandchildren, Lyla Harris, Hunter Harris, Emily Maxwell and Quincy Harris. We appreciated

the opportunity to have known John for a short part of his life. John’s obituary can be found at <https://obits.lehighvalleylive.com/us/obituaries/etpa/name/john-sonder-obituary?id=52365248>

By the time you read this log there will be less than a year to our 55th reunion in June 2025. There were quite a few classmates who opted not to attend our 50th due to lingering concerns with COVID. This should not be a concern nor a reason to not attend our 55th.

Stay healthy and safe for our 55th!

— **E.A. Golebiowski;**
eagolebiowski@att.net

1971

July 2024 — John Schroeder continues to work fulltime (and have fun!) as executive vice president for Marmon Food Service Technologies, running a variety of groups including retail, water and food service. The company has over 5,000 employees in 30 worldwide locations and frequently hosts international visitors. They are a worldwide leader in products including shopping carts, shelves, water softeners, RO units and soda beverage dispensers.

John and Carol have been married for 51 years and have 15 grandchildren! They now live in an over-55 community in Middletown, Delaware, and have another house near Notre Dame, which they frequent during football season. They have two Zoom sessions every other month with fellow Alpha Sigma Phi brothers — one with **Don Osborne, Ralph Cohen, Len Metzger, Mike Mudd and John Hochstein** and one with **Robin Braun, Matt Ruggiero, Steve Bistak, Rick Bradshaw, and Bill Holler**. The teleconferences started with COVID and still continue.

Bob Martucci writes that he attended a May 2024 gathering of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity brothers at the Spring Run Country Club in Estero, Florida. Twenty-five brothers and significant others from all over the country attended the four days of festivities, including eleven from the class of 1971. Attendees included **Barry Rittberg** and Sharel Rittberg, **Vin DiPalma** and Linda DiPalma, **Wayne Richmond** and JoAnne Richmond, **Dan Violante** and Kathy Violante,

Dan Meehan and Jan Meehan, **Bob Martucci** and Beth Martucci, Judy Brookbank, wife of the late **Clyde Brookbank**, **Dan Shimshak** and Marcia Shimshak, **Al Sisto** and Suzanne Sisto, **Len Russo** and Deborah Russo, **Ray Schauer** and Liz Schauer and **Werner Reinartz**.

Phil Crowley celebrated his 75th birthday and 10th wedding anniversary with Diane in August with a party at their country club near their new house in Hellertown, Pennsylvania. They finally sold the house in Far Hills, New Jersey, and really miss paying those modest New Jersey property taxes. Phil is still working full time running his law firm, which specializes in providing legal assistance to start-up companies with society-improving objectives. He expects a significant increase in work in the second half of 2024. He spends most of his time in Pennsylvania now, since Diane works nearby, and only makes occasional visits to his Florida golf resort estate. Diane is very busy as chief medical officer at Celldex Therapeutics in Hampton, New Jersey, where she is heavily involved in a Phase II clinical study on a very promising treatment for chronic HIVs.

An article in my newspaper listed SIT as #2 in New Jersey for "Best Value," after Princeton. Despite a total annual list price over \$80K per year (tuition and living expenses like room and board), it gives significant financial aid (about \$29K average) and graduates have an average starting salary of more than \$85K (undergraduate Class of '23). Slightly different numbers than when we started there 57 years ago.

Please send me news on what you are doing nowadays. Let me know if you are one of us crazy people who are still working or are one of those who are nearing 15 years of full retirement, taking exotic vacations, and spoiling grandchildren. I really enjoy it when I get news from people who say they have never written to *The Indicator* before, but want to share some news. Although *The Indicator* is only publishing twice a year now, I understand some people actually read my article.

— **William Stengle;**
732-583-8248;
wfs20hlm@aol.com

1972

(Written collaboratively by **Enrique Blanco** and **George Johnston**)

July 14, 2024 — Dear Fellow Classmates, As I sit down to write this log, it is July 3, 2024. Tomorrow, we celebrate our country's independence, 248 years. Our Founding Fathers had a great vision for a country where the rights of its people came, in their words, from God. It became The United States of America. It is a great country, believe me, I have travelled the world, I know. If you see something wrong, don't put it down, make it better. When you see veterans, thank them for their service. Use your right to vote; it is your duty and an honor. Many citizens in other countries wish they could do so freely.

While Enrique's above words were prompted by Independence Day, his sentiment equally applies all year long, particularly around Election Day and Veterans Day — when you may receive this *Indicator*. Vote!

We would like to dedicate the remainder of this Class Log to classmate, **John Branagan Richmond McDonnell**. At the end of our last log, we hurriedly added a note letting you know that John passed away on February 26, 2024. He was our friend and class VP. He showed his love for our class and for Stevens by continuing to serve for many years and in numerous positions of responsibility within the Stevens Alumni Association (SAA).

Last week his beloved wife, Barbara (b.a.mcdonnell@att.net), asked us to help fulfill John's wish to have his ashes spread at sea. Class Secretary George contacted **Professor Dick Magee '63**, who attended our 50th Reunion Dinner as our special guest. He has long been the "Commodore of the SAA Fishing Club." Dick arranged for a boat to take a small group of friends (including Dick, **Tom Moschello '63**, Barbara and friend Pat Casperson, Mary Blanco and Maryann Johnston) out to sea and fulfill John and Barbara's request. Off we sailed to Manasquan Beach, where John and Barbara first met. There, Enrique led us in prayer asking for blessings upon John. George then commended John's remains to the sea. Boat Captain Ray said a few words about John's ashes now becoming one with the expansive world oceans — being united with each drop of water.

[NEWS BYTES]



STEVENS PRIDE ON DISPLAY AT AWARDS GALA

Stunning autumn skies and Hudson River views — including the spectacular Stevens campus — greeted celebrants this fall at the Stevens Awards Gala: an evening of Stevens pride that honored the university's remarkably accomplished and dedicated alumni and friends. The October 5 event saw a new venue this year: Pier Sixty at New York's Chelsea Piers on the Hudson River. The evening included an elaborate dinner reception and lively after-party, with the awards presentation at its heart. Honored that evening (top photo, seated from left) were Dr. Sandra Cadavid '02 M.Eng. '05, International Achievement Award; Thomas Corcoran '67 Hon. D.Eng. '03, Stevens Honor Award; and John Dalton '60, Lifetime Service Award. Back row, from left: Tony Massoud '79, Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. Entrepreneur Award; Richard Blahut M.S. '64, Distinguished Alumni Award — Science and Technology; and Brian Nigito '01, Distinguished Alumni Award — Engineering.

Top: The 2024 Stevens Awards Gala honorees.

Below: Attendees capture a fun moment at the Gala's after-party.



LEARN MORE ABOUT
THE HONOREES
stevens.edu/awardsgala

[NEWS BYTES]



COMING HOME: ALUMNI WEEKEND '24

Stevens welcomed back generations of alumni — spanning the 1950s through 2024 — to Alumni Weekend last spring, with nostalgia-filled class reunions and a flurry of activities over a sun-drenched weekend. Members of the Class of '23 enjoyed special gatherings to mark their first reunion, from a cocktail party to an “Amazing Race” scavenger hunt across Hoboken to brunch in a nearby restaurant. Alumni Weekend attendees enjoyed student club and Greek gatherings, a Palmer Lawn barbecue, the Old Guard Luncheon and the 31st annual Beer Tasting. New offerings this year included a golf game, pickleball competitions and — among many family-friendly activities — a Midday Matinee for the kids to cool off and watch “The Mighty Ducks.”

Outstanding alumni were honored for their devoted service to Stevens and their fellow graduates. Victoria Velasco '04, a past Stevens Alumni Association (SAA) president, received the Stevens Alumni Award. Honored with the Harold R. Fee 1920 Alumni Achievement Award were Jerome Brown '99, Sabrina Henry '09, Nicole (Franks) Griggs '14, Jessica (Wos) Tripi '14, Madison Telles '19 and Cristian Collado '19, while mechanical engineering professor Mishah Salman received the SAA Outstanding Teacher Award.

LEARN MORE

about Alumni Weekend at
stevens.edu/alumniweekend



Top: Young alumni gather during Alumni Weekend 2024.

Bottom: Attending Alumni Weekend '24, from left, were award winners Victoria Velasco '04, Nicole (Franks) Griggs '14, Sabrina Henry '09, and Stevens Professor Mishah Salman, second from right. Congratulating them are Stevens President Nariman Farvardin, third from left, and past SAA President John Dearborn '79.

Building on Captain Ray's thoughts, George read the following poem:

Do Not Stand At My Grave And Weep

By Mary Elizabeth Frye

Do not stand at my grave and weep
 I am not there. I do not sleep.
 I am a thousand winds that blow.
 I am the diamond glints on snow.
 I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
 I am the gentle autumn rain.
 When you awaken in the morning's hush
 I am the swift uplifting rush
 Of quiet birds in circled flight.
 I am the soft stars that shine at night.
 Do not stand at my grave and cry;
 I am not there. I did not die.

Later, we received this message from Barbara: “My heartfelt thanks to you for your prayers and support for me. Thank you especially for your blessings. John's soul is now most assuredly at peace ... I know it was especially important for him to feel the love from our Stevens alumni family ... John's true ‘fraternity’ in a real sense. Many thanks to all for making this possible.”

Thank you, Barbara. May you find solace in knowing how much John's many Stevens friends and classmates thought of him.

Gentlemen, in the last log, we mentioned we weren't getting any younger. Use every opportunity you have to get together with friends and family. Enjoy retired life. You've earned it!

From Enrique and George,
 till our next Log.

— George W. Johnston;
gwjohnstonjr@msn.com

— Pres. Enrique L. Blanco;
elbmcb@optonline.net

1973

July 2024 — Greetings all fellow classmates. Your class officers have been meeting regularly to continue to plan ways to encourage communication and contact between our alumni. While *The Indicator* is published only a few times a year, **Frank Vastano** sends out a monthly class bulletin that contains more up-to-date information regarding our class and pertinent activities at Stevens. If you aren't getting Frank's bulletin and want to, be sure to send your email address to me and Frank so you

can get on the distribution list.

Even though our 50th reunion is behind us, we continue to look to build our class gift, the Class of '73 Endowed Scholarship. Many of you have generously donated to our gift, and there will be more opportunities to do so in the future including the annual Day of Giving. Several of our classmates offered generous matching gifts for the 2024 Day of Giving that resulted in our class contributing over \$33,000. Your past and future support is greatly appreciated.

We recently heard from **Steve Kaplan**, “I've been retired for a number of years now. All is well with my family (six grandchildren), and Donna and I are having an active and enjoyable retirement. I hope the same is true for you and that you're having a lot of enjoyable family time and other things.”

Lawrence DeRose forwarded the eulogy for our classmate **Lonnie Lauer** who passed away earlier in 2024. Lonnie's lifelong friend delivered a moving tribute.

Former Class of 1973 Vice President **Joe Mitro** has been weathering his share of storms in Houston. While he has been fine, he had to deal with power outages in the heat and humidity of the Houston summer ... not fun.

Jack Hummer '74 shared the sad news of the passing of our classmate **David Beumer** on June 2, 2024. We send our deepest sympathy to his wife Patty and their family. Here is an excerpt of his obituary:

“Our beloved husband, dad, grandpa, brother and friend, David Harold Beumer, left us on June 2, 2024. He is survived by his wife Patty, sons Danny (Leslie) and Jeremy (April); grandchildren, Leah Saler, Jayme Lawrence, Josh Lawrence, Lane Beumer, and Brian Beumer; brother John Beumer (Marianne); sisters Betsy Howell and Marge Dodge; and extended family, including too many ‘adopted’ children and grandchildren to count.

“David was extremely proud of all his grandchildren and always enjoyed hearing about what was going on in their lives. To speak to his sense of humor, one of his favorite sayings was: ‘If I had known how much fun it was to have grandkids. I would have had them first.’

“After graduating from Stevens, David started his career in Bedford, MA, at ComputerVision, invited

by **Richard W. Seeley '66**. He later moved to San Diego, CA, where he met Patty. They were married in September of 1980, and they moved to the Bay Area in 1984. From there they moved on to Colorado in 1989 for David's job. David was also employed by Markrevel, Calma, Daisy, Dazix, and VeryBest during his career.

"After retiring, David got involved with building and consulting self-storage facilities and soon became a 'storage whiz'; his services were in high demand. He loved keeping busy and using his amazing skills to help people make successes of their facilities.

"David has been a mentor for many people, young and old, over the years and hearing how he has touched their lives is very special.

"He was a shining light in so many people's lives. His undying devotion to his family and friends was inspiring to many.

"David got his HAM (amateur radio operators) license, W0DHB, in high school and continued his love of communicating around the world with other operators until his passing.

"David was diagnosed with Charcot Marie Tooth, a form of Muscular Dystrophy, in 1984, but he never let this debilitating disease knock him down. Despite being told that he would be wheelchair bound soon after diagnosis he beat the odds and still used a walker for getting around the house daily and a wheelchair only when going out. Some might have called it stubbornness, but those who knew and loved him understood that he didn't let his disability define him.

"David loved the mountains and spent many hours looking at the view from his office window at home and watching the wildlife on the lake. Those mountains will always be a reminder of the amazing man we all loved and admired. Walk free David, we will all miss you. We love you and will never stop missing you."

Don't forget to visit the Class of '73 YouTube Channel at [youtube.com/@StevensClassOf73](https://www.youtube.com/@StevensClassOf73), and look at the videos we have been creating reminiscing about our days at Stevens. You will need to subscribe and/or sign in, and then go to Playlists to view the videos.

— **Tony Callendrello;**
acallendrello@comcast.net

1974

July 2024 — Are you still basking in the memories of rekindled friendships? Are you disheartened at having missed the 50th reunion? As this log reaches you, the 50th reunion is six months in the past and the 51st is only six months in the future.

If you feel as I do, our May 1974 graduation is a memory of achievement and pride. With many friendships forged over multiple years we were all finally embraced as Stevens graduates. Beginning as strangers four years earlier; look to your left, look to your right didn't feel like we were being embraced.

If you feel as I do ... it feels as if it has been just a very brief moment in the six months since the reunion and the renewing of our friendships!

Our 50th reunion was an outstanding success as we met again, a number of us for the first time in 50 years, on campus on May 31 and June 1, 2024. Alumni Weekend, including the class meet-ups, is a spectacular three-day event presented for alumni and families each year. All of this year's events were captured in photos that you should already have seen in mailings during this past six months. Our 50th is not the end, but the beginning. Opportunities for friendships to be renewed or strengthened will continue in future in-person events at Alumni Weekend, or at other virtual meet-ups being planned. Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate, to enjoy these special events and the camaraderie of so many friends with whom we shared our Stevens experience.

Additionally, as the newest members of the Old Guard we can relive our graduation each year. **Lenore Schupak** participated in the 2024 commencement on May 20 with **Scott Swensen** and **Tom Nathanson**. Scott and Tom continue as illustrious class members of the Stevens Board of Trustees and now, additionally, as Old Guard members, joined by Lenore as all three represented our class as the newest Old Guard members.

In Lenore's words and photos on the day of the 2024 commencement:

"I attended the graduation ceremony today at the PNC Bank Arts Center. That was quite a venue to hold the graduation. The procession into



Top:
Old Guard alumni (here, with President Nariman Farvardin) participated in Commencement this past May.

Middle:
The Class of '74 celebrated its 50th reunion at Stevens this past spring.



Above, left:
Karen and Walter Mooney '74 at Alumni Weekend.

Above, right:
Lenore Schupak '74 with Stevens Professor Muhammad Hajj at Commencement 2024.



Top: Martha Connolly '75 performed with the Baltimore Choral Arts on Italy's Amalfi Coast.

Second from top: Harry MacArthur '75 visits the Delta Tau Delta house with granddaughters Caroline and Charlotte.

Middle, left: Stan Werchinski '76 shared this photo of his grandchildren Charlotte and Josh.

Middle, right: Gerry Ferrara '76, right, and Emil Stefanacci '85 at the Stevens Alumni Fishing trip in May on Raritan Bay in New Jersey.

Above: Stan Werchinski '76 and his family celebrate Father's Day this past June.

the arena and the whole experience were quite amazing. Approximately 900 students graduated, and there were tons of guests. A lot of high-tech video presentations, short speeches. The VIP Room hosted the trustees, faculty and Old Guard with a nice breakfast before and lunch after the ceremony. I enjoyed socializing with other members of the Old Guard and some of the faculty. There was a total of 14 Old Guard members there.

"I saw Jennifer LeFebvre, and she and her team were very busy keeping things well organized, just as she will be for our reunion celebration. It was a good day! Regards, Lenore."

— Gary Jung;
jungpackaging@msn.com

1975

July 2024 — Dear Class of '75, Welcome to the Fall edition of *The Indicator*, and I'm pleased to share news from several classmates.

Martha Connolly writes: "I had the unique opportunity to travel with the Baltimore Choral Arts to the Amalfi Coast in Italy in July. There, I sang with a group in the 2024 Amalfi Music and Arts Festival. We performed two concerts, one in Naples and then in a gorgeous rose garden in Maiori. We enjoyed great food, the sights and lovely weather and with side trips to Pompeii and Paestum."

Murry Korman writes: "I currently live in Annapolis, Maryland. After Stevens, I went to Brown University for my M.S. and Ph.D. in physics, graduating in 1981. My thesis was on 'Experiments on the Scattering of Sound by Turbulence.' My specialty was in nonlinear physical acoustics where it evolved into airborne sound — nonlinear acoustic landmine detection, underwater acoustics and sonar and sound, turbulence and bubble scattering.

"I always dreamed of being a high school baseball coach and a teacher but landed at the U.S. Naval Academy, where I've taught for 43 years. I did some youth baseball coaching and was an assistant coach to the USNA women's club softball. I also mentored high school students and provided some internships to some college students. I plan to retire soon and write some books and do tabletop experiments.

"I met my wife, Cathie, in 1982. She threw me out of the Naval Academy library thinking I was an out-of-town student. Cathie and I got married in 1990, and we have been best friends for 42 years. Friends and family were invited to the wedding, and it was great time. I have great memories of Beta Theta Pi fraternity and special friendships with **Rich Seninsky**, **Pete Kublickis**, and many others whom I cherished so much. Many people at Stevens helped me along, including the professors who took time to make sure we had many 'poop sessions.' It was fun, but tough with so much homework. I loved the work and enjoyed it 'most of the time.' There were many names beside these two above, so forgive me, as I do not wish to leave anyone out. Through all my ups and downs, my Stevens life prepared me for what was to come. So, with regards to ship and frat parties, the Ho Chi Mihn Trail, ping pong, pinball, pizza at 3 a.m. and Beta Theta Pi, my physics major undergraduate life, and Erie Lackawanna train rides — just a warm thanks to you all. You guys got me through a lot of stuff. I thank you."

Harry MacArthur writes: "My granddaughters, Caroline, 10 and Charlotte, 7 visited from their home in Georgia, spending two weeks at our Pennsylvania home where we had many great adventures. The highlight was a trip to New York City to see 'Aladdin,' where we had the privilege of a backstage tour and a photo op with Aladdin himself and the girls! Of course, we made a stop at the Stevens campus. I received strict orders from their parents, and my wife, NOT TO set foot inside the Delt House with these two young girls for fear of what might be lurking inside (I can't imagine what??), though I did get one picture in front of The House! Caroline — though her dad went to Georgia Tech — has now decided she will be coming to Stevens when it's time!"

Richard Feeney writes: "My daughter Melissa completed her master's program at Columbia University in data science during 2023 and later became engaged to be married. The nuptials will take place at St Thomas, with a reception at the St. Regis Hotel in Manhattan in May 2025. She will be marrying a fellow graduate from Lehigh University. I continue

to work as a design engineer for Tetra Tech in the environmental industry. Our team has been designing the remedy for the Lower Passaic River in northern New Jersey since late 2016 on behalf of the principal responsible party, Occidental Chemical Corp. The most notorious of the eight chemicals of concern to be addressed is 2,3,7,8 TCDD, known as dioxin. It is a legacy contaminant from the manufacture of Agent Orange during the Vietnam War. Implementation will take over a decade and cost approximately \$2 billion."

Karl Young writes: "Planning for our 50th Reunion celebration in June of 2025 is underway! Please mark your calendars for Friday, June 6, for our 50th Anniversary Dinner, with guest Stevens President Nariman Farvardin. On Saturday, June 7, we will host a barbecue, class reception and alumni dinner. Watch for more communications and details. We hope you can join us on the Stevens campus for this very special day!"

— **Harry MacArthur;**
harrymac@comcast.net

1976

July 30, 2024 — We had two bits of input. First from **Gerry Ferrara**, who participated in an alumni striped bass fishing trip in May. Representing Stevens were Gerry, "**Emil Stefanacci '85** and **Professor Rich Magee '63, M.S. '64, Sc.D. '68** of the Mechanical Engineering Department during our years. We fished the waters of Raritan Bay on the Mad Gaffer out of South Amboy, New Jersey."

Gerry said they typically do two trips in the spring and fall for striped bass, leaving from either South Amboy to fish in Raritan Bay or Belmar, New Jersey, to fish the Atlantic Ocean. They also occasionally do another trip in the summer from Belmar, for sea bass or fluke. Emil and Prof Magee are usually looking for new fisherpersons to join the group.

The second reply with input is from **Stan Werchinski** and follows.

"I am retired now living in Florida between Sarasota and Tampa Bay with my lovely wife Jeannette. Got a small little place, one story, and on a pond. It is really great here and loving the area. We do get an occasional alligator in the pond but that's Florida. If there is water, there

will be an alligator at some point.

"I retired April 1, 2022, and left New Jersey for Florida, never looking back. I do miss it sometimes as I have my five children in New Jersey with two grandchildren, not to mention the food. I did multiple things after graduating from Stevens. Let's see, worked in New York City for Ebasco building nuclear power plants, secured my professional engineering, land surveying and planners licenses, was a municipal engineer in quite a few municipalities throughout New Jersey, worked in civil/structural consulting firms, general contracting firms and opened my own civil/structural engineering consulting company located in Little Silver, New Jersey, which allowed me to work in the Caribbean for about 15 years with just a select group of clients. I also secured a private pilot's license, but unfortunately, I let it expire due to health issues. Next thing you know, you're 67 years old, looking down the barrel of retirement. I guess I could have kept on working, but once you start talking about retirement you are already retired!"

"I remarried (2nd and last) in 2004 to the lovely Jeannette Massas Werchinski, who saw me through most of these adventures. My wife and I love to cruise and have had many trips on the high seas. Also, we are Jimmy Buffett parrot heads and have been to many of his concerts. May he rest in peace. Looking to get away with a group of friends this coming October on the Margaritaville Islander At Sea out of Tampa. Should be a blast and nice and close to our home.

"I recently had surgery, which kept me away from the recent alumni reunions. Once back in the game, I will be attending as I can, coming up from Florida. My fraternity Chi Phi has our class joining the 'Old Guard' celebration this year that I hope to make, health permitting.

"I have attached a couple of pictures. One is my entire family at a Father's Day celebration. The other is a picture of my grandchildren Charlotte, 8, and Josh, 3.

"Thanks for letting me explain what I have been up to these past 50 years ... where did the time go? Stan"

— **Frank Roberto;**
frankroberto76@gmail.com

[NEWS BYTES]

DAVIS TO BE HONORED IN D.C.



Nate Davis '76 will be honored for a lifetime of professional achievement when he's inducted as a 2024

Laureate into the Washington Business Hall of Fame this fall. The ceremony, to be held on November 20 in Washington, D.C., honors individuals who have made a significant and lasting impact on the Greater Washington Region with this prestigious lifetime achievement award. Davis is the retired chairman and CEO of Stride Learning, Inc., which specializes in technology-based education for students and teachers. Davis' long career has included executive and board roles in technology-based education, telecommunications, software engineering and finance, wireless communications, internet access and web hosting, and technology-based media. He served as CEO and president of XM Satellite Radio, among other executive roles. At Stevens, he serves on the President's Leadership Council and helped to launch ACES (Accessing Careers in Engineering and Science), which aims to expand and enrich opportunities for education and career development in STEM for talented high school students from underserved communities. Davis also helped launch and support the Art Harper Saturday Academy, which offers STEM courses, college prep workshops and a Stevens campus experience to high school students from underserved areas who are interested in pursuing college majors and careers in STEM-related fields. He received the Stevens Honor Award, Stevens' highest honor, in 2017.

Lighting The Way

Angelina Saiyi Li MBA '24

BY CHARLES O'BRIEN



Angelina Saiyi Li MBA '24, who jokingly refers to the airport as her hometown, is a woman on the move. Her fast-moving professional life — from child model to reality show host to media firm CEO — recently entered a new phase with the launch

of her tech firm, WangWang Health. She aims to make the mobile and web app company, which originated as a student-led senior design project and is currently in beta testing, a one-stop social media platform that integrates healthcare, wellness and aesthetic services.

One important mission of the company, says Li: to help lower-income individuals reduce healthcare and self-care industry costs through education, access to fixed price services and comprehensive access to providers.

A Guangzhou native, Li's early work as a child model in China eventually led to her becoming a cover model for high-end brands such as Gucci, Dior and Ferragamo. Capitalizing on her experiences in fashion, she moved on to produce and host China's first health-based reality show, "How to Become Gorgeous," from 2018 to 2021, which had approximately 60 million views per episode.

Amid her early career success, Li, who is a 2007 graduate of Communication University of China, says, "I wanted to learn the story behind the brands I was working with, so I started my own media company."

So in 2016, she founded LYRRA (a play on the Italian lira currency), a media and public relations consulting firm. The company created China's first national restaurant award and first national restaurant guide, and also produced a monthly fashion magazine. Under Li's guidance, LYRRA also led Microsoft's commercialization project for AI Xiaoice, an AI chatbot.

Continuing to seek new ways to advance her career, Li landed at Stevens in the fall of 2022 to pursue an MBA with concentrations in STEM and finance, while focusing on artificial intelligence. She also learned Python programming while serving as president of the

"Women should support women. I want to become an icon, a lighthouse to light the path for future generations of women."



Graduate Women in Business club. During her tenure as president, she was pivotal in bringing Hou Lihong, Science and Technology Counselor of Consulate General of the People's Republic of China, to Stevens to provide the keynote address at the New Tech Trends in China event in April 2024. She also made a gender bias presentation at Stevens' annual LeadHERship Conference.

"Women should support women," Li says. "I want to become an icon, a lighthouse to light the path for future generations of women." ♦

1978

July 2024 — I received a couple of brief messages from **Kurt Meklenburg** recently: “Hi John, I’ve had this photo hanging in my workshop for decades now and thought you might want to use it for the next *Indicator* release. I realize getting content is a challenge, so I thought this might help. Take care. Kurt.” Followed by: “**Kevin Murphy** also proudly displays that photo in his den. Brings back many good memories and friendships.”

Thanks, Kurt, for the graduation photo. It’s hard to believe 46 years have gone by since graduation day, and 50 years since we started our time at Stevens! See the photo and caption near this log.

— **John Jarboe**;
jjarboe1@comcast.net

1981

July 2024 — As I write this in, we are experiencing great shifts in our world and our planet — and it’s not all that pretty — and yet hope and perseverance are prevalent all around us. Life is precious. Being present and grateful for the here and now is key to our joy. Let us all contribute to a positive fruitful peaceful future for the next generation.

In June, I got a small message from **Jean-Paul Durand**. He writes: “Recently, we had a get-together with a few of our Boston-area alumni friends. This was at our house in Billerica, Mass. From left to right are **John Brisson, Mary Anne (Daley) Durand, Peter Pfeil, Dorothy Posch, Rick Posch** and **Jean-Paul Durand**. Peter was visiting from California.”

I have been in touch with some of our class friends, **Marianna Ippolita Buzzerio** and **Ana Leyva**, via texts or phone calls. It’s always nice to just say hello or share where we are on our life journey.

Remember to send me (gmforne@gmail.com) any news you would like me to include in our class logs for *The Indicator*. I hope you enjoyed the spring edition.

Blessings to all.

— **Gloria M Ron-Fornes**;
gmforne@gmail.com

1982

July 2024 — **Christopher Maione** sent some joyful news!

“Christopher Maione ’82 and Dr. Jennifer Cusumano were wed in a picturesque outdoor ceremony on May 25, 2024, in Northport, New York. Jennifer walked down a stone path aisle beaming with joy and holding a vibrant bouquet of orange roses. The ceremony was officiated by the groom’s cousin, Michael Maione. The couple was accompanied by close family and friends, who watched on with heartfelt smiles. Fellow Ducks in attendance included **Steven Bivone ’72** and **Steven Koch ’12**.” Congratulations, Christopher and Jennifer! See their wonderful photo near this class log.

There were a few of us at the Alumni Weekend this year. I ran into **Richard Larsen** at the beer-tasting event and we won a prize for being the oldest alumni at the event. How can this be, I keep asking myself? See a picture of the two of us with our prizes.

Send me some news and pictures! You can send updates to me via email or via the alumni portal at <https://www.stevens.edu/directory/development-and-alumni-engagement/stay-informed/stevens-indicator#form>

— **Dan Roman**,
n2mfc@alumni.stevens.edu

1984

July 2024 — It has been another year since we graduated! Forty years ago, most of us graduated or so we told our parents. I was unable to attend Alumni Weekend, however; for anyone that did attend, please drop us a line telling us all about it. Photos can be found on the alumni Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/stevens.alumni/> and look for the 2024 alumni weekend album.

Most of us are 61 this year, when did we get so old? How many of us are blessed enough to have grandchildren or great-grandchildren? I do not have any but the key I hear is to load them up with ice cream and soda about a half hour before the parents pick them up. Take into account that most likely the actual pick-up time



Top to bottom:

Class of '78ers celebrating their graduation, from left: **Ralph Russenberger, Ron Hosie, Anne Nevola Cantena, Kevin Murphy, Kathy Cunningham, Kurt Meklenburg, Debra Van Sickle** and **Willy Reinholtz**.

The Class of '79 marked its 45th reunion this past spring, with a generous reunion gift of \$797,176.

Mary Anne and Jean-Paul Durand hosted fellow Class of '81ers at their home in Massachusetts. From left: **John Brisson, Mary Anne (Daley) Durand, Peter Pfeil, Dorothy Posch, Rick Posch** and **Jean-Paul Durand**.

Richard Larsen and **Dan Roman**, both Class of '82, enjoying the beer tasting at Alumni Weekend.

Christopher Maione '82 and **Dr. Jennifer Cusumano** wed on May 25, 2024, in Northport, New York. Read more in the '82 log.



**Top to bottom:**

The Class of '84 celebrates their 40th reunion at Alumni Weekend this spring.

Fishing for sea bass and ling on the S.S. Miss Belmar down the Jersey Shore this summer, from left, were Emil Stefanacci and Richard Kluge, Class of '85; Dick Magee '63; and Gerry Ferrara '76.

Reuniting this past Alumni Weekend were, from left, Leslie Brunell, Debi Motler, Helena Skoogh Harz, Steve Buce, Kathy Rostock Connolly and Mike Connolly, Class of '86.

is also much later than originally agreed upon. The little tykes sleeping over? They will love waffles with ice cream and soda for breakfast.

Currently, I am in the process of downsizing, selling my house and buying a condo in Ramsey. The key is to buy a condo small enough so that the freeloading children decide to find a roomier pad. It helps if you bring them along and look at extra-small places. Mention you will get bunk beds for their bedroom so when their least-favorite relative comes to visit everyone will have a place to sleep.

I have been cleaning out a house where we lived for almost 25 years. I pulled away layers of junk only to find it was hiding even older junk. What a task!

It is with a heavy heart that I report our fellow classmate **Dave Savory** died August 2023 in a Wyoming car accident. Dave was living in Colorado. I'm saddened by this news. We shared many good times together. May he Rest in Peace.

I would like to hear stories from classmates about their adventures and fun times with their grandchildren.

— **Bob Confrancisco;**
rconfrancisco@gmail.com

1985

July 2024 — **Emil Stefanacci** offered this update. **Richard "Smooth" Kluge** joined **Emil Stefanacci** for their annual fishing trip out of Belmar in July. **Professor Richard Magee '63** also joined in. The engineers caught their limit and all had fish for dinner.

Rich and his wife **Camille '85** just welcomed their first grandchild, James Robert Kuge, in April. Pencil James Robert in for the Class of 2046. Rich and Camille extended a business trip to Florida in June to spend a few days with **GiGi Carroll** and her husband Kevin. GiGi and Kevin are setting a good pace with three grandchildren — a girl and two boys. GiGi is employed at JEA. She uses her fluids and circuits lab experiences to keep the electricity and water flowing to residents and business of Jacksonville.

Gary Blohm retired from the U.S. Army Geospatial Center in 2021 and is now consulting. He is also enjoying his new role as "#1 Pop-Pop" to Ryder.

1986

July 2024 — Six members of the class attended the recent Alumni Weekend at Stevens. There is a photo at the bottom left.

A reminder to please Save the Date — 6/6/2026 for our 40th Reunion at Stevens!!

How can it be that long? If you are interested in planning or have any suggestions for our celebration, please contact me.

— **Debi Motler;**
dmtot419@gmail.com

1989

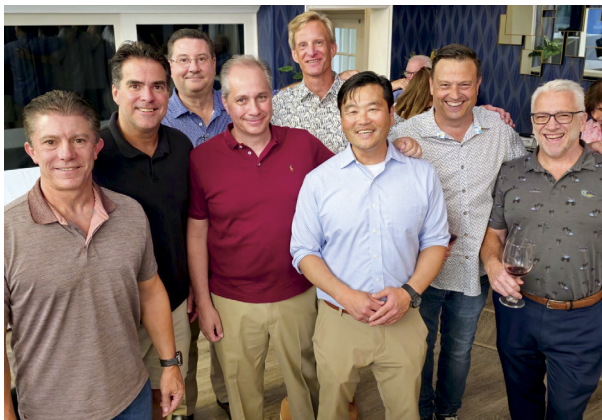
July 2024 — What a wonderful Alumni Weekend we had in June! Twenty classmates gathered on campus to reconnect, share memories and many laughs, while marveling at all the amazing changes that have taken place at Stevens over the last couple of decades.

At the reunion, **Chris Pinyan** recounted his many Stevens connections throughout the last 35 years: "Longtime reader but never sent in an update. A big thank you to Dawn for all the years of service as the keeper of our class log.

"After graduation I went straight to the University of Rochester for a M.S. degree (**Jill Marie Inman** was working on her Ph.D.). It was tough but I split my semesters and graduated Spring '91. Later I got an MBA at Seton Hall.

"I went to work at a small optics company in New Jersey, Deltronic Crystal Industries, where I had worked after junior year and did my senior design project. My roommate, **Ed Trieste '90**, went to work for a competitor, Optics for Research. Over the years, I also worked for Canadian company OZ Optics and got to travel to Japan, Scotland, Germany and Holland for trade shows.

"In 2008, Thorlabs (Newton, N.J.) acquired Optics for Research, and in 2010 I joined Thorlabs as a Product Line Manager and was finally working with Ed. In the Advanced Photonics department, I get to work with several other Stevens grads of various classes and majors, including **Doug Jenkins '10**, **Ethan Sackett '18**, **Patrick Hawkins '12**, **Bill Warger '03** and **Audrey Biss '22**. In 2022, I became



Left, top to bottom:
 Enjoying Alumni Weekend this past spring, from left, are Kyle Gehan '90 and his daughter Arianna Gehan '24 and his wife, Gina Gehan; Attila; and Chris Pinyan '89 and his wife, Jean Uber-Pinyan.

Sigma Phi Epsilon alumni from the Class of '89 through the Class of '96 met at Conclave Brewery in Flemington, New Jersey, this past summer. Carl Alfaro '96, holding the Sig Ep shirt, is the brewery's owner.

The Class of '89 alumni celebrate their 35th reunion this spring and present a generous check for \$1,035.821 to their alma mater.

Gathering for a wine tasting at the Shore Club in Spring Lake, New Jersey, from left, are Michael Lourenco '89, Chris Tribel '89, Greg Peterson '87, James Alessio '91, Peter Krell '86, Peter Ko '89, Daniel Whalen '91 and John Griffin '89.

Above, top to bottom:
 The Class of '94 celebrated their 30th reunion this spring at Stevens.

The Class of '99 marked its 25th anniversary during Alumni Weekend '24.

Generations of STEP alumni enjoy a reunion at Alumni Weekend this spring.

Upstarts



Arianna Gehan '24 was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at 11 years old. She turned her experience growing up with the disease into a business venture through participation in Stevens' entrepreneurial Launchpad program.

As a child, Gehan managed her diabetes through a continuous glucose monitor. Changes in her blood sugar levels would be communicated to her parents through the monitor and if there was ever a dangerous spike or dip in her blood sugar, potentially life-saving measures could be taken immediately. When Gehan started college at Stevens, she stopped sharing her blood sugar information with her parents, as she sought independence. However, she worried about managing her diabetes on her own.

Enter Daia Health, an app that allows for smarter real-time sharing of blood sugar values to make living with diabetes safer. The app can provide immediate information about the user's blood sugar levels to a specified person for a fixed amount of time (a work colleague at a conference, for example) in case of emergency, as well as the location of the person with diabetes and information on how to administer glucagon (an emergency medication to raise blood sugar). The goal, explains Gehan, is to give the emergency contact enough information to be able to assist in a low blood sugar emergency.

The app was published to the Apple App Store on June 26, with a limited launch for feedback purposes planned for September. The aim is to launch Daia Health on a full basis by the end of the year, Gehan says.

"The process of getting to our launch took much longer than I initially anticipated, but I was also balancing building Daia with my classes," Gehan says. "Our launch feels very tangible and imminent, which is a little scary, but I am extremely proud of the work our team has put in and am excited to hopefully help more diabetics!"

Gehan's work in developing the app with her co-founder, Frank Pinnola '22 M.S. '24, has been well received. She earned Stevens' Biomedical Engineering Excellence Award and was named a Rising Star by the New Jersey Business and Industry Association last September. Gehan also won Mission 50's first Hudson County-wide collegiate Entrepreneurial Pitch Competition.

"About 10 years ago, my wife was contacted about a local teenager recently diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. We soon learned the teenager's father is Kyle Gehan '90. My own son was diagnosed in 2007 as a three-year-old. It is currently incurable and must be managed with blood glucose monitoring, insulin injections and close diet monitoring. Incredibly, Kyle's daughter Arianna Gehan was the Stevens Class of 2024 Valedictorian who gave this year's Commencement address and is launching a diabetes management app called Daia (profiled in Upstarts, left)."

Chris Pinyan '89

manufacturing engineering manager and have been able to learn about all phases of our photonics production including optical fabrication, coating, optical fiber, draw towers and cabling and optical assembly production. We supply companies worldwide with components and photonic assemblies for all industries and research institutions.

"About 10 years ago, my wife was contacted about a local teenager recently diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. We soon learned the teenager's father is **Kyle Gehan '90**. My own son was diagnosed in 2007 as a three-year-old. It is currently incurable and must be managed with blood glucose monitoring, insulin injections and close diet monitoring. Incredibly, Kyle's daughter **Arianna Gehan** was the Stevens Class of 2024 Valedictorian who gave this year's Commencement address and is launching a diabetes management app called Daia (profiled in Upstarts, Page 58).

"I also found the time to start a small board game company, Crispy Games Company (<https://www.crispygamesco.com>) and successfully funded a card game and some expansions on Kickstarter. I occasionally go to game conventions to show it off, sell some copies and chat about the game's theme: The Age of Fighting Sailing Ships, an interest I picked up over the years.

"Admittedly, I have not been an active alumnus. I went to a couple of alumni fencing meets and fraternity events, but kids and work always seemed to get in the way of getting more involved. This past September I was finally back on campus with the Thorlabs Mobile Photonics Lab Experience; a food-truck-sized trailer with several optical experiments to introduce students and the general public to the world of photonics and get them interested in pursuing an education and career in the study of light. At Stevens, I got to see **Professor Ed Whittaker Hon. M.Eng. '00** again and he ran a class lab session in the mobile lab. Since then, I have been to a Tau Beta Pi dinner, Incubator presentations, Innovation Expo (these kids are doing amazing projects), Devils Game Night and finally, my first Alumni Day in 35 years. It was great to see about 20 of my classmates and talk about the various and unlikely paths our careers have taken and what changes have taken place on campus. There

were a lot of 'I wish they had that when I was here' and as you might expect a couple of 'why did they do that?' (where is the gate arch?) but overall, we were impressed at the development of the campus and the advancement of the university.

"I am now settled in Randolph, N.J. with my wife Jean and our two kids. My daughter just graduated from the University of Delaware and I am proud to say she will be a middle school science teacher, getting the next generations of scientists and engineers on their path to success. My son just finished his first year as a mechanical engineering student at the University of Massachusetts (sorry Stevens, but there is always grad school).

"I highly recommend anyone who has not gotten back to campus to visit and see the new buildings, social spaces and facilities that Stevens has added over the years and keep reading *The Indicator* for future events and all its amazing plans for the years to come."

Thank you, Chris!! Stay tuned for the next Alumni Weekend update!

— **Dawn Madak;**
dawnmadak@gmail.com

2002

Summer 2024 — Hezly Rivera, the daughter of **Henry Rivera '02**, made headlines and graced our screens this summer as the youngest member of the U.S. Olympic Team at the 2024 Summer Games in Paris! The 16-year-old gymnastics sensation from New Jersey, who is just the fifth Latina to represent the United States in the sport, made her Olympic debut in the balance beam and uneven bars, and shared an artistic team all-around gold medal with teammate Simone Biles and others. Henry has been his daughter's unwavering support throughout this incredible journey. From relocating the family to Texas to help her pursue her dream, to cheering her on at competitions, he's been there every step of the way. You might recognize some of the emotional reaction videos while watching his daughter compete — they went viral! Congratulations to the Rivera family, and we can't wait to see Hezly compete in 2028!

— **The Stevens Indicator;**
alumni-log@stevens.edu



Top to bottom:

Jeremy Roche '18 M.Eng. '18 had a solo art show at the Hoboken Historical Museum this summer, featuring more than 30 pieces of his abstract mixed media art. Read more about Jeremy at stevens.edu/news/jeremy-roche-is-building-a-career-on-his-own-terms.

Class of 2004ers marked their 20th reunion this spring.

Vicky Velasco '04, seated at center, received the Stevens Alumni Award at Alumni Weekend this spring. Seated in front are Vicky's parents Asterio and Amparo Velasco. Back row, from left, are her sister Monica Velasco Caldwell '02 M.S. '02 MBA '06, Phillip Suttmiller, and sister-in-law and brother Valerie Byron Velasco '08 and David Velasco '07, with Vicky's nephews and nieces Alex, Mateo, Emma and Allie.

**Top to bottom:**

The Class of 2009 and families enjoy Alumni Weekend '24, marking their 15th reunion.

Christian Bonavita '21 visits Mount Rainier National Park in Seattle; read more from Christian in the 2021 log.

“An extremely fascinating part of my job has been learning how my approach to wastewater problems differs from the very talented mechanical and civil engineers that I work with because of my background in chemical engineering and wastewater process design.”

Christian Bonavita '21

2021

July 21, 2024 — This edition of the Class of 2021 log comes from **Christian Bonavita '21**, who shares his journey from obtaining a graduate certificate at Stevens to his current role in wastewater engineering:

“Once I reached my junior year, I realized that most traditional chemical engineering jobs would not be for me. It wasn’t because of the junior year ‘hell’ semester or a negative internship or externship experience, but mostly because I realized that I would have to think way outside of the box if I wanted to use my degree to do something positive for sustainability and the environment. With the job market uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was difficult to find a job or internship near home with my degree, so I needed to expand my knowledge base and resume.

“Thanks to a classmate, I learned about the various graduate certificates offered by Stevens. For those who aren’t aware of the program, graduate certificates are credit-based academic programs that are more narrowly focused on a specialized field than a master’s degree. So, I enrolled in the Environmental Management graduate certificate program, where I was exposed to wastewater treatment process design and found the combination of biology, chemistry and mathematics, as well as the opportunity to benefit the local and regional community and environment, enticing.

“When considering senior design topics, I had the idea to design and simulate a gasification process for sewage solid residuals. Gasification is not a new process, but it is in its infancy for municipal sewage sludge. However, it has a lot of potential for reducing the amount of sludge that needs to be disposed of and producing renewable energy that can be utilized elsewhere in the treatment plant. Our team demonstrated the mass and energy balance for the process and reached the final round of the Stevens Innovation Expo’s Entrepreneurship Competition.

“Since college, I have worked at R3M Engineering, Inc., a wastewater engineering consulting firm in Old Bridge, New Jersey. Although we’re a small company of less than 30 people including administrative staff, we do a surprising amount of work in pump station and wastewater process design and rehabilitation. An extremely fascinating part of my job has been learning how my approach to wastewater problems differs from the very talented mechanical and civil engineers that I work with because of my background in chemical engineering and wastewater process design. While the first thought of the engineers might be how to get the wastewater from Point A to Point B, my first instinct is to check how the quality of the wastewater will be impacted. Together, this diversity of thought and background helps any engineering firm deliver a complete solution.

“My experience with wastewater treatment came full circle when I had the opportunity to visit the first full-scale operation of a gasification facility for municipal sewage sludge just outside of Seattle, Washington. Before I left for the trip, I had to send a message to my Stevens senior design group to thank them for going with my quirky project idea and strange fascination with wastewater treatment processes. Unfortunately, I truly can’t say that our design group thought of everything; I was amazed by the scale of the system and the considerations for redundancy, safety, energy recovery, and emissions control.

“As insane as the third year out of college has been, with all the increased responsibilities and extra hours at work, I finally feel like I’m where I should be. And that is thanks to the programs Stevens offered and the incredibly driven classmates and lifelong friends I made along the way.”

— Sarah Bertussi;
sbertussi@yahoo.com

Graduate Log

Marisa Chrysochoou Ph.D. '06 was appointed dean of the University of Missouri College of Engineering in June and joined the university on August 1, 2024. Prior to working with Mizzou, Chrysochoou spent 17 years with the University of Connecticut, where she was a professor and later head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. She also served as director of the university's Technical Assistance for Brownfields Program. In 2023, Chrysochoou was recognized by the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors with an award for Outstanding Contribution to Environmental Engineering and Science Education. "Dr. Chrysochoou is an accomplished scholar with a track record of leadership and service to the profession of engineering," said University of Missouri Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Matthew Martens. "Following a national search, the president's and provost's offices sought and received feedback from across the university, including faculty, staff, alumni, donors and others to identify Dr. Chrysochoou as the ideal candidate to lead the College of Engineering, which plays a critical role in the state's economy and economic development." At the University of Connecticut, Chrysochoou was successful in partnering with program managers, government affairs, advancement and multidisciplinary faculty teams to win funding and support for projects that showcase the talent and facilities of her teams, according to Mizzou. It noted that she used her leadership roles to transform engineering curricula and recruit exceptional graduate students and faculty. Chrysochoou received a doctorate in environmental engineering from Stevens, a master's degree in environmental engineering from Technische Universität Dresden and a bachelor's degree in physics from Aristotle University in Thessaloniki. "I am very excited about the opportunity to lead the University of Missouri College of Engineering," Chrysochoou said in a statement. "I look forward to building on the success of the college in critical areas of teaching, research and impact on the state and the nation."

Shivani Bhawsar M.S. '24 published an article, "Deep learning-based multimodal analysis for transition-metal dichalcogenides," on June 24, 2024, in *MRS Bulletin*, one of the most widely recognized and highly respected publications in materials research. While researching nanomaterials at Stevens in mechanical engineering professor E.H. Yang's Advanced Quantum Materials Laboratory, Bhawsar, who was an applied artificial intelligence major in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, noted how time-consuming her work was. So, she applied her knowledge of artificial intelligence to optimize the process. Her new application, which can be thought of as a "smart microscope," was so successful that she went on to present her work at the Materials Research Society (MRS) fall 2022 meeting in Boston, where an editor personally invited Bhawsar to submit her findings to *MRS Bulletin*. Bridging quantum technology and computer science, Bhawsar's research at Stevens took an AI-based approach to characterizing 2D materials — substances that are just one or two atoms thick, essentially forming flat sheets. Her work has helped pave the way for the development of ultra-thin electronic devices, advanced sensors and faster and more energy-efficient gadgets, according to a recent Stevens news story. Bhawsar is currently a machine learning engineer with Handel Architects.

Some recent graduates of the Stevens School of Business shared their recent career developments:

Amna Shamshad M.S. '24, who earned a master's degree in business intelligence and analytics, has joined Siemens Smart Infrastructure as a Siemens graduate engineer.

Jenna Rubenchik '23 M.S. '24, armed with her master's degree in financial engineering, is working as a market risk analyst for JPMorgan Chase & Co. in New York.

And **Matthew Crowley '23 M.S. '24**, who earned a master's degree in management, joined EY's FSO Tax Staff in their Diversified Staff Group based out of the New York City office.

Vitals

Notices received from 3/5/24 to 8/15/24.

MARRIAGES

Dr. Jennifer Cusumano and **Christopher Maione '82** on May 25, 2024.

OBITUARIES

1950s

M.P. Corwin '51
H.E. Eller '51
H.C. Fischer '51
D.R. Rasmusson '51
C.D. Birkevaag, Jr. '52 M.S. '59
C.D. Klem '52
H.J. Straut, Jr. '53 M.S. '58
J.P. Sanborn '54
R.F. Cimera '55 M.S. '58
J.V. Albano '56 M.S. '59
A.J. Caprio '56
W.L. Kohlhoff '56
V.J. Fischer M.S. '57
K.J. Hartel '57
C.F. Lindholm, II M.S. '57
W.D. Thompson '57 M.S. '63
R.W. Gerstle '58
A.L. Querns '59
W.L. Steiner M.S. '59
L.F. Veprek '59 M.S. '66

1960s

R.J. Budin '60
A.M. Edwards '60
M.J. Fernandi '60 MMS '66
R.E. Koudelka '60 M.S. '64
F.J. Spollen M.S. '60
E.J. Timmons M.S. '60
R.W. Zach '60
M.A. Berk M.S. '61
J.F. Daly, Jr. '61
J.E. Davee M.S. '61
G.C. Denzer, Jr. '61 M.S. '65
E.J. Philipps M.S. '61
S.M. Polemis '61
M.J. Malinowski '63
W.J. Markowski '63 M.Eng. '74
R.C. North M.S. '63
W.A. Proskow '63
K. Shauger '64
K.L. Stott M.S. '64
M.A. Schimenti, Jr. MMS '65
D.W. Vogel '65
J.B. Vander Sande '66
R.A. Zrike '66
L.H. Saraf M.S. '67
J.E. Fewkes '68

1970s

C.R. Ball '70 M.Eng. '74
E.P. Cooke MMS '71
R.A. D'Angelo '71
C.H. Kyriakou '71
W.J. Morrissey '71
W.R. Brooks '72
R.J. Everson M.S. '72
G.T. Mobayed '72 MMS '86
D.H. Beumer '73
L.S. Lauer '73
J.J. Klesh M.Eng. '74 M.S. '81
J.A. Woloshen '74
H.M. Dolezal M.S. '76
MMS '88 Ph.D. '08
W.K. Swiss M.S. '78

1980s

P.S. Hughes '81
D. Savory '84
K.F. Smolik Ph.D. '84
D.R. Engemann '85
D.L. Mazak M.Eng. '89

1990s

E.E. Enriquez M.S. '93
A. Donofrio M.S. '94 MTM '99
R. Brenner M.S. '96

2000s

K.M. Addeo M.S. '04
D.L. Shanks M.Eng. '07

FACULTY

G. Creamer
S. Levin