



EDGEWOOD COLLEGE

Emerald

Honoring the Class of 1974

& all alumni who graduated 50 years ago or more

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

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throughout the year in a variety of ways!

Edgewood College Alumni Webpage | www.edgewood.edu/alumni

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Edgewood College News | www.edgewood.edu/news

Edgewood College Events Calendar | www.edgewood.edu/calendar



Peter Barr in Marshall Hall. 1974.



Students at a dance. 1974.



Gary Huth in Marshall Hall. 1974.

What's Inside

Welcome Class of 1974: Emerald Club Inductees

Class of 1974-1971 Memories

Class of 1968-1955 Memories

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Memorials

Endowed Scholarship

What's Happening

10:00AM Continental Breakfast and Social Time

11:00AM Group Photo

11:15AM Mass

12:15PM Luncheon and Program

1:00PM Social Time and Optional Campus Tours

Mission

Edgewood College, rooted in the Dominican tradition, engages students within a community of learners committed to building a just and compassionate world.

The College educates students for meaningful personal and professional lives of ethical leadership, service, and a lifelong search for truth.

Vision

Edgewood College will be an inclusive model of learning, teaching, and scholarship. Our students, alumni, faculty, and staff will be recognized for their pursuit of purposeful lives, vibrant and sustainable communities, and a just world.

Motto

Cor ad Cor Loquitur which is Latin for

“Heart Speaks to Heart”



Edgewood College student working with Oakwood Lutheran Home resident. 1974.



A college staff member congratulates a graduate student after commencement. 1974.

Welcome Class of 1974

Joan Abramson

Marilyn Adams

Jane (Uecker) Ahrens

Linda Babler

Michael Ballweg

Elizabeth (Mitchell) Banks

Philip Beck

Kathy Beier

Becky (Duncanson) Blakeslee

Carolyn (Thompson) Boyken

Sheila (McNamara) Brackin

Michael Brooks

Cheryl (Enke) Casperson

David Cipra

Marvin Clark

Kathleen Courtney, M.A. '92

Ann (Polyock) Crick

Maureen Daly

Janette (Depies) Vanevenhoven

Donna (McClane) Donnelly

Marianne (Fitzpatrick) Duffner

Jane (Buechner) Eaton

Marie (Omamomo) Ekpere

Marlene (Peters) Elbrecht

Randa (Hassouna) Emera

Sharon Endres

Virginia Endres

Ann (Berns) Engler

Anna Engstrom

Catherine (Susee) Evenson

Mary Ellen (Hickey) Fahey

Mark Fahey

Maureen Fleming

Kathleen (Morris) Frank

Kenneth Frisch

Jean (Pfaff) Gavin

Kathryn (Quinn) Haas

Charlene (Nowak) Hannes

Katherine Hart

Mary Hellenbrand Ross

Elizabeth (Festge) Hillebrand

Phillip Hodapp

Tracy (Jacobs) Hucker

Kimberly (Kauten) Hunt

John Ingala

Sharon Joyce

Jean Keith

Janette Kiehn

Jennifer (Fleury) Kopecky

Janna (Luebke) Kritz

Beverly (Kolb) Krueger

Charles Kuehn

Patricia (Pandl) Kuehn

Aileen Kung

Sharon Landgraf

Ruby (Olson) Larsen

Mary Laughlin

Bridget (Fitzgerald) Lewellyn

Patricia (Meltz) Ludvigson

James Luebke

Susan Mackey

Mary Malter

Rita (Coyne) Manion

Mary (Romano) Marks

Mary (Harmon) Meade

Louise Michaelis

Mark Minsloff

Cindy Morse

Maureen Mullen

Marilyn Murphy

Teklu Negla

Nancy (Ley) Nelson

Diane Ness

Mary (Hurley) Neuenschwander

Jackilu (Schnurbusch) Niedfeldt

Kristine (Ellis) Olson

Jaime Otero

James Pareti

Alice (Koopman) Paul, M.A. '02

Sally (Benson) Pfrang

Betty Popelka

Connie (Jones) Randall

Jeanine (Gleason) Ranzen

Debra (Collins) Redfern

Margaret Reilley

Mary (Cowlin) Reitinger

Allen Rickey

Catherine (Donisch) Robertson

Randall & Nancy (Graber) Roisum

Robert Sals

Kathleen (Radloff) Schmidt

Mary (Dallman) Schmidt

Pam Schnellinger

Mary (Miller) Scott

Ellen (Barbian) Sinclair

Julie (Amberg) Smith

Reginald Smith

Darlene Soldner

Mary Soltwedel

Jane (Slattery) Steil

Marcelete (Shaw) Stewart

Elizabeth (Finegan) Thompson

Karen (Bley) Tiffany

Jeanne Tranel, O.P.

Patricia (Lukaszewski) Tully

Marie Valley

Edward Van Merrienboer, O.P.

Mary (Lee) Wacker

Jananne (Teasdale) Wadlund

Dorine (Kraus) Wenger

Theresa Wiesmann

Carol (Daly) Williams

Diane (Doherty) Wimberly

Elizabeth (Van Wie) Wolfram

We take great care in compiling our list of alumni. If we have misrepresented your name, please let us know so we can correct our records and acknowledge you properly.

Class of 1974

Sheila (McNamara) Brackin '74

30+ years of teaching, 40+ years of marriage, two children, one son-in-law, one daughter-in-law, two grandsons, two granddaughters, years of summers on the lake, spring break trips, fall adventures, yearly reunions with fellow Edgewood friends, infinite rounds of golf, and daily prayers of thanksgiving for this wonderful life. Here's to 50 more.



Sheila Brackin

Janette Kiehn '74

Dreaming in my cozy dorm room in Marshall Hall, a huge explosion rocked the dorm so ferociously that it nearly knocked me out of bed, the sound reverberating in my chest, like a sonic boom that was right next door. I was perturbed that my sleep had been interrupted as I was expected at work in just a couple of hours. I couldn't calm my heartbeat which seemed to have been shocked into rapid fire. I couldn't go back to sleep. Something had happened and whatever it was, it wasn't good.

In the early morning hours of August 24, 1970, the University of Wisconsin experienced what we now call an act of domestic terrorism. The math research building on the UW campus had been bombed. Sterling Hall was rubble. A person had been killed. The perpetrators were atop the FBI's most wanted list. Over the months since Kent State, the anti-war sentiment had reached a fever pitch on campus. Common areas had become staging grounds, first for activists' speeches, draft card burnings, hangings in effigy, and eventually taken over by the National Guard. Campus became an occupied city, curfews in effect, searches and arrests commonplace, tear gas canisters littering the sidewalks, and National Guard Troops lining the streets. Nightly clashes were making the news; student protest leaders were beaten and arrested. Students were fighting to stop the war, with words, the National Guard, trying to control the students, had guns.

Madison is a college town, home to the UW Madison. In its shadow exists a small, Catholic women's college (at the time) "on the shores of Lake Wingra"—Edgewood College of the Sacred Heart. It is less than a 15-minute walk to Camp Randall, but as a student there, 50 years ago, I felt worlds away from the growing unrest on campus. One of the perks of Edgewood was its collaborative program with UW, which allowed and encouraged Edgewood students to participate in classes of several disciplines offered by them, but not at Edgewood. As a collaborative student, I made the weekly trek to campus and several times unwittingly became a part of the protests. Students seemed focused not on academics, but on following the tradition of targeted opposition as when DOW CHEMICAL recruited on campus in October of 1967, where peaceful protests of DOW's presence erupted into massive arrests and hundreds of injuries, blatant beatings by police and National Guard. As on other campuses, the free speech movement was in full swing, students were not only protesting the invasion of Cambodia but also fighting for their own rights of civil disobedience, first amendment expression, and challenging the powers that be, whether they be University officials or the United States Congress.

It was easy to feel secure in the embrace of fellow students, professors, and general campus tranquility at Edgewood, while the unrest, protests, and violence was a nightly occurrence at UW. On campus during the day, speeches were ongoing, recruitment and organizing were paramount. Some students hurried through the plaza, hoping to avoid being stopped by one of the anti-war organizations, and were still attending classes. The educational goals of many had greatly shifted. Trust in the University's Regents was a casualty of the protest movement. At Edgewood, a few students, mainly organized by the seminarians, had gathered to talk about the anti-war efforts with the intention of creating solidarity among Edgewood students, but also to join in the protests. We participated mostly at night when the atmosphere was charged, dangerous, and seemed like guerrilla warfare. Protesters vs. National Guard. We would join up with university students who knew the campus well, trying to peacefully occupy a space or a building, to disrupt through civil disobedience. The media,

often caught in the nauseating wave of tear gas, and unable to see— we guided them, cameras on their shoulders, to a water station where they could clear the gas from their eyes and throat. Often that became our main objective, handing out wet bandanas, filling and moving huge coffee urns of water. Eventually, when exhaustion overtook us, we walked back to our dorms...the seminarians back to their homes, avoiding any streets where the Guard were milling about. Sneaking into the dorms when it was way past curfew was no longer a challenge. A friend would wait up.

When I was jolted awake on that August morning, I was really jolted awake in my awareness and my activism. I began to read more; I was thirsty for knowledge; the how and why we were in Vietnam in the first place. I eagerly signed up for Prof Michael Lybarger's class on the history of southeast Asia. Some of the puzzle pieces began to fit, I talked with fellow students about the war, about the protests, about the number of innocent people dying daily due to the use of napalm, DOW CHEMICAL'S most profitable product. The bombing of the Math Research Building seemed less and less like terrorism, but more like an urgent wake up call. If the death of one person, and the destruction of one building was a tragedy, how do we talk about the thousands of deaths and destruction of an entire homeland?

As time went on, friends and I would pick daisies and wildflowers in the nearby Arboretum. As we walked to our destination down Monroe Street, we'd place daisies into the rifle barrels of the National Guardsmen who had become a familiar sight. With each daisy placed, I thought of those rifles poised to fire at us, sometimes unable to look into the face of someone the same age as me looking back.

Patricia "Patty" (Meltz) Ludvigson '74

Favorite memory from your time at Edgewood College: Making new friends and having these friendships 50 years later!

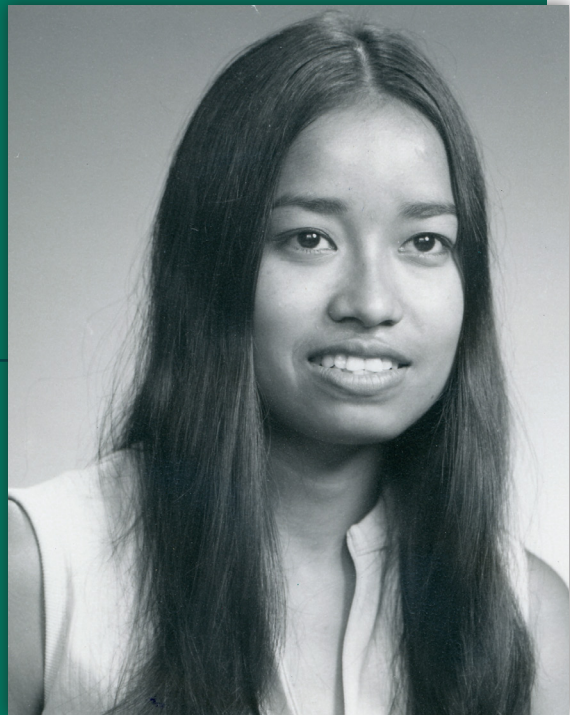


Students at a dance. 1974.



Jamie Mullen (left) and Darryl Green (right) in Marshall Hall. 1974.

From the Archives



Maritza O'Brien, international student from Panama. 1974.



Tom Hughes in Marshall Hall. 1974.

Marilyn Murphy '74

Edgewood prepared me well for a teaching career, mostly in the Archdiocese of Chicago with fourth and fifth grades. One especially fun anecdote from my first year of teaching at St. Patrick's in Madison: Chris Farley was in my 4/5 homeroom. I remember having his mother in for many conferences! One of his antics was falling off a chair over and over to entertain us!

Favorite memory: Making lifelong friends at Edgewood

Favorite movie: The Way We Were '73

Favorite song: Bridge Over Troubled Water, Simon and Garfunkel '70

Favorite book: Le Petit Prince/The Little Prince, we read it in French class, the French version with Sr. Pauline

Favorite professor: Sr. Miriam, she delivered the most interesting and memorable psychology lectures

Favorite recipe: Making peanut blossoms at Christmas time

Favorite quote: "One person does make a difference."

Marybeth (Hurley) Neuenschwander '74

I taught for two years at Sr. Jerome's in Oconomowoc after graduating. In 1976, I married Roy Neuenschwander. I taught in Madison for 33 years. We have three children and five grandchildren. I retired from teaching in 2007. We winter in our condo in Jensen Beach, Florida since 2018.

Kris (Ellis) Olson '74

I graduated with a B.A. in Journalism and was married the fall of 1974 to Kevin Olson, a Madison native. We moved to Green Bay, WI where we raised three children and where I still live today. I am the proud mom of Matt, Andy, and Sara and two beautiful granddaughters, Jalin and Marian. I enjoyed my career path which began in local TV news as a News Producer. After 11 years, I worked for various ad agencies as a freelance video producer, and in the mid 1990's I took a completely different path and owned a sports bar across from Lambeau Field until 2001. After selling the business,



Kris Olson

I returned to work in local media and am now semi-retired. My time at Edgewood is cherished to this day where I made lasting friendships with treasured memories.

Class of 1972

Patricia (Murphy) Statz '72

Favorite memory from your time at Edgewood College: Having attended the Campus School and high school, I felt quite at home at Edgewood College. I received a B.S. in Elementary Education. The education department had a wonderful reputation for turning out well-prepared teachers. Being able to add that to my resume made me very marketable in landing my first teaching job.

Edgewood is special. It offers a welcoming, stimulating environment with access to a vibrant and diverse college town. The campus is beautiful and the instructors are committed to their students.

My current excitement is knowing that our first grandchild will be attending Edgewood College this fall. Talk about full circle! It is a proud moment and we can't wait for her to get started on her career path.

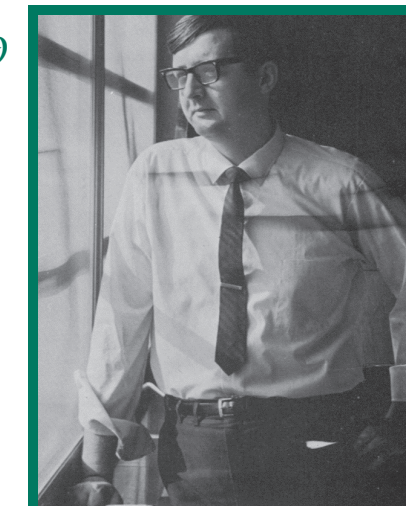
Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: The School of Education, under the leadership of Dr. Schmiedicke, was excellent. It was all good! I'll never forget the welcome I received from Sr. Marie Stephen Reges, aka Sr. Stevie. When I started mid-sophomore year, after attending Eau Claire for a short stint, her comment was, "Welcome Home." She delivered that with a hug!

I wish Edgewood College all the best as it continues the high standards of excellence that go way back!

Class of 1971

Jacquelyn Strahl '71, M.A. '99

Favorite memory from your time at Edgewood College: I'll always remember the "Community" that I felt no matter what degree I was pursuing at the time. Still see this is very prevalent today!
Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: Definitely Dr. Joe Schmiedicke. He was the most influential, knowledgeable and gracious person I've had the honor of knowing!



Dr. Joe Schmiedicke

Dr. Nancy Nelson! Her lessons were always relevant to what we were learning! Even our required observations were extremely relevant. Dr. Nelson is like this in all of her passions!

Also, thank you to all of the support staff and, of course, PHIL!

Favorite movie or TV series: MASH/Northern Exposure

Favorite book: *A Gift from the Sea* by Anne Morrow Lindbergh

Favorite quote: From my Grandmother, Lena Knapp – 106 years old... "Always take care of yourself and take care of others." 1988

Class of 1968

Leah Cox '68

Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: Pastor Mays – his sense of humor and challenging class.



T. O'Shea in Marshall Hall. 1974.



Students at a dance. 1974.

Class of 1967

Roberta Filicky-Peneski '67

Favorite memory from your time at Edgewood College: Walking down the hill from Marshall Hall, past the Campus School on the way to DeRicci Hall in all kinds of weather, every season.

Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: All of my art teachers, but especially Miss Welniak. I still have my old sketchbooks and prints.

Favorite quote: "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." Arthur Ashe



Miss Welniak

Class of 1966

MaryKay Bruns '66

Most outstanding memory from your time at Edgewood College: The beautiful sunny fall day and the moment someone told me JFK had been shot as I was walking from DeRicci to Regina Hall.

Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: Joe Schmiedicke, for his sense of humor and his open-mindedness.

Jeanette (Salzmann) Felix '66

Favorite memory from your time at Edgewood College: Dorm life holds many special memories centered around many special friends. My favorite classes were held in the science building where we could enjoy the large window views toward Lake Wingra.

Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: Always and forever, my favorite professor was (Sister Elaine) Jeanette Feldballe. She was patient and kind while accepting nothing but the best from each student.

Class of 1965

Sandra (Mitchell) Dunham '65

Favorite memory from your time at Edgewood College: I loved the beauty of the campus. Especially the tree lined drive through the back of the campus overlooking Lake Wingra and back by Mazzuchelli Hall. It was peaceful and full of the natural beauty of flora and fauna. I loved being able to drive through that venue.

Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: Names have escaped me as I was a transfer student and attended Edgewood for a rather short time. But I do remember a Sister in the English Department who taught an Age of Johnson course and she was a fun and interesting mentor.

Favorite movie or TV series: Moonstruck

Favorite book: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Favorite recipe:

Chop Suey

1lb beef cubes

1lb pork cubes

Sauté in bacon fat or oil

Add 1 large onion chopped finely

4-6 stalks celery chopped finely

Continue to brown meat with salt and pepper (to taste)

Cover with water and cook 45 minutes to 1 hour

Add 1/4 cup soy sauce and 1/3 cup dark molasses

Mix flour and water to make a thickening slurry for the meat mixture

Drain 2 large cans of Chinese vegetables and add

Top with crunchy Chinese noodles and serve all over rice

Favorite quote: "When you are at the end of your rope...tie a knot and hang on." My mom, Dorothy Keleny Knutson, repeated this when someone was distressed. Her mother, Gertrude Krantz Keleny, often said this phrase too.

Susan (Carney) Mattoon '65



Sophomore year Theology final. April 1963.

Mary Ann Miller, O.P. '65

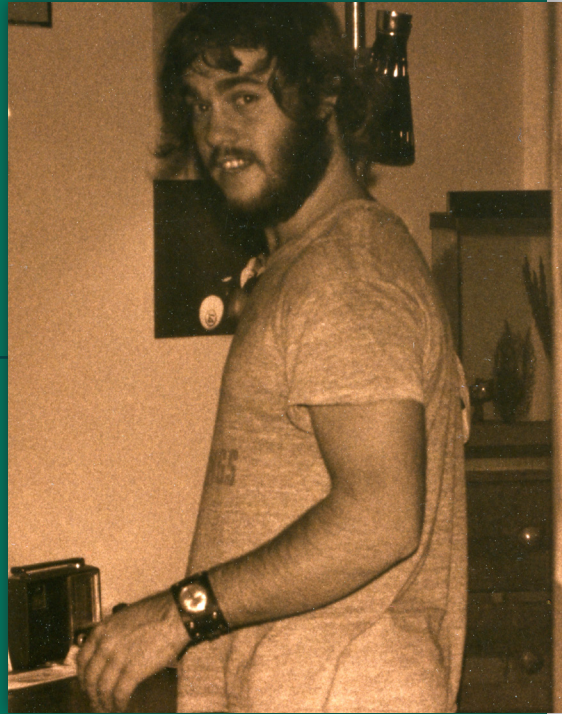
Favorite memory from your time at Edgewood College: Canoeing on Lake Wingra.

Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: Sister Jonathan because she had a great sense of humor.

Favorite quote: "Laughter is the Catholic's Amen." Jerry Hershey



Sr. M. Jonathan



Greg Hitchins in Marshall Hall. 1974.



International students hanging out with Sister Cordon. Marie Ekpere from Nigeria, Marie Bright from Liberia, Wanda d'Souza from Kenya, and Sister C. Cordon (USA). 1974.

Class of 1964

Rosemary (Daggett) Hansen '64

Favorite memory from your time at Edgewood College: The lasting friendships that developed from my years spent at the college. Many of these members are some of our best and dearest friends. It is hard to realize that we are at the point 60 years later of losing them to the next phase of life's journey. Our family has been a true blessing with five children, spouses, and 14 grandchildren. Life is never dull with all their activities. We are fortunate to be able to spend some of the winter in Scottsdale, Az. We have made a whole new group of friends. We still live in western Wisconsin right off I-90. If any of you are ever in our area, please let us know and we would love to have you stop.

Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: I remember Sister Esther's comment about mental health. When will society wake up and realize that we need to deal with mental health in other ways than through the penal system? Have we made much progress in the 60 years since this comment? Sister Marie Grace and her down-to-earth approach. Sister Marie Paula teaching us to appreciate Opera in our Labs with Operatic music playing in the background.

Marilynn (Goetz) Fons '64

Favorite memory from your time at Edgewood College: Started a drama club (Mr. Burdick)

Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: Sr. Mary Grace and Sr. Kia – English professor

Favorite movie or TV series: Anything on PBS

Favorite book: *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens

Class of 1963

Mary Catherine “Mary Kay” (Paisley) Nielsen '63

Favorite memory from your time at Edgewood College: Favorite memories of when I was at Edgewood College. I have MANY favorite times...freshman year...getting to know the to-be friends in the wing of

REGINA HALL. Friends that I have kept in touch with throughout the four years and since then. We met at reunions as our families were growing and until recently, we met twice a year at each other's homes...now once a year as we travel less. The cost of books for classes...that was an eye opener!

We studied...and shared our class experiences...especially in the hall between end of (enforced) study hours and the bell that rang for 'lights out'! Unless you got previous permission to stay up late...to study of course. We shared treats brought from home from our 'once a month' visits. We learned so much from the 'house' mothers and their lives and classes.

Finally learning that it cost dorm students money if they SKIPPED breakfast...“early to bed...early to rise...”

Taking the bus home to Dubuque (getting on at the corner) for a weekend... they were SO happy to see me!

Sophomore year...learning to run the switchboard and becoming a member of the dish crew.

One of our friends lived with a family off campus and she had access to her brother's convertible...we piled a LOT of us in the car just to get off campus and maybe get an ice cream cone at McDonalds.

Walking to the 'close' village...maybe to buy something...usually not...we didn't have much money and occasionally walking to the BIG village... usually just to look around.

Racing up the hill to classes...which took place...somewhere up the hill...no DeRicci yet. P.E. classes were REALLY early...in the high school gym...in our weird gym outfits...watching the 'dome' gym being built...

Letting our friends in the back door when they're late...after signing them in.

Trips to Henry Vilas Zoo...in our trench coats...and trying to find them in the

bushes on our return trip.

Junior and senior year...they run together here...class meetings...hoping not to get elected to anything...almost flunking out because I was too busy getting ready for PARENTS' WEEKEND... (one of my professors asked why I didn't apply to master's classes...I reminded him that I was lucky to pass his class that semester...(Oh...and Philosophy of Nature...D- in that class...)

Trying to get votes for our opponent after getting nominated for Student President. (The seniors didn't like that...they threatened to boycott the election.) My opponent chose a 'dorm' student to run her campaign...I chose a 'day' student.

Watching Sr. Stevie planting flowers outside Regina Hall in the rain...

Learning to eat like ladies at dinner...(joined the dish crew quickly.)

Meeting the poet who had her apartment leading directly to the dining hall...

Enjoying night classes...three hours in the evening instead of three times a week...

Oh...watching DeRicci getting built...and teasing about how to pronounce the construction companies...(little things made me happy.)

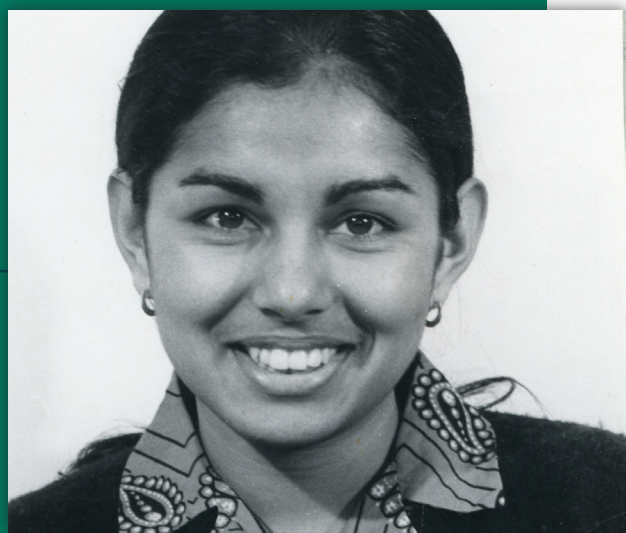
Paying for dishes we broke out of the high pay we got as running the dish crew...Ha!

Planting a tree outside the kitchen door...and taking pictures with us all around it throughout the years.

Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: Sr. Cajetan - History; Sr. Melchior - Latin; Shakespeare classes on Monday nights with a wonderful English teacher; Mr. Wynelader – History; My advisor didn't like me. I never went to see her.



Edgewood College Swing Choir, 1973.



Wanda Souza, international student from Kenya, 1974.

Class of 1961

Rae Rocca '61

Favorite Edgewood College professor and why: Sister Mary Rosary – my major professor – so wonderful with children.

Favorite movie or TV series: Sound of Music

Favorite quote: “Stability before mobility.”

Class of 1960

Louise (Colsant) Frawley '60

Favorite memory from your time at Edgewood College: I loved every day at Edgewood!

Class of 1955

Marilyn (Warner) Kapter '55

My time at Edgewood changed my life. Sr. Jane Frances helped me grow in confidence. My three children all finished college and beyond. They became productive members of their communities. My life was in the classroom. Thirty-two years in primary grades and the last five years at the University of Stevens Point. This January, I turned 90 years old and heard from over 100 former students. That warmed this old teacher's heart. I am in excellent health and live independently. I have great memories of my time at Edgewood College.

In Remembrance: Class of 1974

Muncera Afifa

Constance Arispe

Marita (O'Brien) Bierhardt

Mary (Meahl) Dorn

Fr. Lawrence Dunklee

Marjorie Farris

Judith Feaster

Louise (Rogers) Fisher

William Fitzgerald Fleck

Marian (Martin) Fox

Regina (Dugan) Gloede

Mary (Shipe) Graves

Nancy (Beck) Harring

Fr. Michael Hartl

Debra (Zander) Herr

Verdell Hollow Horn Bear

Luetta (Lukes) Joyce

Maureen (Sheehy) Kelly

Mary (Sullivan) Kolberg

Julia (Carey) McCann

Mary McIntier

Virginia (Bittorf) McMillin

Diane Muehlemann

Kayetta (Bradley) Nieman

Kathleen Pulvermacher

Patricia (O'Neil) Rademacher

Elaine (Kennedy) Rattunde

Patricia Reisdorf

Genevieve (Anderson) Tretheway

Nancy (Isabella) Vilbrandt

Gail Vinje

Members who passed away in the last year

Mary (Dunbar) Anderson '70

Marijo (Calhoun) Butler '57

Jeri Cashman, O.P. '70

Kathleen (Snell) Choren '39

Susan (Walsh) Cocoma '65

Anne (Slavin) Desmond '48

Dona Garcia Weislo '65

Rita (McGarty) Goepel '54

Madeline (Pelletter) Laufenberg '57

Catherine E. Lenz '68

Jude Ludlow '65

Mary Pat Marcos, O.P. '72

Joanne (Jones) Muren '58

Susan Murphy Hereley '64

Mary Pearson, O.P. '65

Martha Mary Rohde, O.P. '69

Laura Rosemeyer '65

Mary Schlehner, O.P. '62

Elizabeth (Zastrow) Schuster '64

Elaine Taylor, O.P. '64

Christine (Dresen) Thomas '70

Kathleen (Pastick) Thornton '71

Kathy (Straub) Van Sistine '65

Dorothy Victor, O.P. '64

Maureen (McNally) Walsh '69

Mary Ellen Werner, O.P. '58

In Memoriam

Susan (Walsh) Cocoma '65

Written by Susan's children: Anne Pfluger, Chris Cocoma, Katie Bowron, Julie Hammel, and Sarah Friedman.



Susan Cocoma

Susan Agnes (Walsh) Cocoma, 80, of Durand, Illinois, died peacefully on Friday, January 5, 2024 surrounded by family and friends. She was born to Keron and Anne Walsh on September 19, 1943, in Rockford. She is survived by her five children: Anne (Mark) Pfluger, Chris (Liz) Cocoma, Katie (Chris) Bowron, Julie (Doug) Hammel, and Sarah (Stu) Friedman. With guarded optimism she married John J. Cocoma on July 31, 1965.

They were married one day short of 54 years.

Dad predeceased her by five years, and we are certain that he greeted her with flowers last week when she simply walked into Heaven.

Mom was a devoted sister to her 13 siblings and a dear and treasured sister-in-law. "Grandma" to Alex, Elyssa, Katie Grace, Ben, Hannah, Jack, Molly, John, Suzy, and Theodore, her beloved grandchildren, was a title she treasured with unending joy. "Aunt Sue" was another. "Ms. Cocoma! Ms. Cocoma!" shouted by one of her hundreds of former elementary school students never failed to bring a smile to her face; however, nothing sounded sweeter to her than hearing "Hi mom."

Mom graduated from Durand High School in 1961 and from Edgewood College in 1965 with a degree in elementary education.

She taught for 33 years, first in Rockford and then in Durand.



Sue (far right) and her fellow food pantry volunteers.

Village of Durand as 2013 "Citizen of the Year and the Rockford Archdiocese 2012 "Woman of the Year."

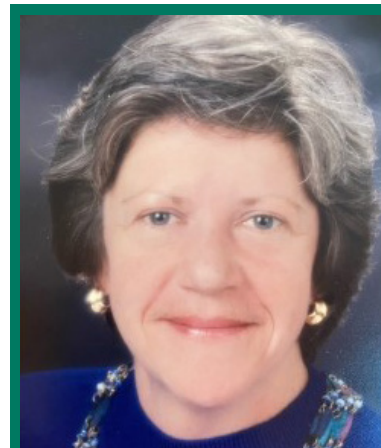
Our mom was a true wonderment. Her passing is a tremendous loss for all of those who loved her, especially her five kids who never realized sadness could feel like this. We will never, ever forget her incomparable warmth, and we will never stop missing her. You only get one mom. And all of us think, without hesitation, or even the slightest hint of bias, that we probably got the very best one.

Edgewood College is grateful for Sue's dedication to education and serving others in need, as well as her generous gifts of support for our students throughout her life and beyond. Sue designated a gift in her estate plans for the Emerald Club Endowed Scholarship Fund which will increase the scholarship amount awarded next year and in perpetuity.

Catherine Elizabeth Lenz '68

Catherine Elizabeth Lenz, 77, of Manhattan, passed away at her home on April 12, 2024, after a short illness.

Cathie was born in Evanston, Illinois, on November 19, 1946, to Helen and Elmer Lenz. She is survived by her sister, Mary Em Parrilli of Fairfax, Virginia; her niece, Lisa Parrilli of New



Catherine Elizabeth Lenz

York City; her nephew, Matthew Parrilli of Fairfax, Virginia; her niece, Jennifer Parrilli-Cole of Westminster, Colorado; and two great-nieces and a great-nephew.

Catherine graduated from Edgewood College in 1968 with a bachelor of arts degree in French. After graduation, she worked in the banking industry in Brussels, Belgium. She continued her career working for Security Pacific and the Bank of California. She joined Chemical Bank in 1984, working in New York, London, and Jersey, Channel Islands and remained an active volunteer with her church. After retiring as Managing Director of JPMorgan Chase in 2002, Cathie spent significant time in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, playing golf and bridge.

The mission of the College, motto of Cor Ad Cor Loquitur, and Catholic identity - all resonated deeply with Catherine. Her involvement with the college included volunteering her time and talents on various committees, hosting Edgewood College events in New York and in Madison, and sharing her financial gifts in support of the Edgewood College Fund, the St. John's Bible Fund, and East Regina Residence Hall. In the courtyard of the residence hall, a bench is displayed in Catherine's name to recognize her support.

In 2008, she created the Catherine E. Lenz Endowed Scholarship to support students pursuing a degree in business. She was also a proud member of the Washburn Society, a society that recognizes those who have included the College in their estate plans.



Left to right: Gail (Ferguson) Schwab, Liz (Sheridan) Topa, Catherine Lenz, and Kathy (Burke) Layo

Over the years, Catherine enjoyed many summer trips to Illinois and Madison to stay connected with her classmates. Catherine and her dear friends (pictured to the left) - would visit with College leadership, tour campus, and a highlight of their time together was reconnecting with college classmates at the local Laurel Tavern to catch up on life and share memories of the Edgewood College days.

Barbara Kay "Buffy" (Post) Jordan '66 — 1943-2022

Buffy's life was very connected with Edgewood and the neighborhood, and this had a profound influence on her life.

Buffy grew up on Terry Place, just down the street from Edgewood College, and moved back there twice as an adult.

Educated solely by Dominicans, beginning at Blessed Sacrament Elementary School, Edgewood High School and finally at Edgewood College, she was advised by her beloved Professor, Esther Heffernan O.P., and earned a bachelor's degree in social science.

Her husband, Bill, met Buffy in room 104 in their high school homeroom with Sister Cordelia. Their friendship grew while working in the dining hall where Buffy served lunch to the priests and Bill ran the malt machine.



Barbara Kay "Buffy" Jordan



Left to right: Sr. Esther, Buffy, and Bill, at their wedding.

Despite Buffy being the shortest student in their class and Bill being the tallest student, they were a match and married soon after her college graduation in 1966, with Professor Heffernan in attendance as an honored guest. Their wedding reception was held in De Ricci Hall. She then worked for three years at UW-Madison while Bill completed his graduate studies until they welcomed their son Bill IV into their family.

Loving, bright and interested, never daunted by the impact of childhood polio, she will be sorely missed. To recognize Buffy's admiration for Sr. Esther, her family made a significant gift and encouraged others to join them in supporting the Sr. Esther Heffernan Endowed Scholarship.

Madeline Laufenberg '57

Servant leader is a phrase that comes to mind when reflecting on the life of Madeline (Pelletter Thiel) Laufenberg. She graciously gave her time and talents and inspired others to do the same. This was especially evident in her classroom as a teacher, while volunteering, and while raising her children. Her positive impact on others was undeniable.



Madeline Laufenberg

Madeline passed away Dec. 27, 2023, at the age of 88 and is greatly missed by all who were fortunate to know her. Her smile was infectious, and her sense of style was unmatched. After graduating from Edgewood College in 1957, she married Richard "Dick" Thiel, and they had four children. She worked part-time at St. Bernard's Parish school and taught kindergarten and second grade at Sauk Trail Elementary School in Middleton until 1993.

Following Dick's passing in 1987, Madeline reconnected with Ray Laufenberg at their 36th Edgewood High School reunion, and they married on June 9, 1991. They enjoyed 30+ years together, traveling, grandparenting,

volunteering at St. Mary's hospital, and spending time with friends until Ray's passing in 2022. She absolutely loved attending the Emerald Club reunions where she was strategically placed in the corner because she and her tablemates (you know who you are) would giggle and carry on.

She is survived by her daughter, Jill (Karl) Markgraf; stepdaughter, Lynne Hendee; son, Rick (Carolyn) Thiel; grandchildren, Casey (Patrick McIlhone) and Joseph Mysliwy, Karl and Alida (Carston Zacharias) Markgraf, and Jenna, Tyler, and Kyle Hendee.

Madeline's connection with the Edgewood campus and belief in the mission and vision runs deep as both an alumnus of Edgewood High School in 1953 and Edgewood College

in 1957. As a first-generation college student, she understood how education can truly change the trajectory of a person's life and dedicated her life to teaching others. Also, after losing two of her children in their 40's, she established the Julie Thiel Mysliwy and Christopher Thiel Memorial Scholarships to honor their legacy and support nursing students in achieving their goal of higher education. Meeting some of her scholarship recipients was certainly a highlight for her (see photos). It was those interactions that inspired her to join the Washburn Society and include Edgewood College in her estate plan so that more students could receive an exceptional education and make a difference in the world.

Her time at Edgewood College was remembered fondly. She was so thankful for her "Big Sister" and mentor, Anne Boberschmidt '54. Another highlight was being voted as Freshman Class President. Originally, she was going to study social work, but credits Sister Mary Francis, Dean of Students, with helping her find her true passion for teaching.



Christopher Thiel Memorial Scholarship Recipient | Julie Thiel Mysliwy Memorial Scholarship Recipient

Emerald

Endowed Scholarship

In the true spirit of *Cor ad Cor Loquitur (Heart Speaks to Heart)*, members of the Emerald Club created a special endowed scholarship fund in 2021, the **Emerald Club Endowed Scholarship**, to support Edgewood College students in financial need – forever.

We are grateful to all who have made a gift this year in support of this opportunity to help students in need. Emerald Club members financially support so many important areas of the College which is greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

WAYS TO GIVE

Edgewood.edu/EmeraldClubScholarship | 608-663-3328 | Edgewood College, 1000 Edgewood College Drive, Madison, WI 53711



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