



THE SUNFLOWER

A PUBLICATION OF THE KANSAS CHAPTER OF DELTA UPSILON

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Class of 1957, front row, from left: Martin Hanna, Tom Emery, Jim Hull, Jack Bertoglio, John Waddell, Bob Simpson, and John Guyant; second row: Bruce Tabor, John Kramer, Tom Rinehart, Jim Anderson, Larry Baker, and Roger Wood; third row: Gary Rohrer, Jack Holt, Arden Treaster, Vic McCall, Jay Swink, and Charles Belt; fourth row: John Reese, Monty Rowe, Bill Graves, Duane Estes, and Frank Mastin. Not pictured: Victor McCall and Dick Shaw.



DU PLEDGE CLASS OF 1953: A CLASS LIKE NO OTHER

Submitted by Matt Keenan '81

Malcolm Gladwell's best-selling book *Outliers: The Story of Success* asked the question, "What makes high-achievers different?" His answers caught the curiosity of many and started a debate that continues today of not just nature vs. nurture, but the confluence of other factors such as being born at the right time and surrounded by the right people.

One literary commentator summarized Gladwell's findings this way: "His answer is that we pay too much attention to what successful people are like, and too little attention to where they are from: that is, their culture, their family, their generation, and the idiosyncratic experiences of their upbringing."

You probably have read Gladwell's book; I have. From time to time I see evidence of Gladwell's thesis that shows success coming as a product of right time, right place, right culture, and surrounding oneself with the right people.

You could say that is true with the DU pledge class of 1953.

I observed it in early February at a funeral. The deceased was a dear family friend, **Dr. Jack Holt '57**, and a member of that iconic class. Originally

from Fowler, Kansas, near Liberal, Holt went to KU and joined DU because that's where his dad called home, as well as his two brothers. After graduation he married his high school sweetheart, Charlette, and went to medical school while she attended nursing school. Holt specialized in internal medicine and opened a practice in my hometown of Great Bend. For many years he was the only internal medicine physician in town. In that town, Holt earned another distinction—he was my dad's best friend.

And so the gathering at the Lenexa funeral home was a mini-reunion of that class. **Tom Rinehart '57** was there. Tom's benevolence to the Chapter explains why his portrait hangs in the house library. Tom is also from southwest Kansas, graduated in petroleum engineering and formed his own energy exploration company, Elkhorn Energy. Now he builds wind farms. Also present were classmates **John Reese '57** and **Dick Shaw '57**, who, like Holt, went to medical school.

That class had 22 other members. Of those, five were accepted into medical or dental school, two law school, three military officers at grade of Lt. colonel or greater, three or more engineers and two or more exceptionally

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DU PLEDGE CLASS OF 1953

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successful businessmen. The DU Chapter won the Sweepstakes Award in 1953, their freshman year, and in 1957, their senior year.

All were born in the middle 1930s and represent the greatest generation of Americans whose devotion to others exceeded that to themselves.

Frank Mastin '57 was in that class. Now living in Tucson, but originally from Beloit, he went to KU on a track scholarship and graduated in aeronautical engineering, earning his MBA at Harvard. Following that, he worked at IBM and then returned to his true love: aviation. He worked as a salesman for Learjet and moved up the corporate chain, eventually becoming V.P. of North American sales.

"Pledging DU was one of the best decisions I have ever made," Mastin told me. "While I seldom have the opportunity to visit or meet with the other members of the pledge class of 1953, I continue to think of them as the best male friends I have ever had."

Jim Hull '57 was also in the class of '53. He was recruited to KU to play tackle and started three years—playing both ways, as was typical then. He graduated in 1958 with a major in aeronautical engineering and a minor in mathematics. He started at Boeing, then moved to Beech Aircraft, first as a structures analyst, then as a project engineer for military aircraft, and became program engineer for special systems aircraft, involving airborne surveillance for Army, Navy, Air Force, and NSA special security programs.

Like so many of his classmates, Hull spent time in Vietnam. "During late '71 and early '72, I was part of a combination contractor/military team and flew an intense three-week period of air combat missions in Vietnam to evaluate the various electronic packages in multiple platforms—to configure and develop optimum packages to be used in Beech products," he told me.

Dick Shaw, originally from Wichita, started college at Wentworth Military Academy and arrived at KU invested in the Army ROTC and went onto to KU Medical School and then served as a surgeon in Vietnam. He later became the vice chief of plastic surgery at Walter Reed Military Hospital. After his military career ended, he moved back to Wichita and joined a successful clinical practice.

Bob Simpson '57 was one of three members of that class from Newton. Like so many, he was a career Army veteran who retired a lieutenant colonel. After stints all over the world, after retirement it was pledge brother John Reese who enticed him to return to Lawrence. Another DU, **Chuck Hedges '56**, then convinced him to join Hedges Real Estate to sell and invest in real estate.



Gary Rohrer, Roger Wood, John Waddell, and Larry Baker performed as the DU Quartet in 1953's Greek Week Sing.

Today Hedges, Reese and Simpson live within a quarter mile of each other.

The list goes on. **Roger Wood '57**, a petroleum geologist, retired from Chevron after a successful career and remained active in the Geology Department at KU, **Martin Hannah '57** retired as a Navy officer, and **Jack Bertoglio '58** is an entrepreneur from Medicine Lodge. The pledge class president, **Bill Dye '57**, has been a prominent member of the Wichita bar for over 50 years. **Bruce Taber '58** is a prominent architect with a flourishing practice in Minnesota.

Victor McCall '57 is another physician who joined the Air Force in radiology, and when stationed in San Antonio in the early '60s, helped pledge brother John Reese get an assignment in the Air Force stationed in Tucson at the Davis-Monthan AFB. Reese, a two-year veteran, earned the rank of captain as chief of general surgery.

Charles Belt '57 Air Force veteran who went on to be the commander at McConnell Air Force base in Wichita. Post-military, he became president of the Wichita Chamber of Commerce.

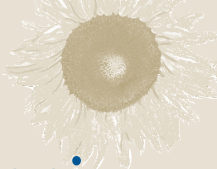
I could go on but this column has a word limit.

Three members of that class have been honored as Distinguished Alumni: Charles Belt, Tom Rinehart, and Dick Shaw. Rinehart is also honored with the Dick Wintermote Lifetime Achievement Award. The siblings of this class made their mark. Mastin's younger brother **Ron '63**, for instance, was an Air Force veteran was also honored by the DU Chapter as a distinguished alumnus for spending over six years as a Vietnam POW.

The children of this class made their own contributions to DU many years later, with **Tony '76** and **Chris Bertoglio '80** active in the chapter in the '70s, and Jack and Charlette had three sons, **John '81**, **Bob '83**, and **Tom '88**—all leaders at KU DU. John received the Distinguished Alumni award in 2015 and has emceed the alumni banquet for many years. John Reese's son, **Jeff '82**, was a distinguished alumnus in 2010.

And who helped bring this group together? The rush chair in 1954 was Beloit native **George McKemey '54**, who went on to become an Air Force pilot and died in service for our country flying a B-47 in February 1961 at the age of 28.

"These guys had all the usual college fun, but they seemed to have higher ceilings," observed Jack Holt. "Amazing how they all achieved success, were wonderful family men, and have stayed close all through the years. Men of true character!"



COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT JUAN SANTOS '73 RETURNED TO ALMA MATER



President Juan Manuel Santos '73, with housemother Kandyce Horn, and undergraduate brothers Bobby Flournoy, Jackson Riley, Joseph DeBlase, Sam Leunig, Jack Walton, Thomas Guske, Dylan Jones, and Jackson Ehlert.

Years ago ESPN had a feature called “Did You Know?” It enticed viewers on obscure facts that most viewers wouldn’t appreciate. It even inspired a book entitled, yes, *Did You Know?*, written by Howie Schwab.

And if I could to borrow that notion for about five minutes, I would pose to you a KU version of “Did You Know”—something that might surprise, or possibly, shock you.

I think everyone appreciates that Nobel Prize winners represent the zenith of achievement in various areas, including the Peace Prize. But did you know that in the 152 years that KU has been teaching students, there have been a total of three Nobel Prize winners awarded to graduates or professors who attended or taught at KU? In contrast, Harvard has 133 winners.

And of those three, only one was an undergraduate student at KU. His name is **Juan Santos '73**, and he graduated from KU in 1973, returned to his native country of Colombia, went on to become President, and won the Nobel Prize in 2016.

While he was a student at KU he was active in a fraternity: Delta Upsilon. **Brian Bracco '73** was in the house with Santos. “He was a great guy and you knew from the moment you met him that he was going to be special.”

Santos returned to KU in 2012, the first time he had visited in 40 years. Santos made a surprise visit to the chapter house at 6 a.m., so only the chapter president was up to greet him.

Five years later, on October 31, 2017, President Santos returned to his alma mater and spoke to a standing-room-only crowd at the Lied Center. In his remarks he touted the role that Kansas Chapter played in his education. According to the *Lawrence Journal World*, the DU house is where he learned to play “real poker, a game he still enjoys from time to time in the tradition of both Roosevelts and Harry Truman, who reportedly hosted poker games in the White House.”

Santos earned the Nobel Prize due to his successful peace talks with a rebel group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, which had been at war with the Colombian government for over 40 years.

Before going on stage he met with eight members of Kansas Chapter, plus Housemother Kandyce Horn.

Delta Upsilon—a tradition on KU’s campus since 1902.

Loyal Alumni, We Thank You

We wish to thank all those who have supported the annual campaign and Kansas DU during our rebuilding throughout the past year. *Alumni who contributed to 2017 appeals are listed by graduation year under their lifetime giving levels.* A complete list of lifetime annual giving can be found on the website at www.kansasdu.com.

If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please send corrections to the Kansas Chapter of Delta Upsilon, P.O. Box 1611, Lawrence, KS 66044. Thank you, again, for giving back to the Chapter—it truly does make a difference!

Leadership Club (\$5,000 and above)

J. Kenneth Higdon '48
John E. Meyer '50
Charles D. Belt '57
Thomas H. Rinehart '57
Patrick D. Bolen '58
K. Michael Berkley '61
Charles E. Heath '64
Blake A. Biles '68
Richard L. Morrison '70
Brian A. Bracco '73
Lewis D. Gregory '75
Eric A. Voth, M.D. '77
T. Teal Dakan '78

1834 Club (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Glenn E. McCann '38
Richard C. Shaw, M.D. '57
Marshall L. Crowther '59
Ronald L. Mastin '63
Brian L. Biles '66
James E. Brink '67
Philip A. Shontz '67
Hon. David J. Waxse '67
Lee R. Bittenbender, M.D. '68
R. Dan Boulware '68
Robert E. Myers '68
Thomas J. Futo '71
Richard A. Hiebsch '71
Grant J. Milleret '75
William J. Shea '79
R. Todd Slawson '83
Blake C. Wells '89
Kurtis S. Rhoden '92
Brian R. Winter '92

Cornerstone Club (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Norvell J. Osborn '52
Dr. John L. Reese '57
Robert L. Randels '59
Ross B. Clopton '61
Max L. Schardein '62
Lawrence G. Wilson, M.D. '62
Thomas A. Hamill '64
Hon. Donald W. Bostwick '65
John K. Garvey '69
Mark D. Jabara '77
Douglas C. Stark '78

Steven W. Smith '81
Tom C. Stevens '87
Michael W. Lawrence '88
Grant O. Kaufman '92
Robb S. Berke '94
Jacob D. Wassenberg '97
Lung Huang '99
Michael E. Johnson, D.D.S. '01

1025 Club (\$500 to \$999)

James G. Mason '51
William H. Dye '57
Warren A. Wandling '59
Larry K. Burke '61
Jeffrey O. Heeb '65
Mark L. Miller '70
Larry L. Rader '70
David K. Markham '74
Paul D. Miller '76
Nick B. Michale '77
Kristopher J. Bruso, D.D.S. '82
Troy W. Farha '85
Brian E. Perott '91
David F. Dummermuth '98
Dallas Rakestraw '03

Blue & Gold Club (\$150 to \$499)

Ellis D. Evans '56
Philip R. Parker '57
Philip A. Baker '58
Robert M. Simpson '58
Randy Williams '64
Karl E. Becker Jr. '65
Duane E. Lowry '67
Dr. William R. Woods Jr. '70
Scott M. Bales '80
Bradford S. Fitts '91
Jason J. Stafford '94
Kyle Richard Youngberg '03
Derek T. Emery '06
Tommy Beeler '08
Zachary J. Fugate '08

Jayhawk Club (\$25 to \$149)

David W. Bouda '68
Brian T. Huntington '08

Chapter Eternal

Dr. John M. "Jack" Holt '57, 82, of Lenexa, Kansas, passed on to Chapter Eternal February 2, 2018. Jack graduated from Fowler High School in 1953 and married Charlette Handy in 1957 while he was a first-year student at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Jack graduated from medical school in 1961, then began his residency in Wichita at St. Francis Hospital. He opened his internal medicine practice in Great Bend in 1965, where he practiced for 24 years. Not quite ready to retire, Jack returned to Wichita in 1989 to serve patients and fulfill his love of mentoring residents at the KU School of Medicine and the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center. Jack is survived by his wife of 60 years, Charlette, and five children, John, Robert, Elizabeth, Thomas, and Mary. Other survivors include brother **James Holt '61**, 13 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. He lived selflessly for his faith, family, and friends.

James R. Scholten '62 passed on to Chapter Eternal January 28, 2017, at age 77. After graduation, he pursued a career in medicine, graduating from the KU School of Medicine in 1966 and joining the United States Public Health Service as a medical/surgical captain detailed to the Peace Corps in Taegu, South Korea, from 1967-69. Jim was appointed assistant dean of curriculum development of the Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, Va., where he helped facilitate the program's full accreditation in 1972. Jim married Elizabeth "Betsy" Poer in 1993 and returned with her to their hometown of Salina in 1997, where he served as medical director of the Emergency Department of Salina Regional Health Center until 2000. "So many of his best, longtime friends and his funniest, most meaningful memories were a result of his time in the DU house," writes his Betsy.

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2018 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS WILLIAM J. SHEA '79

The Memories and Friendships Will Last Forever

"There was no comparison," Bill Shea says of his decision to join Delta Upsilon over other fraternities. Bill had visited the Kansas Chapter house many times while his brother, **Tom '72**, was an undergraduate. He saw there was a special bond between the brothers and appreciated the diverse group. Rush Co-Chairman **Tony Bertoglio '76** signed Bill, **Gene Camarena '79**, and **George Benfield '79**. "We lived in the house all four years because we didn't want to miss out on anything." **Joe Heinen '81** later completed "the Salina Boys ensemble." Even back then, Bill knew that they'd refer to that time as the good ol' days.

Delta Upsilon membership influenced Bill in many ways. "Everything I encountered during my years in the house helped make me the person I am today." He and his brothers experienced many successes (Hill championships and Rock Chalk Revue victories) and struggles (the 1978 house fire and tough academic semesters). The fellowship developed in the house also taught Bill how to listen, empathize, and negotiate. Perhaps most importantly he learned to appreciate differing opinions. "Those experiences have been invaluable resources throughout my personal and professional life."

After earning a bachelor of science in business administration and accounting, Bill has had a varied and successful career in accounting, finance, acquisitions, integration of operations, and divestitures. He is the EVP for Ruffin Companies, a diversified holding company with interests in gaming, lodging, manufacturing, oil and gas, and real estate. In 2007 the company closed on the sale of Frontier Hotel and Casino at the highest sale price per square foot—then and still—for a Las Vegas strip property.

"That's what I do *for* my money; what I do *with* my money, in addition to investing in publicly traded markets, is invest and own private businesses with Gene Camarena and another friend/partner, through what I like to



call our 'adventure' capital company." They've had numerous ownership holdings, such as Marriott-franchised hotels, a graphic design company, and a medical equipment company. Highlights through the years include cofounding the River City Brewery in 1993, the second brewpub in Kansas since prohibition, and successfully selling six hotel properties (The 6-Pack) in 2013. Bill is also "in the chicken business" with **Doug Farha '80**. They've co-owned Stroud's restaurant in Wichita for 18 years.

Bill says one of the biggest rewards of his career is having the privilege to work regularly with his friends, including several Delta Upsilon alumni. In fact, when he received an email from **John Esau '78** last fall, Bill believed it was concerning a real estate holding in Lawrence. He was surprised instead to find out he was being recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus. "I was humbled. It is a great honor and very meaningful to me to be considered worthy of the recognition." Bill is proud of his DU membership and has been a loyal contributor. With his longtime friendships and business connections, "I can attest that our chapter has been a contributor to Building Better Men."

Bill attends the annual alumni banquet regularly and hosts an era dinner with "life coach" **Mark Jabara '77** on the Friday before ("Everyone's welcome!"). They also host a weekly meeting in Wichita. "The memories and friendships we made and maintain will last forever."

Bill and Catherine, his wife of nearly 31 years, "a wonderful woman, friend and partner," live in Wichita. They have two children, Matt and Jessica, and a "marvelous" 3-year-old granddaughter, Ava. Bill enjoys reading, traveling, and playing ping-pong and tennis, and he is considering taking up golf and sailing. He can be reached at wjshea57@gmail.com.