

Alfred Rosenstihl, Posthumously CLASS OF 1918 / EDUCATOR / COACH

Alfred Rosenstihl was born to Karl and Louise Rosenstihl, September 3rd, 1897, in Zionsville, Indiana. Alfred was raised in Zionsville, attended school in Zionsville and played on the first real basketball teams in Zionsville from 1915 to 1918. Alfred's parents immigrated from Germany. This made school hard for Alfred at first because the only language spoken in the house was German. This delayed his start in school, but he overcame it. Alfred grew to be a tall man, some said 6' 8", but he was really only about 6'5". Alfred was Zionsville's



first basketball star and in 1918 Zionsville won its first sectional game due to Alfred's performance.

From Zionsville, Alfred went on to Butler University where he played for Tony Hinkle. Alfred spent 5 uninterrupted years at Butler. He played 3 years of basketball and one of football. In 1924 he withdrew from Butler. He spent the 1925 season in Moreland, Indiana coaching and teaching. Alfred re-enrolled at Butler in 1927 and received his degree in June of 1927. He married Mildred "Mamie" Linville on December 27, 1928 and they had four children, two girls Linda Wayman the late Dawn Bragg and two sons the late Bill and Jim, actually a nephew.

After graduation from Butler Alfred took a job in Benton County at Raub High School. After a year at Raub, he left to go teach and coach in Loganville, Indiana. In 1929, Alfred went back home to help with the family meat market. After staying in the business for the next 14 years, he got the chance to get back into coaching, returning to Moreland in 1943. The next year he would receive the call to come home again, but this time as a teacher of Physical Education and Health, coach at Eagle Township High School. After a year as an assistant Alfred took over the reins of the program.

Alfred wasted no time in making Zionsville a team to reckon with. On the free throw line, with only seconds remaining in the championship game against Thorntown in 1945, Manfred Gillespie sank a shot to give the Eagles their first sectional championship. Zionsville basketball was off and running in the Rosenstihl era. Quite a start, finishing 22 and 2 and winning the sectional. That would become the expectation of the fans over the next twelve years, and they were not disappointed. Over the following 11 years, Alfred and his teams set the bar high for all Zionsville coaches who followed. His teams won 20, or more, games in a season 6 times! His worst record was 13 and 10. His career coaching record was 215 and 75 at Zionsville in 12 seasons. There is some discussion about who the head coach was when Alfred's nephew Jim joined the staff, but all the research suggests that Alfred was the head coach until he relinquished the job to Jim Rosenstihl in 1957. Alfred's record is truly amazing considering he didn't coach for 14 years while he worked in the family business. He and his teams won 6 sectional titles, made the regional finals 3 times and won the regional once in 1953 and remains Zionsville's only regional championship. After Alfred stopped being the head basketball coach in 1957, he still stayed on as an assistant to Jim and to Jim's replacement, Gene Cato. He also continued as the baseball coach and cross-country coach. In 1966 Alfred retired from teaching and Coaching. After retirement, Alfred moved to Lebanon where his nephew Jim Rosenstihl had gone to coach a couple of years earlier. Alfred took the position of equipment manager and looked after the facilities. Alfred retired from that job in 1974. Alfred passed away January 13, 1978. He was 81.

If there was ever an example of the word icon, it would be Alfred Rosenstihl. He was larger than life, and continues to be so, to this day. Alfred was Zionsville Athletics without a doubt. He coached every sport and helped so many young men develop their talents and skills in athletics. He was one of the main reasons Zionsville built the "New Gym", one of the finest gymnasiums ever built in the state of Indiana. He took care of what is now Lions Park every summer and was never too busy to help kids get a little better. There is a statement from Kermit Paddack's book, Zionsville Basketball, that sums everything about Alfred very well: "There are many names that hold places of significance in the history of the town of Zionsville. Alfred Rosenstihl certainly holds such a position due to his dedication to the youths and to the town. When it comes to Basketball in Zionsville, Alfred has no equal. From his earliest days as a player through his tremendously successful time as the Coach, his career was an amazing chapter in the history of Zionsville Basketball that has ever been, and likely never will be matched. His commitment and success truly mark him as one of the greatest Zionsville Eagles!"



Charles (Pete) Paddock, Posthumously EDUCATOR / SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Charles Paddock was born in Marshall, IN on October 31, 1936. He grew up in Parke County, graduating from Marshall High School and going on to Indiana State University where he played baseball for the Sycamores. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in biological sciences and his Master's Degree in Secondary Education.



After graduation from college he taught in Montezuma Schools where he served as the Assistant Basketball Coach, taught Health and Driver's Education, and was class sponsor for 4 years.

In 1957, Pete married Betty Harrison from Rosedale, IN. The Paddocks have 5 children, 15 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren (all girls) and one more on the way. The family enjoys many birthday and holiday celebrations, highlighted by a 4th of July Paddock Family Golf Tournament at Zionsville Golf Course.

Mr. Paddock began to serve the Zionsville Community Schools in 1962 at Union Elementary. He was then Principal at Eagle Elementary and later opened Pleasant View Elementary as the new school's first Principal. Pete's leadership skills helped make Zionsville schools what they are today. Mr. Paddock strongly believed in the importance of being a well-rounded student. He was an early advocate of the musical strings program and other fine arts programs. Z-Arts activities, Science Fair, Future Problem Solving, and Physical Fitness were also encouraged.

Pete was very involved at Lions Park and with Zionsville Little League. He spent many hours hitting flies and grounders and teaching the fundamentals of the game, while never losing sight of fair play and good sportsmanship. Behind the scenes, he was master schedule maker for the league. In the 60's, he also coached 7th Grade basketball and drove the team bus. Golf was special to Pete. He played in the Thursday Night Men's League at the Zionsville Golf Course and went on an annual golf trip during Spring Break. He could tell you how many days, hours, minutes, and seconds until spring vacation. He was also a die-hard Chicago Cubs fan. When you saw a little red truck with a Cubs logo plate on the front and a Holy Bible on the seat, you knew it had to be Pete Paddock's.

On Friday, February 25, 2005 at Zionsville High School gymnasium there was a ceremony to honor Mr. Paddock. The school established a scholarship in his name. He was presented with a plaque and a basketball autographed by the players. Pete was a longtime supporter of Zionsville sports. He served as basketball statistician and coaches' confidante for 28 years. Pete and Betty were residents of Zionsville for 40 years. Their five children, Christi, Bruce, Cari, Brent, and Cheri all attended school in Zionsville.

For nearly 40 years, Pete dedicated his life to the Zionsville Schools. He touched the lives of thousands of students and, now, it is our job to continue his legacy.



Steve Jones, Posthumously "CLASS OF 1966" MUSIC WAS HIS LIFE

I have known Steve Jones most of my life. We both grew up in Zionsville, and went to ZHS (I was a little older). We worked together on many musical endeavors. He always knew how to make you sound better than you were. After graduation, we went our separate ways for a while and reunited as friends when he returned to Zionsville after leaving San Francisco.



Steve started playing the piano at a very young age. While recovering from an accidental fire accident, Steve passed his time, used the piano as therapy and hone his musical skills practicing, practicing, practicing! Music was his life!

He was an integral part of the music programs in the Zionsville schools throughout his school years.

After graduation he attended Butler University for a couple of years. He always told me if he could have only taken music classes and no core classes, he would have had a degree from Butler. Even though he never received a degree, he loved and was loyal to Butler.

He enlisted in the Army and became part of the Army band which led him to San Francisco after leaving the service. While living in San Francisco, he was a musical director at a church (sorry I don't remember the name of the church) and performed many gigs around the San Fran area.

Upon returning to Zionsville he was the Minister of Music at Zionsville Christian Church from 1981 until his passing in 2020. His life in Zionsville was deeply engrained in music. He performed at the Blue Bird Theater with Kathy Haines and her troop several years, did several shows at Beef & Boards Dinner Theater as piano accompanist and many other gigs in the area.

Steve was the accompanist pianist for more high school musicals than I can recall (20-25 area). He also worked with and accompanied many students at band contests throughout the years and got them to share their talent at his church. He also taught loads of other students. Steve loved being a member of the Zionsville Community Band where he played the euphonium. Yes, he played several instruments other than the piano.

Service and a giving heart was part of Steve's DNA. He put in many hours working with the Zionsville Christian Church choir, the ZCC youth musicals, many singing groups, ZHS school groups, shared his talent at several care facilities, and many, many more.

Steve loved fishing in Minnesota with his mother Betty, to whom he was devoted. He loved visiting his brother Dan in California wine country (yes, he liked his wine) and spoke fondly of his sister Jill. He loved his cats, dogs and any other stray – could never turn any away and he sorely missed his friend Barry.

I was honored to have had Steve as a friend, to have spent time with him on many musical adventures, to have shared a glass of wine/meal and loads of other adventures and a few misadventures.

Steve Jones – an amazing talent and ZHS grad!



Ann "Birdie" Roberta Cripe EDUCATOR / OUTSTANDING YEARBOOK ADVISER

"Birdie" or more formally Ann Roberta Cripe studied education at Butler University and Herron School of Art and graduated with a Master of Science degree in 1965, but before; she graduated Bachelor of Science from Indiana State University in 1960 and studied Art. Birdie married Bill Cripe, Eagle Township High School "Class of 1956" which is now named Zionsville Community High School. On June 18, 1960 they were married for 54 years and had two sons, Bill gradu-



ated, Zionsville Community High School "Class of 1982"; graduated Ball State University in 1986, and Bob, "Class of 1987" and attended Herron School of Art. She is a proud grandmother of Carly, ZCHS "Class of 2014" and Butler University in 2018 and a grandson Liam ZCHS "Class of 2017" and a 2021 graduate of University South Carolina. Her graduation from Butler High School in Indiana in 1956 started an interesting life after being born August 24, 1938. The Cripe family has been an important part of our community!

The Art University of Education, a school built by art teachers, exclusively for art teachers, published a list of the 20 characteristics of great art teachers. The first thing on the list is: "A great art teacher loves kids." In her 35 years of teaching at Zionsville, Ann "Birdie" Cripe did exactly that. As my sister Pollyanne Melton put it "Ann treated her like a friend." I remember her smile. She was always happy to see her students, and greeted them with a smile, enthusiasm, and excitement about the art projects we were doing. After school, when we met to work on the yearbook, Birdie's energy was still going strong, as we selected photographs and worked on the layout. Not only did Ann Cripe teach at Zionsville for 35 years, but she also taught as traveling elementary Art teacher in Connersville from 1960-62 and then elementary and high school art teacher at Centerville, 1962-63. In all, she dedicated 38 years to teaching art to young persons.

The second quality of great art teachers, is that they must love art, and are passionate about it. Many Zionsville graduates remember how Ann Cripe introduced them to the great impressionists, such as Pablo Picasso, Vincent Van Gogh, Rembrandt, Ruben or Paul Cézanne. As the class studied each artist, and their influence on the art movements of their time, each student would do a painting in the character of that artist. Not only did this make the abstract concepts of art tangible for each student, but it helped Ann's students learn how to understand art and relate to it. Many Zionsville homes today have artwork displayed from their children's work under Ann Cripe's guidance.

In 1998 the Zionsville High School Yearbook was inducted into the National Scholastic Press Association's Hall of Fame. For 14 consecutive years the Zionsville Community Schools yearbook received other awards, including 4 silver, 2 bronze awards. Her last yearbook was published in 2001, named "Our Time to Shine." It won the best of show at the National Convention in Boston. Birdie has help our community, "SHINE"!

The third characteristic of great art teachers is that they are passionate about art. Ann Cripe extended her love of art to include being the sponsoring teacher for the Zionsville Year Book.

Ann Cripe's passion for art lead her to share her own expressions of art. To this day you can enjoy the mural she painted which is visible in Z West Middle School. Even outside of the classroom, Ann lead the Zionsville Community in supporting the arts through Psi Iota Xi, a charitable organization which supports communities of speech and hearing, art, music and literature. She served 4 terms as president in Zionsville's Chapter of Psi Otes.

Nominated by Sarah Melton, "Class of 1972" and written and compiled by Sarah Melton and Ralph W. Stacy, "Class of 1961".



Dana Sue Wood Bacon

"CLASS OF 1973" / 32 YEAR EDUCATOR
ZCHS CHEER AMBASSADOR
UNOFFICIAL POET IN RESIDENCE

Dana Sue Wood Bacon, ZHS Class of 1973, is the daughter of Clem Wood, a decorated WWII Navy man and sweet Iris June Regenos Wood, a 1934 Zionsville graduate. Both were lifelong Zionsville residents. Dana grew up with two older sisters, Marcia and Dory, and her twin brother, David.



Fun, creative, always shining her bright light either as a student at ZCHS, as a coed at Indiana University or as a high school English teacher right back here at Zionsville, Dana always made everyones' lives better. She has always been one the very BEST ambassadors of CHEER for Zionsville Community High School and was the cheerleading sponsor for several years. She was also named the unofficial ZHS go to "Poet in Residence" during her tenure.

She taught for 32 years – guiding, encouraging and I am sure entertaining and blessing her students along the way. She captured students' hearts because she cared for them unconditionally. Poor or affluent; troubled or well adjusted; loner or conformist; potential drop out or scholar, Dana cared about them all!

From a former student of Dana:

"I was in Mrs. Bacon's English class as a freshman. I remember English was not my strongest subject, yet she was able to make it fun. I remember her positive and upbeat attitude. She truly cared for her students." Matt Strausburg

From the 1997-1998 Yearbook:

"In every organization there is always someone who epitomizes the energizing lifeblood of the group. At ZCHS that person is Dana Bacon. She brings her verve and lust for life to the classroom, decorated in early Elvis. As cheerleading sponsor, the staff and students rallied around her proposed contests for school spirit. Her own school spirit did not end with high school. A very loyal IU fan, she received her BS in English in 1977 and an MS in English education from Indiana University in 1981."

After Dana's retirement from teaching, she and husband, Rick, built their dream cabin in the beautiful wooded hills near Nashville, Indiana where they enjoyed many years together before moving back to Zionsville to be near family. Dana and Rick spend their days being Mammy and Pappy to their sweet grandchildren where the teaching continues on to the next generation. Dana has always been a loving, supportive, and encouraging friend, and one of the very BEST teachers for some very LUCKY students! Thank you, Dana, for Lighting Up Our Lives!

Nominated by Kim Humphrey Leonard, "Class of 1973"



Alan Winters "CLASS OF 1973" ENTREPRENEUR / COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

Alan Winters, son of Ted and Pat Winters, grew up in the small town of Advance, Indiana with three siblings before calling Zionsville home in the early 1970's. Advance is a large farming community and this is where he learned that treating people right will get you further in life. Working on the farms with his grandfather at a young age taught him the responsibility



of an honest days work. At the age of nine, he started helping his father, who was already in the HVAC or heating, ventilation and air conditioning field. According to Alan, "That's when crawlspaces were fun"! He spent his early years living in a mobile home as a "dirt poor" kid and attended school in the Granville Wells school system before completing his final two years and graduating from Zionsville Community High School in 1973.

After graduating Zionsville High School, Alan went right to work as an HVAC service technician and then worked for two different companies prior to starting Control Tech Heating and Air Conditioning in 1983. Some of those companies were good and some bad, but what he learned from the bad one's was that honesty and integrity were qualities that they didn't have and didn't care about. What he learned from the good ones was that they understood the value of maintaining an honest relationship with their customers. It goes a long way. The reason he started Control Tech was to ensure that his customers would be treated with the utmost respect from the start of the relationship to years down the road.

Since 1983, his company has grown from one man working out of a truck to a fully staffed business and home to over 50 employees whom he knows well and respects. Many employees have been with him from the start and others for decades. Turnover is low and when a new hire joins the team they plan on keeping them for the long haul. The company does not use subcontractors which helps to ensure that the system installed or maintained is done by an employee who cares about their work and the customers satisfaction. After nearly forty years since its founding, Alan is proud that his company is now one of the largest privately owned HVAC companies in Central Indiana.

Alan's business philosophy is entrenched in his commitment to steadfast support of the local community, its schools and many area not-for-profit organizations which are too numerous to name but include, Zionsville Chamber of Commerce, Zionsville Lions Club, Maplelawn Farmstead, Fireman's Ball, Optimist Club's Hit the Bricks 5k, Little League, Andy's Ride, After Prom, ZBOP, Children's Miracle Network, Lincoln Park Concerts, Habitat for Humanity, Make A Wish, Friendly Smiles and the Zionsville Alumni Association.

In addition to running a business, Alan started a family with the birth of his son, Clay in 1986 and daughter, Kacey in 1991. Both were born and raised in Zionsville and graduated from ZCHS. Alan is making a smooth transition of his business to his son and enjoys spending time with his 3 grand kids, going out on his boat, and spending time with friends and family alike.



Leigh Ann Akard

"CLASS OF 1991"

COMMUNITY SERVANT / CHARITABLE PHILANTHROPY

"Inspiring". If you had one word to describe inductee, this is what I would choose for this recipient of the Zionsville Alumni Association "Soaring Eagle" Hall of Fame Award. Why? Well, please let me remind you about one really big reason:

How many times have we heard, "Hey! I've got an idea!" followed by a laugh that is both infectious and can be heard



from across the room? That laugh comes from our nominee, Leigh Ann Akard. She has inspired us to do so much with only our hearts, our friends, and with creativity that we never knew we had.

Here are just a few reasons why she inspired me:

- In Charitable Philanthropy, Leigh Ann has helped develop, funded, and organized:
 - The Z'Sparkle Drag Race with Amy Lacy Raising >\$100,000 for Alzheimer's Research (Est. 2010)
 - The Caring Center Food & Clothing drive in Zionsville every year serving thousands of families (Est. 2013)
 - The HAWK Foundation which resulted in over 18,000 Children with Special Needs and their families enjoying carnivals, hamburger days at the beach, and brought Santa Claus to them every year for the last 12 years. (Est. 2008)
 - And dozens of other smaller events, fund raisers, and groups, including the "Fly Free Sammy Fund" for a sweet little girl who suffered with debilitating diseases for years.
- With Focus on Supporting our Military and their Families
 - Developed a "Veterans Tree" for our Veterans and their families.
 Every year the families place their pictures on the Christmas tree to them (Est. 2002)
 - Established programs to support, feed, and outfit many of our own First Responders
- And centered a Career that gave back to the Community through:
 - Organized events that brought business into Zionsville
 - Winning the Chamber of Commerce's "Town Crier" Award (2018)
 - Won national recognition by winning the Beacon Award, given to the top Hardware Industry Professional who has substantially contributed to their community. (2020)
 - Brought the title of "The Best Hardware Store in America" to Zionsville winning over 4,500 other stores in a nationwide competition. (2019)
 - Another great example has to do with the Zionsville Lions Club being awarded the W.P. Woods and Melvin Jones Fellowships, being an outstanding Lions Club President in 2006 and 2012 just to mention a few recognition's in her sixteen years as an active Lion member.

Leigh Ann is a lifelong Zionsville resident, K-12 graduate of our school system, and a member of the Class of 1991". The daughter of Steve (Class of 1962), and Marsha Akard. Born on May 8th, 1973 in Indianapolis, IN. Leigh Ann had three sons, Stuart King, Anthony, (Class of 2013) and Spencer Knepp, (Class of 2015) and a wonderful husband (Todd Scales). She is the co-owner and V.P. of Akards True Value Hardware in Zionsville, which as a business provides a large amount of community service and kindness!

That isn't quite as inspiring as the person who encourages us to use our own limited strengths for good; to find creativity we never knew we have; or to let out some of that empathy and kindness we have kept bottled up for way too long.

For me, that is a "Soaring Eagle". She is a person who's Big Heart and Generous Spirit have made those she touched know that they were better for what was inspired. More importantly, we each received joy in immeasurable ways for which I am ever thankful for.

Nominated and written by Paul Dreier, Friend and Zionsville Lion Club member.



Ronald and Jo Beth Hough

"CLASS OF 1965" SUPER BOOSTERS OF ZIONSVILLE ATHLETICS/BAND/COMMUNITY

Ronald, born August 23, 1946, the second child of Carol Woodrow and Lillian Loleta (Moore) Hough, lived in Pike Township (Marion County) until moving to Zionsville in 1950. He resided at 945 West Pine with his parents, sisters (Deanna, Clara and Donna) and brother (Robert) un-



til he married. Ronald's family attended Salem United Methodist Church. He attended Zionsville Schools where he fell in love and married a classmate and Zionsville native, Jo Beth Washburn.

Jo Beth was born November 10, 1946, to Ward Edward and Dottie Elizabeth (Board) Washburn, who moved to Zionsville with their son, James, in April, 1944. Except for a few years on Maple Street, Jo Beth grew up in the big white house, on the hill, at the north end of the brick street (10 Ash). Ron earned the rank of Eagle Scout in high school and played basketball, cross country and baseball for the Zionsville Eagles. Jo Beth was in the Zionsville Booster Block all four years in high school.

After their graduation from high school in the "Class of 1965," Ron went to work at Rock Island Refinery where he and Jo Beth's fathers worked until their deaths. Jo Beth attended the Approved University of Beauty Culturists and after graduation worked in the field for about ten years. Ron was also a partner in "Colonial Tillers" a local farming company. Ronald and Jo Beth were married on May 27, 1966. Their children Beth Ann and John Ronald both graduated from Zionsville High School in the classes of 1986 and 1995; then graduated Ball State University and Indiana University respectively. Ron and Jo Beth have two grandchildren; Sam and Tom.

Ron was a Deacon and Jo Beth was in the Dorcas Circle at the Zionsville Christian Church. Ron joined the Zionsville Lions Club in April, 1971 and for many years was an active volunteer serving on the Board working on the buildings and grounds committees. Jo Beth is a member of the Alpha Lambda Chapter Auxiliary of Psi Iota Xi.

Jo Beth became an important employee to different village retail merchants. She was an employee of a store named Pre Vue Fashions on Main Street and then joined Stacy La Bolts Fine Ladies Apparel where she became an invaluable salesperson along with the Stacy Team for 21 years. In 2001, The Greater Zionsville Chamber of Commerce awarded Jo Beth the Dahlia Award which recognizes excellence in service by a Zionsville business employee. As her employer, Jan and Ralph Stacy; once said, "saleswomanship consists in selling goods that won't come back to customers and friends who will!" She had customers who traveled far and wide to have Jo Beth serve them with her special smile and excellent service!

In addition to supporting the Zionsville Band Boosters for decades, Ron and Jo Beth have been unparalleled supporters of Zionsville Athletics to this day. They can be seen in the stands year after year at too many sporting events to mention. They are the definition of dedicated Zionsville Eagle fans! Zionsville Schools, the players, the coaches, and other fans are deeply indebted to them for their unwavering support.

Let us all welcome and thank Ron and Jo Beth Hough for being outstanding supporters of our community with the Zionsville Alumni Association Soaring Eagle Hall of Fame Award!

Nominated by: Phil Isenbarger, long time Zionsvillle Youth and Volunteer Varsity Coach



Dr. Mark R. Wilkins, PhD, P.E."CLASS OF 1995"
WORLD CLASS RESEARCHER/COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

Dr. Mark Wilkins, son of John and Janice Wilkins of Zionsville, was a very active student at ZCHS and that has remained unchanged in both his professional career and his personal life since his graduation with the "Class of 1995." Mark was born on August 20, 1977 in Lafayette, the oldest of two children. Mark's sister, Laura, is also a graduate of



ZCHS and was in the "Class of 1998". Mark was a member of the National Honor Society, the band and many other activities at ZCHS.

He began his post secondary education at Purdue University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural and Biological Engineering in 1999; then off to the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign where he received his Master of Science degree in Agricultural Engineering, in 2001; and continued his education there receiving his PH. D in Agricultural Engineering in 2004. Dr. Wilkins was a postdoctoral engineer at the USDA Agricultural Research Service's Citrus and Subtropical Products Laboratory in Winter Haven, Florida. From there he moved to Oklahoma State University where he was on the faculty of the Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering Department for 11 years leading biofuels research and teaching courses in bioprocessing, food processing and renewable energy. In 2016, he accepted the position of Director of the Nebraska Industrial Agricultural Products Research Center as well as faculty positions in the Agricultural Engineering and Food Science and Technology Departments at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

His research and teaching interests are fermentation, enzyme production, enzymatic hydrolysis, biochemical production, biofuels, food processing, professional ethics, renewable energy and international aspects of engineering and agriculture. He is a co-patent holder on two patents related to citrus waste processing and has co-authored 81 peer-reviewed journal articles and numerous book chapters and refereed technical papers. He is the Associate Editor of the American Society of Biological Engineering Journal. Mark's teaching interests are in biochemical engineering, food engineering, ethics, and short-term study abroad. He also served on OSU's Graduate Faculty Council for 4 years and was the Graduate Program Coordinator. He is licensed as a Professional Engineer in the state of Oklahoma. In 2018, he was honored as the first Nebraska Corn Checkoff Presidential Chair with the mission focused on promoting the value of corn by creating more product opportunities for Nebraska corn growers. He also served a term on the University of Nebraska Intercollegiate Athletics Committee.

Mark is married to wife Lana and they are the proud parents of Hannah, age 9 and Daniel, age 7. His family attends the Capitol City Christian Church in Lincoln, where he serves as an elder. Mark has been very active in the community in both Stillwater and Lincoln, having been president of the Stillwater Kiwanis Club and now an active member of the Lincoln Kiwanians. He had the privilege to attend the National International Kiwanis Convention in Geneva, Switzerland in 2011.

Mark has travelled to Germany, India and Brazil cultivating research partnerships and collaborating on various research initiatives in the field of biological engineering. He exemplifies the Kiwanis motto: "Serving the Children of the World" through his work, community service and his family!

Nominated and information compiled by Ralph W. Stacy, "Class of 1961".