

CMA Day — September 29th, 2023



Volume 33, Number 3

Fall 2023

From the President



Greetings to all Bellhops!

Our Grand Reunion was an unqualified success! We had close to 150 former Bellhops and guest attend and a great time was had by all. We honored the Classes of the 1950s and thanked them for their great service to our country and their communities. I was honored to recognize them and be with them that weekend. I was very encouraged to see that after all those years (60 plus) we still have alumni who love our old school and want to remember it.

Next up is CMA Day which will be conducted on September 29th, 2023. We will be visiting with the students during the morning and then there is a football game at 7:00 that evening that we can also attend and sit in our designated area. If you are interested in coming back to the campus and sharing information on your days at CMA with the current Columbia Academy students, please let me know and I will get the information on the event to you. For the CMAAAA Board Members, we will be having our board meeting the next day at 10:00 AM in the Mess Hall.

Finally, we have a proud legacy of service to our country both in the military and civilian life since the turn of the last century. Wouldn't you like to see that service and sacrifice remem-

bered by future generations? If so, consider a donation or bequest to the CMA Legacy Endowment. If you have any questions about how to give, let me know. I have included the endowment in my Will and hope you might consider that as well.

Until Our Next Formation ,

Tom

Tom Carr
Class of 1975
CMAAAA President
tkcarr@bellsouth.net

CMA Day 29 September 2023

As Tom mentioned in the Message from the President, we will be conducting our annual CMA Day on the Columbia Academy Campus on Friday, 29 September. The day begins with the CMA Alumni joining the student body at their Chapel Session in Old Main at 9:00. This year the students will be shown the CMA-100 Years of Tradition Video and will then be afforded to opportunity to ask the CMA Alumni some questions. After that, the Alumni will visit in designated classrooms to meet with students and talk about their time at CMA. Then, lunch in the Mess Hall. A little different from when we were Cadets but another great opportunity to spend time with the students. Columbia Academy has set aside seats for the CMA Alumni to attend their home football game at 7:00 PM that night. The Alumni normally get together for dinner at Legends before the ballgame. Hope you will find time to join in the CMA Day activities this year. Let Tom know if you can. tkcarr@bellsouth.net

CMAAAA Scholarship Connor Worder



2023 CMAAAA Scholarship recipient Connor Worder is pictured with Columbia Academy President Dr. James Thomas and Class of 1968 CMA Alumni Bill Wade. Connor is the son of Jeremy and Lauren Worden. He attended Columbia Academy for 5 1/2 years and was a Summa Cum Laude Honor Graduate. During his tenure at Columbia Academy, his school involvement included being a member of the ACT 30 Plus Club, the Best Buddies Club, the Drama Club, the HOSA Club, the International Thespian Society, the Interact Club, the Marching Band, the Pep Band, the Mock Trial Team, the National Honor Society, the REACH Program, the Robotics Club, the Science Club, the Spanish Club, the Swim Team, and the Track and Field Team. He was also a Small Group Bible Leader, a Student Ambassador, and a Tech Dawg. Connor enlisted in the United States Navy prior to his graduation from Columbia Academy, and reported for duty in late June. His concentration will be in the Navy Nuclear Program, with pursuit of a Nuclear Electronics Technician designation. Connor has also received the Navy Influencer Award from the United States Navy.

CMA Reunion 2023 A Reflection

To my CMA Family,

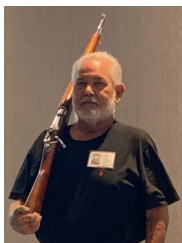
First a thanks to our *Bugle* Editor & Museum Director Woody Pettigrew for allowing me to express my feelings from the Reunion weekend in our newsletter. After a hip replacement in June and dislocating it in July, it appeared I was going to miss my first Reunion in 20+ years. I wouldn't be able to drive to Franklin. I was telling my cousin, Billy McAdams, who I grew up with, about missing the Reunion. He told me that if I could ride, he would drive me. As time got closer, I felt that I could do it. The final note to my going was when my daughter told me "Dad, you need to go see your friends and those people who care so much about you."



She was so right. The Reunion: What an emotional roller coaster. This was my first Reunion without Suzanne, but the outpouring of love and affection from my CMA Family helped me through. I hugged and cried more than I have in a while with tears of happiness with those I thought I was not going to be with this year. Everyone thanked Billy for bringing me. He told me that he really felt like part of the CMA Family. He also told me he could see the difference in me as soon as we started meeting folks when we got there, and he could tell this was something special to me.

A special moment was seeing Mr. 1958, Tom Walbert. As he and I emailed prior to the Reunion, he was planning on coming but was not 100%. When he and Brenda came in, that just about did me in emotionally.

Thanks to my Birmingham Big Brother from way back when, Bill Hart, and Mike Gilchrist for inviting us to join the 60's Friday night dinner. A special thanks to my Reunion Co-worker through all these years, Becky Moon. At our first Reunion 20+ years ago, Suzanne and I offered to help Becky with the registration and memorabilia. It immediately became a labor of love for both of us. Becky went out of her way this year to give me a little extra, well appreciated, attention.



I must commend President Tom Carr on a job well done. The attendance was

above expectations, and everything went smoothly. I would like to thank him for recognizing Suzanne at the Banquet. That was very thoughtful of him. He did a great job with the auction and raffle.

Thanks to Steve Watts for making the auction and raffle a success. Thanks to all for making this a wonderful experience.

Robin Salze '66
CMAAA Past President





CMAAA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 5 August 2023

Attendees

Tom Carr-President (75), Mike Glover-Vice President (74), Sandra Hasler-Secretary ('74), Becky Moon-Treasurer (75), Lynn Bowles (58), Tom Walbert (58), Ron Nall (61), Mike Gilchrist (63), Harold Smith (63), Gene Van Meter (63), Bill Akin (66), Bill Wade (68), Bobby Bain (72), Dudley Dolinger (73), Woody Pettigrew (73), Winston Elston (74), Bob Orr (76), Jay Robins (76), Shayne Harris (78),

Meeting Minutes

The Board met briefly prior to the General Meeting Saturday morning to approve the slate of officers for the next two years. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. by Tom Carr. Mike Gilchrist, chairman of the nominating committee, named the following to be approved: President-Tom Carr (1975) Vice President-Mike Glover (1974) Secretary-Shayne Harris (1978) Treasurer-Becky Moon (1975). The Board unanimously agreed to the induction of each nominee for the position appointed for the next two years. Congratulations to each of our newly appointed slate of officers! Mike Gilchrist reminded everyone that David White would be setting up for group pictures in the CMA room at the Marriott and everyone should be present by 5:30. Winston Elston mentioned that CMA Day was going to be September 29 and asked if the Fall Board meeting would be scheduled at that time. Tom said he would get this information out to everyone, and that the Board meeting would meet the same weekend. The Board meeting was adjourned by 9:40 A.M.

General Membership Meeting

The General Membership meeting was called to order Saturday, August 5, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.; with Battalion Commander, Woody Pettigrew, calling everyone's attention to the front stage! Tom Carr welcomed everyone and thanked Dr. Thomas and CA for being so gracious to our alumni association and allowing us to gather for our meetings and to visit the campus once again. Tom asked for everyone to take a moment of silence to remember Board members and alumni we've lost over the last year. Tom then asked Dr. Thomas to give the Invocation. Follow-

ing the Invocation, Tom led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mike Gilchrist was called to introduce the slate of new officers to the General Assembly, after which Tom Carr asked for a motion to be made to accept these as the officers serving the association for the next two years. A motion was made, seconded and approved to officially affirm the new slate of officers.

Becky Moon gave the Treasurer's report stating that as of July 3, 2023, we have \$34,804.70 and accredited this to the generosity of the members of our association. In addition to this, Tom Carr said that because of the generous giving, we have been able to increase our annual Scholarship fund to \$5,000. He also mentioned that our association no longer pays sales tax, which helps with the expenses of the reunion, etc. Woody Pettigrew presented the Museum report, saying that we have about \$16,000 in the Museum Fund, most of which will be going toward necessary maintenance. Even though we are coming to a point when there will be fewer donations, we should still be in good standing with about \$7,000 in the account to carry us to the end of our lease, with extensions, in 2029. He stated that for the most part, the museum is in good shape; however, donations are greatly appreciated because there will be a need for replacing the HVAC system and the laminate flooring at some point in the future. There is also the annual \$1,200 that is paid to CA for the lease, electricity, etc. Also, included is the cost of insurance.

Tom Carr emphasized the importance of carrying on our legacy through an Endowment Fund. He encouraged our association to consider this as a great way to make a contribution that will help maintain our Museum, continue the CMAAA Scholarship program, and help maintain the historic portions of the campus after we are no longer here.

Tom Carr invited Dr. Thomas to share any updates and future plans for CA. Dr. Thomas welcomed everyone and expressed how honored he feels to be associated with the CMA alumni. He is beginning his fifteenth year as President of CA and he is also a 1992 alumnus of this institution. He stated we all have a responsibility to the legacy of this school, to hold fast to its history, and to keep future generations informed and made aware of what began as an arsenal in 1890, became a military school (CMA) in 1905 and remained so for 75 years, then becoming CA, which continues to thrive after 43 years. Dr. Thomas emphasized how much he en-

joys telling people who visit the campus the story about the beginning; the history of CA. He stated that CMA was a school of excellence and that the values that were taught as a military school are still being taught at CA; placing emphasis on moral integrity, high standards, and spiritual growth. Dr. Thomas introduced Courtney Hulsey, CA's Director of Development and CA parent. She has been with CA for a little over a year and she helps with all the projects on campus. Dr. Thomas offered if anyone would like to see particular parts of campus; Academy Hall, for instance, then Mrs. Hulsey would be glad to assist in this venture. Dr. Thomas reminded the assembly of CA's Mission Statement: Preparing students for their future and helping them become Christ-like in attitude and behavior. CA is a missional school and a statement of faith is not required to attend. Most are of the Christian faith, but it is not a requirement. There is a Bible class taught every day, there is chapel everyday for upper grades and weekly for lower grades; the plan being to share God's Message and the students can decide if they want to believe the message or not. Planting "the seed", Dr. Thomas quoted, can produce "fruit" later in life. He said that CA is wanting to train the whole child academically, physically, spiritually, and socially (Luke 2:52). They also encourage serving the community. Dr. Thomas proudly announced that three of the last four years the CA has had a National Merit Finalist graduate and the 2023 Valedictorian will be attending Vanderbilt in the fall. He stated that CA prepares their students for college. Most decide to attend, while some may choose another path; some may go to technical school, work in a family business, and some opt to serve in the military. They work on academics, but also, athletics. He mentioned they have had over a dozen state championships in the last four or five years, most of those in cross country, track, and field. This past year, their bowling team won the state championship and also, one of the bowlers won a state championship. They have had the state champion high jumper for two years in a row. He is a senior this year and also is a great basketball player. He's 6'6" and high jumps 6'8". The school has had record enrollments for the past eleven years. This year they are expecting an enrollment of at least 1,200 students, including 172 at the Spring Hill campus. The Spring Hill campus serves preschool through sixth grade. Ninety percent of these students

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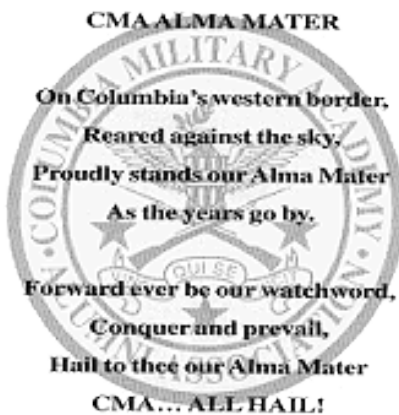
move to the Columbia campus. They are about at capacity with a waiting list. They expanded their Columbia elementary classes by adding five classrooms. And they also expanded at Spring Hill by adding four classrooms, which are already full. He ended by saying he is so thankful and proud of the principals, teachers, and staff, who are a part of the CA faculty. He invited everyone to come to the annual CMA Day activities, which will be held Friday, September 29th; beginning the day by attending the chapel which will allow CMA alumni to share stories with the students and to answer questions, to eat lunch with the students, visit classrooms, and attend a home football game in the evening.

Tom Carr reiterated the importance of this opportunity to participate in CMA Day. He encouraged those who, after graduating from CMA, went on to become leaders in the military, medicine, science, etc., to come share those experiences; influencing future leaders who may be inspired by your stories. He reminded everyone about the banquet at 6:00 PM. The bar will be open at 5:00, and the CMA room will be open before that for anyone wanting to purchase merchandise. There will be an auction, and raffle tickets will be sold for prizes that will be given away at the banquet. Group pictures will be taken in the CMA room and everyone will need to there no later than 5:30. The class of the 1950's will be recognized and honored tonight at the banquet. Twenty-one members of the 1950's class are expected to attend. Tom Carr asked if anyone has a class ring they would like to donate for placement in the beautiful handmade display case in the Museum, he will give you the contact information to help with this. Also, if anyone is interested in becoming a Board Member, please contact him.

The Columbia Central High School Color Guard performed a flag ceremony, during which Jimmy Bane and Woody Pettigrew read the names of alumni we've lost from the classes of '72 and '73. Lost alumni from the Class of 1972—Gary Armor, Irby Hill “Skeeter” Atkinson, Terry Raymond Briggs, James Philip Clinton, Walter Calvin Dunbar, Charles Maxwell Greene, Carter Byron Harpole, David Harlan Hill, Kerry Carl Houck, Randy Eugene Howell, William Gilbert McCreery, Carl Robert Orr, Paul Douglass Porter, Thomas R. Speed, William Atlee Strong and Joseph Danaway Viar. Lost Alumni from the Class of 1973—Donald Bayless Anderson,

Anthony Victene Bates, Ben Townes Davidson, William Monte Duvall, Arthur James Green, Robert Walker Grimes, James Felix Klask, George Thomas McAllister, Marc Haynes Molloy, Danny Wyatt Muse, Richard Kevin Neil, Philip Girard Nichols, and Patricia Jane Rasbury.

Following the playing of Taps, the meeting was adjourned.



CMA History Part 5 — The Final Decades

The Final Decades

The transition from the Ragsdale administration to the Gilchrist administration included the appointment of COL M. F. Gilchrist (CMA '34) as President of CMA and the appointment of COL G. G. Edson as Vice President and Headmaster. COL Gilchrist had spent 4 years as a cadet at CMA and was the Graduate Cadet Major during the 1934-35 school year. The enrollment for CMA during the 1962-63 school year included 405 boarding students and 74 day students with another 65 boarding students on the waiting list. CMA was at full capacity in terms of numbers of cadets that could attend the school. As the school moved forward, ground was broken for a new science building in November 1963; the building was completed in 1966.



The Science Building Snack Bar became a favorite place for Cadets.

The decade of the 1960s continued the

successes of the athletic and band programs. The school year 1964-65 was the first year CMA had an organized soccer team. The team played both prep school and professional teams. While the team did not have any victories during the year, it set the stage for a soccer program that remained at CMA for the rest of its time as a school.



CMA's first Soccer Team

The 1964-65 Junior Varsity Football Team had an undefeated season going 6-0, capping off its first perfect season since 1959. The highlight of the year was defeating archrival Castle Heights Military Academy 13-6. The CMA band recorded an album in 1968 (album is on display in the CMA Museum). On February 10th 1968 the CMA Music and Military Departments presented the program “This Is America, Accent on Youth” at the War Memorial Building in Nashville. The theme of the performance was a statement of what American youth were really about during a time confusion and unrest in the country (as opposed to the images of anti-war demonstrations in the streets). Major Ben Deutschman was the Band Director. The CMA Band made trips to Washington, DC in 1968 and again in 1969 to march in the annual Cherry Blossom Festival. When the band arrived in DC in 1968 they learned that the Festival was cancelled due to race riots. While in their hotel rooms, band members could see smoke from fires across town. This was a frightening event for the cadets and a rumor spread that cadets were wearing their combat boots to bed in case they had to evacuate due to fire. The return trip in 1969 was a great experience as the band got to march in the Festival, considered by some to be the most glorious parade the band marched in. The CMA Basketball Team for the school year 1968-69 was the best basketball team in the history of the school. The spirit displayed by the team was one of “we may lose but we’ll never be beaten and we’ll never stop trying until we are number one. While the season record of 14-8 does not appear special on the surface, the year included a 10 game winning streak and culminated with the CMA Team captur-

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ing the Mid-South Championship, defeating McCallie for the championship during the tournament in Knoxville, Tennessee.



1968-69 Basketball Team that won the Mid-South Championship.

Due to health reasons in November 1968, COL Gilchrist was designated President Emeritus for the remainder of the 1968-69 school year. COL G. G. Edson, who had been at CMA since 1962, assumed the duties of Headmaster and Acting President. COL Edson resigned in August 1970 and COL E. B. Hatcher was named the Columbia Military Academy President at that time.

The climate for boarding schools began to decline in the 1960s. Communities all over the South began establishing private day schools and the more expensive boarding schools began to falter. Popularity for the military profession began to wane and there was a direct impact on military schools. CMA was a victim of these circumstances and some local leadership in Columbia wanted CMA to become a day school. In an effort to build enrollment, the decision was made in September 1968 to allow females to enroll as day students in the Junior School (grades 6-8) beginning in September 1969. That decision was followed-up with a decision in November 1969 to allow females to be accepted as day students in all grades beginning with the 1970-71 school year. The female students were not required to take ROTC but did have the option to do so.

The year 1972 was significant to the school and to the cadets even though it is fair to say that the Cadets were not aware of the changes that would occur based on the events of that year. The undergirding that had been in place since the school formed in 1904 was removed in 1972 when Congress relinquished its interest in the property and the entire physical plant was deeded to the Columbia Military Academy Government Board for \$10,000. The Bill to make this change had been introduced by Congressman William R. Anderson (CMA '38) and Senators Howard Baker and Bill Brock. Without the govern-

ment interest in the property, it could be used as collateral for the debt that was ensuing. This event is considered by some as the beginning of the end for CMA. While the Cadets did not feel the immediate impact of that event and were not aware of the financial challenges facing CMA, the leadership was working diligently to maintain the CMA environment in an increasingly difficult environment.



J. B. Gracy



C. C. Wilhoite

CMA lost its two longest serving faculty members in 1972 and 1973. COL J. B. Gracy, who had been at CMA since 1928, retired at the end of the 1972 school year. He had served as a Latin and English Instructor and as Headmaster during his years at CMA. COL Gracy left CMA in 1942 to serve in World War II as a Marine Corps Major, and returned to his duties as Headmaster in 1946. He is one of two faculty members that had a building named for him. (Academy Hall was re-dedicated as Gracy Hall). COL C. C. Wilhoite, who had been at CMA continuously since 1931, passed away in 1973 after 42 years of service to the academy. He had served as a Spanish, German, Algebra and Math Instructor and as Principal during his years at CMA. His continuous tenure with the school lasted longer than any other individual's and represents a devotion to the school, its principals, and, most importantly, the cadets that very few could match. COL Wilhoite's pallbearers were representatives from his beloved CMA Corps of Cadets.

The Rifle Teams at CMA continued to be successful for the duration of the school's existence. The 1973-74 Rifle Team was the number one rifle team in Tennessee and in the Mid South. Overall, the team had the best record in CMA's history, coming in first place in every match it competed in.

COL Hatcher resigned as President at the end of the 1974-75 school year but remained at CMA as an instructor. K. L. Barton (CMA '53) succeeded COL Hatcher as President and remained with the school until January 1976. Upon his departure, COL Hatcher accepted the

responsibility of Acting President/Headmaster until John Varnell assumed the position of Headmaster/President later that year. Mr. Varnell was with the school until September 1977 when he resigned and COL Richard Fly, who had been at CMA as an instructor and as headmaster of the Junior School since 1958, took on the President/Headmaster roll. COL Fly would remain with the school until its transition to Columbia Academy.



The Arms Room in 1967

The Military Weekend activities conducted April 28th - 30th 1978 marked the "End of an Era" for Columbia Military Academy. The enrollment in ROTC had dropped below the minimum requirements and CMA dropped its military status during its final parade during the Military-Alumni weekend. As a result of these events, the school name was changed to ColumbiA Academy. The capitalization of the letters in ColumbiA was done as shown because the school still wanted to be known as CMA. Army Master Sergeant Michael Sutton, who was with the ROTC department at the time, removed the American Flag during the last retreat ceremony and held on to that flag until August 2006 when he presented the flag to the CMAAA during its Reunion that year. That flag is now on display at the CMA Museum. With the military program gone from the school, the school operated in 1978-79 as a day school primarily with plans in place to phase out the boarding students. During this school year there were 275 students in grades K through 12. Even during these times the CMA students maintained their pride in the school and its programs. The last CMA football team, for the fall of 1978, had a great year with an overall record of 9-2, including winning the Lions Bowl Championship. With an offense gaining a total of 4,410 yards throughout the season and a defense that allowed only 4.2 points a game, the Bulldogs had a great final season.

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The last CMA Football Team; winners of the Lions Bowl Championship

On January 12th 1979 the CMA Government Board deeded the property to the Operating Board setting the stage for the final transition of CMA. On June 7th 1979 the CMA Operating Board of Directors resigned in total and a new Board was elected. This new Board made up of members of the local Churches of Christ assumed the responsibility for the indebtedness (over \$850,000) and the operation of the school. The new school Columbia Academy opened the 1979-80 school year; the transition of Columbia Military Academy was complete.



Retreat Ceremony at CMA. The Cannon and Caisson remain on campus at the CMA Museum.

Columbia Military Academy stood as a great military school for 74 years. During that time over 15,000 cadets from 38 states and 11 countries attended the school. The motto of Columbia Military Academy, "Vincit Que Se Vincit" (He Conquers Who Conquers Himself) was instilled in the young men, and in the latter days of the school, the young women who made up the Corps of Cadets and who were the life of and reason for Columbia Military Academy. The echoes of their voices and the memories of the marching feet will be impressed for all time in the hearts and minds of all who were privileged to be a part of it.



SILVER TAPS

John L. Halsell, Class of '53

John L. Halsell, 89, passed away June 27, 2023. John was born in Blytheville Arkansas to the late Tina Mae and James Ernest Halsell. He was a member of Grace Methodist Church and owner of The Dixie Pig in North Little Rock. His family has been in the barbecue business since the 1920's which was started by his father, Earnest.

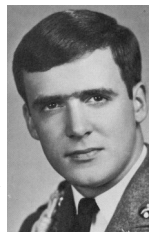


John Halsell

Johnny was very dedicated to his business, and after retirement always took every chance he could to go back home for an original pig sandwich. He was a strong Christian who enjoyed being a part of the men's choir at his church. John attended CMA for three years, graduating with the Class of 1953. Prior to joining the service he attended University of Arkansas. Johnny was very patriotic and loved his country. He served with honor in the United States Army during the Korean war. Johnny had a wonderful sense of humor and loved to laugh. He was known to call the Hogs in the most unexpected places. Some of his most special times were when he was able to spend time with his brothers laughing. He was preceded in death by his wife of 43 years, Dorothy Boone Halsell and five siblings. Survivors include a son, John Ernest Halsell; two daughters, Christianne Hilburn and Tina Margaret West; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren; along with numerous nieces and nephews that he loved.

James W. McEwen, Class of '65

James (Jim) Walker McEwen passed away peacefully in his sleep on July 7th, 2023. Jim was born to Arch 'Rock' Erwin and Georgia McEwen on September 23rd, 1947. He deeply loved his family and was deeply loved by them just the same. Jim had a remarkable ability to connect with people and because of that, he



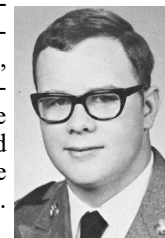
Jim McEwen

impacted so many lives. He was a true friend to many, a rare and remarkable trait, and he cherished the opportunity to help others, no matter who they were or where they came from. He attended CMA for four years, graduating as Mr.

CMA in the Class of 1965. After CMA, he attended the University of Tennessee and the University of Virginia. He was a proud veteran of the United States Army and served in Vietnam from 1967-1968, an experience that would guide his commitment and loyalty to his country for the rest of his life. Jim loved land, the outdoors and Middle Tennessee scenery, but especially his family home place, acquired by his great grandfather McEwen in 1863, with this background providing the foundation for what would be a successful career as a real estate broker. Among his favorite things to do was watching the sunset on his front porch over a cold drink with family and close friends. It didn't get any better than that for him. Jim also had a deep love of walking horses and a special knack for breeding walking horses, this being a life-long passion instilled by his father, Arch, and which became a joint passion of Jim and Nancy's. Jim was well rounded. He loved to travel and made life-long friends while doing so. He had a love for music, especially when it provided an opportunity to dance. He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Nancy McEwen; sons, Dan (Lucy) McEwen, John (Casey), and Jack (Amy) Hatley, and his grandchildren who he adored. He is also survived by brother Bill (Shirley) McEwen, and countless friends and family including his Shady Grove Methodist church family and current and former members of McEwen Group.

Martin D. McKee, Class of '69

Martin Doyle McKee, 72, employee of TDOT and resident of Columbia, died August 24, 2023 at Williamson Medical Center. Born November 7, 1950, in Sullivan County, he was the son of the late Samuel Edward McKee and the late Elaine Martin McKee. He attended CMA for one year, graduating with the Class of 1969.



Doyle McKee

An avid football fan, Doyle coached Spring Hill Middle School football team and loved Tennessee Vols Football. He enjoyed playing the drums and most of all spending time with his family. Survivors include his wife, Dana McKee; son, Martin Doyle "D.J."

SILVER TAPS

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McKee; daughter, Jennifer Lee (Jeremiah) Johnson; step-son, Michael Wayne (Ami) Milligan; and seven grandchildren.

Eugene Wiszowaty, Class of '76

Eugene A. Wiszowaty II, 63 of Lake Butler, FL passed away on November 6, 2021. Eugene was born in Chicago, IL to Eugene I and Anna Wiszowaty on August 24, 1958. Eugene grew up in the town of Sauk Village, IL and attended elementary school and middle school there before going to CMA. He attended CMA for ___ years graduating with the Class of 1976.



Eugene Wiszowaty

Upon returning home from CMA, he began working as a laborer installing and repairing garage doors. He later began a 30+ year career in Security, ending up spending 28 years working for defense contractor Northrop Grumman in the Chicagoland area. He loved spending time with family and friends watching sports, and grilling. He had a passion for fishing, fast cars, and his grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Eugene I and Anna Wiszowaty, and his brother, John Wiszowaty. He is survived by the love of his life of 46 years, Katherine Wiszowaty (Theisen), his daughter, Angela Griffis (Jason), his son, Eugene Wiszowaty III, his grandchildren, Ella and Writ Griffis; brothers, Jim (Kathy), Paul, Robert, and Joseph (Stacey); sisters, Ann Oprondek (David), and Alice; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

James Rippey, Class of '79

James "Jimmy" Milas Rippey, Jr. passed away on August 11, 2023, at the age of 62. Jimmy was born in Mt. Pleasant, TN, to James "Cotton" Milas Rippey Sr. and Rosemary Crane Rippey. He spent his formative years in Maury County, attending CMA for seven years, graduating with the Class of 1979. He



Jimmy Rippey

then earned his engineering degree Vanderbilt University. After college, Jimmy embarked on a path that took him to the Alaskan wilderness, joining the Corps of Engineers to work on a pipeline project. Returning to his hometown after a few years in Alaska, Jimmy worked alongside his father at Rippey Auto Parts and Industrial Supplies, Inc. Amid the array of his interests and pursuits, the heart of Jimmy's happiness resided in his family. He prioritized being present for his children, teaching them many life lessons. His affection for his wife, Shannon, knew no bounds, reflecting an unwavering and unconditional love. His fondness for his extended family circle was evidenced by the time he invested in their company and the genuine delight he found in their presence. Jimmy is survived by the love of his life Shannon Bond Rippey; children: Jessica May (Sharlie) Rippey, Katherine Rippey (Matt) Hinson, and James Austin Rippey; sister: Sheila Rippey (Billy) Fleming; brother-in-law: William Kenneth Bond; two nieces and four great-nephews. Jimmy is preceded in death by his parents James "Cotton" Milas Rippey, Sr., and Rosemary Crane Rippey and nephew William "Bill" Stuart Fleming, VI.

BUGLE QUARTERLY is published quarterly by the CMA Alumni Association. First Class postage paid in Columbia, TN.

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Shayne Harris '78, Secretary
Becky Moon '75, Treasurer
Kay Bircher '74, Assistant Treasurer

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