

# CMAAA Board Meeting — May 4th; 9:00 AM



Volume 29, Number 1

Spring, 2019

## From the President



Bellhops, Faculty & Friends:

I hope everyone had a great holiday season. I know there has been enough wet and cold weather to have everyone looking for spring and some warm dry weather. Spring at CMA brought a change to warm weather uniforms and getting ready for regular Sunday Parades. Graduation was just around the corner and summer vacation was already in our thoughts.

Dr. James Thomas, CA President, sent me information on the Maury County Historical Society website. The Columbia Arsenal is listed as one of eight Historic Sites in Maury County. The website is <http://historicmaury.com/mchs-history/historic-sites/>

There is a nice article on the history of our campus. Dr. Thomas and the CA Staff continue to embrace our CMA History and the relationship between CA and our Association.

Our 2020 Grand Reunion is a year and a half away. In 2020 we will celebrate the 50th Reunion for the 1970 and 1971 Classes. We need to identify the Class point of contact for each of these classes to help lead the efforts to get attendees from the classes and to also

set up any class activities to be conducted during the weekend. If you can do that for your class, please let me know. Thanks in advance.

The attendance for our 2018 Grand Reunion was lower than previous years. There are a number of factors for that but we need to do all we can to boost attendance. As we move forward, a lot of our regular reunion attendees are getting up in age and travel for them is more difficult. I encourage the Classes from the 1960s and 1970s to pick up the ball and help maintain the attendance numbers necessary to continue having our Grand Reunions. Our goal is to continue having the Grand Reunions until at least 2028 when the 1978 and 1979 Classes can have their 50th Reunion. Keeping the reunions going and providing the opportunity for alumni to get together is a primary goal of the Alumni Association. Please contact your fellow classmates and friends and encourage them to make plans for 2020. There was a discussion of possibly returning to Columbia for 2020. The Board of Directors will review the findings of the research into a 2020 Columbia Reunion and decide on the 2020 location. The 2020 Grand Reunion information will be published in the 2019 Summer Bugle. Enjoy your Spring and hopefully warm and sunny weather.

Robin

Robin Salze  
Class of 1966  
CMAAA President

## CMA Alumni Decade of the 70s Reunion

CMA Cadets from the Decade of the 1970s will be getting together this year for a Mini-Reunion. This was last done ten years ago in 2009 and some of the alums discussed it and thought it was time to do it again.

This reunion for the Decade of the 70s will be held in Columbia the weekend of 17-19 May. The events planned for the gathering include a golf tournament Friday morning, a Sporting Clays shoot Friday afternoon, informal get-togethers Friday night, a gathering in Old Main on Saturday morning to view the "CMA—100 Years of Tradition" video and share some memories between alumni, touring the campus and the CMA Museum on Saturday and a banquet at Graymere Country Club on Saturday night.

All former Cadets from the Decade of the 70s, regardless of how long you were at CMA or if you remained through graduation or not, are encouraged to participate in this reunion. If you have not been able to make previous reunions because of location or timing, we have changed both of those for this year. Come share some time and fun with your friends that were the last decade of Cadets that formed CMA's Long Gray Line.

Letters announcing the reunion have been mailed to all that we have addresses on. If you did not receive a letter with the Registration Form included please contact Woody Pettigrew at [wpettigrew@knology.net](mailto:wpettigrew@knology.net) or by calling him at (256) 653-7303 so one can be sent to you.

## The John Keliher Story



Pictured are Dr. James Thomas, President of Columbia Academy and a Columbia Academy graduate (left), John Keliher, Columbia Academy Class of 2019 (center), and Marshal Cranford, CMA Class of 1954 and 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Ranger (right). This picture was taken at the 2018 CMA Day held on the Columbia Academy campus last October.

John is scheduled to participate with fellow Seniors in Columbia Academy Graduation Ceremonies, Spring 2019. So what makes John just a little different from the other CA graduating Seniors? Herein is his story.

John Keliher was born in Nashville in May, 2001. For most of his early life he lived in Springfield. Then John's family moved to Franklin. In January 2017, for educational opportunities, John's family moved to Columbia. After attending Agothos Christian, John transferred to Columbia Academy in his Junior year, and is thankful for being able to attend a school with such high Christian values and academic standards. John is one of five children. He has three older sisters. One sister remains home while attending Columbia State Community College and a younger brother is a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at Columbia Central High School.

When speaking with John and asking about those who have had an influence in his life, he readily speaks of two (other than his mom who has according to John, "been there since day one"): his grandfather Ronald Scarlata, and his step-father Leroy Farris.

Ronald Scarlata was an immigrant from Sicily, having moved with his family to New York City in the era of the Great Depression. Times were tough, and by 1943 Ronald, at the age of 18, pretty much had one of two options: (1) face the US Penal System or (2) join the US Army. Choosing the latter, he became a Paratrooper with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. From entry in 1943 through two years of the Korean Conflict, Ronald honorably served this country. Upon settling back in the

USA, Ronald moved to Florida, developed his Christian Faith, met and married a wonderful young lady, and the rest is history. John speaks of the memories he has of his grandfather and to the fact that his grandfather was "simply a good man; he was generous, kind, compassionate, he believed in people, and he never lied". John says his grandfather taught him how to be a good person.

The other most influential figure in John's life has been his step-father, Leroy Farris. John grew up without the benefits of a father figure in his early years. There was no one to show him how to throw a baseball, or change a flat tire, and John is grateful for the help and encouragement he has received from Leroy, the only "father figure" and only "Father" John acknowledges. Leroy Farris is a 1969 graduate of Columbia Central High School. Upon graduation from CCHS, Leroy joined the army, and was a MP with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division for seven years through the Vietnam era. After his service, Leroy entered the fire arms business, became a municipal police officer, and then became a firearms instructor.

There is a reason to emphasize the influence that Ronald Scarlata and Leroy Farris have had on John Keliher. John has decided to follow in the ranks of his grandfather and father. In fact, he has already enlisted in the US Army. He will be heading to basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia on July 9th, 2019. After basic training, he will have 12 weeks of Advanced Individual Training, and then 3 weeks of Jump School. John will then begin the preparation phase of Ranger Training. Upon successful completion of Ranger Training, he will enter 61 days of Ranger School.

I dare say that at the age of 17, there were few of us who, before graduation from high school, signed on the dotted line to enter any of the U.S. Armed Services. John Keliher is to be commended for his valor. Keep John and his family in your prayers.

The administration and faculty of Columbia Academy make a concerted effort to recognize the history and significance of Columbia Military Academy, and for that we owe them a debt of gratitude. Be proud of what we did and what we were, be proud of what they are and what they do.

Contributed by:  
Bill Wade, CMA Class of 1968

## In Memoriam James Raiford "Sonny" Headrick, 1934-1984 CMA Class of 1952

In September 1951, I returned to CMA for my senior year. Soon after my arrival, I encountered a new cadet who was rooming next door. This new Cadet was James Raiford Headrick from Raleigh, Mississippi. Headrick told us all that his name was really "Sonny" and to please call him that.

Sonny and another Mississippi native, John Alan Phillips, used to brag so much about the State of Mississippi in our constant "Bull Sessions" that I was becoming convinced that Mississippi was God's Gift to all his children. I decided that I had to see this great state for myself. So, I decided to see if I could see Mississippi during the Spring break from CMA classes.

I was able to swing an invitation from both Sonny and John Alan to visit. I would start the week with Sonny Head-



CMA Cadets Nevin Williams and  
Sonny Headrick—Spring 1952

rick in Raleigh and at week mid-point, transfer to John Alan's residence.

So, in March, we took the bus to Mississippi. Sonny and I "de-bused" in Raleigh, I think. I met Sonny's parents and Sonny and I got ready to go to the Gulf Coast and Jackson (the state capital) to see the sights. I recall a short trip to the social center of Raleigh (at least for teenagers) which was a "café." There Sonny introduced me to one of his friends, a nice girl named Jo Vivian

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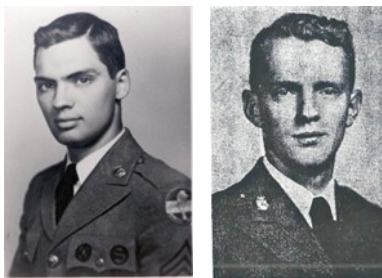
Martin. I was very impressed with Jo. Sonny later called Jo's Aunt (her guardian) to see if he could fix me up with a date. Apparently Jo's Aunt asked where I was from and as soon as she heard Ohio, she said "Jo is not going out with any DAMN YANKEE." I was disappointed, but not surprised. I had learned from our bull sessions at CMA that the South was still fighting the War—the War of Northern Aggression, as they called it!

We spent a few days in Raleigh and we learned that I would not be going to Slate Springs to spend time with John Alan as he had gotten sick. So Sonny was stuck with this Yankee for the entire vacation!

I do not recall much about what we did in Jackson. I know we drank a lot of beer. Both of us were underage (17) but we were in uniform so apparently that made the difference. I do not recall we were ever refused a drink. In those days, one could drive up to a "drive-in" and a kid would come to your car and take your order. You could order beer, and the kid would bring it to you. You could sit in the car and drink it or drive off and drink it. All of this was going on in the only "dry" state in the Union. Legally, one could not buy hard liquor in Mississippi. Illegally, you could buy whatever you wanted. Sonny and I were not yet into the hard stuff—we were just learning to handle beer. I asked Sonny why Mississippi was still a "Dry" state. He said that the Baptist Preachers and the Bootleggers kept it dry—for different reasons, of course.

Sonny had a friend named Clark—Clark was a few years older than us. Clark took us to New Orleans. We drove down and returned the same day. I do not recall seeing much—however we did visit the French Quarter and Clark asked me what I thought of a "sexy" woman in one of the bars. I do not recall my comment but Clark informed me that "she" was a "he"—obviously my first encounter (and hopefully last) with such a person.

Well, the Spring Break week soon came to an end and we were both back at CMA. We informed our friends in North Black of the good times that we had had. I shall always feel deprived however, that I did not get to see Slate Springs or Cahoun City, the area of



Nevin Williams    Sonny Headrick

### Senior Pictures 1952

Mississippi that John Alan knew.

My friendship with Sonny Headrick did not end upon termination of our Spring vacation week. We both graduated from CMA in June 1952 and went our separate ways. I enrolled in Ohio University and I think Sonny may have enrolled in Mississippi Southern University. He did not stay there very long, however. He was soon working with his Dad as an "oil lease broker."

Although I was in Ohio and Sonny was in Mississippi we would communicate infrequently via letter. (Yes, people did write letters in those days!) I do recall receiving a letter wherein Sonny informed me that he had married Jo Vivian Martin, the nice girl he had introduced me to in Raleigh back in 1952. From that point on, I always accused Sonny of "stealing my girl." This was an exaggeration, of course, as Jo and I had never dated.

I graduated from Ohio University in August 1955. I was commissioned through ROTC and I had orders for schooling at Fort Benning, Georgia, reporting in September. I purchased a car and decided to leave early for Fort Benning. I visited Columbia and several of my old school mates. I visited the CMA campus but it was almost deserted as the new school year had not yet started. After visiting CMA, I headed to Mississippi and visited with Sonny, his wife Jo, and their first child, Jimmy. They are now living in Jackson. I spent several days with them. Finally I report to Fort Benning on 23 September. School lasted until February 1956. During the school period we occasionally had a "long" weekend (no classes on Saturday). When that happened, I would get in my car and drive to Jackson, Mississippi to spend time with the Headricks. This was illegal as we soldiers were not allowed to travel that

distance on a two day weekend. I did it anyway and never got caught. Well, I graduated from Ft Benning in February and headed towards the Far East. I returned in 1958 from the Far East and I left the Army on 31 October of that year.

After getting out of the Army, I drove to Jackson, MS to visit with my friends, the Headricks. I was there several weeks. I returned to Ohio and the following Spring, Sonny, Jo, and Jimmy visited me. It is their first trip to "Yankeeland." They were there for several days and they got to know my parents. Sonny invited my parents to come visit them in Mississippi. My parents did that on several occasions.

Later I traveled to California and took a position as a civilian with the US Air Force. In December 1961, I returned to the active Army and was stationed at Fort Ord, CA on the Monterey Peninsula. In 1962, I flew to Biloxi, MS and attended a 3 week course at Keesler AFB. Soon after I arrived, I called my old friend, Sonny Headrick who was still in Jackson, MS. He invited me to visit on one of the weekends, so I traveled to Jackson and spend a weekend with Sonny and Jo.

Later, in 1963 I am back at Fort Benning, Georgia attending school for six months. Again, I make several weekend trips to Jackson and visit with the Headricks.

I did not see the Headricks again for many years. In 1970, after returning from my second Vietnam tour, I was traveling by auto from Ft Bragg, NC to my new assignment in Guatemala. I planned the trip so that we had an overnight stay in Jackson, MS. Sonny and Jo invited us to dinner and we had a good time!

Unfortunately, that is the last time I saw my good friends, Sonny and Jo.

Many years later, I get a phone call from Jo who tells me that Sonny has died. Sonny had taken Jo to the University of Alabama for a kidney transplant and he got sick while there. According to Jo, they operated, discovered he had incurable cancer, sewed him back up and told him he had 6 months to live. He had died in July 1984. Jo called me several months after his death—I knew nothing of his illness or impending death. During that conversation, Jo said a very interesting thing to me. She said something to the effect

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# SILVER TAPS

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that “since Sonny is gone, we can now get married. That was always the idea, was it not?” I informed her, of what she already knew, that I was already married! Now, why did she say that? There had never been any conversation among the three of us on that subject. At some point (long before I met my beautiful Alicia), I had admitted to myself that I was in love with Jo. I also realized that nothing would ever come of it as Jo was obviously in love with her husband, Sonny (the father of her 3 children) and I would never take any action to wreck that marriage as I loved both of them as my best friends. I assumed that neither of them were aware of my fascination with and love that I held for Jo, but obviously I was wrong or she would not had said what she did! She later indicated during that phone conversation that she realized I was happily married and that she was just joking. She did say that she had received her kidney transplant and was doing OK.

Several years later, I received a letter from the Headrick’s elder daughter, Mandy. Mandy informed me that her mother, Jo, had died of kidney problems. Her date of death was in 1987 at the age of 51.

Why did we have such a strong friendship? Well, I am not sure. I do know that we did a lot of talking. We were (all three of us) highly intelligent. I know that I was curious about everything in the south and I am certain that both of them were curious as to life in “Yankeeland.” We did a lot of talking about that. Otherwise, we just enjoyed each other’s company! (In those days, there was a lot of difference in growing up in Mississippi and growing up in Ohio.)

I miss them! How fortunate I was to have known and enjoyed both of them.

Contributed by:  
Nevin Williams, CMA Class of ‘52

## Yearbooks Available

Lyle Hampton, former CMA Faculty member, has CMA Yearbooks from 1968 to 1975 if anyone is interested in getting any or all of them. He only asks that the recipients cover the cost of mailing. You can reach him at: [lyhamp5216@gmail.com](mailto:lyhamp5216@gmail.com)

### Harvey R. Hansen, Class of ‘42

Harvey Robert “Bob” Hansen, Jr., died in April 2018 at the age of 93. He was living in Tampa, Florida at the time. Originally from Detroit, Michigan, Bob attended CMA for two years, graduating with the Class of 1942. He was the first of four Hansens to attend CMA. He was followed by his middle brother Jim, Class of 1944 and his youngest brother Nikolai, Class of 1950. His eldest son, Doug, graduated with the Class of 1967. All four Hansens were Band Company members. Upon graduation from CMA, Bob attended Michigan State University for one semester and, with his entire ROTC class, enlisted in the Army in December 1942. He served as an enlisted man in Italy with the 10th Mountain Division. One day after his discharge in Detroit in 1945 he joined the Michigan National Guard, later transferring to the Oregon National Guard and eventually the California Guard. Upon completion of Officer Candidate School in the early 1950s, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant. In 1963 he and his family moved to Singapore where he was employed as a heavy equipment representative for Allis Chalmers International. He continued his Reserve service until his retirement in 1984 as a Major with 42 years service and two Bronze Stars. His wife, Kittie-Marie passed away in 2011 after 65 years of marriage. He is survived by his middle brother, James M. Hansen, two sons, two daughters and four grandchildren.

### William Self Propst, Class of ‘54

William ‘Bill’ Self Propst, Sr., 81, of Huntsville, passed away February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. He attended CMA for one year graduating with the Class of 1954. He then attended and graduated from Samford University with a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. He founded Propst Drugs of Huntsville, and K-Mart Pharmacies. K-Mart purchased the Pharmacies from Mr. Propst, in 1970. He became the Pharmacy Division President until his retirement in 1986. While a K-Mart employee he started Qualitest Pharma-

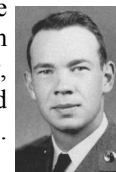


Bill Propst

ceuticals, later purchasing a partnership interest in the firm. In 1988, he purchased all of K-Mart’s remaining stock and became K-Mart’s primary supplier for generic drugs. He purchased Medico Pharma, a small manufacturing plant in Charlotte, North Carolina in 1992, changing its name to Vintage Pharmaceuticals. The firm grew to be one of the largest generic drug manufacturing companies in the United States. Most recently, he founded Propst Properties, a leading regional real estate company with offices in Huntsville and Birmingham. Late in his career, he focused much of his attention to philanthropic activities individually and in partnership with The Propst Foundation and made substantial donations to Samford University, Hudson Alpha Institute, Randolph School, renovations of Propst Arena, and the construction of the Eloise McDonald Propst Welcome Center at Huntsville Botanical Gardens, among others. Survivors include his wife, Eloise McDonald Propst; four children, William Self Propst Jr., Emily Propst Reiney (Michael), Charles Vincent Propst (Tracy) and Michael Jay Propst (Jennifer); nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

### Lucien Lee Royse, Class of ‘56

Lucien Lee Royse, 79, widower of Betty Ann (Noe) Royse, passed away Saturday, April 28th, 2018. He was born May 15th, 1938 in Poplar Plains, Kentucky, son of the late Leo M. and Martha Harlan Day Royse. Lucien attended CMA for two years, graduating with the Class of 1956. He then attended Georgetown College, graduating with a Bachelor’s degree in Chemistry and did post graduate work at The University of Kentucky and The University of Cincinnati. He retired from Sara Lee Corporation, where he was Vice-President of Operations. He was a member of Georgetown First United Methodist Church, the Georgetown-Scott County Museum and was an avid antique collector. He is survived by his son, Lucien Lee (Diana) Royse, Jr.; his daughter,



Lucien Royse

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Celia Royse (Rick) Johnson; eight grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; a niece; and very special friend, Penny St. Charles. In addition to his wife and parents, Lucien was preceded in death by two sisters, Jennie Lou Curotto and Johnnie Day Howe.

## **Toxie C. Kennedy, Class of '59**

Toxie Crawford Kennedy, 78, of Arab Alabama passed away Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at his residence. He was born April 30, 1940 in Arab, Alabama, the son of Charles Anderson Kennedy and Nova Jane Hipp Kennedy.



He was a graduate of Arab High School "Class of 1958" and also attended CMA for one year graduating with the Class of 1959. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Judy Campbell Kennedy; the son of his heart, Donald Roden; the daughters of his heart, Jennifer and Tara and some special friends who never let him down: Dwayne Shedd, Locke Ballard, Terry Robinson, Bobby Joe Williams and Nancy Scott. He is also survived by two sisters, Frankie Jones of Hulaco and Bobby Needham of Hulaco and a brother, J. C. Kennedy of Texas.

## **Harry Williamson, Class of '61**

Harry "Duncan" Williamson, age 75, of Peachtree City, passed away November 26, 2018. Mr. Williamson

was born on September 9, 1943 in Huntsville, AL to the late Harry "H.B." and Katherine Williamson. He attended CMA for three years as a member of the Class of 1961. He then graduated from Athens State University earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry. He joined the Air Force and became a skilled pilot of EC47, C141 and other aircraft. During his 7 years of service, he became a Captain and served his country in the Vietnam War. He earned numerous awards including the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air



Williamson graduated from Athens State University earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry. He joined the Air Force and became a skilled pilot of EC47, C141 and other aircraft. During his 7 years of service, he became a Captain and served his country in the Vietnam War. He earned numerous awards including the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air

Medal. Upon his honorable discharge, he became an air traffic controller. He then worked as a commercial airline pilot until his retirement. Not one to sit idle, he also opened his own heating and air company, which he ran for 20 years. He was a talented "handy-man" who could fix just about anything, which he often did for his daughters and neighbors. He was fun loving and social, known to be a jokester. He was generous and loyal to his many dear friends. He was a long-time tennis player, playing for his high school and college teams, as well as USTA and ALTA leagues for most of his adult life. He enjoyed his motorcycle, which he rode across the United States, Canada and Mexico. He is survived by his daughters and sons-in-law: Jennifer and Ernest Ward and Leslie and Richard Van Sant; four grandchildren; and dear friend Sharon Hayes; mother of his children, Phyllis Williamson; sister and brother-in-law Phoebe and Wayne Hornbuckle; a niece and several nephews.

## **Joe Don Gibbs, Class of '64**

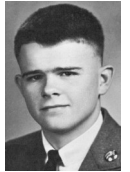
Joe Don Gibbs, 73, former owner and office manager for Columbia Neon and resident of Dowell Branch Road, died Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at Maury Regional Medical Center. Born October 29, 1945 in Weakly County, he was the son of the late Joe Almus Gibbs and the late Rebecca Collins Gibbs.



He attended CMA for five years graduating with the Class of 1964. He then attended Martin College and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He enjoyed playing all sports, especially pickleball. He attended West Point Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Survivors include his wife, Sharon Eskew Gibbs of Columbia; children, Courtney (Garry) Love of Mt. Pleasant; David (Rebecca) Gibbs of Columbia; Melanie (Eric Nobles) Rich of Ethridge; Ricky (Jamie) Rich of Yukon, Oklahoma; nine grandchildren; brother, Jackie (Donna) Gibbs of Columbia; and several nieces.

## **Earl E. Cloud, Class of '65**

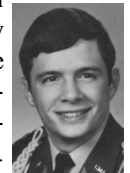
Earl E. Cloud, Jr., 71, passed away Thursday, September 13, 2018 at his home in Huntsville, Alabama. He was born on July 11, 1947 in Huntsville to the late Earl and Marjorie Cloud. Earl attended CMA for three years, graduating with the Class of 1965.



Earl Cloud He then graduated from the University of Alabama and Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota. Following graduation, he returned to Huntsville and practiced law with his father until his death in 2002. Earl actively practiced law for more than 40 years. He was a member of Covenant Presbyterian and First Baptist Church. Earl is survived by his wife of 46 years, Sheila Stinnett Cloud; sons and daughters-in-law, Scott and Laura Cloud, and Earl E. and Carrie Cloud, III; three grandsons; sister, Susan Cloud; brother and sister-in-law, Joseph and Dixie Cloud; aunt and uncle, Charles and Ginger Brooks; and numerous beloved cousins.

## **Joe Howell Seale, Class of '70**

John Howell Seale, 67, passed away on February 15th, 2019. Joe was born and raised in Jackson, Mississippi where he and his family owned the Seale-Lily Ice Cream company. Joe attended CMA for 5 years, graduating with the Class of 1970.



He then attended and graduated from Mississippi State University where he earned his degree in Dairy Science and was a loyal supporter of the MSU Bulldogs. Joe married Donna Dickerson of Jackson in 1974 and they raised two daughters, Joy and Ashley. In 1998, Joe and his family moved to Alpharetta, Georgia where he was a district account manager for Ecolab. He was a member of Fellowship Bible Church in Roswell, Georgia. Joe is survived by his wife Donna Seale, daughter Ashley Seale, Granddaughter Hannah Seale, sisters Sheryl Seale Pettit and Linda Seale Burwell (Jim), and many nieces and nephews. Joe was predeceased by his daughter Joy Seale

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and his parents, Joe C. Seale and Jeanette Howell Seale.

## John Carl Andrews, Class of '71

John Carl "Johnny" Andrews, 66, owner and operator of Andrews Construction, died Monday, February 11, 2019. Born November 12, 1952, he was the son of John Knox Andrews of Columbia and the late Jean Ashton Andrews. He attended CMA for four years graduating with the Class of 1971 and then attended Florence State College on a football scholarship for one year. He enjoyed classic automobiles, antiques, and going to the gun range with friends. An excellent wood craftsman, he had volunteered with Habitat for Humanity. He enjoyed coaching baseball and mentoring to many. He was a member of First United Methodist Church where he had served on the Board of Trustees. Survivors include his wife whom he married October 12, 1984, Delilah Riddle Andrews; children, John (Jennifer) Andrews of Chattanooga, James "Cam" Andrews and Frances "Gracie" (Kyle) Pitts of Columbia; grandson, John Wallace Andrews of Chattanooga; father and step-mother, John Knox Andrews & Sammie Andrews of Columbia; brother, Jimmy (Julie) Andrews of Columbia; step-sister, Meg (Les) Lockhart of Columbia; step-brother, Ben Bayless of Columbia; father-in-law, Charles Riddle of Columbia; and brothers-in-law, Rog-



er (Connie) Riddle of Columbia, Tim (Lisa) Riddle of Daytona Beach, Florida, and Brian Riddle of Murfreesboro. In addition to his mother, he was preceded in death by his mother-in-law, Frances Riddle.

## Steve Wade Eley, Class of '75

Steve Wade Eley, age 61; a native of Tennessee and a resident of Mobile, Alabama, died Monday, December 3, 2018 at his residence. Steve attended CMA for two years graduating with the Class of 1975 and attended North Alabama University. He retired in 2014 after an industrial accident working as an iron worker. He also worked for Cudd Well Control in Lafayette, Louisiana, Chevron in Pascagoula, Mississippi, Dish Network and James Construction in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He was preceded in death by his mother, Rachel Bain King; his father, Alvis King; and his birth father, Buford Wade Eley. Steve is survived by his wife of 19 years, Tracy Ann Springer Eley; his children, Donald Wade Eley (Ilse), Nicholas J. Ficklin (Erica), and Jessica D. Ficklin; three grandchildren; two sisters; a nephew; two nieces; and other relatives.



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