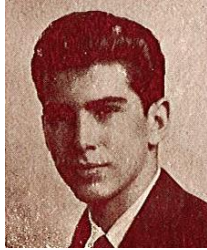


In Memoriam: Fall 2023

We have received word of the recent passing of the following alumni, former faculty members and trustees, and extend our condolences to their families and friends. Memorial notices may be sent to Katie Durno at kdurno@uls.org.

Robert Tonge '42 DUS



Robert Tonge, 98, of York Harbor, passed away peacefully on February 7, 2023, in Ft. Lauderdale. Bob was a summer resident of York Harbor for over 60 years.

He spent most of his time on Court 2, playing tennis at the York Golf & Tennis Club. When not on the court enjoying the warm, sunny weather, he spent his time with his wife Muriel and their three sons. In the final years of his life, sadly he had lost both the strength in his legs and his beloved wife Muriel of over 60 years. He spent much of his later years in the window of his home on the York River. Bob is survived by his three sons, and by his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Edith Madelyn Rydman-Werback '49 LIG

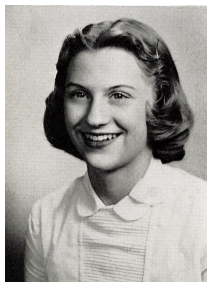


Edith Madelyn Rydman-Werback, 91, passed away on January 7, 2023. She was born December 14, 1931, to Stewart A. and Madeline R. Werback and raised in Detroit. Edith graduated from The Liggett School in 1949. She married Gustav Magnus Rydman in 1958.

During her career, Edith dedicated her time working at Hudsons in Detroit, the University of the South Tennessee, and volunteering for the Association of American Women in Europe. She lived in many interesting places, including Cologne, Germany; Birmingham, MI; St. Louis, MO; France; and Sewanee, TN.

Edith was the loving mother of Stewart, Eric, and Ann-Marie Rydman; proud grandmother of five grandchildren; and sister of Ann Truog.

Jean Waltrip '52 CDS



Jean Bahr Waltrip passed away on March 4, 2023, following a brief hospitalization. She was born March 31, 1935, in Grosse Pointe to Mary Fairfax Griffith Bahr and Frederick Charles Bahr. She grew up in an idyllic family culture, enjoying the Detroit Country Club and sailing on Lake St. Clair. She enjoyed tennis, golf, swimming, and sailing.

In 1952, Jean graduated from Grosse Pointe County Day School, before graduating from the University of Michigan in 1956, with a bachelor's degree

in English. She remained a fan of the Wolverines, the Detroit Lions, and the Detroit Tigers for the rest of her life.

Following in her mother's footsteps, Jean attended William and Mary as a postgraduate, where she earned her master's degree in special education in 1979. While she was studying in Williamsburg she met Gene Waltrip, the love of her life. Together they had five children. She and Gene embarked on many adventures throughout their 42 years of marriage, purchasing an oyster boat, "The Gay Maid," owning a campground in Syringa; while showing and raising black and tan coon hounds.

Known among her friends, family, and peers for her keen wit and insight, one did not want to be on the opposing side of a debate with her. Jean advocated for a woman's independence, ultimately pursuing a career in social work and special education. She retired as the director of Franklin County Social Services. During her career, she unselfishly shared her time and talents with the community. Jean was a lifelong Episcopalian and was actively involved with the Phoebe Needles Center for Lifelong Learning and the Daughters of the King. She was also involved with the Franklin County Family Resource Center, the Developmental Center of Franklin County, the local library, and was a former member of the Boones Mill Lions Club. Her work ethic and organizational skills earned her the respect of fellow members, while her warmth and sense of humor earned her their friendship.

She loved the beach, wherever it was, and treasured being with her family - family loyalty was a core value for her. Not only did she want her children to practice manners and to stand up for what was right in the world; she also wanted to give them a bone-deep assurance that they were valuable, worthy of love, and capable of anything. The game of "Balderdash" was a family favorite and the combination of Jean's vocabulary and Gene's "earthy" style often resulted in loud controversy and gales of laughter. She brought her sense of humor to every social gathering. Fearless and joyful, she lived in the moment, Jean was going to enjoy whatever situation she found herself in.

Jean was predeceased by her husband, Gene Keith Waltrip, brother Frederick Griffith Bahr, sister Mary Armistead Bahr Turino, and her son Gene Keith Waltrip, Jr. She is survived by her children Deborah Snead, Victoria Cullather (Dan), Pace Martin (Mike), and Kevin Waltrip (Jennie).

Lynn Bloy '54 CDS

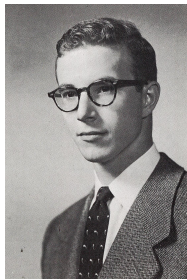


Lyne Bloy, 87, of Grosse Pointe Farms, passed away on February 27, 2023, at Ascension St. John. Born September 11, 1935, Lynn was the daughter of James and Virginia Turner Trudell. In 1954, she graduated from Grosse Pointe County Day School, and then graduated from Garland Junior College in Boston. Lynn married Frederick Gibson ("Fritz") Bloy. Together they shared 59 years of marriage.

Lynn was a lifelong resident of Grosse Pointe Farms. She loved the community and had friends of all ages with many considering her close family. During her career she worked at Miners, a local women's shop and volunteered at Bon Secours Hospital gift shop. She loved children, dogs, baking, and bowling with Fritz at the Country Club of Detroit, where the couple were members of the club's league for many years.

Lynn is survived by her close friend and companion Al Johnson, her cousin Kyle Kinsey, nephew Michael B. Bloy, and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband Fritz who passed in 2017.

Michael Ryan '56 GPUS



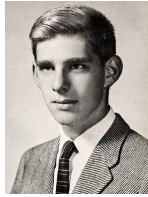
Michael Ryan, 84, of Spring Lake, died peacefully on June 19, 2023. He was born September 9, 1938, in Detroit to Alfred and Margaret Ryan. Michael grew up in Buffalo, New York, and then moved to Grosse Pointe with his family, when he was 16. He graduated from Grosse Pointe University School in 1956, and then from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service with a B.S. in business. Following graduation Michael started work in the accounting office of General Motors. During his first few years with the company, he got to experience “Big Blue” from IBM. Based on an account from Michael before he died, he explained how “Big Blue” took up a large room and required several engineers 24 hours a day just to keep it breathing. Over the years, “Big Blue,” as well as the accounting staff, kept shrinking. It was an exciting period in technological growth. Michael once shared “I felt grateful to have been part of the wonderful revolution, to have been able to design some of the solutions, and to create opportunities for people to have more power over their lives.”

Michael was a big fan of skeet shooting, having been introduced to the sport by his father-in-law. His love of dogs led him to the Board of the Harbor Humane Society for several years, and he was deeply committed to helping the animals. During their life together Michael and his wife, Ginny, had two dogs, Dinger, and Tara, along with a big green parrot named Peanut.

Upon retirement, Michael joined the Rotary Club of Spring Lake. He became heavily involved in Rotary business locally, internationally, and traveled to many Rotary international projects. Later, as president of the Spring Lake Rotary Club, he led a Rotary Funded project that brought water to a village in Honduras. He was co-treasurer of the Coopersville Rotary Club and the Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group of Rotary International. Michael was engaged in many community efforts including being scout master for Webelos in Grosse Pointe and on the Board of the Southeast Chapter of the Hope Ship. While in Spring Lake he also volunteered weekly in Cheap Stacks of Loutit Library.

Michael is survived by his wife of 62 years, Virginia; daughter Julia Mehgan Ryan; son Robert Michael Ryan (Rachel S. Moore); Grandchildren Liam (Nicole) Jernudd and Sten Haydyn Jernudd; and great granddaughter Freya Julia Jernudd.

Barry H. O'Brien '57 GPUS



Barry H. O'Brien, 84, passed away at his home in Deland, Florida on July 10 after several years of serious medical issues. Barry was born February 4, 1939 in New York, New York and worked as a Substance Abuse Counselor. He graduated from Grosse Pointe University School in 1957.

Carole Williams '57 GPUS



Carole Ann Williams, 84, of Grosse Pointe Park, passed away on May 23, 2023. Carole was the daughter of Jack G. and Gwen B. Williams of Grosse Pointe Shores. In 1957, she graduated from Grosse Pointe University School, and then from Mount Vernon Junior College in Washington, D.C.

During her career she worked in the events department at Hudson's Department Store for many years. Carol also enjoyed volunteering her time to local organizations — she was a member of The Junior League of Detroit, the Sigma Gamma Association, and was also a former member of the Women's Economic Club of Detroit.

Carole will be sadly missed by Heidi H. Ford of West Chester, PA; and by D. Cressler Heasley, Jr., of Dallas, TX, who are the children of Carole's longtime companion, David C. Heasley, who predeceased her; and also by her goddaughter, Shannon N. Forster of Portland, OR. She is survived by her cousins, Scott Williams of North Haven, CN; Bruce Williams of Morgan Hill, CA; and Kirk Williams of San Jose, CA.

Banu Pektas '59 GPUS



Banu Pektas of Istanbul, Turkey passed away on September 22, 2022. Banu attended GPUS as an American Field Service representative from Turkey during her senior year. Then, after returning home to Istanbul, she attended the Faculty of Law of the Istanbul University and graduated first in her class.

Between 1965 and 1987, Banu worked in a law firm and served as a lecturer at the School of Foreign Language at Istanbul University. Between 1987 and 2006, she was the Legal Counsel of Coca Cola Turkey and served as the Region/Division/Group Counsel with responsibilities covering 36 countries in their Eurasia and Middle East Group. In 2007, Banu was appointed General Counsel of TAV Airports Holding's Legal Coordination Department. She retired in 2012. Banu is survived by her two children, Yaman Akdeniz and Mehves Akdeniz, and by her sister, Belgin Dolay.

Dennis Cross '61 GPUS



Dennis William Cross, 79, of New York City and Nantucket, Massachusetts, died peacefully on April 14, 2023, in Boynton Beach, FL. His daughters, Louisa, and Eliza were by his bedside through his final days. He was born in Detroit, in the summer of 1943, to Ralph and Eloise Cross and grew up in Grosse Pointe. He spent his time as a golf caddy, playing baseball, and following the Detroit Red Wings. Although he was small in stature, Dennis attained his full height in eighth grade and would chuckle about how he was once the tallest kid.

Dennis was a high achiever. He pressed his father to attend Culver Military Academy in Indiana where he embraced the order and discipline of academy life and rose quickly through the ranks. He pushed his parents and teachers for his independence, and he sought new horizons beyond his mid-western upbringing. While his parents were away in Germany, Dennis drove from Michigan to Massachusetts and applied in person to Phillips Academy, Andover, where much to his satisfaction, they treated adolescents like adults. At the Academy Dennis found the freedom to make his own choices and it was here that he further developed his love for singing. Dennis auditioned for the school acapella group and when he was not accepted, he started his own group and named it the Sour Grapes. Following boarding school, Dennis found a larger stage at Yale University where he sang with the Baker's Dozen. Later, Dennis was tapped to join the Whiffenpoofs — the nation's oldest and most prestigious collegiate acapella singing group. While at Yale, Dennis formed many of his deepest friendships during his all-night conversations and embraced his love for music and the warmth of song that he shared with friends and family throughout his life.

Following graduation from Yale in 1965, Dennis embarked on a solo trip around the world. On his return, he landed at Suffield Academy in Connecticut where he taught European and Asian History. Then, with his wife Anne, he moved north to Cambridge to attend Harvard Business School. It was after HBS that Dennis joined his family's machine tool company, working for Cross Europawerk GMBH, the company's European subsidiary in Stuttgart, Germany for two years. However, he was drawn to the excitement of New York City where he joined an investment banking training program at First Boston. As an investment banker Dennis was fascinated and excited by his work helping governments, hospitals, and universities fund their capital projects. Dennis and Anne raised their daughters Louisa and Eliza in New York City and delighted in all the cultural offerings.

After 25 years as an investment banker, Sarah Lawrence College asked Dennis to join the school as their CFO. In his own words, Dennis recalled that this was the most enjoyable period of his career as he navigated the challenge of being a businessman in the academic world. However, he was not content to leave his singing behind and created what would become the Yale Whiffenpoof Alumni. Together, they assembled along the Eastern Seaboard and beyond, filling clubs, benefits, auditoriums, and even the White House with their rich voices, beautiful solos, and sometimes bawdy tales of the Harvard-Yale rivalry. Dennis served as the president of

the Yale Whiffenpoof Alumni for 25 years and was widely celebrated for bringing new purpose to Whiffenpoof graduates. He was also a past board member of the Maria Mitchell Association and other non-profit organizations and several music schools in New York City.

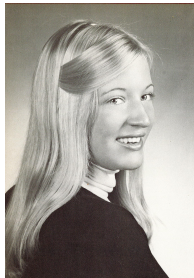
Dennis was pre-deceased by his wife of 53 years, Anne Frothingham Cross. He is survived by his brother Ralph; sister Carol; his daughters Louisa Walsh and Eliza Miller; and his four granddaughters, Amelia, Peyton, Charlotte, and Emerson all of whom he called, “the greatest”.

Mary Griffin Pankonin '61 LIG



Mary Griffin “Griffie” Pankonin passed away on May 14, 2023, from complications of a rare form of lymphoma. Griffie and Mary Alice Ferguson '61 LIG were friends throughout their life, and was Mary Ferguson’s oldest friend. Mary recalled how she used to drive Griffie to school in her 1952 Turquoise Volkswagen. Mary also shared that Griffie had a fabulous sense of humor, and she loved their Liggett days. She will be missed.

Amy Swantek Uffelman '75



Amy Swantek Uffelman of Cocoa Beach, FL. passed away on December 22, 2022, surrounded by loved ones after a two year battle with pancreatic cancer. After graduating from the University of Miami and spending one cold winter on Cape Cod, Amy moved to Cocoa Beach in 1981. During here time in the community, Amy spent 38 years teaching and treasured each child that came through her classroom door. Aside from teaching she also loved the beach, and animals.

Anne Marie Wormer Palazzolo '87

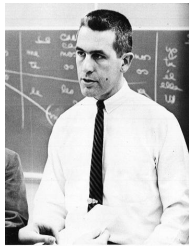


Anne Marie (Ami) Wormer Palazzolo, 54, of St. Clair Shores passed away on May 20, 2023. Ami was born on May 30, 1969, in Chicago, IL. After graduating from ULS, Ami obtained her B.A. from University of Michigan, majoring in English. No doubt, Ami acquired her speaking/writing skills from her mother, the late Anne Getz Wormer '59 LIG, author of *Century: The History of University Liggett School 1878-1978*.

Ami enjoyed working at two of her father’s companies — Wright Austin, a manufacturing firm, and Hamony Park Recording Studio. She also enjoyed her work as a nanny to several families. During the summer, Ami spent several years at the ULS Day Camp and swimming at the Detroit Boat Club. She also spent quite a bit of time on her dad’s boat and travelling on her dad’s plane to Hilton Head, SC., the Bahamas, and Cedar Pointe. During her downtime, she enjoyed gardening, reading, boating, music, and travel.

Ami is survived by husband, James Palazzolo. She is predeceased by her mother, Anne, sister Sigrid Christensen (Richard Levy), and her brother Christopher Wormer (Rebecca). She will be remembered lovingly by her sisters-and brothers-in-law, 12 nieces and nephews, and 14 great nieces and nephews.

Richard Trim - Former GPUS Faculty/Coach



Richard Trim, 93, of Ann Arbor, passed away on April 25, 2023. He was a beloved coach and faculty member. He was the varsity football coach from 1952 – 1967, the varsity baseball coach from 1952-1956 and he coached Middle School basketball. While at Grosse Pointe University School, Richard taught Upper School Spanish and was so beloved that the 1967 yearbook, Pericon, was dedicated to him and his wife.