

Classnotes

We invite you to send updates and information to share with the Wheeling University family. Please feel free to email alumni@wheeling.edu with any news.

Class of 1972

Bob McCartney, long time video director for the Pittsburgh Steeler, was honored by the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Last summer, he received an "Award of Excellence," which honors individuals who contribute to the success of a team.

Class of 1975

Ed Miles, who resides in Strabane, Pennsylvania, reports that he is retired.

Class of 1976

Raymond Niessing of Westerly, Rhode Island, is retired.

Class of 1980

Matthew Doherty is managing director of workforce risk management at Sikich

Ellen (Rattigan) Jessen retired as the judge for the [12th Judicial District Court](#) of New Mexico. She served as the Domestic Relations and Civil Division judge for nearly five years.

Class of 1983

Maire (Brosnan) Katavolos retired as COO of the YWCA of Northern New Jersey. She now runs her own non-profit consulting company.

Class of 1984

Kathleen (Carrigan) Hill, serves as the liaison between Child Welfare and Juvenile Probation for Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

Class of 1989

Bob Knott is the founder and principal at Timbre Strategies, LLC in Baltimore. He currently serves on the Wheeling University Board of Trustees.

Class of 1993

Meredith (Dean) Augustin was featured in an article by the National Catholic Reporter. [Click here to read the](#) article.

Class of 1995

Emily Mueller has a non-profit *Where Pigs Fly Rescue and Sanctuary*. Mueller rehabilitates pigs in need of rescue. She recently appears on the [Kelly Clarkson Show](#) to talk about this animal rescue program.

Joseph Young is a Senior Project Manager at May Engineering Company which has just opened a new office in Wheeling.

Class of 1997

Michael Pittman was promoted to supervisor with the Allegheny County Division of Real Estate, which is based in Pittsburgh, PA.

Class of 1998

Michael Heinecke recently started a new position as Technical Program Manager at OpenAI.

John Naughton serves at the [Assistant Dean](#) of Business Academic Advising and Career Services for the College of Business at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio.

Class of 2000

W. Michael Traubert was selected by the WV Athletic Commission to be an inspector for the Professional MMA at Mountaineer Casino in February 2025.

Brooke Turner is an Associate Professor, Director of Master of Arts in Sports Leadership Program at John Carroll University.

Class of 2001

Rob Kulpa is manager of Small Business Solutions at AEP Energy.

Class of 2005

Tim Haught serves as Vice President, Administrative and Document Services for Forrest Solutions in Columbus, Ohio.

Class of 2009

Sarah (Bell) West is the Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness at WLU.

Class of 2011

Chelsea (Reyher) Gerrard is the Director of Communications at Villanova University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Class of 2013

Patrick Callahan is the senior director of digital sales and data at Gray TV.

Class of 2014

Donald Luke Kopp is the Assistant Vice President for Student Well-Being and Housing at Fairmont State University.

Class of 2015

Jenifer Leech is a Case Manager at Russell Nesbitt Services in Wheeling.

Class of 2017

Giovanna Loccisano is the owner of Foxfire & Co. which is located in the greater Columbus (OH) area.

Class of 2019

Frank Simo recently published a book [*"How to Become Successful as a Foreign Citizen in the United States of America."*](#) He lives in Pittsburgh.

Class of 2023

Batson Sheets is the Graduate Research Assistant for the Office of Institutional Advancement at Bethany

College. He is completing his MBA in Non-Profit Entity Management.

Alumni Obituaries

Robert Alberi, class of 1970, passed away February 22.

Michael T. Blackwell, class of 2000, died February 25.

Beth Chambers, Class of 1992, passed away May 2. Beth formerly worked in the WU Admissions Office and was a long-time member of Alumni Council.

Dr. Anthony Cheslock, class of 1970, passed away February 25.

Kathy Hurley, class of 1979, died on March 31, 2025.

Dennis Lloyd, class of 1964, passed away on March 22, 2025.

Michael Monahan, class of 1982, passed away April 28.

Dr. Jeanne (Henry) Neff, class of 1964 and former Wheeling College Academic Dean, died January 30, 2025.

Sandra Neilson, Class of 1966 passed away in April 2025.

Rev. David Brian (Country) Shoda, class of 1979, passed away on April 7.

Francis (Frank) Sweeney, class of 1974, died March 15, 2025.

Sandra Jarrett Wallenhorst, class of 1973, passed away March 30, after a 13-and-a-half-month battle with a brain tumor. She was married to **William Wallenhorst**, class of 1970.

Patricia 'Pie' (Ellis) Williams, class of 1983, passed away on February 16, 2025.