

Bob Grote passed away. Bob was well liked by everyone. He was a past class president and reunion co-chair.

— **Paul Albright RC'56:** 2073 Blue Duck Drive, Loveland, CO 80537; 970-613-1098 (fax to same number, call first)

57 Class Column: First, let me explain why I missed my first column in more than 50 years this winter. I emailed it from a train between Vienna and Budapest. It never arrived. The article described mostly the celebration of life that **Don Kirkwood RC'57** had for his deceased wife, Marge. I was informed it was a wonderful day for a wonderful woman.

I previously reported the death of **Oscar Huh Jr. RC'57** on December 31, 2014, in Baton Rouge, LA, without details. After the military, he joined the Naval Oceanographic Office in Washington, D.C., where he participated in the SEALAB III. He later joined the faculty of Louisiana State University.

We also lost **Joseph M. Kacicz ENG'57** of York, PA, on October 21, 2014. He was retired from Dentsply International and held several ceramics- and adhesive-related U.S. patents.

On October 22, 2014, **William Beach RC'57** of Green Valley, AZ, died. He was a Henry Rutgers Scholar and earned a Ph.D. in chemistry. He was a career research chemist with Union Carbide.

Professor emeritus **James O'Brien RC'57**, a meteorologist who has worked for Florida State University and is referred to as "Dr. El Niño," will be honored again. Jim, whose model of El Niño was widely accepted throughout the world, is being recognized as a Fellow of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, a global organization. He will be presented with this award in August 2015 in Prague.

Before we know it, 2017 will be upon us. It will be 60 years since leaving the Banks. Mark your calendar. We still need your contributions to the unrestricted fund of the Class of 1957. Our project and name will be seen by thousands every year. Please participate with your generosity.

— **Harold Kaplan RC'57:** P.O. Box 941313, Maitland, FL 32794-1313; 407-628-8444; hjk@ufg-lease.com

58 Class Column: The Robert Lusardi Scholarship Fund value through May 31, 2014, is \$616,657. Gifts added equal \$3,000 and the estimated amount for spending is \$23,201.

Bob Langford RC'58 lives in Minneapolis, MN, and winters in Tucson, AZ, between January and May. He reports, "have enjoyed regular get-togethers with **Ray Dull AG'58, GSNB'60**, who is writing beautiful poetry, doing some singing, and like me, attending to a myriad of health issues. We are both making it through and consider ourselves survivors."

Sam Crosby ED'59, GSE'65, '72 writes: "**Don Kovalchik RC'58, GSE'62** still lives in Mount Upton, NY, on a 300-acre dairy farm. Grows his own food and pretty much lives off the land. He is still active in the New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and could probably wrestle at his college weight."

Jack Canal RC'58 had his total right hip replaced in May 2014. He reports: "some complications during surgery. I have a few more months of physical therapy then out on the golf links once again."

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A Dose of Kindness

Dorian J. Wilson, a liver-transplant surgeon, leads the ongoing effort to heighten medical professionals' awareness of the need to show humanity in treating patients.



Michael Nazmy Sr., left, a liver transplant recipient, talks with Dorian J. Wilson, a professor of surgery at New Jersey Medical School and the director of the school's Healthcare Foundation Center for Humanism and Medicine.

In the medical world, doctors are often seen as untouchable. They undergo years of rigorous education and training, and many make life-and-death decisions in their work every day. As a transplant surgeon, Dorian J. Wilson says he has always felt humbled by such responsibility—but he also noticed the arrogance and detachment it brought out in some of his peers.

"I say that humanism is the golden rule on steroids—'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you'—and I take that to heart," says Wilson NJMS'82. In 2004, Wilson became director of the Healthcare Foundation Center for Humanism and Medicine at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, a unit founded by a generous grant from the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey. More than a decade later, he is still in that post, championing kindness and humility in medical care.

Wilson selects a small group of humanism fellows each year, and those students spend the next four years working on service projects and learning to provide sensitive, human-centered care. In the future, Wilson says he'd like the principles he advocates to reach even more—ideally all—medical students.

"I'd love to see this become a standard part of training for each medical specialty," he says. "We might even get to a point where you go into a doctor's office and see a humanism certificate on the wall up with the diplomas."

An accomplished surgeon who helped perform the first liver transplant in New Jersey, Wilson has seen firsthand the difference human-focused care can make—and not just for the patients. "One of the greatest things about humanism is that it's reciprocal," he says. "When I give that respect and care, I also get it back. It rewards the physicians just as much as the patients."

— Molly Petrilla

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