

Taylor University

THE  
BIG

Five-OH

Class of  
1969  
Reunion

October  
3-6  
2019

"To create a weekend experience for classmates that celebrates each attendee and creates a context for reconnection, shared memories, and fellowship; a time that brings both joy and encouragement...one that honors the Lord and furthers the mission of Taylor University through a legacy gift."

# The Flintstones, the Jetsons, and the Class of '69



We did a lot of our growing up in the sixties. As we were sliding into our teens, the decade began with America entering the Viet Nam conflict. Then the young, handsome John Kennedy was elected president and convenient aluminum cans appeared, transporting twelve ounces of sugary carbonated soft drinks. (We would need to wait a few years for the ability to open these without a "church key.")

This was also the year we met Fred and Wilma Flintstone. (I'll bet you can still hum the theme song.) This stone-age family was the creation of former MGM geniuses, William Hanna and Joseph Barbera. Two short years later, the young studio launched another animated sitcom, this one on the other end of time...the future. This was, of course, the Jetsons. (Does our reunion logo on the front of this publication remind you of them? That was our thought, too.)

So as we entered high school, George and Jane Jetson and their kids Judy and Elroy, were zooming about inside their clear-domed space car in their neighborhood perched, for some strange reason, on stilts... more on that in a second. The Jetsons show was set 100 years into the future...2062, a century from their founding...43 years from now. But would it be interesting to you that many of their future fantasies are already here? Wanna guess which ones? Give up?



Here are a few: talking alarm clocks, pollution (this is why their house was perched on stilts), flat-screen TVs, video chats, smart watches, kids and technology, robotic vacuum cleaners, and digital newspapers.

But technology and advancements and life experiences aside, we are in many ways, the same people who unpacked our things on that crisp day in the fall of 1965 at MCW, Swallow Robin, Sammy Morris, or Wengatz. (East Hall didn't open her doors until the next year.) We are men and women who longed to love and to be loved. In God's wisdom, He made us for community...a clan at Taylor that, at first, was loosely knit and at the close of four years, lifelong friends. Or mates.

So after five decades, we're getting together.

Of course, there's understandable apprehension to the anticipation of this get together. We've lost our hair and gained weight. We've added wrinkles and our joints—those that haven't been replaced—are a little stiff. Some of our get up and go has gotten up and went.

Our short-term memories keep getting shorter...which makes this touch point back at Taylor even more exciting. Our long-term memories are still strong...and ready to be ignited again with friends whom we met and then loved for four years as Taylor students.

We have put this publication together to introduce you to the plans for our Fiftieth Reunion Weekend. We're going to tell you about our golf outing and a Memorial Service where we'll get a chance to celebrate the lives of our classmates who have stepped into eternity. And we're going to host dinners and have plenty of informal chances to reflect together on the mystery of God's faithfulness.

In the pages that follow, we'll tell you about the class gift and the message it will convey to students now and tomorrow. And we've included some visual reminiscences that will make you smile. So thank you for the privilege of providing an opportunity for all these things. It's been a joy to set the stage for the reunion of our remarkable class. We can hardly wait.

# CLASS REUNION EVENTS SCHEDULE

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

1:00PM - 5:00PM  
7:00PM - 9:00PM

Golf Outing at Walnut Creek Golf Course  
Reception/Hors d'oeuvres (Euler Science Center)

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

7:00AM - 10:00PM  
9:00AM  
10:00AM  
11:30AM  
2:00PM  
3:00PM  
3:30PM  
5:15PM

Class of '69 Hospitality Area (Boren)  
Homecoming Registration (Boren)  
Chapel (Rediger)  
Informal Lunch on Your Own at Ivanhoe's  
Memorial Service (Recital Hall)  
Class Photo  
Class Gift Dedication (On Location)  
Reunion Dinner (Dining Commons)

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

7:00AM - 10:00PM  
9:00AM  
11:30AM  
1:30PM  
5:00PM

Class of '69 Hospitality Area (Boren)  
Catching Up (Boren)  
Reunion Row Lunch (Kesler)  
"No Boys Allowed"  
Reunion Dinner (Dining Commons)

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

9:00AM  
10:30AM

Prayer Time (Dining Commons)  
All Campus Worship Service (Rediger)

## Calling All Golfers

Steve Oldham, Dan Alley, and Tom Essenburg invite you to join them on the links on Thursday afternoon, October 3.

If you're a weekend duffer or a scratch golfer, this will be terrific! Walnut Creek Golf Course is just four miles from campus and it is well known for quality greens and fairways. Here's their website: <https://www.walnutcreekgolf.com/>

Men and women, classmates or spouses, it promises to be a great afternoon of driving, chipping, putting, and all around fun.

Weather is usually still good in October and the costs are reasonable.  
Club rental--\$10 (if you don't want to bring your clubs)

Nine holes--\$15.50

Eighteen holes--\$25.00

You will not need to pay in advance.

If you'd like to play in our Class Golf Outing at 100pm on Thursday, October 3, please let Tom Essenburg know by way of an email to him at [tessenburg@gmail.com](mailto:tessenburg@gmail.com).

For questions about format and rules, please email Steve Oldham at [Oldhamfam@aol.com](mailto:Oldhamfam@aol.com) or Dan Alley at [alleydan@gmail.com](mailto:alleydan@gmail.com).



## HOTEL INFO

The experience of the reunion will be greatly enhanced by our staying at the same hotel. A block of rooms has been reserved for our class:

Comfort Suites - Marion, IN - (765)-651-1006  
Group Name: Taylor U 50th Class Reunion  
Group Code: MX78D6

Check in: Thurs. Oct 3, 2019 (3 pm)

Check out: Mon. Oct 7, 2019 (12 pm)

Cutoff date: Thurs. Sept 19, 2019

There are two accessibility rooms available.

When you call, tell them you're part of "Taylor's 50th Class Reunion." If you have any questions, please contact Diane Oldham at [oldhamfam@aol.com](mailto:oldhamfam@aol.com) or call 847-226-2359.

# CATCHING UP

"Hey, you guys...wait for me."

When we were kids and were headed somewhere on foot with our friends, someone would holler this when they found themselves lagging. It's no fun to be left behind. As a grown up, if you're a hiker or a biker or just a walker, you also get this idea. Falling back is a bummer. On Saturday morning, we're going to gather and share our stories with each other. We're going to give our classmates a chance to catch up on the past fifty years of our lives. These will not be lengthy reports. Just the highlights. Some will be funny. Some bizarre and unexpected. Others tragic and hard. Some of these stories have a closing chapter. Some are still being composed. Bill Cummins and Diane Kuhn Mundy will lead this time together. Whether you choose to be a spectator or participant, it promises to be an unforgettable time.



# No Boys

# Allowed

A Chat Among  
The Ladies  
During The  
Football Game

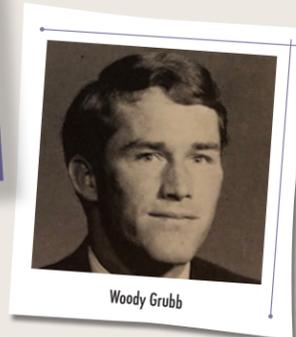
You may have heard the expression, "Coffee Klatch." (Think kaf • fee • klatsch.) As you've probably guessed, its origins are German. The definition is pretty simple: "An informal gathering where coffee is served."

On Saturday afternoon, we're going to add to this definition: "An informal gathering of Class of 1969 women over coffee with lots of talking to do." Yes, the men will not be invited. No boys allowed. They'll go to the football game...or back to Ivanhoes for more ice cream. So while the guys sit outside and freeze...or get soaked...watching Taylor take on neighboring rival Indiana Wesleyan University (the school formerly known as Marion College)...or load up on more sugar, the women will stay warm and dry...and encouraged.

Vicki (Duke) Alley, Diane (Lundquist) Oldham, Marilyn (Hay) Habecker, and Sharon (Leach) Seeberger...the four women who have served on the Reunion Steering Committee...will host this klatch. This promises to be a precious time.



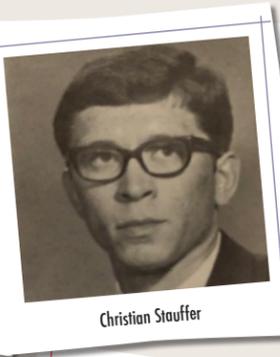
# IN MEMORIAM



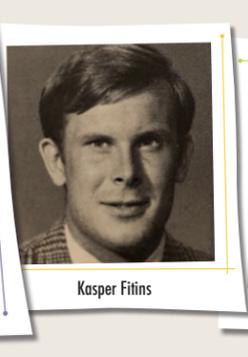
Woody Grubb



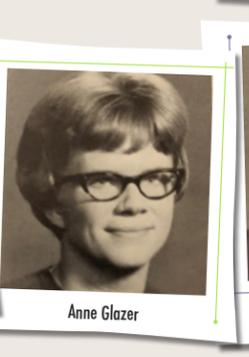
Hattie Harden Stauffer



Christian Stauffer



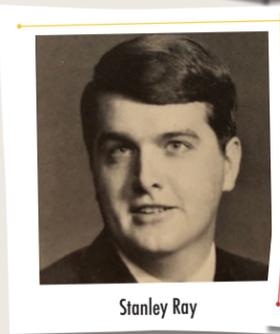
Kasper Fitins



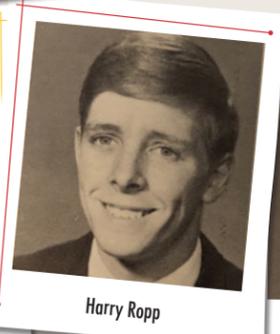
Anne Glazer



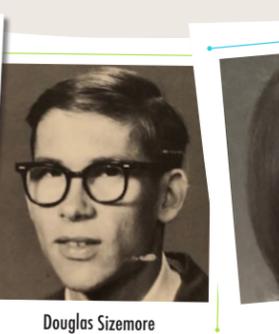
Braden Hamilton



Stanley Ray



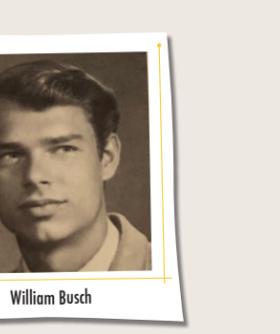
Harry Ropp



Douglas Sizemore



Jan Brubaker



William Busch



Gary Drill



Cynthia Martin



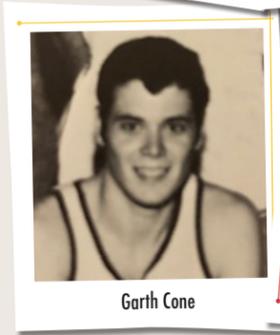
Ronald Metcalfe



Joan Miller



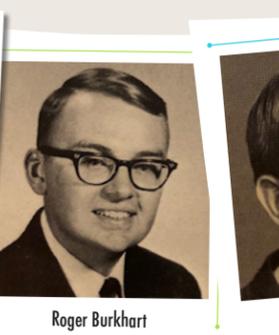
Duane Osborne



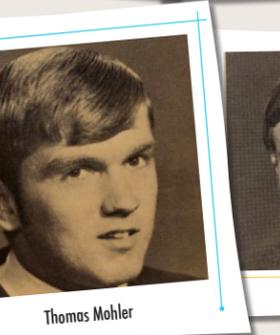
Garth Cone



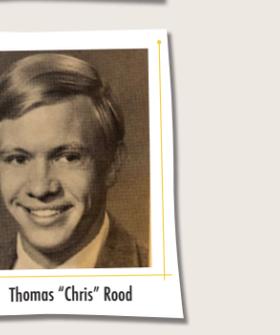
Belinda Carpenter Taylor



Roger Burkhart



Thomas Mohler



Thomas "Chris" Rood

**"I AM STILL IN THE LAND OF THE DYING;  
I SHALL BE IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING SOON."**

- JOHN NEWTON (HIS LAST WORDS)

Many years ago, when we first met each other and said "hello," the last thing on our minds was saying "good-bye." But it's now over fifty years later...and we've had to say "farewell" to many of our friends.

When we come together in October, we're going to gather to reflect on the gift of those friends who are no longer with us. They have joined the "cloud of witnesses" cheering us on from the grandstands.

So we are going to take time to remember the classmates who are missing, those whom we will have to wait until Heaven to see again.

In the meantime, our challenge is to finish the race well, as so many of those who have gone before us have done.

Please join us for a Memorial Service on Friday afternoon during our Reunion weekend. Scott Hawkins and Rob Shaffer will shepherd our time together. We will remember. And we will celebrate.

**"THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SUCH A GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES, LET US THROW OFF EVERYTHING THAT HINDERS AND THE SIN THAT SO EASILY ENTANGLES.**

**AND LET US RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE THE RACE MARKED OUT FOR US, FIXING OUR EYES ON JESUS, THE PIONEER AND PERFECTER OF FAITH..." (HEBREWS 12:1-2 NIV).**

# CLASS GIFT

## LEAVING OUR LEGACY

One of the significant 50th Reunion traditions at Taylor University is the presentation of a major class gift at Friday's chapel on Homecoming Weekend. The Class of 1969 Reunion Committee was tasked with choosing a project worthy of the occasion and one that would inspire our fellow classmates.

In representing the entire class, the Committee wanted to do something symbolic, significant, and transformational. It was important that the gift come from the heart and accomplish these important purposes:

- Express gratitude to the Lord for His faithfulness in our lives the past 50 years.
- Be spiritually focused and tied to what makes Taylor unique.
- Appropriately memorialize our legacy as a class.
- Provide a lasting example for future generations of alumni.

The Reunion Committee selected the sculpture project and plaza presented here. The project is biblically focused and consistent with Taylor's mission, "To develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister Christ's redemptive love and truth to a world in need."

Based on Jesus' example of washing the feet of his disciples, we refer to the project as the "Basin and Towel Sculpture and Fountain." Centrally located at one of the busiest pedestrian intersections on campus, our gift will be a constant, tangible expression of Taylor's mission, as well as a reminder of our own calling to serve others as believers and graduates.

To further underscore our Reunion gift theme, we are also establishing an endowed scholarship to be known as the "Class of 1969 Servant Leadership Scholarship." This scholarship will be awarded annually to a student who has demonstrated exceptional service to others.

Combined, our two projects seek to capture the heart of Taylor while honoring 50 years of faithful service to the Lord by members of the Class of 1969. We are confident that our class gift will have a meaningful and lasting impact. Please join us in giving generously to this very special project.

- The Class of 1969 50th Reunion Committee.



## SYMBOLISM - UNIQUELY TAYLOR

About a dozen years after the Class of 1969 graduated, Taylor began the practice at Commencement of conferring on graduates both a diploma and a servant's towel. For nearly four decades Taylor's mission of preparing servant leaders has been reinforced each time a graduate's name is called, and he or she walks across the stage to receive their towel. Today, becoming a servant leader is woven into the fabric of what it means to be a graduate, past and present. Our class gift will celebrate this important teaching of Jesus in a way that is uniquely Taylor.

There is an excellent video that powerfully captures the spirit of the towel at Taylor.

Go to YouTube. In the search box, enter "J R Briggs Towel".



## PROJECT SUMMARY AND DESCRIPTION

### Sculpture

The Basin and Towel Sculpture and Fountain will be constructed on a circular site at a major pedestrian intersection, centrally located on campus. The sculpture and fountain site will interconnect with a 36-foot diameter circular plaza that will be called, "The Circle of Service."

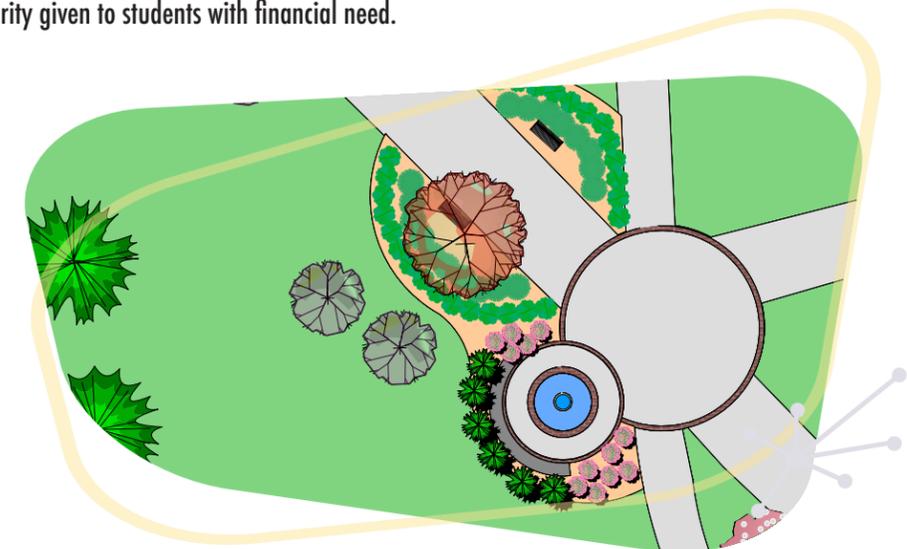
Cost: \$150,000

### Scholarship

The Class of 1969 Servant Leadership Scholarship will be awarded annually to a student who has demonstrated exceptional service to others with priority given to students with financial need.

Cost: \$50,000

**Total Project Goal**  
**\$200,000**



## HOW DO I MAKE MY GIFT?

### ONLINE

To make a gift go to the main page of the Taylor University website, Taylor.edu

1. In the upper right-hand corner, Click on the word "Give".
2. A "Giving Online" page appears, Click on the box labeled, "Special Projects and Initiatives" (The Class of 1969 Gift is pre-entered into the drop down menu).
3. Enter your amount and the information requested.



### MAIL

Send checks payable to Taylor University with "Class of 1969" on the memo line or otherwise indicated in your correspondence, to:

Laura Key  
 Director of Donor Services  
 Taylor University  
 236 West Reade Avenue  
 Upland, IN 46989

*Each member of the class will receive a direct mail letter, response card and envelope that will provide an additional means of responding by mail.*



### SECURITIES

Giving appreciated stock can help avoid capital gains taxes while providing a tax deduction at today's value.



### 100% PARTICIPATION

There are two profound reasons for everyone in the class to participate in our 50th Reunion giving effort. First, we believe the chosen class projects provide significant spiritual meaning and will have a lasting impact on Taylor for ages to come. We want you to be a part of this truly meaningful gift.

Secondly, foundations and other giving organizations that are considering funding requests from Taylor routinely ask about percent of participation from alumni. So, our giving helps Taylor secure funding for other projects. Remember, it's not the amount you give, it's that we all give something. Please join us.



**Q.** May I give to something other than the two projects chosen for our class giving?

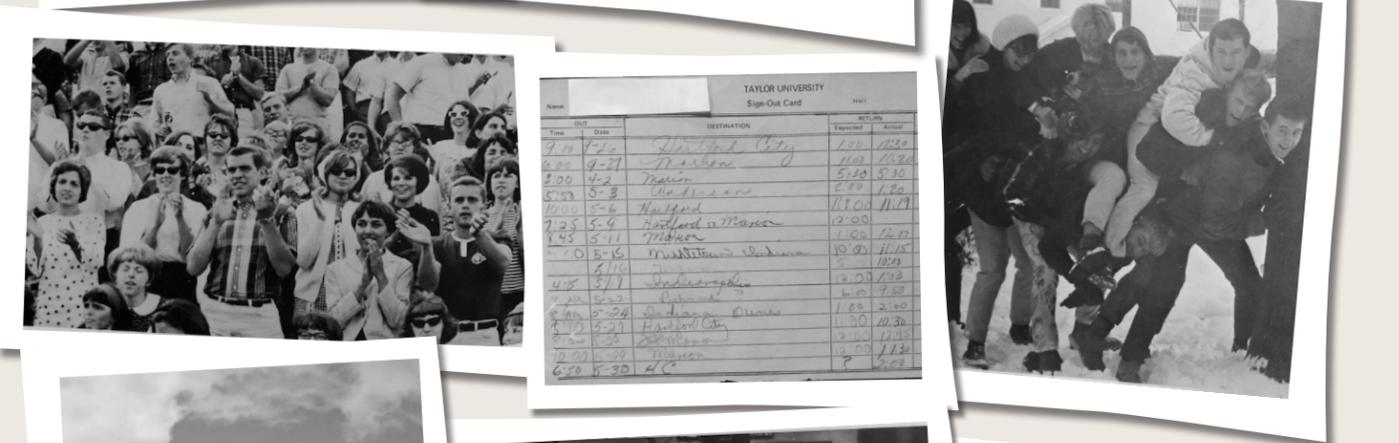
**A.** Yes, just designate your intentions when making your contribution. All gifts will count as class giving. **The primary goal is 100% participation in giving by all classmates.**

**Q.** May I use this milestone moment to set up a personal estate/bequest gift or establish an endowed scholarship of my own?

**A.** Yes. For detailed information, contact Taylor representative Michael Falder.  
 mcfalder@taylor.edu  
 765-998-5538

FAQ

# THE Way We Were 1969



**Lake Site Nears Completion; Basketball Camp Is Sponsor**

The Taylor campus will receive an added note of prestige with the completion of the eight-acre lake project in the southwest corner of the campus. Bill Habeger, chairman of the Lake Project Committee, stated that the physical work on the lake had itself will be completed in a few days.

Financed by the Junior Basketball Camp, which uses the Taylor Campus each summer, the lake project will cost approximately \$10,000. The Camp, under the direction of Coach Don Odle and Coach Marion Crowley of Jefferson High School, Lafayette, Indiana, donated \$1000 and helped in the project.

The spillway of the lake runs parallel to the west edge of the campus, and the lake will extend east from there. The east end will be left in its natural state for use by the Biology Department for studies and class projects in ecology. The north bank studies in ecology. The north bank studies in ecology. The north bank studies in ecology.

*(Continued on page 2)*



Taylor University

