

Memoriam



If you have an obituary for a University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Haslam College of Business alumnus, please submit it to us at Haslam@utk.edu using "In Memoriam" in the subject line.

This update reflects information known as of April 30, 2019.

'40s

Eula Gray Fortner Goddard (HCB, '45) died Nov. 4, 2018. After her graduation, she worked several years as secretary to the treasurer of UT and was a life-long devoted member of First United Methodist Church.

Robert (Bob) Marshall McKinley (HCB, '48) died Oct. 22, 2018. A U.S. Navy WWII veteran, he worked in accounting and management information systems for Aladdin Industries and at the Ford Motor Company Glass Plant, retiring in 1984.

Tandy W. Wilson, III, (HCB, '48) died Nov. 7, 2018. He served as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force in World War II. Later, he joined his father in business at T.W. Wilson and Son. He also was a Metro Nashville councilman for more than 35 years.

C. Kenneth Brumit (HCB, '49) died Sept. 24, 2018. He was a U.S. Navy World War II veteran, serving in the V12 program. He was the owner and president of Southern Finance from 1953 until his retirement in 1999.

'50s

Steve Cakmes (HCB, '50) died Dec. 30, 2018. He was a World War II veteran. A head cheerleader at UT, he went on to work as a national sales representative at Robertshaw Fulton for more than 30 years.

Lennis Jane (Winchester) McCartha (HCB, '50) died Feb. 11, 2019. She worked at ORNL for several years, and then devoted most of her time to her family and working at the West Town Mall Sears department store. After retirement, she volunteered her time in adult reading in Knoxville.

Frank Newton Myers (HCB, '50) died Oct. 14, 2018. He was active in Sigma Chi Fraternity, both as a student and as an alumnus. After graduation, he worked for Dean-Planters Warehouses, retiring as president in 1990.

Gene Sharp Hale (HCB, '51) died Dec. 30, 2018. He served in the Korean War, worked with Nationwide Insurance for 25 years, and supported UT athletics for more than 50 years.

Thurman Garland Judd (HCB, '51) died July 21, 2018. After serving in the US Army, he pursued a career as a realtor and later as a loan officer. He supported many causes, especially Habitat for Humanity.

James "Jim" Spray Kidd (HCB, '51) died Sept. 28, 2018.

Nelson R. Walker (HCB, '52) died Dec. 27, 2018. He served as a pilot in the Korean War. He was vice president of the Industrial Supplies Group at Bluefield Supply Company from 1979-1985 and later served 10 years as executive director of the Greater Bluefield Chamber of Commerce.

William "Bill" Guthrie Freels, Jr., (HCB, '53) died Oct. 24, 2018. A Korean War veteran, he attained the rank of Master Sergeant as a Sherman tank commander. He later became a CPA and worked at TVA for more than 30 years, eventually leading the power accounting division.

Nathan Ernest Galbreath (HCB, '53) died Dec. 14, 2018. After graduating from UT, he served two years in the US Army. He had a lengthy career with DuPont as a computer systems analyst, retiring in 1991.

John Michels (HCB, '53) died Jan. 10, 2019. He earned All-Southeast Conference honors as an offensive guard in 1951 and 1952 and All-American honors in 1952 on the UT football team. He briefly played in the NFL, served for two years in the US Army, then coached in the Canadian Football League, helping the Winnipeg Blue Bombers win three CFL Grey Cup championships. He then worked as a Minnesota Vikings assistant coach for 27 years, during which time the team made four Superbowl appearances.

William "Bill" Martin Parrish (HCB, '54) died Oct. 6, 2018. He served in the US Army and then worked for 29 years for Anheuser-Busch in St. Louis, Tampa, and Jacksonville.

Anita McClimbon Colbert (HCB, '55) died Jan. 26, 2019. She was a member of Memorial United Methodist Church and an educator at Winthrop University, Coker College, and public schools in South Carolina and Virginia.

Kenneth Kermit Kitts (HCB, '56) died Jan. 20, 2018. A Korean War veteran, he later became a lifelong railroad man, rising to an executive rank with CSX.

Robert "Bobby" A. Candler (HCB, '57) died Nov. 11, 2018. A US Navy veteran, he retired as president and CEO of ORNL Federal Credit Union in 1993 after 31 years of service.

Robert Monroe DePriest, Sr., (HCB, '57) died Feb. 21, 2019. He was a member and deacon of The Pentecostals of Murfreesboro Church, a US Navy and Army veteran, and a retired radiological technician.

Samuel "Sam" H. Powell (HCB, '58) died Feb. 8, 2019. A Korean War veteran, he worked his entire life in the electric utility industry, starting as a lineman with TVA in 1951 and retiring in 1994 as manager of co-generation and small power production. He was active in the UT Alumni Association for many years.

H. Virgil Stephens (HCB, '59) died Dec. 8, 2018. A veteran of the US Army and a lifelong UT fan, he retired as senior vice president and CFO of Eastman Chemical Company following 19 years of service.

James Robert (Bob) Wilkerson (HCB, '59), who worked in civil service for 42 years, mostly for the US Army at Redstone Arsenal, died Oct. 1, 2018.

'60s

Jack DeSoto Damron (HCB, '60) died Sept. 9, 2018. After graduation, he served six months on active duty and six years in the US Army Reserve. He spent his entire career at Alcoa, Inc.

Charles "Fred" Cunningham (HCB, '61) died Feb. 2, 2019. He began his career at Reynolds Metals Company in Virginia, where he worked as a controller.

Bobby J. Sherwood (HCB, '61) died Nov. 4, 2018. He served in the US Army as an artillery commander and went on to be the third generation owner of O.P. Jenkins Furniture Store in downtown Knoxville.

Robert Edwin "Ed" Spurling (HCB, '61) died Nov. 29, 2018. A US Army veteran, he was employed by the Norfolk Southern Railway and was twice chairman of the Mainland Advisory Council for Hawaii Baptist Academy in Honolulu.

Donald Ray Smithers (HCB, '63) died Feb. 4, 2019. His career in quality control management, primarily in medical device manufacturing, spanned more than 40 years.

Emmerson Lee Arnold (HCB, '65) died Sept. 30, 2018. In 1953, the K-25 plant in Oak Ridge hired him. After earning his bachelor's degree, he worked in the project engineering department until his retirement in 1993.

Kenneth E. Reed (HCB, '65) died Jan. 21, 2019. A US Marine Corps veteran, he retired from Rohm and Haas after 36 years of service.

J. Paul Wallace (HCB, '66) died Nov. 8, 2018. He enjoyed NASCAR, dirt racing, UT football and basketball, the Braves, and cars—and still had the restored '59 Volkswagen in which he and his future wife dated.

Thomas Richard Fuller (HCB, '67) died May 4, 2018.

Scott Durnford Barnes (HCB, '69) died Feb. 11, 2019. He was a professor at Cayuga Community College in Auburn, where he taught economics and business for 30 years. He also served as president of the College Faculty Association for 17 years.

James "Jimbo" Gravely (HCB, '71) died Jan. 26, 2019. A lifelong UT Volunteers fan, he was a partner at Moore & Giles for more than 40 years.

Larry Dean Nix (HCB, '71) died June 10, 2017. He enjoyed a successful career as an economist.

Harry James Thayer, Jr., (HCB, '71) died Nov. 14, 2018. He started his career in the banking sector, then moved to real estate in the '80s and worked as a broker with Dean Smith Realty until his death.

Gwendolyn Ariza (HCB, '72) died Oct. 9, 2018.

Robert Michael "Mike" Curry (HCB, '72) died Feb. 1, 2019. A member of the Tennessee National Guard, he was president, CEO, and chairman of the board of First National Bank in Pulaski until 1998. He served as president of the Tennessee Bankers Association and for the last 15 years he worked as a forensic financial analyst.

Van Armstrong Lingle, III, (HCB, '73) died Dec. 11, 2018. He was a Vietnam War veteran, a Bronze Star recipient, and an employee of the South Carolina Department of Transportation for 18 years.

Betty S. Beard (HCB, '74) died Oct. 20, 2018. A member of First Baptist Church, she served as a deaconess for several years. She retired from Oak Ridge National Laboratory as a human resource manager.

Larry Julian (HCB, '74) died Feb. 2, 2019.

James "Jim" E. Maier (HCB, '74) died Nov. 25, 2018. He worked at FIS Associates, Inc., for more than 30 years, eventually becoming its president. In 1997, he helped found Meridian Trust & Investment Co. and then became the CFO of Lawler-Wood LLC in 2004, serving there until 2014.

William Hubert Reed, Jr., (HCB, '74) died Dec. 18, 2018. He was CEO of the family trucking business, Skyline Transportation, and a pillar in the trucking industry.

T. Randall Curlee (HCB, '76) died May 5, 2018. For 30 years, he served at ORNL, retiring in 2010 as a Distinguished Scientist

and former deputy director of the Energy Division. He also served as an adjunct professor of economics at the University of Tennessee.

Gary "Lane" Ashworth (HCB, '78) died Feb. 24, 2018. After graduating, he started his career in banking, working for many banks before finishing his career at Bolling B. Thompson Financial Services. He served as public safety commissioner for the city of Dalton, Georgia.

Linda Cantrell McCarter (HCB, '79) died Jan. 29, 2019. She was a lifetime member of Glades Lebanon Baptist Church and worked at Boys and Girls Pediatrics of Sevierville/East Tennessee Children's Hospital.

Championship in his weight division at UT. Professionally, he was a restoration contractor, owning and operating his own construction business.

Kenneth Lloyd Colquitt (HCB, '83) died Oct. 30, 2018. He worked as a data management specialist for Cigarette Service Company; a computer software designer for Tobacco Ranch; a computer consultant for hospitals across the US; and a programmer for Pharmaceutical Strategies Group.

Timothy James Hertzell (HCB, '83, '00) died Feb. 3, 2018. He had a 29-year career with the Department of Energy. His love of the Tennessee Volunteers and the Lady Vols continued throughout his life.

David C. Hightower (HCB, '87) died Oct. 12, 2018. He served in the US Navy from 1976-1984, and was a graduate of the Knoxville Business College as well as UT.

'80s

Johnny Louis Bradford (HCB, '83) died Jan. 31, 2019. In 1982, he won the Southeastern Conference Wrestling

Paul Whited, 1994-2019

AFTER A THREE-YEAR BATTLE with cancer, Paul Whited (HCB, '18) died on March 24, 2019. He was 25.

Whited graduated in December of 2018 with a degree in accounting, but he could not attend commencement with the 1,800 other undergraduates gathered at Thompson-Boling Arena. He was at UT Medical Center, embarking on a third round of chemotherapy to fend off the cancer he'd been battling since January 2016.

Since Whited couldn't go to commencement, commencement came to him. Whited's parents, Bill and Zella, along with oncologist Wahid Hanna and Haslam College of Business professor Anita Hollander, gathered with him at UT Medical Center, and their celebratory moment was broadcast live to the commencement crowd when his name was called in Thompson-Boling Arena.

Of Whited, Hollander said: "I know it sounds a little bit like a cliché, but in this case, we have a situation where the student became the teacher, because what he has done is shown both his classmates and me how you handle adversity: with grace and dignity and a lot of determination."

The memory of Paul Whited and the remarkable spirit he showed in his fight with cancer will forever be in the hearts of all UT Volunteers.

'70s