

HALL OF HONOR BIOGRAPHIES

GRACE ABBOTT
Class of 1895
Hall of Honor 1983

Grace Abbott, internationally known social worker and reformer, was an early 20th century feminist who championed the rights of women, children and the oppressed.

Eighteen years with the United States Children's Bureau enabled Grace to bring about child labor laws in the country, improve immigrant protection, and to initiate state programs coordinated federally for maternal and child health.

BENJAMIN AVILA
Class of 1972
Hall of Honor 1993

Benji, as his friends call him, has always been an active, loving son who pursued his goals with passion and vigor. The bigger the challenge, the better. In all his years, Benji has had a close relationship with his parents.

As a young man growing up, he participated in many of the traditional children's activities such as the Kiwanis Kid's Day Parade. As a young man, he was a compassionate citizen and a hard worker.

Benji once rented a Santa suit to provide Christmas gifts to children he knew would have little or nothing from Santa Claus.

In his high school years, he took his education and work seriously. One of his passions was music. He was actively involved in marching band in Senior High and at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He helped establish a scholarship program for Hispanic students.

Since graduating from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Benji has worked as an assistant to the Dean of Education at the University of Nebraska-Kearney, and as an educational consultant for the Houston Public Schools. He is a noted leader in bilingual education.

DR. WILLIAM BARRETT
Class of 1948
Hall of Honor 1984

Teacher, author, computer engineer, electrical engineer, industrial scientist and inventor.

Dr. William A. Barrett was trained in physics and mathematics at the Universities of Nebraska and Utah. He invented a magnetic memory device for the Bell System.

Barrett has developed courses in computer engineering and language translation at Lehigh University. He designed a special compiler for the Hewlett-Packard Company.

He is currently forming a new company to develop and market intelligent integrated circuit design tools.

DR. JAMES G. BASTIAN
Class of 1944
Hall of Honor 1985

James G. Bastian, Ph.D., is an authority on 16th century organist and composer Claudio Merulo. The Doane College Professor of Fine Arts has published six volumes of Merulo's sacred works through the American Institute of Musicology.

In his 30th year at Doane, Dr. Bastian is working on locating and editing the composer's secular works for publication.

Dr. Bastian was appointed to Doane College's first permanently endowed chair.

DR. ARTHUR F. BENTLEY
Class of 1885
Hall of Honor 1989

Dr. Arthur F. Bentley is now considered to be one of the foremost American scholars of this century. His research and writing encouraged the creation of a new method of studying human society: the behavioral sciences.

To complete his undergraduate degree from John Hopkins University, Bentley researched the condition of central Nebraska farmers in the early 1880's. This work is today considered to be one of the most significant studies done on western agricultural history.

His book, "The Process of Government: A Study of Social Pressures," is a classic in the field of political science.

MILAN D. BISH
Class of 1947
Hall of Honor 1987

Milan D. Bish has been very successful in private business as the president of his companies, Mid-Continent Enterprises and Bish Machinery.

Mr. Bish was Republican State Chairman and Regional Political Director of the Committee to Elect Reagan-Bush.

In 1984, Bish completed a tenure as Ambassador in the eastern Caribbean with specific responsibility to five countries. In March of 1984, Ambassador Bish was presented the State Department's "Superior Honor Award" by Secretary Schultz for his work in connection with the Grenada Rescue Mission crisis.

CHARLES D. "CHUCK" BOSSELMAN
Class of 1963
Hall of Honor 2013

Charles D. "Chuck" Bosselman was born in Grand Island, Nebraska to Fred and Maxine Bosselman, the second of four children. After graduating from Grand Island Senior High in 1963, Bosselman attended Kearney State College and married Janet Wiese in 1965. He was an integral part of broadening the family business from truck stops to all of the businesses that comprise the Bosselman Companies, including Pump & Pantry, Boss Shops, Grandma Max's, Nebraska Danger Indoor Professional Football, and various motels and quick serve food concepts. The Bosselman Companies have been in business since 1948 when Chuck's father, Fred Bosselman, opened up the first Bosselman location, "Bosselman Eaton." Chuck was the key reason why the business survived and continues to thrive into its 4th generation of the Bosselman Family.

In 1967, Chuck became General Manager of the Grand Island I-80 Bosselman Truck Plaza. Soon after, he expanded the Travel Center operations to several locations throughout the Midwest. Because of his foresight and leadership in this industry, Bosselman was elected to the Truck Stop Hall of Fame in 2012.

During the early 70's, Bosselman raced late model race cars and won many championships, including the Nebraska State Fair Championship. He was named to the Nebraska Auto Racing Hall of Fame in 2012.

Bosselman brought together a handful of truck stop industry leaders in 1988, establishing "Ambest" (America's Best Truck Stops), made up of a cooperative network of 150+ of the nation's best independent truck stops. Ambest is still the industry leader and a major factor in independent truck stops surviving in today's competitive market.

Bosselman was the driving force in establishing the Uni-Maxx Truck Care Network in 2011. This full-service truck repair shop network included his own Boss Truck Shops, plus Wingfoot Truck Care Centers. This network is the nation's second largest offering high quality service and maintenance to truckers with locations coast to coast.

Bosselman based his business decisions on the foundations of *Pride, Cleanliness, Fun, Integrity and Friendliness*, and earned his reputation by hard work, sweat, and

commitment to the customer. He participated in every aspect of the company to ensure it's success; he would ask no employee to do what he wasn't willing to do himself.

He was also an active leader within local and industry communities. Some involvement included: Crane Meadows, Heartland Events Center, Fonner Park sponsor of the \$100,000 Bosselman/Gus Fonner Handicap, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts, Crisis Center, American Red Cross, United Way, Stuhr Museum, Children's Miracle Network, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Goodwill, academic scholarships, Grand Island College Park, 4-H, National Arthritis Foundation, National Cancer Society and the lead gift funder for the GISH "Restoring a Masterpiece" campaign for the performing arts auditorium.

Following a battle with cancer, Bosselman passed away in 2012. At that time, he was Chairman of the Board of the Bosselman Companies and oversaw 1,500 employees in 20 states.

JOSEPHINE A. BROWN
Class of 1899
Hall of Honor 1992

Josephine A. Brown's life's work was with the YWCA.

In 1912, together with Margaret O'Connell, National Field Secretary for the YWCA, Josephine organized a campaign for the organization of the YWCA in Hall County. That year the YWCA became a reality.

One of twelve children, Josephine spent eleven years in China organizing rural centers for the education of Chinese women and training leaders to conduct schools in the reading and writing of the Chinese Language. She later returned to the United States where she continued her work through the China Relief Association.

GEN. THEODORE BUECHLER
Class of 1912
Hall of Honor 1983

Gen. Theodore Buechler was a four star general, giving 36 years of illustrious service to the U.S. Army.

A 1917 graduate of West Point, Buechler served under Gen. Douglas MacArthur in the Philippines, as well as under President Dwight D. Eisenhower during World War II. In 1942, he was promoted to Brigadier General.

Mr. Buechler organized the Grand Island area civil defense planning following his 1953 retirement.

EARL CLAUSSEN
Class of 1942
Hall of Honor 2004

In 1943 Earl Claussen entered the U.S. Navy and served on the Aircraft Carrier Natoma Bay until 1945. In 1947 Earl joined his father and brothers in their successful contracting business, John Claussen Sons General Contractors. The youngest brother of four children, Earl was shortly named president of the company. With the exception of a brief stint supervising a contracting project in Ogallala, Earl and his wife Maxine (Finnie Walker) made their home in Grand Island.

Though he and Maxine did not have any children, Mr. Claussen did not shun civic duty and was an active member of his community. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Platt-Duetsche Society, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion Post #53, Liederkrantz, BPOE Elks #604, Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #378, United Commercial Travelers, Saddle Club, Central Nebraska Shrine Club, Masonic Lodge #318 of Grand Island, Scottish Rite of Hastings, Tehema Temple of Hastings, and the Association of the Men of Natoma Bay.

Mr. Claussen passed away in 1984, and by 1986, his legacy was beginning to take shape. Always civic-minded, Earl and Maxine had directed their attorney to set up a trust with the assets of their estate which would continue to give back to the community beyond their lifetimes. The Earl & Maxine Claussen Trust began with \$780,000 from the estate. Since 1986, the Claussen Trust has given more than \$700,000 in grants to numerous non-profit organizations in Grand Island and Hall County. Through this perpetual giving, Mr. Claussen has continued to build the community as he did physically during his life. Some of the projects and institutions that the Trust has awarded grants to are Stuhr Museum, Senior High's Best Seats in the House Bleacher Campaign, Crane Meadows Nature Center, the YMCA, College Park, the City of Grand Island for purchase of park land, Grand Island Soccer Club for constructing soccer fields at Fonner Park, and the Edith Abbott Memorial Library for busts of the Abbott Sisters.

DR. GEORGE A. CONSTANT
Class of 1937
Hall of Honor 1986

George A. Constant is a doctor of neurology and psychiatry who works in the Constant-House Clinic in Victoria, Texas. He earned a scholarship to Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago, Illinois, and received his medical degree from Northwestern in 1946.

Dr. Constant has worked in research and instruction, but his main accomplishments have been in developing specialized treatment centers. As medical director of the Victoria

Regional Medical Center, he helped create a center for the treatment of alcohol and substance abusers, which opened in 1985.

He serves on the Devereux Foundation Board of Directors, which created a school for young people with emotional and developmental disabilities in 1959. He also serves as president of KAVU-TV in Victoria.

CHARMAINE PURDY COPPOM
Class of 1963
Hall of Honor 1988

As a performer and teacher, Charmaine Purdy Coppom has shared her musical talents with thousands of people.

Charmaine Purdy graduated from Grand Island Senior High School in 1963 with a music scholarship to Hastings College. She received her bachelor's degree in vocal music education in 1967 and was elected "Outstanding Senior" and "Outstanding Performer."

She earned a master's degree in music history. In 1971, she joined the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley where she is currently an associate professor of music. In 1987, she was recognized by the university's president and by its chapter of Mortar Board for her excellent teaching.

The mezzo-soprano continues to perform and has won critical acclaim. She has been featured on regional television and radio broadcasts.

DR. EUGENE H. CORDES
Class of 1954
Hall of Honor 1984

Dr. Eugene H. Cordes is an internationally known biochemist who is the Vice President of the Merck, Sharp & Dohme Research Laboratories, one of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies.

Dr. Cordes has been a consultant for universities in the United States and several foreign countries. He is the coauthor of four biological chemistry textbooks. He was presented the Career Development Award of the National Institute of Health.

Dr. Cordes currently lives in Westfield, New Jersey.

DR. RICHARD "MAC" DeMAY
Class of 1969
Hall of Honor 2000

Richard Mac DeMay graduated from Grand Island Senior High School in 1969.

Richard graduated, summa cum laude, from Hastings College in 1973. He received his MD in 1976 from Northwestern University in Chicago, where he also did his pathology residency.

He was cytopathology fellow under William J. Frable at the Medical College of Virginia. He has been Director of Cytopathology at the University of Illinois at Chicago, the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, and since 1994, the University of Chicago, where he is also Professor of Clinical Pathology.

Dr. DeMay is a member of national and international cytopathology committees, serves on the editorial board of three pathology journals, and is the author of more than 50 publications, including two textbooks, *The Art and Science of Cytopathology* and *Practical Principles of Cytopathology*.

He is married to Gail and has three children, Alexander, David and Jacqueline.

WILLIAM R. FARRALL

Class of 1948

Hall of Honor 1983

William R. Farrall is a successful manufacturer of electronic medical instruments.

Mr. Farrall has been President of Farrall Instruments, Inc. since 1958. Prior to that he was a design engineer at the Waters Corporation, and a technical assistant at the Mayo Clinic. He holds a patent on a Nitrogen Gas Analyzer and a Water Detector.

In 1974, Mr. Farrall founded "Behavioral Engineering," a quarterly journal addressing the safe and ethical use of instruments and software in the treatment and analysis of mental problems.

LEONARD T. FLEISCHER

Class of 1931

Hall of Honor 1985

Leonard T. Fleischer is a farm manufacturer who was a pioneer in conservation tillage. He is the founder and chairman of the board of Fleischer Manufacturing, Inc., in Columbus.

He has helped attract industry to Columbus and keep it there. He was instrumental in organizing the Farm Equipment Managers Association.

Mr. Fleischer suggested the idea of a fall farm equipment show to the Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce, which the Chamber developed into Husker Harvest Days in 1978. This three-day show has become one of the largest in the world.

FREDERICK E. GAINES
Class of 1955
Hall of Honor 1992

Fred Gaines started writing with some seriousness as an eighth grader at Walnut Junior High when one of his plays was performed at a school assembly.

As a member of the Marine Corps, he made the decision to pursue writing as a career. He was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship and in 1965 studied at Manchester University in England. His first real professional break was at the Asolo Theatre in Sarasota, Florida where four of his plays were produced.

Fred was appointed Associate Professor of Theatre at Lawrence University in Wisconsin in 1978. He is presently teaching and producing plays in Washington, D.C., Minneapolis, and Appleton.

MABEL STERNE GEER
Class of 1911
Hall of Honor 1983

Mabel Sterne Geer has been instrumental in contributing to the stability and continuity of Grand Island.

Mabel added immeasurably to the quality of life in Grand Island through her leadership roles in a variety of cultural and service organizations.

She deserves much of the credit for the development of the Red Cross Blood Bank, the Girl Scout Council, the Community Chest (now United Way), the Community Concert Association, and the All-Faiths Chapel at Golden Age Village.

ROBERT HANNA
Class of 1957
Hall of Honor 1986

Robert Hanna has made old Grand Island landmarks come back to life in his book *Sketches of Nebraska* published by The University of Nebraska Press in 1984. The book records in pen and ink Nebraska's daily scenes and familiar buildings dating back to the 1940's.

Hanna graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a bachelor's degree in architecture in 1963 and has worked in architecture since 1968. He won the Nebraska Architects Honor Award and the Central States Regional Honor Award for excellence in architectural design. He is making sketching a full-time job and leads sketching and watercolor workshops throughout the Midwest.

DENNIS D. HICKSTEIN, M.D.
Class of 1967
Hall of Honor 2013

Following graduation in 1967, Dr. Hickstein received his BA in British history from the University of Nebraska- Lincoln in 1971. After the summer of 1971, he returned to the University of Nebraska, completed his pre-medical studies, and entered the University of Nebraska Medical School in 1974.

Dr. Hickstein graduated from medical school in 1978, and continued his medical training with an internship and residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Michigan Medical Center under the visionary leadership of Dr. William N. Kelley. He then spent one year as a junior faculty member in the Department of Medicine at the University of Michigan Hospital.

Dr. Hickstein completed subspecialty training in Hematology from 1982 to 1987 at the University of Washington School of Medicine and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Washington. He worked under the direction of Nobel Prize winner E. Donnell Thomas.

Following the completion of his training, Dr. Hickstein began his academic career as a faculty member at the University of Washington School of Medicine in the Division of Hematology. Throughout his academic career in Seattle, Dr. Hickstein held faculty appointments at the Veterans Affairs Puget Sound Health Care System and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. During this time Dr. Hickstein's studies focused on hematopoietic stem cell transplantation and gene therapy for genetic immunodeficiency diseases.

In 2000 Dr. Hickstein was recruited to the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland to direct the program in Molecular Oncology and Gene Transfer, and to design clinical trials in hematopoietic stem cell transplantation and gene therapy for children and adults with genetic immunodeficiency diseases. Currently Dr. Hickstein is directing the clinical program in hematopoietic stem cell transplantation for new immunodeficiency diseases while also maintaining an active research program in the use of gene therapy to reprogram the patient's own blood cells to make a replacement copy of genes that are defective or mutated.

Dr. Hickstein has received numerous awards, mentored future faculty members, and served as the keynote speaker for many medical organizations during his career. In 1993 he was elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation. He has lectured

throughout the US and in Canada, Brazil, Greece, and the Netherlands on the topic of innovative treatments for genetic immunodeficiency diseases.

Dr. Hickstein and his wife, Dr. Mary Musselman, have two sons, Daniel Hickstein and Matthew Musselman.

MARLYN T. JAKUB
Class of 1954
Hall of Honor 1983

Marlyn T. Jakub is an internationally known specialist and consultant for the design and structural analysis of piping, vessels and other metal components in both normal and elevated temperature service.

A recipient of a Westinghouse Scholarship and an A.E.C. Fellowship, Jakub holds two patents on reactor equipment.

He currently resides in Mannheim, West Germany, working on inelastic analysis of piping components.

HENRY KLEINKAUF
Class of 1925
Hall of Honor 1983

Henry Kleinkauf is a successful businessman who has worked within the corporate structure to help bring Natkin & Company the status of the largest mechanical contracting company in the world.

Henry joined Natkin & Company in 1933, retiring in 1975 as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer.

He has served on the board of directors for various organizations, and is currently a director of Fischbach Corporation of New York and Hilmer Graphics Company of Omaha.

DR. MARIE E. KNICKREHM
Class of 1936
Hall of Honor 1985

Marie E. Knickrehm, Ph.D., was named Nebraska's Outstanding Dietician in 1974.

Marie has published several articles and helped produce movies dealing with dietetics. During her 17 years as a professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, she developed a dietetic internship and in 1980 received the University's Outstanding Teacher Award.

In 1981 the American Dietetic Association gave her its Medallion Award for her contributions to her profession.

ROBERT KRIZ
Class of 1934
Hall of Honor 1984

Robert L. Kriz entered the military in 1940 and served as a member of the Combat Infantry during World War II. He received more than ten decorations and citations for distinguished service on the African and European fronts, including the Purple Heart. His military pursuits were described in more than five publications.

In 1945 Kriz entered private business and established himself in five states. After his retirement, Kriz was elected mayor of Grand Island.

Mr. Kriz played a significant role in the recovery efforts after the tornadoes of June 3, 1980, and in the establishment of Grand Island as an All-American City for the third time.

ROBERTA A. LAWREY
Class of 1949
Hall of Honor 1991

Roberta A. Lawrey is no stranger to Grand Island. After a very successful academic record through the Grand Island Schools, she completed her undergraduate degree at Hastings College, and her graduate degree in Library Science from Denver University. She returned to the Grand Island Public Library in 1956 and became its director in 1959.

Roberta has served her community by seeing it through an extensive building program resulting in the construction of the beautiful Edith Abbott Memorial Library in 1974. She served as the director until her retirement in 1991.

DAVID L. LINDER
Class of 1961
Hall of Honor 2003

David L. Linder is a 1961 graduate of Grand Island Senior High and received his bachelor's degree from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1966, ranking seventh academically among 579 students in his senior class. He completed a master of science degree in aeronautical and astronautical engineering at Stanford University in 1968. He served 26 years in the U.S. Army, retiring as a lieutenant colonel.

Mr. Linder is currently senior systems engineer for SPARTA, Inc., in Colorado Springs, CO, and is a certified professional engineer. He is one of the top space and missile defense experts for the U.S. Army and has worked continually on space and missile defense for the Army for more than 20 years. He has been with Army Space from the beginning, from the initial Army Space Study, through the Army Space Institute, to the Army Space Command, and now as a defense contractor supporting the United States Army Space Command (USARSPACE).

He developed the overall master plan for USARSPACE involvement in the National Missile Defense program. Mr. Linder was also the project leader for the USARSPACE program to integrate space equipment into the Army. He has devoted much of his life to ensuring the Army gets the benefit of space and missile defense and has initiated virtually all the major efforts in Army Space. Mr. Linder has vast knowledge of the technology, the procedures, the organizations, and the politics of getting space capabilities into the hands of the troops. He has co-authored several papers and was an assistant professor in the Department of Engineering Mechanics at the U.S. Military Academy from 1973 to 1979.

JOHN R. LINTON
Class of 1964
Hall of Honor 2011

Following graduation from Grand Island High School, John Linton earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering at Iowa State (1968), a Master of Science in Engineering Science degree from Arizona State University (1971) and a Juris Doctor degree from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State (1972).

Linton began his private practice of law as a patent lawyer in Chicago with Kirkland & Ellis, one of the nation's top ten law firms, where he became a member of that firm's proprietary rights and technology litigation group. Linton took pride in defending and representing big-name clients including the NHL, the Chicago Bears, NFL Properties and RCA. However, his greater personal satisfaction came from his private advocacy work for women in the professions and from representing individuals, small businesses and professional associations.

In 1976, Linton left Kirkland to embark on a new career path as the founding chief legal officer and an executive management team member, first for the National Association of Realtors (NAR) and next for RE/MAX International, Inc. (RII). NAR, the world's largest association of professionals, is an organization Linton helped double in membership size and build affiliate relationships in six foreign countries. RII is a real estate brokerage organization Linton helped grow to become the world's market share leader with over \$200B in annual residential sales under the RE/MAX brand and some 114,400 agents in 42 countries. At both stops, Linton pioneered in-house legal departments, managed the vast litigation challenges and diverse legislative and legal service needs of his client-employers and advocated greater opportunities for women and other minorities. He

received their highest commendations for his national continuing education seminars and for instilling positive equal treatment and fair housing practices that have reduced all forms of discrimination in American home buying.

On his own time during his employment at NAR and RII, Linton privately pursued a solution to one of the most pressing twentieth century needs of the real estate industry — a conflict-free, clear path to comprehensive home buyer representation. In 1992, he unveiled his answer and by royalty-free copyright license to NAR, Linton made his breakthrough buyer representation solution available in every state to all agents for the benefit of the five-million to ten-million American home buyers annually.

In 2005, Linton left RII to build a new interstate private law practice focused on federal law issues. He also committed to help rebuild the Colorado Chapter of ACC — the state bar association that serves more than 800 in-house lawyers from more than 120 leading Colorado businesses. In 2006, he was elected president of that organization and he promptly encouraged its commitment to new *pro bono* legal representation programs to serve Colorado non-profits and charities, battered women rescue groups and Denver's homeless community. The Colorado Chapter won ACC's "Chapter of the Year" award in 2008.

John Linton and his wife Laurie live in Highlands Ranch, CO., where Linton maintains his federal law private practice and they jointly pursue other business ventures, enjoy mountain biking and look forward to family visits from their four children and grandchildren.

DR. JEAN A. OCHSNER LUKESH
Class of 1968
Hall of Honor 2009

Dr. Jean A. Ochsner Lukesh began her career in education as an elementary Media Aide/Librarian for the Grand Island Public Schools. Taking night and summer classes, she graduated Magna Cum Laude from Kearney State College, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Middle School Education, with endorsements in Social Sciences, Language Arts, K-12 Educational Media, and later adding a General Science endorsement. She taught science at Cedar Hollow School for one year before being rehired by the Grand Island Public Schools as a Media/Integration Specialist and later as a History Teacher.

She then graduated from the University of Nebraska-Kearney with both a Masters in Education-English and a Masters in Education-History and received a Certificate from Denver University Publishing Institute. In 2006, she retired from the Grand Island Public Schools. In 2008, she graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a Doctorate in Education, in Teaching, Curriculum, and Instruction, and received a UN-K Distinguished Alumni Award.

During her teaching years, she often gave statewide Nebraska history, library, and technology presentations; edited books for literacy; and participated in ground-breaking educational activities, such as the Nebraska Writing Project, the Nebraska SMILES program, and the Nebraska State Historical Society's Teachers' Advisory Council Workshop, the prototype for the Nebraska Institute. She helped write the Art and Technology Integration Grant with Grand Island Schools and the Smithsonian's National Museum of American Art. She served as a charter teacher with that project and the Community Discovered Grant Program and as a peer grant reader in the U.S. Department of Education's first Teaching American History Grant Project.

Dr. Lukesh wrote *The Nebraska Adventure*, a Nebraska studies textbook for 4th grade (Gibbs Smith Co., c2004, c2005). It won a 2005 national award for textbook excellence, 2006 Nebraska Book Award, and 2006 Moonshell Arts and Humanities Council's Literary Award. *The Omaha World Herald* reviewed the book, under the title "Pride in All Nebraskans." Now used in a majority of Nebraska schools, the book still receives accolades from teachers, students, and history lovers. Dr. Lukesh also helped co-write the *150: A Commemoration of the Sesquicentennial of Hall County (Nebraska)* that won a 2008 Nebraska Book Award and 2008 Moonshell Arts and Humanities Council's Literary Award.

Dr. Lukesh is currently writing and coordinating children's biographies on notable Nebraskans to supplement curriculum and is writing other Nebraska-based books and magazine articles. She often serves as an educational consultant for various schools and institutions. Dr. Lukesh and her husband Ron (GISH Class of 1966) live in the sandhills north of Grand Island where they continue to love Nebraska. They have one son, Lance (GISH Class of 1987).

GEORGE J. MARRETT
Class of 1953
Hall of Honor 2006

George J. Marrett was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, and graduated from GIHS in 1953. After graduating from college with a degree in chemistry, Marrett entered the U.S. Air Force as a Second Lieutenant from the Reserve Officers Training Corps program. He graduated from pilot training in 1959 and later was selected to attend the USAF Aerospace Research Pilot School at Edwards AFB, California. Upon graduation, he was transferred to the Fighter Test Branch of Flight Test Operations at Edwards and completed three years flight-testing the latest Air Force fighters. A manuscript about his flight-testing at Edwards titled *Contrails Over the Mojave*, has been completed and the Naval Institute Press will publish this, his fourth book, in Spring 2008.

In 1968-1969 Marrett flew the Douglas A-1 Skyraider as a "Sandy" rescue pilot in the 602nd Fighter Squadron (C), C for Commando, from Udorn and Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Bases, Thailand. He completed 188 combat missions in Vietnam; over 600 combat hours and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with two Oak Leaf

Clusters and the Air Medal with eight Oak Leaf Clusters. His first nonfiction book ***Cheating Death: Combat Air Rescues in Vietnam and Laos***, about flying combat in Vietnam and Laos, was published by the Smithsonian Institution Press in February 2003 and reprinted in soft cover by HarperCollins in June 2006.

Upon return from the war in Southeast Asia, Marrett joined Hughes Aircraft Company as an experimental test pilot. For twenty years he flew test programs in military aircraft testing electronic weapons for the Cold War. His third book is titled: ***Testing Death: Hughes Aircraft Test Pilots and Cold War Weaponry***. Praeger Security International published the book in May 2006.

Marrett's second book is titled: ***Howard Hughes: Aviator*** and was published by the Naval Institute Press in October 2004. He was interviewed on the History Channel several times and was a technical consultant for the Academy Award winning movie *The Aviator* starring Leonardo DiCaprio and directed by Martin Scorsese. Marrett is a "talking head" on both the 15-minute and 30-minute versions of *The Making of The Aviator* seen on the History Channel, Bravo, MTV and American Movie Classics as well as the second disk of the DVD of *The Aviator* that was released in May 2005.

Marrett is the author of three Air Force flight test reports published on the F-4C Phantom at Edwards AFB and seventeen articles published in flying magazines. He was selected to the ***Nebraska Aviation Hall of Fame*** and inducted in January 2006. Marrett joined The Society of Experimental Test Pilots in 1967 and upgraded to Associate Fellow in 1981. He has flown over 40 types of military aircraft, logging 8,500 hours of flying time.

George Marrett has been married to his wife Jan (Sheehan, GIHS 1957) for 50 years and they live in Atascadero, California. Jan has published a book titled: ***Looking Back: Nebraska Education and Legacy***. George and Jan have two sons, three grandsons, and one granddaughter ranging in age from 13 to 19.

JAMES L. "LANNY" MARTIN
Class of 1964
Hall of Honor 1992

James Landis "Lanny" Martin has distinguished himself in business and community service. After a 14 year law career, he became President and CEO of NL Industries, a Fortune 250 company with 10,000 employees operating in over 50 countries. During the next 18 years, he was CEO of four New York Stock Exchange companies in the chemicals, oil field services, and titanium metals industries.

In 2006, he founded Platte River Ventures, a private equity firm investing in small and mid size private companies. PRV Fund I is among the top performing private equity funds in the U.S. His company's name pays homage to his upbringing in the Grand Island area.

Martin also serves as Chairman of Crown Castle International (NYSE: cell towers). He is lead director of the Halliburton Company (NYSE: oil field services), Intrepid Potash, Inc. (NYSE: fertilizers), and AIMCO (NYSE: apartments).

Martin is Co-Chair of the Denver Art Museum; Chairman Emeritus, past Chairman and President of Colorado's Central City Opera House Association; Chairman of the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation (a Colorado community fund); and past Chairman and President of the Houston Grand Opera. He is also a trustee, Executive Committee Member, and Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee of his alma mater, Northwestern University in Evanston, IL.

Among other awards, Martin received the University of Denver's Korbel School of International Studies "Humanitarian Award" and the Fine Arts Foundation Denver's "Citizen of the Arts" award. He has also been inducted into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame.

Martin and his wife Sharon have three children and two grandchildren.

C. DEAN McGRATH, JR.

Class of 1971

Hall of Honor 2005

C. Dean McGrath, Jr. is a third generation graduate of Grand Island Senior High School – following in the footsteps of his father C. Dean McGrath, M.D., 1942 and grandfather W. D. McGrath, M.D., 1909. Mr. McGrath is also a graduate of Duke University (B.A. with Distinction in Economics, 1975); the University of Nebraska College of Law (J.D., 1978); and the National War College (1985).

Mr. McGrath's career in public service began with a summer job with the U.S. Forest Service in Cortez, Colorado in 1971. In 1979, after graduating from law school, Mr. McGrath joined the United States Department of the Treasury as an Attorney Advisor (1979-1986). In 1981, he represented the United States as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia. That same year he received the Treasury Department's Award for Superior Performance.

In 1986, President Ronald Reagan appointed Mr. McGrath as Associate Counsel to the President. After three years as a lawyer to Presidents Reagan and Bush, Mr. McGrath served as Special Counsel, Department of Defense; Acting General Counsel, Deputy General Counsel and Associate General Counsel, U.S. Department of Transportation (1989-1991); and General Counsel, Peace Corps of the United States (1991-1992).

In 1992, Mr. McGrath was appointed by President George Bush as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Staff Secretary. He served from 1993 to 1996 as Senior Attorney for the American Automobile Manufacturers Association and on the Board of

Directors, the Executive Committee and the Case Selection Committee of the Product Liability Advisory Council.

In 1996, Mr. McGrath returned to public service as the Chief of Staff and Chief Counsel to the Honorable Christopher Cox (U.S. House of Representatives, California). From 1998 to 1999, Mr. McGrath was the Staff Director of the U.S. House of Representatives, Select Committee on U.S. National Security and Military/Commercial Concerns with the People's Republic of China.

In January 2001, Mr. McGrath returned to the White House for the third time as the Deputy Chief of Staff to Vice President Richard B. Cheney. Mr. McGrath also serves as a Member of President George W. Bush's Management Council.

In addition, Mr. McGrath is an Adjunct Professor of Law at the Georgetown University Law Center, where he teaches seminars on the "Constitutional Aspects of Foreign Affairs" and "Conservatism in Law in America," and serves on the Board of Advisors of *The Georgetown Journal of Law & Politics*. Mr. McGrath's publications in the *Journal* include "The Genius of the Constitution: The Preamble and the War on Terror" (Winter 2005).

DR. MELISSA (LISA) McGRATH
Class of 1973
Hall of Honor 1995

Dr. Melissa A. McGrath is a 1973 graduate of Grand Island Senior High School. She is a magna cum laude graduate of Mt. Holyoke College with a BA in Physics and Astronomy. Dr. McGrath also holds a Master's Degree and a Ph.D. in Astronomy from the University of Virginia.

As of the date of her induction into this hall of fame in 1995, Dr. McGrath was the Acting Chief and Assistant Astronomer at the Space Telescope Science Institute, and Adjunct Faculty member of Physics and Astronomy at John Hopkins University.

Over the course of her professional career, Dr. McGrath has distinguished herself as a noted author and lecturer in the field of astronomy. She has written numerous articles and referred publications in a variety of scientific magazines and journals. Dr. McGrath has lectured extensively to scientific audiences in the United States and Europe, and has been an active participant with NASA in a variety of public outreach activities.

Dr. McGrath is a member of the American Astronomical Society, Division of Planetary Sciences, AAS, the American Geophysical Union, and the American Physical Society. She was recognized as a Mt. Holyoke College Sarah Williston Scholar in 1975 and was awarded the Mt. Holyoke College Bennett Prize in Physics in 1976. She has been

featured in Parade Magazine and received the 1994 NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Group Award.

JIM MERRICK
Class of 1933
Hall of Honor 1983

Jim Merrick has an ingenious mind. Founder of both Merrick Machine Company and Triad Fasteners Corporation, he began twenty years ago by building nailing machines in his garage.

Jim has designed wall builders, floor builders, component machines and industrial belt sanding machines. In addition, he has an extensive factory for producing products of injection molding.

HUGH MINER, JR.
Class of 1964
Hall of Honor 2006

Hugh Miner, Jr. is a 1964 graduate of Grand Island Senior High School and a 1968 graduate of Kearney State College majoring in Business Administration. Prior to attending high school, and while in high school and college Mr. Miner gained valuable experience in the business world by working during the summer months and on weekends. Upon graduating from high school, Mr. Miner had saved enough money to pay for his college education at Kearney.

In October of 1968, Mr. Miner entered the U.S. Army and after basic training was assigned to Fort Benning, Georgia until October of 1970. He then began his career at Hall County Livestock Improvement Association, Fonner Park. Mr. Miner worked under the guidance of former General Manager, Al Swihart from 1970 to 1983 as Assistant General Manager. When Mr. Swihart passed away in 1983, Mr. Miner was named to succeed him as General Manager. In 1993, Hugh Miner was appointed as Executive Vice-President and Chief Executive Officer of Hall County Livestock Improvement Association, the positions he continues to hold today.

Community Service has been an important part of Mr. Miner's adult life. Current Affiliations include – CEO, Heartland Events Center; Director – Home Federal Bank; Director – Thoroughbred Racing Associations of North America; and Hall County Fair Board Member.

Past Affiliations include Past President of Thoroughbred Racing Associations of Nebraska and the Hall County Extension Board. Past Board Chairman of The Grand Island Area United Way; The Grand Island Area Economic Development Corporation; Chamber of Commerce President's Club; and Finance Committee Trinity United Methodist Church. Past Board Member of Saint Francis Hospital, Grand Island Memorial Hospital, Stuhr Museum Foundation, Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce, Goodwill Industries, and a Director of The National Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau.

Miner has received many special awards including The Meritorious Service to 4-H, 1988; The Distinguished Service Award Non-Rotarian of the Year 1991-92; The Sertoma Service to Mankind Award, 1993. Additionally Miner served as the 2000 Grand Marshal of the Harvest of Harmony Parade and in 2006 was inducted into the Nebraska Racing Hall of Fame.

During Hugh Miner's career at Fonner Park, his involvement and leadership role in the planning, development and construction of the Heartland Events Center helped to make a long-term difference in the quality of life in the Grand Island Area. The Heartland Events Center project was achieved through the "joint cooperation and involvement" of the Fonner Park Board of Directors, the Membership of the Hall County Livestock Improvement Association (Fonner Park), the Heartland Events Center Board and Staff, Grand Island Motel Owners, the City of Grand Island and City Council, the Hall County Board, together with many generous gifts from foundations, individuals, businesses, the Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce, the Grand Island Area Economic Development Corporation, and a large group of civic-minded individuals, volunteers, and organizations, along with the media. The events center opened in late 2006.

Mr. Miner resides in Grand Island and has two grown daughters and two grandsons.

MICHAEL W. MONK
Class of 1967
Hall of Honor 1993

Michael W. Monk was born in Grand Island at the old St. Francis Hospital on February 21, 1949. He graduated first in his class from Grand Island Senior High in 1967, after two years as Sports Editor of the Islander and serving as President of Student Council his Senior year.

He did his undergraduate studies at Harvard College, graduating in 1971 with Honors in English Literature. He wrote his Senior Honors Thesis on Charles Dickens. While at Harvard, he was Sports Editor of the Harvard radio station, WHRB, and interviewed such notable athletes as Boston Celtic Bill Russell and Milwaukee Buck Lew Alcindor. During his senior year, Mr. Monk was also the color announcer on the Harvard Football Radio Broadcasts.

Mr. Monk studied law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School in Philadelphia, and he graduated earning his J.D. degree in 1974. He practiced law for two years in Boston in the General Counsel's office of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, where he helped shut down nursing homes providing poor care. In 1976, Monk and his family moved to Los Angeles.

In 1976, he joined the Los Angeles law firm of Musick Peeler & Garrett and began practicing management labor law, which he does to this day. His practice involves representing employers not only in union negotiations, but also in all aspects of labor and

employment law. He has successfully represented such clients as Gene Autry, Mr. Autry's radio stations, the California Angels, Denny's Restaurants, the American Broadcasting Company, the San Diego Padres, Vulcan Materials Company, many Southern California Hospitals, and many regional centers that serve developmentally disabled persons. In 1984 and 1985, Mr. Monk also taught law school. He was Adjunct Professor at Loyola University Law School in Los Angeles, teaching a course in employment law, and the beginning course in Labor Law.

In 1990, Mr. Monk was part of a group of 15 Southern Californians, headed by Monk's Harvard roommate, Tom Werner, who purchased the San Diego Padres. Monk and his wife Janet were minority owners until 1998. During this time, Monk served on the Baseball Operations Committee, the Board of Directors, and served as labor counsel for the Padres. Mr. Monk continued his law practice during this entire period.

Mr. Monk has also been active in other pursuits while practicing law. He was a Board Member of the Los Angeles Constitutional Rights Foundation. He also served as General Counsel to the Cardin School of Santa Monica while the school was owned and run by his wife Janet Bogle. He also has served as General Counsel to Mt. Level and Big Oak farms in Southeastern Missouri, since he and his wife took over the operation of the family farms in 2008.

In late 2012, Mr. Monk had his first play published, a five act tragedy in the style of Shakespeare, "The Tragedy of Orenthal, Prince of Brentwood." The book was awarded an Independent Publisher Book Gold Medal for Independent Voice in 2014. It is available on Amazon, and Barnes and Noble. In 2014, Monk and his wife Janet Elaine Bogle, a Wellesley College graduate, will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. They have two children, James Monk and Susannah Galiano, and two grandchildren, Victoria Galiano and Leonardo Galiano.

CAPT. MONTE L. MOORBERG
Class of 1957
Hall of Honor 1986

U.S. Air Force Captain Monte Moorberg was an outstanding Senior High graduate who gave his life for his country in the Vietnam War.

Moorberg graduated fourth in a class of 270 students at Grand Island Senior High. He was the first Senior High athlete to win four varsity letters in a single year. He played two years of varsity football at the Air Force Academy where he graduated in 1961.

Captain Moorberg had served three months in Vietnam when he was reported missing in action after failing to return from a successful combat mission he had led on December 2, 1966.

In April of 1968, the Air Force presented Capt. Moorberg's widow, Judy, with the Distinguished Flying Cross, the nation's second-highest valor award. Moorberg's remains were buried at Arlington National Cemetery on November 25, 1985.

RONALD LEE MOORE
Class of 1950
Hall of Honor 2009

A commitment to excellence and a desire to help others are just two of the qualities that made Ronald L. Moore a well-respected leader in the financial world and in his community. Mr. Moore was born in 1932 and graduated from Grand Island High School in 1950. He earned a four-year golf scholarship to the University of Denver, where he majored in finance and banking. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a pilot, rising to the rank of captain. Following his military service, Mr. Moore joined the Denver firm of Kirchner, Ormsbee and Wiesner as a municipal bond salesman. Five years later, he became President and CEO of Kirchner, Moore and Company.

In 1968 Moore acquired the First National Bank of Center, Colorado and in 1977 he acquired Guaranty Bank and Trust, becoming Chairman of the Board. The Guaranty Bank and Trust family of banks has assets of over \$1.4 billion. Additionally from 1986 to 1994 Mr. Moore served as chairman of Affiliated Bank Shares of Colorado, a \$2.8 billion group of 27 banks that in 1991 merged with Banc One Corp to create Colorado's third largest bank holding company.

Mr. Moore was a major contributor to his community and strong advocate for education. He served as a University of Denver trustee from 1986 until 2003 and chaired its endowment committee. He also served on the Douglas County Education Foundation and was very active in supporting its "Read to Succeed" literacy programs. He generously supported numerous Colorado nonprofits. He always said with a smile "Helping people, it's what we do...it's a lot of fun and it makes the world a better place."

In 2001, Mr. Moore received the prestigious Torch of Liberty Award, which recognizes individuals that exemplify democratic ideals and promote civil rights within their communities. In 2002, Mr. Moore received the Evans Award from the University of Denver, the highest honor the University bestows upon a distinguished alumnus for their lifetime of professional accomplishments and humanitarian service.

Mr. Moore was a lifelong and passionate golfer who was named to the Colorado Golf Hall of Fame in 1986 after winning all four of the state's major amateur championships. He played golf with former president Gerald Ford and Jack Nicklaus. In 2002, he was inducted into the University of Denver Sports Hall of Fame. Mr. Moore developed and owned golf courses and was influential in bringing several major golf tournaments to Colorado. He served on the executive committee of the 1978 Open at Cherry Hills and chaired the 1985 PGA Championship. In addition, he was instrumental in reviving the

men's and women's golf team program at University of Denver and ensured many golf scholarships through his membership in the TransMississippi Golf Association.

Ronald L. Moore passed away in 2003. He is survived by his wife of almost 50 years, Carol Miller (also a graduate of Grand Island High School); daughters Rhonda Hertel, Sandra Loeffler, Julia Mills, and son Martin Moore. He has five grandchildren.

DR. THOMAS B. MURRAY
Class of 1941
Hall of Honor 1989

Dr. Thomas B. Murray has been a leader in bringing psychiatry to central Nebraska.

Dr. Murray attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as a Regent's Scholar, then joined the military and completed his medical education while serving his country. He was chief of psychiatric services for the Army in Europe. He retired from military service as a colonel in 1973.

Dr. Murray took up residence in Kearney in 1974. He helped develop inpatient psychiatric care at Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. His dream of a psychiatric hospital in central Nebraska was realized in 1986 when the Richard Young Hospital opened in Kearney.

GLEN E. NIETFELD
Class of 1944
Hall of Honor 1987

Glen Nietfeld started working as a salesman in 1950 for the Westinghouse Supply Company and 22 years later became its president. In 1975 he was named vice president of the corporation and in 1980 received its highest award, the Westinghouse Order of Merit.

While president, Mr. Nietfeld established goodwill and friendship to many areas of the world and personally established branches in Saudi Arabia, Korea, Canada and other countries.

Mr. Nietfeld died in 1984 and was posthumously given the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Electrical Distributors.

DONALD MAX NOEL
Class of 1959
Hall of Honor 1999

Donald Max Noel, retired from the F.B.I., received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Nebraska Wesleyan in Political Science/History in 1964. Following graduation, Mr. Noel worked for the Hall County Department of Welfare, and the Grand Island Diocese of the Catholic Church.

Mr. Noel left Grand Island in 1968 to attend the Federal Bureau of Investigation's New Agents Training School at Quantico, Virginia. He graduated and was eventually assigned to the San Francisco Field Office of the F.B.I. in October, 1969, where he served for the next thirty years.

Over that period of time Mr. Noel received numerous letters of commendation and incentive awards from every Director of the F.B.I., including J. Edgar Hoover. In 1993, he was chosen to be a member of the newly formed Unabom Task Force (UTF), and began investigating a seventeen-year series of unsolved bombings. In 1994, Mr. Noel was promoted to the position of Supervisory Special Agent of the UTF. His UNABOM investigation in rural Montana led to the arrest of suspect Theodore J. Kaczynski on April 3, 1996, at Kaczynski's rural, isolated cabin near Lincoln, Montana.

Mr. Noel was personally presented with the "Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award" by Attorney General Janet Reno in 1998.

BAYARD H. PAINE
Class of 1889
Hall of Honor 1983

In 1894 Judge Bayard H. Paine received his Bachelor of Science degree from Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois. He attended the University Of Michigan Law School for one summer in 1907. Later he received his honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln in 1934.

After graduating from college, he became Superintendent of Schools at North Loup for one year. From 1895 to 1898 he was the assistant principal of the Grand Island High School and taught science classes. From 1898 to 1904 he was the court reporter for District Judge John R. Thompson. He began the study of law and passed the State Bar examinations and was admitted to practice in Nebraska in 1904. He was police judge for the city of Grand Island from 1907 to 1911 and was Referee in Bankruptcy for 14 counties in Nebraska from 1906 to 1916. Further, he taught business law at the Grand Island Business College.

Desiring to become a judge, he filed as a candidate and was elected District Judge of the Eleventh Judicial District, which then consisted of 11 counties, and served for 14 years from 1917 to 1930.

ROBERT F. PHELPS, Ph.D.

Class of 1966
Hall of Honor 2007

Since graduating from Grand Island Senior High School in 1966, Robert Phelps has pursued an engineering career in government and industry. He received the Bachelor of Science (1971) and Master of Science (1972) degrees from the University of Nebraska and earned the Doctor of Philosophy degree from Purdue University. All degrees are in electrical engineering. Dr. Phelps is also a graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and the Air War College.

Joining the U.S. Air Force in 1972, Dr. Phelps served tours of duty in Alaska, Colorado, Nebraska, Maryland, Mississippi and Alabama. At Offutt AFB, near Omaha, Nebraska, he designed and built a telemetry and data processing system for the Air Force's satellite program that provided weather information to the nation's strategic forces. As a Tenure Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering at the United States Air Force Academy, Dr. Phelps revised the electrical engineering course and laboratory curriculum and served on cadet advising and admissions committees. His peers selected him as the first winner of the General Roland E. Thomas Award for excellence as an officer instructor. He was named as recipient of the 1984 Clements Award as an Outstanding Military Educator at the Air Force Academy.

Dr. Phelps wrote the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) integrated tactical warning and attack assessment system architecture used to upgrade the nation's missile warning system while preventing catastrophic system failures and false missile warnings. In 1986, he developed a Space Defense Command & Control architecture that incorporated existing assets and reallocates space defense roles among the military commands to improve the capability of the United States to control and operate in space.

In 1991, Dr. Phelps joined the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO) where he managed the Battle Management, Command & Control and Communications (BMC3) program office. He reduced the high risk associated with developing this software-intensive portion of the Ground-Based Missile Defense (GMD) system by structuring a strategy to satisfy all congressional and Department of Defense critics. Dr. Phelps established the first-ever BMC3 laboratories at the Missile Defense Integration and Operations Center (MDIOC) in Colorado Springs to demonstrate and refine missile defense BMC3 development concepts.

Dr. Phelps established the program to upgrade our nation's early warning radar system (known as the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System). Through presentations to the Congress, the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Defense Department, he convinced senior leadership to use the significant capabilities of these existing radars for missile defense. The BMC3 software and upgraded early warning radars are now the heart of the ballistic missile defense system now in-place in Alaska, California and Colorado.

After nearly 22 years of active duty, Dr. Phelps retired from the Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1994. He then joined the Schafer Corporation and later the Boeing Company. In 2002, he was selected as a founding member of the Missile Defense National Team, a distinguished group of industry engineers charged by the Missile Defense Agency to

chart the future of missile defense for the United States. There, he engineered a set of simulations of the global missile defense forming the common suite of industry analysis tools adopted by the six largest U.S. aerospace companies on the National Team.

Currently, Dr. Phelps is Chief Engineer for National Security Programs at Boeing's Annapolis Junction, Maryland facility. He is actively involved in engineering education, teaching short courses in Systems Engineering to engineering professionals worldwide. For the past twenty years, he has served as a program evaluation visitor in electrical and computer engineering for the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).

Robert Phelps is married to Karen Lunberry, GIHS Class of 1967, and has four children, Christopher, Timothy, Stephanie and Gregory. He resides in Columbia, Maryland.

MATTHEW PLACZEK

Class of 1983
Hall of Honor 2011

Matthew Placzek's innate talent for art was evident at an early age. Born and raised in Grand Island, Nebraska, he created works of nature while still in high school and subsequently made his way through Hastings College and Creighton University in Omaha, all the while honing his art and unique style. His first large-scale commission was entitled "Through Currents of Time" at the age of 25. The 25-foot steel and bronze sculpture featured birds in flight and launched Matthew into the world of municipal and private sculptural art projects.

In 2003, Placzek was commissioned to create "Labor", the second largest labor monument in the country. The composition is 30-feet high and is showcased prominently as part of the newly developed riverfront in Omaha.

His other works include ILLUMINA, the centerpiece for the Qwest Center Omaha Convention Center and Arena. Hundreds of thousands of people interact with the sculpture's unique carnival-like design annually. Most recently, he installed IMAGINE, a 90-foot landmark at the Children's Hospital Omaha. IMAGINE features an LED lighting system and bronze figures capturing the innocents of youth in a heartwarming, colorful sculpture.

The Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha commissioned Placzek to create a signature piece for the plaza entering the sculpture garden. The museum is renowned for its collection of art of the American West. The 5,000-pound, 15-foot high sculpture entitled "Sioux Warrior" was originally designed by John David Brcin (1899-1983) and sculpted by Matthew for the entrance. He has also been honored with the *30 Under 30 Award* and the *DOI Cultural Art Award* in 2009 for his contributions to public art.

In addition to large-scale art projects, Placzek also creates smaller sculptures in his studio in Omaha, Nebraska. His work is included in galleries throughout the country and is

included in collections of Guinness Brewing in London, England; Takao Building Development in Tokyo, Japan; BMW in Germany; Level 3 Communications in Denver, Colorado, and the Social Security Building in Roanoke, VA.

Placzek has had numerous one man shows, including the U.S. Embassy in Prague. His work is also in the presidential collections of Austria, The Republic of China and former President Ronald Reagan.

Matthew and his wife, Kimberly, also an artist, have three children, Aaron, Noah and Phoebe. They love to travel and are passionate about art and how it creates a positive affect upon a community and daily life.

DR. PEGGY FAGAN RADFORD

Class of 1966
Hall of Honor 1987

Dr. Peggy Rapoport is annually recognized by the families of babies she has successfully delivered despite complications.

After graduating in three years from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's pre-med program, she entered the University's Medical School in the fall of 1969. She began her residency in Omaha in 1973 in Pediatrics and Neonatology.

Dr. Rapoport is now the Director of Neonatology at Children's Hospital in Omaha. Her writing has been published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

REX W. RIDENOURE

Class of 1974
Hall of Honor 2011

Rex W. Ridenoure graduated from Grand Island High School as an excellent student, champion gymnast and experienced debater. He earned his undergraduate degree at Iowa State University (Ames), with honors in Aerospace Engineering, where he was also a four-year letterman on its nationally-ranked gymnastics team. In 1976, Ridenoure experienced his first space-project during the *Viking* landings on Mars, as a student intern at the Caltech/NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). After ISU, he moved to Southern California to work at leading satellite supplier Hughes Space & Communications, which also sponsored his graduate degree in Aeronautics from Caltech, completed in 1979.

Ridenoure has made meaningful contributions to over 100 commercial, NASA and defense-related space missions and launches while working for various commercial space companies, JPL, and in academia. He has been a front-line contributor to, and participant in, a diverse set of space-project firsts and pathfinding trends such as: Space Shuttle-launched satellites, solar system exploration, in-orbit spacecraft servicing and salvage,

low cost space experiments, low cost lunar and asteroid missions, commercial astronaut development, technology demonstration missions, commercial lunar missions, new commercial suborbital tourism and research vehicles, commercial habitable modules and space-themed public outreach concepts.

He has participated on several notable pioneering mission efforts including the *Hubble Space Telescope*, the *Voyager-2* encounter with Neptune, *Deep Space 1* ion-propulsion mission, the first commercial lunar mission (*HGS-1*), *SpaceShipOne* suborbital vehicle, the *LCROSS* lunar impactor mission, and twin *GRAIL* lunar orbiters.

In 2001, Ridenoure co-founded Ecliptic Enterprises Corporation, serving as CEO for over 10 years. With its RocketCam™ product family, Ecliptic quickly became a leading supplier of onboard video systems for use with rockets and spacecraft. RocketCam views from numerous Space Shuttle launches and other space missions have become iconic views from space for many of the world's people.

Throughout his career, Ridenoure has earned several major space industry awards. He is currently focused on contributing to the formulation of the next phase of U.S. space activity in the post-Shuttle era. His work includes supporting further commercialization of space-mission operations; the utilization of the infinite resources in space to address pressing issues here on Earth; and to enable the long term, sustainable expansion of human civilization into the solar system.

Rex, his wife Ning, and their two children Lance and Kai, live in Pasadena, California.

GRANT T. REYNARD
Class of 1905
Hall of Honor 1983

Grant T. Reynard, nationally known painter, illustrator and lecturer, began his career as Art Editor of REDBOOK Magazine in Chicago. His illustrations appeared in many national magazines, and later, his roots in the Midwest appeared in his paintings and etchings.

The spaciousness and emptiness of the prairie land reflected his deepening spiritual awareness and his work reflects an abiding interest in the American scene.

ROBERT C. REYNOLDS
Class of 1949
Hall of Honor 1983

Bob Reynolds, the “super soph,” set numerous NCAA records during the 1950 football season at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He scored 156 points in one season,

averaging 17.4 points per game, an NCAA record which still stands. In 1982, Reynolds was the 66th Inductee into the Lincoln Journal's Nebraska Sports Hall of Fame.

The college All-American went on to a successful career in business as the senior partner with Reynolds-Simmons-Nelson Insurance.

SHARON KAY RITCHIE MULLIN
Class of 1954
Hall of Honor 2011

After graduating from Grand Island Senior High School, Sharon Kay Ritchie attended the Colorado Women's College in Denver. Ritchie was elected president of her class, student chaplain and received the *Laurice Carlin Most Outstanding Student Award*. Ritchie was also chosen as freshman class beauty queen.

In 1955, Ritchie won the first ever Colorado Women's College Campus Pageant and proceeded to compete in the Miss Colorado pageant in July of that year. Ritchie won the title of *Miss Colorado* and therefore a trip to Atlantic City that September to compete for the Miss America Crown.

At 18 years old, Ritchie was crowned *Miss America 1956* with her high marks in several categories and her captivating dramatic presentation of the "Murder of Lidice." During her year as Miss America, Ritchie was invited to Europe on an official visit sponsored by Philco International. Several grand balls were held in her honor, and she made many personal appearances.

Ritchie married singer/golfer Don Cherry and they had two sons, Shawn and Stephen. The couple divorced when the boys were small.

Ritchie had a successful career in theater and television where she made guest appearances in numerous game shows, sitcoms, and commercials. She also appeared in the productions of "Brigadoon," "The Man," the "Reluctant Debutante," "Come Blow Your Horn" and "Sweet Charity" on stages in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. Additionally in Chicago, Ritchie was nominated for the *Sarah Siddons Best Actress Award* for her role as the debutante. Over the years Ritchie worked with Joan Bennet, John Emery, Gwen Verdon, and the legendary Bob Fosse.

Ritchie then turned her attention to business, where she used her talents in drama and public speaking to become a corporate spokeswoman. She was the first woman to be elected as a trustee of the New York Boy Scouts.

Ritchie's younger son, Stephen Cherry, was a limited partner for Cantor Fitzgerald in New York. Stephen perished during the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center where he worked on the 104th floor.

Ritchie and her husband Terry Mullin live in Los Angeles and Hawaii. They are benefactors of Stanford University and Pepperdine University. At the Malibu campus of Pepperdine, the Mullins have created and built "Mullin Town Square" as a memorial to their lost sons, Stephen Cherry and Tom and Russell Mullin, who both lost their battles with cancer. Ritchie has four grandchildren and continues to believe in the goodness of life and the power of positive thinking.

EVALYN MURPHY RYAN
Class of 1884
Hall of Honor 1984

Evalyn Murphy Ryan was a leader of the Democratic Party in Nebraska and served as Democratic National Committeewoman for 16 years.

Mrs. Ryan was one of the organizers of the Community Concert Association and the first president of the Woman's Club in Grand Island.

Before her marriage, she began her community work as a teacher in the Grand Island Public Schools. Mrs. Ryan was one of the founders of the Hall County Red Cross in 1917 and was very active in the early League of Women Voters.

JOHN F. SANDERS
Class of 1964
Hall of Honor 1991

John Sanders was a three-sport star at Grand Island Senior High, and in 1964 was named Nebraska High School Athlete of the Year.

Sanders played for five years in the minor leagues, going on to play in the majors with the Kansas City Athletics.

John graduated from the University of Northern Colorado in 1969, and received his master's degree a year later. He coached at Chemeketa Community College in Salem, Oregon, and Arizona Western College prior to becoming the baseball coach at the University of Nebraska in 1978.

He has coached several athletes who have gone on to play professional baseball, and several of his teams have been in post-season play. He has not forgotten his roots as he has conducted annual baseball clinics in Grand Island for many years, thus instilling the love of the game in the minds of many young area athletes.

ROBERT SCHUYLER
Class of 1954

Hall of Honor 1990

Robert Schuyler was an active student at Grand Island Senior High School who achieved academic excellence in college and has worked his way up to the executive vice president and chief financial officer post of a major U.S. company.

Schuyler received his business administration degree from the University of Nebraska in 1958 where he was a member of the Innocent Society. He received his master's degree from Harvard Graduate School of Business in 1960.

Robert joined Weyerhaeuser in 1966 as a manager of financial analysis and in 1985 was named to his current position. He has also served on several national boards including the Junior Achievement National Board of Directors and the Economic Policy Committee of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

GEORGE ROBERT (BOB) SIGGINS

Class of 1956
Hall of Honor 2007

“George-Bob” Siggins has pursued two careers, as a brain research neuroscientist and as a musician. At GISHS he played 3 varsity sports, and was a member of the 1953 undefeated State Champion football team. After obtaining a ‘Regional’ scholarship to Harvard University in 1956 as a pre-med student, he graduated *cum laude* in biological chemistry in 1960 and was accepted to Tufts Medical School. However, he realized his passion was for scientific research of the nervous system, and that he might bring more good to more people if he could help solve some of the more devastating brain and behavioral disorders.

He therefore entered Boston University graduate school in 1961 and obtained an M.A. and Ph.D. in biology and physiology in 1967. He was recruited to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Washington D.C. for postdoctoral training in neuropharmacology, working with the highly-regarded Floyd Bloom (later Editor-in-Chief of the prestigious Science magazine). Siggins became Section Chief and then Acting Lab Chief at NIH. His early work provided a solid foundation for investigating the cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying several brain disorders, and how certain drugs that act through these mechanisms might provide therapeutic relief. Several awards resulted: the A.E. Bennett Award for Basic Research in Psychiatry (Society of Biological Psychiatry; 1971), the A. Cressy Morrison Award in Natural Science (New York Academy of Science; 1971), and the CINE Golden Eagle Award (1976; for the film "Movements of Organelles in Living Nerve Fibers").

Siggins moved to the Salk Institute in La Jolla, CA in 1975, as Associate Director of the A.V. Davis Center for Behavioral Neurobiology, to work with researchers who discovered brain endorphins and opiate peptides. This allowed study of the effects of morphine and other abused opiate drugs on the synaptic receptors for these peptides, and led to two more awards, the Alexander von Humboldt Special Prize and the Bissendorf Award, and a year's sabbatical in Munich, Germany. Opiates are still under extensive

study in his lab at the Scripps Research Institute, to which he moved in 1983 as Member and then Professor. At both the Salk and the Scripps, he also examined the mechanisms underlying alcohol effects and alcoholism. As a result of these electrophysiological and molecular studies of brain synapses, and collaborations forged with behavioral psychologists, he now investigates therapeutic treatments for alcoholism. The results reveal the mechanisms of action of Acampral and Naltrexone, both now in use for alcoholism treatment, as well as a new candidate, Gabapentin. He has also investigated the cellular mechanisms underlying dementia due to HIV-1 infection (neuroAIDS) and Alzheimer's disease, which caused the death of his mother, Margaret Siggins.

Siggins has published over 190 peer-reviewed research papers and reviews on basic and health-related brain research. These activities over the last 42 years have led to a greater understanding of the brain and disorders like dementia, depression and Parkinson's, and contributed to treatments for drug and alcohol addiction. In addition, he has served on many journal editorial boards and scientific advisory committees for the federal government (NIH and the Veterans Administration) and several universities, helping them determine where best to spend their research dollars. He also has mentored scores of neuroscience students and postdoctoral trainees in the methods of brain and drug research.

Siggins' second body of work involves music. Because of his mother's passion for playing and teaching piano and organ, he began playing music in high school and then professionally in college. He plays multiple stringed instruments and sings, and was a founding member of three Boston groups, the Charles River Valley Boys, The Mother Bay State Entertainers and Kveskin's Jug Band. He also performed with other notable musicians, including Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Liz Meyer and Friends, Hazel Dickens and Alice Seeger, Geoff and Maria Muldaur, Chris Darrow, and the Hula Hodads. He now plays regularly in two bands in the San Diego area: Cheeky Monkey and Bonehead. He feels strongly that music is a great stress-reliever, for both him and his audience.

Siggins is also involved in community service, first in donating his musical services for many benefits, and as President of the Del Mar (CA) Surf Club, helping young kids learn to surf and stay off the streets. His is also a member and former president of the Del Mar Kiwanis Club, assisting the world's children, via multiple fund-raisers to benefit kids' charities, such as the San Diego Children's Hospital, Toys for Tots, Voices for Children, Phoenix House and La Classe Magica.

Last but not least, he considers that helping raise his three children (Leah Ridpath, Shannon Siggins and Graham Siggins), and his grandson Jake Ridpath, as his greatest accomplishment, with a high potential for improving the human condition.

ROSEMARIE SKAINE
Class of 1954
Hall of Honor 2009

After graduating from Grand Island Senior High School, Rosemarie Keller Skaine

attended Sioux Falls College and the University of South Dakota. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of South Dakota (1958) with majors in sociology and speech. She earned a Master of Arts in sociology from the University of Northern Iowa (1977).

Skaine was an Administrative and Legislative Assistant to the Chair of President Kennedy's Consumer Advisory Council, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York (1963). She served as a high school teacher in English at Ovid Central School, Ovid, New York (1958-1961). She also has served as an adjunct instructor at Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa and Hawkeye Community College, Waterloo, Iowa.

Skaine has authored eleven books and several national and international articles. Her books with McFarland Publishers include: *Women of Afghanistan in the Post-Taliban Era* (2008); *Women Political Leaders in Africa* (2008); *Female Suicide Bombers* (2006); *Female Genital Mutilation: Legal, Cultural and Medical Issues* (2005); *The Cuban Family: Custom and Change in an Era of Hardship* (2004); *Paternity and American Law* (2003); *The Women of Afghanistan Under the Taliban* (2002); *Women College Basketball Coaches* (2001); *Women at War: Gender Issues of Americans in Combat* (1999); and *Power and Gender: Issues in Sexual Dominance and Harassment* (1996). In addition, Skaine coauthored her father's biography with her father and her husband, *A Man of the Twentieth Century: Recollections of Warren V. Keller, A Nebraskan As told to Rosemarie Keller Skaine and James C. Skaine*, Author's Castle Publishing (1999).

Skaine's articles include: "Women's Leadership in Africa", SAGE reference project *Gender and Women's Leadership* (forthcoming); "Female Genital Mutilation," *World Book Encyclopedia Online* (2008); "Overturning Paternity," *2004 Family Law Update*, Aspen Publishers; "Neither Afghan Nor Islam," *Ethnicities*, Sage Publishing (2002); "Jacqueline Lee Bouvier Kennedy Onassis," and "Sexual Harassment," *The St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture* (1999); and coauthored, "Organizational Structure, Supervision and Job Satisfaction," *Osmania Journal of Sociology* (1979).

Skaine's special awards include: The Gustavus Myers Center Award for the Study of Human Rights in North America (1997) for her outstanding work on intolerance in North America for her book, *Power and Gender: Issues in Sexual Dominance and Harassment*, McFarland & Co., Inc., Publishers (1996). The Iowa State American Association of University Women (AAUW) presented Skaine an Award for Excellence and Honorary State Membership (2009-2010) in appreciation for her significant contributions to AAUW (2009). The International Congress on Family Law awarded her a Delegate Certificate for participation in the XII International Congress on Family Law, Havana, Cuba (2002).

Skaine and her husband, James, professor emeritus, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls have two sons, five grandchildren and one great grandchild. She is a native of Grand Island and is the daughter of Warren V. Keller and Marie Kuehner Keller.

RICHARD D. SLEMONS
Class of 1959
Hall of Honor 2006

After graduating from Grand Island Senior High School, Richard Slemons attended the University of Nebraska for two years and then transferred to Colorado State University where he graduated in 1965 (D.V.M.).

Three months after returning to practice veterinary medicine in Grand Island, Slemons entered the USAF with a two year obligation which turned out to be a 20 year career with duty assignments in the USA, Thailand, and Indonesia.

While in the military he completed M.S. (1971) and Ph.D. (1981) programs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and worked with type A influenza, Newcastle disease, rabies, dengue hemorrhagic fever, chikungunya, Japanese encephalitis, hepatitis A and B and respiratory diseases as an epidemiologist, laboratory diagnostician and/or researcher. It was during this time that Slemons and his colleagues discovered that wild birds were natural reservoirs for type A influenza viruses and that these viruses caused enteric infections in their natural reservoirs.

In 1986, he took a position in the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University where he is currently a professor in the Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine. His teaching focus is on the prevention, control and eradication of animal and zoonotic diseases. His research focus is on defining the natural history of type A influenza viruses in birds and preventing and controlling influenza in poultry, lower mammals, and humans.

Slemons has served on the program committee or as the co-chair of the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th International Symposia on Avian Influenza and as a short term avian influenza consultant to the Nicaragua Ministry of Agriculture (2004) and to Assiut University in upper Egypt/USAID-Egypt (2006) and as a member of the USDA Expert Advisory Panel for the Exotic Newcastle Eradication Task Force in Southern California in 2003.

In 2004, Slemons was honored by the American Association of Avian Pathologists for sustained excellence in research in poultry diseases and health. In 2006, he was awarded the Ohio Poultry Association Meritorious Service Award for his work on avian influenza and preparation of the first Ohio Poultry Industry Emergency Disease Response Plan. Since 1987, he has served as the faculty advisor for the student chapter of Christian Veterinary Mission Fellowship at OSU.

Slemons and his wife Liz have three daughters and their first grandchildren, twins, are due in late October 2007.

DR. ANN KOEFOOT SNYDER
Class of 1968

Hall of Honor 2006

Dr. Ann Koefoot Snyder, educator, humanitarian, and community leader, continually makes a difference in countless lives. Graduating from Grand Island Senior High School in 1968, Snyder received a Bachelor's Degree from Colorado State University, Masters Degree from the University of Missouri and Doctorate of Education from Baylor University. She has served in many capacities in education ranging from classroom teacher to college professor at Oklahoma City University and the University of Houston.

Dr. Snyder's list of community service is lengthy. For the past 18 years, Dr. Snyder is well known in greater Houston area for her commitment to service. Her ongoing dedication to helping young people is evident by her eleven years on the Conroe Independent School District Board of Trustees comprised of 45,000 students and as an Interact sponsor with 1000 students/annually. She has assisted with building homes for low income residents, building playgrounds in low income neighborhoods, planning events for nonprofit organizations, leading school bond elections, and managing county recovery efforts during the disasters of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Presently, Snyder is the Executive Director of Interfaith of The Woodlands, a \$21 million dollar non-profit organization with 400 employees in 18 locations throughout East Texas. She is responsible for overseeing the delivery of many social services as well as establishing and maintaining strong relationships with congregations, corporations, elected officials and non-profit organizations. Interfaith helps individuals in crisis through financial assistance for rent, mortgage, utilities, gasoline, prescription drug assistance, emergency shelter, food, family and individual counseling, job training, senior programs and child care. In 2006, over 216,000 individuals were assisted in crisis programs through Interfaith of The Woodlands.

Snyder has served as president for many organizations including the Conroe Independent School District, Parent Teacher Organizations, Booster Clubs, The Woodlands Rotary Club, National Charity League, and The Woodlands Junior Golf Association. She has served on the boards of the YMCA, Education for Tomorrow Alliance, Heart of Montgomery County, South Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Celebration, Partners of Youth, The Woodlands Center for the Performing Arts, Friends of the Library, Montgomery County Community Foundation and was a founding member of The Woodlands Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Snyder has been the recipient of many honors. She was named a 2000 Hometown Hero, 1999 Montgomery County Woman of Distinction, 2007 Junior League Sustainer of the Year, 1995 and 2005 South Montgomery County People of the Year, received the Rotary International Paul Harris Award twice, was inducted in the Rotary District 5910 Hall of Fame, and received a U.S. House of Representatives Commendation in 2004.

Dr. Snyder, her husband Jerry, and two children reside in Texas. She is the daughter of Dr. Robert R. Koefoot and the late Bobbie Koefoot.

BOB SORENSEN
Class of 1944
Hall of Honor 2011

Bob Sorensen is a “Grand Island Guy.” Born and raised in Grand Island, Sorensen has spent more than 60 years contributing to his community. After graduating in 1944, Sorensen attended Greeley Teachers College before going to work for his father at Sorensen’s Body Shop. Sorensen worked there for 55 years.

With inspiration from Grand Island Coaches Vic Ashley, Jerry Lee and Iner Toff, Sorensen began his coaching career in 1943, while still in high school. He continued to coach throughout his life with his main focus being girls’ sports.

Together with Bill Smith, Sorensen started the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) in Grand Island. Later, Sorensen managed the ABCDD Girls Softball League in Grand Island. In 1985, Grand Island Mayor Bill Wright dedicated the softball fields at Ryder Park as the “Bob Sorensen Softball Complex.” In 2012, Sorensen will celebrate 50 years in Grand Island softball.

Sorensen received the Jim Lewis Softball Award in 1978 and was inducted into the Nebraska Softball Hall of Fame in 1982.

Sorensen’s community involvement reaches far beyond sports. He has been a Mason for sixty years, he served 16 years on the Grand Island City Council, served on the Board of Health, and is a member of the Board for the Grand Generation Center.

His community involvement brought him several accolades including the Citizen Award in 1981, the Service to Mankind Award in 1996 and 2007, the Golden Apple Award in 1996, and the Life Time Community Builder Award in 2006.

Sorensen and his wife Marge (Seymour), have three daughters, Susan, Nancy and Janet, five grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. They live in Grand Island, where Sorensen continues to support the youth and senior citizens of this community.

JOHN SORENSEN
Class of 1976
Hall of Honor 2004

John Sorensen was born and raised in a Grand Island, Nebraska family that encouraged two vital qualities: curiosity and cooperation. When he was small, the family traveled together to California, Canada, and Washington, D.C. -- and John saw that the world was more than just his small hometown.

John wrote his first story when he was 4 years old ("Foxy Did It!"). When he was 12, he was given his first guitar (electric), and when he was 14, he worked on his first political campaign (McGovern). After another dozen difficult years of school and local jobs (mostly in movie theaters), John left Grand Island at the age of 26 and went to study film-making at the California Institute of the Arts with the director Alexander Mackendrick. While with Mackendrick, John first published works of fiction and essay.

Next, John moved to New York City, where he served an apprenticeship with the writer Jay Presson Allen. While working for Ms. Allen, he acted in a TV series for ABC and, in 1987, organized a production company (the Jumble Shop Theater) -- writing and directing a series of radio plays for New York University, and producing plays for the New York Coalition for the Homeless and the New York Public Library.

Ms. Allen kept John on as her assistant director on the Tony-winning play, TRU, and on another Broadway show, THE BIG LOVE. In this period, he published the book OUR SHOW HOUSES (a history of movie theaters in Grand Island), and made the film MIDSUMMER, while continuing to direct stage works by Shakespeare, Chekhov, and others for the Jumble Shop.

In 1992, John established the Abbott Sisters Project, in association with the Edith Abbott Memorial Library and the University of Chicago, and in 2000 he inaugurated the "Four Corners" world culture series for the New York Public Library, with tributes to the cultures of Brazil, China, Greece, and West Africa.

John continues to write, direct, and act in shows with the Jumble Shop (including programs for Chicago Public Radio, the Carnegie Museum, and the Chicago Humanities Festival) -- and to work as director for both the Abbott Sisters Project and the "Four Corners" series (the 2004 events of which celebrated the arts of Romania). John has also continued his freelance film and TV work over the years, including jobs with directors Jonathan Demme, Joseph Strick, Shirley MacLaine, and Kevin Brownlow. At present, John is preparing a radio series concerning the composer George Enescu (for the WFMT Radio Network), a new performance piece (INVISIBLE) featuring original stories and songs, and is hoping soon to start shooting a video profile of Grace Abbott, to be called THE CHILDREN'S CHAMPION.

After all these years, John still considers himself a rather curious person, and is more interested than ever in finding new ways to cooperate.

HELEN STAUFFER
Class of 1939
Hall of Honor 1983

Helen Winter Stauffer is the author of *Mari Sandoz: Storycatcher of the Plains*. This definitive biography is the culmination of a career centering on Great Plains Literature, most notably female authors, such as Sandoz, Cather and Aldrich.

Returning to college after raising her family, Stauffer taught at Grand Island Senior High before joining the faculty at Kearney State College.

DR. CLEMENT A. STONE
Class of 1941
Hall of Honor 1985

Clement A. Stone, Ph.D., is the vice president of the nation's largest pharmaceutical research lab, Merck, Sharp & Dohme, in West Point, PA.

Because of his work, new medicines have been developed for treatment of high blood pressure, clinical depression and glaucoma.

Dr. Stone shares 14 patents and more than 120 published articles with his colleagues.

In 1984, he received the Directors Scientific Award from his employer of 31 years, Merck, Sharp & Dohme.

LEO B. STUHR
Class of 1897
Hall of Honor 1984

Leo B. Stuhr was the son of pioneer settlers of Hall County who were among the 32 German immigrants who founded Grand Island in 1857.

In 1917, Mr. Stuhr was elected to the Nebraska House of Representatives and was named State Secretary of Agriculture in 1919. In 1930, President Hoover appointed Stuhr to the Federal Farm Board and he helped set up commodity marketing organizations.

Mr. Stuhr was one of the founders of the Hall County Historical Society and for many years dreamed of a museum to preserve the history of the area. It was through his generous bequest that the Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer was born.

WILLIAM J. WHEELER
Class of 1979
Hall of Honor 2002

William J. Wheeler is a member of the Islander Class of 1979. His high school career included serving as a co-captain of the 1978 Class A State Football Championship Team, a member of the State Championship Semi-Finalist Debate Team in 1979, a member of the track team, and Vice President of the Senior Class. Following his graduation from Grand Island Senior High, Mr. Wheeler attended A. B. Wabash College in Indiana. He

graduated Magna Cum Laude from Wabash College in 1983. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa fraternity and was also co-captain of the undefeated football team of 1982 at Wabash. Today, he serves as member of the Board of Trustees of Wabash College. In 1987, Mr. Wheeler graduated from the Harvard Business School with a MBA degree.

While attending Harvard, Mr. Wheeler worked summers in the New York office of Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette Inc., an investment bank. He joined the firm right after graduation, raising money for companies by issuing stock or debt securities. He gained experience in helping companies transition from mutual to public ownership. He has advised numerous companies involved in restructuring efforts that include Equitable, Guarantee Mutual Life Insurance, Ameritas Mutual Insurance and Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. He is presently Senior Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer-Institutional Business for MetLife of New York. While at MetLife, he helped engineer the sale of one of the world's largest life insurance companies to investors for \$4.6 billion.

William Wheeler and his wife Carol have two children, Katherine and James. They now reside in Scarsdale, New York.

DR. DOUGLAS L. WILSON

Class of 1953

Hall of Honor 1994

Dr. Douglas Wilson was born in St. James, Minnesota and was eight years old when his family moved to Grand Island in August of 1944. He attended Dodge School and Barr Junior High before entering Grand Island Senior High in the Fall of 1950. At Grand Island Senior High, he was active in dramatics, acting in several plays and performing in the one-act play competition forensic tournaments. For three years he worked on the school newspaper The Islander, participated in student government, and was elected cheerleader his last two years.

After graduating from Doane in 1957, Dr. Wilson enrolled in the graduate English program at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where he spent four years pursuing a master's and doctoral degree in English and American Literature. Leaving graduate school in 1961, Dr. Wilson joined the English department at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois and remained there for 33 years. At Knox he taught whole range courses in literature and helped found an interdisciplinary in American Studies. For many years he was also the Director of the Library. His first book was published in 1967 by Harvard University Press.

As a scholar pursuing research on Jefferson and Lincoln, Dr. Wilson has been awarded fellowships by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, and Huntington Library in San Marino, California and the Newberry Library in Chicago. In this same connection, he has been invited to speak at Monticello,

Jefferson's residence, Colonial Williamsburg, the Library of Congress, and University of Virginia, and the Abraham Lincoln Symposium in Springfield, Illinois.

This year, 1994, Dr. Wilson has been appointed founding director of a new research center being established by the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation at Monticello, to be known as the International Center for Jefferson Studies.

DR. S. BURT WOLBACH
Class of 1898
Hall of Honor 1983

Dr. S. Burt Wolbach was a faculty member of Harvard Medical School and Shattuck professor of pathological anatomy.

He discovered the means of transmission of Rocky Mountain spotted fever and received the Polish governmental award, "Commander of the Order of Polonia Restituta" for his research into the cause and transmission of typhus fever.

WENDELL WOOD
Class of 1944
Hall of Honor 2001

Following graduation from Grand Island Senior High in 1944, Wendell Wood served in the U.S. Navy until 1946. He began working for the Union Pacific Railroad after the service and worked as a switchman until 1949. His next job was with the Northwestern Public Service Co. in Grand Island. He was transferred to North Platte in 1951 and worked for NWPS until 1960. Mr. Wood entered private business in 1965 and founded W.W. Wood, Inc. He owned and operated this business until 1980.

In 1999, Mr. Wood was inducted into the North Platte Area Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame. He was dubbed "the godfather of civic projects." Mr. Wood has been involved in a number of civic organizations and ventures. In the mid-1960's he helped establish the North Platte Junior College. He was instrumental in a finance campaign that resulted in the evolution of the junior college into the Mid-Plains Community Area College. In 1969, Mr. Wood was named chairperson of a community effort to consolidate two small hospitals in North Platte. Following a \$1.2 million campaign, a new community hospital was opened in 1975. He served on the hospital board until 1979, overseeing the merger of the two hospital staffs, construction of the new hospital and the development of a new regional medical center. Mr. Woods has also served for 11 years on the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Post-Secondary Education. He was first appointed to this post by a Republican governor and later reappointed by a Democratic governor. He has served on the Board of Directors of Northwestern Public Service, the boards of Western Nebraska National Bank and United Nebraska Bank, and was president of the North Platte Chamber of Commerce, North Platte Jaycees, and North Platte Rotary. He is a past

district chairman of the Buffalo Bill District of Boy Scouts and was a founding member of the board of the Mid-Nebraska Community Foundation.

Mr. Wood was named by the Jaycees of North Platte as the Outstanding Young Man of the Year in 1954, and Nebraska's Outstanding Young Man in 1961. He received the North Platte Jaycees "Boss of the Year" award in 1961. In 1980, Mr. Wood received the City of North Platte Cody Scout Award.