

# RangeRIDER

SPRING-SUMMER 2024



In the beginning God created the  
 and the  
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 surface  
 od w

Now the earth  
 y, darkness was  
 deep  
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*“When with bold telescopes I survey the old  
and newly discovered stars and planets,  
when with excellent microscopes I discern  
the unimitable subtlety of nature’s curious  
workmanship; when, in a word, I study the  
book of nature and find myself oftentimes  
reduced to exclaim with the Psalmist, ‘How  
manifold are thy works, O Lord! In wisdom  
hast thou made them all!’”*

*—Robert Boyle*







## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

"Misinformation"  
"Fake news"  
"Losing faith"

You can't encounter recent news articles without finding these words emblazoned in the headline. They constantly inundate our eyes and ears, influencing our thoughts and beliefs.

Many in our society would blame today's issues on the often-repeated phrase, "What is true for you is true for you, and what is true for me is true for me." However, this quote is a paraphrase from Plato's dialogue in *Theaetetus*, where Plato argues against Protagoras's relativistic beliefs that "Man is the measure of all things."

We know that men and women are not the beginning and end of truth, nor are we the creators and sustainers of beauty.

Truth and beauty were created by God to be discovered and celebrated by man for God's glory. Truth and beauty are like Christmas presents that God left in His creation for us to unwrap, to be surprised, and to be humbled. For we know that truth and beauty were created by God and are the fundamental building blocks of all creation.

At HSU, our mission is to provide "excellence in education enlightened by Christian faith and values." Therefore, we have a duty to teach our students about truth and its pursuit alongside beauty and its Creator.

King Solomon stated in Ecclesiastes 3:11, "He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end." In this verse, Solomon ties the Creator of beauty and truth to eternity and reminds us that we humans have not dredged the depths of God's wisdom and knowledge.

This edition of the *Range Rider* revolves around the theme "Truth and Beauty." John Keats, in the poem "Ode on a Grecian Urn," said it best:

"Beauty is truth, truth beauty,—that is all  
Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know."

Warm regards,



Eric I. Bruntmyer  
President





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# RangeRIDER

SPRING - SUMMER 2024

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## ON THE COVER

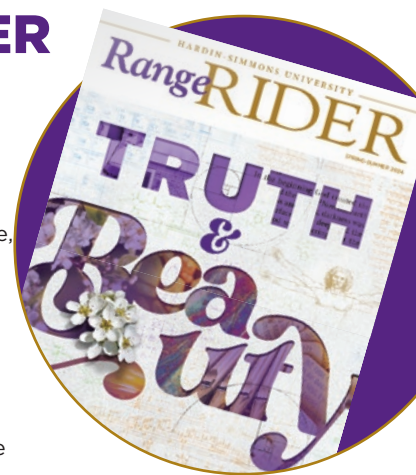
This illustration attempts to weave a tapestry of divine and human artistry—like a glimpse into God's sketchbook for creation. Hidden in the background is the Word of the Lord, through which all creation was made. It expands into the elements that compose our universe, geometrically and mathematically structured into the world of life and beauty we see around us.

From the elements and compounds that make up all matter to the vast expanse of the galaxy, God has formed chemical compounds into DNA, into cells, into plants, animals, and mankind. Each of these is ordered within the pages of the sketchbook.

God's created order is represented by the "golden ratio," subtly worked into the design, hidden within much of creation, mathematics, music, art, and architecture.

Within the letters of the title "Truth & Beauty" are images of how Hardin-Simmons discovers and reveres what God has provided for us. Images include a chemical beaker, the observatory, the Bible, flowers, the Logsdon window, metal from the engineering program, the pipe organ, and scripture cards from ANDY24.

The illustration concludes with the beauty of God's creation meeting the beauty we have created with it, as the pear blossoms reach towards Caldwell Hall and its intricate architecture.



*Range Rider* is the official publication of Hardin-Simmons University for its alumni, staff, and friends, and is published biannually as a joint effort between HSU's Office of University Marketing, Engagement and Advancement, Athletics, and President's Office. Postage paid at Abilene, TX and additional mailing offices. Opinions expressed in *Range Rider* are those of the individual authors and subjects and do not necessarily reflect the views of the university administration, faculty, staff, or students. No portion of this magazine may be reprinted without express written consent from the editor at [rangerider@hsutx.edu](mailto:rangerider@hsutx.edu). If you have any questions or concerns, please call: (325) 670-1317.



6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the truth, and the life:



## Defining TRUTH & BEAUTY

Neither truth nor beauty can be properly appreciated or understood apart from recognizing their origin and dependency on God. They are part of God's common grace to all of humanity, and apart from Him, they do not exist. And perhaps, even as Christians, we still won't fully comprehend truth and beauty until someday when Christ returns, the world is remade, and we are no longer "seeing through a mirror dimly" and are able to "know fully" (1 Cor. 13:12). How amazing that will be!

We at Hardin-Simmons University strive to be ambassadors of truth and beauty and leverage these concepts to proclaim the glory of their Creator. In the rush of this day, it is essential to remain fixed on both. We are enriched in our spiritual journey and guided by the greatest artist of all who is worthy of our worship, our Father and Creator.

11 He has made every thing  
beautiful in its time. He has al-  
set eternity in the human heart  
an fathom what God has done







# What is TRUTH?

Philosophy defines truth as an objective, verifiable reality that can be proven valid. However, as Christians, we know that truth is not just an idea or a fact; it's a person.

“So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ Jesus answered, ‘Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?’ Pilate answered, ‘Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?’ Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.’ Then Pilate said to him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.’ Pilate said to him, ‘What is truth?’”

— John 18:33–38

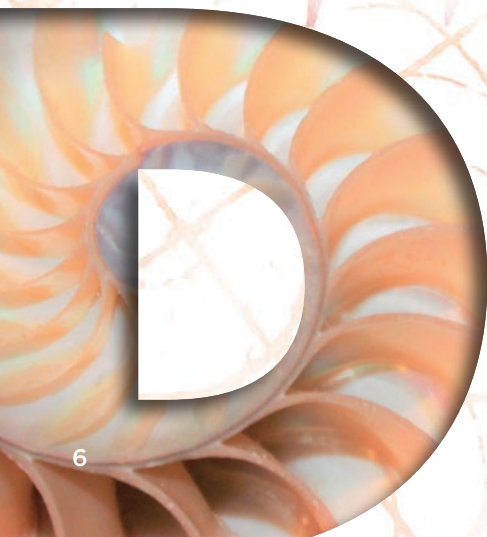
Truth is objective and universal. What is true is valid for all people at all times in all places, whether they know it or not, believe it or not, and like it or not. In an age that downplays truth, knowledge, and religion, Hardin-Simmons’ call is to stand firm as a beacon for education and Christ.

# What is BEAUTY?

Great art is inspiring. The purple hues of a sunset, the sculpture of a live oak tree, the majesty of the Big Bend, the synergy of music joined with ballet in Aaron Copland’s and Martha Graham’s *Appalachian Spring*, Michelangelo’s sculpture of *David*, the exquisite paintings of water lilies by Claude Monet, the power of film in *To Kill a Mockingbird*—These were all inspired by truth and beauty as they depict stories of the triumph and tragedy of the human spirit.

In contrast to the idea of truth, beauty is seemingly less tangible and more difficult to define objectively. As Confucius famously stated, “Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it,” or in modern terms - beauty is in the eye of the beholder. No doubt, beauty is a more relativistic concept in comparison to facts or the hard sciences. However, none can deny that beauty exists and that some things are more beautiful than others: the Swiss Alps vs. a trash heap, the *Mona Lisa* vs. a kindergarten diorama, etc. Hence, there is an objective truth undergirding the premise of beauty.

God brought forth creation. Humanity has the privilege of living in a beautiful, amazing world. God dwells in beauty. As Christians, we know that the objective beauty of creation reflects the glory of God and points towards transcendent truths. Psalm 50:2 states: “From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth.”





# How do TRUTH & BEAUTY relate and intersect?

As academics, we are often stirred by and find joy in the inherent truth and beauty of our respective disciplines. For the mathematician, it is the symmetry and repetitive logic of numerical relationships and proofs; for the artist, it is the intertwined aesthetic of color, shape, symmetry, and design; for the physician, it is the efficiency, utility, and complex design of the human body.

Furthermore, as educators, we have the great privilege and responsibility of passing the torch of this inspiration and knowledge to the next generation.

But perhaps most importantly, as Christians, we know that the existence of both truth and beauty is not by chance or mere happy accident. Both originate from and find their true meaning in their Creator. Moreover, they are not separate entities but intertwined aspects of God's general revelation in creation.

"For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together."

— Colossians 1:16–17

## More from Scripture:

### PSALM 111:2

"Great are the works of the Lord; They are studied by all who delight in them."

### ECCLESIASTES 3:11

"He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end."





# TRUTH & Beauty of the UNIVERSITY



The College of Arts and Media opened in the fall 2024 semester. CAM trains students in the disciplines of art, communication, music, and theatre.



# COLLEGE of ARTS & MEDIA

The mission of the College of Arts and Media (CAM) is to train student-artists in the disciplines of art, communication, music, and theatre to imagine, create, perform, and present their artistry through the lens of a Christian Worldview. God, the Creator, the eternal artist, has endowed His creation with the ability to create. God made us in His image; it is only fitting to worship Him by employing these exquisite gifts. The arts are one of the greatest gifts of God to encourage the believer, enrich human life, and communicate the Gospel.

*"Yet you, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay; you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand." Isaiah 64:8*

Humanity is a work of art created by and reliant upon God. The incorporation of faith into the classroom is realized through studying, composing, and presenting great musical compositions, performing profound stage works, drawing, painting, and sculpting new works of art, and harnessing strategic communication and media technology to communicate truth. In teaching student-artists the importance of communicating truth and beauty, CAM prepares students to share their artistic expression with the world which is in dire need of truth and beauty.

As HSU students graduate and enter their careers, they will be prepared not only academically but also, through their education enlightened by faith to stand strong on their convictions. In doing so, they will be able to find other artists who share their Christian worldview thus encouraging one another to do good works. The world is not always respectful of what they, as artists, want to communicate but their voices speaking truth and beauty must be heard.

As the Dean of this College, I find it an immense joy to work with the School of Music and the Departments of Art, Communication, and Theatre. What a privilege to witness student-artists grow in their artistic abilities during their academic study. Splendid work is happening in CAM in vocal and instrumental recitals; choral, ensemble, band, and orchestra concerts; musicals, plays, set and stage designs; art shows, painting, sculpture, photography, and graphic design; strategic communication and digital media; art education, music education, and theatre education. God is bringing together a talented group of faculty, staff, and student artists in the College of Arts and Media for such a time as this.



Dr. Bob Brooks is Dean of the College of Arts and Media.



## CYNTHIA ANN PARKER COLLEGE of LIBERAL ARTS

As a dean and faculty member at HSU, one of my goals is to help students better understand the reality of our world and the reality of God by effectively pursuing truth.

Students taking courses in HSU's Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts improve their ability to think critically, reason constructively, communicate clearly, and interact effectively with other people. My goal is for HSU students to develop an attitude of lifelong learning by adopting an attitude of curiosity, skepticism, and humility (Myers & DeWall, 2023). It is crucial that this attitudinal approach for students is based on a desire to glorify God and minister to others for the rest of their lives.

Many people, like Pontius Pilate, have asked the question, "What is truth?" (John 18:38), with Jesus noting earlier to his disciples, "I am the way and the truth and the life..." (John 14:6). I believe a crucial role of university education is helping people understand truth, i.e., learning to distinguish more effectively what is accurate and genuine from what is false, misleading, or deceptive.

*"But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere." James 3:17*

As a Christian, I believe similarly to Eric Johnson (2010) that "wisdom entails a paradox: the wiser we become, the more aware

we become of our lack of wisdom and our need for the help of others. 'The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice' (Prov 12:15)" (p. 293). Johnson continued to note that "the goal of any science is the increasingly comprehensive conformity of our understanding to God's absolutely comprehensive understanding or, as some have said, 'to think God's thoughts after him'" (p. 293). However, we have to approach this goal with humility, because in contrast to God's perfect understanding, "our [understanding] is necessarily limited at best. We must confess with the apostle Paul that 'we see but a poor reflection in the mirror' (I Cor 13:12)" (p. 293).

I believe each of us has a calling to serve God and minister in particular ways during our time on earth. I see each student in my class through this lens of God's purpose and calling, knowing that their time at HSU can be crucial in learning how best to partner with God to minister to the world. As a faculty member and dean, one of my most important roles is to help students better understand this sense of calling and purpose within God's plan for their lives.

It is exciting to see how completing a college education opens doors for HSU students so they are better able to follow their sense of calling as children of God.

#### References:

Johnson, E. L. (2010). Gaining understanding through five views. In E. L. Johnson (Ed.), *Psychology & Christianity: Five views* (2nd ed., pp. 292-313). InterVarsity Press.

Myers, D. G., & DeWall, C. N. (2023). *Psychology in everyday life* (6th ed.). New York: Worth.



Dr. Matt Jackson is Dean of Holland School of Sciences and Mathematics.

## HOLLAND SCHOOL of SCIENCES & MATHEMATICS

As the STEM college, many might consider us the most removed from disciplines or fields that intersect with Christian ideas or principles. On the contrary, it is the scientists and mathematicians of the world that reveal God through his natural revelation. When we study God's creation and His natural law, we see God's attributes on display – omnipotent power, infinitude, sovereignty, etc.

“The more I study nature, the more I stand amazed at the work of the Creator. Science brings men nearer to God.”

—Louis Pasteur

On a more practical level, we are preparing our students not only to be outstanding professionals in their chosen fields but also to be citizens and ambassadors of God's kingdom. We strive to empower them to not only have knowledge and skills but to know how to use those tools to make a difference in people's lives and impact God's creation. To give a few examples, some of our faculty have separate scripture passages they read for each different section topic in their course. In all STEM disciplines, ethical considerations are of prime importance, and these conversations give opportunities to discuss with students how a Christian's ethics/integrity in the workplace may be different (or at least have a different foundation) than the world.

In Holland School of Sciences and Mathematics, we believe truth isn't defined; it is discovered. This is because, ultimately, all truth comes from God and is eternal

and unchanging. Knowledge evolves over time because our understanding of God's revelation is sometimes incomplete or misinterpreted. For example, for most of human history man had a limited and incorrect understanding of planetary motion. It wasn't until the Copernican Revolution in the 16th and 17th centuries that we developed an understanding of heliocentrism. What we once regarded as fact was not actually true. The scientists, mathematicians, and engineers of the world continue to push the boundaries of knowledge and discover God's truth in creation.

While we in STEM are sometimes stereotyped as strictly left-brained, analytical robots, we often relish the art and beauty of our work. The same Creator who precisely defined the mathematical constants and physical laws upholding our universe also paints sunsets and sculpts the majestic Matterhorn.

*“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.” Romans 1:20*







Dr. Robert Tucker is Dean of Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies.

## KELLEY COLLEGE of BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

In all careers in business and education, we strive to instill in our students their inherent responsibility to serve the Lord in their respective professions.

In a teaching career, our teachers enter a mission field in public or private education where they make a positive difference in the lives of their students from very young to mature. In business, we instill a relentless pursuit of ethical action and behavior in all matters business related. Whether in finance, accounting, economics, management, marketing, or information systems, we insist that our students graduate ready to handle their careers with honesty, transparency, and unwavering ethical standards as required by our legal system and Biblical truth.

Each professor and each course, whether in business or education is approached uniquely and distinctively with an overarching faith component. For example, some teachers pray at the beginning of each class, while others take an integrated approach through respect, Biblical references, and faith examples in support of the content. Some include scripture as a support to concepts and others use scripture for encouragement. We are starting a new approach to Personal Finance

by using a new textbook entitled: *Mastering Personal Finances: A Biblical Approach* by Ron Blue and Boyce Smith.

For Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies (KCOBPS), we define truth as everything we teach and our personal and collective ethos in reaching students. We do not make up information to serve any kind of selfish goal, but, instead, seek to impart truth in all matters at all times.

*"To Whom Much Is Given, Much Is Required." Luke 12:48*

Joy comes from seeing students learn and succeed. Success can occur daily, per semester, or, ultimately, at graduation. Learning happens every day. Our joy as teachers in KCOBPS is amplified when we read or hear about our students achieving success in their careers and professions. Beauty comes from watching students develop their knowledge and skills while following the trajectory of the known to the unknown and the concrete to the abstract. Our beauty as a college is to use God's truth to make a difference in the lives of our students in both business and education.





# COLLEGE of HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Each of us has been made in God's image and likeness. We have each been given special gifts and talents, and in the College of Health Professions (COHP), we believe in the importance of being humble servants to our patients and clients. Just as the Lord demonstrated through His words and actions how to love thy neighbor and serve others, the departments within COHP strive to instill these same values and beliefs in those we train.

Whether it is assisting a patient with Parkinson's Disease to safely exercise, or teaching a child to communicate more clearly through speech, motivating a patient with a spinal cord injury to walk again, providing mobility by giving a person with a disability a wheelchair, or taking the time to thoroughly explain to a patient how their newly diagnosed disease can be managed, healthcare professionals are utilizing their God-given talents and serving others.

Putting faith into action is a means of demonstrating our love for the Lord and is a wonderful way of evangelizing to others. Daily simple acts of kindness, sharing an encouraging word, demonstrating and setting an expectation for mutual respect, role-modeling how to put Christ first in your life, or glorifying the Lord when times are joyous or rough, are just some simple examples of incorporating faith. Obeying the commandments, utilizing your given talents, and loving your neighbor are also great examples.

A couple examples of how COHP has incorporated faith into learning are our two pro-bono clinics, one in physical therapy and one in speech. Additionally, providing school supplies, heading up the Thanksgiving food drive for families

in need, and conducting a Health Fair for families at a local elementary school are tangible examples of helping our neighbors.

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."  
1 Peter 4:10*

According to John MacArthur, truth is God's self-expression. Since God has made us in His image and likeness and given each of us specific gifts and talents, how we speak, think, and act on a moment-to-moment basis depicts whether we are rooted in God's moral character. As healthcare providers, our obligation is to put others first, to cause no harm, and to be servants. Abiding by these principles helps us "live the truth."

If the faculty and staff have done their job of serving as strong role models, then students will be prepared to step into the role as a professional and exhibit God's love with every person they meet. In healthcare, getting to personally know your patient/client and working alongside them to meet their goals and objectives, demonstrating a compassionate and empathetic spirit, and offering words of encouragement and love are all means of sharing and showing one's faith.

Nearly every day, most healthcare professionals will share they witnessed a miracle. The deep satisfaction that arises from "helping" others brings tremendous joy and beauty to our work. Our jobs are fulfilling knowing that we are using our gifts to serve others.



Dr. Janelle O'Connell '97 is Dean of the College of Health Professions.





# VIRTUAL 360° CAMPUS TOUR

## Explore the campus from afar!

HSU has launched multiple tools, across many platforms (digital, social, print, and multimedia) to engage with prospective students and their families with the goal of increasing recruitment. One of these initiatives was the 360° virtual campus tour, led by the HSU Admissions team.

During the spring semester, the university's Department of Marketing partnered with the Visual Media Department to implement "Media

Days." Over the span of three weeks, faculty and students were photographed in their respective learning environments. The outcome was a collaboration across departments that created a beautiful and truthful depiction of life at Hardin-Simmons.

Every photo and video captured the essence of what makes Hardin-Simmons special: people coming together with a shared joy; accomplished faculty meeting their

students to raise them up; students engaged in learning and mentorship; and a community dedicated to providing excellence in education enlightened by Christian faith and values.

Explore the virtual tour to see students at work building a set for a theatre production, Dr. Matt Jackson demonstrating how a laser cutter works, Physician Assistant students debriefing with one another after clinical rotations,





Art Professor Steve Neves moved around the room as the camera was in action allowing us to capture the many different uses of the space.

Dr. Andrew Potter encouraging his students to solve a complex math problem, and so much more.

This interactive, digital platform has made HSU accessible to anyone around the globe!

Not only can prospective students and their families use the virtual tour to view classrooms or their future residence hall, but alumni can also show their children where mom and dad first met...or they can enviously look at what facilities are available to current students.



Scan the QR code to explore campus, virtually. We hope it will motivate you to visit in person!





# Faculty-Staff Appreciation *LUNCHEON*

At the end-of-year Faculty-Staff Appreciation Luncheon, one faculty member and one staff member are named Faculty Member of the Year and Staff Person of the Year. Current HSU employees nominate and vote for each recipient. Receiving a nomination is an honor in itself. A well-sought-after accolade, this marks one of our community's most diligent, kind, and affable members here at HSU. The HSU Fellowship also awards one former Faculty Member of the Year and one former Staff Member of the year.

Former Faculty Member of the Year, Dr. Jayne Middleton, with Jim Jones '75. Not featured: Former Staff Member of the Year, Thomas Mantooth '84.







## Ms. Debbie Jones 2023-24 Staff Person of the Year

As the Director of the Six White Horse Program, Debbie oversees the health of the horses, provides training for the riders, and organizes booking and traveling to events. She is also responsible for marketing the university and creates recognition of HSU across the state and country with each appearance of the Six White Horses at parades, rodeos, and other events. “I care very deeply for HSU, and being here has filled me with purpose that I could never have found otherwise.”



## Dr. Jill Jumper 2023-24 Faculty Person of the Year

As the Program Director for the Department of Physical Therapy, Jill’s work takes her across campus and the community through teaching, mentoring, and serving. “I am very thankful to all the faculty and staff in the Department of Physical Therapy. The work environment in our department is so family-friendly and joyful! Some of the best moments of my career have been serving with the HSU DPT team locally and internationally.”





We are thrilled to announce the completion of the updated Sandefer Fieldhouse Weight Room, which benefits all HSU athletes. Support further enhancements by contributing today:











# HSU COWBOY CLUB

The Cowboy Club is a community of supporters who understand the transformative power of collegiate athletics. By becoming a member of the Cowboy Club, you will provide crucial support for our student-athletes in their pursuit of academic and athletic excellence. Your contribution will ensure that our teams have the resources they need to compete at the highest level.

## VARSITY SPONSOR

(\$25 per month or one-time donation of \$300)

- HSU T-shirt
- In-Season Monthly Newsletter
- Window Decal

## HOSS SPONSOR

(\$50 per month or one-time donation of \$600)

- HSU T-shirt
- In-Season Monthly Newsletter
- Window Decal
- HSU Hat or Visor
- Meet the team after a game

## GOLD SPONSOR

(\$100 per month or one-time donation of \$1,200)

- HSU T-shirt
- In-Season Monthly Newsletter
- Window Decal
- HSU Hat or Visor
- Meet the team after a game
- HSU Sweatshirt
- Two football and basketball tickets
- Chance to be a mentor for a student-athlete

## PURPLE SPONSOR

(\$500 per month or one-time donation of \$6,000)

- Swag Pack (4 T-shirts, 4 sweatshirts, 4 hats or visors)
- In-Season Monthly Newsletter
- Window Decal
- Four early-selection football and basketball tickets
- Videoboard recognition at football and basketball
- Speak to the team about your HSU experience



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SPONSOR TODAY!**

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# HSU ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

## AWARDS 2024

*The Athletics Hall of Fame recognizes individuals for their extraordinary contributions on behalf of the Hardin-Simmons University Athletics Department or their professional record of achievement in their field.*

**The 2024 class of entrants will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on October 25, 2024, as part of Homecoming festivities.**



**HUE  
MENZIES '87**

**Men's Soccer  
1982-1985**

Hue was a four-year letterman for the Cowboys and later served two years as the assistant coach.

He has 35 years of coaching experience, during which time he has produced over 600 players in college programs. He coached NY/NJ Gotham in the National Women's Soccer League. He also coached the Jamaican Women's National Team from 2014 to 2019.

Hue founded and directed the Lonestar Soccer Association in Austin, one of the top clubs in Texas. He has also coached in the Olympic Development Program on the national, state, and regional levels for over 15 years.

He was named CONCACAF Coach of the Year in 2018 and voted into the Black Soccer Coaches Association Hall of Fame in January of 2024.



**LINDSEY  
(NEWCOMBE) ACKERMAN '11**

**Women's Basketball  
2008-2011**

Lindsey finished her career with 1,638 points, 1,283 rebounds, and 242 blocked shots, making her the all-time leader in rebounding and blocked shots at HSU.

She has the school non-scholarship era records for points in a game (38), rebounds in a game (23), field-goal percentage in a game (10-for-10), and blocked shots in a game (7).

Lindsey holds many accolades, including being twice named the American Southwest Conference player of the year, a first-team All-ASC selection, and a CoSIDA academic all-district selection.

She graduated with honors from HSU and went to nursing school. Lindsey has been a nurse and joined her sister, Angela, in New York City during the height of the pandemic to volunteer for the front lines.



**MADISON  
(REYES) RYALS '13/'14**

**Volleyball  
2009-2012**

Madison never lost a match in the Mabee Complex.

She is the Cowgirls' all-time leader in kills, with 1,530 kills per set (3.42). While always a feared hitter with her athletic hammers from the outside and middle, Madison was an all-around player who never left the court.

She holds many honors, including a three-time all-region selection by the American Volleyball Coaches Association and being named an All-American and ASC MVP in 2011 and 2012. She was named ASC West freshman of the year and All-ASC West first team in 2009 and 2010. She was also named first-team All-ASC in 2011 and 2012.

She joins her father, Henry, as the first father-daughter combination in the HSU Athletics Hall of Fame.



**ARIN  
SPENCE-SALAS '07/'09**

**Softball, Player and Coach  
2005-2007, 2008-2010, 2013-2018**

With her three seasons at HSU, Arin ranks first all-time in every major pitching category at HSU and is in the HSU top 10 in every single offensive and pitching category. She holds 25 school career records and 19 season records.

Arin led the Cowgirls to a record of 91-37. She helped lead the Cowgirls to their only two ASC titles in 2006 and 2007.

After her playing days, she completed her master's in sports and recreation management and served as a graduate assistant coach for the Cowgirls. Since then, she has coached at the high school level and then returned as head coach at HSU.

Arin joins her husband, David, as the first husband-wife tandem in the HSU Athletics Hall of Fame.

**FOR COMPLETE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL INDUCTEES,  
visit us at [hsuathletics.com/honors/hall-of-fame](https://hsuathletics.com/honors/hall-of-fame)**



# WELCOME RUSTY OGLESBY

Hardin-Simmons women's soccer program is under the new leadership of Rusty Oglesby '97, a former HSU All-American football player.

Oglesby, who was named to the Hardin-Simmons Football Hall of Honor in 2023, was a punter and kicker for the Cowboy football team under Coach Jimmie Keeling, H.D. '15.

In addition to his career as a football coach, Oglesby became one of the most respected high school soccer coaches in the state. So much so that he is currently serving as President of the United Soccer Coaches, the national association for coaches on all levels, which serves over 32,000 coaches.

As the Cowgirl program comes off another American Southwest Conference championship, Oglesby will join a team with a lot firepower for the 2024 season.

He says coming back to Hardin-Simmons was something God had His hands all over.

"When Marcus (Wood) left, I thought this was the opportunity. I had come to my 25 years of coaching on the high school level and thought this was a job that I would like and applied for it," said Oglesby. "Then I saw Lance (former Coach Lance Key) was in the running. I know Lance and we are good friends, so I pulled back."

Little did Oglesby know that the job would come open again two short years later, and again, he thought it was his chance.

"When I came in and sat with John Neese, who I had known since I was in high school when he was the sports reporter for KRBC, and then went to lunch with Dr. (Chris) McNair and Brad Bankhead, everything hit me. This is home. It's not about the buildings or the campus (which is beautiful and growing); it's the people."

Oglesby grew up in Abilene and always said he wouldn't go to college here. Then, God had other plans for him.

"Jimmie Keeling took the HSU job. I had been in the junior high football program in San Angelo



**"God always has a plan. No matter the parameters you set and whatever the reasons, if He wants you to be somewhere, He will make that obvious and clear."**

under him (before moving to Abilene), and he and Coach (Alan) Wartes convinced me this was where I needed to be. Little did I know then how right they were."

Hardin-Simmons is a big family and has always been that way. The connections and people you meet along the way have a way of showing up for you when you least expect it.

"God always has a plan. No matter the parameters you set and whatever the reasons, if He wants you to be somewhere, He will make that obvious and clear. That is what He did for me to return to Hardin-Simmons," said Oglesby. "I have two older and two younger kids. I want my younger kids to grow up in Abilene, around Hardin-Simmons. I am so happy to be home."





## Patsy Bolin-HSU's Only Female Football Scholarship Recipient

When asked to share an interesting fact about herself, Patsy Bolin's go-to response is that she went to college on a football scholarship. As expected, she's met with excitement and follow-up questions about what position she played.

Fluent in American Sign Language, Patsy (Rivers) Bolin '63 joined the team as an interpreter for Sammy Oates '62x, who played end (a blend of today's tight end, running back, and receiver) for the Cowboys. The role of interpreter was familiar to Patsy, as both of her parents were deaf. Listening to her family's radio when growing up, Patsy would translate the play-by-play for her father, so this was not a new concept to Patsy.

"Sign Language was my first language," she shared. Even though Patsy is fluent in ASL and English, translating spoken words into signed words and vice versa is tedious. The jargon and nuance of football added a layer of difficulty to the task, but Patsy delivered.

Patsy and Sammy were both education majors. He sat next to her in class to copy notes, and later, they would debrief the content together. They had a great friendship during their time together at HSU, and, at times, Patsy was Sammy's wingwoman, helping him get dates.

After graduation, Patsy left the sports world and flourished in her gifts of ministry and creating community. She continues to sign at church today, makes resources available to those in the deaf community, and is responsible for bringing a deaf pastor to her former church (Legacy Drive Baptist Church, Plano, TX) to meet the congregation's needs. Patsy and her husband, Perry, have been members of Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano since 2000, where she leads a Bible study for moms in various stages of life.



Yearbook photos of Patsy (Rivers) Bolin '63 and Sammy Oates '62x.







# COACH'S FINAL INNING: A LEGEND RETIRES

All good things come to an end, and the retirement of Hardin-Simmons baseball coach Steve Coleman marks the conclusion of a remarkable era.

The 27-year head coach was a fixture in the Cowboys' dugout, the longest-tenured coach in the American Southwest Conference, and the school's all-time wins leader.

Coleman finished at HSU with a record of 569-539 and led the Cowboys to the postseason on 19 occasions.

"I came to Hardin-Simmons when I was 33 years old, and this university has been so good to me," said Coleman. "I have grown as a coach, leader, husband, parent, and now grandparent, and strengthened my walk with the Lord. The coach in me always wished we would have won a title or more games, but the most important thing to me is my lasting relationships with my players and coaches. Those are the things I cherish the most."

At HSU, he coached 105 all-conference players and seven All-Americans. His teams finished as the runner-up in the conference four times: in 2001, 2005, 2016, and 2023. They have always been competitive in the conference. His teams have produced a cumulative GPA of over 3.0 for the last 32 semesters, using a simple philosophy of if you can't do both, we will eliminate baseball from the equation.

"Coaching mentors have always told me that I would know when it was time to retire, and that time has

come for me," said Coleman. "I will get to spend more time with my kids and grandkids, and I will be the number one fan of the Hardin-Simmons Cowboys. I won't miss 10-hour bus rides or throwing batting practice, but I will definitely miss being with the kids every day and impacting their lives, not just as baseball players but as young men trying to find their way in this world."

Coleman was able to coach his two sons, Chad '05/'17 and Brad '08/'10, at Hardin-Simmons, and they both still live in Abilene. Brad is married to Lori, and they have three children: Tucker (the HSU batboy) and twins Taylor and Tatum. His biggest supporter has been his wife, Lisa, the team mom who has sat in her lawn chair next to the dugout for all 27 years. Lisa's peanut butter and honey sandwiches she made in between games were legendary.

"I have to thank my family for always supporting me in this," said Coleman. "I also want to thank the Hunter family for all they have done for the program. I am also grateful for the coaches who have worked with us, especially Coach Brad Holcomb. We have had great administrative support. I think I was John Neese's first hire when he came on as athletic director, and he has had a great influence on my career."

Coleman had an immense impact on the baseball field. Anytime the Cowboys played in Austin, Dallas, or other places around the state, there would always be a flock of former Cowboys there to support the team and get together with their former teammates.





The day he retired, former players were asked for a general comment about Coach Coleman, and here is what some of them said:

35

### Tyler Brunnemann '13

Former Player and Houston Astros Draft Pick:

"Congratulations on a remarkable career, Coach Coleman! Playing for you at HSU was a great honor, and you've had a lasting effect on my life and many others beyond the baseball field. You gave me a chance that many other coaches did not and helped me become a better baseball player throughout college. The Hardin-Simmons baseball program will not be the same without you, but your legacy and impact will resonate for years."

20

### Regan Dixon '10

All-American Catcher and  
HSU Athletics Hall of Famer:

"Congratulations on 27 years, Coach Coleman! The HSU Baseball program has your fingerprints all over it and wouldn't be what it is today without you. Coach is a leader and developer of men. He taught baseball the right way while being able to throw some life lessons in as well. He pushed us to be our best and we're all better for having played for him! I hope retirement treats you well, Coach!"

11

### James Gage '09

Four-Year Starter at First Base:

"Coach Coleman is one of my biggest role models and mentors. He helped me get through one of the most challenging times of my life when my sister got diagnosed with cancer. Coach Coleman is a man of faith who loves to compete. He brought out the good in me and always had my back. I am forever grateful for the four years I got to play for Coach, and I'm glad to consider him a lifelong friend."

25

### Michael Simpson '07

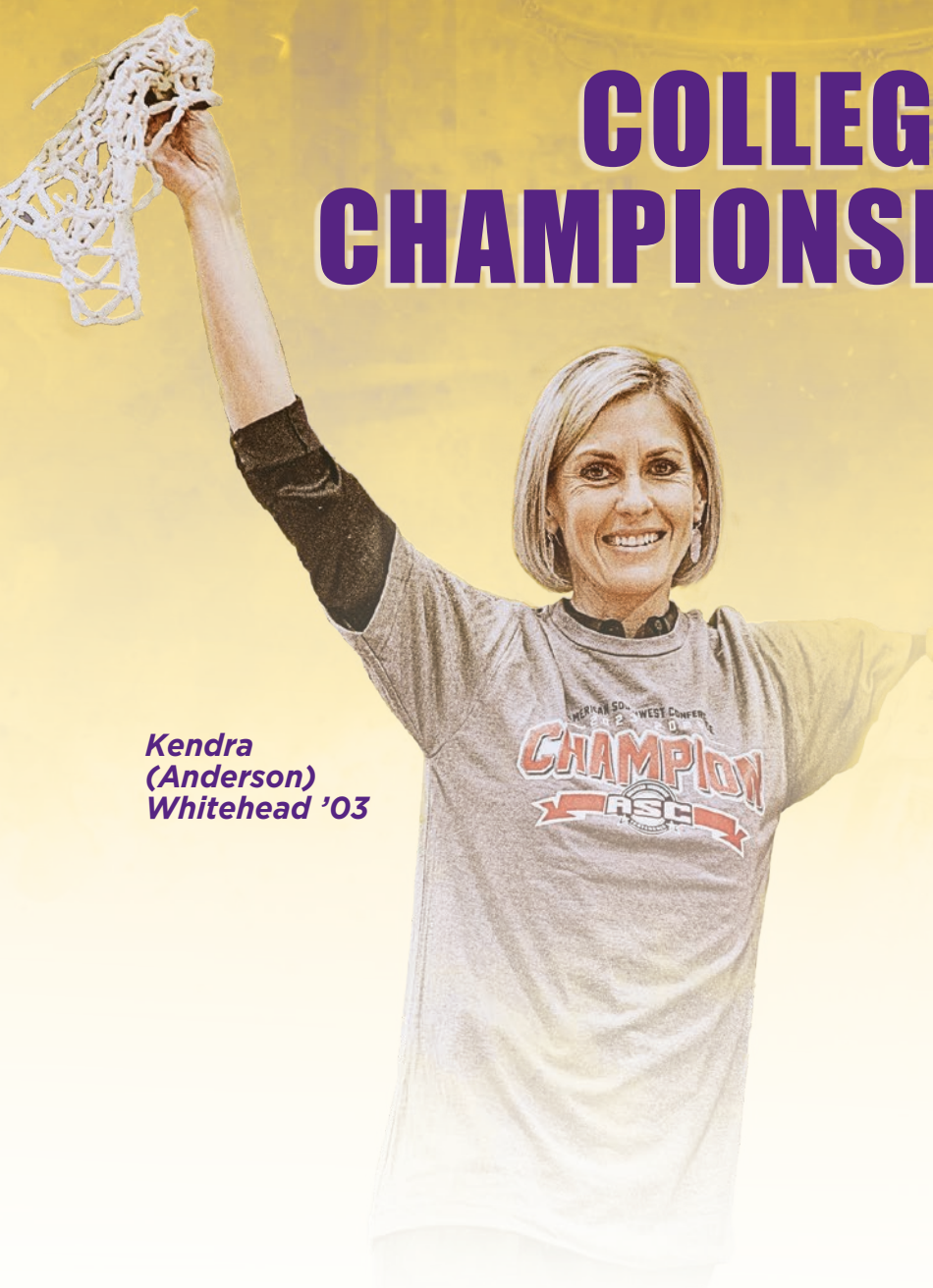
HSU Athletics Hall of Famer:

"Congrats to Coach Coleman on his retirement. Without a doubt, easily the best coach I've ever played for. Most importantly, his impact and legacy span far beyond the yard. One look around his many former players, and you'll find great men adding value to society—both on and off the field. I believe this is his greatest achievement. Job well done, Coach."

**When former players speak highly of Coach Coleman well after their time in a Cowboy uniform, you can see the impact of his tremendous legacy at HSU.**



# COLLEGE COURTS TO CHAMPIONSHIP COACHES



**Kendra  
(Anderson)  
Whitehead '03**

Hardin-Simmons Cowgirl basketball has a long and storied history and two of its successes showed that this past season.

Beth (Ulrickson) Jillson '02 and Kendra (Anderson) Whitehead '03 were Cowgirl basketball teammates for a couple of seasons in 2000 and 2001. They bonded as teammates under HSU Athletic Hall of Fame Coach Julie Goodenough.

Whitehead was a freshman, and Jillson was a transfer from Weatherford College. They immediately struck up a friendship because they had similar goals but different personalities.

"Beth is one of those personalities that makes everyone she sees feel special," said Whitehead. "I was more quiet and reserved. So Beth was always checking on me and seeing how I was doing. We were both new and nervous about how basketball would go and if we would be on varsity. But we became friends shooting for the same goal."

One theme that emerged from talking to Jillson, Whitehead, and Goodenough is that both Jillson and Whitehead had a strong desire to be champions on the court and in life.

"Beth and Kendra are both built with a main focus of being driven and working hard," said Goodenough. "You never had to worry if either of them was doing their summer workout or later on if they were messing around on the recruiting trail; they both were going to do the work necessary."

Hardin-Simmons' women's basketball won its eighth ASC Championship and second in three years with an 86-76 win over Mary Hardin-Baylor.





"Beth and Kendra are not just great basketball coaches, they are top-notch people as well. They are loyal, work hard, and their foundations are based on their belief in God."

-Coach Julie Goodenough

Both ended up on Goodenough's coaching staff at Oklahoma State and later Charleston Southern.

"We learned so much from Coach Goodenough, such as how to run a program and how to relate to people," said Jillson. "Hardin-Simmons is a wonderful place and was the right place for me at that time. I strengthened my walk with the Lord and developed into a more complete person. I also met my best friends in life. Kendra and Coach are both people I rely on heavily not only in basketball but also as mentors and friends."

Both Jillson and Whitehead have had great success. Jillson's Texas Woman's University team won the Lone Star Conference and advanced all the way to the Division II National Championship game in March. Whitehead won her second American Southwest Conference title and advanced to the Sweet 16 this year.

They do it in different ways. Jillson is more animated and emotional on the bench, and her teams play like that, while Whitehead is more reserved and her teams play with an intense focus.

"We coach differently and do things differently as far as strategy," said Whitehead, "If there is one thing I can identify, both of us really care about people. That is a key in our programs."

"I always want to win games; that's the competitor in me," said Jillson. "My biggest joy is seeing my players succeed on the court and then go out and succeed in life."

Their successes can undoubtedly be traced to the one that brought them together as teammates at Hardin-Simmons.

"Beth and Kendra are not just great basketball coaches, they are top-notch people as well," said Goodenough. "They are loyal, work hard, and their foundations are based on their belief in God. I am so proud of what they have accomplished and what they will accomplish in the future."

Congratulations to both on a fantastic job leading their teams and programs to lofty heights!



**Beth  
(Ulrickson)  
Jillson '02**




**Kendra  
(Anderson)  
Whitehead  
'03 and Beth  
(Ulrickson)  
Jillson '02  
coached together  
at Oklahoma  
State.**



# SOCIAL MEDIA SNAPSHOT

Stay connected!

Follow HSU on social media:

 Hardin-Simmons University


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Fun day at Leadership Abilene hearing from one of Hardin-Simmons University's best professors, Dr. Doug McIntyre, discussing all the new updates happening at HSU!



**Samantha Thompson**  
February 8, 2024



Year One 

I'm so grateful to have these people in my life. Thank you for making this year so eventful and enjoyable!



**chris\_bryant.22**  
May 20, 2024



## MEET OUR NEW HSU INSTAGRAM AMBASSADORS!!!

@hsutx\_nina  
@hsutx\_sayler  
@hsutx\_kaizer  
@hsutx\_jess  
@hsutx\_andrew

@hsutx\_micah  
@hsutx\_lauren  
@hsutx\_alex  
@hsutx\_lacey  
@hsutx\_julie

Follow all Ambassadors to learn how you can get involved on campus and what their journey is like at HSU.



**hsutx**  
May 14, 2024





Love these girls! #Sweet16 #nyc

**X Kendra Whitehead**  
March 7, 2024



This man is a legend. Coach Shields is being inducted into the Hardin-Simmons University Hall of Honor tonight.

**f Richard Simpson**  
May 3, 2024



Got some great work in at Hardin-Simmons University this weekend. Thank you so much Coach Wilson for your guidance and compliments!

**X Emily Wells**  
January 22, 2024



I want to thank everyone who helped me pull this off. I appreciate all the family, friends, coaches, and classmates that showed up for Kade Ramer today.

**f Marcee Ramer**  
February 8, 2024



It was my honor to present the @HSUTX Outstanding Young Alumni Awards alongside HSU President Eric Bruntmyer to Sarah, Jordan, and Ben at the 2024 OYA Banquet hosted by HSU's Board of Young Associates. #staypurple

**X Glenn Revell**  
March 20, 2024



Day 8! Today, we went to the town Rydal Mount, home to the poet William Wordsworth and his family, and saw the daffodil field he planted for his daughter, Dora! The sentiment and beauty of it was beautiful! Then, from there we took a fun nature walk to Grasmere, the next town over! And then we had lunch in the quaint town of Windermere. Then, our students took a ferry back to Ambleside!

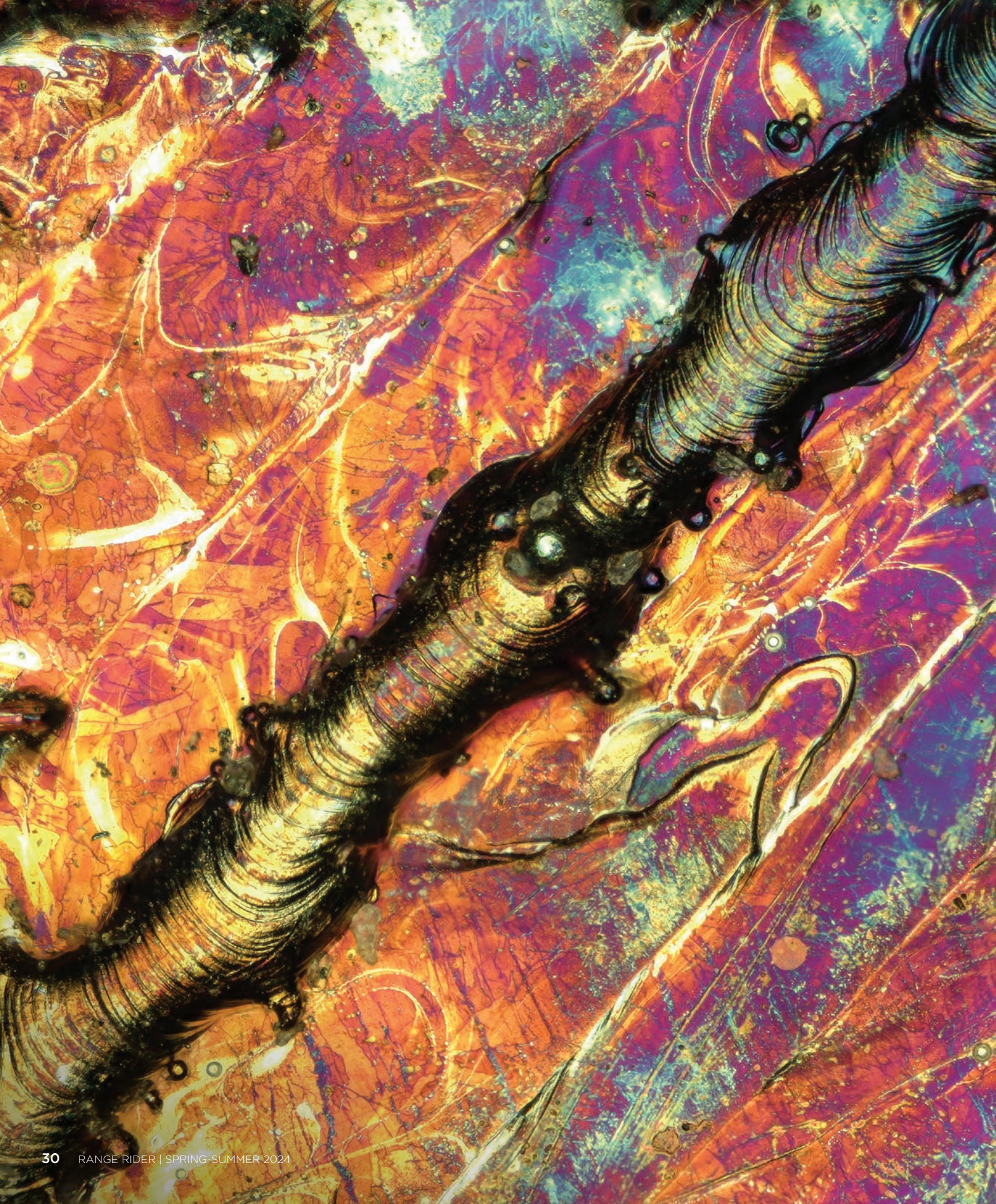
**hsustudyabroad**  
February 25, 2024



Our desire is for God to ignite a movement at Hardin-Simmons. Pray for students, campus, and the world on Anderson Lawn for 24 hours. When college students pray, God works in incredible ways!

**hsubsm**  
February 28, 2024









## *our work in* METAL

The Engineering Department is proud to announce the continuation of its pioneering research project in metal additive manufacturing (AM), also known as metal 3D printing, in collaboration with Pantex, a National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) site under the Department of Energy (DOE). This significant research initiative, now entering its fourth phase, originally began six years ago and has been actively pursued at HSU since Dr. Matt Jackson, P.E, Dean of Holland School of Sciences and Mathematics, and Gabby Bognich, Director of Engineering Research, joined the university in 2022.

This image, which hangs in Ms. Bognich's office, is attached to the research work on metal AM. The research involves a laser bed powder fusion printer (a type of 3D printer) that takes powdered metal (stainless steel or titanium) and makes micro welds with a laser to create a unique final part.

"I wanted to try and take an image of an individual weld up close under a microscope," explained Ms. Bognich. "At the time, we didn't have a way to make a cross-section, so we just cut it with a chop saw. It burned through the part, which we did not mean for that to happen. But, it created this beautiful rainbow effect from the 'burn' that we captured using our Keyence microscope."

Engineering and art go hand in hand. Engineers are artists, but this picture reminds us that God is the true artist and designer.





Dear HSU Family & Friends,

President Bruntmyer received a letter last semester from Robert S. Black '50x who President Bruntmyer just had the privilege of meeting while in Houston.

Like so many HSU friends, Robert married another HSU Ex, Linda Carol (Pirtle) Black '57x and the two have been married 65 years. After Robert retired from electrical engineering, the couple spent more than three decades serving around the world as missionaries doing Bible translation.

After meeting with President Bruntmyer, Robert felt God remind him that he had never returned some "radio and electronics" books to HSU's library. Wanting to "make restitution," Robert wrote: "Please accept the enclosed check designated for some need in the library." Enclosed with his sweet letter was a generous check for \$1,000.00. What a testimony of integrity.

In HSU's Advancement Office, we never know where our next gift will come from; but, the Hardin-Simmons family is made up of caring and giving people who unselfishly invest in the lives of others, through their time, talents, and finances. We are so thankful for each of you!

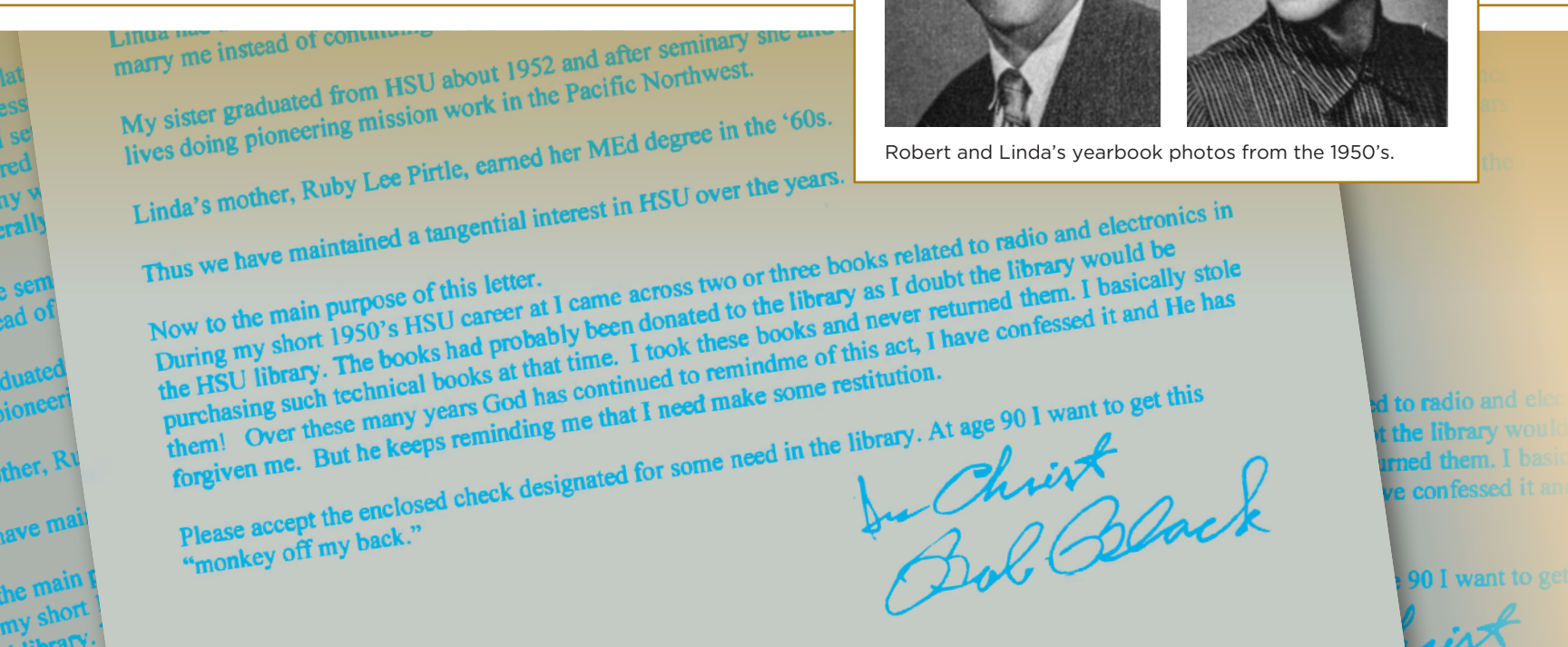
*"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you" (Philippians 1:3).*

## Dr. Vicki House '01/'10/'22

Vice President for  
Engagement  
and Advancement



Robert and Linda's yearbook photos from the 1950's.





# GIVING TIERS

As a way to recognize and say, “thank you,” we share our donors’ names and the amounts they’ve given to Hardin-Simmons in the Fall-Winter *Range Rider*. You may notice the names are organized in four distinct groups: the Smith Society, Merchant Society, Legett Society, and Paxton Society. Each of these names represent a former President of the Board of Trustees (BOT) who gave of their time and energy, resulting in the creation and sustainability of Hardin-Simmons University.

**Learn about the names behind the groupings!**



## SMITH SOCIETY: THOSE WHO GIVE \$1M IN A CALENDAR YEAR

*Named for first BOT President,  
Rev. George W. Smith 1892-1899*

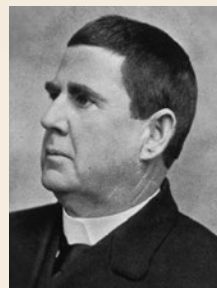
On February 18, 1891, the Board of Trustees of Abilene Baptist College met in the office of the Reverend George W. Smith. According to Dr. Rupert Richardson ’12/’42, “George W. Smith, more than any other person perhaps, is entitled to the designation of founder of the college,” due to his work fundraising on behalf of the school. As the former pastor of the Abilene Baptist Church, Smith had no church under his care at this time; and the energy that he devoted to the cause probably was the determining factor that saved the school. He worked incessantly, reminded others of their obligations to the cause, and managed to speak life into the college. Smith, along with Dr. Owen C. Pope are responsible for bringing Dr. James B. Simmons into the conversation.



## MERCHANT SOCIETY: THOSE WHO GIVE \$100K TO \$999K IN A CALENDAR YEAR

*Named for second BOT President,  
C.W. Merchant 1900-1902*

Claiborne Walker (C.W.) Merchant is responsible for naming the town Abilene “Abilene,” after the cattle-shipping center in Kansas, and earned himself the nickname “Father of Abilene.” He moved his family to Taylor County in 1882 and the following year constructed an elaborate rock house in the 1200 block of Merchant Street in Abilene. In May 1884, he was named president of the First National Bank of Abilene. He was director of the Abilene Central Railway in 1910 and president of the West Texas Fair in 1917. He advocated building better roads to aid farmers in transporting their produce and was supposedly the first to call these farm-to-market roads. His success in the cattle industry enabled him to acquire vast ranch holdings in New Mexico and Arizona. Merchant was a deacon in the First Baptist Church and a trustee and benefactor of Simmons College (now Hardin-Simmons University).



## LEGETT SOCIETY: THOSE WHO GIVE \$10K TO \$99K IN A CALENDAR YEAR

*Named for third BOT President,  
Hon. K.K. Legett 1902-1910*

Kirvin Kade (K.K.) Legett was a civic leader, attorney, and rancher. When construction of the Texas and Pacific Railway out of Fort Worth was expected to go through Buffalo Gap but actually passed fifteen miles to the north, Legett joined those who moved from Buffalo Gap to the T&P tracks and founded Abilene in 1881. He participated in the first auction of town lots, made himself a leader in the community, and was soon looked upon by the local newspaper editor as “the most promising young lawyer in West Texas.” He was later (1909) elected the first president of the Taylor County Bar Association.

Legett was one of the founders in 1891 of Simmons College (now Hardin-Simmons University). He wrote the school’s first charter, served as a charter member of its Board of Trustees, and delivered its first commencement address.



## PAXTON SOCIETY: THOSE WHO GIVE \$1K TO \$9K IN A CALENDAR YEAR

*Named for fourth BOT President,  
George L. Paxton 1910-1913*

The Kentucky native arrived in Abilene in 1889 and started out as a clerk in a hardware store that five years later he purchased. Shortly after the turn of the century, Paxton sold the hardware store and bought a controlling interest in Citizens National Bank, of which he was president of until shortly before he died. He was a longtime supporter of HSU and President of the Board of Trustees for multiple terms over 10 years. Several family members of Paxton attended HSU, including Mildred Paxton, first editor of the student newspaper, *The Brand*.







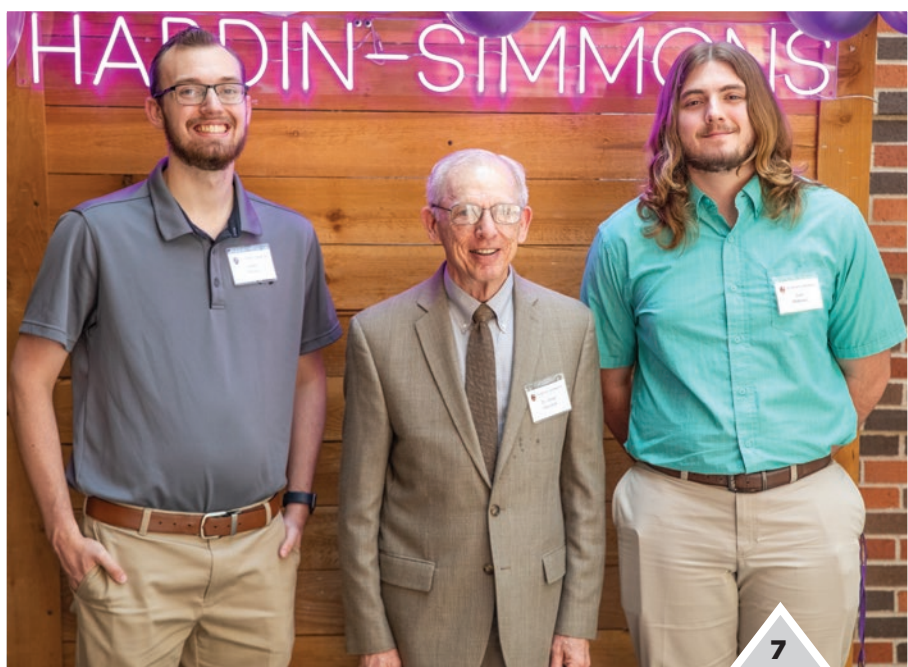
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4



6



7





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2



5

## ADVANCEMENT RECAPS

Over the past few months, there have been numerous achievements worthy of recognition and celebration. From productive meetings to significant construction progress, every contribution of our donors' time and resources has made a profound impact on the future of HSU.

1. Construction of the new Prichard Residence Hall, opening fall of 2024.
2. Construction of the 3rd floor of Abilene Hall, home of HSU's nursing program, will start classes in spring of 2025.
3. Board of Development members: Lou Ann (Prichard) Draper '83, Guinn Smith, and Melissa (Boler) Wickham '98 (President).
4. Cindy (Ballew) Loutherbach '67 and Sherry (Ballew) Barsch '63 speaking at the 2024 Donor and Recipient Scholarship Luncheon.
5. Board of Development spring meeting in the President's Dining Room.
6. Hall of Leaders inductees, Laura (Warren) Moore '86 (left) and Dr. Robert Mangrum '70 (right), with Mrs. Mary Bryan Jacob (center), wife of posthumous inductee Bob Bryan '67.
7. Dr. Omer Hancock (center) with his scholarship recipients, Caleb Stanley '25 (left) and Joel Williams '25 (right).
8. Anne (Huber) Watson '86, Donna (Bryant) Lowry '86, and Angie (Jones) Wiley '86 congratulating Laura (Warren) Moore '86 on her induction into the Hall of Leaders.



8



# "OUR HSU!"

**B**efore launching the speakLIFE Capital Campaign, HSU alumni and friends were surveyed to help guide the institution's future goals. Just as we began the silent phase of the speakLIFE Campaign, HSU and the world faced the challenges of COVID-19 and its aftereffects. However, the HSU Community did not let that slow us down. Your support was appreciated then, as it is now that we're approaching the final stretch of this historic effort.

While speakLIFE hasn't yet ended, there's an air of excitement as we can already see its effects across campus, from the newly renovated labs in Newman-Richardson Science Center and the new Prichard Residence Hall to the restoration of Abilene Hall and the new engineering and nursing programs. For each of you who have helped us get to this point, thank you! Your gifts make a difference for the entire HSU Community, and we are grateful for your support.

HSU is blessed to have many HSU alumni serving among our faculty and staff, mentoring the next generation of Cowboys and Cowgirls. Having worn purple and gold beanies themselves, they're loyal supporters of HSU's mission. Read why they have chosen to support the speakLIFE Campaign.



*Jay Lester '94*  
Assistant Professor of Music  
and Director of Bands



## Dr. Stacey (Vaughn) Martin

'96/'01/'23

Vice President for Student Life

Dr. Martin gives to the speakLIFE Capital Campaign's Prichard Hall project because Residence Life is near and dear to Dr. Martin's heart. As a student, she was an RA in Ferguson Hall and is now leading Residence Life as the Vice President for Student Life. Living in residence halls was one of the best parts of her college experience and she is excited for the opening of the new residence hall. In addition, Dr. Martin explains: "I've had the privilege of knowing the Prichard family for many years. Their love, dedication, and service to Hardin-Simmons University for so many decades deserves this legacy on our campus."



## Dr. Jill Jumper '08

Director of the Physical  
Therapy Program

Scan the QR code to  
read why our  
alumni-employees  
give to the speakLIFE  
Campaign.



## Leandria Thurman '21

Residence Director





## Dr. Chris McNair '84

Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Dr. McNair gives to make Newman-Richardson Science Center the best facility possible for HSU's outstanding faculty and students. "The world needs more well-trained scientists, physicians, dentists, physical and occupational therapists, pharmacists, veterinarians, athletic trainers, nurses, physician assistants, science and math teachers, mathematicians, and healthcare providers. Science labs and the technology and equipment that go with them are extremely expensive and require continual upkeep, maintenance, and eventually, replacement."



## Kisemei Kupe '20

International Student Services Coordinator and Ministry Liaison for Africa, Antarctica, Asia, North and South America, and Europe



## Dr. John Neese '88/'02/'19

Associate Vice President for Athletics







Dr. Jacob  
West '04/'07/'13

Associate Dean and  
Associate Professor,  
Logsdon School of Theology



Dr. Carol  
(Welch)  
Krueger '85/'22

Director of Disability  
Services and ACE

## Laurie Harris '13

Assistant Director of Alumni Engagement

Laurie gives back to her alma mater to provide future Cowboys and Cowgirls with the opportunity, like she had, to study what they are passionate about and impact the world. "I chose to give to the nursing program because this program will raise up amazing nurses that love and care for others like Christ loves and cares for us. I can't wait to see how they set the precedence for excellence in nursing in the Big Country and around the world. It is important to remember that every gift makes a difference."





# SCHOLARSHIPS *change lives!*

**H**ardin-Simmons University is impacted by the generosity of our donors, the dedication of our alumni, and the passion of our students. We are proud of our alumni who, even years after graduating, express thankfulness for those who gave scholarships to help them fulfill their life's calling. One such alum, John\*, recently contacted the Alumni Office to share his gratitude with the family of his scholarship donor.



Albert Conly '48x

John's donor, Albert R. (Bert) Conly '48x, passed in 2017, so they could not connect, but his obituary shared his heart for HSU students:

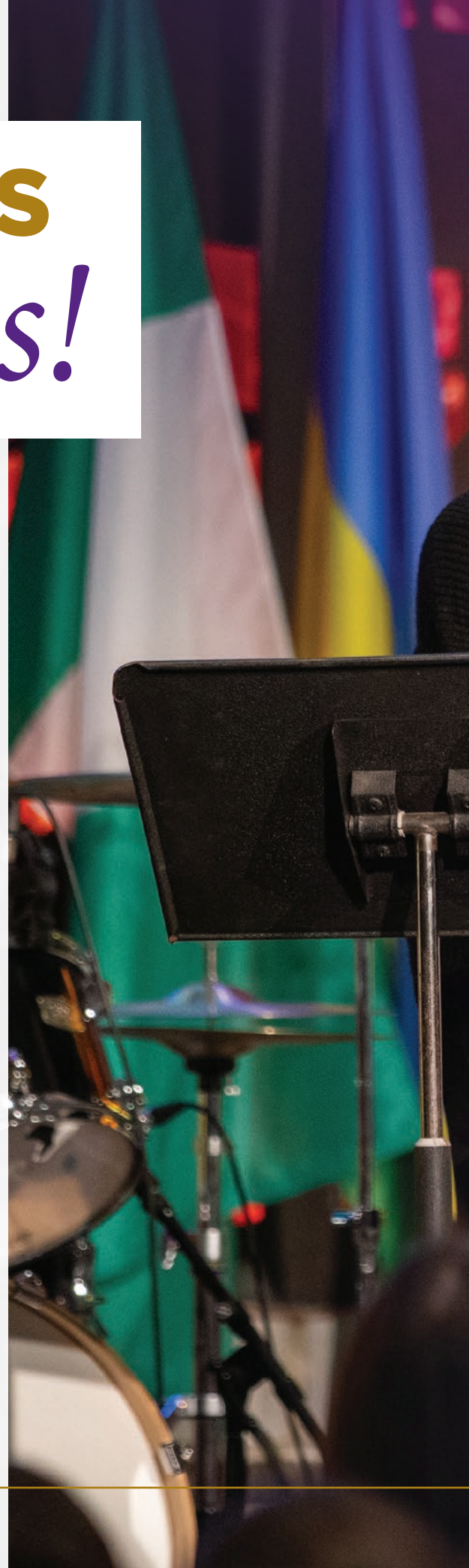
"Sue and Bert wanted to make a difference for young people seeking an education and established the Conly Family Endowed Scholarship at Hardin-Simmons University. They enjoyed the letters from the scholarship recipients each year. The family requests that interested parties send memorials to the Conly Family Endowed Scholarship."

As a first-generation college student, John's mother was adamant that he attend college. Hailing from a small town with a graduating class of just twelve, college in the "big" city was an adjustment for John. His faculty, however, especially Dr. Jodie McGaughey and Dr. Charles Walts, were a huge encouragement for him. "They really looked out for me and really wanted me to succeed," he shared.

After graduating from HSU, John became a licensed CPA. His sister followed in his footsteps, graduating from HSU with an accounting degree, and then his mother decided to earn her accounting degree as well. "The years have passed – but the impact that my time at HSU has had on my life is clear to me each day."

Because you give, every scholarship recipient, like John, has a personal story to tell. These stories illustrate HSU's commitment to preparing students for personal and professional success.

*\*John graciously allowed us to share his story but asked to remain anonymous.*







## Tim Baek '24

Music | China

**Tell us about your journey to HSU.**

I heard about Hardin-Simmons University from my high school jazz band director, whose best friend had attended and played in the World-Famous Cowboy Band. Intrigued by the Cowboy Band, I researched and decided to apply.

**Tell us about the impact scholarships had on you.**

Receiving scholarships allows me to focus more on my studies and music practice without much worry about finances. While I still work to cover expenses not included in scholarships, the assistance with tuition helps a lot.

**What HSU organizations have you been involved with?**

I have been active in HSU's jazz band, concert band, Cowboy Band, International Student Fellowship, and I also work on campus in the Media Services Department.

**How has your degree program helped prepare you for your future career calling?**

The music courses I have taken have helped to broaden my knowledge and experiences on the subject. I have learned how to play and teach new instruments and how to conduct instrumental ensembles, all of which are essential skills for my future career.

**What has been your greatest achievement thus far?**

I've received the Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts Music Award, the Cowboy Band Spears Medal, and was inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda music honor society.

**What is next for you?**

I don't have a solid answer right now, but I want to teach eventually. I came to HSU to study music so I could teach and influence children for Christ through music. Hardin-Simmons did that for me.



# Mathias Duut '25

Biochemistry | Molecular Biology | Ghana

## Tell us about your journey to HSU.

After high school, I prayed for guidance to find a small, liberal arts Christian college. Fortunately, God answered my prayers through a friend who lived in Dallas that recommended I apply to Hardin-Simmons University.

## Tell us about the impact scholarships had on you.

Being part of the Christlieb program at HSU has been a tremendous blessing. Hardin-Simmons has enriched my academic and spiritual life, allowing me to form lasting friendships and gain valuable knowledge from both peers and professors. This wouldn't be possible without the financial support of the Christlieb program and has been essential for my dream of becoming a surgeon.

## What has your student experience been like at HSU?

My experience has been incredibly fulfilling. I have made friends who encourage and motivate me both academically and spiritually, and I have grown close to my professors, learning a lot from them.

## How has your degree program helped prepare you for your future career calling?

Classes such as biochemistry, anatomy and physiology, organic chemistry, and genetics have provided a solid foundation in medical science. These courses prepared me with the essential knowledge for a successful career in medicine.

## What has been your greatest achievement thus far?

In the spring of 2022, I was honored with the Holland School of Science and Mathematics' Best Student Award in Chemistry and Physics.

## How has HSU impacted you?

HSU helped me grow as a person, both in faith and in knowledge, and has instilled in me the value of being part of a community.

## What is next for you?

I plan to attend medical school after completing my undergraduate degree at HSU.





# Madison Lewis '23

Christian Studies | Goldthwaite, TX

## Tell us about your journey to HSU.

My journey to Hardin-Simmons began with a campus tour in 2016 with my brother. My aunt attended HSU, but I had never been to campus until that day. Though my brother did not attend, I was blown away by the beautiful campus and the friendly community. Since then, I tucked away the idea of HSU until I graduated high school and attended in the fall of 2020.

## Tell us about the impact scholarships had on you.

Since my sophomore year of high school, I knew I was called to ministry and had begun searching for Christian colleges. Initially, the price of a private Christian university scared me. I was afraid my family couldn't afford a private education, but as we looked into it, my parents and I were pleasantly surprised to see that HSU scholarships with the local scholarships I received, made my dream pursuable after all!

## What HSU organizations were you involved with?

I served as a ministry leader in the Baptist Student Ministry (BSM) from 2021-2023 and was a member and later co-president of Circle K, a volunteer organization at HSU. In addition, I worked with HSU Productions as a student worker in Visual Media and as a student writer for University Marketing.

## How has your degree program helped prepare you for your career calling?

Combining strategic communication with Christian studies was invaluable. I was able to hone my writing and media skills while developing my knowledge and ministry experience. Both degrees helped me grow and flourish while preparing me for my specific area of media church ministry, a great need for many churches.

## What has been your greatest achievement thus far?

Being awarded the Altom Christian Service Award during my senior year at Hardin-Simmons was hugely impactful. It was encouraging to feel that my heart for others was seen.

## What is next for you?

I plan to continue working for Woodridge Baptist Church in Kingwood, Texas. I would love to make the trek up to my alma mater for Homecoming or other events when I can because HSU and the people there made such an impact on my life.

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**Watch for more stories soon at:**  
**[hsutx.edu/alumni/giving-to-hsu](https://hsutx.edu/alumni/giving-to-hsu)**



To impact tomorrow's Christian leaders, you can give to the Annual Scholarship Fund at:

**[connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/ASF.Fall](https://connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/ASF.Fall)**

or if you are interested in creating your own scholarship, contact HSU's Advancement Office at 325-670-1379 or [advancement@hsutx.edu](mailto:advancement@hsutx.edu).



# Meet HSU's TRUSTEES

## COACH JIMMIE KEELING, H.D. '15

### *With God - All Things Are Possible*

By his seventh grade year, Jimmie Keeling knew he wanted to become a coach. A football coach, to be exact.

As a young adult, Jimmie began his career coaching multiple sports at small Texas schools. After only four years, he became a head football coach at Dublin High School. In his second year as a novice head coach, his team achieved a 10-0 season and a district championship.

Coach Keeling later became the original head coach at Lubbock Estacado High School (LEHS), the first fully integrated school in that city. He led them to a state championship in their initial UIL competition year. The life- and career-defining experiences at LEHS influenced his coaching thereafter.

After 35 years of coaching at nine high schools, Jimmie was presented with another life-changing opportunity.

Hardin-Simmons President Dr. Jesse Fletcher and Athletic Director Dr. Merlin Morrow asked him to become Head Football Coach and revive a dormant program. Through prayer, he became firmly convinced that HSU was where he needed to be at that exact time. Jimmie started in January 1990 and fielded a team with 119 players in September.

"I can honestly say I fell in love with HSU," he says. "I still love and believe in it today."

He retired following the 2010 season, having led the Cowboys to 11 national playoffs, either NAIA or NCAA Division III. His teams won three TIAA titles and seven ASC titles, posting an overall record of 172- 53.

Coach Keeling values his 21-year tenure at HSU. Witnessing players complete schooling and achieve greatness in life remains a source of pride and joy.

Among his professional accolades is the Grant Teaff Lifetime Achievement Award conferred by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in 2004.

In 2015, Hardin-Simmons conferred an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree upon Jimmie Keeling, recognizing his considerable impact on the university. He was elected as an HSU Trustee in 2016 and will complete his nine-year tenure at the end of 2024.

Dr. Keeling and his wife Susan, his best encourager and strongest supporter, are members of Abilene's Berry Lane Baptist Church where he is a deacon.

As a Trustee, Dr. Keeling joins other accomplished individuals in helping maintain HSU's excellence as an institution where students achieve academic goals and strengthen their faith.

"I firmly wish everyone in Abilene and West Texas realized how well Hardin-Simmons prepares young folks for life after college," Dr. Keeling says. "Our graduates go out and make a difference in the world."



## DR. DARIN WOOD

### *Called to Serve God – Tried Relentlessly*

Passing along the best advice he ever received, Dr. Darin Wood is fond of saying, “Choose faithfulness over success.”

This first-generation college graduate holds a Ph.D. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (SWBTS) and shepherds First Baptist Church (FBC), Midland, Texas, as senior pastor. “I love church,” he readily declares.

In February 2017, one year into his FBC Midland pastorate, Dr. Wood was diagnosed with stage 4 Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma. In 2016, the church had mourned the loss of long-time Music Minister Rev. George Koehl ’78 to cancer. Less than a year later, Darin began his own journey through cancer treatments.

The recovery process was arduous, requiring perseverance and resilience. Today, he is a stronger husband, father, pastor, and friend. “I wouldn’t go through that again for anything, but I wouldn’t trade it away either,” he says.

Darin’s career in church work started early. He became a youth minister while still a sophomore at Dallas Baptist University. He graduated in 1990 and joined the Baptist General Convention of Texas’s Youth-Led Revival program, eventually leading and expanding it.

Though not a Hardin-Simmons alumnus, the school holds a pivotal role in his life. Sent there in June 1993, as a BGCT employee, to help with Super Summer, he met his future wife, Julie Brown, an HSU student who went on to graduate in 1995. They married in May 2000, and she remains the cornerstone of his journey.

After earning his M.Div. from SWBTS, Darin served as a student pastor in Oklahoma. Encouraged to pursue a Ph.D., he thought a university professorship would be his career. Unexpectedly, in 1999 he found his true calling – that of pastor – while temporarily serving a small pastor-less church in Corsicana.

Dr. Wood was elected as an HSU Trustee in 2018. The launch of HSU’s engineering program is an especially significant achievement during his tenure, he says, and the formation of the nursing school is equally exciting. Administrative excellence is notable, he points out, and reflective of the blessing of God’s favor.

HSU feels like home, as it’s where he found his “Fair Daughter of the West.” Julie and Darin are proud parents of a young son, Josh.

“I love the passion our faculty has for HSU and its students, and wish people knew the joy and investment these amazing people give to their students,” Dr. Wood says. “We often focus too much on the cost of private education and not enough on the benefits it provides. HSU is a great example of the benefits!”





Ricardo Ramirez '24 performs during the 2024 Spring Commencement Ceremony.

# 2024 Spring COMMENCEMENT

Congratulations to our newest alumni! The HSU Alumni Association provides discounts and benefits for all HSU Alumni. Campus benefits, like VIP parking passes, membership to the fitness center and pool, and assistance from Career Services are just the start of what's offered. To learn more, scan the QR code.



Kathleen Moore '24 accepts the Julius Nelson Olsen Medal from President Bruntmyer.





Jack Pounds '24 poses with his sister, Abby Pounds '22, father, Drue Pounds '92, and mom, Chris Pounds.



Brenden Cisneros '24 waves at his family as he crosses the stage.



Ashli Brooks '24 gives a thumbs up for the crowd.



Korynn Armendarez '24, Caroline Cummings '24, Madeline Laney '24, Britany Kushner '24, Kiara Lassiter '24, Rylee Murphy '24, and Hanna Reese '19/'24 pose for a group shot.



2024 spring graduates sing along to the HSU Anthem.



Braelyn Jones '24 and Emerald Garcia '24 pose for a picture.





# HARDIN-SIMMONS HOMECOMING

## SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 24 - 27 2024

Get updates at [www.hsutx.edu/homecoming](http://www.hsutx.edu/homecoming)

## HOMECOMING EVENTS

### THURSDAY NIGHT

Alumni Awards Banquet

### FRIDAY NIGHT

Athletics Hall of Fame

Homecoming Festival

Food trucks, inflatables, pep rally,  
fireworks, and more.

Late Night Breakfast

### FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT

All-School SING!

### SATURDAY

Parents-Only Breakfast

Academic Showcase

Student Organization Gatherings

Alumni Choir Concert

HSU Kids Corral

Tailgate and Football Game

HSU Cowboys vs. ETBU Tigers

### SUNDAY

HSU Family Worship Service



## REUNIONS

40-Year - 1984 | 30-Year - 1994 | 25-Year - 1999 | 20-Year - 2004 | 10-Year - 2014  
Golden Lariat Society | Cheer | Hispanic Fellowship | Tennis | Ex-Cowgirls | Cowboy Band Foundation

## REGISTRATION OPENS IN SEPTEMBER

Get updates at [www.hsutx.edu/homecoming](http://www.hsutx.edu/homecoming)



# Alumni AWARDS

## John J. Keeter Jr. Alumni Service Award

*The Alumni Service Award is the highest alumni honor HSU can bestow. Since 1943, this award has been presented to alumni who have contributed the most in their field of endeavor toward the betterment of HSU.*

### **MS. DOROTHY (HOUSTON) KISER '65/'92**

Ms. Dorothy (Houston) Kiser spent 30 years on staff at Hardin-Simmons University. While working at HSU, Dorothy served as secretary to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Assistant Registrar, Registrar, and Associate Vice President of Student

Records and Registration. She earned a Bachelor of Science in religious education from HSU in 1965 and an M.B.A. in 1992. Dorothy is a member of HSU Fellowship, serving as the Vice President for Programs, serves on the HSU Academic Foundation, and previously served on the Board of Development and Alumni Association Board of Directors.



## Distinguished Alumni Awards

*This award, given since 1970, is presented to alumni whose personal and professional accomplishments are exemplary of the ideals and aims of the University and thus bring honor to HSU.*



### **DR. TRACY (SHEEHY) MANLY '93**

Dr. Tracy (Sheehy) Manly earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting from HSU in 1993. Her career in higher education has spanned 25 years. Since January 2023, she has served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Administration at Southwest Baptist University after serving as the Acting Provost / Senior Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives and Albert Rogers Professor of Accounting at the University of Tulsa. Dr. Manly has published more than 25 refereed journal articles and book chapters on topics related to business ethics, accounting instruction, and tax compliance and policy. She was recognized as one of HSU's Outstanding Young Alumni recipients in 2009.



### **MR. MATTHEW MORRIS '02**

Mr. Matthew Morris earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in finance from HSU in 2002. Hired by Gus Bates Insurance & Investments as their sixth employee, Matt helped them grow from \$900K in revenue to \$15M. While serving as President of Gus Bates Insurance & Investments, Matt navigated their merger with HUB International in 2020. Matt now serves as Area President of HUB International over the Fort Worth Market. In 2019, Matt was recognized by the Fort Worth Business Press as one of the 40 under 40 honorees. Matt has stayed connected to HSU over the years and served on the Board of Young Associates from 2006-2011.



### **DR. SARAH (JONES) MORRIS '02**

Dr. Sarah (Jones) Morris is the owner of Sarah J. Morris, DDS and Associates in Fort Worth, TX. She holds membership in multiple local, state, and international dental associations and has been voted by peers as one of Fort Worth's "Top Docs" and "Top Dentists" each year since 2007. Among the top 4% of dentists in the USA, Dr. Morris was selected as a fellow in the International College of Dentistry. Sarah earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from HSU in 2002 and served on the HSU Board of Young Associates from 2006 to 2011.

**FOR COMPLETE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL HONOREES,**  
visit us at [www.hsutx.edu/alumni/alumni-awards](http://www.hsutx.edu/alumni/alumni-awards)



# Golden 50<sup>th</sup> REUNION

## CLASS OF 1974

HSU welcomed the Class of 1974 back to campus on Monday, April 1 and Tuesday, April 2 for their Golden Reunion. They enjoyed reminiscing and sharing memories of their time here as students. New memories were created by visiting Debbie Jones and the Six White Horses, experiencing a private concert from the Cowboy Band, taking a bus tour to see all that has changed, and receiving their official Golden Lariat Society Pin and Commemorative Medallion.



1



2



3



4



5

**1. Front Row:** Sylvia (Gonzalez) Villareal, Glenda (Brown) Johnson, Mary (James) Dansby, Melba (Hernandez) Carmona. **Second Row:** Janet (Conrad) Lisso, Israel Garcia. **Third Row:** Janet (McDonald) Fuller, Peggy (Dennis) White Neyland, Lucy (Meadows) Lucas, Josue Martinez. **Back Row:** Agustin De La Rosa Jr., Brian Burgess, David Smith, Rick Lucas, David Holland

2. Peggy (Dennis) White Neyland shares a memory from her time at HSU during the Memory Banquet where the Class of 1974 was inducted into the Golden Lariat Society.

3. Janet (McDonald) Fuller was serenaded by Cowboy Band members during the private concert.

4. Class members found their name on the Alumni Wall and made a souvenir rubbing to take home. David Holland, Rick Lucas, Lucy Lucas, and Sylvia Villareal

5. Class members enjoyed lunch in The Caf.



SAVE THE DATE



CLASS OF  
**1975**  
GOLDEN REUNION  
HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

You are invited to attend the Class of 1975  
Golden Reunion at Hardin-Simmons University!  
Monday & Tuesday | April 7-8, 2025

Registration information will be mailed out in February.  
For more information visit [www.hsutx.edu/gold](http://www.hsutx.edu/gold)



## JOHN G. HARDIN SOCIETY

# Remembering Dorinne (Rister) Glenn '44



**D**orinne (Rister) Glenn graduated from Hardin-Simmons University in 1944. Coming from a large farming family, funds were tight. Dorinne's father brought her to Hardin-Simmons to meet with the President who told them, "If Dorinne wants to attend, I will find a way for her to do so." Living up to the motto, "Cowboys find a way," he arranged for Dorinne to work her way through college while living with the HSU librarian, who quickly became her respected mentor.

During WWII, Dorinne enlisted in the Navy WAVES and rose to the rank of Yeoman 3rd class. When James Glenn, the son of her father's farm hand, was discharged from the Navy, they married on Christmas Eve in 1945, just three months after the end of the war.

In addition to earning her second degree at the University of Texas and attending graduate school at Texas A&M, Dorinne and James adopted an infant son and three sisters before learning that Dorinne was pregnant. After their children left home, James and Dorinne thanked God for their blessings and committed to giving away everything "over what was enough." Dorinne lived to the "ripe old age" of 102 ½ and even into her 90s, she continued to give her time and talents through a "banana bread ministry" to the "shut-ins" from her church.

Hardin-Simmons University is blessed to be the beneficiary of a trust set up by John G. Hardin Society member, Dorinne (Rister) Glenn, in the amount of \$119,000.

[plannedgiving.hsutx.edu](https://plannedgiving.hsutx.edu)

## Supporting you IN ALL PHASES OF LIFE

HSU is offering our family and friends two estate planning tools, GivingDocs and an Estate Planning Course, for FREE!

### GivingDocs

GivingDocs allows you to create a legally valid will to protect the people and communities you love in just a few minutes. Write your free will at [plannedgiving.hsutx.edu/giving-docs](https://plannedgiving.hsutx.edu/giving-docs) or scan the QR code.



### Estate Planning Course

Learn how to keep more of what's yours and give to those you love and support by downloading this personal estate planning course lesson book from HSU's Planned Giving website. Just scan the QR code.





# Family NEWS

## 1940s

**1** **Becky (Griggs) Dugan '49 B.S.** celebrated her 75th anniversary of graduating from Hardin-Simmons. She reminisced about her time at HSU recently with her family and some HSU staff. Becky was a Cowgirl in her time at HSU and loved performing in parades throughout the Big Country.

## 1960s

**2** **Lesley Bryan Shelburne '65 B.M.** spent a lifetime in service. He retired from a career of military service in 2000. His final command was of Pershing's Own United States Bands and Choruses in D.C. where he served a decade as the 6th Leader and Commander. As of the Cherry Blossom Concert, he retired from a role in community service as the Director of the Middle Georgia Concert Band where he served for 11 years. The past year, the MGCB and part of Mercer University's band joined forces. In April, for the close of the season and to honor Lesley, the combined Middle GA Concert Band and the Mercer University Band had a BBQ. It was a beautiful day marked with beautiful words. We'll see if this retirement sticks.

## 1970s

**3** **Patti (Milliken) Walker '77 B.M.** and **Richard Walker** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at The Homeplace in Tuscola on May 18, 2024. Patti and Richard were married on May 18, 1974, while she was still a student at HSU. In attendance at the golden anniversary party were many family members and friends who are also HSU alumni including: **Sam Walker '11 B.B.A.**, **Kelsey (Evans) Walker '12 B.B.S./'14 D.P.T.**, **Jeff Walker '07 B.B.S.**, **Stephanie (Walker) Spear '77 B.S.**, **Ted Spear '76 B.A.**, and **Pat (Butman) Neff '77 B.S.**

## 1980s

**4** **Cindy (Cone) Jones '87 B.B.S.** serves as the Board Chair on the 6 Stones Board of Directors. She is one of 6 Stones' greatest ambassadors. A seasoned marketing and brand strategies expert with more than 30 years of experience in communications and project management, she brings insight and winning strategies to the team. As the CEO of CJTX Consulting, a boutique firm specializing in rebranding, her passion for civic leadership and community

volunteerism is an incredible gift to our organization. With her extensive experience, strategic mindset and dedication to making a positive impact, 6 Stones is grateful to have Cindy Jones as their Board Chair.

**Steven McClatchy '89 B.B.A.** and **Kathryn (Williamson) McClatchy '89x** moved to Arkansas in December of 2023 where Steven started a new job with Living Well Counseling.

## 1990s

**Mark "Mookie" Bennett '90 B.E.** retired after 32 years as a teacher/coach in May of 2024. He coached at Abilene High School and several middle schools and was an athletic coordinator. His last two years were spent as a P.E. teacher at Austin Elementary. His wife, April is a retired teacher and now is a Realtor for Coldwell Banker. He has 3 children, Austin (27) is a project manager for a construction company in Houston, Andrew (24) will be an HSU graduate in finance soon, and Allie (16) is a sophomore at AHS.

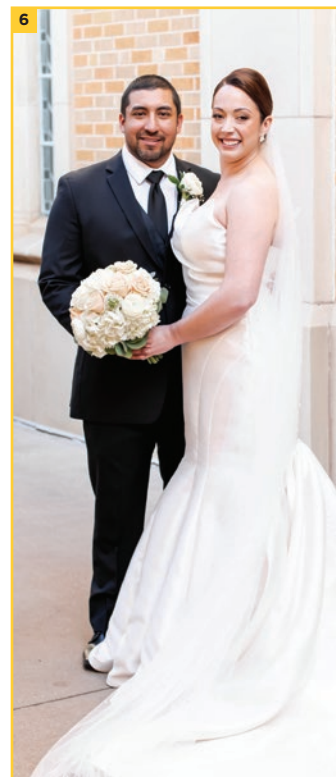
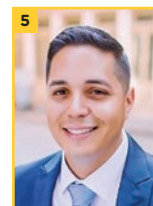
**Eric Harrelson '98 B.A.** retired from active duty army service after 23 years as a Lieutenant Colonel and is now the Executive Pastor of Crosspoint Church in Spring Hill, Florida.

In April, **Chris Markin '98 B.B.S.** celebrated 20 years as a State Trooper with the Texas Department of Public Safety. He is stationed in Weatherford.

## 2000s

**5** **Rafael Hernandez '07 M.Ed.** has been accepted and will be attending The University of Oklahoma's College of Architecture as a Ph.D. in Planning, Design, and Construction student. He will continue his executive position at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the Oklahoma City federal office.

**6** **Brian Laing '09 B.B.S.** and **Taylor (Roy) Laing '13 B.B.S.** were married in Abilene on February 3, 2024. They live in Odessa where Brian works in oil and gas field sales and Taylor works in administration for Ector County ISD where she was recently promoted to Executive Director of Guidance, Counseling, and Wellness after serving as an elementary and middle school counselor.



## Submit your news!

We want to hear updates from the HSU family.

You can submit your news by visiting:

[connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/FamilyNews](https://connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/FamilyNews)



...or you can scan this QR code.

Please note, HSU administration reserves the right to review and include, or reject, any submission made for publication in the *Range Rider*. Also, because of printing limitations and deadlines, inclusion of news and use of submitted photos cannot be assured for any date or particular issue.

**Future Alumni:** Please indicate whether the addition to your family is a boy or girl and provide the full birthdate.

**Marriages:** Remember to indicate the date & place of your wedding.

**Friends We'll Miss:** Memorial announcements must be submitted by a family member or be accompanied by a link to or photocopy of a published obituary. Please include class year for all HSU exes in the family.

You can also email news to  
[RangeRider@hsutx.edu](mailto:RangeRider@hsutx.edu)





## 2010s

**7** In June of 2022, **LeighAnna (Routon) Morris '11 B.B.S.** launched an ADHD Life Coaching business after receiving an advanced certification. Her focus is on parents of children with ADHD. She walks alongside Christian parents, armed with a toolkit refined by personal experiences and professional training, radiating the empathy that's become her hallmark. Armed with these tools, parents report their lives changing for the better, illustrating not just the power of dedicated coaching but the ripple effect of understanding, acceptance, and



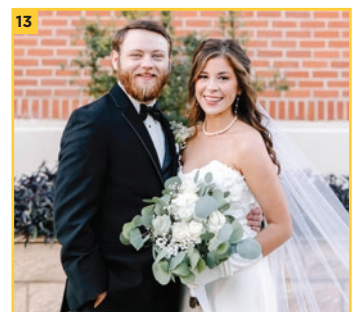
love. Her services are virtual and she wishes to share them with HSU. Her prayer is to change the lives of whole families dealing with ADHD!  
<https://www.adhdandlife.com>

**8 Alexa-Rae (Gist) Williams '16 B.B.S.** married Dr. Blake Williams on March 29, 2024, in Collinsville at The French Farmhouse Venue.

**9 Jessica (Francis) Hardesty '17 B.S.** and **Joseph Connor Hardesty '16 B.B.A.** were married on October 7, 2023, and are expecting their first child in summer 2024.

After three years in Utah, **Jason Pearl '18 B.S.** and his family have returned to Texas. They are now residing in Weatherford.

**10 Sabra (Zullo) Carlton '19 B.B.S.** married Zach Carlton on February 10, 2024. Their amazing celebration was held at the new D&W Underground venue. It was a night to remember under all the beautiful neon lights! Some of Sabra's best friends from HSU who stood by her side as bridesmaids were **Kacie (Berutti) Eurek '17 B.B.A./'19 M.B.A.**, **Victoria Thibault '17 B.B.S.**, **Sierra (Chaffin) Wink '17 B.B.S./'19 M.B.A.**, **Alynnna Phouthakhio '18 B.B.S.**, and sister **Gabby Zullo '20 B.B.S.** Many alum were in attendance, and the wedding was officiated by **Curry Jones '18 B.B.S.**



## 2020s

**11 Macee (Hall) Greer '20 B.B.S./'21 M.A.** married Jared Greer on March 31, 2024 in McKinney.

**12 Samantha "Sam" (Harrison) Nikiza '20 B.H.S.** married Joseph Nikiza on November 12, 2023.

**13 Kirsten (Tapia) Hollabaugh '22 B.H.S.** married Noah Hollabaugh '22 B.B.A. on November 18, 2023, in Abilene.

**14** On March 24, 2024, **Jayne (Davis) Jones '24 B.B.S.** married Braden Jones at Davis and Grey Farms in Celeste.



# Welcome to the FAMILY

John Kerr Schmidt was born March 12, 2024 to Tim Schmidt '06 B.B.A./'11 M.B.A. and Crystal (Broadstreet) Schmidt '08 B.B.S./'12 M.Ed.

Dr. Kalli (Donaway) Clement '09 B.B.S. and Chris Clement welcomed Sloan Clement on October 1, 2023.

**15** Kaitlin (Brockman) Belcher '10 B.B.S./'14 M.Div. and Justin Belcher welcomed their third daughter, LivyLee Virginia on April 11, 2024. Big sisters RowenJo (7) and HarlowKait (4) are wonderful to her and are overjoyed.



**16** Sam Walker '11 B.B.A. and Kelsey (Evans) Walker '12 B.B.S./'14 D.P.T. welcomed their fourth baby, Charlotte Anne Walker "Lottie" on March 15, 2024. Proud older siblings are Evanlyn, Frances, and Silas.



**17** Katelyn (Hukill) Jones '12 B.B.S. and Garrett Jones welcomed Raylon Davis Jones into the world on December 13, 2022. He weighed 6 pounds 12 ounces and was 20 inches long. Today, he is thriving and loves visits to Abilene!



**18** Katie (Culpepper) Sizemore '12 B.B.A. and Justin Sizemore '13 B.B.S./'17 M.B.A. welcomed Graham Sizemore on December 10, 2023.

Courtney (Reed) Beltran '13 B.B.S. and Roland Beltran welcomed Dally June Beltran into the world on March 21, 2023.

**19** Rachel (Franklin) Anderson '14 B.B.S. and Taylor Anderson celebrated the birth of their first son, Reese, on March 5, 2024.



**20** Jared Darnell '14 B.B.S. and Angela (Taylor) Darnell '14 B.B.S. welcomed their first child, Harrison Darnell, on December 26, 2023. Harrison was born a month early and after spending two weeks in the NICU, he is doing great!

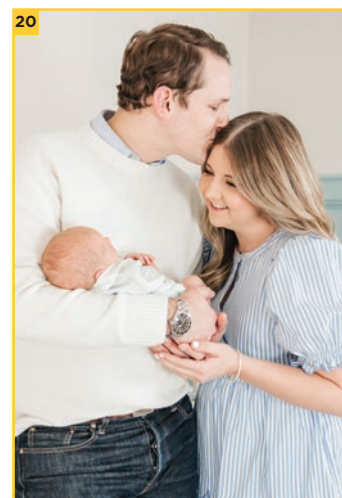


**21** Waverly Faye JoLynn Wright was born on July 6, 2023 to Zachry Wright and Whitney Milner Wright '14 B.B.S.



Ayden Wylie Montegna was born on August 16, 2023 to Tony Montegna '14 B.B.A. and Jamie (Grimes) Montegna '17 B.S.N.

**22** Savannah Dodge was born to John Dodge '15 B.S. and Hannah (Perkins) Dodge '15 B.S. on September 29, 2023.





**23** Leah (Wade) Morales '15 B.B.S. and Josh Morales '14 B.B.A./'15 M.B.A. welcomed Millie Jane Morales on April 26, 2024.



**24** Michael Campbell '16 B.B.S., Gracie (Hebert) Campbell '16 B.A., and sister Adalyn are excited to welcome Cohen, making them a family of four. Cohen was born November 21, 2023, weighing 9 pounds 12 ounces. He is adored by his sister and cherished by his parents.



Laura (Abasi) Feghali '16 B.A. and Paul Feghali introduced Norah Joy to their family in October of 2023. They pray that she would be a light and joy in this world. The Lord is good and they thank Him for Norah's life!



**25** Hayley (Humphrey) Gaddam '16 B.B.A./'17 M.B.A. and Zazanya Gaddam '21 M.Div. welcomed their first child, Amelia Josephine, on March 11, 2024. If Amelia goes to HSU, she will be a 4th generation Cowboy!



**Future  
HSU  
Cowboy  
Onesie!**

Jake Hoermann '16 B.B.S./'19 D.P.T. and Kaitlin (Hutson) Hoermann '15 B.B.S./'19 M.Ed. welcomed son, Warren, in 2020 and adopted son, Martin, in 2023.



**26** Kinsley O'Shields was born on July 17, 2023 to Jarrett O'Shields '16 B.B.S./'17 M.Ed. and Natalie (Johnson) O'Shields '15 B.B.S. and can't wait to visit our favorite West Texas place...Go Cowboys!



**27** Koen Reese Parham, son of Ryan Parham '16 B.B.S. and Amy (Palivec) Parham '19 B.B.S. was born on February 20, 2024.



**28** Since graduating, Annie (Webb) Reed '16 B.B.S. married Tyler Reed '17 B.B.S. They adopted two beautiful girls, ages 2 and 9, and Annie gave birth to their sweet miracle baby boy, Oliver, on January 2, 2023.

Ashley (Wiggins) Artman '17 B.B.A. and Caleb Artman '17 B.A. welcomed Liam Artman on July 23, 2023.



**29** Liz (Lott) Walker '17 B.B.S. and Trent Walker '17 B.B.S./'19 M.Ed. welcomed their second child, Kennedy Reese Walker on November 8, 2023. Kennedy is little sister to Georgia Claire, born on September 25, 2021. We hope for both to be future HSU Cowboys!

**30** Caleb Shannon '19 B.S.N./'22 M.S.N. and Kayla (Oakeley) Shannon '20 B.S.N. gave birth to Selah Shannon on December 20, 2023.

Samson Alexander Myers was born to Seth Myers '21 B.B.S./'23 M.Ed. and Klarissa (Shafer) Myers '17 B.A., both proud alumni of HSU, on July 30, 2023.



Scan the QR code to share your baby news with us and receive an HSU onesie for your little one!





# Range Rider Crossword

Read through the magazine to find the answers!

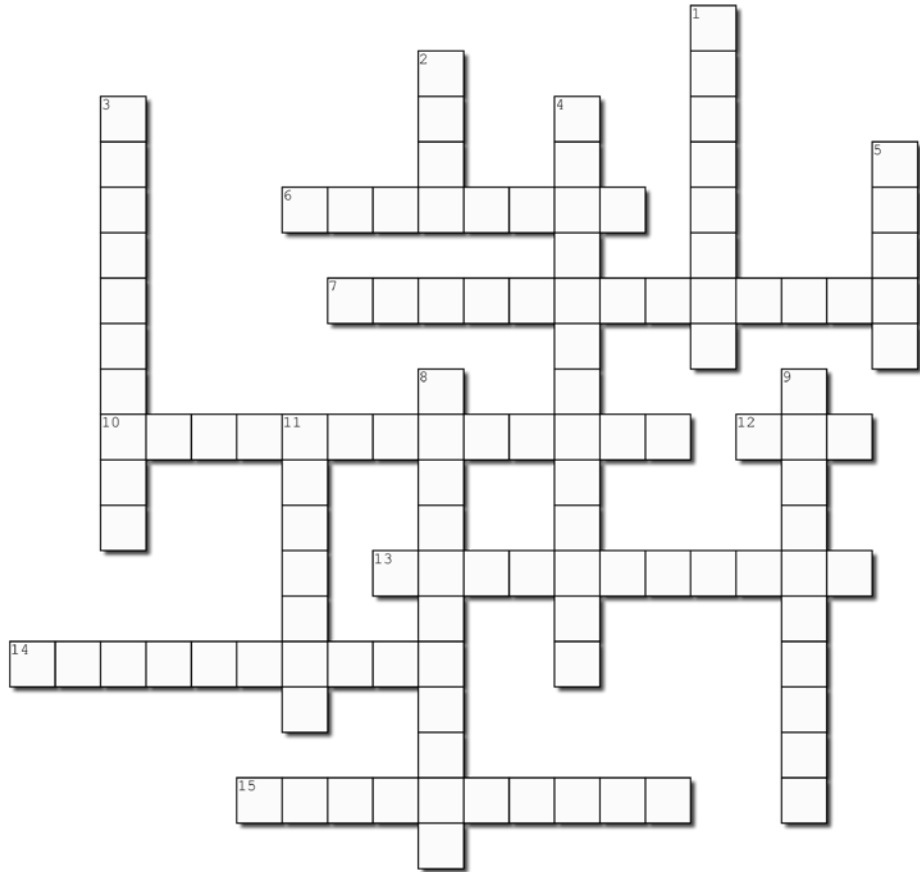
ACROSS	
6.	Baseball
7.	Mathew Morris
10.	Patterson Society
12.	Cam
13.	Debbie Jones
14.	Steve Neaves
15.	Giving Docs
DOWN	
1.	Anderson
2.	Five
3.	Jill Jumper
4.	Golden Reunion
5.	Patsy
6.	Cornerstone
7.	Basketball
11.	October

## ACROSS

6. The sport Coach Coleman has retired from
7. This Distinguished Alumni recipient was recognized in 2019 by Fort Worth Business Press as one of the 40 under 40 honorees
10. Grouping of those who give \$1K to \$9K in a year to HSU
12. Acronym of the college opening fall 2024
13. Staff person of the year
14. This professor posed for the virtual tour
15. This service, free from HSU, allows you to create a legally valid will

## DOWN

1. Name of the lawn where ANDY24 took place
2. Number of colleges at HSU
3. Faculty member of the year
4. Name of the event that takes place 50 years after graduation
5. First name of female football scholarship recipient
8. This lecture series takes place in September
9. Alumnae Jillson and Whitehead are both former players and coaches of this same sport
11. Month of Homecoming



## BE ON THE LOOKOUT! 2024 HSU Round Table Ornaments

This year's Round Table ornament will feature the Connally Missions Center! Ornaments will be available at Homecoming. A portion of your purchase goes toward the Lucile Sandefer Memorial Round Table Scholarship.

Purchase your HSU Round Table Ornaments at:  
[connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/hsuornament](https://connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/hsuornament)





# Fall-Winter CALENDAR

There are more reasons to get involved with campus other than attending Homecoming. We hope to see you at one (or more) of these events!

When you're on campus for home football games, be sure to check in at the alumni table to meet up with other alumni and receive special gifts from the Alumni Association!



Scan this QR code  
to see the HSU  
events calendar.



## Convocation ●

Tuesday, Aug. 27 | 9:30 a.m.

## Joe Black Dinner & Golf Classic (RSVP required)

Thursday, Sept. 12 | evening  
Friday, Sept. 13 | all day

## Cornerstone Lecture Series

Tuesday-Thursday,  
Sept. 10-12 | 9:30 a.m.

## ● Pops at the Pond

Friday, Sept. 20 | 5:30 p.m.

## The Lightning Thief, The Percy Jackson Musical

Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 10-  
13 & Oct. 17-20 | 7:30 p.m.  
& 2:00 p.m. (Sundays)

## Homecoming Weekend

Thursday-Sunday,  
Oct. 24-27 | all day

## Nursing Program & Space Dedication

Saturday, Oct. 26 | TBD

## Sandefer Field House ● Dedication

Saturday, Oct. 26 | TBD

## Turkey Day 5K ●

Monday, Nov. 25 | 5:00 p.m.

## ● All-School Christmas Party

Thursday, Dec. 5 | 6:30 p.m.

## Winter Commencement

Monday, Dec. 16 | 10:00 a.m.  
& 1:00 p.m.

Be sure to follow us on  
social media to stay up to  
date on other events!



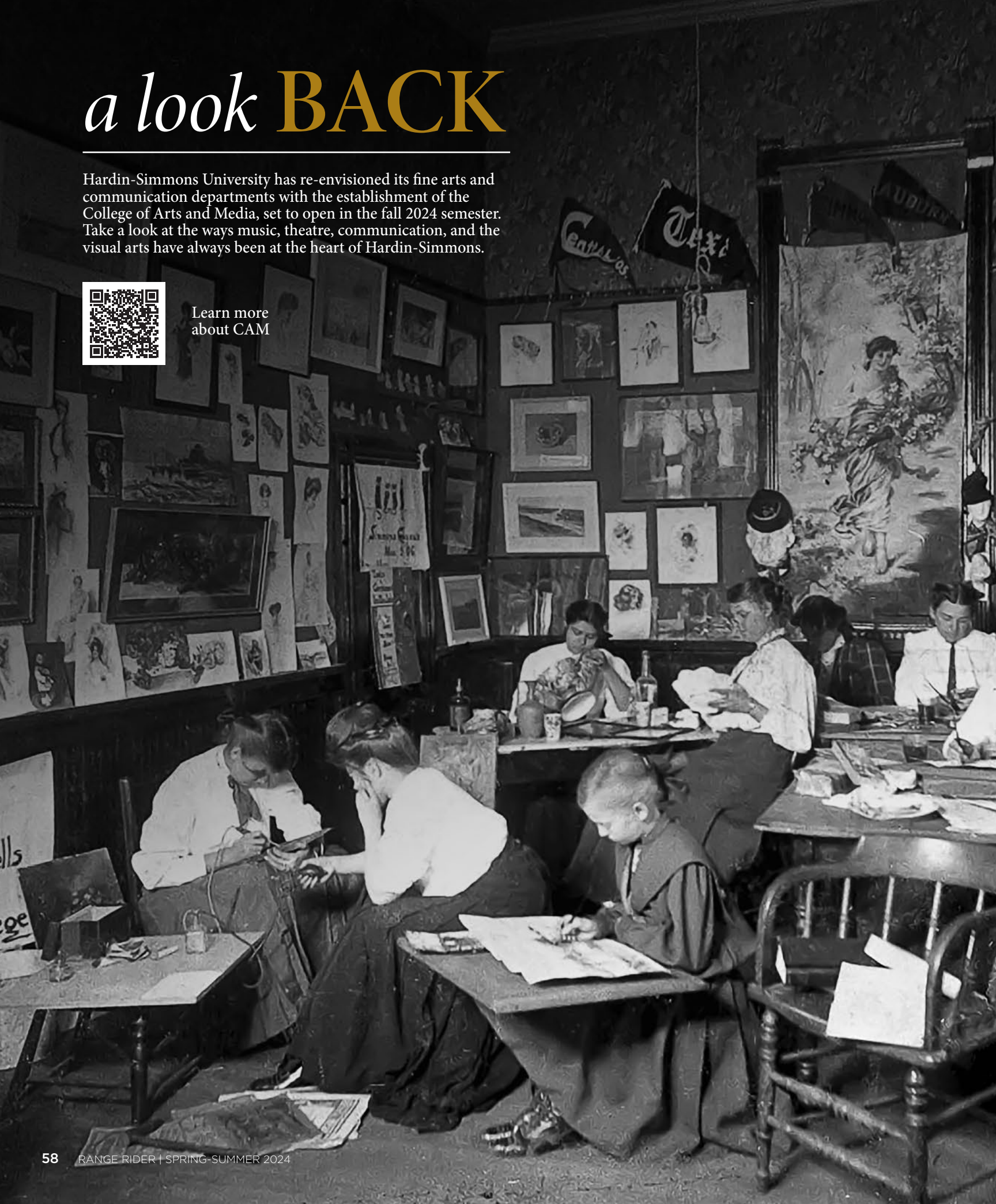


# *a look* BACK

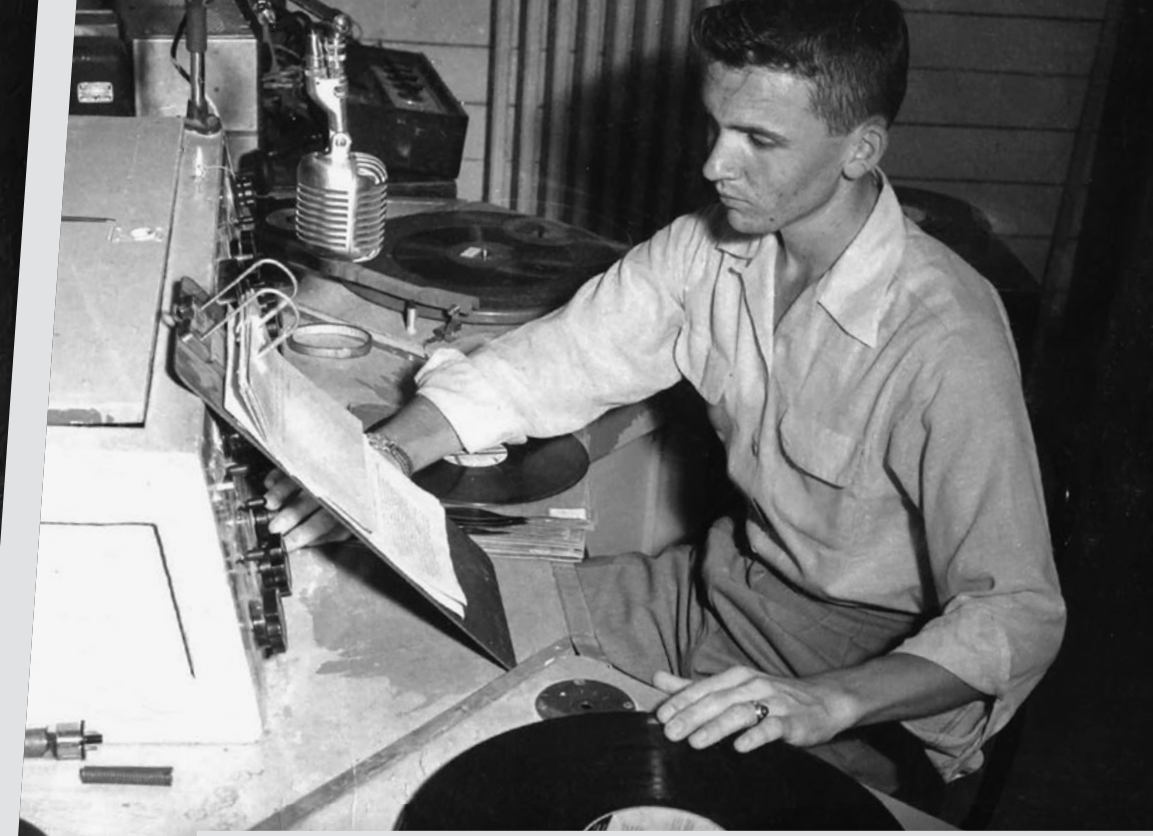
Hardin-Simmons University has re-envisioned its fine arts and communication departments with the establishment of the College of Arts and Media, set to open in the fall 2024 semester. Take a look at the ways music, theatre, communication, and the visual arts have always been at the heart of Hardin-Simmons.



Learn more  
about CAM







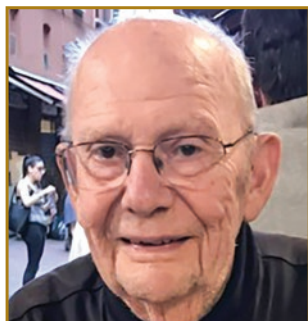


# Family WE'LL MISS

## GRADUATES

### DR. EDMUND "ED" DEATON '50 B.A.

May 8, 2024



Ed Deaton lived a long and extraordinary life that began in a small town in east Texas in 1930. At HSU, he played in and loved the "World-Famous" Cowboy Band. He was the oldest Cowboy Band alumnus to attend their 100th Anniversary Celebration in 2023, traveling with his daughter Dr. Janice Deaton from San Diego, California.

Dr. Deaton earned his Ph.D. in math from the University of Texas and began teaching at San Diego State University in 1960 where he remained until retiring in 1992. In 1996, he began teaching for the University of Maryland in Heidelberg, Germany. In the years following, he also taught in England, Italy, and Spain. He retired again in 2008. He loved to travel and visited 85 countries where he toured, trekked, or rock climbed. He especially loved Nepal, making 16 trips there.

### DR. ALFRED "AL" WOODARD '52 B.A.

FEBRUARY 12, 2024



Al Woodard's lifetime love was his relationship with Jesus Christ. His second passion was his wife, **Gwendolyn "Gwen" (Griffitts) '51 B.A.** They were married 63 years until her passing in 2014. His third love was his children and family.

From his sophomore year until graduating from HSU, Al was pastor of Medicine Mound Baptist Church which left no time for involvement in extracurricular activities on campus. After all, it was the late '40s and early '50s when cars and roads made for very slow travel compared to modern times. This would be the first of several churches Al pastored before beginning his second career in education. He taught high school in New Mexico, served as Registrar at Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU), and was Director of the Baptist Student Union and Professor of Religion at ENMU.

Al's third career was ranching in Graham, Texas where he and Gwen were very involved in First Baptist Church. Throughout his life, Al loved music and enjoyed entertaining family and friends playing by ear on his baby

grand piano. In recent years, numerous videos were made of Al playing his beloved piano. Those attending his funeral experienced a mini concert of Al playing hymns, ending with Al standing and waving as if he were saying goodbye.

In 1994, along with Gwen's brother **Keith Griffitts '64 B.S.**, Al and Gwen established the Loyd and Fannie Griffitts Endowed Memorial Scholarship. In 2002, Al and Gwen established the Alfred V. and Gwendolyn G. Woodard Endowed Scholarship.

Al is survived by his daughter Candance Moseley and her husband Chris, his daughter Claire Ward and husband Jack, son Kyle Woodard and wife Angie, his brother **Floyd Woodard '59x**, and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

### DR. BILL CATHEY '58 B.A./'95 H.D.

NOVEMBER 26, 2023



Bill Cathey sensed from a very young age that God was calling him to be a pastor. Preaching his first sermon at 16, he would go on to serve 20 years as pastor to five churches in Texas and New Mexico. Bill and **Rhea (Averett) '56 B.S.** met at Hardin-Simmons and were married in 1956. They had been married 52 years at the time of her death in 2009.

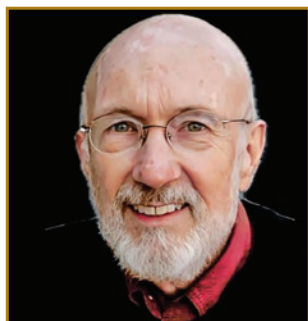
Bill joined the staff of the Baptist General Convention of Texas (Texas Baptists) in 1977, where he made

a tremendous impact on mass evangelism. Among other duties, he conducted revival preparation seminars. Following retirement from Texas Baptists, Bill served 16 years in pastoral care for Lakepointe Church in Rockwall. He retired for the final time in 2022.

Bill is survived by his wife Opal, son Dean Cathey and his wife **Beth (Polk) '84 B.B.S.**, daughter Cynthia Ortiz and husband Ernie, daughter Denise McNatt and husband Jeff, and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

### GEORGE TUCK '65 B.A.

December 14, 2023



George Tuck died at age 81 on December 14, 2023 as a result of Alzheimer's. George was preceded in death by his phenomenal wife, **Dr. Mary Lynn (Cagle) Tuck '65 B.M./'66 M.M.** on February 8, 2019. They had been married more than 53 years at the time of her death. He honored her by endowing a scholarship in her name at HSU.

George was quite active with his music, photography, and

journalism pursuits. He played in the "World-Famous" Cowboy Band and served as an officer for the Phi Mu Alpha music fraternity. In addition, he was the business manager of student publications and editor of the *Bronco* yearbook.

George earned his master's in journalism with an emphasis on photojournalism from the University of Missouri in 1968. In 1970, he began a 33-year

career teaching photojournalism and graphics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). While on sabbatical from UNL, George served as photo editor for the Associated Press in New York City and at the Houston Chronicle. His photographs were exhibited nationally and in five other countries, including the U.S. Consul General's residence in St. Petersburg, Russia.



## GRADUATES

Mrs. Mary "Dorinne" (Rister) Glenn '44 B.A., 3/17/2024

Mrs. Dorothy (Murphree) Rosson '45 B.A., 4/7/2024

Mrs. Elizabeth (Wallis) Blythe '47 B.S., 11/21/2023

Mrs. Dorothy (Featherstone) Chamberlain '48 B.A., 12/4/2023

Mrs. Peggy (Mayfield) Vinson '49 B.A., 11/10/2023. Survived by daughter Teresa "Jeanny" (Vinson) Meeker '74 B.A., son-in-law Jack Meeker '74 B.S., and granddaughter Mandy (Meeker) Cunningham '98 B.B.S.

Mrs. Betty (Sanders) Wagner '49 B.A., 3/6/2024

Mr. Joe Poe '50 B.B.A., 12/30/2023

Dr. David Fuller '51 B.A., 3/24/2024

Mr. Charles "Bob" Rutledge '51 B.B.A., 3/2/2024. Survived by wife, Mary Lou (Gullette) Rutledge '55 B.S.

Mrs. Bobbye (Casey) Bean '52 B.B.A., 12/7/2023

Mrs. Frances "Polly" (Holsomback) Bradshaw '52 B.S., 2/11/2024

Dr. William "Bill" Cook '52 B.A., 1/4/2024

Mrs. Reneatha (Little) Golmon '52 B.B.A., 1/6/2024

Mrs. Christie (King) Kinsaul '52 B.M., 4/13/2024

Mrs. Sara "Tiny" (Brown) Watson '52 B.S., 11/29/2023

Dr. Milton "Gene" Wofford '52 B.A., 5/5/2024. Survived by son Gary Wofford '80 B.S., daughter Sharon (Wofford) Callaway '81 B.A., and grandson Brett Callaway '07 B.B.S.

Ms. Patricia "Sue" (Belle) Ashburn '53 B.S., 3/18/2024

Mr. Robert Donald '53 B.B.A., 12/26/2023

Mr. Billy "Bill" Everett '53 B.S., 5/1/2024

Mrs. Sara (Fleming) Adkison '54 B.S., 1/7/2024. Survived by son Toni Adkison '77x, daughter Traci (Adkison) Cowger '79x, son-in-law Brad Cowger '82 B.A., granddaughter Christen (Cowger) Leidner '05 B.B.A., and grandson-in-law Ronald "Ronnie" Leidner '06 B.B.S.

Mrs. Cleta (Ferrel) Cagle-Bradley '54 B.S., 11/27/2023

Mr. Clyde Cason '54 B.B.A., 3/2/2024. Survived by wife, Robbie (Garvin) Cason 'x.

Mrs. Elizabeth "Betty" (Wolfe) Currie '55 B.S., 5/9/2024

Mrs. La Rue (Stevens) Jones '55 B.B.A., 1/11/2024

Rev. Charles Broadhurst '56 B.S., 5/23/2024

Mr. Bobby Byrd '56 B.S., 1/28/2024. Survived by his wife Mrs. Carolyn (Carver) Byrd '56 B.S.

Mrs. Ethel "Joy" (Pierson) Campbell '56 B.S., 12/2/2023

Mrs. Lilly (Neuman) Rasco '56 B.B.A., 11/9/2023

Mr. James West '56 B.B.A./'57 M.E., 12/26/2023

Col. Aurel "Wayne" Franke '58 B.A., 2/5/2024



31 Mrs. Gloria (Teaff) Harvell '58 B.S., 11/22/2023. Survived by husband Col. Kenneth "Ken" Harvell '59 B.A.

Mrs. Rosemary "Lynn" (Meeks) Perry '58 B.S., 3/26/2024

Dr. Wayne Blakenship '59 B.A., 10/15/2023. Survived by wife Mrs. Wanda "Sue" (Rhoads) Blakenship '60 B.B.A.

Mr. Dee "Pete" Hart '59 B.S., 5/15/2024

Mrs. Wanda "Sue" (Barron) Kerley '59 B.S., 1/21/2024

Lt. Col. Burley Polk '59 B.S., 4/24/2024

Rev. Howard Ramsey '59 B.A., 2/1/2024

Mrs. Marilyn (Cupp) Chatham '60 B.S., 3/4/2024

Mr. Klaus Eldridge '60 B.A., 4/15/2024

Ms. Jauquetta "Jody" Flint '60 B.S., 3/25/2024

Mrs. Nona (Little) Mosley '60 B.S., 12/12/2023. Survived by husband Dr. Tom Mosley '61 B.S.

Mrs. Melba (Phillips) Acheson '62 B.S., 5/8/2024

Mrs. Mava (Johnston) Farris '62 B.A., 2/17/2024. Survived by husband Mr. James "Jim" Farris '63 B.A. and daughter Ms. Gwen Farris '87 B.A.

Col. Jerry Reynolds '63 B.A., 5/17/2024. Survived by wife Mrs. Sherry (Hull) Reynolds '66 B.S.

Mrs. Sue "Maxine" (Tarrant) Williams '63 B.S., 11/24/2023

Mr. Wayne "Thomas" Hurst '64 B.A., 5/6/2024

Mr. Robert "Ken" McMinn '64 B.S., 4/2/2024. Survived by wife Ms. Sidney (Skarda) McMinn '65 B.S.



32 Mrs. Josephine "Jo" (Saladin) Dooley '65 B.S., 4/5/2024

Mrs. Betty (Boggs) Maroscher '67 B.S., 5/10/2024

Maj. Philip "Dan" Brittain '68 B.M., 11/25/2023. Survived by wife Mrs. Myrna (Liles) Brittain '69 B.M./'71 M.M.

Mr. Jerry McCutchen '68 B.S., 1/10/2024. Survived by wife Mrs. Bette (Blackmon) McCutchen '74 B.S.

Mr. James Corbin '69 B.S., 12/25/2023

Mrs. Nancy (Nees) Little '69 B.A., 4/14/2024. Survived by husband Rev. Glen Little '67 B.A.

Mr. Roger Perkins '69 B.B.A., 1/9/2024

Mr. Linn Taylor '70 M.A., 11/26/2023

Mr. Floyd Garcia '71 B.S., 5/8/2024

Mr. David Johnson '71 M.E., unknown

Mrs. Linda (Womble) Piland '71 B.S., 2/16/2024. Survived by son Mr. Ronal "Scott" Piland '97 B.B.A., son Barry Piland '99 B.S. and daughter-in-law Mrs. Shaylee (Richardson) Piland '99 B.B.A./'03 M.B.A., and son Mr. Michael Piland '02 B.B.S.

Mrs. Vernetta Graham '72 B.S., 3/31/2024

Dr. Johnny "John" Hill '72 B.S., 2/13/2024

Mrs. Annie "Lynn" (Reedy) Baldwin '74 M.M., 1/21/2024

Mr. David Hickman '74 B.A., 1/1/2024

Mrs. Lora "Gerri" (Barrett) Winkler '76 B.S., 4/3/2024

Mr. Lee Reed '77 B.S., 5/14/2024

Mr. Mark Connell '78 B.B.A., 12/16/2023. Survived by wife Mrs. Brenda (Meads) Connell '78 B.B.A.

Mr. Terry Smith '78 B.B.A., 4/24/2024. Survived by daughter Mrs. Robin Blackburn '97 B.B.S.

Mr. Donald Rains '80 M.B.A., 4/4/2024

Mr. Steven McHan '83 B.A., 4/16/2024

Rev. Chad Selph '84 B.A., 12/16/2023. Survived by wife Mrs. Rhonda (Blanton) Selph '86 B.E.

Mr. Mark Walters '86 B.A./'93 M.E., 1/18/2024

Mr. Timothy Taylor '92 B.A., 2/17/2024

Dr. Henry Blackaby '93 H.D., 2/10/2024. Survived by sons Dr. Melvin "Mel" Blackaby '88 B.A. and Dr. Norman Blackaby '91 B.A.

Mrs. Billie (Pitman) Walker '94 B.B.S., 4/14/2024. Survived by daughter Ms. Shelby Walker '21 B.F.A.

Mrs. Lori (Maxey) Michell '95 B.B.S., 5/11/2024

Dr. Laura "Christy" (Mitchell) Huff '97 B.B.S., 3/5/2024

Dr. Donald "Don" Jones '97 M.A., 12/30/2023

Mr. Richard "Jason" Whatley '98 B.B.S., 3/29/2024

Mr. Brad Boyd '00 B.A., 12/2/2023

Mrs. Percilla (Merchant) Green '07 B.B.S., 2/26/2024

Mr. Brian Bradley '11 M.E., 11/10/2023

Mrs. Kayla (Bender) Rigney '11 B.M., 3/1/2024

Rev. Robert "Cory" Patterson '16 M.A., 3/22/2024

Mr. David Spence '19 M.S.N., 2/27/2024

Editor's Note: All cities are in Texas unless otherwise noted. Email addresses are included when possible. Information reflects submissions received from November 27, 2023 - June 06, 2024. Acronyms: AHOF Athletics Hall of Fame/DAA Distinguished Alumni Award/HOL Hall of Leaders/HD Honorary Doctorate Degree/KASA Keeter Alumni Service Award/LDA Logsdon Distinguished Alumni Award/OYA Outstanding Young Alumni Award



## FORMER STUDENTS

Mrs. Liandra (Olivares) Alcorta, 2/16/2024. Survived by husband Dr. Joe Alcorta '64 B.A., daughter Mrs. Cecilia (Alcorta) Castillo '90 B.Ed., and husband Mr. Raul Castillo '94 B.B.S.

Mrs. Janie (West) Barbee, 12/7/2023

Mrs. Barbara "Barbie" (Dealey) Batterman, 3/21/2024

Mr. Malcolm "Rusty" Brumit, 1/21/2024

Mr. Guy "Alex" Casselberry, 12/30/2023. Survived by mother Mrs. Barbara "Jodi" (Hazelton) Zachry '08 B.B.S.

Mr. William "Bill" Chamblee, 12/26/2023. Survived by wife Mrs. Marcia (Gover) Chamblee '70 B.S. and daughter Mrs. Sarah (Chamblee) Armstrong '00 B.B.S.

Mr. David Cleveland, 2/11/2024

Mr. J. "Avery" Doss, 1/20/2024

Mrs. Angela (Ball) Eakins, 12/25/2023. Survived by husband Mr. Wayne Eakins 'x.

Mr. Charlie Grantham, 4/23/2024

Mr. Roy Hill, 4/25/2024

Mr. Sheril Howard, 5/28/2024

Mr. James Johnson, 2/23/2024

Mrs. Lillian "Jo" (Kirk) King, 2/10/2024

Mrs. Louise (Cochran) Lewis, 1/29/2024

Mrs. Phoebe "JoAnn" (Webb) Little, 1/29/2024

Mrs. Anna (Perkins) Madison, 6/3/2024

Mr. Adrian Mairs, 1/24/2024. Survived by wife Mrs. Rita (Phillips) Mairs 'x.

Mr. Michael "Mike" Mercer, 3/24/2024

Mr. Mitchell "Mitch" Murrell, 2/9/2024

Mrs. Ella "Maxine" (Johnson) Onstead, 3/8/2024. Survived by daughter Janith (Onstead) Miller '73 B.S.

Mr. James "Butch" Parker, 2/5/2024. Survived by wife Mrs. Carole (Burton) Parker 'x and son Mr. Leslie Parker '88 B.B.A.

Mrs. Jean (Ashburn) Patterson, 12/1/2023. Survived by sister Mrs. Rosemary (Ashburn) Reed '53 B.A.

Mrs. Leota (Chapman) Qualls, 2/5/2024

Mrs. Willie "Pearl" (Matthews) Ross, 12/26/2023. Survived by daughter Mrs. Darla (Ross) Spiers '87 B.S.

Mrs. Linda (Nantz) Shagula, 3/3/2024

Mrs. Lois (Crook) Smith, 2/15/2024

Mr. James Snellen, 1/1/2024

Mr. Jimmie "Jim" Sturrock, 11/25/2023

Ms. Christine (Smith) Tittle, 12/17/2023

Ms. Carolyn Utt, 4/26/2024

Mr. James "Marshall" Wharton, 2/1/2024. Survived by his daughter Mrs. Blanche (Wharton) Elliott '75 B.S. and husband Mr. Travis Elliott '78 B.B.A.

Mrs. Sandra "Sandi" (Hardin) Whitworth, 2/24/2024. Survived by husband Mr. Gordon Whitworth '62 B.B.A.

Mrs. Violet (Lay) Widner, 12/16/2023

Ms. Iva "Saralyn" (Teaff) Winn, 3/13/2024

Mr. Ernest "Allen" Wright, 3/5/2024

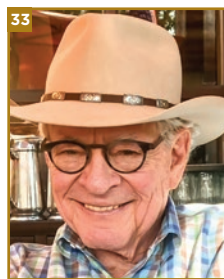
## FRIENDS

Mr. Roy "Hoss" Allen, 5/11/2024

Mr. Grady Barr, 12/9/2023

Mr. Anthony "Tony" Becker, 2/21/2024. Survived by wife Mrs. Johnnie (Cole) Becker '61 B.S.

Mr. Henry Bloodworth, 4/2/2024. Survived by wife Mrs. Nancy (Flint) Bloodworth '79 B.A.



33 Mr. Henry "Lee" Caldwell, 4/18/2024. Survived by sister Ms. Molly (Caldwell) Cline 'x and grandson Henry "Guy" Caldwell II 'x

Mr. Grady Dorsett, 4/27/2024. Survived by daughter Mrs. Dana Haynes '88 B.E., daughter Mrs. Terri Thompson 'x and son-in-law Mr. Steve Thompson '77 B.A.

Dr. Arthur Hall, 5/15/2024

Mr. Richard Hasten, 4/24/2024

Ms. Martha Kiel, former faculty, 5/31/2024



34 Mrs. Fleda (Gregory) Lambert, 3/14/2024 survived by Mrs. Karan (Lambert) Breedon 'x.

Mr. Bruce Land, 4/22/2024

Mrs. Peggy Lewis, 5/14/2024

Rev. David Leyerle, 3/3/2024. Survived by his daughter Melanie (Leyerle) Vincent '85 B.A.

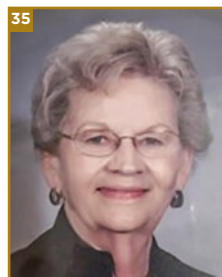
Mrs. Carol (Carothers) Manwarren, 5/5/2024

Mr. Nelson Mauldin, 1/31/2024

Mrs. Carol (Austin) Newberry, 12/18/2023

Mr. Steve Payne, 4/13/2024. Survived by father Mr. Chester "Mike" Payne '63 B.S., mother Mrs. Janice (Bryant) Payne 'x, aunt Mrs. Ann Lindsey '65 B.M., and daughter Ms. Whitney Payne '08 B.A.

Mrs. Joann Pohlman, 3/1/2024. Survived by daughter Janelle O'Connell '08 D.P.T.



35 Mrs. Wanda (Brabham) Posey, 12/13/2023. Survived by her husband Mr. Don Posey '54 B.B.A.

Mr. John "Moran" Pounds, 1/30/2024. Survived by son Mr. Drue Pounds '92 B.B.S., granddaughter Mrs. Charlotte "Abby" Pounds '22 B.B.S., and grandson Mr. Jack Pounds '24 B.B.S.

Mrs. Betty (Knight) Ridlehoover, 4/7/2024

Mr. Farren Sadler, 2/10/2024. Survived by daughter Mrs. Elizabeth "Liz" (Sadler) Sisk '77 B.S.

Mr. Douglas "Doug" Stell, 2/11/2024

Mr. Randell "Randy" Vinson, 11/17/2023

Mr. Charles White, 1/17/2024

Editor's Note: All cities are in Texas unless otherwise noted. Email addresses are included when possible. Information reflects submissions received from November 27, 2023 - June 06, 2024. Acronyms: AHOF Athletics Hall of Fame/DAA Distinguished Alumni Award/HOL Hall of Leaders/HD Honorary Doctorate Degree/KASA Keeter Alumni Service Award/LDA Logsdon Distinguished Alumni Award/OYA Outstanding Young Alumni Award



# The Arrow Archive

In 1964, H.S. "Higg" Higginbotham and Lynn Lee sat down at the Walgreens soda fountain and went to work naming their newly acquired Ford Dealership. They settled on the name Arrow and for 60 years Arrow Ford has been a staple of the Abilene community.

Throughout Arrow's history, a pattern has revealed itself. About every decade, Arrow undergoes some sort of renovation or addition. In 1974, Arrow celebrated its ten-year anniversary and moved into its current location at 4001 S. 1st Street. Rather than doing a re-model in the 80s, Higg's son, Seaton, established Arrow's Loan Arranger in 1987, offering financing to those the banks wouldn't help. Two years later, Arrow added Mitsubishi to its line of vehicles.

By the mid-90s, Arrow had adopted the slogan The Right Choice, and it was time once again to remodel the dealership, creating a finance and delivery showroom where customers could drive their new vehicle off the showroom floor.

In the new millennia, Seaton and the Arrow team weathered the storm during The Great Recession of 2009 in which Chrysler declared bankruptcy and terminated, without cause, 800 dealers, including Arrow Chrysler Jeep. The entire Arrow staff joined together to rebuild the organization and create Raving Fans by identifying customers' needs and satisfying them completely.

Another new decade spelled a new generation of leadership at Arrow Ford. Seaton promoted his daughter, Shanna Kevil, to General Manager and Trennon Cauthen to Comptroller. Arrow celebrated its 50th anniversary on June 4, 2014, and

embarked on the third renovation of its South First locale. Arrow's commitment to employee well-being paid off big in 2017, when Arrow Ford was awarded the prestigious "Small Employer of the Year" award by the Texas Workforce Commission. This recognition, along with the opening of Arrow's on-site child recreation program, I Can Kids, in December of 2019, solidified their dedication to creating a supportive and family-oriented environment, attracting and retaining top talent in the competitive automotive industry.

Despite an ever-changing environment, Arrow continued to evolve to better serve its guests. Steadfast to Higg's philosophy of providing affordable pre-owned vehicles in convenient locations, Arrow opened Arrow Point Auto Mall in 2021 to cater to its South Abilene neighbors. Arrow Point revitalized a long-vacant building into an auto dealership of the new age with nods to history including a classic car collection and antique post office display.

Building upon their customer-centric philosophy, Arrow launched the Arrow for Life loyalty program. As Arrow for Life grew, it quickly became clear that Arrow would need to expand its workforce and footprint to provide quality experiences for its service guests. Facing a national shortage of automotive technicians and limited training resources in the Big Country, Arrow took on the challenge to grow talent locally and established Arrow Academy in 2022. Simultaneously, Arrow embarked on planning a major renovation of its service department. Doubling the current capacity, incorporating state-of-the-art equipment and a fully air-conditioned facility, the upgrades promise faster turnaround times and an elevated experience for staff and guests alike.

By 2024, construction was well underway on the multi-million-dollar renovation and on June 4, 2024, Arrow Ford celebrated its 60th year of service to Abilene and the Big Country. Reflecting on the past 60 years and looking forward to the future, Arrow Ford's story continues to unfold, woven with threads of resilience, innovation, and unwavering dedication to family, community, and the ever-evolving world of the automotive industry. From its humble beginnings to its dynamic present, Arrow stands as a symbol of Abilene's spirit, forever etching its legacy on the Big Country landscape.



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# TRUTH & POW



## HSU Chapel Theme:

# & TRUTH POWER

A new semester is upon us, and we are more excited than ever about what God has in store for us at HSU! We are watchful, prayerful, and hope-filled in the God who hears our prayers. We pray He will use every aspect of HSU to reveal His love to all who need to experience Him!

During this year's chapel time, we will focus on Truth and Power. In a culture that increasingly tries to tell us that all truth is relative, our aim is to help lead others to the Word of God as THE source of truth and to help them tangibly experience and live out the teachings of the Bible.

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32 NLT

In addition, we and the world around us are hungry to experience TRUTH through the love and POWER of God at work in our lives. The God we serve is bigger than

we can comprehend! He is able to do more than we ask or imagine, according to His great power at work within us.

"May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then, you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Now, all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to Him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations, forever and ever! Amen." Ephesians 3:19-21 NLT

Maybe it is through your service to others that they will experience His power. Maybe it will be through your faithful and effective prayers. Maybe His power will show through your commitment to being a peacemaker or by modeling forgiveness, mercy, and grace in a world where hatred, judgment, and resentment abound. Love is a better way! Because His Spirit lives within us, His great power can flow through us to make a difference in our families, workplaces, churches, and the world.

As we focus our hearts on Christ in the coming school year, may joy abound in your hearts as you live in His truth and His power!



## Join Us in Chapel Worship

9:30 a.m. - 10:10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays  
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*Livestream on our YouTube channel.*

# ER





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**Discover Southeast Alaska Small Ship Cruise** 2  
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