

HARVARD-RADCLIFFE CLASS OF 1966

Dear Classmates,

September 2021

I got a little nervous last Monday, fearing that there wouldn't be many submissions to the newsletter this month, and that I would have to augment the submission with more pictures of my family. Not to worry; lots of good news here:

### Fred Corcoran:

I was privileged to interview several our Class of 1966 authors for our 55th Reunion and want to thank **David Andelman**, **Elaine Archer**, **Steve Bergman**, **Paul Cantor**, **Lawrence DeVoe**, **Sheila Grinell**, **Ellen Leopold and Larry Palmer** for their patience and forbearance during these interviews. They are available on the Class of '66 website.

### Ann Peck:

Particularly for the 215 of you who signed the petition beseeching Radcliffe to reconsider its 'rebranding' and shift in mission, here's an update:

First, we'd like to archive and post some of the responses that some of you sent along with your virtual signatures of the letter. I will be writing to ask your permission to do so.

Second, Ellen Leopold's op-ed appeared in the Crimson last week and summarizes the frustration we've met in our efforts: <u>https://www.thecrimson.com/article/2021/9/20/leopold-radcliffe-name/</u>

In brief, Dean Brown-Nagin and her advisors appear to believe that "Harvard Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study" gives the institute a better shot at broad recognition and news coverage. The rebranding initiative was extensive and the commitment is total (note that, despite the name change, in this Monday's *New York Times*, the gift of Pauli Murray's papers to the Schlesinger was reported as a gift to Harvard). The administration and the website have gone to some lengths to explain the shift and to demonstrate continued concern with women's issues but we've found their response to our concerns less than thoughtful. In fact, in the dean's latest letter, she says, "I regret to see that we have failed to reach an understanding on the merits of our rebranding. Please know that I am committed to this decision. Instead of continuing our correspondence on this issue, I ask that you accept the reasoning that I have conveyed to you and your classmates and trust that our intentions are to promote the long-term success of an institution that we are all humbled to serve."

A Harvard classmate wrote directly to President Bacow, as several of you have. Although President Bacow most likely recognizes the name of the classmate, he did not offer a response.

What has become clear is that following the merger in 1999, when the Institute's name was changed to "Advanced" rather than "Independent" study, and the emphasis shifted to multidisciplinary studies, the die was cast. Whether seen as a turn toward a Princeton Institute for Advanced Study model or a way to have the institute provide a public face for community engagement, women's issues moved to a back, or at best, a middle seat.

We have just received a response to our inquiry to the Committee to Articulate Principles of Renaming. Professor Drew Faust, the chair, states that the committee, which has completed its mission and has submitted its findings to the administration, did not review individual cases.

We're uncertain how to take this further; we'd welcome your thoughts about next steps (send them to annpeck@comcast.net). One idea we've had is to ask the administration, in preparation for the 25th anniversary of the institute (they think of 1999, the year it was given its current name, as the founding year), to create a forum for discussion that would include alumni/ae voices.

Thanks to so many of you for your support,

Ann, Rosalind, and Ellen

## Katy Wolff:

Classmates.

If you have the opportunity I recommend the Cambridge Center for Adult Education at 42 Brattle Street, Harvard Square. 617 547-6789. Hope all of you are thriving.



### Willaim Neaves:

Black-tailed jackrabbit (Lepus californicus) at Priscilla's ranch - 4 September 2021

# Wendy Sanford:

I am thrilled to say that my book, These Walls Between Us: A Memoir of Friendship across Race and Class, will reach bookstores on October 5. I wrote These Walls Between Us in order to reflect on, and honor, the still-evolving sixty-five-year connection between myself, a white woman, and Mary Norman, who is Black. Though we are close in age, we met in my mother's kitchen; Mary was the Black "help" and I the privileged white daughter. We were not slated to become friends. But years later—each divorced, each a single parent, Mary now a rising officer in corrections and I a feminist health activist-we began to talk about our children and our work, and a friendship began to grow.

Based on decades' worth of visits, phone calls, letters, and texts between us, These Walls Between Us chronicles Mary's and my friendship, with a focus on my oft-stumbling efforts, as a white woman, to see Mary more fully and to become a more dependable friend. I examine obstacles created by my upbringing in a white, upper-class world; reveal realities of domestic service rarely acknowledged by



white employers; lift up Mary's enlightened work in corrections and her community-based ethic of care; and draw on classic works by the African American writers whose work informed and challenged me along the way. Though I am the book's primary author, Mary advised on every draft. We hope *These Walls* will support readers in interracial friendships, especially white readers who seek to become more informed and accountable friends across the racial divides created by white supremacy culture.

To see more about the book, and about Mary Norman's work, please visit my first-ever website at <a href="https://www.wendysanford-thesewallsbetweenus.com/">https://www.wendysanford-thesewallsbetweenus.com/</a>

To buy the book on Amazon: <u>https://www.amazon.com/These-Walls-Between-Us-</u> Friendship/dp/1647421675/ref=sr 1 2?dchild=1&keywords=wendy+sanford&qid=1632164325&sr=8 -2

### Larry McKinney:

Hi folks,

I don't have a large family to display, I am childless and have no nephews or nieces.

On the other hand, the revised edition of my iconic book. *Neurotheology:Virtual Religion in the 21st Century* is now on sale either at Amazon or at the book website <u>goingtoheaven.org</u>. At the site, you can find numerous reviews from classmates.

My book – which got me into Wiki (search for Neurotheology) – was the first to fully characterize and detail an area of study which has since become a growing area of theological thought. I think my college classmates would be quite interested, and find it interesting,



What do you think?

AB65	Prof. John Patrick Lynch	07/21/2021	Santa Cruz, CA	Sheilah E. Fulbright Lynch 204 King Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060
AB66	David A. Link, M.D.	07/07/2021		Dr. Margaret S. Ross 241 Perkins St Unit B101 Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
AB67	William Alan Hodson Ed.D.	06/22/2021	Brattleboro, VT	-
AB67	Mr. E. John Pennington III	06/30/2021	Galveston, TX	-
AB67	Mr. Robert W. Holmes Jr.	08/04/2021	ivierritt Island, Fl	Vicky Holmes 2046 E Washington Rd Washington, NH 03280

### In Memoriam:

### **Richard Laden:**

I didn't see a mention in the recent class newsletter—perhaps word reached you too late, or not at all-but our classmate **David Link** died of pancreatic cancer on July 7. His obituary is on-line at <u>https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/brookline-ma/david-link-10261870</u>. David was a high school classmate of mine (Cleveland Heights HS) as well, and until his illness diagnosed only a few months before his death, a frequent contributor to an e-mail forum in which certain HS classmates participate. I had profound respect for David and all the good that he did during his life, and donated to Partners in Health in his memory.

#### **Maxwell Evans**

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the death of our friend and classmate, **Richard G. Hudak**. Hudy died August 24th in Jupiter, Florida with his wife, Patti, at his side. He had been diagnosed several weeks previously with the Delta variant. Hudy fought the battle to the end but was unable to overcome a weakened immunity system due to his pre-existing condition of leukemia. The leukemia was a result of Hudy's exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam where he served as a Lieutenant in the Marine Corps. At Harvard, Hudy was a resident of Winthrop House and a four-year Harvard football player. Following his military service, Hudy had distinguished careers in the FBI and in private and corporate security. A tribute to him was published in The Palm Beach Post at: https://www.palmbeachpost.com/obituaries/p0142723

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Black

co-class secretary