

Class of 1986

Alumni and Parent Relations Office  
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Gentlemen:

First, thank you. The outpouring of recruitment over the last many years for me to return as Class Agent has been nothing short of embarrassing. The Twitter posts and Facebook pleas were nice, buying my kids ice cream and sneaking a note in their back packs was something, but when one of you hired the plane to fly over my house with the sign reading “Please Come Back”, that was really touching. (Nevermind that I don’t live too far from Andrew Luck).

Ok, none of that happened. Nevertheless, I am back and re-igniting our class agent letter correspondence. There is much to catch up on if you haven’t been back to campus, following on social media or otherwise engaged with our alma mater. I hope the perspective of a near 60 year old touches more of a chord than when we were all building our careers in our 30s.

I hope to hear from all of you on the status of your lives and share those with our classmates. From conversations over the years, and despite what some may believe, people honestly do like hearing about their classmates. It is definitely interesting to hear that the kid you sat next to in German class in 1985 later flew Apache helicopters on escort missions over Iraq. You’re impressed for the guy who was a fellow pre-med student, went on to build a successful medical practice, and then followed that with law school later in life and an even more successful trial lawyer career. The sheer number of retirements (I chose the wrong field evidently) is impressive to me. Everybody loves a good story, and there are many to tell. Please feel free to reach out to me at the address, email, or cell provided below.



Finally, I will be reminding you of the many ways to give back to the college, if you can. My favorite tag line for one of the calls by the College is #GiantShoulders. It is a tip of the hat to those who helped and guided us all through Wabash and onto our careers – be it faculty, older graduates, or fellow classmates. No man, no graduate, walked alone. I believe we were all aided and guided, at least in part, by someone. If nothing else, the Abraham Lincoln quote come to mind: “I am a success today because I had a friend who believed in me and I didn’t have the heart to let him down.”

There will be more soon, but I wanted to get this out as a reminder of how to connect to the college through the class agents. Below is my contact.

Yours,

Tim Oakes

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(Yes, I do social media, but a.) my job makes it difficult to be “me” too much, and b.) it’s mostly ‘KY stuff’ anyway.)