



Class of '58 Celebration, Largest Since Graduation

*Photos by Gib Gibson, Class of '58
Article by Tom Walbert, Class of '58*

The 2008 CMA Grand Reunion was a special weekend for the Classes of '58 and '59. A record number of the class of '58 (38) returned to the campus, literally from all parts of the world. Several participated in Friday's golf tournament, returning to Columbia in time for the CMAAA Reception at the Graymere Country Club that afternoon.

For several, that was the first time to see one another since being dismissed for the last time on the hill behind the office June 3, 1958. Recognition was made easier thanks to the special name tags designed and made by Gib and Mary Lois Gibson, along with matching tags for the wives. This was also a time of mingling with friends from other classes.

Immediately after the reception, the entire class and wives (73) enjoyed a tremendous buffet dinner at the club. Following dinner, most convened in the lobby of the motel where a special DVD was shown that was developed for the Class of '58 by Lynn Bowles and depicted the history of the class. This was enjoyed by all, including the wives, and sparked conversations that continued till the wee hours. The Gibson's had also put together a rather comprehensive display of memorabilia from the 50's era along with a large pictorial tribute to 23 of our deceased classmates.

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CMA Museum Dedication Highlights 2008 Reunion

by Woody Pettigrew, Museum Chairman

The dedication and opening ceremony for the CMA Museum capped a great morning of activities on Saturday, August 2nd during the Alumni Association's reunion this year. The CMA Alumni Association By-Laws, established in 1992 when the association was chartered, state in the Purpose Paragraph that the purpose of the association is to establish and maintain a museum to display memorabilia pertaining to and about CMA and its former cadets. While it took 16 years to finally realize this goal, the CMA Museum is now a reality and will help keep alive the influence that CMA had on so many lives.

The dedication and opening ceremony, conducted at the end of the General Membership meeting, was attended by numerous former CMA Cadets and their family members, former faculty members, Columbia Academy personnel, and many dignitaries from the local area including Tennessee State Senator Bill Ketron, former Columbia Mayor Ms. Barbara McIntyre, Maury County Archives Director Mr. Bob Duncan, and Middle Tennessee State University Center for Historic Preservation Assistant Director Ms. Caneta Hankins. Woody Pettigrew, CMA Class of '73 and Museum Committee Chairman, provided the

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A.D. Smith



Bill Cowan



Bobby Everett



Charles Ogle



Dave Smith



DeWees Crockett



Don Mitchell



Emmett Yeiser



Gary Vaughn



George Blasingame



Al Kennedy



Bill Runkle



Bobby Lindsey



Danny Soares



George Perley

Give Your Favorite Alumni A Piece of the CMA Campus

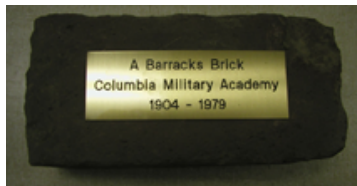
A genuine barracks brick taken from one of the oldest buildings on the CMA campus is now available to alumni for \$25 plus shipping (\$10 USPS in contiguous states).

This handsome brick carries a brass plate with the school name and the dates it contributed to the education of some of the finest scholars and leaders in both yesterday's and today's world.

Make your \$35.00 check out to "CMAAA" and mail it to: Becky Moon, 804 Atheneum Place, Columbia, TN 38401-3156. Be sure to include the name and address you would like to have the brick shipped to. Order soon so we can get it there by Christmas.

Proceeds from the sale of these bricks will help sustain the CMA Museum located in the old campus Guard House dedicated at the August Grand Reunion.

Next time you plan to be in or near Columbia, call Woody Pettigrew, CMA Museum Chairman, at (256) 653-7303 to make arrangements to have it open for you. You'll be amazed to see the truly professional displays of school artifacts and memorabilia.



REUNION GOLF TOURNEY WINNERS. . . Saddle Creek Golf Club in Lewisburg, TN again hosted the CMA 2008 Grand Reunion Golf Tournament and the winners are: (l to r) Stan Boyd, Class of '56; Karl Rapp, Class of '58; (Unknown), Rodney Wilcox, Class of '68; Jim Coble, Class of '59 and Resa Wilcox, Rodney's wife. Guess who the "ringer" was! It was Rodney's wife that brought home the bacon for the brawny Bulldogs. Maybe she can help out when we play Castle Heights this October. Winners split first place prize money plus a \$300 cash supplement contributed by Alumni Association.

30 Career & War Vets, Honored at Reunion

While all veterans were honored at the August Grand Reunion with a stirring patriotic medley of songs conducted by Randy Howell, Class of '72, thirty achieved special status as War Time and Career Veterans. Here is a list of those attending Veterans, their branch of service and the War, if any, they participated in:

Jack Walker, Class of '45, Army, Korea; **George Husted**, Class of '48, Army/Navy, Korea/Vietnam; **William Perry**, Class of

'49, Navy/Korea; **Joe Clark**, Class of '50, Army, Korea/Vietnam; **William Shaw**, Class of '50, Air Force, Vietnam; **Ken White**, Class of '50, Army, Korea; **Robin Wilkinson**, Class of '51, Navy, Korea; **Nevin Williams**, Army, Vietnam; **Jack Hart**, Class of '53, Army, Vietnam; **Russell Thompson**, Class of '55, Air Force, Vietnam; **Henry Bennett**, Class of '58, Army, Vietnam; **Dallas Bowles**, Class of '58, Army, Vietnam; **Jim Downey**, Class of '58, Air Force, Vietnam; **Richard Hofert**, Class of '58, Air Force, Vietnam; **W.A. Runkle**, Class of '58, Navy, Vietnam; War-

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Gib Gibson



Harry Hargis



Jerry Reagan

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Saturday, the class attended all the reunion functions. Without a doubt, a highpoint of the activities of the weekend was the official opening of the CMA Museum in the newly renovated guardhouse. For those who have not experienced it, it is worth the trip. However, allow plenty of time to enjoy all that it contains. It is very tastefully and professionally done and is a museum that we can all be proud of. Woody and Judy Pettigrew certainly deserve a huge "thanks" from all of us.

Saturday afternoon was filled with mini-reunions, both of classmates and '58 wives who have developed their own friendships over the years. More than one wife told me that because of the reunions and watching their husbands react to one another, they are just beginning to understand the "long gray line"



Jim Butcher



Jim Downey



Joe Gufford



John Evans



Lon Parks



Henry Bennett

and what CMA means to those who attended. Our reunions are far more than just a high school reunion. But then, CMA was far more than just a high school.

After the dinner/dance at Saturn Saturday evening, we were all found back in the motel lobby until the wee, hours watching the DVD that Lynn prepared and reminiscing. Early Sunday morning, most of us were back, or still, in the lobby for breakfast and good-byes.

So the reunion came and went. Friendships were re-established and strengthened. Tales were told, both gory and glory. And CMA was reborn, even if just for a short time. In less than two years, for just a little while, CMA will come to life again. To miss that would be like getting a "Dear John" letter. The entire Class of '58 will be looking forward to seeing everyone from all classes in 2010!



Jack Fish



Jerry Sands

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remarks for the ceremony, which included presenting a Plaque to Columbia Academy President Dr. Barry England. The wording on the Plaque was a Poem titled "A Cadet's Attitude" and was taken from the 1911 Bugler, the CMA annual at that time.

As indicated in the remarks, the CMA Museum project was a two year effort that included 14 months of discussions within the CMAAA Board of Directors and with the Columbia Academy Board that resulted in a lease agreement being signed on 1 November 2007 as well as 18 months of fund raising to support the project. Immediately upon execution of the lease, the CMAAA Museum Committee began the tasks of restoration of the Guard House, collection and cataloging of the artifacts, and design and acquisition of fixtures and showcases to display artifacts and tell the CMA story. The Museum Committee, consisting of Woody Pettigrew, Mike Gilchrist (Class of '63), Johnny Gruber (Class of '68), Becky Moon (Class of '75) and Buddy Fisher (Friend of CMA) worked with the CMAAA Board of Directors, the Columbia Academy leadership, and numerous local businesses to accomplish the many actions necessary to establish the museum.

At the conclusion of the remarks, Outgoing CMAAA President Bill Raiford and Incoming CMAAA President Don Kimbrell uncovered the CMA Museum sign signifying the opening of the CMA Museum while former CMA Headmaster Richard Fly and former CMA Commandant A.C. Howell looked on. Those individuals then led the progression of visitors to see the CMA Museum for the first time. The results of the effort proved to be well in excess of all expectations when the Association embarked on this project; the CMA Museum will tell the CMA story for former cadets, faculty, their families, friends of CMA and all visitors for many years to come.

The museum will display a plaque indicating the names of all individuals that contributed to the CMA Museum Project. A mock-up of that plaque was carried in a former edition of the Bugle. The

association will be taking additional donations through the 31st of December so anyone that would like to add to their current donation or make a new donation is encouraged to complete the Donation Form found on page four of this Bugle and mail the form along with a check made out to CMAAA to CMAAA, 804 Athenaeum Place, Columbia Tennessee, 38401. All donations received before 31 December 2008 will be included on the final version of the Plaque. Additional donations will go toward further improvements of the museum as well as toward restoration of the Cannon and Caisson that we now have back on campus and on permanent display beside the Museum.



CMAAA MUSEUM DEDICATED. . . Outgoing CMAAA President, Bill Raiford, Class of '55 (second from right) and Incoming CMAAA President Don Kimbrell, Class of '53 (third from left) uncover the CMA Museum sign while former CMA Headmaster, Richard Fly (far left), former CMA Commandant A.C. Howell (second from left), and Museum Chairman, Woody Pettigrew (far right), Class of '73, look on."

Old Cannon and Caisson Returned To Main Campus

After 30 years of separation from Columbia Military Academy and almost as long a period of time being away from the campus, the CMA Cannon and Caisson found their way back to campus on 3 July 2008. CMA Museum Committee Chairman Woody Pettigrew and Columbia Academy President Dr. Barry England established an agreement between the two organizations that will allow the CMA Alumni Association to permanently display Cannon and Caisson on the Columbia Academy campus beside the CMA Museum.

The Cannon and Caisson have traveled a long, and sometimes rocky, road for the past 30 years and were most recently (past two years)

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Cannon & Cason... CMA Cannon and Caisson on display next to CMA Museum.



Lynn Bowles



Mike Dodson



Mike Dowling



Mike Welge



Pete Everett



Pete Payne



Reggie LeCren



Terry Cook



Tom Lilly



Tom Walbert



Warren Giss

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stored in a metal building at the Tennessee National Guard Houston Barracks facility in Nashville, Tennessee. Due to some research by Marshall Cranford, CMA Class of '54, and some coordination with the Tennessee National Guard by the Museum Committee, we were able to locate and establish ownership of the Cannon and Caisson with relative ease. When Columbia Academy graciously agreed that having the Cannon and Caisson on campus as part of the CMA Museum was both appropriate and important, it was just a matter of making the trip to Nashville and bringing the Cannon and Caisson back to the campus. While that simple trip proved adventuresome on many levels, suffice it to say that we now have them safely back where they belong and that no humans or animals were injured in the process.

While the Cannon and Caisson were on display beside the CMA Museum during the August reunion, there is need for restoration work to be done, especially on the wooden portions. We have already made arrangements with an individual in Columbia to do the restoration over the next year and will plan to relocate the Cannon and Caisson this winter to begin the process. We are fortunate to have John Hubbard, CMA Class of '59, in the lumber business and John volunteered to donate any needed wood materials to support the restoration process. This will certainly help with the cost of the effort and will help us ensure to have quality material used in the restoration.

Funding for the restoration will be provided by the CMA Museum fund. The Museum Committee is still accepting donations to that fund and will continue to do so until 31 December 2008. Anyone that would like to help support the CMA Museum and the restoration of the Cannon and Caisson can complete the CMA Museum donation form provided elsewhere in this edition of the Bugle and send the form and check made out to CMAAA to CMAAA, 804 Athenaeum Place, Columbia, TN 38401. All donors will be recognized on the CMA Museum Donor Plaque which will be finalized and put on display in the CMA Museum after the 31 December close-out date. Due to our recent tax exempt designation, all donations to the CMAAA are now tax deductible.

Columbia Military Academy Museum Project Donation Form

I support the CMA Museum Project with a donation in the amount of _____ . I am including my check made out to the CMAAA

NAME: _____

CMA CLASS _____

ADDRESS: _____

I DO NOT want my name included in any recognition for making a donation _____. (Please indicate with an "X" if you DO NOT want your name included in the donor's list...an Anonymous donation)

Mail To: CMAAA, 804 Athenaeum Place, Columbia, TN 38401

INSTEAD of making this donation in my name, I want this donation to be in Memory of Mrs. Mariemma Grimes _____ (Please mark with an "X" if you want this donation to be recognized in Mrs. Grimes' name INSTEAD of your name.)

Donation Levels

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Up to \$499 – Foothills Club | \$500 - \$999 – Ridgerunner Club |
| \$1,000 - \$2,499 – Plateau Club | \$2,500 - \$4,999 – Trailblazer Club |
| \$5,000 - \$9,999 – Bronze | \$10,000 - \$24,000 – Silver |
| \$25,000 and Up – Gold | |

Aug. Reunion for Class of '59 Bridges 50 Year Career Gap

Some classmates had not seen each other since graduation, and all were thankful for their formative years at CMA that furnished the best "kick start" they could have had on the road of life.

Friday night 16 members of the group ate supper at Square Market Cafe in downtown Columbia with entertainment by their own Jack Martins blue grass CD's. The restaurant staff was happy to furnish their entertainment system.

Saturday's events started off with general assembly in old Main followed by the

flag dedication and a first look at the new Guard House Museum. Many commented on the outstanding job turned in by the Museum Committee with a special thanks extended Woody Pettigrew, Museum Chairman and his ever patient wife, Judy.

Saturday night's banquet at Saturn Corporation was again an occasion for the swapping of stories and "tall tales" as well as offering the opportunity to fill each other in on their different career paths.

Everyone agreed that a get together like this furnished a high point in their lives that will last for many years to come.

There were only five "no shows" but it's hoped they will be on hand in 2010.

Vietnam Author Remembers Prentice J. Bennett, Class of '65

by Willie Zavala

It was a very hot mid-afternoon when I arrived in Vietnam. Camp Evans was a lonely outpost in the middle of nowhere. Here I was a young 18 year old from San Antonio, Texas. I was feeling miserable and I was scared as I heard artillery and rifle fire somewhere in the distance. As I walked into my assigned tent I noticed several Marines. Some were sitting and some were moving about but everyone was quiet. As I picked out a bunk that wasn't being used, I heard a voice. "Welcome to the 1/9. What's your name?" "My name's Willie,

what's yours?" He said, "I'm PJ but here they call me Ben."

I didn't know how they got Ben from PJ but I found out later his last name was Bennett.

We hit it off immediately and in a place where friendship sometimes is your enemy, Ben and I became like brothers. As the days went very slowly by we began to know more about each other. He was a good leader and very charismatic. I knew he was from Tennessee but I thought he was from Nashville. Every time I would ask him where he was from he would say, "I'm from a hole-in-the-wall." Naturally, I

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“Whhhhaazzuupppp Dudes”

Odds and Ends from Here and There

Winston Elston, Class of '74, long time board member and Hall of Honor Committee Chairman, broke his leg the week before the August Reunion but was on hand to help with the newly inducted alumni. When he returned to Atlanta, he suffered a heart problem that briefly put him in the hospital and on Coumadin for the next 6 months.

Jack Walker, Class of '45, sent us a copy of Castle Heights all time football record pointing out the fact that CMA was the only school with a better win record against them.

Major Lyle Hampton sends his best to all cadets attending the August Reunion from his home in LaJolia, CA.

Former CMA football coach Billy Gunn turned 85 in July. We received a copy of a warm birthday greeting from his son, Mike Gunn.

Col. Blythe Hatcher's daughter, Sara Hatcher Williams, and her husband, Ken, have retired and are now living in Wilmington, N.C. They have 4 grown children, two boys and two girls, and go to the beach just about every day. Her e-mail address is: school56@aol.com

Mildred H. Mason, mother of Charles Garner, Class of '57, died in March at age 98.

Joe Bailey, Class of '61, tells us Ted Knapp, husband of Shari Lykins Knapp, Class of '77, is being treated at Mayo Clinic for cancer. Ted is a football coach and teacher in Albany, GA.

Sarah Nelson “Nelle” Gilchrist Peebles, widow of James M. “Mac” Peebles, Class of '38, died at her home in Columbia in July. She was an artist admired for her captivating portraits, landscapes and still lifes.

Tom Lavelly, Class of '57, announces the birth of his 2nd grandchild in June. Tom's son is the engineering officer on the U.S.S. Florida out of St. Mary's, GA. Tom and wife Mary are still running their hobby business, Stoneworks, at: www.rrstoneworks.com

James Ken White, Class of '50, has begun therapy with a neurologist on regaining the reflexes in his legs. He can be reached by phone at: 843-569-5522.

Paul Cauchon, former Band Director and Physics Instructor celebrated his 80th birthday Oct. 10. He has been battling Parkinson's for the past several years and has become non-

Christmas Ornaments Fund Guard House

The CMA Museum is sponsoring the development and sale of CMA Christmas Tree Ornaments in time for Christmas 2008. We have ornaments for each of the original limestone buildings as well as one of the CMA Crest. These ornaments will make a great addition to your Christmas Tree and can also be meaningful gifts for family members. To order, simply complete this form and mail the form with a check made out to CMAAA to the address at the bottom of the form. Please order by Thanksgiving to ensure delivery in time for Christmas. If you have questions, call Woody Pettigrew at (256) 653-7303 or e-mail at wpettigrew@knology.net.

| Ornament | Quantity | Price |
|---------------|----------|----------|
| CMA Crest | _____ | \$20 ea. |
| Old Main | _____ | \$20 ea. |
| Guard House | _____ | \$20 ea. |
| Academy Hall | _____ | \$20 ea. |
| Ragsdale Hall | _____ | \$20 ea. |
| Total | | _____ |

Note: Get all 5 for \$80 total.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Please make checks payable to CMAAA and mail this form and check to:
Woody Pettigrew,
101 Springton Drive,

CMA Chrest



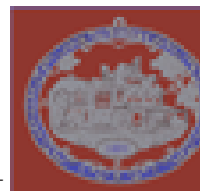
Old Main



Guard House



Academy Hall



Ragsdale Hall



conversant for the most part. Paul retired from the Marine Corp. Reserves as a full colonel. He taught computer classes for senior citizens and became a proficient photographer in late life garnering several awards.

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ren Scoville, Class of '58, Navy, Vietnam; **Dan Soares**, Class of '58, Vietnam; **Michael Tolson**, Class of '59, Army, Vietnam; **James Crain**, Class of '61, Army, Vietnam; **Jim Dempsey**, Class of '61, Navy, Vietnam;

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assumed it was Nashville. It would take me twenty years later when I found out he was from Hohenwald, Tennessee. We would talk about the hills and fishing in Tennessee and then we would compare my stories about the hills and fishing in San Antonio. I knew about his family and he knew about mine. When we spoke of school he would always mention Columbia Military Academy. He obviously had some enjoyable moments at CMA. I know he mentioned friends names but it has been forty years and I don't remember them.

It was on July 17, 1968 when we were hit hard by the enemy. We had just pulled

Jim Freeman, Class of '61, Army, Vietnam; **Joe Fuller**, Class of '61, Air Force, Vietnam; **Cliff Tanner**, Class of '61, Army, Vietnam; **William Hart**, Class of '62, Army, Vietnam; **Gerry Stanfield**, Class of '62, Air Force, Vietnam; **Bill Carden**, Class of '66, Army, Vietnam; **Greg Thompson**, Class of '72, Air Force, Cold War; **Drue Garrison**, Class of '73, Army, Persian Gulf/Iraq; **Woody Pettigrew**, Class of '73, Gulf War; and **Steve Stevenson**, Class of '??, Army, Vietnam.

out some wounded Marines in “ponchos” when rocket rounds started landing. We jumped into a bomb crater and unfortunately a round landed in the crater and killed six Marines. Ben died to the right of me but he did not suffer.

Once in a lifetime you find a friend like Prentis James Bennett but the Lord sometimes has his own plan. Ben was taken at an early age but he left a lasting impression on so many. He should be remembered for the things he did and honored for giving his “all”.

Prentice Jones Bennett was inducted into the CMA Hall of Honor at the August Reunion.

Class of '33 Medal of Honor Winner Was Longest Serving Arkansas Lt. Gov.

By Matt Schudel, Washington Post Staff Writer

Nathan G. Gordon, a Navy pilot who received the Medal of Honor for rescuing other aviators in World War II, and who later became Arkansas's longest-serving lieutenant governor, died September 8 in Little Rock. He was 92. Mr. Gordon was a small-town lawyer in Arkansas when he enlisted in the naval air corps in 1941. He flew a Consolidated PBY Catalina, a so-called flying boat that could land on water and had twin engines mounted on a wing above the fuselage.

He was part of the Black Cat squadron, so called because the airplanes were painted black and showed a cat's jaws clamping down on a ship, and because the squadron often flew its patrol missions at night, sometimes dropping 1,000-pound bombs on Japanese ships from mast level.



Lt. Gordon

On February 15, 1944, Mr. Gordon and his crew received word that several B-25 bombers had been shot down while attacking Japanese positions near Kavieng harbor on the island of New Ireland in Papua New Guinea. Piloting his aircraft, the Arkansas Traveler, in a driving rainstorm and under constant enemy fire, Mr. Gordon made three separate landings in rough seas to rescue nine crew members from rubber life rafts. He set his plane down with such force that rivets popped and welded seams began to come loose. He had to shut off both engines to keep the plane steady amid the 18-foot swells, as crew members pulled the fallen airmen out of the sea with ropes.

After the third rescue, Mr. Gordon had flown about 20 miles toward his base when the radio crackled with word that another B-25 crew had been downed. He turned the Arkansas Traveler back to Kavieng harbor to attempt his most difficult rescue of the day.

Because the crewmen were only 600 yards from shore, Mr. Gordon had to approach from overland, flying directly above

entrenched Japanese positions at a mere 300 feet, braving artillery and small-arms.

He set his plane down once more in the churning water, the swells shielding his bobbing plane from enemy guns. Six more U.S. aviators clambered aboard as Mr. Gordon restarted the engines. By then, his plane was badly waterlogged and dangerously overloaded, with 24 men, including the nine-man crew. "The breakers could throw you 35 or 40 feet in the air," Mr. Gordon told the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette in 2002. "You had to keep the nose up till you reached takeoff speed of 55 knots, or the aircraft would flip and everybody likely would be killed."

With crewmen bailing water with buckets, Mr. Gordon got the plane airborne and flew to the safety of a U.S. base.

He was presented the Medal of Honor at a ceremony in Australia on July 13, 1944. Later that day, he was back in the air, flying a 15-hour patrol.

Nathan Green Gordon was born September 4, 1916, in Morrilton, AR, where his father was a lawyer. He attended CMA and then Arkansas Tech University before graduating from the University of Arkansas law school in 1939.

Returning to Arkansas as a war hero in 1946, Mr. Gordon was elected lieutenant governor and was reelected to nine more two-year terms.

He retired from public office in 1967 and returned to his hometown to practice law.

His wife of 49 years died in 1995. He had no children or other immediate survivors.

SILVER TAPS

William A. Fricke, Class of '39

William A. "Bill" Fricke, age 87, of Huntsville, AL, long time CMAAA Board member, died July 10.

Born in Chickasaw, AL, he credits CMA with turning his life around and heading him in the right direction.



Bill Fricke

He went to California in 1940 landing a job with Lockheed Aircraft Corp. In 1944 he joined the U.S. Merchant Marines and was posted to the Pacific Theater on a T-2 Tanker.

Following separation from the service, he returned to Birmingham, AL where he worked for Goslin Manufacturing Co., S.H. Kress Co. and L.C. Smith Typewriter Co.

In 1947 he moved to Montgomery taking a job with Marchant Calculating Machine Co.

In 1951, he opened his own pet and hobby shop, selling it in 1956 and returning to Birmingham where he became property manager for a real estate company.

Bill moved to Huntsville in 1958 where he had secured a job as an engineering draftsman for the Chrysler Corp.'s Space Division of Redstone Arsenal.

When Chrysler closed the division he went into insurance and real estate.

In 1975 he started Weather Window Co., a manufacturer of storm windows and doors which quickly grew to 18 employees prior to his selling out to a partner and retiring in 1983.

Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Sarah Fricke; three daughters, Becky Garrison, Cindy Fricke, and Jill Bolton; son, J.R. Fricke; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Burial was in Valhalla Memory Gardens, Huntsville.

The family requests donations be made to the American Cancer Society.

George D. Thomas Jr., Class of '42

George Dewey Thomas Jr., age 83, died Sunday, June 8, 2008 of cancer. Preceded in death by parents, George D. and Alma Louise Thomas. Survived by wife of 56 years, Sarah Lea Thomas; sons, George D. (Lesley) Thomas III and William Neely (Jane) Thomas; 2 granddaughters, Sarah Kelly Thomas and Leigh Marshall Thomas, all of Nashville; sisters, Jean Curtis of Nashville and Mary Phil Hamilton (Hayne) of Chattanooga.



WWII PILOT...

Nathan G. Gordon (wearing sunglasses) is pictured with his PBY crew "Arkansas Traveler" in 1944.

SILVER TAPS

George remained at CMA for an extra year as a PG before entering the U.S. Army during World War II. He served in the 106th Infantry Division in Europe from 1943 to 1946.

Following the war he attending Vanderbilt University where he was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity. He graduated Vanderbilt in 1950.



George Thomas Jr.

Mr. Thomas began his career as a live-stock broker and farmer but later achieved prominence as a Real Estate Appraiser. He was past President of the Nashville Real Estate Board, member of the Nashville Exchange Club, Corinthian Masonic Lodge #414, World War II Review Group, Dixie Rod and Gun Club in Samburg, TN and 17 year coach of Junior Knothole Baseball (ages 8 to 12).

He was a member of the Exchange Club of Nashville.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing and traveling after retirement.

Funeral service were held Thursday, June 12, at Belmont United Methodist Church, Rev. Ken Edwards officiating. Interment at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Honorary Pallbearers: James L. Harper, Mike Ishie, James E. Stevens, Jim Hodge, John Jeffords, Jim Barrick, Owen Ferrell, Phil Russ, Floyd Adkisson, Ray Tarkington, Joe Draper, Joe Foxhall, Harold Riddle and members of the Dixie Rod and Gun Club. Memorials may be made to Belmont United Methodist Church or Ducks Unlimited.

David Fox Taylor, Class of '53

David Fox Taylor died August 13 at the Princeton University Medical Center, Princeton, NJ, after a long illness.

Born in Memphis, Mr. Taylor graduated Valedictorian from CMA before attending and graduating from Princeton University with a BA in 1957.

In the United States Air Force Security Service, Captain Taylor was a member of the 6938th Radio Squadron Mobile, Wheelus Air Force Base, Tripoli, Libya.

Upon leaving the service, he returned to Memphis where he joined Ernst & Ernst and then, Dallas, Merchant & Taylor, both internationally known accounting firms.

In the 1960s and 70s, he was associated

with Kimbrough Towers Corporation an apartment building, retail shops and office building. He was a long time resident of Johnson City, TN where, in the 1980s and 90s, he served on the vestry of St. John's Episcopal Church.

During his career in East Tennessee, he had been business manager of Tri-Cities State Technical Institute, controller of Tennessee-Virginia Energy Corporation, vice president of finance and treasurer of Millers Cove Energy Company, and lastly with Edwards & Associates the world's leading helicopter dealer.

In 2000, he retired to Princeton, New Jersey to be near his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. & Mrs. Lewis T. Barringer, Jr.

He leaves his sister, Diane Barringer, and sister-in-law, Carita Allen Crump widow of his brother, Jack, his children; David Taylor, Jr of Washington, DC, Kimbrough Taylor, and Fontaine Brown of Memphis, and eight grandchildren.

H. E. Woodard, Sr., Class of '54

Howard Edwin Woodard Sr. left this life to join his parents, James and Cleo Woodard and other loved ones that have gone on before him, Sunday Aug. 31, after a long and courageous battle against COPD and other lung related illnesses.



Howard Woodard

Howard led a full and interesting life which included a journey to Oklahoma to attend The University of Oklahoma with several other cadets from CMA. This marked the beginning of a fifty-two year union to the love of his life, Margie Paulk of Oklahoma City. They married on June 22, 1956. Howard was born and raised on a cotton farm near Osceola, AR.

Howard's family was his pride and joy. He leaves behind Margie of the home and two children, Brenda Alexander, and husband Rod of Frenchmen's Bayou, AR; and Howard (Woody) Woodard, Jr., and wife Pam, of Mustang, OK., plus two grandchildren Ryan, of Tuttle, OK and Kylee, also of Mustang. Other family members are brother, Larry Woodard, CMA Class of '55, and wife Sandy of Hilton Head, SC; sister, Annelle Cate, and

brother-in-law, Benton of Fayetteville, AR. Brother and sister-in-law Virgil and Wanda Odell Paulk of Oklahoma City. He also has many nieces and nephews that held a special place in his heart.

Howard's accomplishments included a B.A. in Math from Oklahoma City University (1959), and a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from OU (1961). Howard's career in the private aircraft industry included LTV, General Dynamics, Lockheed, Falcon Jet, and Boeing. Changing his career to government service allowed him to move back to Oklahoma City in 1979. First with DCAS then transferred to Tinker Air Force Base. He retired in 2000 as supervisor/team coordinator in the Technology Insertion Branch.

He had the opportunity to be a catalyst for new innovations in technology. Specifically, when Howard was 12 years old he was involved in an accident that led to the loss of his leg, as a result, he wore prototype legs and feet that were designed within his organization through the Technology Transfer Program at Tinker.

After retirement he worked for VTS, a government contract company until his health worsened. Howard always focused on his abilities, not his disability.

Services were held in Oklahoma City with interment at Memorial Park Cemetery.

Allen Bryan Wood, Class of '57

Allen Bryan Wood, age 69, of Memphis, passed away September 4, 2008, at his home. Mr. Wood, a lifelong Baptist, was a graduate of the University of Memphis.

He retired from Memphis City Schools and is survived by his wife, Doris J. Wood, and granddaughters, Gina and Kelly Donaldson. He also leaves a stepdaughter, Lisa James of Memphis and his uncle, Dick Claunch of Meridian, Texas. Services will be 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 9, at Memphis Funeral Home Poplar Chapel. The family will receive friends from 5-8p.m. Monday at the funeral home. The family requests that memorials be sent to Youth Villages.

Robert W. Oates, Class of '61

Robert W. Oates, forever "Uncle Robert" to both friends and family, died of a heart attack the evening of June 18.

After graduating CMA, he attended
continued on next page

SILVER TAPS

and graduated Georgia Tech following this with a Masters Degree from Pepperdine University.

A skilled pilot, Robert enjoyed flying a number of light aircraft. Jet boating on the California Delta was a 20-year passion.

He is survived by his beloved sister Marilyn Oates Houchen.

He had battled valiantly in the last years against a collection of medical issues. At the time of his unexpected passing, he had reclaimed a large part of his former life, and was planning bigger and better horizons ahead. All who knew and loved him will sorely miss him.

A memorial to Robert can be viewed at: www.dildaymortuary.com

Jimmy W. Darnell, Class of '69

Jimmy Wayne Darnell, 57, owner of Utility Trailer Sales of Tennessee with offices in Lebanon, died Monday, August 4, 2008 at his residence in Franklin.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday at 3:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 101 Legends Drive, Franklin with Pastor Chris Joiner officiating. Burial will follow in Williamson Memorial Gardens with Masonic Rites conducted at grave side by Dan Welch, Funeral Master.

The family will visit with friends Wednesday from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. and Thursday from 2:00 p.m. to service time at the church. Oakes & Nichols Funeral Directors of Columbia are in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society, c/o Elaine Green, 1505 Coleman Road, Franklin 37064 or Alive Hospice of Nashville, 1718 Patterson

CMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



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Street, Nashville 37203. Notes of sympathy may be sent to www.oakesandnichols.com.

Born January 24, 1951 in Bedford County, Tennessee, he attended Columbia Military Academy, graduating as Valedictorian of the Class of 1969 and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Mr. Darnell was a member of Hiram Masonic Lodge #7, Free & Accepted Masons, and a Knight Templar in the York Rite Bodies. He was elected Mason of the Year for excellence in achievement for 2008.

Survivors include his wife of 39 years, Sherri Burt Darnell of Franklin; sons, Sean Darnell and Chandler (Renae) Darnell of Spring Hill; sisters, Brenda Darnell, Janis (Mark) Cannon, and Sandy Gordon, all of Shelbyville; father and step-mother, J. T. and Nell Darnell of Shelbyville; nieces and nephews, Blake and Ashley Cannon, and Lauralee and Andrew Gordon, all of Shelbyville. He was preceded in death by his mother, Margaret Ruth Hill Darnell.

Active pallbearers are Mark Cannon, Eddie Woods, Albert Beatty, Robb Ramey, Curtis Lane, and Steve Richards.

Honorary pallbearers include Gary Neill, Brent Holton Burt, Walter Webb, Mike Brown, and members of Hiram Masonic Lodge #7.



Jimmy Darnell

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