

# KnighTimes

TORONTO HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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## ***Dr. Jane Shaffer '37 Retires Annual Scholarship Established***

Dr. Jane Shaffer doesn't want any special attention. She believes she was just doing her job. And yet, thousands of individuals throughout the area, especially those in the Gem City, would have to disagree. She has acquired the respect, friendship and love of a community.

For fifty-six years, Frances Jane Shaffer has served the valley as a doctor who truly cares about her patients. The doors are locked and the rooms vacant. The doctor has retired. The message on her answering machine says, "Thank you all".

The Toronto High School Alumni Association honored Dr. Jane as one of its first "Distinguished Alumni" recipients in 1990. At a recent reception in her honor, Fred Brower, Trinity Health System's president, announced as a show of its appreciation, the Trinity Board of Trustees is establishing an annual scholarship by Trinity Health System, in her name, to be administered by the Toronto High School Alumni Association.

Born in Cuyahoga Falls, Shaffer moved to Toronto and graduated in 1937 from Toronto High School. She attended the University of Berkeley, where she received her bachelor of arts degree. She earned her medical degree at the University of California, San Francisco. She was one of only ten women in her medical school class of 1943. Dr. Shaffer served her internship at the University of Rochester, Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, N.Y. She served her residency at the University of California Hospital in San

Francisco, Western Reserve University Lakeside Hospital in Cleveland and Permanente Foundation Hospital in Oakland, California.

After completing her residency, Dr. Shaffer returned to Toronto and established her practice in 1950. In those years, Toronto only had male physicians and she was expected to rent space with another doctor. With a spirit to overcome this obstacle, she was finally rented space on the third floor of the Union Savings Bank Building, at the corner of Fourth and Main Streets. "I always said if you made it to my office on the third floor then you didn't have a heart problem", Shaffer recalled telling her patients. But the people came and over the next fifty-six years she took care of three and four generations of patients, delivering hundreds of infants, never hurrying a patient out of the office. She didn't worry about what kind of medical insurance they had before they could be treated and has been known to accept baked goods or vegetables when the patient did not have any other means to pay. Dr. Sarjit Singh, one of her colleagues said he asked people about her and one patient told him long lines waiting to see the doctor were the norm. "We just go and she stays till she sees all of us," the patient said. "She is a model for all of us," Dr. Singh said.

Dr. Jane has given back to the community a compassion that goes beyond the typical doctor-patient practice known today. She visited patients' homes



when they were in need of care— even on Sunday afternoons. Andy Blaner '39, former Toronto mayor, called her "the Mother Teresa of Toronto", "I've even seen her feed a patient", Blaner said; an observation shared by several nurses who worked with her and watched her style of practicing medicine.

In addition to the medical care she has provided to the community, Dr. Shaffer also has been a member of several boards that have benefited Jefferson County residents. She served as the president of the medical staff at Trinity Health System in 1975 and 1987. She served as the health commissioner for the city of Toronto from 1955-78 and established a well-child clinic in Toronto in 1956.

She served on the Toronto Board of Education from 1956-1976 and in 1974 was one of only five school board members in Ohio to be named to an All Ohio Board of Education.

## ***Fallen Knights:***

**Thomas Theller '58** passed away May 9, 2006 not March 2006 as reported in the last newsletter.

**Betty J. Retzer Morrow '44** died February 13, 2006. Betty was an avid reader.

**Ila M. Cochran Ingram '44** died April 4, 2006. She was a telephone operator for Ohio Bell and was a switch-board operator for the former St. John's Medical Center.

**Marian Yocum Rawson '37** died November 14, 2006. She retired as a self-employed hairdresser and worked many years with the Jefferson Co. Board of Elections.

**John E. Rebres '46** passed away November 16, 2006. John was active in Boy Scouts for fifty years, earning the Silver Beaver, District Award of Merit, Doctorate of Commissioner Science, The Methodist Religious Award, The Order of The Arrow and The Wood Badge.

**Frank Leasure '49** died in Orlando, Florida on November 29, 2006. He was executive vice president of Cummins North Central, Michigan.

**Clarence "Bud" Means** died at his home in Lake Mary, Florida on December 21, 2006. He retired in 1989 as superintendent of the Lisbon School District in Lisbon, Ohio. He was principal of Toronto High School from 1965 to 1978.

**Edward Donohue '59** passed away December 22, 2006 at his home in Dillon, Montana. He spent eight years in the Navy on submarines and graduated from Ohio State University with a degree in forestry.

**Calvin C. Carnahan '41** died December 23, 2006. He was a former Toronto councilman, safety director and Mayor's clerk. He helped organize the Toronto Boosters Club. He served as an Elder of The First Presbyterian Church.

**Debbie Jo Downen '70** passed away in Roswell, New Mexico on January 3, 2007 of natural causes. She was a self-employed caregiver for the elderly in Roswell.

**Margaret Jo Custer Easter '73** died January 11, 2007 after a courageous battle with cancer. She was office manager for State Farm Insurance Company.

**James Richard O'Brien '45** passed away January 12, 2007. He retired from National Steel where he worked for thirty-eight years as a strip steel welder mechanic. He had just celebrated sixty-one years of marriage to his wife, Barbara Jean.

**George Douglas Gobble '45** died January 15, 2007. He was a well-loved resident of St. Elizabeth manor in Barrington, Rhode Island before his death. He suffered from Alzheimer's disease.

**James P. Liddick '59** passed away on January 16, 2007. He was a retired time-keeper for Furnco Construction.

**Terry "Wimpy" Sine '57** passed on January 27, 2007 at his home. He suffered from lung cancer. Terry retired from the Ohio Department of Transportation and was a self-employed owner of Wimpy's Mobile Home Service for twenty years.

**Edward R. Umpleby '66** passed away on March 7, 2007. He served in the U.S. Marines and was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was employed by Wheeling-Pitt. Steel Co at the Steubenville plant as a tractor operator.

**Douglas "Scott" Robertson '89** died on March 16, 2007. He currently was an assistant manager of Advance Auto Parts in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

**Carl "Dutch" Nordenger '49** died on March 21, 2007. Dutch was retired from the Toronto City Schools where he worked for many years as the buildings and grounds supervisor. Dutch was an active member of the Toronto American Legion Post #86 and served as the Club's Commander and Judge Advocate. He also was the Ohio District 10 Commander.

**Anthony "Ace" Perun '54** passed away on March 21, 2007. Tony was retired from Timet where he worked as a machine shop foreman for thirty-four years. He was an avid golfer and was the inventor and patent holder of the Big Easy Swing Trainer.

**Dean "Diz" Byers '52** passed away on March 25, 2007. He worked and retired as an iron worker for Local 549 out of Wheeling, WV.

**Iva May Howard Shyne '41** departed this life on March 25, 2007. Iva was a devoted employee of Ohio Bell for thirty-six and a half years and retired in 1985.

**Michael C. Mischik '41** passed away April 4, 2007 at his residence in Tallassee, Alabama. He was a self employed plumber in the Toronto area for many years.

## ***Marriages***

Dave & Alyce Barcus Harvilak '64/67 were united in marriage on March 26, 2005. Alyce retired from her job May 31, 2005 and Dave retired March 31, 2005. They both enjoy traveling and returning to Toronto to the many festivities we have to offer.

Chad Messenger and Natalie Richards '95 exchanged vows in London, OH on September 9, 2006. Natalie is a registered nurse at Riverside Hospital in Columbus.

## ***Births***

Troy '83 and Lori Radinsky, residing in New Philadelphia, OH, are proud to announce the birth of their second son, Aidan Troy, on November 23, 2006. Grandparents are Dwight and Carol Schulz of Cleveland, OH and Elaine Radinsky Johnston '58. Aidan joins his brother, Nolan.

## ***THSAA Website***

The website for the Alumni Association is under construction, so no links are connected at this time. Please visit [www.torontoohioalumni.com](http://www.torontoohioalumni.com) and check it out. We would appreciate any feedback. Our email address is [torontohsaa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:torontohsaa@sbcglobal.net). The site is being constructed by Brenda Cich '85 of Jupiter One Web Designs with help from Matt Hannan '85. Information was researched and provided by Carolyn Walker '64.

Many of you have sent in your email addresses and we are thankful for all of you that have taken the time to do so. We sent out our first mass email message in December—believe me it was a learning experience. If you did not receive an email from us and believe you had provided us with your email, please contact us. We did have several come back undeliverable.

## **Anniversaries**

Martha and Edward Kalifut '42 celebrated their fifty-fifth wedding anniversary this past November. Ed taught in the Steubenville School system for twenty years and was assistant principal at Harding Middle School for two years. He also taught at the College of Steubenville, now the Franciscan University, for two years. He taught courses for Ohio University for thirteen years. He was principal at Beech Bottom Primary and Middle School for nineteen years, until his retirement in June 1989. While attending OSU, he joined the U.S. Naval Reserve until he received a direct commission in the U.S. Air Force as a Second Lieutenant in 1950. He retired from the Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel after over thirty-nine years of active and reserve service.

Edward and Magdalene Ladomersky Rock '37/36 celebrated their sixty-second wedding anniversary on November 8, 2006. Edward retired from Timet in 1981. They have four children, seven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Ruth Elaine Guy '66 and Michael Cottis celebrated their forty anniversary on December 10, 2006. They have two children and three grandchildren.

## **Notes from Alumni**

David Pillar '97 was recently named Monroe County's Educator of the Year by the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce. David is in his sixth year at Bloomington High School North in Bloomington, Indiana. He teaches Government and U.S. History and is director of the school's Senior Destination Experience Project. In addition to teaching at the high school, David teaches two courses at Indiana University in the School of Education and the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. He also is an IHSAA sports official in basketball and softball, and last season refereed in the Indiana State High School Basketball Tournament.

Karen Metcalf '67 was recently selected for the 10th Edition of Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2005/2006.

This honor is exceptionally gratifying because it came from a former student who had been cited for academic excellence in either Who's Who Among Americas' High School Students, The National Dean's List or The Chancellor's List. Students are invited to nominate only one teacher from their entire academic experience (K-college). Who's Who Among America's Teacher's honors a select 5% of our nation's educators. Karen presently teaches fourth grade for Strongsville City Schools and taught in Toronto for eleven years at both Roosevelt and S. C. Dennis Schools. Her daughter, Betsy, is a pediatric nurse at Columbus Children's Hospital, daughter, Kara, is the Associate Director of Admissions at the Maine School of Science and Mathematics and son, Jay, is a business major at the University of Toledo. Karen is the daughter of James and Betty Weltner Metcalf '39.

Helen Bass-Smith '34, of Cadiz, Ohio, was recently honored by the US House of Representatives on the occasion of her 90th birthday. Congressman Zack Space, presented the proclamation honoring her for "extraordinary commitment to her community". Helen is an avid volunteer at Harrison Community Hospital, where she works several days every week at the gift shop. She recently started volunteering at the local Salvation Army. Helen says she does not have many local relatives, so she does everything on her own, and she goes above and beyond to assist other people, including friends with disabilities. "I appreciate what I have and I just try to help others", Smith said. She also received other birthday acknowledgments from Ohio Governor Ted Strickland, Harrison County Commissioners, Cadiz Mayor Don Bethel and President George W. Bush.



## **Shaffer continued**

She was appointed to the Jefferson County Board of Mental Retardation and served more than thirteen years, during which time the school of Bright Promise was developed and built. Shaffer Plaza, named in her honor is in Jefferson County and consists of six residential homes for mentally retarded and developmentally disabled citizens.

The reluctant recipient of public recognition for her efforts, Shaffer has received "Citizen of the Year" honors by the Toronto Area Chamber of Commerce and the Quinn A.M.E. Church. She was honored for fifty years of practice by the Jefferson County Medical Society and named Trinity Health System's "Woman of the Year". She was featured in a 1998 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette article about female physicians making a difference in the lives of their patients. She was inducted into the "Lou Holtz Upper Ohio Valley Hall of Fame" in 2000.

When she wasn't seeing patients, Dr. Jane could be found tending her flower garden or singing in the choir at the First United Presbyterian Church where she is a longtime member and elder.

The following comment by Dorothy Blaner '72, Toronto Second Ward Councilwoman, sums up the thoughts of many:

"She has always been an inspiration. Dr. Jane has been successful in the fields of medicine and education. She is an example of perseverance and following your dream. She has helped many people achieve their dream, including me. It is a loss for the residents of Toronto that she will no longer be our physician, but we are glad to have her as our friend.



A monetary donation to the Alumni Association in memory of a classmate, friend or classmate's family member is a gift that continues giving through scholarships to graduates each year. Acknowledgements are sent to the family.

**IN MEMORIAM:**

**Edgar Gray '58**

Karen Saner Thompson '58  
Joseph McKelvey '58  
Gerald & Anna Lea Litten Wirth '49  
Class of 1958 Members below:  
Richard & Carolyn Stagani McGrath '58  
Janet Wilson Clore '58  
Karen Saner Thompson '58  
Tish Herdman Rasor '58  
Calvin Russell '58  
Angela Tarr Ramer '58  
Ron Ferrell '58  
Delores Glasure Jeans '58  
Rita Rex Carnahan '58  
Gilbert Arehart '58  
Elaine Radinsky Johnson '58  
Janet Freeman Drake '58  
Janice Freeman '58  
Donna Goodrich Hardy '58  
Patty Miller Nemitt '58  
Rosemary Tarulli Rebres '58

**Class of 1932**

Margaret Clendenning Riser '32

**Jean Henry Rose '48**

Betty Risler Hullhorst '51

**Sherry Shevelow Starr '79**

Susette Shevelow Tice '73  
Don & Jean Donatelli

**Marian Yocum Rawson '37**

Stella & Jim Westlake '47

**Frank Leasure '49**

Myra McClelland McGrath '33  
Paul Leasure '45  
Marie Rethage McGrath '38  
Dr. Chad Murvosh '49

**Gary Fisher '66**

Don & Jean Donatelli  
Jim McMillin '67

**Lawrence Isleman '82**

Don & Jean Donatelli

**Kathleen McGraw Kelly '64**

Jim & Kay Gilchrist Murray '64  
Robert Kelly '64

**Deceased Classmates '51/55**

David & Jackie Blewitt Nixon

**Jack Kincaid '52**

Mary Wise Kincaid '52

**Tom Sherwood '52**

Mary Wise Kincaid '52

**Barbara Robinson Stroup '52**

Mary Wise Kincaid '52

**Dorothy Rebich Birch '52**

Mary Wise Kincaid '52

**Nancy Bassford Bradley '52**

Mary Wise Kincaid '52

**Veronica Yanik Wells '52**

Mary Wise Kincaid '52

**Theresa Perrin**

Mary Wise Kincaid '52

**Betty Caddick Eisenzimmer '53**

Mary Wise Kincaid '52

**Robert Hughes—Dean of Boys**

Mary Wise Kincaid '52

**Kathryn Hammond—**

**Dean of Girls**

Mary Wise Kincaid '52

**Calvin Carnahan '41**

Raymond Connolly '40

**Clarence "Bud" Means -**

**THS Principal**

Raymond Connolly '40

**Betty Dyer Kalivoda '39**

Emily Sherwood Sestito '48

**Bill Davis '43**

Edward Kalifut '42

**Richard Dick O'Brien '45**

Nikki Bonnizzio Cable '62  
Robert & Becky Hughes Chadwick '48  
Ed & Ruth Fitzgerald

**Tom Murphy '59**

Les Connelly '60

**Jim Pat Liddick '59**

Sally Swearingen Schiraldi '62

**Dick Oberdorfer**

Rich & Nancy McKelvey Lewis '50

**Dick Blackburn**

Josephine Reale Blackburn '53

**Peggy Custer '73**

Susette Shevelow Tice '73

**Tom Lucas '64**

John & Janice Firm Scalley '74/75

**John "Jack" Williams '40**

Raymond & Jane Connolly '40  
Charles Vogelsong '41

**Cynthia Utzler Hedges**

John/Janice Firm Scalley '74/75

**Gary Tice '69**

Susette Shevelow Tice '73  
Michelle Tice '00  
Travis Tice '09

**Anthony Perun '54**

Wilma McKnight Walker '50  
Michael W. Walker '83

**Douglas "Scott" Robertson '89**

Wilma McKnight Walker '50  
Michael W. Walker '83

**Rebecca Milligan Evanosky '65**

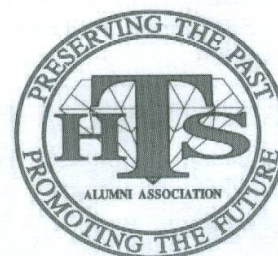
Jane K. Weltz  
Cassie Rogers & Tom Ernst

**Carl "Dutch" Nordenger '49**

John Zamborsky '50

**Marion Anderson Deku '54**

Margaret Deku '87



All donations received and recorded as of April 12, 2007.

**Joseph & Anna Marie Karaffa  
Award for Excellence in Education**

Nominations are being accepted for the Joseph and Anna Marie Karaffa Award for Excellence in Education.

The \$500 award was established to recognize the efforts of an outstanding teacher or administrator in creating an environment where teaching and learning are valued. It is presented, annually, to a teacher or administrator active in the Toronto City Schools.

Prior recipients include: Linda Blair (2006), Social Studies teacher, J. T. Karaffa Middle School; Linda Antonucci (2005), Kindergarten teacher, Lincoln School; Gary Fisher (2004), Superintendent Toronto Schools; Maureen Taggart (2003), Principal, S. C. Dennis School; James Ray (2002), Central Office Administrator; Susan Buckham (2001), Fifth Grade teacher, S. C. Dennis School; Barbara Carter (2000), Second Grade teacher, Lincoln School; Kirk George (1999), Toronto High School Band and Choral Director; and Barbara Pritts (1998), Toronto High School Biology teacher and Chairman of the Science Department.

Nominations will be accepted from students, teachers, administrators, parents and alumni. They should be submitted to Karaffa Award for Excellence in Education Selection Committee, C/o THSAA, P.O. Box 273, Toronto, Ohio 43964. Nominations must be post-marked by May 1st to be considered for the 2007 award. They should include the nominee's name, date of nomination, current position in the Toronto City Schools, name of nominator and reasons for nomination.



As you travel this big beautiful country of ours, one thing you will soon discover, someone from your hometown of Toronto, Ohio is staying just around the bend. The people in Florida decided thirty-eight years ago to bring former Toronto residents together for an informal time of fellowship. It has grown to be a major weekend event and many residents of Toronto plan vacations in the Sunshine State at this time to join in the festivities. We received the following information regarding this past TDIF 2007 from Bob and Maryann (Hanuscin) Karaffa '50. The event was held on February 10th at the Dade Battlefield State Park, Bushnell, Florida with Don Sutherin '54, distinguished graduate of THS, Canadian Football league player and member of the Canadian Football League Hall of Fame, as speaker at the luncheon. The committee is very interested in hearing from anyone who would have comments and especially suggestions for future speakers. Group pictures were taken and are available by contacting Joan Paisley Hendricks '50 at 386-248-2098. Some of those who worked: Romaine (Roush) Miller '50, Carol (Wasyk) Rogers '53, Cathy (Karaffa) Williams '62, Randall and Georgette (Munis) Litten '55/54, Karl '52 and Nancy Litten, Carole (Williams) Snow '54, Richard '50 and Carol Blaschak, Elinor "Pete" Foust '53, Don '54 and Nancy Sutherin, Joan (Paisley) '50 and Ron Hendricks, Bob and Maryann (Hanuscin) Karaffa '50. Next year's TDIF is planned for **March 1, 2008** at the same location. Email Bob and Maryann Karaffa with comments: [karaffar@aol.com](mailto:karaffar@aol.com).

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Many other areas of the country hold picnics, luncheons or similar events. We would like to hear from you about your last get together—send pictures—name names. Alumni are eager to hear from you.

**Life Members**

- Marilyn Gray
- Jackie Blewitt Nixon '55
- Dave Cox '66
- Carol Paris Cox '67
- Barbara Harper Meyers '65
- John Bodnar '65

**Scholarship Donations**

- Lester Clendenning '51
- Dr. John Metcalf '47
- Ray Jackson, Jr. '46
- Thomas Podwell '55
- Helen Myers Fentress '33
- Margaret Bloomer Davidson '42
- Marcie Conklin Weissner '68
- Wayne & Romaine Roush Miller '47/50
- Jerry Nease '51

**Operating Fund**

- Don Kestner '56
- Nancy Banfield Glass '35
- June Bauer McLeod '46
- Thomas Podwell '55
- Ray Jackson, Jr. '46
- Nancy Maffett Elson '62
- Nikki Bonnizzio Cable '62
- Charles Vogelsong '41
- Dr. Chad Murvosh '49
- George Hodovanic '33

**Equipment Fund**

- Thomas Podwell '55
- Ray Jackson, Jr. '46
- Dr. Chad Murvosh '49

All donations received and recorded as of April 12, 2007.