

ALUMNI NOTES



1940s

Vivian “Pee Dee” Nordeen C’41 met with North Park’s University Choir during its visit to Covenant Shores retirement community in Portland, Ore. Pee Dee sang with the choir in 1939. Her grandparents donated the land on which Old Main was built in 1893. The University Choir and Chamber Singers completed a five-city tour of the Pacific Northwest in March. **(1)**

K. Wesley Olson C’49 S’54 turned 86 on February 10, 2016. He and wife Harriet (Settergren) Olson C’49 proudly wore blue and gold as they celebrated. **(2)**

1950s

The North Park Academy Class of 1953 gathered for a reunion at Young’s Chinese Restaurant in Glenview, Ill., on November 4, 2015. North Parkers included (left to right): Marilyn (Longo) Rice, Jean (Stacy) Willing, Sonya (Ottosen) Cowen, Ruth (Anderson) Houdek, Donna Peterson, Caryl Anderson, Marilyn (Marx) Adelman, Leona (Schweikert) Durr, Adrienne (Nelson) Langtry, and Barbara (Burmeister) Eanos. **(3)**

1960s

The Halverson family headed to the island of Kauai for a vacation in November. The group of 20 included Gordon Halverson C’64 and his wife, Beverly, whose birthday prompted the

special celebration. Joining the fun were Brad Halverson C’87, Daron Jagodzinske C’94, Kristin (Halverson) Jagodzinske C’96, Inger (Halverson) Payne C’98, Ingrid (Carlson) Halverson C’00, Britta (Johnson) Halverson C’04, Joel Payne S’05, and Erik Halverson. **(4)**

1980s

Kerry Lavelle C’81, a partner at Lavelle Law in Palatine, Ill., spoke at the American Bar Association’s (ABA) Midyear Meeting in San Diego in March 2016. Kerry’s presentation focused on his 2015 book *The Business Guide to Law: Creating and Operating a Successful Law Firm*, published by the ABA. Lavelle was also appointed chair of a new law practice management committee at the Northwest Suburban Bar Association in 2015. The book is available by using the keyword “Lavelle” at shop.americanbar.org. **(5)**

1990s

Topiarius, a landscape design/build/maintenance firm owned by Craig Jenkins-Sutton C’93 and Sara Jenkins-Sutton C’94 S’99, was recently featured in the April issue of *Better Homes and Gardens*. The article featured advice and photos of gardens that Topiarius has designed for small urban spaces. **(6)**

North Park was well represented at the Evangelical Covenant Church’s Midwinter

2016 conference in Chicago by alumni, faculty, and staff who attended and also helped lead worship. The Midwinter worship team included Matt Lundgren C’97 S’01, Becky (Johnson) Ykema C’05, Anders Nordstrom C’13, Thomas Egler S’15, Tracy Stingley, Jimmy Carter, and Stephen Kelly. **(7)**

2000s

In September 2015, Fredrik Wall C’00 G’02 checked an item off his bucket list when he completed his first-ever triathlon, the Ironman Triathlon in Madison, Wis. A series of long-distance races organized by the World Triathlon Corporation, the Ironman consists of a 2.4-mile swim in open water, a 112-mile bicycle ride, and a 26.2-mile run. Fredrik enjoyed the experience greatly, but asks, “Now what adventure do I pursue next?” Fredrik and his wife Melissa (Burger) Wall C’00 S’04 live in Hoffman Estates, Ill., with their two sons, Erik, age 8, and Jonas, age 1. Melissa serves as lead pastor at DeerGrove Covenant Church, and Fredrik works for the Evangelical Covenant Church as associate director of departmental finances for Start and Strengthen Churches. **(8)**

Tracey Starkovich C’01 and her husband, Tom Moes, welcomed their daughter, Jaelyn Ariel Moes, in September 2015, saying she’s brought them “immeasurable joy.” The three currently reside on the North Side of Chicago,



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where Tom and Tracey both work for nonprofit organizations that seek to improve the health and lives of individuals and families. They are happy to be a resource for anyone interested in the adoption process. (Photo by **Melissa (Longnecker) Schau C'00**, at www.melissaschau.com.) **(9)**

Mark Safstrom C'02 published the book *The Religious Origins of Democratic Pluralism* (Wipf & Stock 2016), a study that traces the political career of 19th-century Covenant preacher P.P. Waldenström in the Swedish parliament, as well as the broader social and cultural implications of Lutheran Pietism as a reform movement. The book is available at www.wipfandstock.com. Mark teaches Scandinavian literature and history at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Jason Douglass and **Diana Dimas C'03 G'11** welcomed Aloise Maria Douglass on February 15, 2016. Aloise weighed 7 lb. 7 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. The family currently resides in Chicago. **(10)**

Devin Andrews C'03 earned his master of social work at the UIC Jane Addams College of Social Work. He has been working at Thresholds as a community support specialist for nearly nine years. As a North Park student, Devin enjoyed writing for the *North Park Press*, and continues to write in his spare time.

In the past few years, he has published two novels, a hymnal, and a children's book, which are available at www.lulu.com/spotlight/devinmlandrews. **(11)**

Jonathan Peterson C'03 and **Stacy (Dolan) Peterson C'04** welcomed Emilia Lynn Peterson on April 6, 2015. "Emi" was born at 9:51 am and weighed 6 lb. 10 oz. Big brother Jaxon, age 3, was excited to meet his baby sister. The Petersons live in Santa Barbara, Calif., where Stacy is a licensed clinical social worker at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital and Jon is CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Southern Santa Barbara County. They recently founded the Drake William Peterson Foundation in memory of their first son. **(12)**

Jon Larson C'03 married Jason Kurth on October 31, 2015, in Spring Lake, Mich. North Parkers included **Matthew Whitesell C'04** and **Britta Larson G'09**. **(13)**

Rose Lee-Norman C'06 and **Ryan Lee-Norman C'07** joyfully announce the birth of their daughter, Isla Rosemary Lee-Norman. Isla was born on January 22, 2016, at 8:37 a.m., weighing 6 lb. 12 oz. and measuring 21.5 inches. She is enthusiastically welcomed by her big sister, Esme. Ryan is the database administrator for Real Resources, and Rose is the associate pastor of family ministry at Sanctuary Covenant Church. The Lee-Normans reside in Minneapolis, Minn. **(14)**

Tyler Krumland C'06 S'12 and **Stephen Pyle** were married in Mount Vernon, Wash., on September 12, 2015. North Parkers included **Erik Hjelm C'07**, **Timmy Krumland C'15**, **Eric Krumland C'08**, **Alex Carlson C'08**, **Marie (Robinson) Carlson C'07**, **Heidi (Bronczyk) Krumland C'08**, **Claudia Fisher C'06**, **Katie (Schiller) Hernandez C'06**, **Kelly (Nelson) Paynter C'06**, and **Sam Pullen S'12**. Tyler and Stephen live and work in Seattle. **(15)**

Chris Hall C'04 and **Rachel (Johnson) Hall C'04** joyfully announce the birth of their son, **Jordan James Hall**, who was born August 11, 2015. The Hall family resides in Raleigh, N.C. **(16)**

Seth Awes C'04 G'10 G'12 was recently named associate executive director at Covenant Village of Northbrook, one of Covenant Retirement Communities' Illinois locations. In his new role, Seth will assist in the oversight of daily operations of the campus, which employs more than 200 staff and serves about 500 residents. **(17)**

Joel Hower C'04 and **Beth (Holmertz) Hower C'04** welcomed **Owen Riley** on October 6, 2016, in Aurora, Colo. **(18)**



On May 4, 2016, North Park celebrated the 125th day in our 125th year and marked the occasion with our first-ever online giving day. [#npu125day](#) raised \$136,906 from 466 donors. Students, faculty, and staff gathered on campus to form 125 for a special campus photo and cheered on alumni participating in the day from around the world.

[Read more about #npu125day on page 3.](#)



ALUMNI NOTES



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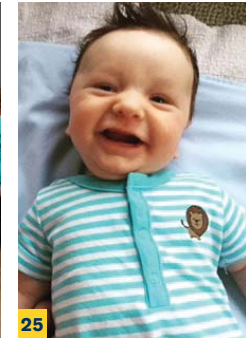
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Heidi Johnson C'05 accepted a position as social sciences librarian at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) University Libraries, where she is the liaison to the departments of anthropology, political science, and sociology.

Stephen Grosz S'06 is the author of *Triad Discipleship: Lives Together by Design*, published by Doulos Resources in December 2015. This small group curriculum initially evolved out of a collaborative PhD project at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (Deerfield, Ill.), with a unique focus on the spiritual formation of three- to five-person groups. Find out more at www.doulosresources.org or at the Triad Discipleship Facebook page.

Fabian Quiroga C'06 has been working as an audio engineer for the Black Keys and MGMT, and as a freelance recording engineer. This year, he spent time in India working with A.R. Rahman, an award-winning Indian composer, producer, and singer-songwriter. This spring Fabian worked with Broods, a music duo from New Zealand that has been opening for Ellie Goulding on her U.S. tour, before returning to India. **(19)**

Gwen Olivia Bailey was born to **Austin Bailey C'07 S'11** and **Ashley (Thain) Bailey C'08** in Austin, Texas, on December 26, 2015. She weighed 8 lb. and measured 20.5 inches. She joins big sister Eleanor Ann. **(20)**

Jonah Gardeen, eldest son of **Jonathan Gardeen C'07** and **Lisa (Braaten) Gardeen C'08**, is in pre-K at First Presbyterian Church of Wheaton in Illinois. His teacher is **Lisa (Brushwyler) Larson C'90**. The class recently learned about Santa Lucia Day, and Jonah came home very proud of his Swedish heritage. **(21)**

Erik Carl Johnson was born on August 14, 2015 to proud parents **Peter Johnson C'08** and **Katie (Anderson) Johnson C'08** and was welcomed by big brother Luke. The Johnsons are enjoying life as a family of four. **(22)**

Sten Carlson C'08 S'13, **Erica (Print) Carlson C'08**, and their daughter, Lucy, were excited to welcome Olle Roger into the family on July 10, 2015. **(23)**

Allison Crino C'08 G'16 and **Eugenio Gallastegui Reyes** were wed on April 25, 2015. North Parkers included **Jillian Rosich Kendrick C'08**, **Bethany (Crino) Staswick C'09**, **Tracy Churchill**, **Dr. Liza Ann Acosta**, and **Dr. Boaz Johnson**. Allison currently works at North Park as an undergraduate recruiter in the Office of Admission, and Eugenio is a current student. **(24)**

Lucas Scott DeJong was born January 19, 2016, to **Brad DeJong C'09** and **Meghan (Hodgkinson) DeJong C'09**, at Swedish

Covenant Hospital. He joins big brother Brady and the rest of his family in Chicago. **(25)**

On March 12, 2016, a group of alumni who had been roommates at North Park reconnected for a reunion in St. Joseph, Mich. **Stacey Ervvald C'09**, **Karna (Peterson) Lamb C'09**, **Maren (Tournell) Spaulding C'10**, **GG Flint C'10**, and **Stephanie (Bonin) Hansma C'10** enjoyed a wonderful time together. They are grateful to North Park for their friendship over the years. **(26)**

2010s

Britta Peterson C'10 married **Jared McCutchen** on August 15, 2015, in Ross, Calif. Alumni in the wedding included **Emily (Mitchell) McCutchen C'02**, **Nathan Peterson C'06**, **Erin (Robertson) Peterson C'06**, **Brian McCutchen S'07**, **Hannah (Robertson) Terracino C'10**, **Kari Sager C'10**, and **Nina Pedersen C'10**. The wedding was officiated by **Dennis Anderson C'75 S'91**. North Parkers included Britta's aunt, **Peggy Bley C'78**, who serves as a member of North Park's Board of Trustees, and parents of the bride **Vicki (Brundine) Peterson C'79** and **Robert Peterson C'80**. **(27)**

ALUMNI NOTES



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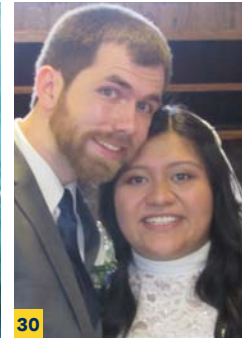
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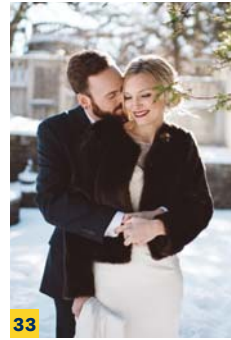
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Lindsey Smit C'10 is one of five coaches of the FIRST Robotics Team from Lane Tech High School in Chicago, which recently competed in the Annual Midwest Regional Competition for the fourth year. As a coach, Lindsey fosters a team culture that aims to inspire students to pursue STEM-related fields through robotics. She recently completed a master's degree in STEM leadership.

On September 26, 2015, **Hannah (Robertson) Terracino C'10** married Thomas Terracino in Burlington, Vt., where the couple resides. North Parkers included **Britta Peterson C'10**, **Lindsey Smit C'10**, **Kari Sager C'10**, father of the bride **Timothy Stohlberg C'81 S'94**, and **Peter Norland C'99 S'07**, officiant. **(28)**

Christine (Wahlskog) Wallace C'10, husband Max, and big sister Ruby were happy to welcome Parker Gary Wallace on December 19, 2015, just in time for Parker to play baby Jesus in the Christmas pageant. He lives in northern Wisconsin with his family, making him a true "North" Parker! **(29)**

Ben Bruckner C'11 and Emily Alvarado-Vela were married in a small family ceremony on December 28, 2015, which was later celebrated with family and friends on March 12, 2016. The wedding party included parents of the groom **Jim Bruckner C'79 S'83** and **Kris (Carlson) Bruckner C'79**, **Luke Bruckner**

C'05, **Nick Bruckner C'07 S'12**, **John Dawson C'09**, **Peter Butkevich C'11**, and **Phil Landin C'12**. **(30)**

Sarah Van Putten opened Well Grounded Coffee House in Omaha, Neb., on April 23, 2015. Located in downtown Omaha, Well Grounded has become a place of community for regulars and visitors alike. The company serves direct trade coffee from Intelligentsia Coffee and donates 10 percent of its profits to charity:water. Sarah welcomes all North Parkers to stop in when they are in Omaha. Learn more at www.wellgroundedomaha.com

Jaclynn Workman C'12 married Jack Swope on November 21, 2015, at Fruitport Christian Reformed Church in Michigan. The Swopes currently live on the northern California coast. **(31)**

Willie Akerson C'12 and **Alisha (Netten) Akerson C'14** were married on June 28, 2014, in Orange City, Ia. North Parkers included (L-R, front row): **Megan Tobias**, **Kristin Gibbs C'14**, **Katelyn Anderson C'13**, **Brenda (Benson) Kampmeier C'14**, **Jenna Netten**, and **Linnea (Bonin) Smith**. Back row: **Deandre Fry C'12**, **Corey Smith C'11**, **Willie and Alisha**, **Chloe Adams C'14**, and **Charlie Fuentes C'13**. Will currently works at Hartgrove Behavioral Hospital and Alisha is a registered nurse with the NorthShore University HealthSystem. **(32)**

Ellie Hawkins C'14 and **Andrew Fredrickson C'14** celebrated their wedding on January 2, 2016, in Minnesota. North Parkers included **Peter Fredrickson C'12**, **Christian Kerrigan C'13**, **Kim Hanson C'14**, **Emily Rueping C'14**, **Liz Lamere C'14**, **Jamie Sladkey C'14**, **Madisyn Horn C'14**, **David Duvall C'14**, **Nate Travers C'14**, and **Nick Ralston C'14**. **(33)**

Anna Lund C'14 and **Kelsey Van Deursen C'14** both graduated from North Park's School of Nursing in December 2014 and began their pediatric nursing careers on the same day in March 2015 at Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. They are grateful that North Park prepared them professionally and look forward to developing their careers and their friendship in the years ahead. **(34)**

An Tran C'14 is delighted to announce his graduation this spring from Yale University, where he received a master's degree in guitar performance. Last November, An performed in concert with the Hanoi Philharmonic Orchestra, which was conducted by North Park professor Tom Zelle. An has recently been accepted to Northwestern University, where he will begin doctoral studies this fall. **(35)**

ALUMNI EVENTS



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House Concert: **Mike Tamte C'93** and **Megan (Streedain) Tamte C'95** hosted more than 50 alumni for a concert and enjoyable evening in their home on Lake Minnetonka in Minnesota. **Sharon Irving C'08**, a recent semi-finalist on the NBC series *America's Got Talent*,



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performed and was accompanied by **Anders Nordstrom C'13**. **(36, 37)**

At the Ballpark: North Park hosted the Third Annual AlumniConnection: Arizona event on March 12 at a spring training game in Mesa,



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Ariz. A sold-out crowd of North Parkers cheered the Cubs on to victory over the White Sox in a Southwest version of the Crosstown Classic. **(38)**

IN MEMORIAM



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Walter Ernest Silge A'43 of Libertyville, Ill., passed away on January 18, 2016, at the age of 90. Formerly from Gulf Shores, Ala., and Minneapolis, Minn., he is survived by his brother, four children, and seven grandchildren. Wally served his country during World War II as a U.S. Navy corpsman in the Pacific and served in the Peace Corps for two years in Bulgaria. He was a member of Excelsior Masonic Lodge #113, Minneapolis American Legion Post 435, and Zurah Patrol, and was active in German clubs. Walter loved his grandchildren and enjoyed hunting and staying active. He was loved and admired by many.

Alene (Collini) Anderson C'44 died on January 8, 2016, at the age of 94. Alene was born August 12, 1921, in Buffalo, N.Y. She married **Leland Anderson C'42 S'45** on September 14, 1945. The couple served as



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missionaries in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (formerly Belgian Congo) from 1946 to 1975 and returned as short-term missionaries on two different occasions. While on the mission field, Alene was a teacher in the local schools and Bible schools, and also served as field treasurer and mission bookkeeper for the Evangelical Covenant Church. After moving back to the United States, the Andersons lived in Kansas, where Leland was the pastor of Covenant churches in Clay Center and Alert. Alene was an active member of the Outreach Committee, which served single-parent families, as well as the Covenant Women Midwest Board. Additionally, she was a member of the Midwest Christian Education Board, and served as secretary and financial secretary.

Audrey E. Paul A'47 C'49 passed away on January 9, 2016, at the age of 84. Daughter of



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the late Emily and Ed Arkin, she was known for her abundant enjoyment of life and her love of animals. She is survived by numerous friends and her adored adoptive family of Emily and Derek Webster and their four children. She asked to be remembered by paying kindness forward. **(39)**

John Robert Theodore Wahlquist C'49 of Eaton Rapids, Mich., passed away November 25, 2014, at the age of 87. He was born in Chicago on March 15, 1927. Robert proudly served in the U.S. Navy as a corpsman at the San Diego Hospital during World War II. Robert was very creative and enjoyed painting, sculpting, singing in his church choir, and wood carving. He was a swim instructor at the YMCA and loved to scuba dive. He is survived by his wife, two children, four grandchildren, and a large extended family, including his cousin, **Carol Sadowski C'47**. **(40)**



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IN MEMORIAM



Richard A. Cowen A'52 passed away on April, 19, 2015, at the age of 80. As a student at North Park, he played varsity football for three years and varsity baseball for two years. A founding member of the Chicago firm Stahl Cowen, he was very active in his law practice and as a member of his community. Richard was recognized as an Illinois Leading Lawyer in 2014 and served for 15 years as an appointed member of the Illinois State Board of Elections. He also served for 20 years on the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners. Richard is survived by his wife, sisters, four children, 11 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, all of whom were a particular source of pride. Said Richard, "North Park was not only a great school, but the friends I made and life lessons learned there were the positive strengths and solid foundations I carried with me all of my life." **(41)**

Jerome Johnson C'52 S'58, retired Covenant pastor and former superintendent of the Canada Conference, died on December 4, 2015, at the age of 84. Jerome was born on June 29, 1931, in Jamestown, N.Y. He graduated from North Park Junior College in 1952 and from North Park Seminary in 1958. Jerome married Verna Hultman S'53 on September 11, 1953. He served churches in Glenview, Ill.; Edina, Minn.; Princeton, Ill.; and Seattle. Jerome also served as minister of Christian education for the East Coast Conference and as superintendent of the Evangelical Covenant Church of Canada from 1988 until his retirement in 1994. Jerome served on numerous regional and denominational boards and committees, including the board of Home Mission, board of managers for Covenant Children's Home in Princeton, and camp committees in the Central and North Pacific Conferences. Survivors include his wife, children, and a granddaughter. **(42)**

Robert John Carlson C'56 S'63 passed away on December 26, 2015, in DeLand, Fla., at the age of 84. He was born in Worcester, Mass., and spent his life serving the Lord, including work as director of development at Union Theological Seminary and as a minister member of Ginter Park Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Va., as well as serving as a pastor and chaplain. Robert was married to Evelyn (Oberg) Carlson for 61 years. He was a loving father of five children and enjoyed being a grandfather. Memorial donations may be made to North Park Theological Seminary (www.northpark.edu/makeagift).

Dennis H. Erickson C'62 passed away on February 26, 2016. Dennis was born February 22, 1940, in Park Ridge, Ill., to Gwendolyn and Roy Erickson A'26. Dennis worked for many years as professor of economics at Erskine College in Due West, S.C. Dennis is survived by his fiancée, two children, four grandchildren, his brothers **Grant Erickson A'55** and **Keith Erickson A'63**, and many nieces and nephews.

Richard "Dick" Granstrom C'62, died October 16, 2015, of acute myeloid leukemia at the age of 75. He was born May 24, 1940, in Evanston, Ill. Dick was the son of the late Martin and Viola Granstrom, immigrants from Sweden. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration from North Park in 1962 and married Mary "Trudy" Henson on July 14, 1979. Dick worked for Washington National Insurance Company in Evanston, Ill., for 24 years, and then in various sales capacities until retiring in 2005. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve from 1963 to 1969. Dick is survived by his wife, four children, 18 grandchildren, a sister, and three generations of nieces and nephews. **(43)**

Gail Barbara (Erickson) Kautzmann C'66 of Cincinnati passed away at age 71 on March 10, 2015, surrounded by her family. She was born in Minneapolis, Minn., on June 12, 1943. Gail will be remembered for her kindness, selflessness, and deep ability to care for and listen to others. Her husband, **Herbert E. Kautzmann C'65**, succumbed to cancer on July 28, 2015, while surrounded by his children. He was born in Mannheim, Germany, on March 17, 1943. Orphaned at the age of eight, he moved to the United States to live with relatives. He worked hard his entire life and attended North Park College on a basketball scholarship and earned his business degree. Herb worked as a purchasing materials manager at Cincinnati Incorporated. Herbert and Gail will be dearly missed by their two children, four grandsons, and a host of other family members and friends.

Amy Lynette (Weaver) Bridgeman C'02 passed away on November 17, 2015, at the age of 35 after a brief battle with cancer. Amy was born August 9, 1980. After earning her bachelor's degree at North Park, Amy went on to earn a master's degree in counseling in 2011. She loved the Lord and was deeply passionate about issues of human trafficking and homelessness. Amy is survived by her husband, Bryan; daughter Lydia Rose; her parents (including her mother, Mary Smith, who worked at North Park for a number of years); stepparents; a brother; and many loved ones. Amy's family would like to express their thanks for the support and prayers they have received. **(44)**