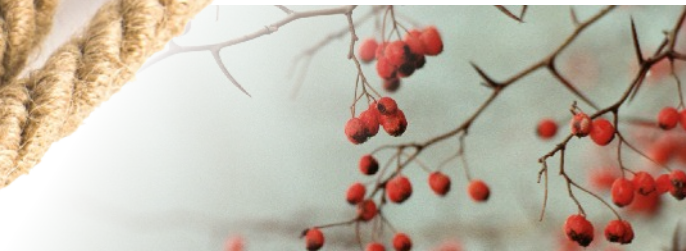


THE LIGATURE

THE TIE THAT BINDS



Official Publication of the

John A. Gupton College Alumni Association

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President's Letter

My fellow Gupton alumni,

I can't think of ever wanting Spring to get here quicker than I have this year. I hope that everyone is staying warm and enjoying the cold while looking forward to warmer temperatures.

This past December, I had the opportunity to represent the alumni during the Graduation Banquet, which is held the night before graduation. It was very promising to see these young individuals that are the future of funeral service. The graduation was held on Friday, December 6, 2013 with the guest commencement speaker being Randy Earl. Mr. Earl is a Past-President of the NFDA and we were proud to have him in attendance as well as hear him share his knowledge of funeral service.

Over the past few weeks, you should have received your pledge cards for the endowment fund. If you have not sent in your pledge, please let me encourage you to complete the card and donate to the John A. Gupton Endowment Fund.

I want to encourage each of you to stop by the school and take a tour of the new facility. In addition to the renovations, the student lounge has recently been remodeled to accommodate the number of students that are enrolled at Gupton College.

In the coming weeks, the alumni officers will be meeting to discuss plans for the Alumni Reunion which are set for August 1 & 2, 2014. For latest news and information regarding the reunion, please visit the Alumni Association's website for details. (www.guptionalumni.com)

Best Regards,

Tim Bond
Class of 1989



Alumni News

Plans are being made for the annual Alumni Reunion for August 1 & 2, 2014. Please mark your calendars to attend the annual event.

We are asking all alumni to visit our website (www.guptonalumni.com). Please use the site to update your mailing addresses and provide the college with your email addresses. The current project is to get all alumni information entered into the electronic database at Gupton College.

Donations to Gupton Library

Memorial certificates are notices of donations made to the John A. Gupton College Library Memorial Fund. The Fund is used for the purchase of books and other items needed for the library. The memorial certificate is presented or mailed to a member of the grieving family of the deceased.

To request a memorial certificate, contact the librarian, Pepper Bruce at the College. Donations can be made from \$20.00 or more for the purchase of books.

Attn. Pepper Bruce
John A. Gupton College
1616 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37203-2954
(615) 327-3927

Recent Memorials Include

In Memory of Mr. Charles Leo Donnelly

Donors:

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In Memory of Mr. Carney R. Bell

Donors:

David and Jill Horner and Hooper-Huddleston & Horner LLC
Mr. Morris V. Moore
The Carver Family and Sanderson Funeral Homes, Inc.
Mr. James M. Ragan and Lunsford Funeral Home
Ms. Cindy Milam

In Memory of Mr. Richard Oliver Gilliam, Jr.

Donor:

Perry Funeral Home, Inc.

In Memory of Mr. Fentress Casey

Donors:

Mr. Morris V. Moore
The Carver Family and Sanderson Funeral Home
Mr. James M. Ragan and Lunsford Funeral Home

In Memory of Mr. Grady L. Murphy

Donors:

Mr. Tim Raley
The Staff and Employees of Music City Mortuary
The Staff and Employees of Medina Funeral Home
Mr. Clayton White
Mr. Timothy B. Bond
Mr. Seth L. Presley
Mr. Andy Bond and Bond Memorial Chapel
Mr. James M. Ragan and Lunsford Funeral Home

In Memory of Ms. Irene Marie Yarbrough

Donor:

Mr. Clayton White

In Memory of Mr. Bobby G. Yarbrough

Donors:

Mr. Clayton White
Ms. Donna Collard
The John A Gupton College Alumni Association
Mr. James M. Ragan and Lunsford Funeral Home

In Memory of Mr. Wayne Solomon

Donors:

The Carver Family and Sanderson Funeral Homes, Inc.

In Memory of Mr. J. W. Slatton

Donors:

The Carver Family and Sanderson Funeral Homes, Inc.

In Memory of Ms. Virginia Mayes

Donors:

The Carver Family and Sanderson Funeral Homes, Inc.

In Memory of Mr. Don W. Tetrick

Donors:

The Carver Family and Sanderson Funeral Homes, Inc.

In Memory of Mr. Bradley Sorensen

Donors:

Mr. James M. Ragan and Lunsford Funeral Home

In Memory of Mr. Robert Clyde Allen

Donors:

Mr. James M. Ragan and Lunsford Funeral Home

In Memory of Dr. Oliver Yates

Donors:

Mr. James M. Ragan and Lunsford Funeral Home

In Memory of Ms. Connie Neal

Donors:

Mr. James M. Ragan and Lunsford Funeral Home

In Memory of Kelly Woodward Minyard

Donors:

Wayne & Barbara Day

In Memory of Mr. Billy Joe Jordan

Donors:

Mr. James M. Ragan and Lunsford Funeral Home

In Honor of Mr. Jim Brewer

Donors:

Mr. Edgar W. Stuart
Martin Funeral Home, Inc.

In Memory of Mr. Jim Rush

Donors:

David and Jill Horner and Hooper-Huddleston & Horner LLC

In Memory of Mr. Micah Morris

Donors:

Ms. Suzanne P Short and the Systems Engineering Organization of Raytheon
Ms. Donna Collard

In Memory of Mr. Bob Arnold

Donors:

David and Jill Horner and Hooper-Huddleston & Horner LLC

In Memory of Mr. Tom Donnelly

Donor:

Martin Funeral Home, Inc.

College News

New Staff Member

Gupton College has recently added a new staff member. Joanna Hayes Dickens is the new Financial Aid Director. Joanna began with Gupton in October 2013. Joanna has worked in financial aid for over eight years. Joanna resides in Nashville,



TN with her husband Mark. They have three children and four grandchildren. They have two birds, four dogs, four horses, and about seventeen cats that are ready for adoption. All of their animals have been rescue animals.

Welcome to Gupton College, Joanna!!

Congratulations to the Top 10% of the Fall 2013 semester

George Benuska	Nashville, Tennessee
Ariel Boyle	Destin, Florida
Lisa Clark	Clarksville, Tennessee
Bobby Cook	Portland, Tennessee
Melinda Crawford	Nashville, Tennessee
Dana Gerecke	Murfreesboro, Tennessee
Caleb Leach	Speedwell, Tennessee
Jodi Liermann	Fort Campbell, Kentucky
Ryan Price	Cleveland, Tennessee
Brandy Warner	Sneedville, Tennessee

NBE Pass Rates for 2013

2013 – Arts 88% Sciences 97%

Graduation Awards

Congrats to **Caleb Leach** of Speedwell, TN for receiving the **Valedictorian Award**. Caleb achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average during his time at Gupton. Caleb successfully passed his National Board Exams and returned home to work for Holley Gamble Funeral Homes in Clinton and Lake City, TN.

Also, each year a **Dodge Award** is presented to a graduate that has excelled in the preparation room. This year's recipient was **Matthew Tuck** from Lafayette, TN. Since graduation, Matt successfully passed his National Board Exams and is working at Alexander Funeral Home in Lafayette, TN.

2013 Graduation List

The following is a list of those that participated in the John A. Gupton Graduation Ceremonies on Friday, December 6, 2013. Those with an asterisk (*) will complete the program in the current Spring semester.

Christopher J. Adams	Hopkinsville, Kentucky
* Karen L. Angelico	Murfreesboro, Tennessee
* Katherine Elizabeth	Arnold Nashville, Tennessee
Jim Benuska	Nashville, Tennessee
Jamie Jean Bergeson	Fairview, Tennessee
* Heather Birdwell	Red Boiling Springs, Tennessee
Zachary Austin Bunch	Union City, Tennessee
* Melissa Marie Bush	Murfreesboro, Tennessee
Bobby W. Cook	Portland, Tennessee
Sarah-Ashley E. Crowe	Nashville, Tennessee
Dana Michelle Gerecke	Murfreesboro, Tennessee
Delbrite Latrice	Greene Nashville, Tennessee
Gayla Lorraine Guerard	Spring City, Tennessee
Chad Scott Keel	Hermitage, Tennessee
Allison Chelsea Klotz	Fairview, Tennessee
* Kevin Michael Latham	Cadiz, Kentucky
Caleb Andrew Leach	Speedwell, Tennessee
* Allyson Ledford	Lancing, Tennessee
B. Erin Lord	Antioch, Tennessee
* Jason Mason	Nashville, Tennessee
Jerry Wayne Maxwell	Antioch, Tennessee
Robert Germaine Meneese	Nashville, Tennessee
* Aaron Lee Meroniuk	Louisville, Tennessee
* David Daniel Norris II	Antioch, Tennessee
Lindsey Hope Pack	Clinton, Tennessee
* Christin Pepple	Hillsboro, Tennessee
* Conova Arnold Jackson Qualls	McMinnville, Tennessee
Caleb Benton Satterfield	Milan, Tennessee
Justin Ryan Sherrill	Hermitage, Tennessee
Matthew Gregory Tuck	Lafayette, Tennessee
William Blake Turner	Buchanan, Tennessee
* Timothy A. Walker Bean	Station, Tennessee
* Nathan Craig Westbrook	Yakima, Washington
Jason Carrol Wright	Columbia, Tennessee
Stacy Danielle Wright	Hendersonville, Tennessee

Funeral Directors Certificate

* Octavia LaShaun Brooks	Nashville, Tennessee
Teresa Lynn Eads	Ashland City, Tennessee
Brad E. Fielden	New Market, Tennessee
Elissanne C. Hammonds	Nashville, Tennessee
Velina Lucette Kemp	Pleasant Shade, Tennessee
Chris W. Lea	Brownsville, Tennessee
Benjamin David Lewis	Lexington, Tennessee
* Bethany Nichele Miller	Bolivar, Tennessee
Larry R. Parrott	Rogersville, Tennessee
Ann E. Sharfner	Madison, Tennessee
Gary Toothman	Springfield, Tennessee

Lounge Updated

The student lounge was recently remodeled at John A. Gupton College. The expansion of the lounge took a little over a month to complete. Included in the expansion was also new furniture that includes four high tables, two sofas, and one lounge chair. The students seem very excited for this new area!



Jamie Bergeson receives Mary Margaret Story Scholarship



The late Mary Margaret Story-Yarbrough was a 2001 graduate of John A. Gupton College from Sikeston, MO. She is remembered by both faculty and students as being a fun loving and beautiful person both inside and out. President Spann states that "she had one of those smiles that would radiate the room and make you wonder what she was up to!" Her love for the funeral profession and for John A. Gupton College was evident to all who knew her. Mary

Margaret's family created this scholarship fund and an annual golf tournament in her memory.

On October 1, 2013, Jamie Bergeson, a John A. Gupton student, received the first Mary Margaret Story scholarship award. Since receiving this scholarship, Jamie has completed the program and is now an official John A. Gupton alumni member. We congratulate her award, her accomplishment in graduation, and welcome her to the alumni family. In addition to that, Jamie has successfully located an apprenticeship position in an area funeral home and we look forward to her success.

Obituaries

James "Jim Ed" E. Lawrence

James "Jim Ed" E. Lawrence, of Harrison, Tennessee, died on Monday, November 4, 2013.

Jim was born in Rockwood, Tn. on Sept. 23, 1934, to the late Will Edd and Ruth Ellison Lawrence. He was a 1953 graduate of Rockwood High School and graduated from John A. Gupton College of Mortuary Science in Nashville in 1956. Jim served as a licensed funeral director and embalmer since 1956. He had been a resident of the Chattanooga area for the past 40 years. Jim was a longtime employee with Chattanooga Funeral Home where he retired in 2011. He was a member of Hickory Valley Christian Church.

Jim is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Jerita S. Lawrence; son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Lisa Lawrence, Jr.; grandchildren, Matthew and Emily and great granddaughter, Faith; brothers, Joseph H. (Rose) Lawrence and Thomas E. Lawrence; and several nieces and nephews.

Graveside services for Jim were held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 6, at Monte Vista Burial Park, 1900 Oakland Ave, Johnson City, Tn. 37601 with Minister Lamar Garrison officiating.

The family has asked that memorial contributions be made in Jim's name to Hickory Valley Christian Church at 6605 Shallowford Road, Chattanooga, Tn. 37421.

Arrangements are by the North Chapel of Chattanooga Funeral Home, Crematory and Florist, 5401 Highway 153, Hixson.

Tarleton, Rhea Thomas

Tarleton, Rhea Thomas, age 87, died on June 11, 2013. She was survived by devoted husband, Gadson Jack Tarleton Jr., M.D.; son, Gadson Jack Tarleton III, M.D. of Texas; daughter, Rhea Therese Tarleton; 6 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; brothers, Maceo A. (Marjorie) Thomas of New York City and Paul Vincent (Sandra) Thomas of Florida; sisters, Muriel Hanson of Maryland, Ruth McCalla of New York and Elizabeth Pickett of Maryland; nieces, nephews; other relatives and friends. She received National Board Certification from the Funeral Services Board, June 18, 1971 and graduated from John A. Gupton College, June 20, 1971. She passed the State Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers on December 6, 1972. Celebration of Life Mass was held June 18, 2013, at St. Vincent de Paul Church. The interment was held in Greenwood Main Cemetery. Those desiring, memorials may be made to the local chapter of the NAACP. J. W. Adkins Funeral Home, 615-292-8367.

The alumni association is trying to locate members of the Class of 1963 and 1989, which we have no current addresses. We would like them to attend this coming year's reunion. If anyone knows how to contact them please contact the college.

CLASS OF 1963

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP	CLASS	STATUS
WILLIAM D.	ACREE	36 PETERS ST	CALHOUN	GA	30701-2712	63	DEC
LAWRENCE	ADAMS	810 Brown School Rd.	Maryville	TN	37804	63	
HOWARD GLEN	ALMOND	1020 SPRING ST NW	ATLANTA	GA	30309-3818	63	
JOEL	BLAIR	RR 2 BOX 151	BELTON	SC	29627	63	NCA
JAMES TURNER	BOND	302 CARLTON PL	GOODLETTSVILLE	TN	37072-1203	63	DEC
JAMES REGINAL	BRASWELL	PO BOX 391	CONWAY	AR	72033-0391	63	NCA
J.DAN	BUCKNER	204 E HILLS TER	DICKSON	TN	37055-2103	63	NCA
ROGER	BURKE	1355 CRESCENT DR	COOKEVILLE	TN	38501-1512	63	
JERRY H.	CARSON		BOLIVAR	MO		63	NCA
TED DWAIN	CASH	2321 CANDLER RD	DECATUR	GA	30032-6405	63	NCA
HAROLD D.	CAWTHRON	212 CREST DR	TULLAHOMA	TN	37388-5121	63	DEC
CLYDE A.	CHAPMAN, JR.	2031 CATE RD	BRUNSWICK	GA	31525	63	NCA
LAWRENCE DALE	DICKSON	1107 W 22ND ST	STUTTGART	AR	72160-6405	63	NCA
OTIS	ELMORE	221 BROAD ST	SUMTER	SC	29150-4142	63	NCA
HAROLD BRUCE	GRANT	2014 BROOKVIEW DR	NASHVILLE	TN	37214-1905	63	NCA
WILLIAM L.	GRIFFIN, JR.		PITTSBORO	NC		63	NCA
THOMAS BENJAMIN	HAMLEN	4344 W HIGHLAND DR APT 124	MACON	GA	31210-5810	63	DEC
WILLIAM T.	HOLT		COOKEVILLE	TN		63	NCA
GEORGE RILEY	HUNT, JR.	PO BOX 1221	PERRY	GA	31069-1221	63	
JOHN SHELBY	JESTER					63	NCA
JAMES E.	JOHNSON		SENATH	MO		63	NCA
OMAR BENJAMIRE	JONES	193 COUNTY ROAD 5450	BALDWIN	MS	38824-7857	63	DEC
SHERILL N.	KIRK	PO BOX 219	MARION	AL	36756-0219	63	
POWELL MURRY	LEITCH, JR.	427-RW RIVERSIDE ST.	COVINGTON	VA	24426	63	NCA
DAVID CHARLES	LIPTON	1204 N MAIN ST	MONTICELLO	AR	71655-4146	63	
BUFORD F.	LORIMER III	PO BOX 9 CHATTANOOGA FUN HOME	HIKSON	TN	37343-0009	63	NCA
BILL R.	LUNA	211 HERMITAGE DR	TULLAHOMA	TN	37388	63	NCA
JAMIE R.	LUSK	1200 UNION AVE	MEMPHIS	TN	38104-6669	63	NCA
GLEN DOUGLAS	MASON	901 MARSHALL ST	LITTLE ROCK	AR	72202-3511	63	NCA
WILLIAM LEE	MCBRIDE, JR.	206 N COMMERCE ST	RIPLEY	MS	38663-2010	63	
JOHN A.	MCNEIL, JR.	PO BOX 127	SNEEDVILLE	TN	37869-0127	63	
HARRY G.	MOODY	1679 JOHNSON RD	MACON	GA	31220-5220	63	
RAY LYNNWOOD	MOORE	228 S MAIN ST	SARDIS	MS	38666-1723	63	DEC
NATHAN C.	MORGAN		BRUNSWICK	GA		63	DEC
BOBBY C.	NEWBY	202 E MAIN ST	GALLATIN	TN	37066-2909	63	DEC
JERRY WAYNE	NIX		PULASKI	TN	38478	63	NCA
BILL DOYLE	OSBORN	DORLING-MOUSER FUNERAL HO	BROWNSVILLE	TN	78520	63	NCA
JACKIE RAY	PARTLOW	2384 COLES FERRY PIKE	LEBANON	TN	37087-9400	63	
JACK S.	PATTERSON		HARTSVILLE	TN		63	NCA
DONALD	PHILIPP	6741 HENDON LN	HOUSTON	TX	77074-6101	63	NCA
GEORGE B.	PITTMAN		NAPLES	FL		63	NCA
WILLIAM RONALD	POTTS	1803 LORAIN AVE	PULASKI	TN	38478-4809	63	NCA
FLETCHER HOLMES	RAY III	2215 LIBERTY ST.	CANTON	MS	39046	63	NCA
RALPH RAY	RICHARDS	PO BOX 656	LOGAN	WV	25601-0656	63	NCA
EDWARD E.	RUTLEDGE	9 SHAROLYN ST	SUMTER	SC	29154-1629	63	
ROBERT	SCRIVEN, JR.	RR 2 BOX 483				63	NCA
ROBERT L	SEABAUGH	1426 MADISON 222	FREDERICKTOWN	MO	63645-7891	63	
DON H.	SHACKELFORD	PO BOX 232	BOLIVAR	TN	38008-0232	63	DEC
ADELINE	SMITH	109 RANDS AVE SE	HUNTSVILLE	AL	35801	63	NCA
DUNCAN	ST. CLAIRE, JR.		COLUMBIA	SC		63	NCA
DEAN N.	THOMAS		SILVER POINT	TN		63	DEC
WALTON RAY	THOMPSON	843 N MAIN ST	DYER	TN	38330-1003	63	
JACK HAROLD	TODD		ENGLAND	AR		63	NCA
GEORGE W.	WALDECK	554 BAY RIDGE RD	JACKSONVILLE	FL	32216-8901	63	NCA
PHILLIP OLIVER	WELCH	PO BOX 588	STARKVILLE	MS	39760-0588	63	DEC
THOMAS EUGENE	WILCOX	1065 N JORDAN ST	CARTHAGE	MS	39051	63	NCA
KENNETH JOE	WRAY	PO BOX 664	RURAL HALL	NC	27045-0664	63	NCA
JOE	WRIGHT	814 S BROAD ST SW	ROME	GA	30161-4655	63	

CLASS OF 1989

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP	CLASS	STATUS
PHILLIP WAYNE	ANDERSON	PO BOX 80	RED BOILING SPRINGS	TN	37150-0080	89	
RICKY	ANDERSON	2036 WILDWOOD CT	COOKEVILLE	TN	38501-4433	89	
MALCOLM LEE	BEARD	94 BEARD RD	HARTSELLE	AL	35640-7211	89	
CYNTHIA LAWSON	BELL	2516 SCHOVEL ST	NASHVILLE	TN	37208-2843	89	
FRED OGLE	BERRY, III	% BERRY FUNERAL HOME 3704 CHAPMAN HWY	KNOXVILLE	TN	37920	89	
TIMOTHY	BOND	3830 DEWAIN DR	NASHVILLE	TN	37211-3819	89	
JAMES ANTHONY	BOND	1098 WESTON DR	MOUNT JULIET	TN	37122-3400	89	
MALCOLM	BUTLER	4329 PRINCESS LN	NASHVILLE	TN	37218-1029	89	
DAVID C.	CHRISTIAN	117 UNDERWOOD RD	MCMINNVILLE	TN	37110	89	
HEIDE B.	CRAWFORD	2714 GRANDVIEW AVE	NASHVILLE	TN	37211-2225	89	
FRED THOMAS	DEADMAN III	133 POWELL DR	MANCHESTER	TN	37355-6520	89	NCA
JAMES MICHAEL	FORD	207 CENTRAL ST	MARTIN	TN	38237-3043	89	NCA
CHARLES COLLINS	FOSTER IV	11630 MOUNTAIN PARK RD	ROSWELL	GA	30075	89	NCA
PRESTON MARTIN	GIBSON	1105 MCFARLAND ST APT H	MORRISTOWN	TN	37814	89	NCA
KIMBERLY	GRAHAM	350 S 4TH ST	NASHVILLE	TN	37206-4104	89	NCA
KENNETH J.	HARRIS	816 DUNCAN ST	GALLATIN	TN	37066-3518	89	
GEORGE W.	HAYNES III	820 S. CHURCH ST	MURFREESBORO	TN	37130	89	
SHERYL	JACKSON	2433 MONTICELLO DR	NASHVILLE	TN	37207-4319	89	
CLARENCE	KILCREASE	3912 KINGS LN	NASHVILLE	TN	37218-1418	89	
MICHAEL	MCADAMS	PO BOX 12	MC KENZIE	TN	38201-0012	89	NCA
ADA MAE	MCGILL		MT PLEASANT	TN		89	NCA
WALTER CLARK	MCKINNEY	PO BOX 62	ELMWOOD	TN	38560-0062	89	
JANIE	MONTGOMERY-WATKINS	P. O. Box 251961	W Bloomfield	MI	48325-1961	89	
STEPHEN RAY	MURPHY	2409 KLINE AVE	NASHVILLE	TN	37211-2131	89	
RODNEY JAMES	PENDELL	1620 SAVANNAH HWY	CHARLESTON	SC	29407	89	
PEGGY	RAINONE	2161 UBLY RD	SNOVER	MI	48472-9343	89	NCA
DAVID A.	ROBERTS	1912 W STATE ST	BRISTOL	TN	37620-1940	89	
CAROL S.	ROUSE	4469 S TRACE BLVD	OLD HICKORY	TN	37138-4206	89	NCA
BARRY TODD	SELF	502 MILL ST	MADISONVILLE	TN	37354-2123	89	
TED BOYETTE	SMITH, JR.	161 DEXTER CIR	OZARK	AL	36360	89	
TIMOTHY W.	TAYLOR	214 GRIFFIN CHAPEL RD	BRADFORD	TN	38316-9673	89	
BRUCE DUVAINE	WINNINGHAM	423 BROWN ST. PO BOX 308	CELINA	TN	38551	89	

Alumni Association

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John A. Gupton Alumni Association

www.guptionalumni.org

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