

# 1965

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50<sup>th</sup> Reunion October 7-9, 2015, in Orono, ME

A feature story last fall in the *Bangor Daily News* paid tribute to Faye “Lettie” O’Leary Hafford ’65, then 89. Faye attended Colby College for two years, and later finished her degree at UMaine. Over the years, she has been a stitcher, a teacher, a gatekeeper for North Maine Woods, a receptionist for Allagash Wilderness Waterway, a historian, an author of 20 books, a poet, and a librarian. In 1998, the library Faye created in the former Allagash school she’d attended was named in her honor. She’s known locally as the “matriarch of Allagash.” Dana Berry ’65 retired at the end of 2014 as town manager of Madison. Hired in June 2011 after retiring as vice president of Backyard Farms in Madison, Dana previously had a long career in human resources, including stints with Agway, Mid-State Machine Products in Winslow, and Solon Manufacturing in Skowhegan.

The National Coalition for Capital has honored **Dana Connors** ’65, president of Maine State Chamber of Commerce, with a Champion of Small Business Award for his work to help Maine businesses grow and develop. He was among 34 legislators and officials from across the country recognized for their leadership. John C. Johnson ’65 of Tavares, FL, recently formed his own executive coaching firm. John is a former executive vice president of ministry operations for Catholic Health East, Philadelphia, and former president and CEO of Holy Cross Hospital, Fort Lauderdale, FL. A zoology major, he earned a master’s degree in healthcare administration from George Washington University and served in the U.S. Army’s Medical Services Corps.

Following are highlights from some of your reunion bio forms:

Electrical engineering major Dave Brooks ’65 went from Maine to Florida, where he acquired a master’s degree in ocean engineering and a Ph.D. in physical oceanography. Now living in College Station, TX, he’s an oceanography professor at Texas A&M.

U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. (Ret.) Joe Weston ’65 lives in Piedmont, SD, where he’s a tour guide at Custer State Park. Post-graduation, Joe earned a master’s in biochemical genetics at Florida State.

Judith Hale Norris ’65, who holds a J.D. degree from Boston University School of Law, now lives in Ojai, CA, where she’s an adjunct professor and co-director of the Investor Advocacy Clinic at Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine University School of Law. For almost 25 years, she was vice president and director for the Western Region of FINRA Dispute Resolution.

Forest science major Brian Curtis ’65 worked 32 years for the U.S. Forest Service, retiring in 1998 from his responsibilities in Sierra National Forest. He

and wife, Cynthia DeCoster Curtis '66, live in North Fork, CA. Fellow forest science grad Vince Puleo '65 of Veneta, OR, worked 30 years in the Forest Service.

Ed Leavitt '65 went on to acquire his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at Cornell and practiced until 1991. Now living in Woodstock, NY, Ed is enjoying his avocation, teaching music and piano at the local college and serving as a church music director and organist.

A graduate of the Medical College of Pennsylvania, Dr. Nina Higgins Ward '65 of Vanceboro, NC, currently works in a hospital urgent care and emergency department. Sons Chandler '01 and Jason Morse '03 both received their B.A. degrees from UMaine.

Jack Richardson '65 of Shelburne, VT, earned a master's degree in aerospace engineering at Drexel and a second master's in systems engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. He retired in 2006 as director of technical operations for General Dynamics' armament and technical products unit. Two of his 11 grandchildren ("so far," he writes) have attended UMaine—one in chemical engineering and the other, following Grandpa's path, in engineering physics. Former Morse High School biology teacher and science department chair Wayne Robbins '65 of Bath has been sculpting marine animals and birds in wood and stone since 1969. His work can be found in several coastal galleries, as well as in his own gallery.

Arthur "Skip" Dresser '65 retired in 2006 as director of engineering for Bath Iron Works and now volunteers at the Maine Maritime Museum. He and wife, Carol Crosson Dresser '65, live in Arrowsic. Sons Scott and Keith also attended UMaine.

**Laurie Arvid Anderson's** '65 career has taken him to schools and colleges in Nigeria, Micronesia, and Turkey; to a writing sojourn in Paris, and back to Michigan's Upper Peninsula, where he currently chairs the English department at Finlandia University. Writing as Lauri Arvid Anderson, he has produced nine books of fiction and a memoir.

**Jon Woodbury** '65 of Cornwall, VT, retired in 2004 after 26 years as director of facilities at Middlebury College. His father was a UMaine professor and coach and his mother a librarian at Fogler Library for many years.

Chemistry major **Robert Elcik** '65 writes from Los Alamitos, CA, that he is "still employed; love to work."

Since earning his J.D. degree at George Washington University Law School,

**Hank Schmelzer** '65 has worked as a corporate lawyer and a mutual fund executive in Boston, as CEO of the Maine Community Foundation, and as chairman of Maine Public Broadcasting.

**Harry Ellsworth** '65 of North Eastham, MA, earned an M. Ed. degree at Boston State College. He has taught biology and chemistry at Boston Latin School, worked as an antique furniture restorer, and now is a real estate broker.

**Gilbert "Gib" Chase** '65, '68G of Northborough, MA, recently retired after 39 years of federal service, most recently with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. There he led coastal land protection and resource management planning for the Jersey Coastal Refuges, Chesapeake Marshlands Refuge Complex, and the

Great Dismal Swamp in Virginia and North Carolina.

A zoology and education major, Gib holds an M.Ed. degree from UMaine and a Master of Science degree from the University of New Hampshire. He's worked as a biological oceanographer with the Naval Oceanographic Office, a marine biologist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and a diving officer throughout New England coastal waters, participating in underwater studies of dredge material disposal sites as well as of herring spawning, offshore lobster populations, coral reefs, commercial ground fish, and other marine life.

Gib invites students interested in marine sciences, oceanography, fisheries, or wildlife management to contact him at [glc2543@gmail.com](mailto:glc2543@gmail.com).

Following a career in teaching, the Rev. **Sally Day Brown** '65 earned a divinity degree at Yale in 2000 and is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ (Congregational), now semi-retired. She lives in Glastonbury, CT, where she is active in two book groups, garden club, League of Women Voters, a prayer group, and church outreach.

**Linda Waterhouse Lawton** '65 retired in 2000 after 35 years in education in Hartford, CT. She now lives in Eatontown, NJ, where she volunteers at Monmouth County Parks.

**Kenneth Murray** '65 taught earth science, biology, and chemistry for 37 years at Mountain Valley High School in Rumford, where he chaired the science department. Long active in the Maine Education Association, he also served for nine years on the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education Board of Examiners, visiting 17 colleges and universities for accrediting their teacher certification programs.

Others who went into education include **Leon Harriman** '65, '76G of Brunswick, who obtained an M.Ed. degree; **Sharon Leslie Records Record** '65, who taught high school English in West Virginia and Vermont and now lives in Plattsburgh, NY; **Patricia Hayden Herrick** '65 of North Berwick, who earned her master's degree in library science at URI and taught English to gifted and talented students, as well as serving as a school librarian; and **Patricia Elwell Wilson** '65, who lives in Westbrook and is a retired fifth-grade teacher.

Also, **Carrie Burton Floyd-Wiles** '65, who earned an M.A. degree at Gardner-Webb University in North Carolina, where she lives, and retired from teaching in 2003; **Elizabeth F. Peltier** '65 of Greenville, who earned her master's degree at Dartmouth and retired in 1999; **Trudy Blanchard Hodgdon** '65 of New Gloucester, who taught English for 35 years—32 of them at Edward Little High School in Auburn; **James Sylvester** '65G of Sarasota, FL, who taught for 30 years at Concord Carlisle High School in Concord, MA; and **Richard Niles** '65, '75G of Union, who retired from teaching in 1999 after 30 years at Stearns High School in Millinocket.