

1959

Reunion Oct. 9-11 

Janice Longo is author and illustrator of *There's a Mouse in the House*, a self-published children's book. The book was published under her grandmother's maiden name, Lucia Tuttle. She resides in Madison, N.J.

Charles A. Sorber is interim president of University of Texas-Pan American. Sorber is professor emeritus in the Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering at UT Austin's Cockrell School of Engineering. He earned a master's degree from Pennsylvania State University and a doctorate from University of Texas at Austin. He is a member of the American Academy of

Environmental Engineers, has been active in the American Association for Engineering Education, and is a former president of the Water Environment Federation. He resides in Austin, Texas.

1966

Philip Cheifetz, Ph.D., professor of mathematics, computer science and information technology at Nassau Community College, has been granted the honor of "Distinguished Service Professor" by the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees. The award is conferred upon individuals who have achieved national or international prominence and have earned a distinguished reputation within his or her chosen field. Cheifetz was one of only 13

professors among the 64 SUNY campuses statewide to attain this honor last year.

1967

Leona Sokash Dufour retired from teaching high school English in Carmel, N.Y. She resides with her husband in Georgetown, Maine. Retirement activities include membership in a writing group, quilting group and book club.

1977

Guy Barbato retired from his position as associate professor of poultry science at Penn State University to launch biotechnology company Gallimed Sciences Inc. He resides in Long Beach Township, N.J.

1983

David Carey was recently promoted to vice president of systems engineering for Instrumentation Engineering, located in Oakland, N.J. Carey lives in Wilkes-Barre with his wife, **Jennifer (Ogurkis) '83**; children **Lauren '08** and **John**, a rising senior at Wilkes; and beagles Bruce, Jack and Oswald.

1988

Ronald Ulitchney, CPA, was promoted to partner status at the Kingston, Pa., accounting firm Kronick Kalada Berdy & Co. He resides in Trucksville, Pa.

1991

Alissa Marie Antosh married Scott Bryan Dana on Aug. 30, 2008. She is employed by Medical Oncology Associates and is a senior editor of *The Independent* magazine. The couple reside in Kingston, Pa.

1995

Lars Augustin, P.E., has received the New York Water Environment Association Young Professionals Service Award. He is a project manager with Gannett Fleming, an international planning, design and construction management firm in Locust Valley, N.Y.

Thomas J. McWilliams is a partner at Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP's Intellectual Property Practice Group. He works in the Philadelphia



Former Colonel football players gathered at the Florida home of Gary Popovich '64. From left are: Pepper Merrill '69, Phil Besler '76, Ted Yeager '72, Tony Couto '78, Popovich, Ron Grohowski '64, Coach Rollie Schmidt, Joe Wiendl '69 and Joe Yanovitch '55. PHOTO BY SUE JOLLEY

Puma Develops Training for Overcoming Motion Sickness

When Sam Puma '58 joined the U.S. Air Force in his junior year at Hahnemann Medical School, he dreamed of joining the space program.

As a flight surgeon for NASA with a private pilot's license and his own airplane, Puma didn't expect problems with motion sickness. And he didn't — until he found himself in a T-33 training jet while the pilot took the plane through a series of intense maneuvers.

"He turned that airplane inside out," Puma recalls. "I got so sick and was without an airsickness bag. I had to relieve myself into my glove."

This event was not only embarrassing but heartbreaking. Aviators can't take drugs for motion sickness. "They interfere with performance," says Puma, who majored in biology and minored in chemistry at Wilkes.

Not ready to give up, he set out to combat his motion sickness. "I had heard of sailors getting their 'sea legs' by building up a tolerance to the motions of a ship, so I thought maybe I could develop some maneuvers I could do that would allow me to build up tolerance to motion sickness."

These maneuvers became the Puma Method, a patented series of exercises that build a person's resistance to motion sickness over a one- to two-week period. Puma says the program, explained in a DVD he sells online, is based on the idea of habituation and has helped hundreds of people cure their motion sickness.



Puma markets his patented method in a DVD he sells online.
PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM PUMA

He decided to patent the Puma Method after successfully helping friends and relatives. The biggest challenge is reaching individuals who could benefit from it. "Type in 'motion sickness' into Google and you'll get more than 2 million responses," Puma says. He launched a Web site: www.pumamethod.com.

Puma is still involved in aviation and is currently building a research aircraft. He resides in Winchester, Calif., with his wife, Susan.

- By Shannon Curtin '07

branch of the national firm and is a frequent author and speaker on U.S. and international intellectual property issues.

1996

Maj. Kristine (Ferrell) Hackett was recently promoted to flight commander of the Women's

Health Clinic at Langley Air Force Base. She is a women's health nurse practitioner and resides in Hampton, Va., with husband Jim and children Christian and Bethanie.

1998

Karen Mazuka married Erik Hartman on Sept. 6, 2008. She received a master of science

degree in software engineering from George Mason University in 2003. She is employed by PricewaterhouseCoopers in Washington, D.C. The couple reside in Washington, D.C.

2000

Megan Sara Daniels married **Jason Lee Kauwell '00** on

June 28, 2008. Megan is employed by Street Delivery as a photographer. Jason is employed by U.S. Investigative Services as a special investigator. They reside in Dallas, Pa.

Holly Filion married Kerry Bretzius on Nov. 23, 2007. They reside in Birdsboro, Pa.

Qureshi in the House

Ali Qureshi '96 isn't a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, but he works behind the scenes to keep the House running.

After graduating from Wilkes with an environmental engineering degree, he became a management consultant for a private company working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. A job in communications and technology eventually led to a position as web systems branch manager for the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer in the House. At the same time, he



was completing his executive master's degree from the Wharton School of Business.

In 2006, Qureshi became director for establishing a new organization: a center of excellence for financial and business support applications. He led a 60-plus-member team responsible for business applications supporting over \$1 billion of financial transactions.

Qureshi stepped into his current role in 2008. As deputy chief administrative officer and a senior advisor to chief administrative officer Dan Beard, Qureshi is responsible for House operations and supervises about a dozen departments, including House Information Resources and Administrative and Financial Services, and oversees a staff of 650 employees and 800 consultants.

His responsibilities include helping to establish the CAO's strategic priorities and incorporating a "Green the Capitol" program to adopt sustainable business practices that are not only environmentally sound but also cost-effective. He enjoys coaching staff and managing employees. "Good leadership is being able to do your part to motivate individuals, set the goals for the team, and then provide autonomy to your staff so they can excel at their jobs," Qureshi says.

Wilkes provided "confidence and encouragement from students, faculty and administrators," he says. He remembers fondly how "the entire school environment was very welcoming, and we were cared for like a family."

Qureshi and his wife, Sarah, reside in Ashburn, Va., with sons Daniyal, 7, and Ryaan, 4.

- By Shannon Curtin '07

Ali Qureshi '96



Wisconsin men's basketball coach Bo Ryan '69, Middleton, Wis., visits with former Golden Horde end and assistant football coach Joe Skvarla '69, Plymouth, Pa., and former Golden Horde guard Les Loveland '70, Oceanport, N.J. PHOTO BY SUE JOLLEY

Nathan Robert Lipton was awarded the certified fraud examiner designation by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners on Nov. 24, 2008. He is employed by the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General as a special investigator.

2001

Kristy (Tkach) Dawe and her husband, Greg Dawe, are proud to announce the birth of a daughter, Macey Olivia, on Nov. 24, 2008. The family resides in Pen Argyl, Pa.

Greg Johansen was promoted to petty officer second class in the U.S. Navy.

Erin Kathleen Walsh, Pharm.D. '02, married Gregory Cherkauskas on Dec. 14, 2007. She is employed by Rite Aid Corporation. They reside in Pittston, Pa.

2002

Matthew John Koch married **Jami Lynn Shuleski '06** on

Sept. 27, 2008. She is employed as a software developer at Keystone Automotive Operations, Exeter, Pa. Matthew is employed by Sungard Higher Education at Wilkes University as an instructional designer. They reside in Forty Fort, Pa.

Tammy Ash and **Greg Hink** were united in marriage on Nov. 15, 2008. She is employed by Robin's Nest as a social worker. They reside in Paulsboro, N.J.

2003

John (BJ) Kosich married **Amanda (Watson) Kosich '05** on Nov. 24, 2007. They reside in Florida.

George C. Morrison is employed by White and Williams LLP's Allentown, Pa., office as a new associate in the commercial litigation department. He resides in Allentown, Pa.

2005

Michael Benulis married **Sabrina Naples** on Sept. 27, 2008. He works as a mechanical engineer for PPL at the Montour power plant in Washingtonville, Pa. The couple reside in Lightstreet, Pa.

2006

Erin Elizabeth Rovinsky married **Michael Patrick Barlow Jr.** on Oct. 25, 2008. She is employed by Genesis Health Care. They reside in Dallas, Pa.

Nathan Fenstermacher married **Shannon (Carr) Fenstermacher, Pharm.D. '08**, on Sept. 6, 2008. Shannon is employed as a clinical staff pharmacist at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, Pa. Nathan is employed as a physician assistant for Lehigh Neurology, Allentown, Pa. The couple reside in Allentown, Pa.

Brooke Zuercher married **William Coleman** on Sept. 20, 2008, in Allentown, Pa. She is an international account manager for LaFrance Corp., Glen Mills, Pa., and is responsible for the European development division. They reside in Exton, Pa.

Graduate Degrees 2000

Carolyn Ann Cooper, MS, married **Kevin Hummer** on Nov. 25, 2008. She is a fourth-grade teacher at Dallas Elementary in the Dallas School District.

The bride and groom are drummers in the Wyoming Valley Pipe and Drum Band. They reside in Kingston, Pa.

Suzanne Jennifer Owens, MS, married **Joshua Harter Kile** on Nov. 29, 2008. She is a sixth-grade teacher in the Hazleton Area School District. They reside in Nescopeck, Pa.

2005

Frank M. Sorokach, MBA, is employed by State Farm Insurance as insurance agent in Tunkhannock, Pa. He is also an adjunct instructor at Keystone College.

2006

Jennifer Lee Bernick, MS, married **Jeffrie Edward Welby** on June 28, 2008. She is in her final year of coursework in pursuit of her doctorate in educational leadership and is employed as a fourth-grade teacher at the Lake-Lehman School District. They reside in Dallas, Pa.

Kevin Matthew West, MS, married **Danielle Leigh Zarembo** on Aug. 9, 2008. He is employed at Dallas High School.

2009

Holly Marie Moran, MS, married **Robert Zbyszeski** on Sept. 27, 2008. She is employed by the Pittston Area School District as a fifth-grade teacher.

In Memoriam

1948

J. Glenn Gooch of Kingston, Pa., died Jan. 28, 2009. He received a bachelor's degree in commerce and finance from Bucknell University and an MBA from Wilkes College. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II.

Gooch worked at Pennsylvania Gas and Water Company, serving as CEO from 1978 until 1987. He was also vice president of PA Enterprises Inc., Wilkes-Barre.

Surviving are his wife of 64 years, the former Belle Miller; and son Brad Gooch, New York City.

1949

June Persing McGuire of Cartersville, Ga., died March 4, 2008.

She was employed by Brown & Co. jewelers in Roswell, Ga., as a jewelry and gift buyer prior to her retirement in 1985. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, **Delbert McGuire '52**; five children, including **Richard '73**; and nine grandchildren.

James J. Slamon of Wrightsville, Pa., died Dec. 23, 2008. He was an accountant for Slamon and Co. and a U.S. Army veteran of World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy H. (Huff) Slamon of Wrightsville; a son, James Slamon, Medford, N.J.; two daughters, Janie Slamon,

Emmaus, Pa., and Nancy Urey, Wrightsville; and three grandchildren.

1950

George Brody of Lancaster, Pa., died Jan. 6, 2009. Brody served in the Second Infantry Division in World War II and in the Army Air Force in Hondo, Texas, before resuming his education. He received a master's degree from Temple University and taught English and journalism at Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology before assuming the role of the director of the Office of Admissions. He was awarded an honorary doctorate in 1997. After retirement he worked as a substitute teacher in the Manheim Township and Lancaster City school districts.

He is survived by wife Martha (Allan) Brody, to whom he was married 66 years; a son, Bruce, Springfield, Va.; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

1954

George Joseph Elias of Mechanicsburg, Pa., died Dec. 20, 2008. He earned a master of science degree in secondary administration at Bucknell University and was employed as a teacher by Wyoming Seminary before working as a managing partner for General Roofing Co., an estimator for Suburban Roofing Co. and a supervisor with Houck Roofing Co.

He is survived by his daughter, Janilyn; and two adopted daughters.

Esther S. Wilson of Wyoming, Pa., died Jan. 3, 2009. She was a graduate of Nesbitt Hospital School of Nursing, class of 1939. She was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps in 1941. In 1942, she was one of 52 nurses assigned to the 77th Evacuation Hospital and served as the head surgical nurse caring for the wounded from the African, Sicilian, English, French and German fronts.

Wilson was discharged with the rank of captain and, through the GI Bill, received her bachelor's degree in nursing education from Wilkes College. She taught LPN students at Nesbitt Hospital.

She is survived by her children, Robert Jr., Plymouth Meeting, Pa., David, Tunkhannock, Pa., Dr. Janis Wilson Seeley, Shavertown, Pa.; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

1955

George Grabousky of Edwardsville, Pa., died Jan. 7, 2009. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was awarded the Purple Heart. He was a draftsman for Modern Design, Vestal, N.Y.

1957

Albert A. Broody, of Wilkes-Barre, died March 1, 2009.

Broody was a veteran of the Korean War, serving in the Marine Corps stationed in Europe. He was employed for many years by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources as a water-quality manager.

George Siles, Ph.D., formerly known as Jacob George Silewski, of Nanticoke, Pa., died Jan. 28, 2009. He taught at several colleges and universities. He is survived by children Erica Peterson and Kiera, Samantha and Zakariah Siles.

1958

Phyllis Judge Saldarriaga of Coral Gables, Fla., died Jan. 22, 2009. Surviving are her husband, Jaime Saldarriaga; her son, Luis Saldarriaga; daughter Mariluz Azan, Coral Gables, Fla.; and three grandchildren.

1959

Joan T. Oliver of Hudson, Fla., died Oct. 18, 2008. She was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Nursing School, Wilkes College and Trenton State and was a retired school nurse from Willingboro, N.J. She moved to Florida in 1989. Oliver is survived by husband Joseph; sons Thom, Lake Worth, Fla., and Tim, Suwanee, Ga.; and daughter Jody, Clover, S.C.; and brother Thomas Tierney, South Natick, Mass.

University Family Mourns Loss of Professor Matthew Zukoski '86

Matthew J. Zukoski '86, associate professor in Wilkes University's Department of Mathematics and Computer Science since 2002, died Jan. 31, 2009.

Zukoski's students recall his friendliness and willingness to go above and beyond to help and guide them. "He would do anything for his students," says Jason Wagner '09. "I remember times when we would be working through dinner on projects in the computer lab, and he'd knock on the door holding a loaf of bread and cheese and ask us if we wanted toasted cheese sandwiches."

He put others first, a quality that his students and advisees took to heart. "Go to his office on a random weeknight, and you'd find him helping a student with a math class that he didn't teach, or helping a local non-profit setup a Web site, or meeting with an advisee to change his schedule—again. I'm not sure he experienced real spare time for years," says John Mishanski '07.

And Zukoski's willingness to help his students did not end when they left Wilkes. "After graduating from college, I decided to move to California to take a job," Mishanski explains. "I had spent a few months there previously, but it was still one of the scariest things I'd do in my entire life. Coincidentally, Dr. Zukoski was in San Francisco for a conference for a few days. He went out of his way to skip some conference sessions to spend time with me, taking my mind off of my worries."

Students remember Zukoski's joyful and positive outlook. "In three and a half years, I never saw him without a giant smile on his face," says Wagner. "And he



Matthew Zukoski '86

always gave the impression that there was nothing worth getting upset over, that there was nothing that we couldn't fix."

Zukoski, of Kingston, Pa., graduated from Hanover Area High School in 1982. He earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Wilkes, a master's degree in computer science from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and a doctorate in computer engineering from Lehigh University. He had been affiliated with Wilkes University in various capacities since he was a student. Zukoski also worked nearly eight years as a researcher in the Department of Radiology at the Hershey Medical Center.

Zukoski was a lifetime member of Holy Family Church, Sugar Notch, and was actively involved in many church societies. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus Holy Family Sugar Notch Council. An avid cyclist, he often participated in the "Five Boro New York City Tour," as well as other cycling events. He

was a *Seinfeld* trivia aficionado and devout New York Mets fan, with an annual hope that *this* was the year they would win the World Series.

In addition to his mother, Patricia, he is survived by brothers Paul, Olympia, Wash.; John Jr., Hanover Township, Pa.; Theodore, Slatington, Pa.; Dominic, Blairstown, N.J.; Christopher, Bethesda, Md.; and Joseph, Los Angeles, Calif.; and by sisters Mary Jo Zukoski '88, Fredericksburg, Va.; and Amy Maldonado, Potomac Falls, Va.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wilkes University for a scholarship in the name of Dr. Matthew J. Zukoski. Donations may be mailed to the attention of Evelyne Topfer, Wilkes University, 84 W. South St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766.

1971

John A. Nossal died Dec. 6, 2008. He was employed by the NEIU #19, teaching both remedial and talented math for 31 years. He lived in Clarks Summit, Pa., until his retirement in 2005 and loved attending Wilkes University football games. He is survived by his wife, the former Eileen Taylor, Corning, N.Y.

1972

Robert Carmen Amico of Pittston, Pa., died Jan. 6, 2009. He was employed at the Wilkes-Barre Area Vocational-Technical School as a business manager, retiring in 1997. He served in the U.S. Army as a SP5 from 1964 to 1967.

1974

Randolph S. "Randy" Yanoshak of Hanover Township, Pa., died March 6, 2009.

He was employed by Conair Corporation, having previously worked for Hanover Beauty Supply and Zotos Inc., and also bartended at Alexis Tavern, Hanover Township.

He was a member of the Hanover Township Board of Commissioners from 1982-1989 and served as president of the board. He was a member of the Mickey Noonan Chapter of the PIAA football officials, retiring in 2000 after 25 years of service.

His is survived by his wife of 36 years, the former Connie Soltis; sons Randy Jr., Wrentham, Mass., Ryan, West Point, N.Y., and Corey, Dover, Del.; and two grandchildren.

1982

Stephen M. Lokuta of Dupont, Pa., died Feb. 3, 2009. He had owned and operated the Stephen M. Lokuta Funeral Home, Dupont.

Dianne Marie Kolesar, CPA, MBA '84 of West Wyoming, Pa., died Feb. 5, 2008.

She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting and served as controller of Vector Security, Wilkes-Barre. She is survived by her mother, Victoria, West Wyoming; sister Victoria; and brothers George, Daniel and Michael.

Faculty/Staff

Hilma R. Belenski died on Jan. 17, 2009. She was employed by the food service department of Wilkes University.

She is survived by a daughter, Rose Mullally, Kingston, Pa.; a son, Thomas Belenski, Plano, Texas; and four grandchildren.

Friends

Mindi Thalenfeld of Dallas, Pa., died Feb. 24, 2008.

She was a graduate of the School of Visual Arts, New York City. She was well-known in the arts community, and her artwork was shown in numerous galleries in New York City, as well as many local venues. She was a member of the board of directors of the Sordoni Art Gallery at Wilkes University.

She is survived by her mother, Delores Smith Amerman, Kingston, Pa.; daughter Rebecca, Santa Fe, N.M.; son Adam, at home; and half-sisters Rona and Marsha.



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