

# Connections

A Publication of the Warren/Alvarado/Oslo Public School

Education Foundation

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P.O. Box 125, Warren, MN 56762

## Serving With Compassion: The Heart Behind The DuBore Funeral Home



By: Melanie M. (Fulks) Nelson  
WHS Class of 1981

Growing up in the quiet corners of Warren where everyone knew his name and his father's legacy, Mike DuBore, WHS Class of 1984, always felt a quiet pull toward the family business. While his peers steered clear of its somber halls, Mike was never uneasy around the Quanrud Funeral Home. He found a peaceful element in the calm demeanor his father possessed while helping families through their most difficult days. Now, years later, he's stepped into that same role—not just to carry on the business, but to honor a tradition of compassion, dignity, and service that's been a cornerstone of his family for generations.

Mike recalled the stories of when his Great Uncle Rudy Quanrud first served the Warren area as the local barber. At the time, there were two mortuaries in Warren and Rudy was serving the community as a barber. When both those businesses closed their doors, Rudy decided to enter mortuary school in Minneapolis to fill the community need. In 1937, he opened the doors to the newly established Quanrud Funeral Home. Mike's grandmother, Inez DuBore and Rudy's wife, Jennie Quanrud were sisters, a connection not every local knows.

So, how did the DuBore family find their way into the art of funeral directing? Pour yourself a cup of something comforting and settle in as we trace the successful career path of Mike DuBore, whose compassionate heart continued the ongoing legacy in Warren as a respected mortician and funeral

director for are communities.

Mike's father, Chuck, grew up the son of a judge in Roseau, Minnesota. Upon entering St. John's University before transferring to the University of Minnesota, he fully anticipated a career as an accountant: soon realizing his calling was in another direction; mortuary science. While in college, Chuck worked at a funeral home in St. Paul, gaining knowledge and experience. With the completion of his degree, Chuck went to work with his Uncle Rudy at the Quanrud Funeral Home in Warren in 1958.

Chuck and his wife of nearly 60 years, Delores, raised their three children in Warren, living first above the funeral home itself for nearly a decade. Monique DuBore Colette, mother of Jocelyne and Mollie, - fills her days as a Speech Language Pathologist in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Mike DuBore is married to Betty (Bjorgaard) DuBore and the couple have two adult children, Madeleine and Cameron. Patrick DuBore is currently working in sales & marketing in Shakopee, Minnesota. He and his wife Jennifer have three children: Carter, Sydney and Max.

During his years at Warren High School, Mike balanced his busy schedule of sports and family responsibilities. He was active in football, basketball, track, band, choir, and student council. History class with Bob Mattson was his favorite high school class, but he recalls having so many great teachers at WHS. He highlights working alongside Phil Beving at the Peppermill, a local hangout, learning many valuable lessons. Not only his employer, Phil was also his football coach. He comments that his children learned their mathematical skills from Betty's and his own teacher, Rick Schmiedeberg. He shares one of his favorite memories at WHS was when we played the Argyle Eagles in ANYthing! The rich rivalry made for excitement and athletic challenges and the fan support was always vibrant. Going to state in basketball in 1984, under coaching legend, Gary Schuler, is a favorite discussion among all classmates. Everyone has memories about those years at state tournaments. Lastly, the musicals, led by Mark Maruska, were another highlight of his time at WHS.

As a high school student, Mike also pitched in at the family funeral home by washing cars, mowing the lawn, and vacuuming floors. Eager to help wherever he could, Mike began assisting with funerals by the time he was just 16. He vividly recalls his father's round-the-clock dedication, always on call and ready to respond to a family's need at a moment's notice. Mike has maintained that level of diligence throughout his own career. He understood from a young age that being in the mortuary business was a "family" commitment. He credits his wife and children for being understanding when his schedule was not compatible with family plans. Holidays and weekends were times when Mike was always on duty.

After attending college at UND, then University of Minnesota, Mike returned to Warren in 1988 completing his mortuary science internship at the family funeral home, stepping fully into his role alongside his father as a licensed mortician. Arriving at the U of M, Mike was greeted by two fellow classmates, also pursuing degrees in mortuary science: Jay VanSickle and Mark Leverington, both of whom have had successful careers as morticians as well.

Mike and Betty started dating in 1984, heading to Shakey's Pizza in Grand Forks and taking in the "Karate Kid" movie. In 1990, Mike and Betty (Bjorgaard), (WHS Class of 1986), married and together the two cultivated a life centered on family, faith, community, and lasting values. Raising two children—Madeleine (AJ) Hensel of Langdon, ND, works as an account manager and Cameron (Erin), a remote financial analyst, who will soon be making their home in Warren this coming June. The DuBore's appreciate Warren, where the values run deep, neighbors look out for one another and every child is everyone's child.

Betty, now retired, dedicated more than 20 years to shaping young minds as an elementary teacher at WAO. She will occasionally sub within the school, but fully enjoys her retirement. Mike and Betty instilled the same strong work ethic in their children, who, like their father, began helping with the family business; both Madeleine and Cameron started

Continued on page 6

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## Class Reunions

Please contact the Education Foundation with your class reunion details for our next edition of "Connections". We would be glad to give you our most current addresses for your classmates.

In return we ask that you give us any address updates that you become aware of.

## 150th Anniversary In 2030

The City of Warren is proud to announce the upcoming celebration of its 150th Anniversary in the year 2030. As part of the planning for this significant milestone, the Sesquicentennial Committee is seeking help from the community to gather stories, photographs, and historical memorabilia from the past 50 years (1980–2030). Please email information to warrenmn150@gmail.com or mail to:

Warren Sesquicentennial  
PO Box 3  
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Richard P. Nelson Memorial  
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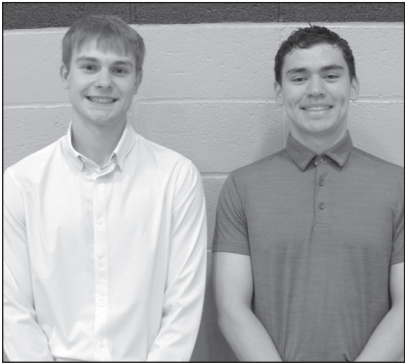
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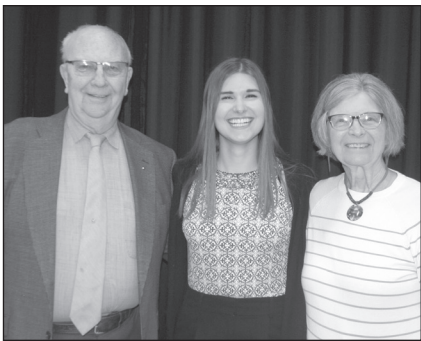
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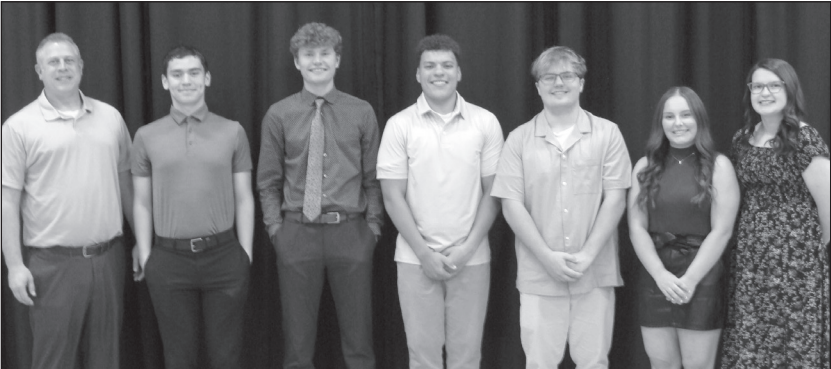
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Congratulations!



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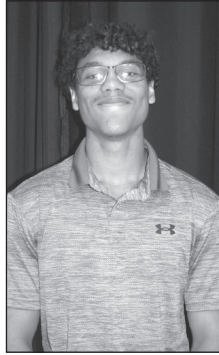
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*Congratulations!*



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**In Memorial of Edwin and Fern Anderson**

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News & Notes . . .

**Kelsey (Sorenson) Deschene, WAO 2003**, is the Administrative Assistant at WAO High School. She is the mother of three children who are WAO students and she has been the Administrative Assistant at WAO for the past nine years. Unfortunately, her husband, Brandon passed away unexpectedly in 2023. In 2024, through her hard work and dedication to her job, she was selected to receive the Minnesota Association of Secondary Schools Principals Office Professional of the Year Award. Minnesota has 459 high schools and 236 middle schools. Through the lengthy process of all those schools nominations, Kelsey was one of eight finalists nominated for the award. Through a selection process carried out by the Minnesota Association of Secondary Principals, she was selected to receive the award for this school year. In late January 2025, Kelsey was presented the award by WAO principal Ben Miska, WAO 2001, at a banquet in Minneapolis.

**Troy Vanyo, AHS 1988**, recently retired after a 31-year career with the Grand Forks Police Department "leaving a legacy of respect for all people and a unique ability to easily adapt to the various roles he held during his tenure". That was the description of his career in the Grand Forks Herald newspaper. Troy grew up in East Grand Forks and attended school in Alvarado. After graduation, he went on to study criminal justice at the University of North Dakota. After completing training at the Devils Lake Police Academy, he joined the GFPD. Troy did night patrol for six years. Then, a school resource officer position at Grand Forks Central opened up. Troy spent the next ten years at this position which he said was the most memorable and rewarding of his career. Troy later moved to daytime patrol duty before finishing his career at a very important position in the Education and Outreach Bureau as a mental health and homeless liason, which he found very gratifying and worthwhile.

**Kristina (Knute) Long, AHS 1975**, is a recently retired Licensed Health Counselor. She is married to Chuck Long, a Doctor of Physical Therapy and they live in Lisbon, North Dakota. They have one married son and two young grandsons who live in Bismarck. Kristina's school years began in a one-room country school house by Tabor called Sunnyview District 1613. Her brother Jerry and sisters, Jacki and Roberta all attended school there. There was no running water or flush toilets at the school. With students of all ages, they functioned like a family. She was the only girl in her grade. Her father died when she was only nine years old and just before school started for the year. Her country school closed after that year. Kristina and her schoolmates were bussed to Alvarado where she attended classes from fifth grade to graduation. Kristina treasured her education and all her life experiences during her school years at Alvarado. After high school, she attended U of M Crookston, graduating with an Associate Degree in Home and Family Services. She continued her education at Moorhead State earning Bachelor of Science Degree in Special Education. She then attended UND to start graduate classes and it was there she met her husband, Chuck. After marriage, they moved to Aberdeen, S.D. where she attended Northern State University and received her Graduate Degree

in Master of Science in Education. In 1988, they moved to Lisbon where she decided to open her own private practice for mental health counseling in 1989. It worked out well as her private practice called Sheyenne Valley Counseling Services served the Lisbon area for 33 years until her retirement on January 1, 2023. Retirement has given her the precious gift of getting to spend lots of time with her sweet grandsons.

**Ben Miska, WAO 2001**, has the distinction of being the first Warren-Alvarado-Oslo alumnus to be a principal at WAO, a position he has held since 2019. Ben is married to Kari (Stinar) Miska, WAO 2001, and they are parents of six children. Ben has been a Pony practically his whole life. A three-sport athlete, Ben was captain of the WAO Pony football team that finished runner-up in the Minnesota State Class A Football championship game, losing 13-12 to Sleepy Eye. After graduation from college in 2005, Ben spent a few years teaching and coaching at Canby, MN, before returning to his alma mater to teach history and coach. Recently, he received the high honor of being named the Northern Division Principal of the Year. The alma mater of all Warren-Alvarado-Oslo alumni is in very good hands with administrators like Ben Miska.

**Dr. Shari Olson, AHS 1979**, is no longer the interim president at Northland Community and Technical college based in Thief River Falls and East Grand Forks. The reason is, she was unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State College and Universities to be the President. Her appointment is effective immediately and will be a smooth transition since she has been the interim president since July 2024.

**Jen Conely, WAO 2003**, recently completed her 7th season as Women's Head Basketball Coach of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside Rangers in Kenosha, Wisconsin. They finished the 2024-25 season with a record of 18-10. A highlight of this season was her team being the only team in the country to defeat Grand Valley State who went on to win the Division II Women's Basketball National Championship. Jen also reached a career milestone number of 100 wins during this season and she has a career record of 104-85. Her team plays in the very competitive Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. The conference champion was none other than Grand Valley State! Jen's own playing career was highlighted by a lot of personal and team success. As a Pony, she started for four years including three sub-section 31A championship games winning the championship in the 2000-01 title game. Jen attended Lake Region Junior College in Devils Lake, North Dakota and played 2 years for the Royals' successful Women's Basketball program. Following that, she spent her last two years of college basketball eligibility at Florida Gulf Coast University. Jen's first year playing for the Eagles, they went 29-2. Her second year at FGCU, she helped the team to a 34-0 record before falling in the Division II National championship which was played on ESPN. Jen hit a 3-pointer early in the game before having to go to the bench with stress fracture injuries. Here's a bit of irony for you, Jen's dream as a little girl was always to play for the University of North Dakota women's basketball team. She went to numer-

ous UND games while growing up. In the National Division II Womens Tournament semi-final game, her FGCU team defeated none other than UND to eliminate them from the National Tournament and send her team to the National Championship game. After graduating, she spent a year each assistant coaching at a couple of smaller colleges before becoming a top assistant coach and spending eight years at the University of Indianapolis. From there it's been seven very good years as Head Coach at Wisconsin-Parkside.

MCHS Boardwalk

Dear Alumni,  
The Marshall County Historical Society boasts a Boardwalk in Settlers Square. Each plank bears a name honoring a family, friend or in memory of loved ones. Boards are available at \$40 for each plank. We are trying to get an estimate of how many boards to "cure" for next years engraving.  
If you have interest or need more information, please contact Mag Melgard, (class of WHS 1971) at 218-686-4149. Come be a part of your Boardwalk!  
Thank you

High School REUNION  
2025 Class Reunions

<b>AHS 1970</b> <b>Angie Schultz</b> <b>aschultzie@gmail.com</b> <b>218-791-8688</b> <b>August 9th</b>	<b>WHS 1965</b> <b>Duane Potucek</b> <b>218-201-0550</b> <b>July 25th</b>
<b>WHS 1970</b> <b>Conrad Goroski</b> <b>218-686-0440</b> <b>July 25th</b>	<b>WHS Class 1975</b> <b>Julie (Hess) Nowacki</b> <b>jlnowacki@mnca-ble.net</b> <b>218-779-5749</b> <b>July 26th</b>
<b>AHS Class of 1975</b> <b>Kristina (Knute) Long</b> <b>therapy@driel.net</b> <b>701-678-2886</b> <b>June 20-21</b>	<b>WHS 1995</b> <b>Heather (Levenhagen) Goroski</b> <b>Hgoroski4@gmail.com</b> <b>218-201-0019</b> <b>July 25-26</b>
<b>WHS 1960</b> <b>Rovella Weiland</b> <b>218-289-3946</b> <b>During the Fair</b>	

Donations

November 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025

Amanda (Nelson) Tupa	Lavonne Schulz
Amber Schoepp	Leslie & Patty (Pickett) Howard
Amy Jo (Huderle) Olson	Linda Dick
Anthony Gullikson	Linda Short
Ashley Vongroven	Lou Ann (Steffen) Beck
Barbara (Anderson) Jorgenson	Margaret (Streich) Dufault
Benjamin Miska	Mark & Judy (Evin) Flaten
Brad Wallenberg	Mark & Mary (Duckstad) Carlson
Carol J. Anderson	Mary Lou Gast
Cassandra (Dietz) Szklarski	Mary Stanislawski
Cathie Kallstrom	Mason Wang
Charles & Anita (Svard) Hellie	Michelle Boroski
Charlotte (Vansickle) Strickler	Michelle Gullikson
Clarice Demeyere	MiChelle Nybo
Cyndi Goroski - Routzahn	Mintie Ferguson
Cynthia Ann Braun	Myrna (Godel) Super
Dale & Evie Ljunggren	Nanci Jo Wong
Dean & Mary Jo Chandler	Neil & Kison (Schuler) Miller
DelRoy Lieberg	Neil Kruger
Dick & Karen Knutson	Orlan & Jacquelyn Ranstrom
Doug & Jane (Bennett) Safar	Pat (Gilbert) Carlson
Duane M. Bjerke	Pete & Mioki Myszkowski
Ed & Renee (Rehder) Rosendahl	Renae Myszkowski
Elizabeth Murray	Richard & Susan Black
Eloise (Austinson) Wheeler	Richard Stanghelle
Faye Wallsten	Rick Roley
Greg Myszkowski	Robb & Kay (Hendrickson) Root
Harley & Darlene Marek	Robert & Heather (Forbes) Bruce
Harvey & Leslie Sedlacek	Rodger & Kim Haugtvedt
James Bustrack	Sara Larson
Jaime Woinarowicz	Scott & Tamara (Johnson) Oberg
Janet (Srnsky) Broesch	Stacy Hanson
Jeanne Johnson	Stanley & Marilyn (Strickler) Sirek
Jeff Jacobson	Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning
Jerry & Mary (Sorenson) Sedlacek	Sylvester & Carol Vanyo
Jerry & Rita Dalzell	Tim & Linda (Haugen) Conely
Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom	Todd & Kathy (Clausen) Johnston
Jim Johnston	Todd Mortimer
John & LaVerne (Storbakken) Messelt	Warren Lions Club
John & Rachel Peterson	Wayne & Darcy Peterson
John Short	Wayne & Deanna (Carlson) Zink
Jordan & Brooke (Bork) Johnson	Wayne & Rhonda Jordheim
Karen Dunn	Wendy (Rustad) Storey
Karen Myszkowski	Wesley & Renee (Kollin) Schon
Kelsey (Sorenson) Deschene	Yvonne (Batko) Schill
Laura Efta	Zachary Stene
Larry & Donna (Mackie) Laudal	
Lavonne Marek	



# Serving With Compassion: The Heart Behind The DuBore Funeral Home

(Continued from page 1)



Family picture from left to right: AJ Hensel, Madeleine Hensel, Mike, Betty, Erin Sullivan and Cameron.

assisting at funerals by the age of 16. Their time at the funeral home not only contributed to the family legacy but also taught them invaluable people skills. While working, Mike also served on the Warren Volunteer Ambulance Corps for of 25 years.

As Mike reflects on his 37-year career, he speaks candidly about the rewards and challenges that accompany his career. Though the job is a 24 / 7 commitment, the rewards far outbalance the scheduling challenges. Building relationships with families across the region has been both a privilege and, at times, a heavy responsibility. He noted the high rate of attrition within the field of mortuary science, pointing out that many morticians leave the profession for other careers prior to retirement. While guiding loved ones through the loss of family and friends can bring comfort, it also carries emotional weight. While working with families, Mike focuses on educating them as well. Mike emphasizes the importance of families understanding the benefits of pre-death insurance and prepayment options, which allow loved ones to plan ahead and ease the financial burden of funeral expenses. He notes that many people have quietly made arrangements without their families even realizing, underscoring the value of preparation.

Throughout his career, Mike has built deep connections within the community, approaching each service with genuine respect for the grief each family endures. He shares that the most rewarding part of his work is providing support during one of the most difficult times in people's lives. Mike takes pride in lifting even a small portion of that burden. In a profession often marked by grief, his wit and gentle humor help bring comfort, offering families moments of ease and lightness when they need it most. His words and presence create a sense of support and hope during times of profound loss.

Services currently available through DuBore Funeral Home are all encompassing full services. Beginning with direct burial, cremation, direct cremation, funeral visitation and granite sales. Their website allows for ordering flowers. Caskets, vaults, urns, and urn vaults can be viewed and the showroom allows families to make selections while being able to see and touch the options.

Working alongside Mike at DuBore Funeral Home are two invaluable team members: his father, Chuck — the oldest licensed practicing mortician in the state of Minnesota — and Victor Sweeney. Mike feels truly fortunate to have spent his career working side-by-side with his father, building both memories and a lasting legacy. He shares that his dad assists him when needed and is in the office many times throughout the day. His connections to the area are a big bonus; he knows so many of the families and can offer his expertise in dealing with families. Mike appreciates him tremendously.

Victor, who joined the team 14 years ago, originally from Bismarck, North Dakota, brings exceptional skill and dedication to the business, further strengthening the services they provide to the community. He is licensed to write funeral insurance policies in Minnesota and in North Dakota. He is responsible for a majority of the pre-planning. He is also instrumental in helping families generate health care directives. Since 2014, Victor and his wife, Paige, have embraced the community. Together they have four children: Edmund “Ned”, Arthur, Fiona and Peter.

Mike also shares that he's quite fortunate to have Dick Boldoc as a funeral assistant. Originally from Stephen, Dick has retired from a 40 year career in banking, but is always willing to lend a hand when needed and has been known to stop at the funeral home for a visit on occasion.

While Mike is dedicated to his work, he also makes the most of his downtime. He enjoys boating and fishing at Lake of the Woods, often joined by friends and family. In recent years, Betty has taken a liking to ice fishing—a sport in which her competitive spirit shines, as she often reels in both the biggest and the most fish. Beyond the lake, Mike spends his free time hunting, golfing, walking, and occasionally playing a game of pinochle. Though retirement isn't on the immediate horizon, Mike says he has no intention of easing into it quietly. He continues to find great fulfillment in his career and looks forward to serving the community for many years to come. The coffee is always brewing, and Mike and his team are always glad to welcome visitors with a warm smile.

## Chat with the Chairman

Dear Alumni and Friends of the Foundation,

Greetings from the Warren / Alvarado / Oslo Education Foundation! 2025 is becoming another exciting year with the Foundation. New and exciting things are happening in both the elementary and high school buildings with the remodel/building project. You'll have to wait until fall to have the opportunity to view first hand all of the changes and new things, but it is very exciting! Along with the building projects, great things are happening in the classrooms and departments, thanks to your generous donations that have been provided to us.

Another school year will be in the history books by next week! Along with that our thoughts are turning towards summer, class reunions, golf, and fun! Come and join us for a day of fun on July 25th for our 20th annual golf scramble. The clubhouse is a great place to gather, visit, check out our silent auction items, and enjoy food!

Last week the Foundation announced 56 scholarships that we facilitate for the Class of 2025. Many of these scholarships have more than one recipient which brings the total recipients to 97. The total amount for these scholarships and the renewable scholarships is \$112,875. We are most fortunate to have many donors who have entrusted us to facilitate their scholarships. You will find a list of five new scholarships and two returning scholarships on another page in this issue. Our board spent many hours studying the student's applications prior to our meeting and made final selections. We try our hardest to select the students who fit the criteria of the donor(s).

A year or so ago Linda Short asked us to be the keeper of the money for the book FLEARS that she was writing about her classmate, Mark Olson. She provided a hardcover copy of the book to every student in pre-kindergarten through second grade. Linda requested that all remaining funds from this project be given to the WAO Elementary Library. The total given to the library was \$360.85.

We are honored and proud to have two new members on our board, Ashley Reinier, WAO School Board Member, who came on as a board liaison and Jen Nelson is also an official board member. All of the school board members are nonvoting members of the Foundation, but we appreciate their ideas and insights.

If you are on Facebook, check out the WAO Education Foundation page. One of our board members, Jessica Syverson, is doing a great job taking care of it for us.

National Teacher Day was May 6th. Warren Dairy Queen gift certificates were presented to the teaching staff as a thank you for all that they do at WAO.

Each issue of “Connections” contains a list of recently deceased alumni, staff, and friends. We are often shocked to hear news of the passing of these people. It reminds us that we are really not in charge of anything and we never know when our time will come. It also reminds us that we can establish our own legacy. Have you thought about yours? We've had many inquiries of how people can leave something to the Foundation. The answer we've been told is that it can be stated in your legal documents that a lawyer has prepared for you. Some companies do require our tax ID number. If you need that, please have your company contact us for it.

The Florida and Arizona gatherings that were held in February were again very successful. What a great way for alumni and friends to reconnect. Mark your calendars for February 7, 2026 for the Florida Gathering and February 21, 2026 for the Arizona Gathering.

Over the past several months we've had some inquiries about former yearbooks. Some years ago, the late Tony Hill scanned all of the yearbooks that we could gather from the schools that now make up WAO. Heidi Thorstenson, one of the technologists at WAO, has the originals and will make a copy for you on a goggle drive shared file for a minimal fee. You'll find the order form on another page in this issue. If you should be in town during the summer and can't find your way into the school, stop at Godel Memorial Library as they also have many copies of yearbooks that have been donated by families.

Enjoy the days of summer and we'll look forward to welcoming you back “home” this summer!

## Golf Registration Form

Please return this with your entry fee. (\$50/person)

Team Members Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to: WAO Education Foundation  
Mail to: WAO Ed. Foundation, P.O. Box 125, Warren, MN 56762

# NEW SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2025

## JIM & JOYCE BOARDSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Jim Boardson was the only son of Clarence Boardson, longtime owner of Boardson’s Grocery which is now Supermarket Foods. Jim owned the store after his father’s passing and continued to keep ties to Warren. He enjoyed returning at least once a year to visit classmates and friends. Jim (WHS 1958) and Joyce were avid travelers and visited all seven continents. He ran an engineering firm for over thirty years. This scholarship was established per their wishes through their estates.

## RON & ELEANOR WALLENBERG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Ron and Eleanor moved to Warren in 1968 when Ron opened Ron’s Barber Shop and Eleanor gave private music lessons. At the time of Ron’s retirement in 2022 he was the second oldest working barber in Minnesota. Eleanor passed away in 2013 and Ron passed away in 2024. This scholarship was established by their son Bradley and his family.

## JANICE JOHNSTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Jan grew up in Blue Earth County and moved to Warren when she married Jim Johnston. Jan was active in community activities and retired as the Marshall & Pennington County Court Administrator. Jan was a long term member and later chairman of the Board of Directors at North Valley Health Center. This scholarship was established by her husband Jim, children Jami and Josh, and 4 grandchildren. Jan passed away in 2021.

## JIM JOHNSTON FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP

Jim grew up in the Angus area and is a WHS 1968 graduate. While in high school he was a Pony football player and as the years passed he continued to work with the WHS and WAO Pony Football Program as a coach with Tony Gullikson while the team was 11 man football. He was a mailman for the City of Warren and was active in the community. He now lives in Florida. He and Jan have 2 children; Jami and Josh along with 4 grandchildren.

## ERIC JOHNSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established by Lori, Jordan & Brooke Johnson in memory of Eric who was a WHS 1980 graduate. His drive, ambition, hard work and dedication led him to be a very successful farmer. He shared his strong faith and passion for farming and hunting with his family.

# Recently Deceased Alumni, Staff & Friends

These are death notices of alumni and staff that we have received. If you have additions or corrections, please contact the Education Foundation.

OHS 1961	Ralph Messelt	WHS 1951	Roberta (Goodrich) Ranstrom
WHS 1960	Chris Ann (Schantzen) Abrahamson	OHS 1981	James Kiefert
AHS 1960	Avis (Modin) Gard	WHS 1965	Patty Swanson
WHS 1958	Larry Carlson	WHS 1960	Rona (Cook) Anderson
WHS 1972	Dave Weber	WHS 1956	Karen Wiele
WHS 1958	George Owens	WHS 1967	Eldon Elseth
Friend	Ronald Wallenberg	WHS 1972	Bruce Horgen
Friend	John Praska	WHS 1964	Alvina (Pederson) Olson
Friend	Corky Praska	WHS 1958	Gary Strunk
Friend	Thomas O’Keefe	Friend	Jerry Jevning
OHS 1966	Darryle Hendrickson	WHS 1956	Gene Cook
WHS 1962	Allan Stanlake	Friend	Irmy Haugen
WHS 1961	Ruth (Solvik) Helm	WHS 1971	Mark Wilson
WHS 1949	Vivian (Swanson) Rogholt	WHS 1948	Lila (Eukel) Golden
OHS 1963	Richard Nelson	WHS	Teacher Lee Hestnas
WHS 1960	Julius Olson	AHS 1970	Gloria (Carlson) Fagerlund
OHS 1964	Jane (Anvinson) Bushaw	WHS 1960	Lowell Goplin
OHS 1959	Sharon (Anvinson) Macaluso	WHS 1961	Earl Rogalla
OHS 1957	Angela (Anvinson) Hyatt	Teacher	Dennis Anderson
		OHS 1953	Marilyn (Hoff) Dahlstrom

Recently deceased family and friends list is updated weekly on the Education Foundation link at [www.wao.k12.mn.us](http://www.wao.k12.mn.us)

## Marshall County Area Veterans Memorial Park

On behalf of the Marshall County Area Veterans Memorial Park, we are extending an invitation to visit the memorial as you gather for reunions or any other occasion. The park has great meaning to all the veterans who have visited. It lends itself to not only say thank you to all who have served, are serving, or will serve in the future to protect the freedoms we all enjoy, but also to educate and keep the history of those who serve alive.

The park consists of different phases. The outdoor portion with granite monuments, benches and bronze statues is most noticeable. In early to midsummer more granite plinths will be added. They will depict attributes of those who serve and also scenes of military men and women in service. The mission to make this portion of the park to be a humble place of reflection will seem complete.

Inside the courthouse is a mural that depicts the history from past to present and is painted on a wall in the basement. Additionally, there are screens to view

interviews with veterans we have on our website for the park. This is a way to keep the history of service and sacrifice alive. A way to keep memories of family members alive.

As we extend the invitation to visit the park, we also extend the invitation to have a member of the committee there to share the story of the park. On most occasions, we can find a veteran who is also willing to share. The park was built with the generosity of so many people and businesses from throughout the area. It was built to be inclusive of all the veterans throughout not only Marshall County but the surrounding area as well.

Contact information for the MCAVMP is phone number 218-745-5232 or Russ Steer at 218-289-3330. Mailing address is MCAVMP, Inc. 208 East Colvin Avenue ,Suite 20, Warren, MN 56762. You can also visit via facebook or the website at <https://www.facebook.com/mcavmp> or <https://www.marshallcomnvets.org>

# WAO Alumni Hall of Fame

While the WAO Education Foundation does not manage, control, or is actively involved with the WAO Alumni Hall of Fame, we do support the mission of the Hall of Fame committee and do share their information and news articles.

The 2025 WAO Hall of Fame Induction ceremony will be held at the Vonasek Free Stage at the Marshall County Fairgrounds on Friday, July 25 at 4 p.m. A reception will follow the ceremony where you will have an opportunity to greet and visit the new inductees.

### This year’s inductees are:

Ingomar “Mark” Oseth, Warren, Class of 1904;  
Cindy (Rehder) Anderson, Warren, Class of 1973 and  
Debbie (Anderson) Robertson, Warren, Class of 1969.

## Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Education Foundation

## ALUMNI YEARBOOK ORDER FORM

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME	
ADDRESS	
PHONE	
E-MAIL	

YEARBOOK YEAR(S): \_\_\_\_\_

### WHS, AHS, OHS, WAO, Valley North

PREFERRED MEDIA: (HOW TO RECEIVE THE YEARBOOK)\_\_\_\_\_

### MEDIA OPTIONS:

1. USB FLASH DRIVE (\$5.00 EACH YEARBOOK - \$1.00 EACH ADDITIONAL)
2. GOOGLE DRIVE SHARED FILE (\$1.00 EACH YEARBOOK)  
(MUST PROVIDE A GOOGLE ACCOUNT EMAIL IN ABOVE AREA)



*"Inspiring Excellence in Education"*

PO Box 125, Warren, MN 56762

(218) 745-4646, ext. 1317

email:  
[edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us](mailto:edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us)



Some Of Those Who Attended The Warren Area Spring Arizona And Florida Reunions



Front row, left to right: Hank (Warren) Hendrickson, WHS 1972; Marilyn (Strickler) Sirek, WHS 1959; Rita Dalzell, Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler, WHS 1963; Jerry Jevning, Larry Kresl, Carol (Bren) Holub, Ron Novak, WHS 1967; Tammy Novak, Barbara Elseth. Back row, left to right: Kay (Hendrickson) Root, WHS 1969; Jean (Mattson) Larson, WHS 1972; Russel Miller, WHS 1979; Sue Miller, Stan Sirek, WHS 1958; Larry Sabol, WHS 1981; Debbie Sabol, Jerry Dalzell, superintendent and principal, Don Strickler, WHS 1963; Leslie Voytoski, Brad Anderson, WHS 1973; Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning, WHS 1956; Susie Kuznia, Judy Ann (Kresl) Bailey, Curt Kuznia, WHS 1972; Bruce Nelson, WHS 1969; LeRoy Holub, Jim Stinar, WHS 1974; Shirley (White) Holub, WHS 1965; Ralph Kotrba, WHS 1965; Bill Gilbert, WHS 1960; Kathy (Mattson) Lam, WHS 1970; Pete Gilbert, WHS 1966; Howard Elseth WHS 1962; Dean Dahlman, WHS 1967 and Joanne Dahlman. Not pictured: Marian (Hickman) Pace, WHS 1961; Frank Pace, Marlin Miller, Robb Root.



Larry, WHS 1981 and Debbie Sabol



Marion (Hickman) Pace, WHS 1961 and Frank Pace



WHS class of 1969, Bruce Nelson and Kay (Hendrickson) Root



Sisters Jean (Mattson) Larson, WHS 1970 and Kathy (Mattson) Lam, WHS 1972.



Tammy and Ron Novak WHS 1967



Class of WHS 1965, Ralph Kotrba and Shirley (White) Holub



From left to right: Pete Gilbert, WHS 1966; Bill Gilbert, WHS 1960; Howard Elseth, WHS 1962; Dean Dahlman, WHS 1967; Don Strickler, WHS 1963 and Jim Stinar, WHS 1974



From left to right: Marlin Miller, Barbara Elseth, Howard Elseth '62



Bruce & Bev Ranstrom and David Sholy

Bruce Ranstrom, Bev Ranstrom, and David Sholy, gathered together and reminisced about their school days, activities, and about their lives today at the 6th Annual Florida Gathering that was held on February 8th at Venice, Florida. David officially graduated from Wahpeton High School, but considers WHS his home school. His father, G.I. Sholy, was the superintendent at Warren until the summer before David's senior year, so the class decreased in size by one, but when it is time for a class reunion or event, David is in attendance! After a group of gals started the Arizona Gathering David thought it was a neat idea and he organized the Florida one and still continues to do so.



From left to right: Jim Emerson, Pat Stroble Emerson, WHS 1964; Wayne Edgar, WHS 1961; Carole Stroble Edgar, WHS 1963; Gloria Parkin and Jim Abbott.



From left to right: Carol Anderson, Dean K. Peterson, WHS 1968; Ed Rosendahl, WHS 1969 and Renee Rehder Rosendahl, WHS 1969.

Perfect weather and a perfect day for 40 Warren area friends to gather in Mesa, AZ. As always, Kay (Hendrickson) Root started the day the same way her father Orvin, "The Voice of Warren," started the Warren radio broadcast back in the day. When it was time to mention program sponsors, everyone joined in listing shops and businesses they remembered.

After a potluck lunch, we borrowed the idea from the Florida gathering and took time to share stories. Dean Dahlman talked about moving the cream from the creamery to the next stop. Curt Kuznia piped in with, "that was our cream." Kay asked the group how they got their milk. Again Curt said, "right from the cow." Others had fond memories of the milk truck delivering right to their door. And sometimes, if the family was gone, Wendell Westberg would put it right in the refrigerator.

Another favorite was talking about snow days. For the kids, it was great having school called off. When the buses couldn't run, the students would stay in town with their friends. As superintendent, Jerry Dalzell had a tough job making the "cancellation" call. He did mention that when he sent the buses home early, the kids would grab their snowmobiles and be back in town before the buses returned.

At the end of the day, everyone agreed that Warren and the surrounding area was a great place to grow up and still is a great place to live.

Mark your calendars for February 21, 2026. We look forward to seeing you at the next Warren area gathering in Mesa, AZ.

Warren-WAO Florida Picnic February 7, 2026

The visual extravaganza of Sarasota awaits you!!

It's a sight to see and a perfect day will be in store for you.

Come one and all to Florida for the 2025 WAO & Friends gathering at the Pavilion at Maxine Barret Park.

More details will be in the fall "Connections" and on various Warren sites on Facebook.

Warren/Alvarado/Oslo Public School Education Foundation

Office: 745-4646, Ext. 1317  
P.O. Box 125, Warren, MN 56762  
e-mail: edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us  
Visit us on Facebook!

Does your business/company have a matching gift program? This often enables your gift/donation to double in size. If so, contact us for our tax ID number when you fill out the forms for the match.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Lisa Almquist  
Carol Anderson  
Darren Carlson  
Rodger Haugtvedt  
Jen Nelson  
Melanie Nelson  
Ed Rosendahl  
Dewey Swanson  
Jessica Syverson

SCHOOL BOARD LIASONS

Jordan Johnson  
Ashley Reinier  
Sally Roller

Life for our children, our grandchildren, and the neighborhood children will be better because of your efforts and contributions. Be a part of this campaign to ensure that our children are equipped to succeed.

Arizona Warren And Surrounding Area Potluck February 21, 2026

At the Viewpoint Golf Resort, Mesa, AZ

Come Connect with Classmates and Yet Make New Friends!



Become a Member - Just \$25 So we can keep this newsletter coming to you!

Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Public School Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization to benefit education.

Gifts of \$100 or more to the Foundation are recognized on an attractive donor board located in the east entrance of the high school.

Please Contribute The Ed Foundation would appreciate your financial support, so we can continue to send you this newsletter.

Give Us Your Ideas Let us know what is interesting to you or what other information you'd like to see in this newsletter.

Enclosed is my contribution to support the work of the WAO Education Foundation

- ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Membership ☐ Tutor (\$1-99) ☐ Educator (\$100-499)  
☐ Mentor (\$500-999) ☐ Scholar (\$1,000-4,999) ☐ Benefactor (\$5,000 or more)  
Class of: WHS \_\_\_\_\_ OHS \_\_\_\_\_ AHS \_\_\_\_\_ WAO \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: (specific) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like information on the benefits of planning a gift to the WAO Education Foundation through ☐ my will ☐ an insurance policy

Make checks payable to: WAO Education Foundation  
(All gifts to WAO Public Education Foundation are tax deductible.)  
Send to: PO Box 125, Warren, MN 56762

This gift is ☐ in memory of ☐ in tribute to

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please specify here whom should receive notification of this gift Notice to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

GIFT RECOGNITION

For accumulated gift totals of \$100 or more, an engraved recognition plate bearing your name will be added to the Recognition Wall in the Warren/Alvarado/Oslo School.

www.wao.k12.mn.us email: edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us (218) 745-4646