Remembering Jerry Richardson ’59

Over the years, Jerry Richardson ’59 openly talked about the impact that Wofford College had on his life after he arrived on campus in 1954 as an 18-year-old with a partial scholarship to play football.

He spent the rest of his life making an impact on Wofford College. Richardson died March 1. He was 86.

“Mr. Richardson’s impact on Wofford College is immeasurable. I know of no one more generous with his time, wisdom and resources,” says Dr. Nayef Samhat, president of Wofford College. “While his gifts to the college and other organizations throughout the Carolinas are legendary, I will forever remember him for his quiet generosity and the gifts that didn’t capture headlines. So many have him to thank for kindnesses large and small. Our community sends condolences to Mrs. Richardson and his family. We will miss him greatly.”
A public celebration of Richardson’s life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 18, at the Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium on Wofford’s campus. Click here to save the link for the livestream of the service.

The gift of health

Don Quattlebaum, Hayden Quattlebaum, President Nayef Samhat, Katie Halligan James, Dorothy Beadles Halligan (seated), R. Michael James ’73, Beth Wallace, interim vice president for campus life and student development and dean of students, and the Rev. Dr. Ron Robinson ’78, Perkins-Prothro Chaplain and Professor of Religion, participated in a ribbon-cutting for the Blackwell-Quattlebaum Center for Wellness and Counseling Services on Friday, Feb. 24.

Hayden Quattlebaum always called her son, Andy, her courageous warrior.

From a young age, Andy took it on his shoulders to right wrongs and to stick up for underdogs — both the two- and four-legged kind. Like the time when he was 7 and he and a buddy both caught a sailfish during a fishing tournament. Everyone who caught a sailfish was to receive a trophy. When Andy’s name was called and his buddy’s wasn’t, Andy made sure tournament officials knew they’d goofed.

“He would always stand up for others,” says his father, Don Quattlebaum.

Andy also loved animals, especially his dog, Oak. When Andy went off to Clemson University, Oak went with him.

When Andy died suddenly at age 22 on March 27, 2019, the Quattlebaums were devastated.
Assessing resources for seniors

Emily Lang ’23 plans to pursue a career in aging therapy, and she’s already conducting research at Wofford.

By Noah Ravan ’23

Emily Lang ’23 recently presented her summer research on the science of aging at Harvard University.

The research involved Lang, a psychology major from Lexington, South Carolina, working with Dr. Kara Bopp, professor of psychology, to look at resources available to seniors in Spartanburg County while conducting interviews and creating a definition of successful aging.

“Once we understood what was available in Spartanburg, we looked at other cities and proposed areas of improvement locally,” says Lang. “Since then, we’ve presented our findings locally and distributed pamphlets to resource centers.”
Supporting teen moms

Dr. Christine Stroble ’93 will give a talk, “Inspiring Students to Overcome Life Challenges and Lead a Purposeful Life,” at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15 in Leonard Auditorium.

When she was growing up, Dr. Christine Stroble ’93 was determined that she wouldn't become a statistic.

“My greatest fear was having a teen pregnancy,” says Stroble. “My mom was a teen mom, and I knew her struggle. I escaped, but some of my friends did not.”

Stroble has now dedicated her life to helping pregnant and parenting teens know their rights and complete their educations. She is the author of a new book, “Helping Teen Moms Graduate: Strategies for Families, Schools and Community Organizations,” and the founder of Teen Moms Anonymous, a community-based support group for teen moms who are trauma survivors.

Stroble will give a talk, “Inspiring Students to Overcome Life Challenges and Lead a Purposeful Life,” at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15 in Leonard Auditorium. The talk is free and open to the public.
An update from President Samhat

Our community has navigated the start of the spring semester — one filled with highs and lows — with a commitment to our mission and core values, and I appreciate you and your contributions.

Dr. Dave Pittman discusses the brain

Dr. Dave Pittman ’94, professor of psychology, is pursuing professional development in the U.S. Virgin Islands while on sabbatical. He was recently a guest on “Moving Forward,” a program focused on community issues on the island’s government access channel. Pittman discussed the brain with the show’s hosts. Watch the episode.

Commencement schedule

Commencement weekend will be May 19-21. Find the complete schedule of events.

March events

Find a complete list of Women’s History Month events, gallery exhibits and details about other events being held on campus this month.

Athletics updates

Wiley earns SoCon Player of the Week honors
Wofford Names AFL Student-Athlete Leaders of the Month for February