

# ViewPoint

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE • VOL 43.1





# President's Message

*When We Rise Together,  
Anything is Possible*

I write this message with hope and excitement for PUC's future. As you may have heard, we have some big changes coming our way, but I genuinely believe that this is best for our college on the mountain.

Starting fall 2023, we will be embarking on a new three-school model. The three schools are Nursing & Health Sciences; Arts, Humanities, & Professions; and Sciences. We are committed to high-quality academic programs while maintaining our cultural, spiritual, and lifestyle base that gives students a rich and full Seventh-day Adventist campus experience.

With change, there comes uncertainty and some sadness, but a Bible verse that resonated with me recently comes from Ezra 10:4. "Rise up; this matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it."

This verse inspired and comforted me, knowing that we at PUC are all on this new journey. We are enthusiastically rising to the occasion because we know we have support from God, our teammates, and students. There is a sense of family here, and I am grateful to be a part of it. I love seeing our campus cheering each other on and helping everyone succeed and meet their goals. A smile always comes to my face when I see students at their worship services elevating each other. The comradery and fellowship are truly a blessing and a sight to see.

I cannot begin to tell you how happy it makes me to see a surge in spirituality all over campus! To have our students, staff, faculty, and community members coming together in prayer, worship, and devotionals has been a real highlight for me this year. The support and encouragement on campus have been abundant.

I know many of our ViewPoint readers are not close to Angwin, but I hope you join me and the campus community in pledging to continue praying for PUC and its students. Our students are most important, and we need to stay committed to offering the best education possible. I would love to read your kind words and start a prayer wall.

If you feel inclined, please email [pr@puc.edu](mailto:pr@puc.edu), and we will happily print your messages and hang them for our campus to see. Please let us know if you would like to remain anonymous and we will omit your name from your note. Thank you all for supporting PUC, and we look forward to hearing from you.

With gratitude,

Ralph Trecartin, Ph.D., MBA  
President



**About the Cover:**  
PUC commemorates Women's History Month in March with this shot by Keren Castro '22 featuring some of our scholars.

## STAFF

**Director of Marketing & Communication**  
Nicholas Hubbard, '05

**Editor**  
Laura Gang, '00

**Copy Editor**  
Ally Romanes, '20

**Layout, Design & Social Media**  
Heidi Lukowicz, '99  
Carrie White, '11

**Photographers**  
Keren Castro, '22, Tim de la Torre, '06, Hernan Granados, '99, Heidi Lukowicz, '99, Robert Thorton, '73 & '79, Carrie White, '11, Bob Wilson

**Contributors**  
Jana Aagaard, '76, Becky St. Clair, Herbert Ford '54, and Lauren Vandenhoven, '24

## PUC ADMINISTRATION

**President**  
Ralph Trecartin

**Vice President for Academic Administration**  
Milbert Mariano, '91

**Vice President for Financial Administration**  
Joy Hirdler, '99

**Vice President for Enrollment, Marketing & Communication**  
Gene Edelbach

**Vice President for Student Life**  
Ryan Smith

**Vice President for Alumni & Advancement**  
Kellie Lind, '82

**Vision Statement:**  
ViewPoint, the journal of Pacific Union College, connects PUC's alumni and friends in a community that celebrates the college's activities and stories and supports the continuation of its mission into the future. ViewPoint aims to provide quality features about topics relevant to our community, news about the college and alumni, and means to unite, motivate and inspire.

[viewpoint@puc.edu](mailto:viewpoint@puc.edu)

Produced by the PUC Marketing & Communication Department for the alumni and friends of the college.

© 2023, Pacific Union College  
Printed in the U.S.A.

# ViewPoint

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE • VOL. 43.1



## FEATURES

- 12 *Together in Christ*
- 14 *Jericho Road: A Musical Event*

## ALUMNI NEWS

- 18 *Homecoming*
- 26 *Class Notes*
- 28 *Weddings & Births*
- 30 *In Memory*

## PROFILES

- 16 *A Tribute to Herbert Ford*
- 29 *The Pioneer Fund Q&A*

## HIGHLIGHTS

- 04 *PUC Gets Social*
- 06 *Faces of PUC*
- 08 *Welcome to our Visiting Academies*

# PUC GETS SOCIAL





 @PUCnow



**Facebook:** FEB. 24, 2023 - We'd like to say a huge THANK YOU to all our #PUCfamily who kept us warm, fed, and safe. We'd be absolutely lost without you! As the weather continues to get colder tonight, please take extra care and have a blessed Sabbath.

**LinkedIn:** JAN. 16, 2023  
 As we conclude #MLKWeekend, we wanted to share this special message from our Community last week.  
 Nearly 60 years later, Sarah Collins Rudolph, the little girl who survived one of the darkest days in Civil Rights history, told her story.  
 King and other Civil Rights activists and leaders often met at 16th Street Baptist Church—one of the largest black churches in Birmingham—through the spring of 1963. They were met with fierce resistance by many.  
 Read the full article here: [puc.edu/sarah-collins](http://puc.edu/sarah-collins)  
*PUC senior @karenjcastro, a photography major, said she thought it was "encouraging" to hear how "Rudolph went through such a traumatic event but was still able to find peace in her heart and forgive those who did this to her."*



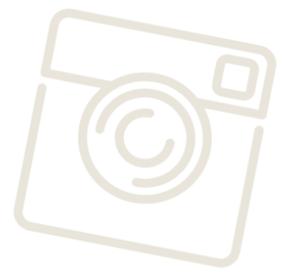
**TikTok:** MARCH 15, 2023  
 Happy National Social Work Month! Let's chat with some of PUC's social work majors and professors.  
 Interested in social work? Learn more at: [puc.edu/social-work](http://puc.edu/social-work)



**Facebook:** MARCH 15, 2023 - A portion of our group got to head onto the ice after a @sanjosharks game during dead week not long ago! Be on the lookout spring quarter to reserve free tickets to a @sfgiants game.



**Instagram:** MARCH 28, 2023  
 Fiji Medical Mission Trip, 2023.



**Instagram:** March 30, 2023 - PUC's Film and Television Professor Tim de la Torre took his students to get some hands on experience at the Cameo Cinema in St. Helena, CA!  
 "I really enjoyed bringing my students down to film a live jazz concert with a 4 camera switcher setup. It was super fun and the best part is leaving the production with an already edited show!"  
 Interested in visual arts? [puc.edu/visual-arts](http://puc.edu/visual-arts)

**LinkedIn:** MARCH 29, 2023 - We are VERY EXCITED to announce that our PUC nursing program has received a \$540,000 grant from California's Department of Healthcare Access and Information!!!  
 Read the full news article! [puc.edu/nursing-grant](http://puc.edu/nursing-grant)

*"We will use this grant to ensure nursing student success by funding scholarships and providing support through tutoring. It will also be used to purchase high-fidelity simulation technology along with faculty support, development, and simulation training." - Kimberly Dunker, Chair of Nursing and Health Sciences*



**TikTok:** March 22, 2023 - We LOVED watching all of our intramural sports this quarter. Great job, everyone! Here is a look at our basketball intramurals!  
 For more photos and up-to-date information on intramurals visit: [reccradio.org](http://reccradio.org) or follow @reccradio



**Instagram:** FEB. 23, 2023  
 This week we wanted to show off our NEW OB lab donated by Angwin Ambulance!  
 We are VERY excited to prepare our emergency services majors with hands-on clinical experience.


**NOW ON TIKTOK!**  
[TIKTOK.COM/@PACIFICUNIONCOLLEGE](https://www.tiktok.com/@PACIFICUNIONCOLLEGE)

# FACES OF PUC

## TOGETHER WE ARE FAMILY

We've been spotlighting our campus family in a series we call *Faces of PUC*. Recently, we asked students what it means to them to be part of the PUC Pioneer family.

*Compiled by Ally Romanes*



1



2



3



10



11



4



5



6



7



8



9

**7. Frances Velarde - Junior; Nursing; AZ**  
"A lot of people here in PUC are very wholesome. It's nice to have a community of people that make you feel included and help you grow spiritually."

**8. Beldina Opiyo - Sophomore; Pre-Nursing; San Pablo, CA**  
"Everybody genuinely is here to grow and have a fun time, and the way I see people support each other every day is very heartwarming."

**9. Daniel Randall - Freshman; Environmental Science; Berrien Springs, MI**  
"My favorite part is the people! I love the small campus feel and the ability to meet and know so many people's names instead of just their faces. I love making new friends, so come and talk to me."

**10. BevenGreg Delos Reyes - Senior; Health Communications and Pre-Pharmacy; Sacramento, CA**  
"The Pioneers family has so many friendly and helpful people! The professors, students, and campus staff are all really approachable and nice. You can always find help when you need it or strike up a conversation with anyone!"

**11. Spencer Fitzgerald Gibb - Freshman; Biology; Chico, CA**  
"I have had the best time of my life on the PUC soccer team. The guys are amazing, and we are like a family. The coaches are amazing and are helping us become better, stronger men and preparing us for life while simultaneously elevating our level of play on the field."

**1. Theodora Sirghi - Senior; Emergency Services, Paramedic; Queens, NY**  
"My favorite thing is the diversity that is spread throughout the students here at PUC. You come across so many students who are not just from other parts of California but from other parts of the world, and it's just fascinating."

**2. Ugonna Nathan - Senior; Pre-Med, Biochemistry, Health Sciences; Fresno, CA**  
"My favorite thing is how welcoming everyone is. Coming to PUC as a transfer student during the pandemic was scary. I was nervous that I missed out on my chance to make friends. But at PUC, there were so many opportunities that allowed me to make new connections with such supportive friends and mentors that I am so grateful for."

**3. Nathan Hiss - Senior; Biology; Orinda, CA**  
"My favorite thing is the inclusivity of everyone. Everyone is so warm and welcoming and always ready to give help when asked! I always have someone to help me with school-work if I get stuck on a difficult topic!"

**4. Alex Chuquimia - Senior; SA President, English and Pre-Med; Claremont, CA**  
"What I love most about PUC is the people. The one-on-one time you get with professors is something you would not get at larger institutions. Another favorite thing is the surrounding flora! I hike the Back 40 with friends to Inspiration Point and take in the view. I love the religious aspect of PUC, with its lively community church and its focus on one's relationship with God. I have had many opportunities to be part of praise teams and worship programs, which were all blessings and provided me with good memories."

**5. Akemi Ohara - Freshman; Pre-Nursing; Folsom, CA**  
"I decided to join PUC because of the beautiful campus and the holistic approach in learning."

**6. Taytan Bereket - Freshman; Pre-Med, Biotechnology; Riverside, CA**  
"I love the beauty of the campus and the teachers as well. You can tell that they are dedicated to the things they teach, and that is something I appreciate. At times, I don't want to go to class, but when I arrive, the hospitality that the professors here give you makes you feel like you are at home, making the day better."

*Responses have been lightly edited for length and clarity. For more Faces of PUC, visit our blog at [blog.puc.edu](http://blog.puc.edu).*

# WELCOME

## TO OUR VISITING ACADEMIES



LEARN MORE ABOUT ALL THE PROGRAMS WE OFFER FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!

[puc.edu/high-school](http://puc.edu/high-school)

- Basketball Tournament
- College Days
- College Early
- Dual Credit
- High School Essay Contest
- Math & Science Workshop
- PacificQuest & PQ Rise
- High School Music Festival
- Publication Workshop
- Volleyball Tournament



“For to the snow He says, ‘Fall on the earth,’ and to the downpour and the rain, ‘Be strong.’”

- Job 37:6



View the complete drone  
footage by Tim de la Torre.  
[puc.edu/snow-day](http://puc.edu/snow-day)



# Together in Christ: Student-led Worships Support Thriving Spiritual Life at PUC

by Laura Gang

He started with just 10 minutes. Midway through his junior year, Beven Delos Reyes found himself the sole RA on the fourth floor of Newton Hall. It kept him busier than usual six days a week, particularly during late-night room checks.

But Reyes took his role seriously. For him, it was more than a job—he wanted to spiritually connect more closely with the people in his hallway. He began a nightly open-invitation dorm worship time called “10@10.” A small group of young men would gather for music, a devotional, discussion, and prayer.

The “10@10” was short. But it was a success, and that spark ignited something even more significant—completely revitalizing Newton Hall’s entire dorm worship. First, they met in the residence hall lobby, but soon there was such a large gathering they moved into the Newton Hall chapel, where it became an even greater success.

Reyes said the atmosphere of dorm worship is meaningful to him. “I love the intimate setting where you can hear everyone singing and engaging through worship,” he said. “As a result, the room fills with life, and you can really see, hear and feel a sense of community.”

After the isolation of the pandemic, so many were in dire need of rejuvenation—communal and spiritual—Reyes, a senior pre-pharmacy student, said. The 2022-23 school year began with many students returning to campus in person. Reyes remembers well the first Newton Hall dorm worship in September.

“The turnout was so overwhelming we were pushed to capacity,” he said.

The Newton Hall dorm worship is just one example of how students at Pacific Union College have increasingly engaged in a Christ-centered campus life. All residence



halls have seen a marked increase in student attendance and engagement. Several students have started prayer and Bible study groups.

Friday night vespers has long been a worship program that brings the student body together each week. Students are also staying when the service concludes and taking part in Afterglow. Many attend Morning Watch, a student-led Sabbath School program, as well as regular church services.

Students are also involved in acts of service around the Napa Valley community and beyond. Last fall, several theology students participated in a hands-on evangelism class that took them to the streets of San Francisco.

Vice President for Student Life Ryan Smith said that PUC students want to grow their relationship with God. He noted that many are putting their response to God into action through service.

“Our beloved PUC was established to create an environment where students can thrive spiritually,” Smith said. “It’s more than just programming, speakers, and singing. It’s helping our community members develop a more substantial and deeper relationship with Christ.”

Indeed, one of the most encouraging aspects of spiritual life this year is how students themselves lead many worship activities on campus.

In January, Student Week of Prayer, an annual tradition at PUC, featured student groups leading out in praise music, icebreaker activities, and prayer. Friends introduced many of the speakers.

Speaking on the theme of “Revival,” seven students, including Reyes, shared their testimonies, and their messages encouraged their fellow students to seek a deeper relationship with God and others.

Ashley Castro-Rodriguez, religious vice president of PUC’s Student Association, was also one of the Week of Prayer speakers.

She believes worship programs that connect students can make a major difference in a student’s personal and communal spiritual life. “Regardless of where you are with your relationship with God, being able to be in a place with your peers where you can experience worship—maybe in a new and different way—is so impactful,” Castro-Rodriguez, a sophomore theology major, said.

Castro-Rodriguez also noted that it could be daunting for new students to find community. For her personally, finding it through spiritual life activities has been meaningful. As religious vice president, her primary goal has been to

“revive the spiritual atmosphere, creating programs, events, and spaces in which students are able to have a spiritual experience.”

PUC’s administration, faculty, and staff have also been instrumental in creating a strong spiritual community by making personal connections with students.

Several students noted that some professors have asked how they can help or have given grace on an assignment during difficult times. Others have invited students to their homes for home-cooked meals and spiritual fellowship.

PUC President Ralph Trecartin said he sees the evidence of Christ’s love playing out every day on campus. In particular, Trecartin said he sees it in the “vitality and enthusiasm” of students as they support each other.

Pastor Nate Furness, who recently became head pastor of the PUC Church, has made a concerted effort to connect with students.

“We pray with students, and our offices are open to meet with and guide students spiritually,” he said. “If students are involved, I like to be present and available.”

Furness said he is excited to see how God will “use these emerging adults to transform the world.”

“I believe PUC exists to foster a spiritual foundation at a crucial time in students’ lives,” he said. “Our mission is to develop a love for Jesus that invites others to belong. When students leave PUC, they journey worldwide as missionaries for our college and the love for Christ.”



# Jericho Road: PUC Students Shine in U.S. Premier of an Original Musical

by Laura Gang, Becky St. Clair,  
& Lauren VandenHoven

What does it mean to be faithful to a spouse who is unfaithful to you? How can we be faithful to a God who seems absent? These are the driving questions of *Jericho Road: A Musical Event*, which made its U.S. debut in February and April at Pacific Union College.

“It’s a difficult topic,” said Lindsay Morton, associate academic dean, who wrote and produced the musical. “But it’s one that’s so important to talk about on a college campus where some young adults are starting to think about life partners.”

Morton was inspired to write *Jericho Road* after watching the musical *The Last Five Years* by Jason Robert Brown. She wondered how the storyline might have been different if the characters had been Christian. “*Jericho Road* is an attempt to answer to that question,” she said.

The musical’s main characters, Jake and Leila Carver, are a young Seventh-day Adventist couple who meet, fall in love, marry, and have a child, Amalia. But when life doesn’t turn out as he expected, Jacob leaves his wife and daughter to pursue his dream of a successful musical career. This decision shatters Leila and Amalia.

Musicals are one of Morton’s passions—so much so that she wrote her first one at just 19. Surprisingly, her musical ability is mainly self-taught—though she did take lessons for a few years. Despite being unable to read music well, she wrote all the songs for her musicals.

“I just lived and breathed them my whole life, so I kind of know how their structure works,” Morton said. “So when I was thinking about *The Last Five Years* and what my response to that might be, I started pulling songs from my own life, and then I wrote the script around them.”

What also makes *Jericho Road* unique is its tagline: “You choose where the story ends.” The musical has three

alternate endings. One could attend the performances three nights in a row leaving each time with a new perspective.

“I’m an English professor!” Morton said with a laugh when asked why she wrote three different endings. She explained that she teaches her students the concept of closure, which has three parts: the resolution of conflicts, questions, and expectations. The problem with delivering closure, Morton said, is it usually comes with some kind of moral point, which she ultimately wanted to avoid.

“The male lead, Jake, really struggles with the power of choice,” Morton says. “He feels like a victim, even though his choices led him to the conflict in the story—a reality he fails to grasp. My hope is that the three endings avoid saying, ‘This is how it is or should be,’ and instead put the emphasis back on what it means to be faithful, no matter the circumstances.”

PUC student and music major Tyler Wilensky played the role of Jake Carver. After hearing Wilensky sing both for the audition and in worship services, Morton said casting him as the male lead was “an absolute no-brainer.”

Initially, Wilensky was still determining if he could manage the time commitment required for rehearsals along with his studies, but faculty and friends convinced him to sign on. The production crew also promised support.

Wilensky found his character a bit difficult to understand. “Playing him is really interesting,” Wilensky says, “because this is all about a divorce and an affair, and it’s kind of messed up. But then our guy doesn’t seem like the kind of person who would do that.”

Leila Beltran, another PUC student, in a serendipitous twist, was chosen to play the part of Leila Carver. But it wasn’t because of her name. When Morton first heard Beltran sing at auditions, the whole room stopped, electrified by her voice. “She just blew us away,” Morton said.

Once she got the part, Beltran was excited to learn about her character, Leila. “What I really like about her is she’s not necessarily shy—she knows what she wants, and she’ll go for it—but she has this hidden strength she doesn’t know she has,” Beltran said.

Morton, Beltran, and Wilensky spent hours each week practicing, bringing in supporting cast, crew, and chorus members as they went along.

PUC Communication Department Chair Tara Hargrove, who directed and co-produced the musical, said her “biggest goal was for the actors to honor this story and convey the emotions to the audience.”



“My favorite part of the *Jericho Road* story has been watching these students have this opportunity to showcase their talents,” said Hargrove, who once studied stage and screen in New York City. “It was rewarding to watch them take ownership and do such a great job.”

Hargrove worked alongside nursing professor Nicolette Piaubert. John Gilley, a teacher at PUC Preparatory School, served as musical director. The voice instructor for PUC’s music department, Eve-Anne Wilkes, was the cast’s vocal coach. PUC student Kaitlyn Nakanishi led the musical’s chorus and choreographed the production. Along with Beltran and Wilensky, other college students made up the supporting cast and chorus, as well as other community members.

Jonathen Blue, music director at Napa Christian Campus of Education, attended a preview of *Jericho Road* in February. Afterward, he wrote an eloquent review praising the “heart and passion” in the actors’ performances. Blue was impressed that the story takes a “very clear stance on the dedication to Christians standards” with regard to faith-based dating and marriage.

What really moved Blue was, of course, the music. He said the lyrics, melodies, and score really create the tone for the entire storyline.

“The music wafts you in and out of each scene,” Blue wrote, “it truly stands on its own two feet. It marches down Jericho Road and stands on the rubble, the pieces, the people, that life often leaves behind.”

President Ralph Trecartin and his wife Virginia attended six performances of *Jericho Road*—three unofficial and three official. He said the story reminded him of how “even the strongest and most talented people need a Savior.”

He said he is proud of every person involved. “What you saw tonight was not a bunch of individuals showcasing their talents in isolation but rather an academic community working together,” Trecartin said after *Jericho Road*’s finale. “It took a whole campus.”

Trecartin said this production showcased why the arts “are a powerful way for us to connect and reflect” on the important issues of the day.

“Here at Pacific Union College, we are proud of our Christian and liberal arts heritage—they combine to bring us into closer proximity with the Master artist, the Master storyteller, the Master conductor,” Trecartin said. “And deep into our future, we commit to valuing and preserving our strong heritage in the arts and humanities, even as the forces of commerce push against us.”

Morton has often witnessed how music and theater can tell stories that speak to people’s hearts. She points out that God used men and women to literally act out messages demonstrating to others the results of their actions, reaching them in a way a sermon or lecture would not. “Musical theater can do the same thing,” she said. “It can move us to compassion, reflection, discussion, and catharsis, which is what I’m hoping this musical will do for our audiences.” 🎭



# A Tribute to Herbert Ford

## Professor Emeritus

by Jana Aagaard

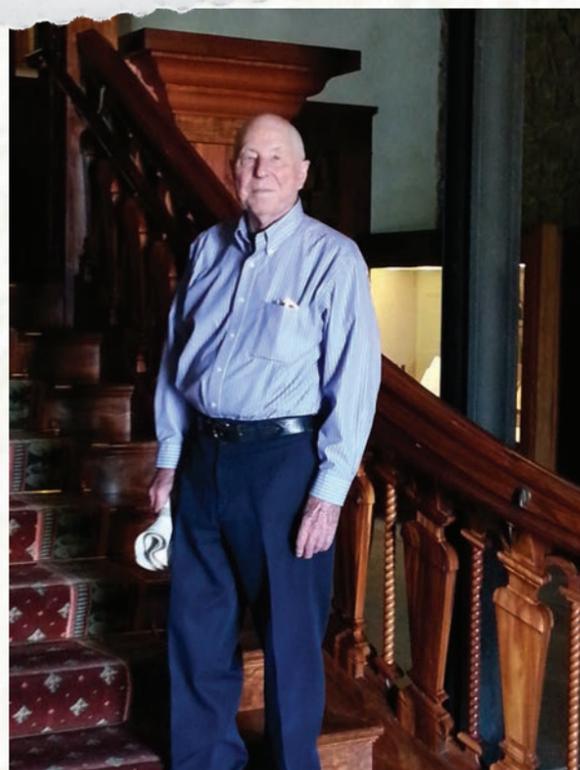
He has been called Mr. Pitcairn, but 95-year-old Herbert Ford, '54, could just as appropriately be called Mr. PUC. As professor of communications, administrator, and founder and director of PUC's Pitcairn Islands Study Center (PISC), Ford will have continuously served PUC for 50 years in 2024. His association with the college extends back several decades further, however.

Ford's first glimpse of PUC came in the early 1940s when as a teenager, he traveled from his south Texas home to visit his uncle John Graybill in Angwin. During that trip, he was pressed into service to fight a wildland fire that threatened PUC. Forty years later, he would again fight fires in the Napa Valley and across California as a member of the Angwin Volunteer Fire Department.

Ford returned to PUC in 1949 after several years in the U.S. Merchant Marine and United States Air Force in a windshield-less Model A Ford sedan. He took writing classes from Leslie Sargent and Ted Benedict, determined to make good his long-time goal of becoming a journalist.

"I have always seen myself as a journalist," Ford says. That life-long identity began in his pre-teen days as a "paperboy" delivering and selling newspapers on the streets of Harlingen, Texas, and extends to his current writing of obituaries for ViewPoint and press releases for PISC. "The headlines I read in those early 1940s Texas newspapers led me to the text below them. I wanted to one day write with such clarity and good order," he says.

"My journalistic bent led me to do 'extra' writing in academy and to write news stories for U.S. Air Force base newspapers while I was in military service," says Ford. He



wrote for U.C. Berkeley's big Daily Californian newspaper, wrote thousands of news pieces during his 20-year career as a publicist for the Seventh-day Adventist church, and hundreds more during his 70-plus-year association with Pacific Union College.

A sampling of Ford's journalistic assignments, some while on temporary leave from PUC, have seen him interview diverse and widely known figures as former President Richard Nixon, Austria's Catholic Cardinal Franz Koenig, famed contralto Marian Anderson, the Shah of Iran, and Queen Salote Topou III of the Tongan Islands.

PUC was also the place where Ford found love, stability, and joy in his 1952 marriage to fellow student Anita Alice Cavagnaro. The couple lived in the village until 1954 when they moved to southern California for Ford to become the first press relations secretary and later public relations director of the Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The Fords became parents of three daughters, all of whom, in due course, followed their parents to PUC for their college education.

Ford was one of a small group of pioneers of public relations "evangelism" of the SDA Church, working at the local conference, union, and General Conference levels. Along the way, he was chief of the news desk at three General Conference world sessions. In 1968, he joined the Voice of Prophecy, and after completing graduate education in 1974, he and his family moved to PUC. In addition to his church assignments, he found time to write a dozen published books.

Ford's innovation, leadership, and constant desire to publicize the good works of the Seventh-day Adventist faith continued during his decades at PUC down to the present. In the 1970s and 80s, he started a monthly newsletter, First Monday, written and edited by his journalism and PR students and sent to all public relations professionals of the SDA church in the US. Designed to highlight PUC students' writing skills, the newsletter meant that when Ford's journalism/PR students graduated from PUC, their names and work were already known to prospective employers.

Ford "retired" in the early 1990s, but his retirement merely allowed him to focus his attention full-time on PISC, building its library and other research materials into the best single place worldwide to study the Pitcairn Islands and the Mutiny on the Bounty story. To this day, he checks emails from around the world and corresponds with scholars, journalists, government officials, and others interested in the Bounty saga. He acts as a subject-matter expert for news outlets and writes news stories and PUC editorial material regularly from his office at the Study Center's "South Campus" in Visalia, CA, where he moved in 2018. 🌿

*Jana Aagaard is Herbert Ford's daughter. Aagaard, who serves on PUC's Board of Trustees, is an attorney specializing in health care law, with an emphasis in health information privacy, technology, and clinical research. She is married to Victor F. M. Aagaard, '78. They have two children and two grandchildren.*

# HOME COMING WEEKEND 2023

Thank you to all who join us in celebrating our college and making Homecoming a success! We are grateful to the alumni, family, and friends that came to share this meaningful weekend at Pacific Union College. For more photos visit: [puc.edu/homecoming-photos](http://puc.edu/homecoming-photos)





## Homecoming: PUC Alumni Gather Together to Reconnect, Reminisce, and Reflect

by Laura Gang

Pacific Union College welcomed alumni back to the mountain for a beautiful Homecoming Weekend on April 21-22. Vice President for Alumni and Advancement Kellie Lind said it was wonderful to be together again. Now that people are traveling more, it made for a much better reunion this year. “It was fun for the alumni to interact and meet future PUC alumni and our current students during the weekend,” said Lind. “Our students were very involved in programming, which made the weekend even more special!”

President Ralph Trecartin said throughout the history of PUC, many of its graduates had made sacrifices to make service the mission of their life and work. That spirit hasn’t left.

“From the beginning, service has been at the center of PUC education,” Trecartin told alumni on Friday evening. “It’s still here after 14 decades.”

Professor of Biology Floyd Hayes was the featured speaker for Friday vespers. He shared details of PUC’s short-term mission trips to Brazil, Kenya, and Fiji.

On Sabbath morning, Vice President for Student Life Ryan Smith hosted a discussion with PUC seniors about how they’ve committed their lives to service. At the church service, Trecartin spoke with great admiration for the college’s history and expressed optimism about its future. “We will thrive,” he said, “if we remember and carry our motto, ‘They shall be all taught of God.’”

In his message *New Every Morning*, Pastor Groff talked about how God’s mercies in the present affect our future and give us perspective to see His plan and provision in the past. “Understanding that his mercies were new this morning, and given to you for your now, is one of the coolest things to know in scripture,” he said. “Jesus meets us every day, as we are, in this moment.”

Many alumni attended individual class parties held at different locations on and off campus in the evening. This year, graduates from the classes of ’51-’54, ’62-’64, ’70-’74, ’82-’84, ’92-’94, ’97-’99, ’02-’04, and ’12-’14 were honored. 🌿

## » A NEW CENTER OF CAMPUS

*The Walter C. Utt Center is dedicated to history, scholarship, and mission.*

The Walter C. Utt Center at Pacific Union College is all about mission. The Center includes priceless historical materials—documents, photographs, artifacts—and facilities for studying them. The building also includes a high-tech conference room, a scholars’ study area, a seminar room, and a museum display space.

At the ribbon-cutting, President Ralph Trecartin predicted that the Utt Center will become “the new center of this campus, a place where student achievement is recognized, where the Board of Trustees meets, where scholars study our past, and where opportunity is celebrated.”

“PUC’s motto is ‘They all shall be taught of God,’” says Karl Wilcox, director of the new center. “It’s hard to talk about our vision for the future, without remembering our past successes and challenges.”

The Center is named for Walter Utt, a PUC professor famous for his vivid lectures, penetrating questions, and life-long mentorship of his students. The Christian Conference Room honors Percy and John Christian, history teachers, and administrators. As President Trecartin said, “Here in this small Christian college, teachers are the heart of what we do. Students who come to PUC get personal attention—even, perhaps, life-long attention—from their teachers.”

The collections of the Utt Center are remarkably rich, according to Wilcox. “We have everything from rare correspondence to Navajo pots and propaganda posters from the Russian Revolution,” he said. “Our materials are not restricted to PUC but include St. Helena Hospital, local history, and worldwide missions.”

New materials are constantly being added to the Utt Center. For example, Wilcox cites a collection of letters from Wayne Judd (dynamic religion teacher of the 1970s and ’80s), an extensive diary from an early graduate, and a previously unknown photograph of Ellen White.

The Christian Conference Room is the home for an annual lecture devoted to the history of civil rights—the long and largely successful struggle to create a society in which people are judged by the content of their character, not the color of their skin. Past lecturers have included Calvin Rock, past president of Oakwood University, Ronald Graybill, Ellen White scholar, and Terrence Roberts, one of

nine African-American students who integrated Little Rock Central High in 1957.

The Utt Center began with an unprecedented alumni initiative. When Walter Utt died in 1985, a group of his students were determined to keep his memory alive. Over many years they raised several million dollars in honor of a teacher who had changed their lives.

Led by Bruce Anderson, a history major turned psychiatrist, they sponsored regular visiting professors, found appropriate co-authors to complete several books, and ultimately decided to partner with PUC in the creation of a research center. With the support of four presidents, beginning with President Heather Knight, the Center has become a reality. Even before its formal opening, scholars have been consulting its valuable collections. According to David Trim, General Conference archivist, PUC’s archival collection is one of the best in the denomination.

As the new Center opens, people are already thinking about creating new uses for this striking wing of the Nelson Library. Among the ideas being discussed are using the Utt Center to promote undergraduate research, showcase innovative interdisciplinary courses, and strengthen the Honors Program. “I would love to see more academic conferences such as last summer’s successful meeting on medieval and early modern history or the international conference on



Pitcairn that PUC hosted a few years ago,” says Wilcox. An art show featuring PUC teacher Vernon Nye is in the planning stage.

The existence of the Utt Center has already had “rich, unanticipated results,” according to Eric Anderson, retired director. A photographic history of Angwin and Howell Mountain is attracting favorable comment—and “earning royalties for the College,” he adds. Utt Center collections have been the basis of “striking annual exhibitions,” curated by Katy Van Arsdale, former PUC archivist.



## » HONORED ALUMNI

*Dr. Frances Guterrez, '60, Denver Drieberg, '77, Elle Wheeler, '79, and Walter '83 & LaBrenda Groff have dedicated their lives to serving their communities.*

*Written & Compiled by Ally Romanes*

“PUC is still a school that makes personalized, inspiring, Christian teaching the core of our academic program,” says Wilcox. “Students are not lost in the crowd here. We have no teaching assistants or huge anonymous classes. We don’t ignore questions such as ‘What is God’s calling in my life?’” Or as President Trecartin puts it, “The Utt Center is a sign of the continuing vitality of Pacific Union College.” 🙏

### 1. DR. FRANCES GUTERREZ, '60

Dr. Frances Guterrez was born on January 21, 1939, in California. She attended Lynwood Academy and graduated in 1956. While at PUC, she was a medical missionary as a pre-med student, ASB secretary sophomore year, president of WAG, and VP of both her junior and senior classes. After graduating in 1960, Guterrez completed her medical degree at Loma Linda University School of Medicine in 1964. She established and ran her family practice in Montebello for 34 years before retiring in 2004. Guterrez has two daughters, Nicole Maxine and Briana Allison, who graduated from PUC in 2018.

### 2. DENVER DRIEBERG, '77

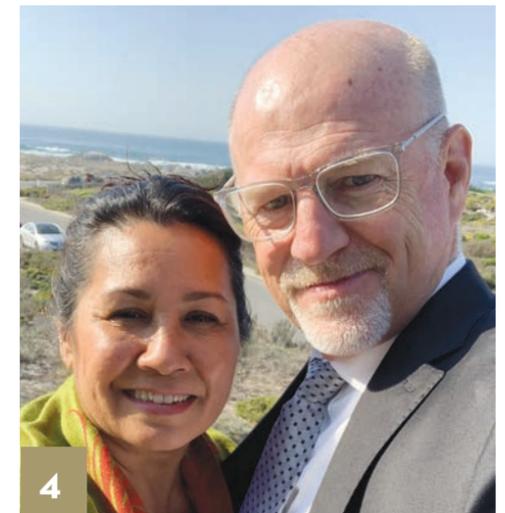
Denver Drieberg was born in India, grew up in Canada, and attended elementary schools in Switzerland, England, and Canada. Drieberg served as a student senator at PUC, played on the soccer team, and was the photo editor on the Diogenes Lantern yearbook his senior year. Passionate about serving others, he graduated with a degree in business and worked in banking and corporate finance. Drieberg was a high school business teacher and a reserve deputy sheriff with San Bernardino County. He continues to serve as a trainer in law enforcement and with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and is also a military liaison officer in the U.S. Army.

### 3. HAZELLE (ELLE) WHEELER, '79

Elle Wheeler was born in Stanwood, Washington, and moved to the Angwin area at five months old. She graduated from PUC with a double major in history and music in 1979. While at PUC, Wheeler was involved in student leadership and was the Women of Winning president. She has lived in Angwin since 1974 and has been an active member of the PUC church for over 50 years serving in almost every church ministry. Wheeler loves music—especially playing the piano. She has accompanied nearly every group in the community. Above all, family is her passion. She has three grandchildren, two children, and one great-grandchild.

### 4. WALTER, '83 & LABRENDA (KLEIN) GROFF

Pastor Walt Groff and his wife, LaBrenda “Brenda” Groff, met when they were 13 at Pathfinders in Fremont, CA. They met again at PUC, and eventually, they started dating. Groff graduated from PUC in 1983 with a Bachelor of Arts in pastoral ministry and from Andrews University with a Master of Divinity in 1988. After graduating from PUC, Pastor Groff went to Paradise SDA Church, and once Brenda graduated from La Sierra University in 1984, the two were married. The couple went on to have three children. Later, while serving in Cloverdale, Brenda’s sister passed away, and the two young cousins joined their family. Pastor Groff has worked in the Northern California Conference his entire career as pastor and conference ministerial director. Pastor Groff and Brenda serve the Gracepoint Adventist church in Rocklin, CA, and consider ministry one of God’s greatest gifts to them. 🙏





Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,  
the new creation has come:  
The old has gone, the new is here!

- 2 Corinthians 5:17

# Alumni News

## CLASS NOTES

Written & Compiled by Herbert Ford, '54

### 1970

**Brenda, '74, and Stan, '74, Muth,** lost their Paradise, California, home to the fast-moving flames of the "Camp Fire" in northern California in 2018. Theirs was one of more than 6,700 homes and structures burned by the gigantic conflagration! The planning and rebuilding of a new home took more than a year of frustration and hard work, but the Muths are now living in their new residence. Brenda is again at her aid and registrar work in the Paradise Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School, while Stan continues to be an avid car collector.

The people of northern California's Siskiyou County lost an invaluable medical treasure when **Steven L. Nelson, '75,** retired from the practice of medicine on December 31, 2022. For just shy of 39 years, Steve provided general surgical services from his Yreka, California, office, and at the community's Fairchild Medical Center. "It has been a rewarding career," writes Steve, "and I have made many friends in the area." His wife, **Janice Letcher, Att. '70s,** continues to work as the secretary/registrar of the Yreka Seventh-day Adventist Church School. Janice and Steve are the

parents of three children, and three grandchildren, all of whom live in the Yreka area.

Firth, Nebraska, is the retirement community in which **Bernie, '75, and Carolyn, '77, Rieke** now reside. They spend big blocks of their time watching their four grandchildren grow up; having fun traveling also commands many hours of their retirement time. Bernie is retired from a position at Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, and Carolyn from medical duties at the Bryan Medical Center in Lincoln.

**Suni Nelson-Keller, '76,** still rightly recalls the thrill of placing 5th in the Senior Worlds of Water-skiing competition in France in late 2022, she earlier placed #10 among the world's top 20 waterskiers to qualify for the event. Suni was supported at the event by her daughter, **Alexis Keller, '20, '21,** who accompanied her to France. Suni has two businesses, health coaching and legal nurse consulting. "Besides playing violin for two symphonies, I travel the world when I am not otherwise busy," writes Suni.

It's something of a record when a person teaches for 30 years in the same school,

and that's what **Denise Curnutt, '79,** has done in the Ruth Murdoch Elementary School in Berrien Springs, Michigan, a teaching venue from which she has just retired. Before setting that record, Denise taught for seven years at the Seventh-day Adventist elementary school in Tillamook, Oregon. During her Michigan teaching years, Denise served for five years on the North American Division Kindergarten Steering Committee as the developer and writer for a new kindergarten curriculum.

Like many others in the area, **Richard, '79, and Zetta, '08, Gore,** could only watch as their home in Paradise, California, was destroyed by the horrific 164,000-acre "Camp" wildland fire in 2018. "But God has restored our lost home and belongings completely, and then some," they write. Richard used his construction degree from Pacific Union College, to rebuild their new home, and now, in retirement, he is still working at miscellaneous jobs requested by family and friends. Zetta, with her BSN degree from PUC, is working as an RN at a surgery center in Chico, California, that is until her retirement when she'll have more time

to enjoy being with her four "wonderful" granddaughters. "The Gore family," the Gores write, "will be forever grateful to PUC for the education we all received there, including our sons, **Levi Gore, '08, and Zack Gore, '09.** We believe God's gift of Seventh-day Adventist Christian education is one of the most valuable blessings that He has bestowed on His children."

### 1980

**Richard (Rick) Barnett, Jr., '83, '84,** was in November 2022 named chairman of the Board of Directors of SeaStar Medical Holding Corporation, Denver, Colorado, a publicly traded medical technology company that provides medical devices to prevent respiratory distress syndrome, acute kidney injury, and many other health issues that can result in a dangerous cytokine storm. Before joining SeaStar, Rick was president and chief executive officer of Satellite Healthcare, Inc., San Jose, California, for seven years. He presently serves on the Board of Cutis Care, Inc., and is chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Kidney Foundation - California, Nevada & Pacific Northwest Region.

### 1990

On May 1, 2023, **Matthew Hopkins, '99,** retired from 22 years of active military service in the U.S. Navy. A navy fighter aircraft pilot, Matthew retired with the rank of Commander after having participated in four deployments through the years; flying missions over Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria doing arrested aircraft landings on eight U.S. Navy aircraft carriers, and having amassed over 2,500 flight hours in various naval aircraft. "My second career, after my navy service, starts as a defense contractor with the Tactical Air Solutions company," notes Matthew.

### 2000

**Enoc Garcia, '08,** was one of 12 pastors ordained to the gospel ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist church on November 5, 2022, in the Keene (Texas) Adventist church, by vote of the Texas Conference of Adventists. Garcia is currently serving as associate pastor of the Dallas (Texas) First Seventh-day Adventist Church. "It is wonderful to see so many being ordained and ready to continue sharing the love of Jesus with others," said Elton DeMoraes, president of the Texas Conference, of the ministers who were ordained.

» Let us know about your adventures, accomplishments, marriages, and family additions! For your news to be included in our next issue, please send us your update by **August 1, 2023.**

alumni@puc.edu | (707) 965-7500

## THANK YOU! GLENN & GAYLE COOK

Thanks to the generosity of local community members Glenn and Gayle Cook, high school students from St. Helena are taking a groundbreaking class in biotechnology and earning college credit at Pacific Union College this spring.

The Cooks have lived on Howell Mountain for over 35 years. Glenn is retired from his successful dental practice south of San Francisco, and Gayle is a charter flight attendant for Delta. Their children attended St. Helena High School. One of their granddaughters graduated from there last spring, and another is a sophomore. The couple is very involved in the St. Helena community, which they love and for whom they've often volunteered their time.

Glenn said he is pleased to see the growing "synergy" between PUC and the local high school. He would like to see that collaboration include the hospital, Adventist Heath St. Helena, in the future.

"It would be wonderful to see an ongoing program between college, high school, and hospital," he said. "I see, and I hope others can see the natural advantage of that relationship both in orientation and structurally building ongoing connections."

In the spirit of growing that relationship, Glenn reached out to St. Helena High School Principal Benjamin Scinto about how he and his wife could help. That led them to make a donation to cover costs for students to participate in the College Early partnership between PUC and St. Helena High.

Dr. Scott Butterfield, a local ecologist and a lead scientist for The Nature Conservancy, heads PUC's conservation technology program. Last fall, he taught St. Helena students a College Early course in con tech.

Butterfield said he is thankful for the Cooks' incredibly generous donation. It makes College Early classes possible, allowing students to spend time on PUC's campus and to learn from its professors.

"It's been a really cool way to show the college that the community is excited about this and giving students these opportunities," he said. "That shows a real, tangible result of this work."



# WEDDINGS & BIRTHS

**1** **Janae (Bowman) Peters, '16,** and Roger Peters in Bakersfield, Calif., on October 2, 2022



**2**

**2** Bodie Wild Gatdula, son of Amy Cronk Gatdula, Assistant Professor of Fine Arts, and Karlo Gatdula, was born in Santa Rosa, Calif., on January 16, 2023



**3**

**3** Mae Lawson Gullett, daughter of **Lindsey Orellana Gullett, '15** and **Ryan Gullett, '13,** was born in Loma Linda, Calif., On November 15, 2022



**4**

**4** Quinley Rogue Sprattler, daughter of **Kelsey (Drake) Sprattler, '10,** and Jennings Sprattler, was born in Portland, Ore., on July 3, 2022



# Q & A

## WITH PIONEER FUND SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**MISAEAL BERNARD & JENICA NIETO**

### WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE PUC?

**Misael:** The desire to step outside of my comfort zone and get an Adventist education away from home! It was my chance to build my foundation and my name with the support of God, family, and friends.

**Jenica:** I started at Southern Adventist University but decided to come to PUC because I liked being closer to home (I live in the Bay Area). I also had friends here that I knew would make me feel welcome.

### HOW IMPORTANT HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID BEEN TO YOU DURING YOUR TIME AT PUC?

**Misael:** Financial aid has made it possible to be at PUC. About 75% of my bill at PUC is covered by institutional scholarships and additional outside sources.

**Jenica:** Financial aid has been an invaluable resource for me! Without financial aid, I would be unable to afford the cost of tuition, textbooks, and other expenses associated with college. Not only has it helped me with my academic expenses, but it has also reduced my stress levels and allowed me to focus on my studies rather than worrying about how I would pay for college.

### WHAT MESSAGE DO YOU HAVE FOR DONORS ABOUT THE IMPACT THEY'VE MADE ON YOUR LIFE?

**Misael:** Scholarships allowed me to not only attend PUC but also allowed me to thrive here. The amount of love and support from people that I don't even know is what always makes PUC and the PUC family super awesome.

**Jenica:** I don't know that [donors] fully recognize how impactful their contributions are, but I would like to emphasize that financial aid is much more than just a source of funding. It's a powerful tool enabling students like me to achieve their full potential and make a positive impact in our communities.



**You can support PUC students like Misael and Jenica by visiting [PUC.EDU/GIVENOW](https://puc.edu/givenow) or by scanning this QR code!**

**Misael Bernard:** Senior; History, Political Science, Ethics, Pre-Law Major; Emergency Management Minor

**Jenica Nieto:** Senior; Communication Major; PR Minor

*Responses have been lightly edited for length and clarity.*

# IN MEMORY

Written & Compiled by Herbert Ford, '54

## FACULTY & STAFF

**Evan Kirk Avery, Former Faculty**, died on August 5, 2022. He was born on January 12, 1944, in Utica, New York. Evan taught business courses at Pacific Union College. During his educational career, he was the dean of business services at Lake Tahoe Community College; superintendent/president of Palo Verde College; president of Cypress College; and president of Monterey Peninsula College. He retired in 2005. Evan is survived by his wife, Caroline; by his sons, Cory and Brett; by his granddaughter, Caleena; and by his sister, Lynn Avery.

**Colin A. Erickson, Former PUC Technology Department Faculty**, died on October 12, 2022, near Napa, California. He was born on April 7, 1939. After his retirement from teaching at PUC, Colin remained in Angwin, where he owned and operated the Erickson Electric business. Colin is survived by his wife, Mable; and by his son Benjamin.

**Patricia A. (Murray) Hust, Att., former Staff**, died on January 16, 2023, in Angwin, California. She was born on January 2, 1928. She is survived by her daughter, Raelena; by one grandchild, and by two great-grandchildren.

## ALUMNI

**Bert Beverly Beach, '48**, a statesman on behalf of the Seventh-day Adventist church, died in Silver Spring, Maryland, on December 14, 2022. He was born in Gland, Switzerland, in 1928. A theologian, university teacher, author, and philanthropist, Bert began his service to the church as an elementary school principal in

Northern California. This was followed by being the principal of the Italian Junior College in Florence until 1958. He then studied at the University of Paris at the Sorbonne and earned a Ph.D. degree. Bert's church administrative assignments included serving as Education and Sabbath School director of the Northern Europe-West Africa Division of Adventists; secretary of the Trans-European Division; and director of the Religious Liberty and Public Affairs department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, from which he retired in 1995. Throughout his career, Bert sought to bring a positive understanding of his Adventist faith to those of a broad range of faith-related organizations, such as the World Council of Churches, the Christian Peace Conference, and Worldwide Christian Communities. Fluent in six languages, he was a keynote speaker worldwide in that effort. Bert was the author of several books that helped define and strengthen the Adventist relationship to ecumenism. Bert is survived by his wife, Eliane M. Beach; by his daughters, Danielle and Michele; and by his four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Brandon A. Currier, '04**, an advocate for U.S. military veteran programs, died February 3, 2023, in Tacoma, Washington. He was born on May 22, 1981, in Ensenada, Mexico. After he graduated from Pacific Union College, Brandon earned a Master of Arts degree in forensic psychology from Argosy University. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2009 and saw active duty until 2016 when he entered a three-year contract in the military reserve. In returning to civilian life, he became an enthusiastic advocate for veteran programs such as "Hiring Our Heroes." Brandon was preceded

in death by his mother, Jeane Kawilarang, by his younger sister, Jessica Joy, and by his older brother, Carlin Timothy Currier. He is survived by his wife, Amanda (Shallenberger) Currier; by his children, Alaric, Bjorn, and Freya; by his younger brother, Adrian Currier; and by his father, Randall Currier. He is also survived by his stepmother, Kris Currier; by his stepbrothers, Stephen Cobb and Morgan White; and by several other family members.

**Shirley (Utt) Downing, '68**, a nurse, died on May 28, 2022, in Ketchikan, Alaska. She was born in Alameda, California, on August 21, 1945. Shirley spent her career as a nurse at Glendale (Calif.) Adventist Hospital, and as a nurse manager for the Pioneers Home, Sitka, Alaska. The daughter of widely known Pacific Union College professor **Walter C. Utt '42**, and wife **Martha Utt '68**, Shirley is survived by **Kenneth Utt '73, '74**, and wife **Donetta Utt '75**, and nieces Heather and **Amy Utt '01**.

**Vernon W. Gomes, '53**, a retired city planner for the Town of Los Altos, California, died on February 10, 2023, in Mountain View, California. He was born on February 25, 1929, in Oakland, California. Vernon's work career began in the late 1950s as a building inspector for Los Altos and continued until the 1980s when he retired as the city planner. He was predeceased in 2017 by his wife, **Velma L. Gomes, '54**. Vernon is survived by his daughters, **Vicki Driver, '77**, and **Valerie Minder, '81**; and by two grandchildren.

**Timothy Lynn Harlan, '79**, a businessman, died on December 30, 2022, in Bonners Ferry, Idaho. He was born in San Jose, California. An entrepreneur, Tim started his own first resale company while

he was a student at Pacific Union College. Throughout his business career, he ran several businesses, including Answering Specialists Inc. and Harlan Mountain Farms. Tim is survived by his wife, Becca; and by their children, Steven, Jenna, Christopher, and Deryk.

**Steven Ellis Hodgkin, '85**, a physician, died on December 31, 2022, in Loma Linda, California. Steven was a highly respected and beloved physician for 32 years in the Redlands and Victorville communities. He is survived by his wife, Sheila Hodgkin; by his four children, Savannah, Sophia, Alex, and Summer; by his mother and father, Georgia and John Hodgkin; by his sisters, Kathryn Glendrange, Carolyn Bakland, and Jamie Hodgkin; and by his brother, Jonathan Hodgkin.

**Stephen (Steve) Newton, '74**, a clinical psychologist, died on February 23, 2023, in Los Altos, California. He was born in Los Altos on July 25, 1952. Stephen was a teacher at Redwood Adventist Academy in Santa Rosa, California, and afterward taught at Mountain View (Calif.) Adventist Academy. He changed his career course by training and becoming a psychologist. He then practiced as a clinical psychologist for 20 years. Stephen was preceded in death by his wife Wilma and is survived by his two daughters, Kim and Lisa; and his grandchildren, Bella, Lily, Nate, and Drew.

**James Ming Phang, '59**, a scientist emeritus of the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health, died in Kensington, Maryland, on January 29, 2023. He was born in Wuhan, China, on May 27, 1938. James was president of his PUC graduating class and an honored alumnus of both PUC and the Loma Linda University

School of Medicine. He was one of our country's leading scientists. During his 50-year career at the National Cancer Institute, he did pioneering studies of the amino acid proline. These studies gained him an international reputation and provided seminal insights into oncogenesis and the development of cancer. His contributions included studies of tumor reprogramming, metabolic epigenetics, and novel strategies for cancer treatment. Although he was a PUC physics major under Professor Ivan Nielsen, James also pursued literary interests, which are reflected in his clear and cogent scientific writing. He was the literary editor of the Diogenes Lantern yearbook and wrote a column titled Potpourri for the Campus Chronicle newspaper. He studied poetry with Professor Paul Stauffer and the Enlightenment with Professor Walter C. Utt. He treasured his PUC experience, which he said prepared him well for a scientific career and nourished lifelong friendships. James' late

wife, Ruth Ann Van Dyke Phang, died from cancer in 2014. He is survived by his daughters, Sara Elise Phang, Laura Justine Regenbogen, and Elizabeth Ann Waite; by his four grandchildren; by his brother, Robert Phang; and by his companion Arleen Cheston.

**Ruth Long-Stickney, '72**, died on August 8, 2022. She was born on March 6, 1929, in College Place, Washington. During her life, Ruth's work experience included that of academy dean, homemaker, babysitter, home economics teacher, typing teacher, choir director, hospital food service manager, conference librarian, bookkeeper, health-van director, seamstress, and event coordinator. Ruth is survived by five children, 15 grandchildren, and by 18 great-grandchildren.

**Ernest Sui Sung Zane, '51**, a distinguished physician and medical educator, was born on September 21, 1926, in Honolulu, Hawaii. He died on August 26, 2022, in Loma Linda, California. Ernest was a

veteran of U.S. military service in New Caledonia in the mid-1940s before he attended Pacific Union College. In 1956, he graduated as a physician from the College of Medical Evangelists at Loma Linda. He began a 64-year career in medicine, most of it as an award-winning professor of ophthalmology at the Loma Linda University School of Medicine. He is credited with building the university's Department of Ophthalmology as

the "center of excellence" for eye care in the Inland Empire of California. Ernest was predeceased by his wife, Dorothy Zane. He is survived by his children, Ryan, Alan, Steven, and Sandra; and by seven grandchildren.

## Remembering Friends

*In Memory is our opportunity to honor and remember fellow alumni. We currently receive obituaries from various sources, and information may not always be complete. Family members of alumni who wish to submit obituary information directly can contact the Alumni Office.*

[alumni@puc.edu](mailto:alumni@puc.edu)  
(707) 965-7500

To read more alumni obituaries, please visit:

[puc.edu/alumni/stay-connected](https://puc.edu/alumni/stay-connected)



## STAY IN TOUCH

We are saying prayers of gratitude for all of the blessings we've received at our "college on the mountain" this year, and we hope you will share in those prayers with us! If you would like to stay updated with all of the latest PUC news, please subscribe to our e-newsletter at [puc.edu/newsletter](https://puc.edu/newsletter).

[facebook.com/PUCalumni](https://facebook.com/PUCalumni)

[@alumniatpuc](https://@alumniatpuc)

Visit [puc.edu/alumni](https://puc.edu/alumni) for the latest on your classmates.



Pacific Union College  
ViewPoint  
One Angwin Avenue  
Angwin, CA 94508-9797  
Address Service Requested

## MSN - ONLINE EDUCATION

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree program is designed for nurses with a BSN degree who are independent learners and want the convenience and flexibility an online program can offer.

**Apply Today!**  
[explore.puc.edu/msn](https://explore.puc.edu/msn)

# LEARN *with* PURPOSE

PUC is a leader in nursing education. Our graduates have a strong reputation for excellence in their skill and care for patients. We offer a variety of accredited and acclaimed programs: pre-licensure and master's degrees, paramedic (EMT-P) to RN, and an online RN to BSN.



**Learn more!**  
Visit [puc.edu/nursing](https://puc.edu/nursing)

## STAY SOCIAL

See what's happening on campus daily by following PUC on social media!

