

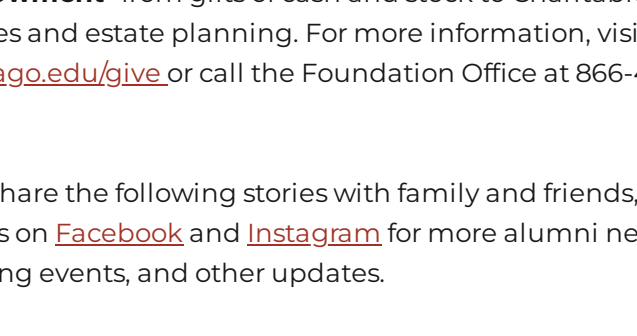
Dear alumni,

I hope you are having a delightful summer season. Here at CUC, it has been a busy yet special time of reconnection, reunions, and exciting new updates.

Just a few weeks ago, we welcomed our Band and Wind Symphony alumni back to campus in celebration of **Dr. Richard Fischer's 50th anniversary** here at CUC. The week after, our Golden Alumni enjoyed their **Class of 1974 Reunion Weekend**. Read more and enjoy photos from these events in the stories that follow.

I am also pleased to announce that thanks to the incredible generosity of **Leticia Gonzalez**, an endowed scholarship has been established for a CUC [nursing](#) student who is a legacy Spanish speaker and/or has a declared Spanish major or minor with the intention of providing bilingual services for their patients.

Leticia previously served as CUC's College of Education Internship Supervisor for the Illinois Principle Preparation Program, and she named this scholarship in honor of her late husband, **Mr. Michael W. Gonzalez**, who battled colon cancer with the support of compassionate nurses.



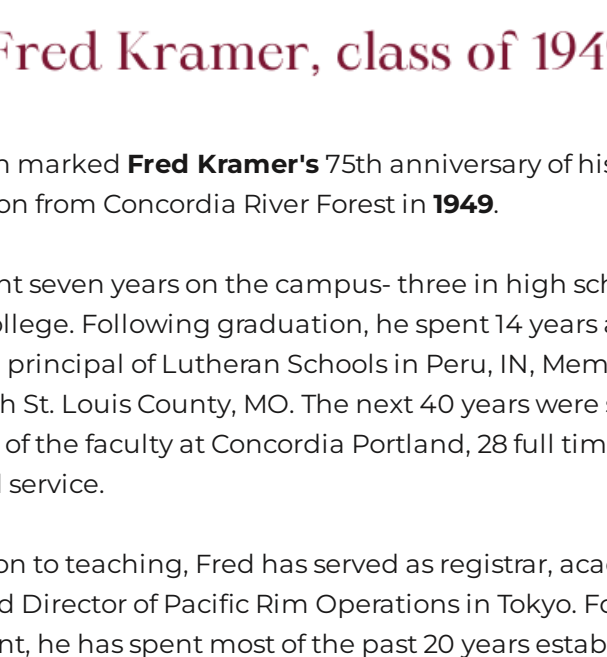
Endowments provide unique opportunities to establish a legacy which can forever change lives. CUC offers several ways to **create an endowment**- from gifts of cash and stock to Charitable Gift Annuities and estate planning. For more information, visit [CUCChicago.edu/give](https://www.cuchicago.edu/give) or call the Foundation Office at 866-448-3867.

Please share the following stories with family and friends, and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for more alumni news, upcoming events, and other updates.

In Christ,

Jeff Hynes
University Foundation President/CEO
Sr. Vice President University Advancement

Alumni Spotlight



Fred Kramer, class of 1949

June 10th marked **Fred Kramer's** 75th anniversary of his graduation from Concordia River Forest in **1949**.

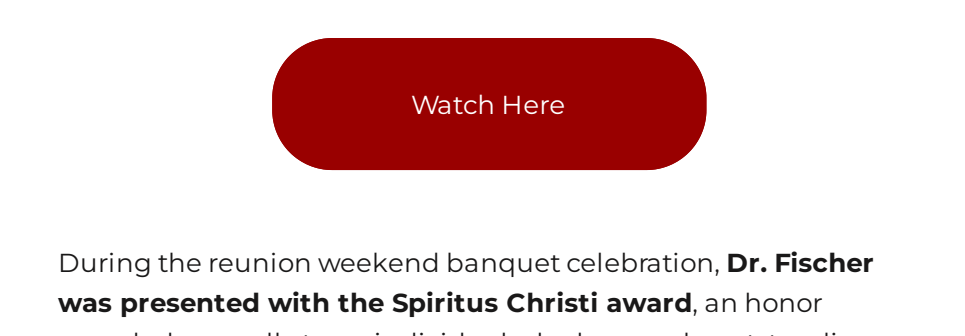
Fred spent seven years on the campus- three in high school and four in college. Following graduation, he spent 14 years as teaching principal of Lutheran Schools in Peru, IN, Memphis, TN, and North St. Louis County, MO. The next 40 years were spent as member of the faculty at Concordia Portland, 28 full time and 12 in modified service.

In addition to teaching, Fred has served as registrar, academic dean, and Director of Pacific Rim Operations in Tokyo. Following retirement, he has spent most of the past 20 years establishing a Spanish worship community at his home church in Portland, OR.

*"Concordia River Forest has been a family affair," he remarks. **"My father, A.H. Kramer graduated in 1920. He served as principal of schools in Faribault, MN and Melrose Park, IL. He completed his career as Superintendent of Education in the Northern Illinois District. On a number of occasions he served as adjunct faculty at Concordia. Uncle William A. Kramer graduated in 1922 or 1923. He spent the largest part of his career first as LCMS Assistant Secretary of Schools and then as Secretary. Aunt Irma Kramer graduated in the summer of 1949 after completing many summer school sessions. She spent a career teaching in St. Louis area schools. Brother Luther Kramer graduated in about 1955 and spent some years in Lutheran Education. Cousin Roy Kramer graduated in about 1955 and spent the greater part of his career on the faculty of Concordia, St. Paul. Nieces Joyce Leimbach and Carol Leimbach graduated in the early 1970's and spent careers in Lutheran Education. You will find many additional Kramers on the alumni list, some of whom are related."***

The Kramers' deeply rooted legacy here at Concordia is truly an inspiration! Concordia is blessed richly by our alumni family throughout generations.

Fred concludes by stating, *"I deeply appreciate what Concordia River Forest has contributed to my life. I pray for blessings on this year's graduation and graduates. I pray that the school will provide blessings to young people for generations and centuries to come."*



Dr. Richard Fischer's 50th Anniversary Celebration Recap

From June 21-23, we welcomed our Band & Wind Symphony alumni back to campus to celebrate the **50th Anniversary of Dr. Richard Fischer!** It was a wonderful weekend celebrating the impact he has made on so many students & alumni here at CUC and beyond. We thank God for Doc and our amazing alumni who continue to stay connected and join his legacy!

Missed the reunion concert? You can watch the reunion concert on-demand by visiting the link below.

[Watch Here](#)

During the reunion weekend banquet celebration, **Dr. Fischer was presented with the Spiritus Christi award**, an honor awarded annually to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to their fields of endeavor, their communities, their churches, and who exemplify the University's core values.

Dr. Fischer is truly deserving of this award, as he represents Concordia-Chicago and all it stands for with exceptional dedication and integrity. His unwavering commitment to his profession, community, and faith embodies the spirit of the University, making him a shining example for all.

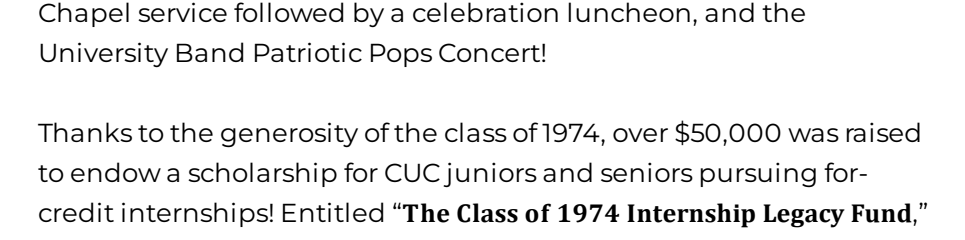
Learn more about how you can celebrate Doc with us at CUC's Maroon & Gold gala by visiting <https://www.cuchicago.edu/alumni/maroon--gold/>



We ask that you prayerfully consider a gift to expand the impact that Doc has had on our CUC community. Give today by clicking below:

[Share Your Gift Today](#)

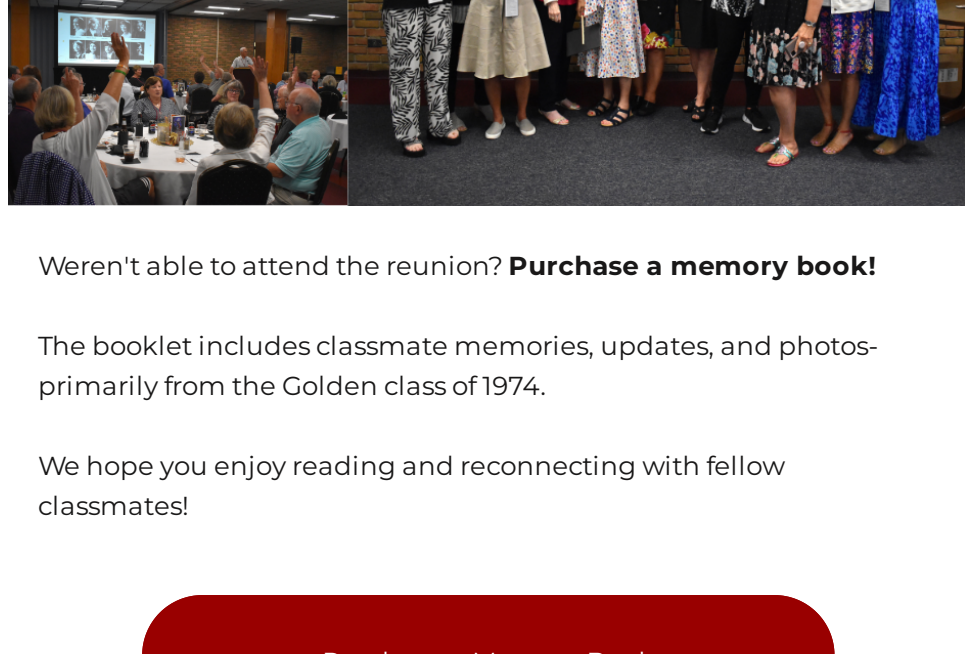
To Give Via Phone or for More Information: Call 866-448-3867 toll free or email Foundation@CUCChicago.edu to impact your favorite area of the University.



Golden Reunion Celebration Weekend Recap

What a joyful weekend it was celebrating our **Golden Alumni** from June 27-30th! The weekend was full of reconnecting and making new memories. Events included the 1974 Class Dinner, the Golden Chapel service followed by a celebration luncheon, and the University Band Patriotic Pops Concert!

Thanks to the generosity of the class of 1974, over \$50,000 was raised to endow a scholarship for CUC juniors and seniors pursuing for-credit internships! Entitled **"The Class of 1974 Internship Legacy Fund,"** the endowment will give students the opportunity to receive funds for internships that would have otherwise been unpaid. We couldn't be more excited and thankful for the impact this endowment will make on many students in the years to come



Weren't able to attend the reunion? **Purchase a memory book!**

The booklet includes classmate memories, updates, and photos- primarily from the Golden class of 1974.

We hope you enjoy reading and reconnecting with fellow classmates!

[Purchase a Memory Book](#)



Alum and business professor awarded Fulbright grant to research in Slovenia

We are thrilled to announce that CUC doctorate alumna **Dr. Elisabeth Dellegrazie PhD '21**, associate professor of leadership and marketing, has received a coveted **Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program award** in business to Slovenia for the 2024-2025 academic year from the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

Dellegrazie will pursue her research project, "Active Learning in Teams and the Link to Transversal Skill Development" at the University of Maribor in Slovenia from October 2024 to January 2025.

"I am honored to have been awarded a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Fellowship," says Dellegrazie. "This incredible academic opportunity will allow me to pursue international research at the University of Maribor in digital team interaction and its link to transversal skill development. I am excited to be contributing in this way to the global academic community."

[Read more](#)



Upcoming Events

Higher Things Conferences

Will you be attending an upcoming Higher Things conference? Say hello to us at our booth!

Dates: July 16-19 at the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville, AR & July 23-26 at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, OR

[Read more](#)

Football Alumni: "Meet the Coach" Tailgate

Join us on campus this Fall on August 23rd for a "Meet the Coach" event! More information to come!

Date: Friday, August 23

Location: Cougar Stadium

Maroon & Gold 2024

Our signature fundraising and awards gala returns under the theme, "A Million Dreams!" You don't want to miss this unforgettable evening!

Date: Saturday, September 28

Location: Eaglewood Resort and Spa

[Read more](#)

Cougar Classic Golf Outing

Join fellow alumni, faculty, staff, and friends for a fun day of golf while supporting Cougar Athletics.

Date: Friday, October 11

Location: White Pines Golf Club in Bensenville, IL

[Register](#)



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Alumni Relations