



150 Stories for 150 Years

Wilmington College Impacts Every Facet of My Life

Submitted By: Bill Kincaid '86
Brownsburg, IN

This is less a Wilmington College story than a testament to how fundamentally Wilmington College is embedded in my own life story. Wilmington College has been a part of my life for over 50 years, ever since my father joined the faculty in 1969 and our family moved to the area for his job. I attended WC sporting events as a child, ran on the track with my dad and occasionally traveled with the track team when he was coaching it. I took music lessons from Max Carr, Liz Haskins and Jim Haskins, and attended annual Foreign Language Day events organized by Jim Cool and Luis Fumero. I was in my first play on the Boyd Auditorium stage when I was nine years old. As a child I was in awe of the College students, who seemed so grown up and cool. By the time I moved into Denver Hall and started College classes in the fall of 1982, I had a 13-year history with WC. I became a regular at soccer games, worked two summers as the New Student Orientation coordinator (with guidance from Barbara Kaplan, Missy Finkes and the wonderful Kate Honnerlaw), experienced defeat when I ran for student government and wrote for the student newspaper. In addition to many fine arts and foreign language classes, I enrolled in courses taught by Wilmington College legends like Sterling Olmstead, T. Canby Jones and Bill Guthrie. Hugh Heiland, Lois Hock, Becky Haines, Max Carr, Liz Haskin, and Jim Haskins were everyday figures in my life, teaching me discipline and artistry and permanently shaping my perspective on the world. As a College student I was in awe of these faculty members, because they were so talented and accomplished.

After I graduated, Wilmington College was still part of my life in many ways. I taught for the College's Project Talents program at the Lebanon Correctional Institution, took over a Shakespeare course when Bill Guthrie fell ill and returned to direct a summer theatre production. My sisters, Jeanne Chaney and Sonja Koch, attended the College, as did my brother, Nathan Kincaid, and my brother-in-law, Ryan Chaney. My nieces, Jane Kincaid, Lila Kincaid and Amber Chaney, are also alumni. My brother, Russell, joined the faculty, and my sister, Jeanne, and mother, Penny Kincaid, both taught courses. My ongoing friendships with fellow alumni Todd Joyce, Mie Young Reed and Greg Reed, and many others are constant reminders of Wilmington College's impact on every facet of my life.

Today, as a university professor myself, I am in awe of Wilmington College's 150 years because of its legacy of shaping young minds, bringing together astonishing people, forging friendships and influencing not only my own, but so many life stories.

[RETURN TO SITE](#)