

first

THE MAGAZINE
OF CARROLL UNIVERSITY
SUMMER/FALL 2026

**WI GOVERNOR HELPS
DEDICATE CARROLL'S
EXPANDED COLLEGE OF
HEALTH SCIENCES FACILITY**

Donor Gift Names Carroll University
College of Health Sciences

**RETIRED FACULTY EARN
EMERITI STATUS**



THIS IS THE FUTURE:
Robo Dog





This spring 2026, Carroll graduated nearly 850 students in our undergraduate, master's and doctoral programs. They are ready for the next step in their careers!

View the photo album on flickr [here!](#)

**BEST
COLLEGES**
& WORLD REPORT
U.S. News
REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES
MIDWEST
2027

first

FIRST Magazine tells the stories of pioneers, of Wisconsin's first university and of the resolute, creative and fearless men and women who push it forward—the alumni, students, faculty and staff of Carroll University—through truly pioneering content and design.

Carroll University is Wisconsin's first four-year institution of higher learning. This independent, co-educational comprehensive university is grounded in the Presbyterian heritage and liberal arts tradition. The Office of Marketing and Communications publishes **FIRST** for alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends of the university. The opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the opinions of the editors or the official policies of Carroll University. We welcome your comments to editor@carrollu.edu.

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Carroll University recognized among the region's **TOP UNIVERSITIES** in 2027 U.S. News rankings

Carroll earned strong recognition in the 2027 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges rankings, solidifying its reputation as a school of choice and top destination in the region.



#20

among 176
Regional Universities
in the Midwest



#9

Best Colleges
for Veterans



#10

Best Value School
among Regional
Universities in the
Midwest

PLUS

for the first time ever, U.S. News ranked Top Private Colleges – Regional Universities (Midwest), and Carroll ranked

#15



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — LOOKING FORWARD!

As Carroll celebrates several meaningful milestones this year, I find myself reflecting with gratitude on all that our community has accomplished and looking ahead with excitement to what is still to come. Our 180th anniversary, my 10th year serving as president and the continued momentum of the most ambitious fundraising campaign in our history, a \$100 million effort to enhance the Carroll experience for generations to come, while both honoring Carroll's legacy and investing boldly in its future. While these milestones offer an opportunity to reflect on how far we have come, they also invite us to look ahead at what we are building together.

That future begins with our newest class of Pioneers. We welcomed an impressive Class of 2030, comprised of more than 700 students from 31 states and 15 countries. These students arrived with an average high school GPA of 3.5 and a diverse array of talents, experiences and aspirations. Nearly 42% are first-generation college students, underscoring Carroll's continued commitment to access, mentorship and student success. From accomplished performers and athletes to service-minded leaders and creative innovators, this class represents the promise of the next generation. We are excited to see the impact they will make on our campus and beyond.

As we prepare students for a rapidly changing world, we are also charting a bold course for the future of the University. Over the past year, the Carroll Board of Directors, Senior Leadership Team, faculty and staff worked collaboratively to develop a new strategic plan that will guide our priorities and investments for the next *three* years. Grounded in our mission and focused on meeting the evolving needs of students, the plan positions Carroll to build on its strengths while embracing new opportunities. You'll learn more about the planning process and the vision it outlines on [pages 8-9](#).

Our commitment to innovation and student success is also reflected in the continued transformation of our campus. This fall, we celebrated the dedication of **The College of Health Sciences** facility, a new home for Carroll's largest college. Once a vacant elementary school, the facility was re-imagined as a dynamic learning environment that supports hands-on education, research and community engagement. With specialized spaces for programs in Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Pathologists' Assistant Studies, Animal Behavior and the CURE Clinics, the building will help prepare future healthcare professionals to serve communities for years to come. At the same time, we were able to recognize two extraordinary alumni for their generosity by naming **The Von Hoff College of Health Sciences**. Learn more and see photos from the dedication and the opening on [pages 6-7](#).

Looking ahead, the future continues to take shape across campus. Construction is underway on **The Sullivan School of Business, Engineering and Technology** building, an investment that will expand opportunities for experiential learning, interdisciplinary collaboration and workforce preparation. Scheduled for completion in 2027, this transformative project reflects our ongoing commitment to equipping students with the knowledge, skills and experiences they need to thrive in an increasingly complex world. Learn more on [page 11](#) and follow the progress online.

As I look forward, I am inspired not only by the milestones we celebrate today but by the possibilities they create for tomorrow. With an exceptional student body, a clear strategic vision, transformational investments in our campus and the unwavering support of alumni, donors, faculty, staff and friends, Carroll is well-positioned for its next chapter. Together, we are building a future defined by opportunity, innovation and impact, ensuring that generations of Pioneers will continue to learn, lead and make a difference in the world.

Thank you for being part of Carroll's journey.

Cindy Gnadinger

Cindy Gnadinger
President



WI Governor Helps Dedicate Carroll's Expanded

College of Health Sciences Facility

By Rebeca (Borrero) Perez, '00

A strong healthcare workforce starts with access to exceptional education, hands-on training and community-centered care. This summer, Carroll University took a major step forward in all three areas with the dedication of its newly expanded College of Health Sciences building, a transformative project designed to address Wisconsin's growing demand for healthcare professionals.

The significance of the project was underscored by the attendance of Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers, who joined Waukesha Mayor Alicia Halvensleben, State Representative Scott Allen, Alderman Erik Helgestad, members of the Carroll University Board of Trustees, healthcare partners, donors, alumni and community leaders to celebrate the building's official opening. Their presence highlighted the important role Carroll plays in preparing the next generation of healthcare providers and expanding access to care throughout the region, as well as celebrating the receipt of a \$2 million WI Department of Administration's Non-State Grant.

By renovating the former Randall Elementary School, Carroll has created a modern, state-of-the-art 61,000 sq. ft. facility that centralizes two of its no-fee community clinics while providing dedicated learning environments for several of its fastest-growing healthcare programs. The facility supports students pursuing careers in graduate Exercise Physiology, Occupational Therapy, Pathologist Assistant and Physician Assistant programs, undergraduate Experience courses as well as the Thronson Animal Behavior Center.

Leading the vision for the project was **Dr. Tom Pahnke**, dean of The Von Hoff College of Health Sciences and clinical associate professor, doctor of physical therapy program.

"An opportunity like this doesn't come very often," Pahnke said. "We were able to design and create learning spaces specifically for the needs of Carroll's students and programs, making this the best possible environment for education, innovation and care."

Meeting a Growing Need

The expansion comes at a critical time. Carroll's health sciences programs have experienced extraordinary growth over the past decade.

"When we moved into the Graduate Center about 10 years ago, it was built for approximately 220 students," Pahnke explained. "Today, enrollment in our graduate health sciences programs has more than doubled."



Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers visited the Thronson Animal Behavior Center classrooms during his tour of the College of Health Sciences facility.

That growth reflects a broader workforce challenge facing healthcare systems across Wisconsin and the nation. Carroll continues to respond by expanding high-demand programs such as Physician Assistant Studies, one of the university's most sought-after programs, and the emerging Pathologists' Assistant program, one of fewer than 20 programs of its kind in the country.

"The Pathologists' Assistant program uses a tremendous amount of technology," Pahnke said. "Through this renovation, we were able to build a laboratory equipped with state-of-the-art technology that represents the future of the profession."

Designed for Learning. Built for Impact.

The complete renovation transformed the former elementary school into a cutting-edge healthcare education center featuring:

- The Carroll Therapeutic Abilities Clinic (TAC).
- The Carroll University Rehabilitative Exercise (CURE) Clinic.
- Dedicated classrooms and labs for Physician Assistant, Pathologists' Assistant, Occupational Therapy and Clinical Exercise Physiology programs.
- A simulated apartment laboratory where Occupational Therapy students develop skills to help patients navigate everyday activities such as eating, bathing and dressing.

Beyond supporting student success, the facility strengthens Carroll's commitment to serving the community. Since 2008, the Therapeutic Abilities Clinic has provided no-cost physical therapy services to individuals facing barriers to care. Established in 2018, the CURE Clinic offers personalized exercise interventions that complement physician-directed treatment plans. Together, these clinics deliver vital services while giving students invaluable hands-on experience.

Investing in Wisconsin's Future

As healthcare workforce shortages continue to affect communities across the state, Carroll's expanded College of Health Sciences positions the university to educate and graduate more skilled, practice-ready professionals.

The dedication ceremony served as a powerful reminder that this project extends far beyond a new building. It represents an investment in students, patients and the future of healthcare in Wisconsin. With support from state leaders, healthcare partners, donors and the community, Carroll continues to strengthen its role as a leader in preparing the healthcare workforce that communities need today and for generations to come. Learn more at carrollu.edu/academics/health-sciences and see photos from the dedication on [Flickr](#).

Donor Gift Names Carroll University College of Health Sciences

A special thank you to two Carroll alumni whose extraordinary generosity will help shape the future of Carroll; the College of Health Sciences; and the students who will learn and serve here.

Dr. Daniel Von Hoff, a member of the Class of 1969, studied biology and chemistry at Carroll. His career has taken him to the forefront of cancer research, where he has dedicated his life to translating scientific discoveries into new treatments and better outcomes for patients across the globe.

He has also been a mentor to generations of future healthcare and research leaders—reflecting the curiosity, collaboration and commitment to service that are hallmarks of a Carroll education.

His wife, **Ann Leighton Von Hoff**, a member of the Class of 1970, studied elementary education and geography at Carroll. She raised three successful children and is presently "grand-mothering" nine grandchildren. Together, Dan and Ann have maintained a lifelong commitment to the sciences and scientific research, and to the transformative power of higher education.

Their philanthropic commitment to Carroll is long-standing. They previously provided their support by naming the Dr. Roy J. Christoph Health Center in the Center for Student Life and Wellness. Dr. Christoph, professor emeritus of biology, was a beloved mentor to Dan and Ann during their years as Carroll students, and they have long supported endowed scholarships to Carroll, enabling Carroll students to pursue their academic goals.

The Von Hoffs have made a new gift to Carroll University that will allow us to invest in our students and their experiences and expand into new health science programs, helping to strengthen the pipeline of highly skilled and compassionate healthcare leaders.

In recognition of their transformational generosity and their enduring commitment to Carroll University, the College of Health Sciences at Carroll University will henceforth be known as **The Von Hoff College of Health Sciences**.



President Cindy Gnadinger kicked off the academic year with the dedication and the opening of the newly renovated College of Health Sciences facility, pictured above with Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers and other staff, faculty and renowned guests.



Building on our Legacy: First. Foremost. Forward. For Carroll.



As higher education faces unprecedented change, Carroll University is charting a bold path forward. Guided by its 2026-2029 Strategic Plan, Carroll is investing in what matters most: preparing students for meaningful lives and careers while ensuring the long-term strength and sustainability of the institution.

At its core, the plan is built around a simple but powerful vision: First. Foremost. Forward. For Carroll.

Carroll seeks to graduate students who are prepared for an evolving workforce, equipped with adaptable skills and grounded in the values of a liberal arts education. At the same time, the University is strengthening its foundations to ensure future generations of students can benefit from the Carroll experience.

Strategic Commitments Guiding Future Direction

Two Priorities, One Future

The strategic plan focuses on two interconnected priorities.

First, Carroll will innovate and adapt academic and co-curricular programs to ensure students are prepared for the careers and opportunities of tomorrow. This includes developing relevant programs, expanding hands-on learning experiences and creating more flexible pathways that meet students where they are while helping them achieve their goals.

Second, Carroll will strengthen institutional sustainability through financial stewardship, operational excellence and

continued investment in employees. These efforts will help the University remain nimble, resilient and positioned for continued growth in a challenging higher education landscape.

Signature Commitments That Define the Future

Three signature commitments bring the plan to life and position Carroll to stand apart:

College to Career

ensures that every graduate leaves Carroll with documented evidence of career readiness, connecting education directly to opportunity.

 **School of Choice** reflects an ambition to become the preferred university in the region by showcasing Carroll's mission, values and distinctive student experience.

Liberal Arts (LA) + (AI)

LA+AI as an Institutional Differentiator positions Carroll as a nationally recognized leader in integrating artificial intelligence (AI) within a teaching-focused liberal arts (LA) environment. By combining human-centered learning with emerging technologies, Carroll is preparing students for a future that demands both technical fluency and critical thinking.

The Role of Faculty, Staff, Students, Alumni and Friends

This vision for the future builds upon the enduring strengths that have long defined Carroll: academic excellence, student success, alumni engagement, philanthropy and a commitment to transforming lives through education. The University remains dedicated to growing its endowment, expanding support for students, enhancing facilities and deepening alumni connections that strengthen the Carroll community.

The strategic plan is more than a roadmap. It is a call to action and an invitation. Together, alumni, donors, faculty, staff, students and friends can help shape a future where Carroll graduates are prepared not only to navigate change, but to lead it. Through innovation, opportunity and shared purpose, Carroll is building a university that is ready for what comes next and recognized for the difference it makes in the lives of its students and communities.

"The challenges facing higher education are significant, but so is Carroll's resolve. By pairing innovation with stewardship and tradition with forward-thinking leadership, Carroll is creating a future where every student is prepared to succeed, every graduate is ready to lead, and the University's impact continues to grow. I'm excited for how the next three years will propel Carroll forward, together," noted President Cindy Gnadinger.

Our Purpose and Mission are foundational to all our work and serve as guideposts for our strategic plan. The 2026-2029 Strategic Plan is a roadmap that shows what Carroll University wants to focus on over the next three years. The plan is grounded in our ongoing work and guided by our two strategic priorities. The three signature commitments are the visible targets that we can all see. Stay tuned for an upcoming feature on the 2026-2029 Strategic Plan at carrollu.edu.



As of August 31, 2026, Carroll University has raised \$93 million towards the \$100,000,000 multi-year, comprehensive Pioneer Driven Campaign.

The campaign will significantly advance the University's mission through several initiatives to sustain the University's core health and well-being, including:

- Capital Projects
- Endowment Growth
- Operating Support

Fundraising for this important effort continues. We are looking for alumni, parents and friends to help us reach these important goals.

If you would like more information on how you can be a part of these projects, please contact:

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Michelle DuBord, Director of Campaign Operations mdubord@carrollu.edu, 262.524.7238

Advancing Leadership: Inside Carroll's New Ph.D. Program

By Amanda Karalis '27

Carroll University's higher education expertise has recently undergone a significant expansion. In 2025, the Ph.D. in Leadership and Organizational Development program launched, designed for working professionals to foster scholarship, research and practice in a flexible format. It has been meticulously curated to help candidates navigate complex organizational environments with the necessary confidence and innovation.



Mohammad Bey, Carroll's Vice President of Campus and Community Services, is a student in the Ph.D. program. He plays a vital role in overseeing auxiliary services, campus safety and security, and institutional compliance. He also works to strengthen connections between the university and the broader community, while supporting professional development

initiatives for faculty and staff. As a Ph.D. student at Carroll, he aims to grow his professional repertoire, focus on building leadership skills, and strengthen his desire for development and knowledge. His class of 2028 cohort operates in a hybrid format, allowing students to have some structure, while simultaneously being able to work at their preferred pace. They meet once a month, in-person, and are given assignments to complete between meetings.

Bey feels that this program has given him a deeper appreciation for those who have terminal degrees. As most doctoral students do, Bey has many focuses in his life, so this program has given him the ability to balance all of his responsibilities. It has also strengthened his appreciation for the art of inquiry and research. There is a natural balance and harmony of being both a student and administrator at the university, allowing Bey to understand what Carroll's advanced degree students experience on a daily basis.

When asked his favorite aspect of the program, Bey reported, "You need a community. You need folks that you can bounce ideas off of. I've already been able to form a community with supervisors and others in my program that give me the ability to learn and follow the art of

inquiry as I pursue my research. People genuinely care about you as a student here. Having a dual role, I am treated as a student in my program and I am loving it. You need to have two or three peers that you can check in with."

Learn more about Carroll's **Ph.D. in Leadership and Organizational Development program**.



Class of 2026
left to right:
Chytania Brown and
Tommie Quinton Myles.



Class of 2027
left to right:
Andy Farley,
Emma Curtis,
Emily Greiber and
Deanna Wellens.



Class of 2028
Front left to right:
Cassie Kuranz,
Hawk (Service Dog),
Matt Wolfert,
Amy Paladino,
Sara Engel,
Tim Curtin and
Kevin Honey.
Back left to right:
James Small,
Meg Boyd,
Mohammed Bey,
Kalie Bach and
Gregory Bond.

The Sullivan School of Business, Engineering and Technology's Future Home—Opening in 2027

The new Sullivan School of Business, Engineering and Technology represents a bold step forward in Carroll's academic evolution. Designed as a cross-disciplinary hub, the facility will unite business, computer science, aviation science and drone technology, artificial intelligence and emerging engineering programs to foster collaboration, innovation and real-world problem-solving.

With southeastern Wisconsin's strong manufacturing base and growing reliance on automation and AI, the Sullivan School will prepare graduates to lead across industries and adapt to the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

Opening in 2027, the largest construction project in Carroll University's history, reflects Carroll's commitment to preparing students for the careers of tomorrow.

Learn more about the **construction project** and keep up to date on the day-by-day happenings.



Enchanting

ADVENTURE AWAITS IN HISTORIC CROATIA

Alumni travelers, join fellow alumni, along with **President Cindy and John Gnadinger**, for our next unforgettable expedition to Croatia. This exclusive 10-day journey will take you through the breathtaking destinations of Zagreb, Split, Hvar, Dubrovnik and Montenegro, offering a custom travel experience designed especially for the Carroll alumni community.



May 14-23, 2027



Visit carrollu.edu/alumni/travel for more details. Space is limited and will be first come, first served!



CARROLL UNIVERSITY



Meeting the *Growing* Need for Behavioral Health Responders

Carroll's enhanced Behavioral Health Responder (BHR) Certification equips professionals with the knowledge and practical skills to effectively support individuals experiencing behavioral health challenges. Through a 105-hour hybrid format, participants gain hands-on experience in risk assessment, trauma-informed response, crisis de-escalation and coordinated support.

What sets the program apart is its comprehensive, competency-based curriculum that moves beyond awareness and referral training, preparing participants to respond confidently and effectively in real-world situations across healthcare, education, public safety, nonprofit and community settings.



"Behavioral health challenges touch every community and every profession. The BHR program provides practical skills that help professionals recognize concerns early, respond with confidence and connect individuals with the support and resources they need," says **Dean of the School of Education and Human Services, Kathy Kramer**. "The need for

these skills extends across campuses and communities. Carroll has already supported the training of six Behavioral Health Responders among Carroll's public safety and student life staff members to date and we continue to invest in our staff."

Learn more about the program [online](#) or contact us via email at bcubhr@carrollu.edu.

JEFF Trader '73

1846 Legacy Society donor feature

Over fifty years! Being a Golden Pioneer almost seems like a dream. But what a pleasant dream it has been.

My experience at Carroll enriched both my personal life and my professional career. The liberal arts background made my life more meaningful and fulfilling. The strong foundation that was built over my years as a student fostered a life full of appreciation of the arts, spiritual development, community involvement and a strong sense of self.

My academic experience at Carroll prepared me for a very successful career and an extremely satisfying retirement. Carroll has made me very proud of all that is Carroll.

Many of my friends today are linked to my Carroll experience, either through my fraternity Delta Rho Upsilon or other Carroll relationships.

I truly value my continued Carroll connections!

My wife Patty and I are very happy to have been part of **The Old Main Society** for many years and encourage your consideration to become a member, as an integral element of your paying it forward. We also joined the **1846 Legacy Society** and are leaving a gift for Carroll through our estate. I believe it's a meaningful way to help ensure future generations of students can enjoy the same life-changing Carroll experience I have treasured.

— Jeff Trader '73



Let's Light It Up for Carroll Pioneers!

This is the FUTURE:

By Amanda Karalis, '27

Carroll University is bringing innovation to life through an exciting new capstone project: a programmable robotic dog affectionately known as “PioPet.” Developed by students as part of their senior capstone experience, the project blends robotics, artificial intelligence (AI) and problem-solving into a real-world application that showcases both creativity and technical skill. The inspiration for PioPet came from President Gnadinger, who saw a video of a robotic dog walking around another college campus and thought it could be something Carroll students could take on themselves. From there, students brought the idea to life as part of their capstone course.

This project represents months of collaboration and technical creativity from the students behind it. Beyond basic movement, students spent significant time programming and customizing the robot’s behaviors. While some motions were already available within the system, many of the more advanced actions had to be built and adjusted manually through coding. Creating routines such as dance sequences or handstand performances required careful experimentation and attention to detail, giving students hands-on experience with both programming logic and robotics integration. Rather than simply operating existing technology, the team worked to expand what the robot could do through their own modifications.

One of the most challenging aspects of the project was developing the gesture-control system. The students designed a feature that allows users to command the robot using hand signals, creating a more interactive experience between the user and the technology.

Although the gestures appear simple to the user, training the system to accurately recognize and respond to each movement required extensive testing, mathematical modeling and classification work. Team members frequently researched outside resources and taught themselves new techniques in order to improve the system’s accuracy. The process reflected not only the technical demands of the project, but also the adaptability required to bring an ambitious student-led idea to life.

The development process has not been without challenges. One of the biggest obstacles was that the system could only operate on Linux, meaning students could not simply use standard computers without additional setup and troubleshooting. Team members had to install multiple software libraries, resolve compatibility issues, and learn unfamiliar systems before they could even begin testing the robot itself. To make matters more difficult, many of the original instructions for the controllers were written in Mandarin, requiring students to translate and interpret the material on their own. In several cases, the translated instructions were still unclear or inaccurate, leading the team to create their own notes and guides for controller inputs, gestures, and coding commands. Much of the project relied on persistence, experimentation, and learning through trial and error.

Despite the setbacks, students described the experience as both rewarding and valuable. As student Ben explained, “PioPet has been a fun application into the robotics and AI implementation and it’s cool to get first-hand experience with that.” That hands-on learning opportunity is what makes the project

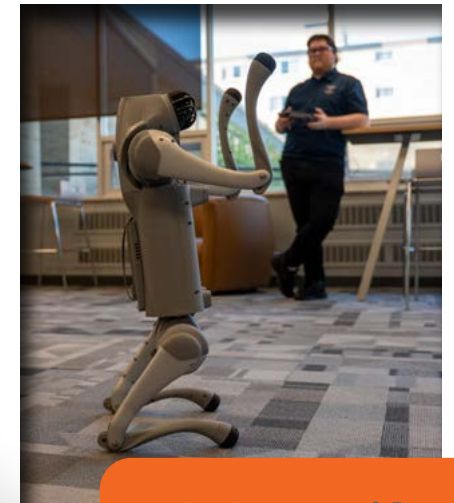
especially meaningful. Rather than only studying robotics concepts in a classroom setting, students were able to apply technical knowledge in a real-world environment that required teamwork, adaptability and creative problem-solving.

Projects like PioPet reflect how Carroll University is creating opportunities for students to innovate beyond traditional coursework. The project challenged students to think critically, navigate unexpected obstacles, and transform an ambitious concept into a working system. In the process, they gained practical experience not only in robotics and [AI](#), but also in collaboration, communication and independent learning.

Learn more about The Sullivan School of Business, Engineering and Technology’s [Computer Science](#) and [Artificial Intelligence](#) majors.



Robo Dog



Check out a [video](#) of
Robo Dog,
aka PioPet, in action!

2025-26 CARROLL ATHLETICS RECAP

WINTER SPORTS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

RECORD: 23-6, 15-1 CCIW

CONFERENCE FINISH: 1ST (TIED)

Carroll captured a share of the CCIW regular season title and finished as runners up in the conference tournament. The Pioneers also hosted the NCAA Tournament, defeating DePauw in the first round before falling to UW-La Crosse, matching their record of one tournament win.



Natalie Gricius and Emilie Wizner were named First Team All CCIW, while Julia Lokker earned Second Team honors. Gricius added to her historic season by being named CSC Academic All-American Team Member of the Year, the first in program history, and earned First Team All-American honors (WBCA, D3Hoops).

Gricius also became just the third player in program history to record 1,500 points and 500 rebounds, while Wizner set the program record for career three-pointers made.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

RECORD: 12-14, 7-9 CCIW

CONFERENCE FINISH: 5TH (TIED)

The Pioneers reached the CCIW Tournament quarterfinals, falling in a tight contest at Elmhurst. The season featured exciting moments, including buzzer beating wins over North Park and Millikin at home.

Individually, Michael McNabb and Lamar Smith earned Second Team All CCIW honors.



WOMEN'S BOWLING

RECORD: 53-37

CONFERENCE FINISH: 1ST (TIED)

*CCIW Tournament Champions/Co-Regular Season Champions

Carroll captured the CCIW Tournament title and advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in program history, earning the program's first NCAA Tournament victory with a win over Fayetteville State.

The Pioneers also claimed their first event title in program history at the D3 National Invite.



Ava Butt

was named CCIW Co Player of the Year and earned the Elite 26 Award, while Miley Brooks was named First-Year Athlete of the Year. Both were also First Team All Conference selections.

MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

CONFERENCE FINISH: 5TH

The Pioneers capped the season with a strong showing at the CCIW Championships, highlighted by multiple personal-best performances across the roster.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

CONFERENCE FINISH: 5TH

Carroll closed out the season at the CCIW Championships, with numerous swimmers recording personal-best times, continuing the program's steady development.

MEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

CONFERENCE FINISH: 5TH

The Pioneers delivered a strong showing at the CCIW Championships, highlighted by conference championships from Carlos Cadet Jr. in the long jump and triple jump.

Carroll earned multiple All Conference performances, including Cadet's event wins, Brian Smith (400m, 200m), and Brady Reusser (shot put, weight throw), along with a fourth-place finish in the 4 x 400 relay.

Cadet and Smith both qualified for the NCAA Championships, leading a strong first-year class.

WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

CONFERENCE FINISH: 8TH

The Pioneers saw multiple All Conference performances, highlighted by a second-place finish from Jenna Weis in the pole vault.

Carroll also had strong contributions across events, including the 4 x 400 relay (4th) and scoring performances in hurdles, jumps and distance events.

Weis went on to qualify for the NCAA Championships, continuing a standout first-year season.



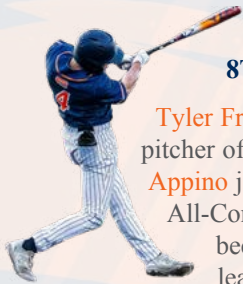
SPRING SPORTS

BASEBALL

RECORD: 21-19, 8-12 CCIW

CONFERENCE FINISH: 8TH (TIED)

Tyler Fredrick was named CCIW pitcher of the year, and Joey Appino joined him on First Team All-Conference as Appino also became the all-time hits leader for the program.



WOMEN'S GOLF

CONFERENCE FINISH: 7TH (COMPLETED IN THE FALL)

The Pioneers played the majority of their meets in the Fall, but also had competitions in the Spring. The Spring session was highlighted with 3rd place finishes at the Benedictine Spring Invite and the Augustana Spring Invite.

MEN'S GOLF

Conference Finish: 8th

Carroll's top finish came with a 6th-place tie at the Judson Invitational.

SOFTBALL

RECORD: 18-21, 5-11 CCIW

CONFERENCE FINISH: 7TH (TIED)

Abby Curtis became the all-time hits leader for the softball program in coach Ericka Hess's first season.

MEN'S LACROSSE

Primary Season Continues in Spring

RECORD: 4-12, 1 4 CCIW

CONFERENCE FINISH: 5TH

The Carroll men earned their first conference victory in program history in the CCIW, taking down Augustana at home in April.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

RECORD: 13-4, 5-0 CCIW

CONFERENCE FINISH: 1ST

Carroll captured the regular season conference championship for the second year in a row, but fell in the CCIW Championship game to Carthage, ultimately falling just short of reaching the NCAA tournament for the second year in a row.



MEN'S TENNIS

RECORD: 7-15, 2-5 CCIW

CONFERENCE FINISH: 6TH

The Pioneers reached the CCIW Quarterfinals, falling in a tight match to Augustana.

Andrew LaBelle earned First Team All Conference honors and joined the 50 singles win club, while brother Ryan LaBelle earned Second Team All-Conference honors.



MEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

CONFERENCE FINISH: 6TH

Carroll earned multiple All Conference performances, highlighted by Brady Reusser (Shot Put and Discus), Carlos Cadet (Long Jump and Triple Jump) and Brian Smith (400m).

Smith earned a spot on the all-region team and competed at nationals, missing out on a spot in the finals by .03 of a

second. The first-year student athlete finished 11th, leading to 2nd Team All-American honors from the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

CONFERENCE FINISH: 7TH

The Pioneers were led by many standout all-conference performers, including: Addison Weber (Long Jump), Grace Pequignot (Hammer Throw), Tirzah Losos (100 and 400m Hurdles), Hana Smith (800m), Rianna Schultz (400m), Clare Whitney (High Jump), Jenna Weis (Pole Vault), Caroline Plasil (Hammer Throw and Discus) and the 4 x 400 Relay team of Rianna Schultz, Addison Korte, Hana Smith and Cady Carlson.

Weis, who was named to the all-region team as a first-year, also had a strong showing at nationals, finishing 21st overall.



Carroll Pioneers continue to make their mark on the field, court and on the track. Follow their success at [GOIOS.COM](https://goios.com)

Retired Faculty and Staff, Earn 2026 Distinguished Emeriti Status

By Tim Muma

Emeriti status is earned when a faculty member is recognized for providing significant scholarly and teaching contributions along with a deep commitment and dedication to Carroll University. This honored status is given as a recognition of experience, knowledge and scholarly contribution of the retiring faculty, and in some cases, staff, acknowledging their years of service, along with their commitment, dedication and genuine care to their colleagues, students, the University and their broader professional community.



Dr. Michael Schuder
1994-2026
Professor of Chemistry
Awarded Faculty Emeritus
of Chemistry

Dr. Michael Schuder was the professor students knew would challenge them—and the professor they came to appreciate for doing exactly that. During his Carroll career as a Chemistry professor, Schuder set high standards, held students accountable and, beneath his demanding exterior, cared deeply about their success.

A physical chemist who earned his Ph.D. from the University of Colorado–Boulder, Schuder became an award-winning teacher and prolific scholar, receiving Carroll's Benjamin F. Richason, Jr. Award in 2005. Beyond the classroom, he served as a department chair and faculty leader, championed Carroll's Student American Chemical Society chapter and contributed to the advancement of undergraduate chemistry nationally.

For generations of Pioneers, Schuder's legacy is measured not only in the chemistry they learned, but in the confidence and preparation they carried with them. He leaves Carroll as a teacher, mentor and advocate who expected a great deal from his students because he knew they were capable of it—and because he cared enough to help them get there.



Dr. Susan Lewis
1994-2026
Professor of Biology & Animal Behavior
Awarded Faculty Emerita
of Biology and Animal Behavior

Dr. Susan E. Lewis, better known to generations of Carroll students as "Batwoman," has spent more than three decades inspiring Pioneers to look more closely at the world around them. Since joining Carroll's Biology faculty in 1994, Lewis taught Biology and Animal Behavior, bringing the science of animal behavior to life through innovative, hands-on learning. Her partnership with the Milwaukee County Zoo gave hundreds of students the chance to conduct original research on captive wild animals.

Lewis was instrumental in building Carroll's Animal Behavior major into one of the university's largest undergraduate programs. Beyond the classroom, she devoted 15 years to advancing faculty development, championing innovative teaching and stronger support for scholarship, while also contributing to university governance.

Her own research took her in wonderfully unexpected directions, from studying junk-food-loving amphipods to exploring how service animals can detect bees. She brought countless students into the excitement of discovery. Lewis will be remembered not only for her expertise, but for her curiosity, mentorship and infectious enthusiasm for the creatures that share our world—after 32 years at Carroll, she's off to find some birds of her own.



Dr. Barbara King '87
1995-2026
Associate Professor of Communication
Awarded Faculty Emerita
of Communication

Dr. Barbara King has spent more than four decades making Carroll feel like home. She first arrived as a Communication student in 1983 and returned 12 years later as a member of the faculty, inspired by the professors who had shown her how meaningful a career teaching undergraduates could be.

Over 31 years in Carroll's Communication program, King taught generations of students and served as department chair, a longtime contributor to university governance and, for seven years, Carroll's Faculty Athletics Representative—the first woman to hold the role. But the classroom was always where she found the greatest joy, helping even students who enrolled in Communication 101 simply to fulfill a requirement, discover its value in their lives.

Her impact has been recognized with Carroll's Richason Award, Allhiser Award and Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award—the "triple crown" of faculty honors—as well as the 2023 Ethos Award for Respect and the 2026 Pioneer Athletics Faculty/Staff Member of the Year. For generations of Pioneers, however, King's greatest distinction may simply be the lasting difference she made as a teacher, mentor and champion of her students.



Dr. Gail Vojta
2007-2026
Associate Professor of Chemistry
Awarded Faculty Emerita
of Chemistry

Dr. Gail Vojta brought a rare combination of scientific rigor, warmth and perspective to Carroll's Chemistry program. An organic chemist and dedicated educator, she challenged her students to meet high standards while making sure they knew they had someone in their corner. Her excellence in the classroom earned her the 2022 Allhiser Award.

For her colleagues, Vojta was much more than a fellow chemist. She was the trusted voice of reason—the person others turned to when they needed thoughtful advice, a fresh perspective or simply a good conversation to start the day. Her steady presence, kindness and genuine care for others made a lasting impression across campus.

Vojta leaves Carroll with a legacy measured not only in the chemistry her students learned, but in the confidence she helped them build and the countless ways she made her colleagues' days a little better.



Dr. Jon Gordon
2013-2025
Associate Professor of Communication
Awarded Faculty Emeritus
of Communication

Dr. Jon Gordon brought curiosity, creativity and a distinctive sense of humor to Carroll's Communication program when he joined the faculty in 2013. For more than a decade, Gordon taught Communication courses and helped shape students through the PioCore, including CCS100 and Community Cultural Experiences to Appalachia and Ghost Ranch, New Mexico.

Gordon's career in higher education was distinguished by tenure at three institutions, teaching abroad in Japan and scholarship exploring international political cartoons. An accomplished artist, he also exhibited his printmaking in solo and family shows alongside his artist siblings.

But Gordon's greatest Carroll legacy may be found in the relationships he built. He was a dedicated mentor to international students, helping them navigate the American university culture and remaining genuinely invested in their lives long after they left his classroom. Known for his humor, creativity and rigor—and for his unwavering insistence that *The Princess Bride* was the ultimate teaching tool for interpersonal communication—Gordon leaves Carroll having made an impact that extends well beyond the classroom.



Ms. Pam Dolata, NP-BC
2001-2026
Director of Student Health Center
Awarded Staff Emerita
of Health Services

For more than 25 years, **Pam Dolata** has been a familiar and trusted presence in Carroll's Health Center, serving as a nurse practitioner and Director of Health Services since 2001. Throughout her career, she has cared for thousands of Carroll students with compassion, professionalism and an unwavering commitment to their well-being.

Beyond the Health Center, Dolata has been a dedicated partner across campus, leading educational and preventive health programs that have helped students make informed choices and prioritize their health. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she played a vital role in Carroll's response, leading testing efforts and helping develop policies and procedures as the university navigated an unprecedented and ever-changing challenge.

Known for her expertise, caring nature and deep commitment to students and colleagues, Dolata has left a lasting mark on Carroll. Her years of service reflect the very best of what it means to care for the Carroll community.

continued: Retired Faculty Earn 2026 Distinguished Emeriti Status



Ms. Sandy Manke '97
1997-2026
Applications Developer III
Awarded Staff Emerita
of Information Technology

Sandy Manke has been a steady and trusted presence at Carroll for 29 years, helping keep the university's technology and essential operations running smoothly. As a member of the Office of Information Technology, she provided critical support for Carroll's enterprise systems and worked closely with campus partners to ensure they had the tools and information they needed.

Manke became especially valued by the Business Office during the years of the CX enterprise system, where her deep knowledge, consistency and problem-solving skills made her an invaluable resource. She also played a key role in Carroll's ERP migrations, leading extensive data-cleanup efforts to help pave the way for successful transitions.

Known for her dependability, strong work ethic and genuine commitment to serving others, Manke leaves behind a legacy built not on the spotlight, but on the countless ways she made Carroll work better. After 29 years, her colleagues will miss not only her expertise, but the reliability and care she brought to everything she did.



Dr. Margaret Polk
2020-2026
Associate Professor
of Computer Science

Dr. Margaret Polk has always been the kind of professor students remember. Caring, empathetic, approachable and fair, she built the kind of relationships that made students feel seen, supported and confident in their ability to succeed.

A faculty member in Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Information Technology, Polk taught and advised across all three areas. During a time of significant transition, she became a steady hand for students and colleagues alike, taking on the behind-the-scenes work needed to keep programs moving and advising students across all three majors.

She also helped shape Carroll's future in technology, playing a key role in developing the AI major and minor. And when she could have retired a year earlier, Polk chose to stay—putting students and her colleagues first and helping ensure a smooth transition to the next generation of faculty.

That may be Polk's greatest legacy: she leaves behind stronger programs, a stronger university and countless students who know that someone believed in them. Even in retirement, they're still turning to her for help—and true to form, she's still saying yes.



Ms. Cecelia Kuenn
1989-2026
Theatre Program
Costume Shop Manager

For 37 years, **Cecelia Kuenn** helped bring the magic of Carroll Theatre to life—often from just beyond the footlights. As an artist-in-residence and adjunct faculty member from 1988 to 2025, Kuenn became the second-longest-serving faculty member in the Theatre Department's 130-year history.

She designed and executed costumes for more than 120 Mainstage productions, while teaching students the artistry behind the scenes through makeup workshops, costume construction and hands-on practicum experiences. In the process, Kuenn helped establish costuming as an important part of Carroll's Theatre curriculum and mentored generations of students in the craft.

Kuenn leaves behind more than a remarkable collection of productions. She leaves a well-equipped costume shop, an extensive collection of vintage clothing and accessories, and—most importantly—a legacy of creativity, hard work and respect for the artists and students who made each production possible. For generations of Pioneers, Kuenn's work helped transform a script and a stage into something unforgettable.



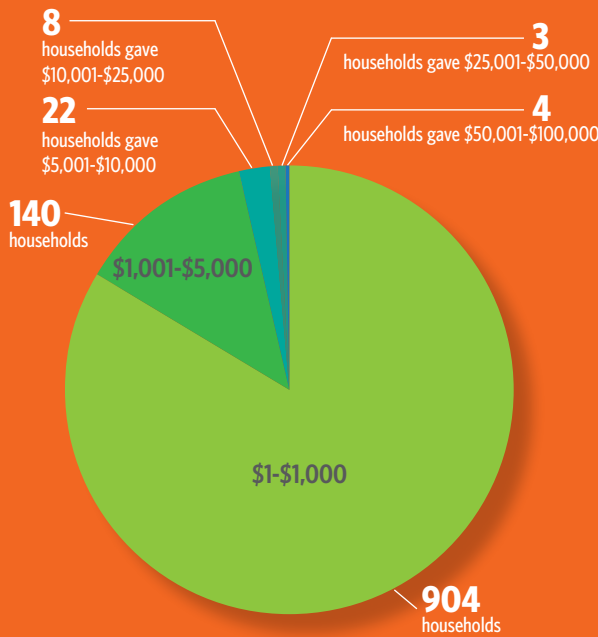
CARROLL FUND 2025-26 FACTS AND FIGURES

Thank you to everyone who made a commitment to The Carroll Fund or one of its supporting funds during the 2025-26 academic year.



Carroll Fund
TOTAL: **\$1,285,587.63**

HOUSEHOLD GIVING by Amount



21% increase in total unrestricted dollars

Year	Total
2025-26	\$1,285,587.63
2024-25	\$1,060,925.19

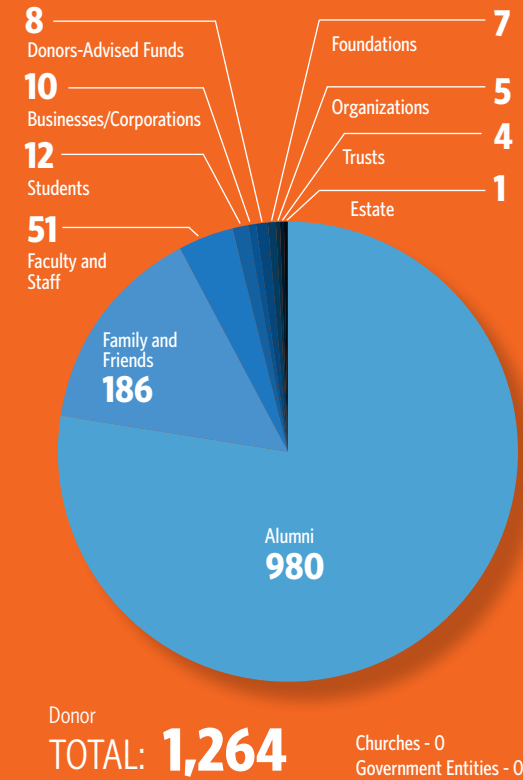
15% decrease in total number of non-estate individual donors to unrestricted funds

Year	Donors
2025-26	1,263 donors
2024-25	1,494 donors

40% increase in total non-estate unrestricted dollars from individual donors

Year	Total
2025-26	\$1,276,219.52
2024-25	\$909,555.96

CARROLL FUND GIFTS by Source



Average
Alumni Gift:
\$729.25



4%
Alumni
Participation
Rate for
Carroll Fund

DID YOU KNOW...

The Carroll Fund gives Carroll the flexibility to meet today's needs, seize tomorrow's opportunities, and help our campus community thrive.



CUonGivingTuesday Results

Year	Donors	Total
2025	634 donors	\$425,909.11
2024	504 donors	\$230,871.60

To make your 2026-27
tax-deductible gift to Carroll,
please scan the QR code below
or call 262.524.7239.



carrollu.edu/give

VAN MALE IN 2029

Future plans for the heart of athletics

The final component of Carroll's strategic plan is the long-awaited expansion and renovation of the Van Male Field House, supporting the growing needs of Carroll's 630+ student-athletes across 23 NCAA Division III sports teams.

"Carroll University is expanding and revitalizing the Van Male Field House to meet the growing needs of our student athletes," said President Gnadinger. "This transformation will create a modern, inclusive environment for athletic excellence." Stay tuned for future updates on carrollu.edu and [GOPIOS.COM](http://gopios.com).

Originally built in 1969 for just 300 athletes, the new Van Male will feature:

- A state-of-the-art weight training facility
- A competition indoor arena
- Multipurpose courts for indoor softball and baseball
- A refreshed lobby with student gathering and dining spaces
- An Alumni Suite
- An expanded Hall of Fame Hallway



Van Male Alumni Suite



Van Male Athletic Complex - interior



REED Breckheimer '26

Early graduation for a potential new Miami Dolphin

Carroll University Tight End **Reed Breckheimer '26** took the next step in his football journey and earned an invitation to the Miami Dolphins' Rookie Minicamp, following his outstanding senior season. President Gnadinger had the honor of presenting Breckheimer with his diploma before he headed to Miami to showcase his talents at the professional level. A native of Hilbert, Wisconsin, Breckheimer capped off his Carroll career as a Division III, First Team All-American, earning recognition from the Associated Press, AFCA and D3Football.com.

Breckheimer finished his senior season with 716 all-purpose yards and 10 touchdowns, serving as a cornerstone of the Pioneer offense. Rookie minicamps provide NFL teams an opportunity to evaluate talent and introduce players to the next level of competition. Breckheimer had the chance to compete in front of Miami Dolphins coaches as he worked towards earning a spot in Organized Team Activities (OTAs). He is one of only four Division III football players to have received a rookie minicamp invitation this year, highlighting the significance of this accomplishment.



Pictured from left to right: Provost and VP of Academic Affairs, Eli Hestermann; President Cindy Gnadinger; Reed Breckheimer '26; and VP for Student Life, Nate Dehne. Breckheimer also became the first Carroll football player to earn a NFL rookie minicamp invitation during **Head Coach Mike Budziszewski's** tenure, a milestone that reflects both his individual achievements and the continued growth of the Pioneer football program.

We are incredibly proud of all Reed has accomplished and can't wait to see where his future takes him. Carroll is cheering him on every step of the way!

2026 CHI ALPHA SIGMA Inaugural Carroll Class

Carroll Athletics recognized its inaugural class of Chi Alpha Sigma student-athletes. Established in 1996, Chi Alpha Sigma is the National College Athlete Honor Society, honoring student-athletes who demonstrate excellence in both academics and athletics.



SWIMMING & DIVING

Alex Ostopowicz '27

TRACK & FIELD

Ashley Wojciechowski '27

FOOTBALL

Dominick Caruso '27

VOLLEYBALL

Audrey Rosenbaum '28
Talia Johnson '27

2026 PIO AWARDS Ceremony Honors Student-Athletes

Student-athletes, coaches, teams and even administrative staff and an alumnus were honored in spring of 2026 at the seventh annual PIOS ceremony.

Started in 2020, the PIOS celebrates the year-long success of Carroll University student-athletes. Student-athletes are nominated for these awards by their head coaches and then voted on by head coaches and athletic administrators during the spring season and the current fall and winter seasons.

Athlete of the Year in a Female Sport

Natalie Gricius '26, Women's Basketball

Athlete of the Year in a Male Sport

Reed Breckheimer '26, Football

The Kilgour Award

Sam Hurd '26, Women's Lacrosse

The Buschkopf Award

Jacob Naber '26, Men's Basketball

Rookie of the Year in a Female Sport

Miley Brooks '29, Women's Bowling

Rookie of the Year in a Male Sport

Carlos Cadet '29, Men's Track & Field

Comeback Athlete of the Year

Caleb Trewyn '27, Football

Play / Performance of the Year

Natalie Gricius '26,
NCAA Tournament vs. DePauw

Game / Meet / Match of the Year

Women's Basketball vs. DePauw

Team of the Year

Women's Basketball

Distinguished Alumni Award

Stephen Butzlaff '74

Staff/Faculty Member of the Year

Dr. Barbara King '87

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Standard Set in Season to Remember

By Tim Muma

There are seasons that are measured in wins and losses. And then there are seasons that become part of a program's story. For the Carroll University women's basketball team, 2025–26 was one of those seasons.

From the opening tip to a postseason run that carried the Pioneers onto the national stage, Carroll established itself as one of the best teams in the College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin (CCIW). The Pioneers battled their way to a 15-1 conference record, earning a share of the CCIW regular-season championship and the No. 1 seed for the conference tournament.

But the numbers only tell part of the story.

This was a team that had spent years building toward moments like these. Each season brought new challenges, new players stepping into bigger roles and new expectations. By 2025–26, Carroll was no longer simply hoping to compete for a championship. The Pioneers expected to be there.

With the regular-season conference title came the chance to host the CCIW Tournament at Van Male Field House. The familiar gym became the backdrop for another chapter in the program's rise, with teammates, coaches, alumni and fans sharing in the excitement of postseason basketball at home.

Carroll's body of work earned the Pioneers an at-large invitation to the NCAA Division III Tournament—and with it, something special: the opportunity to host NCAA postseason basketball in Waukesha.

Once again, Van Male Field House was filled with anticipation. This time, the stakes were even higher. One game could extend the season or bring it to an end. The Pioneers answered the moment.

Playing in front of their home crowd, Carroll won its opening-round NCAA Tournament game, sending the celebration through Van Male and giving the program

another postseason milestone to remember.

For the players who had spent countless hours together in the gym, it was a reward for more than what appeared on the scoreboard. It was a reward for the early mornings, the difficult practices, the close games, the setbacks and the belief that the work would eventually lead somewhere special.

Senior forward Natalie Gricius was at the center of it all. Named the CCIW Player of the Year, she helped lead a talented Carroll roster through one of the most successful regular seasons in program history. But the story of this team was bigger than any one player.

It was about five players on the floor trusting one another. It was about teammates celebrating the extra pass as much as the big shot. It was about a bench that stayed engaged, a coaching staff that kept demanding more and a crowd that believed right along with them.

Most of all, it was about a program continuing to move forward. A conference championship. A No. 1 seed. A NCAA Tournament berth. A NCAA Tournament victory. Each accomplishment added another page to the story of Carroll women's basketball.

And when the 2025–26 season finally came to a close, the Pioneers left behind something more lasting than a 23-6 record. They left a standard.

A standard of competing for championships...of embracing pressure...of believing that postseason basketball belongs in Waukesha.

For everyone who wore the Carroll uniform, cheered from the stands or watched this team grow, the 2025–26 season will be remembered, not simply because of what the Pioneers accomplished, but because of how they made people feel along the way.

Proud. Inspired. And eager to see what comes next.



CCIW PLAYER RANKINGS



Natalie Gricius
1st in Total Points
and 1st in Points
per Game



Katie Barger
2nd in Assist/TO
ratio, 3rd in total
assists and
6th in steals



Ryann Wendt
2nd in
Total Blocks



Emilie Wizner
1st in 3pt FG made,
1st in 3pt FG% and
4th in Total Points



Julia Lokker
6th in
Total Points

2026 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

Carroll University is proud to have alumni who lead, serve and succeed in communities around the world. We follow the careers and accomplishments of our Pioneers long after they leave Carroll and celebrate their outstanding achievements. The Alumni Council presents these honored awards to the most prestigious graduates of Carroll University for their professional achievements, contributions to society and service to Carroll.

In 2026, Carroll honored six alumni who greatly contributed to the community and for professional achievement in one the four college categories, including, College of Arts and Sciences.; The Von Hoff College of Health Sciences; The Sullivan School of Business, Engineering and Technology; and School of Education and Human Services.

Nominate a fellow Alum today!
You can nominate an alumnus/na by completing an **online** nomination form in one of four categories. *Please note the nomination will be active for two years, after which it will expire. Resubmission is possible after this timeframe.*

- Distinguished Alumni Award categories include:
- Pioneer Service Award
 - Distinguished Alumni Award for Community Service
 - Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement
 - Graduate Of the Last Decade (G.O.L.D.)

Learn more about our 2026 recipients below:



Cheryl A. (Germanson) Sment '87
2026 Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement: The Sullivan School of Business, Engineering and Technology
[Watch Cheryl's Story](#)



Adam J. Jacobi '99
2026 Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement: College of Arts and Sciences
[Watch Adam's Story](#)



Evelyn Marshall-King, MSN-NE '25, ADN, RN
2026 Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement: College of Health Sciences
[Watch Evelyn's Story](#)



Eduardo Galván '95, M.Ed.
2026 Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement: School of Education and Human Services
[Watch Eduardo's Story](#)



Kevin Charlwood '86, Ph.D.
2026 Distinguished Alumni Award for Community Service
[Watch Kevin's Story](#)



Yolanda Lomeli Medina '16, M.Ed. '19
2026 Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement: Graduate of the Last Decade (G.O.L.D.)
[Watch Yolanda's Story](#)

CLASS NOTES

- Please send us your news, such as:
- Weddings and births
 - New jobs and promotions
 - Academic and professional degrees
 - Church , volunteer and community service activities
 - Awards and achievements
 - Address and name changes

Email the Office of Alumni Engagement at alumni@carrollu.edu or mail to: Carroll University The Office of Alumni Engagement 100 N. East Avenue Waukesha, WI 53186

The following class notes were received between Nov 2, 2025 - Aug. 31, 2026

1960s



Jim (Thumper) Ullrich ‘63 and his wife Joy have retired from Missionary Gospel Fellowship of Turlock, California.

They continue with their mission as “Photos for Jesus” by distributing their photographic, double-sided postcards with Bible scriptures to mortuaries, cancer centers, hospices, churches and individuals.



James Didier ‘69, past President and HOF member of the Louisville Rugby Football Club, attended the 50th Anniversary of the undefeated season (15-0) of the Louisville Rugby Football Club in the Spring of 1976, during Derby Week in Louisville, Kentucky. Over 30 past players attended the historic accomplishment celebration.

1970s



Ann (Wolfgram) Larrabee ‘75 published her first novel: *Moon*, which is available on [Amazon](#).



Cheryl (Humer) Livesay ‘77 celebrated the publication of her fourth novel, *Dying for Art*, in March 2026. Written under her maiden name, CA Humer finds suspense, action and romance,

while addressing the challenges at our southern border in her *Sam & Kate Series. End of Pain*, the first in her *Rob Adams Series*, explores a detective’s drive to find the killer of blond college co-eds.

Ronald Braier ‘77 released a new book, 50 Poems for the 50 Plus, which is a lighthearted collection of original poems celebrating the joys, challenges, humor and wisdom that come with growing older. Each poem is accompanied by an original black-and-white illustration, inviting readers not only to enjoy the poetry, but also to add their own creativity by coloring the drawings.

1980s

Debra (Pruefer) Pruefer-Hall ‘83 recently published her first poetry collection, *What the Current Cannot Swallow*, inspired by her husband Ken Hall’s ’80 medical crisis and battle with brain cancer. Following his passing, she studied Spanish in Costa Rica before becoming a public high school Spanish teacher in Racine. Hall currently serves as president of the Kenosha/Racine Poet Laureate program and was Racine Poet Laureate from 2020–2022.

Susan (Johnson) Loomis ‘85 began working as an accountant for the Franciscan Friars in Franklin, WI.

Margaret Bau ‘87 will be inducted into the Cooperative Hall of Fame on October 8 in Washington DC after 30 years of service. The Hall of Fame is the highest honor that the cooperative community bestows upon an individual. For an induction summary of her career visit the [Cooperative Hall of Fame site](#).

1990s

Jenna Kunde ‘91 was featured in [The Top 50 Women Leaders of Milwaukee for 2025 – Women We Admire](#).

Stephanie (McMahon) Reisner ‘91 contributed to *Make School Work™: Solving the American Youth Employment Crisis through Work-Based Learning*, a book focused on bridging the gap between education and employment through experiential learning. Her work highlights the importance of preparing students with real-world skills and opportunities. Learn more at [makeschoolwork.org](#) or find the book on Amazon.

David Plonka ‘91 recently (2025) joined WiscNet to run it’s research program. WiscNet is Wisconsin’s 35+ years old non-profit Research & Education network, and Carroll was one of the founding members.



Sue Peters ‘94 was named the new President of The Ruth Mott Foundation Board of Trustees.

Rachel (Monsen) Bennett ‘95 started as a Math Interventionist at Winkler Elementary in Burlington, Wisconsin with the 2025-26 school year.

Chris Bennett ‘97 became the Assistant Administrator in the City of Lake Geneva in March 2026.

Frank Juarez ‘97 was the recipient of the Connect Arts Network Leadership Award at the National Art Education Association 2026 Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

Chris Sturdevant ‘97 was the recipient of grand prize in the San Francisco Festival of Books, as well as best nonfiction in the Los Angeles Festival in 2026 for his latest book, *Cold War California*. This is his fourth book in his History Press series written since 2018. The awards ceremony was held in the Academy Room of the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel on August 22, 2026.



Rebecca (Kasten) Buitendorp ‘98 was appointed Porter County Circuit Court Judge on January 11, 2025, by Indiana Governor, Eric Holcomb. This distinguished appointment reflects Judge Buitendorp’s dedication to public service with more than twenty years of criminal prosecution.

Karen Gorton, Ph.D., RN, FNP, MS ‘98 has been elected President-Elect of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing for the 2025–2027 biennium and will serve as President from 2027–2029. A longtime Sigma leader, she has previously served as Vice President, Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee Chair, and on numerous committees and work groups.

Becky Yogerst ‘99 was just awarded Outstanding Educator of the Year by the [Museum of Wisconsin Art](#).

2000s

Shari Black ‘01 is the Wisconsin State Fair Park CEO. She has been named a 2026 Wisconsin TITAN 100 recipient. The [Wisconsin Titan 100 program](#) recognizes the top 100 CEOs and C-level executives in the state.



Megan Dietz ‘01 graduated with a Master of Public Administration degree from UW-Green Bay with a 4.0 GPA.



Sarah (Polster) Valencia ‘03 was named the new President & CEO of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. Valencia is moving from senior leadership within state Medicaid and public health systems into direct leadership of Dane County’s largest nonprofit mental health provider.

2010s

David Cornell ‘10 has received several professional honors in recent years, including the 2022 New Investigator Award from the New England Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine, designation as a Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine in 2023, and appointment as Director of the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program and Associate Professor (with tenure) at UMass Lowell in 2024. In 2025, he received the National Strength and Conditioning Association’s Sports Medicine/Rehabilitation Specialist Award, noting that his experience at Carroll first introduced him to the NSCA. [Read about the honor](#).



Alison (Vander Pol) Drabek ‘14 and her husband, Troy, welcomed their second child, a boy, on April 22, 2025. Victor Evander Reid Drabek was 8 lbs, 6 oz and 20.75 inches.



Natalie (Nichols) Hilgers ‘14 was nominated for and won the MLK Educator of the Year Award with a ceremony held at the MPAC. The award recognizes an outstanding educator from the greater

Milwaukee area for their dedication to inspiring and empowering students, encouraging school and community engagement, and promoting peace in the spirit of Dr. King.

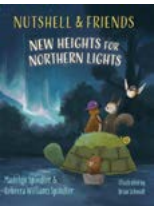
Kelly Pearse ‘15 was awarded the [2026 Top Women in Grocery \(senior level executive category\) by progressive grocer](#).

Jacob Schertz ‘15 was promoted within his company, [Simons Foundation](#), to Administrative Coordinator for the Computation Center of Astrophysics at the Flatiron Institute. He supports a group of scientists in coordinating workshops and events, booking travel, and facilitating their weekly colloquium speaker series.

2020s



Kaitlyn (McManus) Zickert ‘20 and **Brett Zickert ‘19** got married on October 4, 2025 in Oconomowoc and are living in Waukesha, Wisconsin with their dog Jordy!



Madelyn Spindler ‘20 has written a children’s picture book, *Nutshell & Friends - New Heights for Northern Lights*. Madelyn and her book will be featured in the SEWI Book Festival located on Carroll U’s campus November 6-7, 2026.

Emily Knapp’s ‘21 research was published in the *Molecular Research & Development Journal*. Her research focused on the Germline Tyrosinase Gene and can be [read online](#).



Gina Guidarelli ‘22 and **Sam Burazin ‘21** got married on August 29, 2026.

William Sprout ‘22 is in his first year as Coordinator for the Production and Live Events team with the Milwaukee Bucks and Fiserv Forum.

Faculty / Staff

Charles Boyer Professor of Music Emeritus was recently a guest conductor for the Waukesha Area Symphonic Band, a community concert band he founded and conducted 50 years ago at Carroll. Dr. Boyer served as Director of Bands and Chair of the Carroll Music Department from 1974-1979.

IN MEMORIAM

Please email news of passings to
The Office of Alumni Engagement at:
alumni@carrollu.edu or mail to:
Carroll University
The Office of Alumni Engagement
100 N. East Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53186

The following notices were received
between Nov. 2, 2025 - Aug. 31, 2026

1940s

Clifford Havener Haskins ‘48, age 99, passed away on January 24, 2026. After majoring in psychology and sociology at Carroll he went on to obtain his MDV in pastoral ministry at Colgate Rochester Divinity School in Rochester, New York. He is survived by his daughter Susan Jeanne Haskins and son Mark (DeeDee Grant) along with other family members.

H. Patricia (Snyder) Herro ‘49 passed away on March 23, 2026 at the age of 98. At Carroll, she was an accomplished thespian, a two-time ‘Hinky Honey’ and a social work major. She is survived by her children Katherine (Paul Filipowicz), Joseph, Mark (Danielle), Susan, Michael (Kim), Janet (Terry Kaldhusdal), Margaret, and Kenneth (Margaret Snyder); 16 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

1950s

Mary Ann (Siewert) Schultz ‘51, age 97, passed away on June 24, 2026.

James Nicholas Peschel ‘52 passed away on May 7, 2026 at age 99. Jim met the love of his life, Lori, at Carroll. James was extremely social and all about giving back. He is survived by his daughters Kris (Jeff) Multhauf, Carol (Al) Lee and grandchildren.



Harris W. Wilke ‘52 passed away on November 30th 2025 at age 94. Harris was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, played on the golf team, performed in the Carroll Band and played with the Waukesha Symphony. He is survived by his wife Beverly ‘86, his children and other family members.



Lola Mae R. Weinrich ‘52, age 99, passed away on February 14, 2026. A Waukesha native, who graduated with a degree in Elementary Education, she is survived by her nieces, nephews as well as other family.

Judith Arden (Van Ark) Babbitt ‘53, age 94 passed on February 2, 2026. She is survived by her husband Bill; her six children, 19 grandchildren and 31 great grandchildren.

Robert T. Lowerre ‘52 , age 95, passed away on July 6, 2026. He graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree. After graduating Bob served in the U.S. Army, earned Master’s and law degrees from the University of Wisconsin, and went on to a distinguished legal career in federal government and consulting. He is survived by his daughter, Mary, daughter-in-law, Tracy, and other family members.

Sally J. (Sibbald) Cappon ‘53, age 94, died peacefully on November 23, 2025. Sally is survived by her sons, Jim (Janet), Jon (Kathy) and Chris (Alesia), grandchildren as well as other family.



Virginia “Ginny” L. Smith ‘53 passed away April 26, 2026, at the age of 94 surrounded by love. Ginny is part of a celebrated legacy family including her sons, Dick ‘77, Glen ‘89 and Charlie ‘92; daughter Sandy ‘78; and daughter-in-law, Rebecca (Badura) Smith ‘90. Her late husband, Garvin “Stretch” E. Smith, was also an alumnus from the class of 1953 and they built a beautiful family that remains connected to Carroll today. Sandy (Smith) Cunningham ‘78 currently serves as a member of the Carroll Board of Trustees.

Carol Jones ‘54 passed away on May 23, 2025.

Marvin D. Pope ‘54 passed away January 12, 2026 at the age of 93. He is survived by his wife, Carol, siblings, three children and other family.

Markar Chitjian ‘56 passed away February 24, 2025 at the age of 90. He was inducted into the Football

Hall of Fame at Carroll.

Charles “Chuck” R. Morey ‘56 passed away August 3, 2026 at the age of 91. Chuck was a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) Fraternity and is survived by his daughters, Carol E. Wakely & Nancy Goelitz; granddaughters, and other family.

Marilyn Moore ‘56, age 91, passed away peacefully of heart failure on June 17, 2026. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Drama from Carroll and is survived by her son, William (Nikki) Connell; daughters, Ann (Kenneth) Smith and Shawn (Craig) Smith; and other family members.

Wynn O. Jones ‘57 passed away on June 10, 2026 at the age of 94. A Korean War veteran who served in the U.S. Navy, Wynn was known for his love of working with his hands and helping with projects. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Joan; sons Paris (Lora-jean), Hugh (Diane) and Casey (Cindy) Jones; and other family members.



Stuart L. Olin ‘57 passed away on June 15, 2026 at the age of 91. After earning a Bachelor of Science from Carroll, Stu served in the U.S. Army and went on to a distinguished career in finance and insurance, retiring as Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer at Zurich Insurance. He was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Marilyn ‘58, whom he met at Carroll. He is survived by his children, Kathi (Tim) Molloy, Jeffrey ‘84 (Debra) Olin, and Scott ‘93 (Stacey) Olin; grandchildren; and other family.

Arnold Feld ‘57, age 90, passed away January 7, 2026.

Walter E. Hahn ‘58, age 94, passed away on January 3, 2026. A proud veteran of the U.S. Air Force he is survived by his wife, Patricia Ann, children, as well as other family members.

Rev. John M. Heini ‘58 passed away on May 21, 2026, at the age of 90. He is survived by his wife, The Reverend Diane L. Harvey; his children, Janet and Jeff; his grandson Zach; and other family and friends.

Michael Patrick Bradford ‘58 passed away on July 30, 2026.

Nancy A. (Nobis) Goertz ‘59 passed away June 19, 2026. She is survived by her children Catherine (Jay) Quella, John (Cheryl) Goetz, Joan Sobyak (Roland Kemp), daughter-in-law Kim Goetz, grandchildren, and other family members.

William W. Kagel ‘59, died peacefully on December 31, 2024 at age 87. Bill is survived by his wife, Karen, daughters Christine, Patricia and Shelly, grandchildren and other family.

Robert Fredrick Lunde ‘59, age 89, passed away on April 18, 2026. Bob is survived by his daughter Jennifer Hayes (Neil), Martha Starr (Lionel) and Katie Lunde; his grandchildren; and other family members.

Dr. Allen M. Howard ‘59 passed away on July 4, 2025.

Gilbert “Skip” Arthur Krause, Jr. ‘59, age 89, passed away at home on April 16, 2026. He is survived by his beloved wife of 62 years, Ronda; his son, Greg (Darla); his daughter, Kris; two grandchildren, James and Kaleb; and other family members.

Nancy A. (Pickering) Madisen ‘59, age 88, passed away May 23, 2026. She is survived by her children Erik III (Jean Radtke) and Randi (Jeremy White), grandchildren, great-grandchildren and other family members.

Lee F. Olsen ‘59, age 88, passed away peacefully on May 3, 2025. After graduating Carroll he received his Master’s degree from the University of New Mexico and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin.

Lee devoted his life to education, serving as a teacher and superintendent in school districts across the country, where he was recognized as a forward-thinking leader who championed long-range planning, school improvement and community collaboration. Throughout his career, he earned numerous professional honors and remained committed to mentoring others and strengthening public education. He is survived by his wife Edie; two sons Bret and Ross; grandchildren Melanie and Jared; along with other family members.

1960s

Sharon K. (Hallett) Howe ‘60 passed away on September 24, 2025 at the age of 87. She was a member of Chi Omega Sorority and the Brown Deer Junior Women’s Club. Sharon is survived by sons C. Daniel Howe and Timothy Howe, along with grandchildren and other family members.

Robert William Schrader ‘60 passed away March 1, 2026 at the age of 87. He is survived by his daughter Robin, his son Ben, his granddaughters Olivia and Julia, and his sisters Ellen and Judy.



James A. Baumbach ‘61 passed away quietly at his home on November 14, 2025 at the age of 86. James received two degrees in Chemistry and Mathematics while at Carroll. James went on to earn his Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from Michigan State University. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Alice, as well as other family members.

Jane P. Hempel ‘61 passed away on January 16, 2026 at age 86 surrounded by love. Jane is survived by her sons, Thomas (Susan), James (Susan), and Douglas (Rebecca) along with other family members.

Judith Ann (Crosby Rodman) Klingler ‘61, age 86, passed away on January 6, 2026 in Iowa City, Iowa. She is survived by her children: David C. (Kelly) Rodman, Douglas (Marie) Rodman, Christina (Andrew) Axmear, and Keith (Maura Stevenson), along with grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Lynne A. (Tanner) Connelly ‘61, age 86, died peacefully on December 26, 2025. Lynne studied science and education at Carroll and graduated with honors. She was a member of the Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority. She is survived by her children, grandchildren and other family members.

William Mathies ‘61, age 86, passed away December 11, 2025. He is survived by his wife Sandra whom he

met at Carroll, his children and other family members.

Irene deVries Morgan ‘61, age 94, passed away on August 1, 2026. Irene is survived by her sister Kate Morgan, and children: Joy Morgen, Rebecca Kuehn, Roshanna Sylvester, son-in-law Robin Burke and son David (Kim) Sylvester as well as grandchildren and other family members.

Thomas A. Popa ‘61 passed away May 30, 2026 at age 87 after a prolonged illness. Tom is survived by his children Tracy (Dave) Corell, Beth Byrwa, Teresa (Bill) Fettkether, and Jon (Laurie) Robertson; ten grandchildren; four great-grandchildren and other family members.

Caroline R. Zimmer ‘61 passed away after a sudden and short battle with cancer on June 14, 2026 at the age of 86. She graduated from Carroll with a BS in Medical Technology. She is survived by hundreds of relatives throughout the U.S., former co-workers, classmates, neighbors and friends.

Osawld J. Rapp ‘62, age 85, passed away on May 31, 2026. He is survived by his sister, Lynn Stanton; children Colleen (Tony) Mauthe, Cynthia (Grant) Hitchens, Christine (Donald) Gruendemann and John (Debbie) Rapp; as well as his grandchildren and other family members.

Judy (Anderson) Reimer ‘62 passed away on November 20, 2025 at age 85. She is survived by husband Jack, children Bonnie, Wendy, Jennifer and Jerry, along with her grandchildren and other family members.

Timothy C. Elliott ‘63 passed away on February 21, 2026 at age 85. After Carroll, Tim proudly served in the U.S. Army Reserves. He is survived by his beloved wife Jeri, sons David and Brian, and other family members.



Sue E. Stealy ‘63, age 84, passed away on December 3, 2025. Sue’s many friends and family already miss her smiling face, positive attitude, and her willingness to lend a hand and a kind word at a moment’s notice.

1960s continued

Ronald O. Wiesman ‘64, age 84, passed away on August 20, 2026. Ron was deeply involved in his community. He served as president of both the Weyauwega Jaycees and the Weyauwega Chamber of Commerce and was an active member of the Weyauwega-Fremont Lions Club. He is survived by his wife, Judith; his daughter, Jennifer (Mike) Gregesich, his son, Jeffrey (Jessica) Wiesman, grandchildren and other family members.

Dr. James C. Moss ‘65 passed away peacefully on March 9, 2026 at the age of 85. Dr. Moss earned his Bachelor’s degree in Music from Carroll, his Master’s degree from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana and his Doctorate from the University of Cincinnati. He is survived by his children Heather, Scott and Brian, along with other family members.



Alis A. (Creswell) Chy ‘65, age 82, passed away on March 25, 2026. Alis was a member of the Alpha Xi Delta Sorority. She is survived by her children Julie and

James, six grandchildren and other family members.

James R. Starling ‘65, age 83, passed away on July 12, 2026. As a first-generation college student, he held a lifelong passion for education and experiencing the world. He is survived by his children, Claire, Jim and Ali; his partner, Barbara Ewend; six grandchildren; and many extended family members and friends.

William Robert Klippel ‘66, age 83 passed away on January 25, 2026. He is survived by his sister, three children and grandchildren.

Rev. Mark W. Martin ‘67 passed away on January 18, 2026 at the age of 80. After graduating from Carroll with a double major he graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. He is survived by his wife, Carol, five children and grandchildren.

Dori M. Nelson ‘67 passed away on June 29, 2026, at the age of 81. She met the love of her life, Ronald Nelson, at Carroll and shared 60 years of love and devotion with him. She is survived by her daughter Kirsten (Mark) Wentzel, her sister Minette Wolf, and her grandchildren and other family members.

Dean L. Pecard ‘68, age 81, passed away on March 25, 2026. He is survived by his brothers-in-law Allen and Rick, nieces and nephews and other family.

1970s

Mark A. Traczyk ‘71 passed away on August 3, 2026 at the age of 77. He is survived by his wife Trish, his sister Sharon (Dennis) Brooks, and many loving relatives and friends.

Mary K. Montag ‘71 passed away on January 11, 2026 at the age of 76 following her battle with dementia and acute leukemia. She is survived by her husband, daughters, brother and other family members.

Mindy J. (Olson) Bomske ‘72, age 75, passed away on September 4, 2025 after a long illness. Mindy received a Bachelor of Science in Kindergarten Elementary Education with a minor in Theater Arts. She is survived by her husband Gary, two sons Andrew and William, along with other family members.

Thomas M. Mayhew ‘74 passed away on December 16, 2025. He was a general dentist in Green Bay for many years after graduating Marquette School of Dentistry. He is survived by his former spouse, Laurie, his children and six grandchildren.

Gregory J. Hoffman ‘74 passed away on January 4, 2026 at age 74. Greg is survived by his wife, Chris; mother, Marge; children, Ryan (Melinda) Hoffman and Lindsay Dominy; grandchildren and other family members.



JoEllen M. (Sandrin) Schultz ‘74 passed away on November 3, 2025 at age 72. She is survived by her husband, Dean; her daughters, Brooke and Angela (and their partners Tom Bolas and

Gus Reed); and other family members.

Mark Robert Wick ‘74 passed away on November 27, 2025 at the age of 73. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Biology and received the Tri-Beta Award for academic excellence. He is survived by his wife, Jane; his children, Robert, Morgan and Kellyn, and their spouses; his granddaughter, Violet; and extended family members.

Mary A. Banach ‘76 passed away unexpectedly on March 11, 2026 at age 72. She is survived by her husband, James, children Christopher (Becca) and Gregory (Sarah), and grandchildren, along with other family members.

Mary L. Serovy ‘76 passed away November 28, 2023.

Diane (Lange) Sennhenn ‘76 passed away May 30, 2025 at age 70.

Raymond S. Huber ‘79, age 68, passed away December 5, 2025. Ray graduated with honors. He is survived by his wife Joan, mother Lorraine, brothers, nieces and nephews.

John J. Romano ‘79 passed away April 1, 2025

1980s

Gregory P. Allen ‘82, age 64, passed away on December 11, 2025. Greg is survived by his older brother, Christopher Noble Allen; aunts and uncles, Bruce Allen, Tamzen Allen Talman and Chun Cha Allen, and a number of close cousins.



David R. Harris ‘83, age 64, passed away on August 19, 2026. David majored in psychology and political science. He was also a member of the Carroll Concert Choir Carrolleers and

the Communter Organization where he met his wife, Bonnie. He is survived by Bonnie, his daughters, Alexandra (David) Harris-Watson and Megan Harris; his brother, Dan (Vicki) McGee; nieces, nephews, as well as other relatives and friends.

Richard Patrick Bronson ‘85, age 63, passed away August 26, 2026. He is survived by his mother and stepfather, Dorothy (Joseph) Bodeau; sister, Dianna (Ronald) Nitze; brothers, Steven

(Robin) Bronson, Michael Bronson; stepbrothers, John and Marc Bodeau; and other family members.

Kenneth A. Mithcell ‘85 passed away on March 5, 2026 at age 67. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Brenda; children Amanda (Jason) Anderson, Megan (Christian) Uribe, and Ashley Mitchell; and other family members.

Thaddeus J. “Ted” Kucharski ‘88, age 90, passed away on August 15, 2026. He earned a degree in Computer Science. He is survived by his loving wife Nancy Kucharski, his siblings, and other family members.

Duane S. Loomis ‘88, age 61, passed away on July 8, 2025. He is survived by his children, Alexander and Chloe, his siblings and other family members.

Michael J. Mooney ‘89 passed away on February 4, 2026 at age 74. Michael is survived by his wife, Judy; his children Quentin (Robyn) Mooney and Kelsey (Mike) Sinense, grandchildren, great grandchildren, siblings and other family members.

Dorothy J. Selzer ‘89, age 87, peacefully passed away on May 25, 2026. She is survived by her children, James, Carol, Constance, John (Stephany) and Catherine (Tate); grandchildren and other family members.

1990s

Valerie L. (Martel) Eggleston ‘91, age 93, passed away on December 8, 2025. She is survived by her spouse, Jerry, sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Paul Francis Farrow ‘91, age 61, passed away on July 7, 2026. He proudly served as the Waukesha County Executive until his death. Paul is survived by his wife, Amy; brothers John (Linda), William (Constance), Peter and Mark (Amy); sons Andrew (Sara) and Jarod (Sarah); and other family members.

Elfriede S. (Journey) White ‘91, age 80, passed away April 29, 2025. She is survived by her mother, Gertude, sons, grandchildren, siblings and other family members.

Kristina L. Foltz ‘92, age 56, of Vernon Hills, passed away peacefully on February 12, 2026. She is survived by by her loving husband, Bob; her children, Megan, Sarah and Jake Pinn;

granddaughter, Penelope Long; father, William McSweeney; along with other family members.

Gail L. Wozniak ‘93, age 81, passed away on July 3, 2026. While working as a surgical nurse at Oconomowoc Memorial Hospital, she earned her Bachelor’s degree in nursing from Carroll. She is survived by her sons, Todd (Sally) and Scott (Marna); her sisters, Katy (Warren) Gill and Chris (Bob) McHugh; her four grandchildren, Stephen, Sarah, Sawyer and Grace; along with numerous extended family members and friends.

Michael W. Johnson ‘94 passed away August 20, 2026 at age 55. He earned his bachelors degree in Political Science while at Carroll. He is survived by his wife Tina, sister Aurora Johnson and other family members.

Dr. Marine M. (Hampton) Wetzstein ‘95, age 52, passed away peacefully at her home on December 22, 2025 following a courageous and lengthy battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband Shaun, sons Ryan and Tyler, and parents, Charlene and Paul.



Michael D. Shultz ‘98 passed away on January 26, 2026 at age 51 after an amazing battle with pancreatic cancer. Michael graduated Carroll with a Bachelor’s in Exercise

Science and also played on the football team. He is survived by wife, Alyssa; daughters, Skylar, Kenadie and Savannah; and other family members and many friends.

Amanda R. (Morey) Diedrich ‘99, age 49, passed away peacefully at home on December 25, 2025 after a nearly three year battle with stage 4 cancer. She is survived by her husband, Jay, whom she met at Carroll; two daughters, Bethany and Julie; parents; and other family members.

2000s

Brian J. Dombrowski ‘08, age 38 passed away June 1, 2025. He is survived by his parents, David and Patty, and other family members.



Thank you for helping us write the Next Chapter!

The Carroll Fund is the university’s most adaptable funding source:

- **SUPPORT** through The Carroll Fund for the College of Arts and Sciences
- **INVESTMENTS** in The Carroll Fund for The Sullivan School of Business, Engineering and Technology
- **GENEROSITY** through The Carroll Fund for the School of Education and Human Services
- **GIFTS** to The Carroll Fund for The Von Hoff College of Health Sciences

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Friends of Carroll



Richard S. Baker Jr., age 90, passed away peacefully on January 30, 2026. Richard was an engineer by profession and an entrepreneur at heart, co-founding

a manufacturing company in Watertown, Wisconsin.

Richard is survived by his four daughters, Valerie, Laura (Jim), Pam and Leslie (Neal); eight grandchildren; four great grandchildren; and his sister-in-law, Lila.

William Thomas Carls, age 62, passed away May 15, 2025 after suffering a serious stroke. He is survived by his siblings, nieces, nephews and other family members.

Richard Lee Dawley passed away at the age of 90 on November 2, 2025.

Lee Johnson passed away on August 13, 2025.

Delores (Kasmarek) Kennedy passed away peacefully on August 8, 2025 at age 97. Her love remains a shining light that will never fade. She will be missed beyond words. She is survived by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and other family.



Judith Kathryn Knecht passed away peacefully on February 18, 2026 at age 94. She is survived by her children Kathryn Kuhn (Stephen) and John Knecht and his former

wife Rhonda Perry; her grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Robert J. Kubiak, age 80, passed away January 14, 2026. He is survived by: son Charles “Chuck” (Karen) Kubiak and daughter Laura (John) Burke; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; siblings, and other family and friends.

Gerald D. “Jerry” Petitgoue passed away on June 7, 2025.

Doris M. Phillips, age 93, passed away peacefully on October 11, 2025. She is survived by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, along with other family members.

Marcia Ann Pirie, 91, passed away on June 8, 2025. She worked for many years as an occupational therapist at Oak Hill Terrace. She is survived by her loving husband of 67 years, Don and their three sons, Michael, Robert and John.

John B. Rue passed away on October 8, 2025.

Patricia Simmons passed away on November 10, 2025.

Carol G. Taylor passed away on February 17, 2026 at the age of 87. Carol was very active in many organizations; she was a board member of the YWCA and Waukesha Symphony Philharmonic. She is survived by her children, grandchildren and other family.



Dr. Rolf W. Wegenke passed away on Saturday, November 15, 2025 at age 77. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Wisconsin–Madison, Rolf served as President

and CEO of the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities for 30 years and held numerous leadership roles in higher education and state government. He is survived by his wife, Karen; daughter, Megan and other family members.

Delores Joan Einerson passed away peacefully on October 7, 2025 at age 91. She is survived by her husband, Ron; daughters, Andree (Craig) Fredrick, Laura (Mike) Radke and Leslie (Todd) Eberhardt; and other family members.

Doris Jacquelyn Herring Valentine Dolph passed away on November 12, 2025 at age 93. She is survived by her children, Louis (Heidi) Valentine, James (Emma) Valentine and Jacquelyn (Jackie) Warshauer; five grandchildren and other family members.

Past Parents

James John D’Ambrisi passed away November 25, 2024.

Raymond F. Feldmeier, age 91, passed away June 20, 2026. Ray is survived by his wife Rita, his nine children, including daughter Mary Sue Feldmeier ’85, and their spouses; 16 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; his

brother, Julius; sister-in-law, Mary Lou Compton; and five nieces and nephews.

Gerald Hoffman, age 96, passed away on January 8, 2025. He is survived by his wife Marguerite, sons Luke, Peter, Paul ’84, David, Mark and Andrew ’92 along with other family members.

Larry J. Miller, age 80, passed away on May 22, 2026. He is survived by his wife Donna, with whom he shared 58 years of marriage; his children Heidi (Jon) Wadzinski, Haeli (Jason) Schultz, Heath (Amy) Miller; grandchildren and other family members.

Ruth Schneider passed away on June 23, 2026 at age 97. Ruth is survived by her children, Tom (the late Carol), Bob (Mary), Jim (Francine), Carolyn (the late Ron) Staszewski, Mary (Dave) Oldson and Patty (Brad) Herda; and other family members.

Ronald L. Smith passed away on November 2, 2025.

Daniel Trudell passed away on February 9, 2026 at age 76.

Chris C. Detert passed away on February 15, 2025.

Cynthia L. Stamm passed away on April 3, 2025.

Diane (Powers) Mahar passed away on May 24, 2025.

Douglas Wayne Morris passed away on June 11, 2025.

Gary Alexander passed away on November 18, 2025.

Gary C. Reinke passed away on February 18, 2025.

Glenn Arthur Schmidt passed away on December 31, 2025.

Hany Nosir passed away on May 1, 2025.

Kevin Burlingame passed away on May 1, 2025.

Scott Henry Tomter passed away on November 11, 2025.

Sharon L. Fliss passed away on January 20, 2026.

Former Faculty / Staff

Patricia Anene Aniakudo passed away unexpectedly on December 10, 2024. She will be fondly remembered as a loving mother and community advocate.

Joseph “Joe” Charles Jesmok passed away on September 1, 2025 at age 55.



Merlene Ann Moody Professor Emerita of Business at Carroll University, passed away on April 22, 2026, at the age of 88. She served Carroll from 1983 until her retirement in 2001,

leaving a lasting legacy as an educator, mentor, and member of the Carroll community. She earned her MBA from Western Michigan University, where she also taught for several years before moving to Waukesha to join Carroll’s faculty. She brought a deep commitment to lifelong learning to her work and was dedicated to helping students discover the possibilities a business education could provide. Her dedication to education will continue through the Merlene Moody Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund, established in her memory to help future generations of students pursue their educational goals, with preference given to single parents majoring in traditional business programs.

Merlene was also a devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She enjoyed traveling, golf, tennis, bridge, reading, knitting for her children and grandchildren, and raising and obedience-training dogs. Her Carroll legacy lives on through members of her family who attended the University: her son, Jim Rizzo ’90; daughter-in-law, Heather (Pavelski) Rizzo ’02; and granddaughter, Hannah Amodeo ’15.

Those wishing to honor Merlene’s memory may make a memorial gift to Carroll University in her name.



Dr. Paul L. Rempe, Professor Emeritus of History at Carroll from 1969-2007, passed away on March 11, 2026, at the age of 83, leaving behind a lasting legacy as a devoted educator,

historian and family man. He earned his Ph.D. from SUNY Stony Brook and

spent his career inspiring students with his rare gift for bringing history to life through vivid and meaningful stories.

During his time at Carroll, Paul led the University’s exchange program with the University of Nottingham, helping British students experience a genuine sense of Americana. A passionate traveler, Paul believed every road was a classroom and found joy in exploring history throughout the U.S. and abroad. Away from the classroom, Paul was a devoted father and coach, a constant presence at his sons’ games and a steady source of encouragement, wisdom and warmth. He will be deeply missed by his wife, Kathy; his sons, Tim, Jon and Ben; his grandchildren; and the many students, colleagues, friends and family members whose lives he touched with his kindness, curiosity and love of learning.



Linda L. Singsime, age 75, passed away on July 7, 2026. Linda dedicated 28 years to the food service department at Carroll, where she found great joy in preparing meals

and serving the students. She cherished the relationships she built, often sharing stories about her own family while taking a genuine interest in the lives of the students. Her caring nature, warm heart and willingness to always be there for others made her a second mom to so many. She will be remembered for her kindness, compassion and the love she shared with everyone she met. She is survived by her loving husband of 55 years, Richard Singsime; children, Stephanie (Justin) Belsha and Christopher Singsime; grandchildren and more.

Peter Gray-Whiteley passed away on April 27, 2026 at age 71. Peter devoted his life to helping others having been awarded a Master’s degree in Education, from the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia; a Ph.D. in Philosophy and Education from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (1987); and awarded a J.D. from Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota (1997).

He was a dedicated practicing attorney in state and federal courts in Kentucky, prior to his death. He taught at Carroll for 16 years (1991-2007).

Otho Ernest Wollenzein passed away on June 8, 2026 at age 100. He started working at Carroll as a plumber and spent 25 years in the maintenance department, eventually in a supervisory role, before retiring in 1989. He was always a jokester with a fun and flirty personality. His impact on the lives that he touched will be greatly missed. Otho is survived by his children; Dennis Wollenzein and Donna Bunce (Martinez); grandchildren and other family members.

Former Trustee



William Henry Johnstone, age 94, passed away on June 28, 2026. After earning his Bachelor’s degree from the University of Minnesota, Bill went on

to a distinguished 41-year career as a Presbyterian minister, serving congregations in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, before retiring as Pastor Emeritus of Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Milwaukee.

He is survived by his children, David (Candice) Johnstone, Margaret (Mark) McDonough, Catherine (Peter) Latson, Elizabeth (Randall) Bush and Susan (Michael) Moderski; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and sisters, Phyllis Taylor and Sylvia Cross.

Other

Scott H. Colvin passed away on July 29, 2025 at age 63. Scott is survived by his beloved wife Mary Fons-Colvin, sons, siblings and other family members.

Calvin D. Galow, age 19, passed away on August 18, 2026. A junior at the University of Wisconsin-Madison majoring in Business and Political Science, Calvin’s drive and eagerness will always be remembered. He is survived by his parents Timothy and Amy (née Fry) Galow; his sister, Vivienne Galow, and other family.

Jack Oudenhoven, age 10, passed away in a tragic car accident on March 25, 2026. He is survived by his parents Sarah (Springer) Oudenhoven ’08 and Kyle Oudenhoven, his siblings Levi and Rae, aunts, uncles and other family.



Register Today!

HOMECOMING, REUNION AND FAMILY WEEKEND

Oct. 8-11, 2026

