



CLASS OF

1962

SAMUEL SHELTON WESTGATE III

Samuel Shelton Westgate III (1944 – 2008) graduated from Bismarck High School in 1962. After receiving a B.A. from Stanford University and a Ph.D. from U.C. Berkeley, Dr. Westgate taught at King Faisal University in Saudi Arabia. Sponsorship by North Dakota Senator Quentin Burdick brought Dr. Westgate to the State Department's U.S. Information Agency as a Foreign Service officer. Fluent in seven languages, Westgate served 22 years in Thailand, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia and Germany as Consul General.

Internationally renowned pianist, Don Wetzel, wrote, upon learning of Westgate's passing, "He was surely one of the most highly respected and beloved of U.S. Diplomats who had ever served in Southwest Germany."

Prior to retirement, Dr. Westgate served as United States Acting Deputy Director for Public Affairs for the African Nations. His voice was heard over "Voice of America," lending to the outcry about Darfur.

Westgate and his wife of 26 years, Pummarie Summondis Westgate, raised two children, Guy and Geoff.

