JANUARY 2024

### ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

For all those who joined us for our recent Alumni Night - Thank you! It was so good to have you home!















Dr. Paul Sywulka '54 and his wife Jean are planning to move back to the U.S. after serving with SETECA in Guatemala for 56 years. He and Jean will complete a final home ministry assignment in late January.

email alumnibls@benlippen.com!



Aaron McGuire '15 is looking forward to his Diagnostic Radiology residency program at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. After a one year internship, he will start a fouryear residency program.

**Ethan Kwok '15** was recently promoted to Strategy Manager within the Sustainability practice at Accenture.

Tyler Estridge '17 - started a new position as Area Sales Manager at Sunbelt Marketing Inc. in Charlotte, NC.



Wells Chase '17 is engaged to Sara Gates May. Wells currently works for Fluor Corporation as a Project Controls Specialist in Greenville, SC. Sara Gates works for OTIS elevator company as a Client Relationship Manager in Charlotte. Wells & Sara Gates plan to settle in Greenville after their April wedding.

Peter Huang '17 recently completed a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering from Stanford University. He works for a non-profit in Silicon Valley as a data analyst researching energy alternatives.

Chase Gray '17 started a new position as a Brokerage Associate specializing in Retail Services at Avison Young US.



Chandler Causey '17 is engaged to Todd Cunningham, a 2019 Citadel graduate. Chandler will graduate in May from MUSC with a Master's Degree in Cardiovascular Perfusion and will start her career at UF Shands Hospital in Gainesville, FL soon after their May wedding.



Seth Hester '17 is engaged to Ari Villafuerte. They have both completed Biomedical Master's programs at MUSC and are now involved in research.

Ryan Hooks '18 was promoted to Associate Sales Manager at Sciton. Ryan currently lives in Charleston, SC but represents the whole state in his new role.



Matthew Fadel '18 is engaged to Ansley Green from Alachua, FL. Both are Marine officers and '22 graduates of the United States Naval Academy. After their Fall 2024 wedding, the couple plans to settle down in Sneads Ferry, NC where they are both currently stationed.

Van Nguyen '19 has been promoted to Room Service Coordinator at Four Seasons Hotels and resorts.



### ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

**JOIN US FOR CARFFR WFFK: APRIL 22-26** CONTACT ALUMNIBLS@BENLIPPEN.COM TO VOLUNTEER!

# **BLS CAREER WEEK 2024**

BEN LIPPEN SCHOOL IS HOSTING A WEEK-LONG CAREER WEEK FOR OUR 9TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS!

WE INVITE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY, ALUMNI, AND PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS/ALUMNI TO SHARE THEIR EXPERTISE IN ONE OF OUR DAILY SESSIONS.

#### WE ARE LOOKING FOR SPEAKERS IN THE FOLLOWING FIELDS/CAREERS:

- HEALTH CARE
- ENGINEERING
- ARCHITECTURE PROGRAMMING
- WEB DEVELOPING
- CYBER SECURITY
- DATA ANALYST
- MILITARY
- LAW
- PUBLIC SAFETY
- FBI
- BUSINESS
- ENTREPRENEUR
- BUS. MANAGEMENT
- BUSINESS FINANCE
- FIREFIGHTER
- SOCIAL MEDIA DIR. PHOTOGRAPHY
- VIDEOGRAPHY
- GRAPHIC DESIGNER
- MARKETING • BUILDER
- CONTRACTOR
- COSMETOLOGY
- MISSIONARY
- COUNSELOR
- PSYCHOLOGIST
- TEACHER
- SOCIAL WORKER
- PASTOR
- INTERIOR DESIGN



**ALUMNI VS VARSITY GAME** SATURDAY, FEB. 3 @ HATHAWAY-WEEBER 10:30 A.M.- 1:30 P.M. **EMAIL THE ALUMNI OFFICE FOR MORE INFO!** 

# (In Loving Memory



Butch Sursavage, a 2023 Athletic Hall of inductee, passed away on December 26 at the age of 77. Butch was a beloved member of the BL community and was known for his faithful service as a teacher, mentor, and coach.

Ron Whipple passed away on Dec. 12, 2023. He served Ben Lippen in many roles during our Asheville days, including teacher, coach, athletic director, and headmaster.





Jim Griffin '55 passed away on October 21, 2023. While a student at BL, Jim helped run the printing press and published the "Green and Gold," the source for campus news. In 2006. Jim established his "For the Lord" scholarship at Ben Lippen for children from single-parent families.

Donald Skjold '54 passed away on December 31, 2023. He was a longcelebrity professionally as Erik St. John. During his time as a Ben Lippen student, Donald was a multisport athlete, Quartet member, and Class Vice President his senior year.





Chris Register '04 passed away December 14, 2023. His tribute shared that he "particularly loved to hike, camp, and listen to music. He was also an accomplished musician and seasoned drummer." As a BL student, Chris played soccer and was also a lifelong member of Shandon Baptist Church.



Share your life updates by emailing alumnibls@benlippen.com to be featured in the next Alumni Class Notes!

Do you have a story to share about life Beyond Ben Lippen? We are looking for alumni spotlights and would love to hear what you've been up to!

## ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

**JOIN US FOR CARFFR WFFK: APRIL 22-26** 

CONTACT ALUMNIBLS@BENLIPPEN.COM TO VOLUNTEER!

# **BLS CAREER WEEK 2024**



BEN LIPPEN SCHOOL IS HOSTING A WEEK-LONG CAREER WEEK FOR OUR 9TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS!

WE INVITE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY, ALUMNI, AND PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS/ALUMNI TO SHARE THEIR EXPERTISE IN ONE OF OUR DAILY SESSIONS.

#### WE ARE LOOKING FOR SPEAKERS IN THE FOLLOWING FIELDS/CAREERS:

- HEALTH CARE
- ENGINEERING
- ARCHITECTURE
- PROGRAMMING
- WEB DEVELOPING
- CYBER SECURITY
- MILITARY
- PUBLIC SAFETY
- FBI BUSINESS
- ENTREPRENEUR
- BUS. MANAGEMENT
- BUSINESS FINANCE
- FIREFIGHTER
- LAW
- SOCIAL MEDIA DIR.
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- VIDEOGRAPHY
- GRAPHIC DESIGNER
- MARKETING
- BUILDER
- COSMETOLOGY
- CONTRACTOR
- MISSIONARY COUNSELOR
- PSYCHOLOGIST
- TEACHER
- SOCIAL WORKER
- PASTOR
- INTERIOR DESIGN



#### SATURDAY, FEB. 3 @ HATHAWAY-WEEBER 10:30 A.M.- 1:30 P.M. EMAIL THE ALUMNI OFFICE FOR MORE INFO



Jim Griffin '55 passed away on October 21, 2023. While a student at BL, Jim helped run the printing press and published the "Green and Gold," the source for campus news. In 2006, Jim established his "For the Lord" scholarship at Ben Lippen for children from single-parent families.

# In Loving Memory



Butch Sursavage, a 2023 Athletic Hall of inductee, passed awav on December 26 at the age of 77. Butch was a beloved member of the BL community and was known for his faithful service as a teacher, mentor, and coach.

Ron Whipple passed away on Dec. 12, 2023. He served Ben Lippen in many roles during our Asheville days, including teacher, coach, athletic director, and headmaster.



Chris Register '04 passed away December 14, 2023. His tribute shared that he "particularly loved to hike, camp, and listen to music. He was also an accomplished musician and seasoned drummer." As a BL student, Chris played soccer and was also a lifelong member of Shandon Baptist Church.



Donald Skjold '54 passed away on December 31, 2023. He was a longtime radio celebrity known professionally as Erik St. John. During his time as a Ben Lippen student, Donald was a multisport athlete, Quartet member, and Class Vice President his senior year.



Share your life updates by emailing alumnibls@benlippen.com to be featured in the next Alumni Class Notes!

Do you have a story to share about life Beyond Ben Lippen? We are looking for alumni spotlights and would love to hear what you've been up to!

JULY 2024

## ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

#### Homecoming 2024

Plan to join us on Friday, September 27 for our Alumni Tailgate and all the Homecoming festivities! It's a reunion year for 4's and 9's and several classes have already begun planning. Contact alumnibls@benlippen.com for details or for assistance planning your reunion! Registration information coming soon!



The classes of 1969 and 1974 are actively organizing their 55th and 50th reunions, and we are excited to celebrate with everyone who can join us for these significant reunion milestones! For further details on contacting your class coordinators, please reach out to the alumni office.





If you are in the Columbia area this autumn, we would greatly appreciate your assistance with our archives. We are currently working on cataloging various photographs, and our alumni play a crucial role in this endeavor. These images capture a diverse range of years, including our early days in Asheville, and hold significant value in preserving our school's history and archival records. For more information, please reach out to alumnibls@benlippen.com.



James Naruke '88 Miki are currently Houseparents at Milton Hershey School in Hershey Pennsylvania. They moved 2 1/2 years ago after faithfully serving Ben Lippen for 18 years. They pray that the Lord will continue to use them to make a positive impact in students' lives. James & Miki also recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary!



Andrew Peckham '05 was recently named as the new Athletic Director at River Bluff High School in Lexington, SC.

David Pascutti '07 started a new position as Vice President of Business Development at Robling Medical, LLC.



Bobby Ley '12 was recently named one of the 2024 Columbia Business Report 40 Under 40 honorees. He works for Thomas & Hutton in Columbia as an an Environmental Project Manager.



**Garett Summers '18** is engaged to \_\_\_\_, Garett plans to enter the military.....

Joybelle Christmus '12 was recently promoted to Sr. Lead Project Mangager, Strategic Partnerships at International Justice Mission.



Carlyn Odom Stephenson '14 and her husband Tyler welcomed a baby girl, Savannah Frankie, on June 28, 2024.

Paul Glasser '13 started a new position as Employment Tax Manager at KPMG and has moved back to his home state to settle in Mt. Pleasant.



John Welsh '14 and his wife Sarah welcomed a baby girl to the world earlier this month, Joan Warner Welsh.

Charlotte Anne Beers '18 is starting a new position as a Pediatric Intensive Care Nurse at MUSC Children's Health in Charleston.