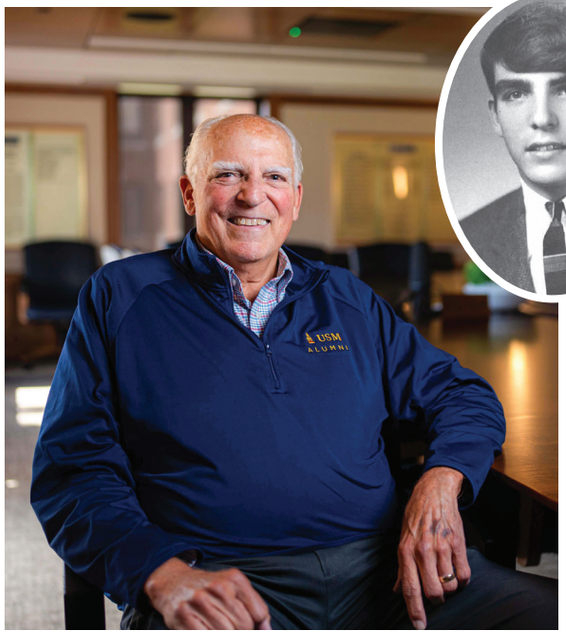
Hack Noyes ’66



Like nearly all students at Milwaukee Country Day School, Hack Noyes ’66 was heavily involved in athletics. As a football player he excelled in punting, breaking Harry Leadingham’s MCDS’62 record by, Hack estimates, 20 yards or more. His height caught the attention of then-varsity basketball coach John “J.S.” Stephens, who brought Hack up to the varsity team his sophomore year. MCDS merged with Milwaukee University School and Milwaukee Downer Seminary in 1964 to form University School of Milwaukee but, rather than feeling apprehensive about playing alongside his former rivals, Hack was excited to have bigger teams with added athletic talent. When teachers asked students of the newly formed USM for their thoughts on a mascot, it was Hack who suggested the Wildcats and even provided a University of Arizona sweatshirt for a sample design.

After graduating in 1966, Hack ensured that everyone stayed connected by organizing nearly all of his class reunions. Over the years, his participation became so ubiquitous that classmates called him directly if they needed someone’s contact information or whereabouts.

“Hack’s persistent positive attitude and warmth toward all classmates fostered a willingness to come together in important ways.”

-Joe Messinger ’66

“Hack has gathered the MUS/MCDS/MDS tribes together into a warm and caring extended family, through regular emails of news and remembering birthdays. He makes us a connected family. This MUS guy holds that Country Day weenie in high regard!”

-Richard Candee ’66

“The Class of 1966 has a never-ending ‘reunion’ thanks to Hack sending out USM updates and birthday greetings to every classmate, even when he is recuperating from challenging health issues. His dedication to our class is immensely appreciated.”

-Jon Rauser ’66



Hack and his wife, Meg, with their children and grandchildren.

When members of Class of 1966 wanted to do something big for their 50th reunion, they knew just who to talk to. “A group of us got together a few years before the actual 50th to brainstorm ideas, and someone said, ‘What if our class starts a scholarship?’ And it just caught fire,” said Hack. For several years, Hack and a few others made personal outreaches to all 1966 graduates, hoping to reach a goal of $50,000 for an endowed scholarship fund.

On the night of the 50th reunion dinner, Hack had the honor of announcing the total amount raised: an incredible $91,000. Since then, the Class of 1966 Endowed Scholarship Fund has grown to its current value of more than $200,000, having provided financial assistance to nine Upper School students.

Hack’s dedication to staying connected to his classmates, across decades, distances, and life’s many chapters, has resulted in an enduring and incredibly generous gift to his alma mater. He transformed friendship and shared experiences into philanthropy, rallying classmates to support the endowed scholarship fund and ensure their shared story will continue to shape and assist USM students for years to come. After the success of the Class of 1966, Hack has encouraged friends from other USM classes to do the same.

Hack’s efforts to stay in contact with his classmates has remained a constant for more than six decades, even after friends who volunteered to help ran out of steam. For him, the effort has been a labor of love and a way to honor the school that, he feels, has given him so much. “I always appreciated the fact that I’d gone to USM because it taught me how to study and prepared me well for college and beyond,” he said, “and I’d tell that to anybody. The tie to the school was there, and I just kept it alive.”