

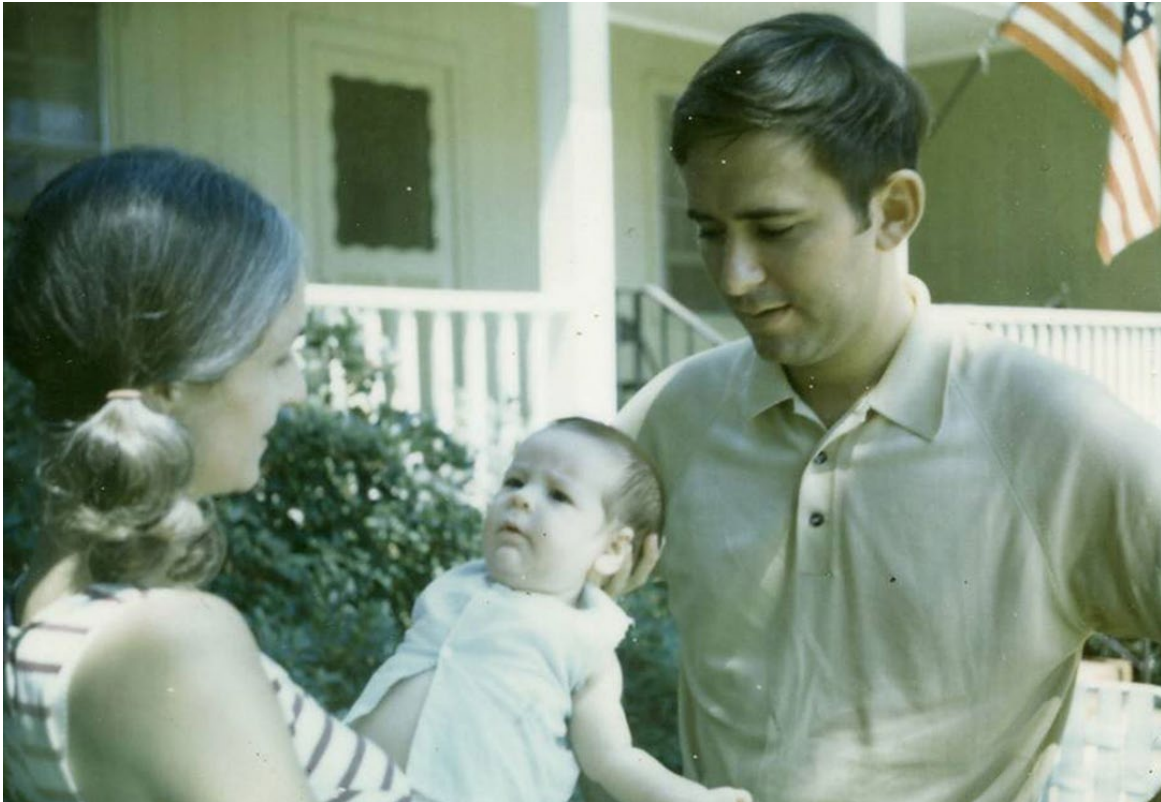
# CONQUER & PREVAIL

## WOFFORD COLLEGE



ISSUE #139 | JUNE 1, 2023 | FROM THE OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

## Cost of war



Ted Taylor came home from Vietnam in June 1971 to visit his wife, Muriel, and their newborn son, Saddler. He was killed in action two months later.

Ted Taylor '68 had the best 10 days of his life in late June of 1971.

Taylor, a U.S. Army helicopter pilot serving in Vietnam, came home on leave to meet his son, Saddler Taylor '93, who was born the previous month. When the 10 days were up, he packed his bags and his memories and returned to the war.

A few weeks later, on July 15, 1971, Taylor was killed when the Cobra helicopter he was flying was shot down while he was on a reconnaissance mission.

If not for an unbreakable bond formed during his days at Wofford, that's where the story would end.

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## Pioneers return to campus



Gwendolyn Prince-Lawrence '73 and Janice Means '73 received applause multiple times while celebrating their 50th reunion during Commencement weekend. They were the first two Black women to graduate from Wofford College.

Janice Means and Gwendolyn Prince-Lawrence were the first two Black women to graduate from Wofford College, and they recently returned to campus to celebrate their 50th reunion.

They were among the members of the Class of 1973 who celebrated their gold reunion during Commencement weekend.

“I never set out to be a history maker,” Means says. “I was focused on one thing – getting my degree to prepare for my goal to have a management and decision-making position in corporate America.”

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## Commencement recap

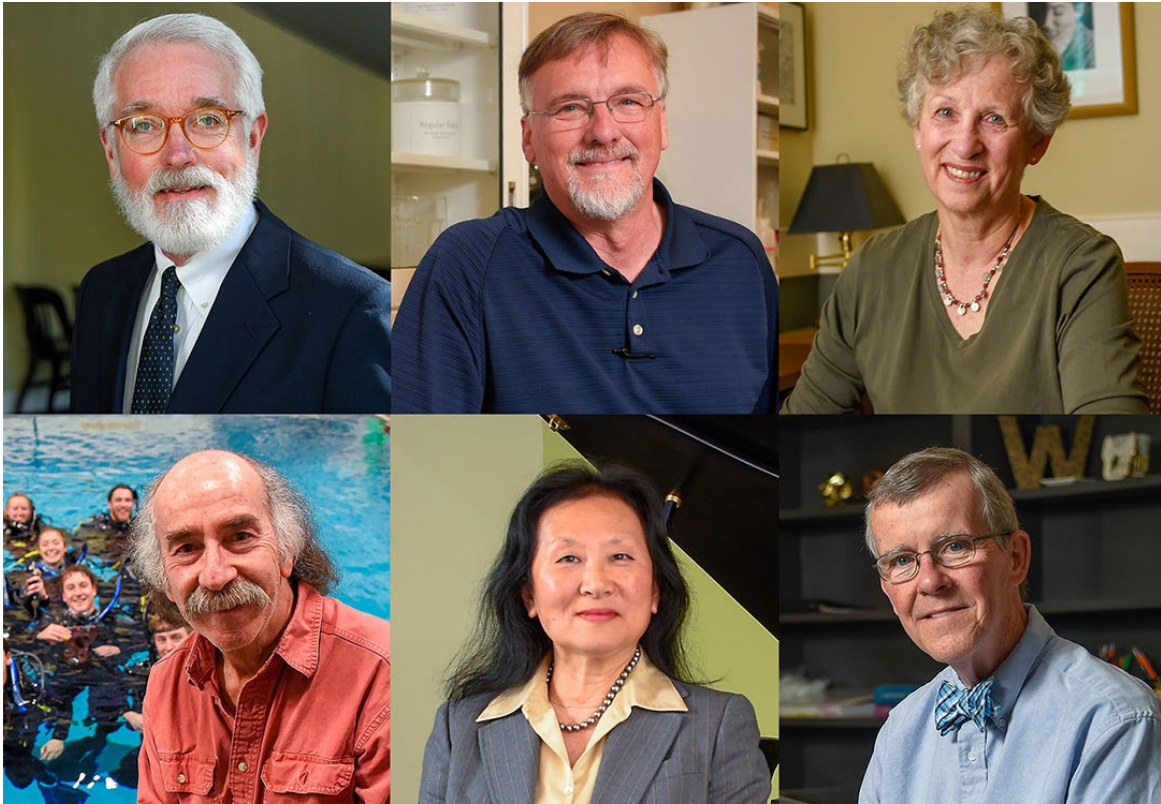


Wofford College held Commencement exercises for the Class of 2023 on Sunday, May 21, and celebrated 369 graduates while recognizing the unique contributions of three individuals who received honorary degrees, faculty and two leaders in the Spartanburg community.

The college's 169th Commencement Exercises were held on Sunday, May 21. The class of 2023 had 369 graduates who earned 384 Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degrees. **Find highlights and a recording from the ceremony, and recordings for the ROTC Commissioning Ceremony, Honors Convocation and the Baccalaureate Service.**

**Award recipients during Honors Convocation**  
**Newest members of Phi Beta Kappa**

## Retiring faculty



Dr. Eddie Richardson, Dr. G.R. Davis, Dr. Sally Hitchmough, Dr. Dave Kusher, Dr. Eun-Sun Lee and Dr. Ricky Madden retired after the 2022-23 academic year. All received emeritus status.

Six Wofford faculty members who taught at the college for a combined 147 years retired at the end of the spring semester.

Dr. Eddie Richardson, professor of accounting, business and finance; Dr. G.R. Davis, McCalla Professor of Biology; Dr. Sally Hitchmough, professor of English; Dr. Dave Kusher, professor of biology; Dr. Eun-Sun Lee, professor of music and director of string ensembles; and Dr. Rickey Madden, associate professor of business and coordinator of the business program, all were granted professor emeritus status by the college's board of trustees.

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## Vasily Velit retires



Vasily Velit tested the chair that the college's retirees receive during a recent reception.

Vasily Velit retired from the college on May 15 after serving 10 years as a housekeeper.

"We're missing Vasily already, especially during this busy time of the year," says Jeff Burney, director of housekeeping and event services. "He was always on top of things. If something was missed, he'd let us know. During our breaks, we would discuss our after-work plans, and he liked to talk about what he had growing in his garden while sipping green tea and ginger, his cure for any sickness."

## Spring 2023 Dean's List



Wofford College announces the spring 2023 Dean's List.

Dr. Timothy Schmitz, provost of Wofford College, has announced Dean's List students for the spring 2023 semester. Students achieving a 3.60 grade-point average or higher after earning at least 12 academic hours qualify for the Dean's List.

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### **Lifelong Learning event to focus on Wofford's shared history with Central United Methodist**

Dr. Phillip Stone '94, Wofford College's archivist, will lead a tour and talk focused on the shared history between Wofford and Central United Methodist Church from 10 a.m. to noon on Thursday, June 15, at Central United Methodist Church. Registration is required, and there is a \$10 fee.

The first Wofford Board meeting took place at Central, and generations of Wofford faculty and students have worshipped at Central. The session will include a tour of Central's sanctuary and chapel.

[Register for this event and find others.](#)

**Office of Marketing and Communications**

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