

CLASS NOTES

1950

Fleurene P. Holt, writes "I am 95 years old and live in a retirement home in Boca Raton, FL. My husband, **Allen H. Holt '48** passed away in March 2021. I graduated in the class of 1950 and was the first female to graduate with a seven-month-old baby. Best greetings to old friends."

1952 Reunion

September 16-17, 2022

1954

Mallory Stephens, of Wolfeboro, NH, writes "It's uplifting to read about what an outstanding medical school Upstate Medical University has become. It was a good school when we were there, but even better now. I recently spoke with **Bill Hampton, Jr.** who sounded the same as ever. He was a great roommate."

1956

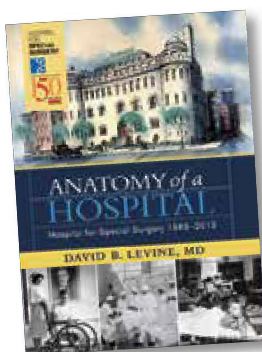
Willard Cohen, of DeWitt, NY, has been retired for 25 years, but is still teaching ECG to Upstate cardiology fellows one day a week. He celebrated his 90th birthday with his nuclear family in December 2021. "I am still (slowly) skiing. And regret the loss of our last reunion," he writes

Michael L. Del Monico, of Raleigh, NC, shares "No change. Still in Raleigh with family."

1957 Reunion

September 16-17, 2022

David B. Levine, of New York, NY, retired from patient care in 1995, and since has researched, published, and reported on medical history at a number of medical meetings. On September 1, 2021, he founded the medical history society at Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS), The Coley Society, named after William Bradley Coley, MD, the third surgeon-in-chief 1925-1933 at HSS. In 1889, Coley developed the first vaccine, *Coley's Toxins*, to treat advanced stage cancer. He is known today as the father of cancer immunotherapy. The story's beginnings are detailed in Levine's book *Anatomy of a Hospital – Hospital for Special Surgery 1863-2013*. Published in 2013 at the 150th anniversary of HSS, the book has been republished in digital and soft cover copies on sale at Amazon.



Anatomy of a Hospital: Hospital for Special Surgery 1863-2013
by David B. Levine '57



Julian M. Aroesty '60 on his birthday with grandchildren Hayden Julian and Claire Everly

1960

Julian M. Aroesty, of Scituate, MA, writes "My oldest two grandkids have completed university (no MDs), the next two are in university (no MDs), but I am happy to report that Claire, when asked what she wants to be, says 'A doctor.' What kind of doctor? 'A pink doctor' (her favorite color). I just need to work on her subspecialty choice. I still attend Zoom teaching conferences three days per week, writing for UpToDate and doing second opinion cardiac consultations for patients in Europe, the Near East and Asia. I cycle about 10-15 miles several days per week in Longboat Key, FL, from December through April."

Allen H. Unger, of Bronx, NY, is still active in the practice of cardiology and internal medicine.

1962 Reunion

September 16-17, 2022

1964

Edward Burak, of Englewood Cliffs, NY, sold his imaging center in 2020 and has been reading remotely from home since May 2021. "I'm enjoying my kids and grandkids," he writes. "My son **Jarett S. Burak '02** is now head of MSK radiology for the Catholic Health Care System and works at St. Francis Hospital in Roslyn, NY. I am still active physically, playing tennis, walking regularly and working out with weights and doing chin-ups daily."

George Burak, of Scarsdale, NY, shares that his son **Corey Burak '99** is chief of total joint service at Phelps Memorial Hospital.

1966

Norman L. Fienman, of Broomall, PA, writes, "On behalf of the entire class of 1966, I wish to express our extreme thankfulness for the Norton family gift to the University. This legacy is forever."

Susan E. Glasser and **Bernard D. Glasser**, of Los Angeles, CA, both retired about 20 years ago. They are enjoying their children, a son who is a child psychiatrist and a daughter who is a pediatric neurologist. They have four lovely grandchildren ages 11 to 15. "We would like to say goodbye to COVID," they write.

George H. Newman '66

of Bedford, NH, and Sally are enjoying their five grandchildren. George has thousands of plants and Sally is exhibiting her art work.

Austin M. Pattner, of Englewood, NJ, writes "Forty-eight years in practice and still going, but practice makes perfect."

1967 Reunion

September 16-17, 2022

Hal C. Burchel, of Hillsborough, NC, has returned to Africa to lead people to Christ. "I am completely settled in a one-bedroom apartment on the ground floor in a very lovely and secure apartment complex. I have two wonderful young African partners, David and Victoria, who are very mature and devoted Christians. I've also been able to rent a discipleship center near the slum in which we will be working. I will share the gospel message in Kiswahili and they will disciple the new converts in the discipleship center. We also give out discipleship material weekly in Kiswahili, which David and Victoria will grade and return to the new converts

each week. The Africans are very anxious to get reading material and learn. After they complete 17 lessons we give them a Swahili Bible, which they will treasure. Life is GOOD! And God is GOOD all the time!!"

1968

Robert L. Bard, of New York, NY, was named medical advisor to the National AreYouDense Foundation for evaluation of breast cancer in dense breasts. For more information visit www.areyoudense.org

Kenneth J. Hoffer, of Santa Monica, CA, writes "After establishing a solo private practice in Santa Monica in cataract/IOL surgery in July 1972, I will officially retire from practice in June 2022, celebrating 50 years of clinical practice. I will continue my research, publications, and lecturing in the extremely esoteric field of intraocular lens (IOL) power calculation, probably until my passing."

1969

Joann Tomaszewicz Dale, of Rochester, NY, shares "After my medical school classmate and husband **Bob Dale** died, I continued the globe-trotting we'd begun when he retired. I had a wonderful cruise to Australia and New Zealand in January 2020 and a land tour of Morocco the following February. Then COVID appeared. Like most of us, I am now stuck at home. Fortunately, close friends and family remain COVID-free, so we can have in-person visits. I did manage a four-day small group trip to Niagara-on-the-Lake in December 2021. It was wonderful to go somewhere, see two plays (the town is home to the Shaw festival), tour the town, dine out with wine tastings, and ogle the holiday decorations at the Falls. Lately, I have spent my time shoveling snow."

Kenneth M. Grundfast, of Chestnut Hill, MA, was the recipient of the 2021 Boston Medical Center's Jerome Klein Award for physician excellence. The Klein awardee is chosen each year by the chairs of the clinical departments and the award is given to the physician who has best demonstrated the following attributes: high standards and expectations, clinical and/or research excellence, leadership with a positive attitude, outstanding mentoring/serving as an exemplary role model, and has been supportive of colleagues and other health-care providers. More than 50 years after graduation

from medical school, he continues practicing otolar-yngology, although he no longer does surgery but still enjoys teaching medical students. He remains eternally grateful for the medical education that he received at Upstate and for the warmth, kindness, and teaching skills of the members of the faculty at Upstate.



John T. McCarthy '69 and Jane L. Falkenstein '69 on Jane's birthday

John T. McCarthy and **Jane L. Falkenstein**, of Troy, NY, write "During this horrible, prolonged pandemic we've managed to cope by hunkering down and spoiling Jane's nearly two-year-old granddaughter, Sadie, every chance we get. When not doing that we have enjoyed reading aloud to each other. I continue to write articles for the American Academy of Pediatrics quarterly, *Senior Bulletin*, and for the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry's quarterly, *Owl Newsletter*. Jane continues to enjoy playing violin for two local orchestras (masked up, of course)."

CLASS NOTES

1970

Alexander E. Kuehl, of Amelia Island, FL, and Jane recently passed through the Panama Canal on a four-month world cruise that was on their bucket list. Next up, Cape Horn, Africa, and the Suez Canal. "There is no COVID on the ship and I hosted a Robbie Burns Night (Haggis and all) for Robbie's and Jane's birthdays, January 25. We hope to be back on Amelia Island in June and then to spend the summer on the St. Lawrence, including a 60th high school reunion in Gouverneur," he writes.



Richard B. Bernstein '71

1971

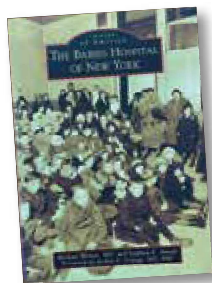
Richard B. Bernstein, is retired and living in Atlanta, GA, with his wife Carol. They have two children and two grandchildren.

1972 Reunion

September 16-17, 2022

Philip R. Caropreso, of Keokuk, IA, is retired from surgical practice and remains active in Lee County Iowa public health. Recently, he began his second three-year term on the board of directors and was elected vice-chair.

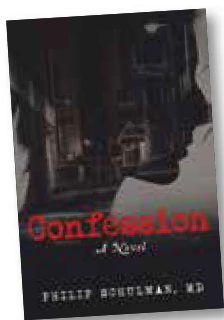
Michael A. Weiner, of Salisbury, CT, has written, *The Babies Hospital of New York*, about the history of the babies hospital at Columbia University Irving Medical Center. The book is in the Images of America series by Arcadia Publishing.



Images of America The Babies Hospital of New York by Michael A. Weiner '72

1974

Philip Schulman, of Melville, NY, has launched a website pschulman.com, that includes information on his two novels *Deadly Motivations* and *Confession* and recordings of songs he has written. "Please visit and comment," he shares.



Confession by Philip Schulman '74

1975

Jay A. Erlebacher, of Tenafly, NJ, is still working full-time in his seven-person cardiology practice in Englewood. "I start feeling a little low when I'm not waking up in the morning with something to do and accomplishing something, an unfortunate trait I inherited from my father," he writes. "In good weather, I get to ride my bike three days a week with friends, covering 35 to 70 miles per clip. In the winter, I organize a men's ski trip to Alta, UT. This year we had 31 skiers (Let me know if you'd like to join us!). In March, I went on my annual ski trip to Snowbird, UT, with my



Jay A. Erlebacher '75

two sons. So far, I'm still attempting to keep up with them. I've got four super grandchildren ages two to nine, and thankfully with the end of the pandemic, we are getting to spend more time with them. Our 50th wedding anniversary is coming up, and in June, Marlene and I plan to spend a couple of weeks in Tuscany with my brother **Mark S. Erlebacher '79** and his wife Marci. I'm working on my fifth patent, this one for an invention to improve placement of a new type of pacemaker lead. I'm extremely thankful I still have the health and the ability to enjoy everything, and continue to try my best to not act my age. Best to all!"

1977 Reunion

September 16-17, 2022

Charles B. Eaton, of Plymouth, MA, stopped seeing his own patients but continues to supervise residents in the Brown University family medicine program, and runs the center for primary care and prevention. He plans to retire in five years. During COVID, he reconnected with former roommates,



Alfred L. Gianfagna '77, Charles B. Eaton '77 and Warren Sherman '77

Al Gianfagna and Warren Sherman with monthly Zoom calls. "If you are in the Boston/Cape Cod area and like to golf, I live on the sixth hole of Nicklaus golf course in the Pinehills and would welcome a visit from classmates," he writes.



Mark W. Zilkoski '77 with two of his daughters

Mark W. Zilkoski, of Wolf Point, MT, recently celebrated 12 years of great beers at DOC'Z Missouri Breaks Brewing with two of his daughters. Daughter Katie is one of the first female brewers in Montana.

PATRICIA WILLIAMS, MD '78

The Aftermath of Disaster

On December 10, 2021, a devastating tornado hit Mayfield, Kentucky, killing 130 people and flattening much of the town, including the Mayfield Consumer Products Candle Factory, where nine workers died. Debris from the town could be found hundreds of miles away in Indiana and eastern Kentucky. Victims continue to be found as rubble is cleared.

The tornado was not a surprise. Patricia Williams, MD '78, and her husband Wayne, were at home, out in the country. "The local television station in Paducah was accurately able to predict when it would hit the area so many people were able to take cover," she says. While the tornado came within a half mile, their home was spared.

Others were not so lucky. "We've had tornado warnings enough that people don't always heed the warning," says Williams. Many homes did not have basements and trailers were swept away with families inside them.

Williams and her husband are family physicians with a practice in downtown Mayfield, which provided a medical home for much of the community. Almost immediately after the storm passed, they were able to get images of downtown via the Internet. "That was when we realized that our office had been destroyed," she says.

The next morning, they needed a chainsaw to get down their driveway because of all the downed trees in order to make rounds at the hospital. "As we drove close to town the destruction was unbelievable," Williams recalls. "There was nothing standing for miles. The silence was deafening."

Because the water treatment plant and a water tower were destroyed, there was no electricity or water in town for weeks. The hospital ran on a generator and trucked in water to keep operational. Many patients could not be discharged because their homes had been destroyed, some losing loved ones.

The Williams were able to salvage enough equipment from the wreckage to move to a temporary location within a few days. However, because they lost their computer system, medical records were unavailable.

"Every patient we saw had heartbreaking stories," says Williams. "We did what we could but felt so helpless with the enormity of their needs."

The first step was to help patients get needed medications, an issue compounded by the loss of several pharmacies in town. "We worked it out with neighboring pharmacies—as long as someone could produce a current prescription bottle, they could get a month's refill," she says.

Although she'd never witnessed anything of this scale, Williams is no stranger to small town emergency medicine. As a resident at St. Joseph's Hospital, Williams helped start an ER group to cover weekends at the Geneva Hospital. After residency, she joined a practice in Waterloo, New York, where her late husband, Leland Elliott, MD '78 was an OB/GYN. They were recruited to a multi-practice group in Mayfield in the 1980s. She joined practices with her current husband in 2009.

The practice cared for patients from newborn to elderly. The Williams' rounded on their own patients in the hospital and served as medical directors of two nursing homes (one destroyed in the tornado). They had already endured a difficult two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic and a vaccine-resistant population.

"Our initial outbreak occurred in one of the local nursing homes, where 60 of the 80 patients were infected over a three-month period," she says.

They closed their office waiting room and people waited in their cars for nurses to come take vitals and conduct assessments. Well patients were allowed in for necessary exams and bloodwork while sick patients were exam-



Patricia Williams, MD '78, with her husband, Dr. Wayne Williams

ined by gowned-up docs in the parking lot. "We had numbered spaces in the parking lot like we numbered our exam rooms," Williams says.

That same parking lot was the first thing that was cleared after the storm. "News media gathered there for their various operations," she says.

At 70 and close to retirement, the Williams' aren't looking to rebuild new office facilities. They have a younger doctor working for them, so his interest will influence the future of the practice.

Fortunately, Williams says, they were well insured and at the end of their careers. Many business owners are not in the same position. "There are people who have lost everything and have to start from scratch," she says. "It will take years for the area to recover."

CLASS NOTES



Bruce A. Salzberg '79 with his daughter, son-in-law, and wife, Lisa

1979

Bruce A. Salzberg, of Atlanta, GA, writes "After 34 years of conducting clinical research in the field of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and receiving the first center of excellence recognition in IBD from the American Gastroenterology Association, I have decided to close the center and focus on my patients with IBD in my clinical practice. I would also like to congratulate my daughter on her recent wedding to Ben Lanier."



Tehila Malka, granddaughter of Ronald C. Brodsky '81

1981

Ronald C. Brodsky, of Norfolk, VA, is happy to announce the birth of his second grandchild, a girl, Tehila Malka, born in Jerusalem to son Saul and wife Adina in November 2021. His daughter Marlene, who lives in Denver, is expecting another surprise, in July of this year.

1982 Reunion

September 16-17, 2022

Alan Kawarai Lefor, of Utsunomiya, Japan, is still living in Japan. "In March 2022, I became professor of surgery, emeritus at Jichi Medical University (forced retirement at 65 is common here). I am also expecting to graduate with a doctorate in engineering from the University of Tokyo this spring," he writes. "Barring travel restrictions, I will be attending my son's wedding in Los Angeles this fall and am hoping to see many of you at the reunion in September. I can't believe that 40 years has gone by. Hoping you all continue to stay healthy, stay hungry, and stay foolish. All the best!"

Nicholas G. Tullo, of Towaco, NJ, is still practicing cardiac electrophysiology in northern New Jersey, with a specialty in syncope and dysautonomia (mostly POTS). He is also the creator of ECG-Academy.com, now in business for 10 years and going strong. "My oldest son Chris is finishing his master's degree in mental health and school coun-



Nicholas G. Tullo '82

seling. My middle son Alex just graduated Ringling College with a BFA in 3-D animation and his senior thesis project won the Student Academy Award (along with 20+ other film festivals worldwide). He is now a character animator for a feature-length Netflix film in Montreal, with plans to work for a major animation company in California. My daughter Veronica is a sophomore at Chapman University in California majoring in film directing, and won the title of Miss North Jersey 2021 in the Miss America Pageant system. My wife Lucy holds everything together like an expert. Unfortunately, I lost my parents in 2021. Hopefully 2022 will be better for us all. Stay safe!"

Jeffrey N. Verzella, of Williamsport, PA, has been the interim program director of the family medicine residency since May 2020 and is hoping to hang on for two more years. "I have given up obstetrics (and thankfully on-call) but have traded them in for other worries that keep me up at night (all you program directors out there know what I mean). Thank God for bourbon," he writes.

1983

Pierre E. Dionne, of Olean, NY, and wife Lesa both retired in 2018 and now spend their winters RVing across the southwest. "We volunteered for the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta in October 2021 and the Lake Havasu Arizona Balloon Festival in January 2022," he writes.



Pierre E. Dionne '83 and Lesa

Susan Jensen, of Fort Mill, SC, enjoyed time with her college-aged daughter who moved home during the pandemic and took classes via Zoom. Together, they studied their Judaism and became more observant. "We created a lot of low carb alternatives to classic Jewish recipes from around the world and are working on a Keto Kosher Cookbook. For us, there were many blessings within this pandemic lockdown," she writes.

1985

Stephen F. Coccaro, of Setauket, NY, welcomed his first grandchild, Flora Giovanna, into the world on January 20.

1986

Georgianne Arnold, of Pittsburgh, PA, is professor of pediatrics and clinical research director in medical genetics and genomics at Children's Hospital Pittsburgh. "I am excited to be doing gene therapy in inborn errors of metabolism," she writes.



Colleen O. Davis '86

Colleen O. Davis, of Fairport, NY, is chief of the pediatric emergency department for Golisano Children's Hospital at University of Rochester Medical Center. She recently received the Athena International Award from the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce and its Women's Council. This award is given annually to a professional female leader who has demonstrated significant achievements in business, community service, and the professional advancement of women.

Ronald C. Samuels '89 of Newton, MA, left Boston after 29 years to return to New York State, accepting a position as associate chief for complex care in the division of general pediatrics at Children's Hospital at Montefiore.

1987 ReUnion
September 16-17, 2022

1988

Andrew M. Cohen, of Las Vegas, NV, is a practicing radiation oncologist and president of Comprehensive Cancer Centers of Nevada, a 47-physician multispecialty group, where he keeps busy with prostate brachytherapy and management. He is an avid Golden Knights fan and enjoys spending time with his wife Kim, children Adam and Ilana, Angel the yorkie and Leo the golden.



Matthew Schofield '89

my fourth year of medical school, 32 years ago. Our son is 29 and living in Brooklyn, NY."

Stephen R. Weinman, of New Paltz, NY, continues to be busy with COVID; his medical center is testing up to 150 people a day at its drive-through test site. He is also working at the world-famous Mohonk Mountain House as the house physician, "which is maybe the best job ever," he writes. "They pay me in food and my feelings toward food haven't changed since medical school. I can't get enough." His family recently traveled to Denmark for the holidays. They also traveled to Cozumel, Mexico, with Grandpa **Herb Weinman '65** to do some diving. He went to see Steely Dan with **Brad Carson '89** and it was

a fantastic show. He also participated in the online virtual Upstate Alumni Career Advisory Network and can't recommend it enough. "It was a lot of fun meeting wet-behind-the-ears medical students (it feels like it wasn't that long ago for us) and telling them about my career path, which admittedly is a bit winding. I wasn't sure what floor to be on; plastics? dermatology? emergency medicine? family practice? I just kept moving around the virtual space looking for other class of '89s and the two hours whizzed by."

1989

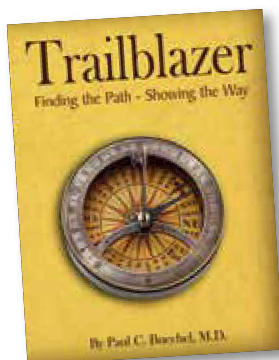
Matthew Schofield, of Cambridge, MA, shares, "My daughter was married to a wonderful guy in January. I just retired from primary care pediatrics and left the office I founded with a friend in good hands. My wife and I bought a farm in Maine a few years ago. We are restoring the meadow, managing our woodlands, and planning a barn. Looking forward to a more rural life. Our daughter was born during

CLASS NOTES

1990

John D. Bisognano, of Ann Arbor, MI, has left the University of Rochester for the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where he is section director of general, consultative, and preventive cardiology. "I like the milder winters," he writes.

1991



Trailblazer by Paul C. Buechel '91

Paul C. Buechel, of Nolensville, TN, published his second book, *Trailblazer*, which lays out how we must step up, step in, and act, in order to achieve the life we're meant to live, the one which provides maximal benefit for ourselves as well as others in this crazy world of ours. It is available on his website, RiseandSoarMinistries.com and wherever else books are sold. "Please visit my site, as well as my Facebook author page, and be sure to leave a message. Become a trailblazer!"



David W. Dexter '91 and Patti

David W. Dexter, and his wife Patti have relocated to Lakewood Ranch, FL, a pre-retirement move. "I am doing all aspects of general surgery including robotics at Lakewood Ranch Medical Center. We have been planning to move to Florida for years and decided not to wait until retirement to start enjoying the warm weather. This is one of the fastest growing areas in the country and very close to where Patti grew up. We are very excited to be here enjoying the sunshine state," he writes.

1992 Reunion

September 16-17, 2022

Joseph Damore Jr., of Bedford Hill, NY, is heavily engaged in the private practice of psychiatry and child psychiatry in Westchester, NY. His wife **Mary Beth** (Mandry) is busy as a pediatric endocrinologist at Westchester Medical Center. "At the urging of our two daughters, one already a

Mark E. Ohi '92 of Hamilton, NY, writes "Our daughter Jennifer (who used to accompany us to class parties) has blessed us with two amazing grandsons, Ethan and Elliott. JoAnn and I celebrated 40 years of marriage in July 2021. Can't wait to see you all at the reunion."



Mary Beth Damore '92, daughter Kelly, and Joseph Damore Jr. '92.

member and one joining, Mary Beth I also joined our local Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Katonah Bedford Hills Volunteer Ambulance Corps in January 2021," he writes. "The need has been extraordinary, and the joy from service has been remarkable, especially when you can do so as a family. Driving an ambulance is quite an experience, which I highly recommend."



Kirsten, daughter of Joseph Damore '92 and Mary Beth Damore '92

1997 Reunion

September 16-17, 2022

Michelle Torres, of Hillsborough, CA, is the office medical director at One Medical in Burlingame, CA. "We have locations all over the country and



Michelle Torres '97 and her three children

are recruiting physicians. Please feel free to reach out if you or anyone you know is looking for a job. I hope all of you are doing well. I am married with three children—my oldest has started high school!”

1998

Aviva D. Gorig, of New York, NY, has lived and worked in Manhattan since graduation. “I am currently working in an out-patient mental health clinic and in private practice. My older daughter is working in finance, and my younger daughter is now a freshman in college. My husband and I have a farm upstate, and we grow all kinds of things!”

2010

Harman Singh Gill, of Lebanon, NH, was chosen as the 2021 ACEP (American College of Emergency Physicians) National Junior Teaching Faculty Award recipient. This is a national award given to four physicians yearly across the entire membership of emer-

gency physicians internationally. He also received two hospital-wide teaching awards from the departments of medicine and emergency medicine in the past two years at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. He is dual-boarded in emergency medicine and critical care medicine.

Beverly A. Schaefer, of Bowmansville, NY, is a pediatric hematologist, now serving as the pediatric medical director of Western NY BloodCare, a comprehensive, federally-funded hemophilia treatment center in Buffalo, NY. She also developed a curriculum to support an advanced fellowship in hemostasis and thrombosis and encourages pediatric or adult hematologists/oncologists in training to apply.

2012 Reunion
September 16•17, 2022

2015

Kelly J. Cummings and **Rahul R. Shah**, of Jersey City, NJ, were married on October 10, 2021 in Skaneateles, New York. They met while students at Upstate.

2016

Doreen Biribwa Arinaitwe, of Syracuse, NY, attended friend and classmate **Helen A. Badu's** nuptials in July 2021 in New York City. There were several members of the class of 2016 in attendance along with their spouses and children.

Danielle S. Wallace, and her husband welcomed their daughter, Eletha Rose Wallace, on October 16, 2021. They are currently living in Rochester, NY, while she completes her hematology/oncology fellowship at the Wilmot Cancer Institute.



Eletha Rose Wallace, daughter of Danielle S. Wallace '16



From L to R: Edgar Mulongo, husband of Doreen Biribwa Arinaitwe '16; Eric Richter, husband of Eposi Mbame-Richter '16; Dr. Richter (internal medicine hospitalist); Adeola Odugbesi '16 (vascular surgeon); Helen Badu Offei '16 (neurologist); Dr. Arinaitwe (med/peds hospitalist) with son Daudi Mulongo; Naomie Delone '16 (pediatrician); and Chukwuma Nwagboso '16 (anesthesiologist).



Kelly J. Cummings '15 and Rahul R. Shah '15



Kelly J. Cummings '15 and Rahul R. Shah '15

CLASS NOTES

2017 Reunion September 16-17, 2022

Erin D. Bright and **Tyler C. Underriner**, of Denver, CO, were married in September of 2021.



Erin D. Bright '17 and Tyler C. Underriner '17 (center) with Upstate friends Jason Elyaguov '17, William Reed '18, Ian Kratzke '17, Michael Smith '17, Rhea Rubin '17, Kyle Richardson '17, Kiran Aravapalli '17, Julia Primo '17, Tara Brenner '17, and Samantha Lucrezia '17

Sarah J. Lopez, married James Miers in an intimate ceremony on the shores of Lake Tahoe in January 2022. They are currently living in Reno, NV.



Sarah J. Lopez '17 and James Miers



Ashraf A. Patel '21

2021

Ashraf A. Patel, of Salt Lake City, UT, is a current first-year plastic surgery resident at the University of Utah Hospitals & Clinics. In October he made two podium presentations at the 90th Plastic Surgery-The Meeting 2021, held in Atlanta, GA. His presentations covered his research on salvage breast reconstruction and clinical trials within the field of plastic surgery. "It was a fantastic opportunity to attend the meeting, learn about the advances within the field of plastic and reconstructive surgery, and share contributions from our research done at Upstate," he writes.

Michael J. Weingarten, of Holliswood, NY, and his wife Julie announce the birth their daughter, Emma Betty, on December 26, 2021. "Congratulations to grandfather **Alexander E. Weingarten '80!**"



Michael J. Weingarten '21 and daughter Emma Betty Weingarten

Resident

John J. Folk, of Oswego, NY, completed a Doctor of Education (EdD) at the Johns Hopkins University School of Education on December 31, 2021. Dr. Folk's dissertation was grounded in the mind, brain, and teaching concentration with emphasis on the application of neuroscience evidence-based research in teaching practice. His dissertation combined the development of an online, asynchronous, module-based strategy for delivering online clinical medical educational content in a mixed method research setting with a qualitative research approach to a root cause analysis process in evaluating an educational programmatic outcome. Folk completed his residency in OB/GYN at Upstate in 1994, a fellowship in adult critical care and medicine at Wayne State University in 1998, and has been a full-time faculty member of the division of maternal fetal medicine at Upstate since 1998. Folk has served as the OB/GYN clerkship director in the College of Medicine at Upstate since 2011 and had served as assistant dean for clinical sciences and clerkship director in the College of Medicine simultaneously from 2016 to 2018. He looks forward to making his experience as a clinician, clinical educator, and a social sciences grounded researcher in medical education to serve the needs of the Alan and Marlene Norton College of Medicine as the UME program is developed and expanded in the near future.