

CougarNow

AND THEN
AND NEXT

Volume 3
February 2017

Sweetheart Edition



Greetings from the Chief Financial Officer

One of the greatest gifts and responsibilities God gave us is each other. We were physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually designed for family and community. The scripture pours out with instructions of how we are to respond to each other in day to day interactions, whether the relationship be one of communion or adversity. For some, loving others comes very easily and instinctively. For others, it can take great courage and leaning into Christ to be more like Him. One of my devotions challenged me to substitute my name for the word 'Love' in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. In doing so, it would read like this, Karen is patient and kind. Karen is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Karen does not demand her own way. Karen is not irritable, and she keeps no record of being wronged. She does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Karen never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. I encourage you to do this challenge as it changed my life. While I can rarely measure up to the idealism in these words, my prayer is that these words become the standard instinct of my reaction that can be trusted by others in my family and community, whether it be during a time of communion or adversity.



Karen Boyce, CFO

I remember when my mom was struggling with Alzheimer's and I was encouraged to consistently focus on sharing my love with her because she might not remember everything I said, however she would remember and trust how I made her feel. That encouragement shaped cherished memories I hold very close in my heart. Throughout the journeys of my life, I have learned that a loving response often requires gentle strength that is provided only by the love extended to me from Christ while desiring to love others as He loves them and me. It has become so much easier and satisfying to love others through God's grace and mercy rather than the feeble attempt of my own protective human nature. So as we celebrate February, the month of Love, may you be able to share the love of Christ with the treasure of relationships He has given you - your family and community. 1 Corinthians 13:14 ends with the promise that three things last forever - faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love. Love well.

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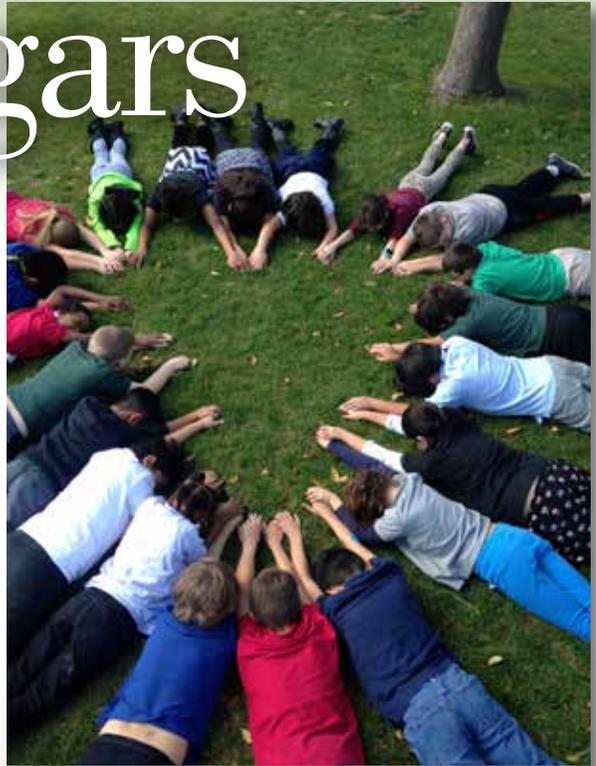
On the cover - Robert Byrd & Linda (Bedel) Byrd '66



Little Cougars

Little Cougars learning about LOVE

Mrs. Hendricks' fourth grade class is learning all about love this year. The class will memorize the LOVE chapter - 1 Corinthians 13. When asked about this challenge students seemed more than up for it! They also plan to make valentines for all of their teachers and other staff members. This group of students seem to really LOVE and enjoy each other and Mrs. Hendricks plays a vital role in fostering this environment. Keep watching us on Facebook and we will make sure and post a video of the class reciting 1 Corinthians 13.



Tech Love

Jason
Montgomery

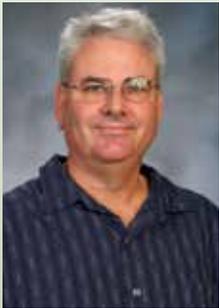


Cougars in the Middle LOVING Technology

Our middle school students were provided with an exciting opportunity to pilot the use of tablets in the classrooms for the spring semester. Beginning this month, tablets have been available for students to use in selected

In math, we have been able to install a multiplication tables application to review skills in that area. In addition, each tablet has a regular calculator as well as a specialized fraction calculator that allows students to enter fractions and mixed numbers in order to check their work when they add, subtract, multiply or divide fractions. We have also added an area and volume calculator that will display formulas used in geometry and allow students to enter numbers in order to check their work when using formulas. These student self-checks are helping to reinforce individual skills while freeing me to answer questions other than, "Did I get this right?"

By Keith de Laet,
6th Grade Teacher &
7th & 8th Grade
Bible Teacher



Saron Tamirat

classes for math, science, English, history and Bible. This pilot program allows us to investigate the benefits of technology in learning while also identifying areas such as broadband coverage that can be maximized for the greatest results. One of our 6th graders, Nancy Felix, reflected on the recent addition of tablets. "I love these tablets; they are so useful and it makes it fun to learn. My favorite apps are the fraction and multiplication tables. I am so glad that we got these tablets!" We have started by installing a Bible application that allows students to read the ESV and NIV side by side in order to compare translations for a better understanding.

The app also provides a set up for study notes, maps, articles and cross-references that are available at a touch. A Bible dictionary app has also been installed for easy reference. Future donations will allow us to add additional Bible translations, study notes, and commentaries for expanded student use. The expansions are reasonably priced, many as low as one dollar, so the potential for a fingertip library is amazing!

English class has been enhanced with the addition of a dictionary app and a separate thesaurus app. Students can look up words easily and efficiently and since the introduction of the tablets there have not been any cases of students being unable to locate a word in the dictionary! We have also been able to introduce the use of synonyms, thanks to the thesaurus.

These are just a few examples of ways in which we have been able to use tablets in the classroom. The project is in the early stages, so I am on a continual search for apps to enhance our curriculum. More applications are sure to follow and suggestions are welcome.

Mya Pierre



Wrestling Love

Wrestling LOVES our Little Cougars



By Josue Perez

We have eight varsity wrestlers training hard this season. They are putting in a tremendous amount of work and heart into this season. Seniors, Dorean Gardner, Ryan Munos and sophomore, Winden Trimble have been leading the pack. They have poured out their heart, strength, skills and trained many of the new wrestlers. We have five first time wrestlers: Mark Hocking, Jacob Sharp, Joseph Kellogg, Jeremiah Montgomery and Joey Reichenberger. This is my first year as the head wrestling coach, as well as my assistant coaches, Joe Munos and Alex Varner. We are building a program with the goal of keeping the legacy and traditions of Phoenix Christian.

This year we started Cougar Cub Wrestling. We have 16 boys who signed up! It is a program designed for K-5th graders. We are teaching them basic wrestling techniques, warm-ups and strength training in hopes of gaining future wrestlers. It is also a great opportunity for our varsity wrestlers to give back and be role models. We plan to keep this tradition going for years

to come. We have so much fun with these young men and they are genuinely excited to learn about wrestling. What boy doesn't like to wrestle on a sweaty mat? We are also planning to run a summer wrestling club program. More details to come! We encourage you to like our new Phoenix Christian Prep Wrestling page on Facebook for details and to keep in touch with us. As our season comes to an end I would like to invite you to come out and support us by cheering on the boys with that Cougar Spirit next season. Please keep the Cougar wrestling team in your prayers for safe travels and no injuries as we head to sectionals and state championships.



Once you've wrestled, everything else in life is easy. -Dan Gable

Foster Family Love

Cougars LOVING on Foster Families

Phoenix Christian LOVES Foster Children and families! This year PC welcomed several new families who enrolled as foster care families. This new and one-of-a-kind program provides foster care families with fully covered tuition (raised by both corporate and state tax credits and personal donations), support programs, respite parents night out events, and many other initiatives to offer love, support and community to these families.

This was by no means a stretch for Phoenix Christian. When discussing the possibility of adding this program, we realized that we already had over 40 adopted children in our school who at some point were in the foster care system or had some other type of non-traditional care-taker. Feeling the call we each have as Christians to care for the displaced, Joe Bradley decided, "we have to do this." Amber (Roper) Walker class of 2001, initiated the program this year and has over-exceeded expectations. She shared, "We've had such an amazing response to the program. These families absolutely love everything about PC!" The majority of students are fully funded but we have a ways to go this next year. Amber shared, "Next steps - we've got to raise funds to fully cover the cost of their education including adding a faculty member dedicated to supporting these families and their unique needs." If you would like to offer your support through time, prayer or finances, please contact Amber at awalker@phoenixchristian.org. We'd also love for you to participate in or contribute to our upcoming Golf Tournament, April 29th that will raise funds for this program as well as help support the PC Golf Team.

One Family's Story

We are very thankful for Phoenix Christian Preparatory School and how it has allowed our kids to go to school together and learn in a Christian environment. I first came to know the Lord at the age of 14 which was a tough time in my life as I changed schools and was adjusting to my new foster home placement. This was my 5th placement since being in foster care and the upside was I got to live back with my older sister. It was important that we were together and got to go to the same school which was an answer to prayer. The teenage years alone can be challenging and I am thankful that I came to know the Lord.

We have been licensed foster parents for almost two years. I learned about Phoenix Christian from a friend and it seemed to be a great fit for our children. They are more focused and making a lot of progress in school. I think a smaller environment works well for kids in foster care to get to know their teachers, staff and other students. They do not have to fight for attention and can really be known by name and personally recognized. These students are not invisible, neither is their uniqueness. I appreciate the support that our kids receive at Phoenix Christian. They often say "Hi" when they see the Principal or school staff because it is so personable. I remember the only time I would be recognized by the Principal is if I got in trouble and that is not the case here. Phoenix Christian is like extended family support and provides a place where kids can learn, grow and thrive into their unlimited potential.





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Alumni Sweethearts

Alex and I met when we started junior high at PC. We didn't start dating until high school, starting with Sadie Hawkins freshman year of 2003. Fast forward to March 21, 2015 when we got married and are now expecting our first child, a baby girl due in February!



Bonny (Skiles) Eich '07 & Alex Eich '07



Julie (Rhodes) Gumm '91 & Mark Gumm '90

Technically Mark & Julie met in 1988 when Julie transferred to PC and had an assigned chapel seat in front of Mark. A year later Mark tore his ACL in the first home football game of the season and parlayed Julie's sympathy into a date for Homecoming. And so started their love story. Mark graduated in May 1990 and attended John Brown University in Northwest Arkansas while Julie finished high school. She joined him at JBU in the fall of 1991 and they married in August of 1993. After college they lived in Texas for 6 years before returning to Arizona. Mark taught at PC for several years before going into pastoral ministry. In 2014 they returned to Arkansas where Julie works as Director of Marketing at JBU and Mark is an associate pastor at a local church. They have four kids: Luke (17), Noah (17), Beza (16) Natalie (14).



Katie (Eich) Kredit '04 and Josh Kredit '04



Katie and I went on our first date to Homecoming our senior year in 2003. We dated from that point through graduation at PC in 2004 and continued to date throughout college. We got married weeks after Katie graduated from nursing school at ASU in 2008. After that, Josh attended law school at ASU and since then we've had 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls. We live in Goodyear, AZ and stay busy with work and raising our children. The first picture is from Homecoming 2003, and the second picture is our family September 2016.

Fall of 2007, the timpani player dropped out of marching band right before a big competition. Mr. Moss needed a replacement fast, one who could already read music and pick up an instrument quickly. He came to Chorale rehearsal one morning and presented the amazing toned drums - they immediately caught my eye. Seventeen year-old me wanted to be the one making those big, bold sounds. Being the overachiever I was, I quickly volunteered to be the replacement.

Fast forward to my first band rehearsal the following week. Mr. Moss had only an hour to teach me the basics of mallet holding (I played a couple instruments, but no percussion), how to read timpani sheet music, and how to tune the drums. I was quickly ushered into the band/choir room to begin rehearsal with the rest of the band. I was pretty nervous. I knew there would be a learning curve; I mean, it was literally my first time. But I didn't want to be out of place and I was only acquainted with a couple of the "band

kids." I remember this next bit vividly. I entered the room, wheeling one of the enormous drums, and lo and behold, at the top riser, behind the vibraphone, stood the cutest boy I had ever seen in my life - Brian Hendricks. I decided that moment I would somehow get that guy to be my boyfriend. Throughout that marching season, I made friends with his friends, and finally made friends with him. I asked him to Homecoming that year, and he said yes! Four years later, he asked me to marry him, and I said yes. We said "I do" on June 11, 2011.

Brian now teaches fourth grade at Solano Elementary School, and Jamie works in employee learning & development at a software company in downtown Phoenix by day, and creates new theatre with her company she co-founded, Howl Theatre Project. I couldn't be happier or more grateful to the one kid who said he would play timpani but bailed at the last minute. He indirectly influenced the start of an amazing relationship, and an amazing marriage.



Brian Hendricks '08 & Jamie (Haas) '09



Molly (Kelso) Patterson '82 & David Patterson '81



David & I were introduced to each other his Senior year, my Junior year. We went on double dates together but did not start dating until June 27, 1981 after he graduated. That was our first date. We celebrate that date each year along with our Anniversary, December 29, 1984. We wanted a marriage that would survive through the trials of life and continue to thrive. God has given us the desires of our heart and we are truly more in love today than ever! We have two children who also love the Lord and are both married with children and fighting every day for their marriages also! We have five treasured grandchildren with two more coming soon. That will give us a total of seven, three of which God has given to our children through adoption. We feel truly blessed!

Alumni Sweethearts

It's hard to believe I've had 20 amazingly great years with Shaunna (Auernheimer). How I convinced this ridiculously awesome woman to marry me I will never understand but I'm so glad I did. All that and she's given me 4 incredible kids!

Shaunna (Auernheimer) Hiner '91 & Steve Hiner '88

*** August 1987** – As a senior in high school I noticed one of the new freshmen girls in Airborne at Bethany Bible Church and at Phoenix Christian High School and I thought to myself 'Hmmm, she's cute.'

*** September 1987** – Joe Carter introduced me to her in the courtyard at Bethany Bible Church, confirming my initial impression that she was cute and adding 'interesting' to the list.

*** October 1988** – I asked her to go to homecoming with me and was turned down "because I'm not 16 yet." Disappointed, but not defeated, I carried on emotionally stalking her.

*** October 1988** – I asked her to her sophomore year homecoming.

*** Summer 1990** – I left Phoenix and moved to Boulder Creek, California to work at Camp Hammer for the summer as a camp counselor. She is the only person I wrote all summer and the only person that wrote me because we were such good friends.

*** October 1990** – I had grown considerably smarter after moving back to Phoenix and I asked her to her homecoming early. Being the good friends that we were, she accepted a double-date.

*** May 1991** – I took her to Ruth's Chris Steakhouse to celebrate her graduation from High School. I also started talking to her about how great it would be if she came to work at Camp. She applied to camp and was accepted to work in the kitchen.



*** Wednesday, August 7, 1991** – As a camp counselor I had Wednesday night off while the non-counseling staff took the kids on a camp out. They decided to give her the night off as well and we spent the evening together walking in the forest and enjoying the beauty (the beauty I was enjoying was NOT the trees).

*** Wednesday, August 7, 1991 at 9pm** – We sat on the benches above the field watching the deer munch the grass and she asked me, "What do you feel about me?" I laid everything out and explained how I had been in love with her for nearly four years, not even asking anyone else out on a date.

*** Wednesday, August 7, 1991 at 9:30pm** – I returned the question to her, "What do you feel about me?" She explained about what a good friend I have been and how she would not seriously date someone if it was not leading toward marriage (a sentiment I also believed in). She requested a week to think and pray about it.

*** Sunday, August 11, 1991** – She told me that she would like to date me. O' Happy Day! Number of days in pursuit: 1450. Number of days wasted in pursuit: 0.

*** November 12, 1994** – On a wonderful day that started with a light rain, cleansing the world for us, I dun married her.

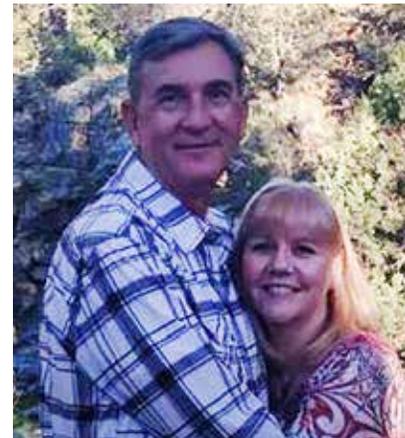
*** November 12, 2014** – I celebrate 20 amazing years of being unworthy to spend my life with Shaunna as my companion.

W

e actually did not "meet" until the last month of Lowell's senior year at Christian High's annual Junior-Senior Retreat. Even though we knew of each other for a couple years, we had never spoken until we were thrown

together in the back of the bus on the way to Emmanuel Pines Campground in Prescott. We have great memories of those 2 days, hiking around the woods - it was such a beautiful place to fall in love! Our "after" picture that I have attached was taken at this campground 42 years later near the spot of our first kiss.

We married in the summer of 1976 and celebrated our 40th anniversary this past August. We moved to San Diego after we married, then back to Phoenix where our one child was born. We spent 8 years in Syracuse, NY and we now reside in Houston, TX, where our son and his family (we have 2 grandkids!) also live. I clearly remember sitting in chapel in my sophomore year and Dr. Crenshaw telling us to look around because it was possible that our future spouse was in the room. I did not think it would be me!



Cindy (Ickes) Lutz '75 & Lowell Lutz '74



We dated our freshman and sophomore years at Phoenix Christian in 1986, and then we found each other again during our college years. We then married in 1994 and have been married for 22 years now and have 3 wonderful kids.

Cindy (Hart) Creed '90 & Jason Creed '90



We met when I was in eighth grade and he was a freshman when I was best friends with his brother. We started dating my freshman year (his sophomore year) when we were both in drama for the spring production! We dated all through high school, both ended up going to The University of Arizona, and have both followed God's call (and amazing provision/faithfulness!) to Denver, CO where we both attend Denver Seminary. Sawyer where he is getting his MDiv to be a pastor and I am finishing my Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (both of us set to graduate this year!). We will celebrate three years of marriage on May 3rd and nine years together this year (10 years of knowing each other!!!!). God is good, and we totally have Him to thank for bringing us together at Phoenix Christian. We were exactly what each other needed at the time.



Sarah (Wilson) Trapp '11 & Sawyer Trapp '10



We met in Mr. Wickersham's Bible Class and started dating freshman year. Then I broke up with him. We then got back together our junior year and I broke up with him again! We were best friends through our senior year and first year of college. But I broke up with him again and we were apart for about six months. We got back together and were married about seven months later and are now 23 years strong and with three beautiful kids!

Cynthia (Hernandez) Rodriguez '87 & Richard Rodriguez '87



Jon and I began dating my junior year at PC and his senior year. We met in chorale and dated all during high school and college. We were married on September 13, 2008. Today, we live in central Phoenix with our son, Henning "Hank", our dog "Dink" and our chickens.

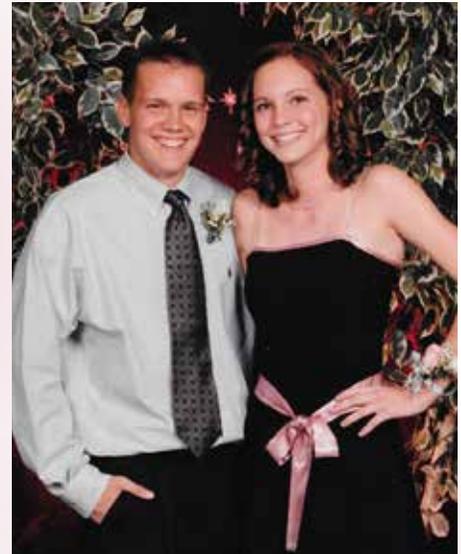
Heather (Suggs) Shaw '07 & Jon Shaw '06



Despite not being "high school sweethearts", what an interesting story we have.

Kristen's sister Jennifer and my sister Courtney (both class of 2003) were really good friends. I didn't have a date and neither did Kristen, so they set us up. So one day in October 2003, I had Kristen called to the office to ask her to homecoming. After asking and giving her flowers, I got the resounding answer of "Yeah, I guess!" Nonetheless, she went with me and we ended the evening at a haunted house. After that, we barely ever talked aside from casual conversation being on the same track team.

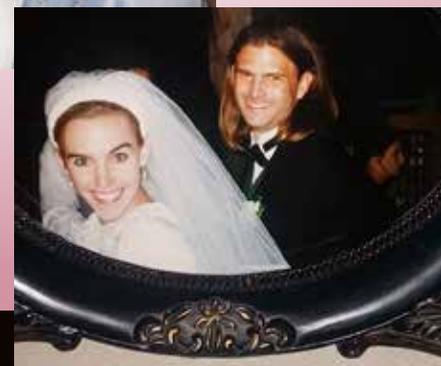
Fast forward to Summer 2013 where Courtney and Jennifer took note that their siblings were still single and in their mid twenties. So I asked Kristen to dinner thinking it would end just like homecoming, with not much conversation afterward. Who knew that after, what I chalk up as a horribly planned first date (my fault), she wanted to hang out again. Fast forward a year later, October 2014, we walked down the aisle together as husband and wife. Fast forward nine months later, July 2015, we welcomed Easton Patrick Stahl into the world. Fast forward 14 months after that, September 2016, we welcomed two identical twin boys, Knox Jeffrey and Nash Joshua into the world. We look at the homecoming picture and laugh and we would have never believed you if you would have told us our story in 2003.



Kristen (Shook) Stahl '06 & Michael Stahl '05

Jeremy and I were super close friends our junior year, but did not date (even though he says now that he liked me but knew I wouldn't go out with him). He was "asked to leave" after our junior year, so we did not see each other again until after college, 5 years later. I came home from California the year that the BIG directory was published. Jeremy's mom bought one, so he and his friends decided to go through it and call people. Jeremy called me. I still remember it clearly. He was shocked that Jill Mouer came home from college unmarried - ha ha. Anyway, we began a friendship that lasted about a year, then started dating, and 6 months later we were engaged. 20 years later here we are! Shocked most of our classmates, I think!

Jill (Mouer) Creed '89 & Jeremy Creed



Alumni Sweethearts

Becky and I started dating immediately after high school and we have now been married 10 years have three boys. We have had quite an experience having a child with severe medical issues which has caused him to stay in the hospital for months on end. God is great and He has an ultimate plan which He reveals to us as he sees fit. We appreciate all that Phoenix Christian has done for us to give us a solid foundation for our life.



Becky (Shaeffer) '04 & David Getz '04

John and I didn't start dating until we were 21 years old.

Krista (Swander) Lynch '88 & John Lynch '88



Lois (Welch) Leader '72, & Eric Leader '72

Eric and I met at PC back in the day (early 70's) when it was not cool to be a nerd. We were two nerds who found each other and bonded over *The Lord of the Rings*, science fiction, and miscellaneous nerdery. We never really dated; just buddied around and got married the day after high school graduation. This fact prompted our daughter to complain during her high school years that I couldn't give her dating advice, because "you never really dated!" But did we ever get busted for PDA? Well, as a current faculty member, I plead the 5th. After almost 44 years, the Force is still with us. We're nerdy as ever and enjoy passing on that heritage to our granddaughter, Bailey, who can geek out with the best of them.



Alumni Sweethearts

Diana (Van Den Berg) McLain '76 & Ray McLain '76

We met at our 10 year reunion in 1986! We married in 1987 and we will soon be celebrating our 30th anniversary in May! We have five kids and seven grandSONS (NO GIRLS ALLOWED)!!



- **E**ric and I met at Phoenix Christian when
- he was a Senior and I was a Junior.
- I was 16 and he was 18. We were set up by
- our friends for homecoming. We dated
- throughout the rest of that year and then
- he moved to Flagstaff to attend NAU. The
- next year I followed him and at the age
- of 19 and 20 we were married. We both
- graduated and moved back to Phoenix.
- I became a special education teacher
- and Eric worked here in town. After a
- couple of years Eric joined the Army as a
- Cartographer and we moved to Germany
- for the next 4 years. In the meantime we
- adopted our oldest daughter, Leeza. We
- had the awesome opportunity to tour
- most of Europe while we were stationed in
- Germany. So many great memories! In April
- of 1999 we returned to Phoenix. I became
- a kindergarten teacher and Eric got a job in
- Cartography at Cooper Aerial Surveys where
- he still works to this day. In the next few
- years we became foster parents. We have
- had so many children in and out of our lives
- in the last 15 years. We adopted our first
- two foster daughters as well as our little boy
- who was placed in our arms the moment
- he was born. We continue to foster and
- currently have a 3 month old baby boy who
- is precious. Eric and I have celebrated 26
- years of marriage and three of our children
- attend Phoenix Christian where everything
- began. It is amazing to see how far God
- has brought us since the days we attended
- PC. We are blessed beyond measure!

Paulita (Harmon) Thomas '89 & Eric Thomas '88



We married the day after I graduated. This May will be our 38th anniversary!

Marcia (Botma) Hanenburg '79 & John Hanenburg '76

- **W**e met in the choir room freshman
- year in the late 70's. We were
- Homecoming king and queen and married
- right out of HS. We will soon be celebrating
- 35 years together!

Corky Richardson '81 & Cindi (Hopkins) Richardson '81

- **M**ike and I attended PC, but
- not at the same time. He
- graduated in '69 and I graduated
- in '77 - we met at church. Last
- June we celebrated our 32nd
- anniversary - couldn't have been
- PC sweethearts, but God still got
- us together!

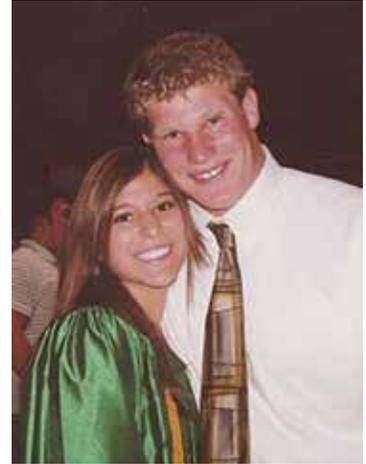
Diane (Poplin) Williams '77 & Mike Williams '69

I started going to Phoenix Christian during junior high and Ben transferred his sophomore year of high school. We didn't have many classes together sophomore and junior year, and we were both busy playing sports. Senior year, however, we both were in Mr. Gumm's history class and were assigned to sit by each other or so I thought. It turns out Ben had rushed to class and asked Mr. Gumm if he could assign us to sit next to each other. Ben started walking me to my classes and helped me open my locker when it got jammed, and shortly after football season ended, we started dating. We lived on opposite sides of town so we would often meet at PC and go to the movies or dinner from there. Ben would always have flowers or candy sitting on the passenger seat of his car when we went on our dates. After graduation, Ben went to the University of Wyoming to play football and I went to George Fox University. Two years in a long distance relationship was enough for Ben so

Brittney (Romero) Smith '05 & Ben Smith '05



during spring break, he flew to Phoenix to have lunch with my dad and get his permission to marry me. Then he jumped back on a plane and flew to Oregon to propose on the beach. We have been married for nine years and have three beautiful sons. We are grateful that God crossed our paths at Phoenix Christian and for all the memories we shared together.



Melody (Shaeffer) Milgrim '88 & Kelby Milgrim '88

Kelby and I met as sophomores in Bible class and became good friends. He would tease me about this and that and buy me burritos and Diet Cokes from the cafeteria for lunch so I wouldn't have to stand in line. During our junior year we went on our first date, to the fair, after a friend suggested we'd make a cute couple. We were in concert choir and chorale together and I attended every track meet that Kelby ran in. After graduating in 1988, we became engaged, and married in 1990. Eight of our ten attendants were PC grads. We have been happily married for 26 years and now our daughter attends PC and Kelby is a teacher. We are so grateful that Phoenix Christian is the place where we met and fell in love. Our memories together span 32 years. Life before meeting each other was childhood. There's something special about growing up together during the teen years.



Briana (Taylor) Foudray '92 & Brad Foudray '92

Brad Foudray & I were class of '92 and were an unexpected connection that happened 6 1/2 years after graduation. We were not high school sweethearts but we would have never happened had it not been for PC. We have been married now for 16 years, have 5 daughters (2 from my previous marriage) and a granddaughter.

Phoenix Christian

Bob's perspective

When and how did you meet your spouse?

Met in our sophomore year. Linda was the 5'2 blue-eyed blond that I had dreamed about.

What did you do on dates?

Homecoming 1965 was our first date. Ballgames, church events, etc. were the mainstay of our dates.

What was your favorite spot on campus?

Ball fields

Did you ever have an "ah-ha" moment where you knew you wanted to spend the rest of your life with her?

We dated for four years and our love continued to grow.

What was it like when you proposed (or were proposed to)?

After four years, we thought it was time. Actually Linda proposed to me! The proposal just happened, no grand hoop-la! Best decision I have ever made!

Where and when did you get married?

Phoenix, AZ – September 6, 1969

How would you describe your spouse? What do you admire most about her?

Loving, sweet, not lazy, great mother, super wife. Loving the Lord with all of her heart.

What do you believe is the key to a successful marriage?

Selflessness. Always trying to talk things out and listen. Helping each other – putting the other first.

Do you have any other memories you would like to share?

We have had a tremendous marriage. I don't think I would change much of anything! God is so good!

Linda's perspective

When and how did you meet your spouse? Do you remember your first impression?

Our sophomore year at PC. I thought his personality was so cute and he was funny (and good looking)!

What did you do on dates?

Went to games at PC, church functions and had french fries and ketchup dates at my house because we didn't have much money.

What was your favorite spot on campus?

The cafeteria

Did you ever have a "ah-ha" moment where you knew you wanted to spend the rest of your life with him?

I just always knew it after the first several dates.

What was it like when you proposed (or were proposed to)? Where and when did it happen? How did you feel?

We dated for four years so it was just known between the two of us. I was the one that pressured him to get on with it (otherwise we might have dated longer). I'm super proud to be Bob's wife.

Where and when did you get married?

Phoenix – September 6, 1969

What memory stands out the most from your wedding day?

Just that I was so happy to be marrying Bob.

How would you describe your spouse?

What do you admire most about him?

He is a man of God, a good decision maker, an extremely hard worker, an awesome husband and father, a good provider, caring and fair. I admire his integrity.

What do you believe is the key to a successful marriage?

Basing your marriage and life on the Lord and Biblical principles.

Do you have any other memories you would like to share?

Bob paid his own tuition to go to PC. Not many guys would pull that off.

High School Sweethearts



Robert Byrd & Linda (Bedel) Byrd '66

Kyndle's perspective

When and how did you meet your spouse?

I remember Chip Allison walking up very enthusiastically to introduce himself and his friend. His friend was standing slightly behind him, looking very cute and quiet. All I got was a wave. But to this day, they are the only two people I remember meeting that day.

What did you do on dates?

Sang in the car. Watched Young Frankenstein. Raced cars. Swam at his house.

What was your favorite spot on campus?

The upstairs room in the art room. Mrs. Wolfe only let her favorites up there.

Did you ever have an "ah-ha" moment where you knew you wanted to spend the rest of your life with him?

I never once had ever even imagined getting married. But one day on the volleyball bus, I remember Jessica Gries asking the team who would be the best guy to marry. We all came to the same consensus that it would be Drew. And I remember in that moment imagining what it would be like to be married. And I imagined him at the top of some stairs calling down to me, "Hey, honey." I still think at this point we had only spoken a few sentences to one another.

Where and when did it happen?

We had a mountain that the both of us lived at the base of on either side. And one night while dating we climbed the very steep side; it was dumb but one of my most treasured memories from back then. So when it came time to propose he took me back. And I cried. And I have never regretted my yes since.

Where and when did you get married?

Arizona Country Club - May 24, 2003

What memory stands out the most from your wedding day?

Drew whiplashing me as we were announced into the reception by stepping on my trailing veil. And the dance, I could dance with him for days.

How would you describe your spouse? What do you admire most about him?

Back then we all described him as chivalrous. Once it was raining and cold outside and he must have heard my teeth chattering because he walked past me and handed me a coat. Didn't say a word. And kept walking. He had gone to his car for it. I was excited all day to give it back. Because we still had not ever spoke. I didn't know what to say.

What do you believe is the key to a successful marriage?

I would rather talk, love and laugh with him than anyone else. That the more I have sought after Christ, the more my ability to love Drew has grown. To be loved by Drew has grown as well. Christ makes the absolutely most romantic stories that can be had in a lifetime.

Do you have any other memories you would like to share?

The first interaction I ever had one-on-one with him was actually our drive on our way to school one morning. I was trying to merge on the 7th street pass from Thunderbird. My car was stuck on the shoulder and traffic was heavy and zooming past me when all of a sudden it all stopped. I looked over to see Drew in his huge '87 Bronco waving me through. I remember blushing and stealing looks at him for the rest of my life.



Drew's perspective

When and how did you meet your spouse? Do you remember?

First day of school sophomore year, in the breezeway. "Look at that amazing girl and her amazing curly hair!"

What did you do on dates?

Most of senior year was spent studying at each other's houses. Our first official date was real classy but other nights included hiking and some great 90s movies.

Where was your favorite spot on campus?

The courtyard

Did you ever have an "ah-ha" moment where you knew you wanted to spend the rest of your life with her?

Driving home one night and realizing that all the colors seemed so much brighter after spending time with her.

What was it like when you proposed (or were proposed to)?

On top of a mountain and the feeling was the same.

Where and when were you married?

Arizona Country Club - May 24, 2003

What memory stands out the most from your wedding?

Everyone was dancing. We looked back at the group and then snuck away while the party was still in full swing.

How would you describe your spouse? What do you admire most about her?

She is wildly passionate about everything and everyone she meets. To be loved by her is to experience a glimpse of Christ's love, wild, passionate and always celebrated.

What do you believe is the key to a successful marriage?

Lot's of prayer! Especially together.

Phoenix Christian High



Drew Cottrell & Kyndle (Baker) Cottrell '02



School Sweethearts

Phoenix Christian

Brian's perspective

When and how did you meet your spouse? Do you remember your first impression?

At PC in the quad area. I spotted her from the library and was like "wow", I've got to meet this freshman girl.

What did you do on dates?

Usually dinner and a movie. Dinner would be at Ed Debivics or Black Angus.

What was your favorite spot on campus?

Benches outside the cafeteria

Did you ever have a "ah-ha" moment where you knew you wanted to spend the rest of your life with her?

Absolutely! She left for college and left me and as the saying goes, "you don't know what you've got until it's gone." That was it!

What was it like when you proposed (or were proposed to)? Where and when did it happen? How did you feel?

Nerve racking. I had my family plus her family waiting down below on the beach as I walked to the balcony to get down on one knee. The only problem was they yelled, "Marie will you marry me" when they saw Marie. For some reason she raced to the balcony and I had to slide down on one knee. It was not how I had it planned in my mind, but still very memorable. I was sweating tremendously!

Where and when did you get married?

Phoenix - June 20, 1999 (HOT, HOT, HOT)

What memory stands out the most from your wedding day?

Riding in a 1930 Hot Rod without air conditioning from the church to the reception (30 minutes)



How would you describe your spouse? What do you admire most about her?

Fun, friendly, caring, an inspiration, my perfect soul-mate. Her perseverance in adversity.

What do you believe is the key to successful marriage?

Your firm relationship with Christ. Being selfless and having a servant's heart. Laugh, laugh and laugh some more. Finally, pray together!

Do you have any memories you would like to share?

When all is said and done I know I'll remember PC as a place that helped me form my foundation in Christ and equipped me to be the leader of our house. God used PC as the place where "my" family's story would begin by bringing me together with my soul mate.

Brian Jeffries '93 & Marie (Allison) Jeffries '95

High School Sweethearts



Marie's perspective

When and how did you meet your spouse? Do you remember your first impression?

Brian had an upright reputation, so I knew of his high moral standards before I even knew who he was.

What did you do on dates?

Most frequently we went to dinner and saw a movie.

What was your favorite spot on campus?

My locker where Brian would frequently leave flowers, balloons or poems.

Did you ever have an "ah-ha" moment where you knew you wanted to spend the rest of your life with him?

With a love so young and naive, I am just so grateful to still really like the person I chose to love all those many years ago.

What was it like when you proposed (or were proposed to)? Where and when did it happen? How did you feel?

Brian completely surprised me by proposing on the balcony in Carlsbad, CA overlooking a giant heart carved in the beach by our family and friends. My 'lil bro was the videographer who caught the whole thing on tape with hilarious commentary. I was speechless; I couldn't believe my dream of marrying my high school sweetheart was finally going to come true!

Where and when did you get married?

Desiring to be a June bride, we were wed on a blissfully hot day in June 1999. Oh my dear! If I could, I would do it all over again.

What memory stands out the most from your wedding day?

Feeling so loved and honored by my family and friends as Brian and I pledged our lifelong commitment to God and each other.

How would you describe your spouse?

What do you admire most about him?

Brian is a wonderfully loving husband who is a great listener and is incredibly dependable. But the characteristic I love the most is His desire to follow God and honor Him.

What do you believe is the key to a successful marriage?

Willingness to learn and forgiveness when you hurt the other's feelings.

Do you have any other memories you would like to share?

After our first date, I remember telling my best friend that I feel like I got the "prince" right out of the gate; I thought you were supposed to date "frogs" and work your way up to finding your "prince."

What's New with You?

W

e love hearing from you! Please send updates to CougarNow@phoenixchristian.org.

Calendar

March

9

4:00 - 7:00pm

Open House

PC Campus

April

29

1:30pm

Golf Tournament
proceeds benefit PC's
Foster Care Program
and Golf Team

GCU Golf Course

March

11

8:00am - 2:00pm

Rummage Sale &
5K Fun Run, Family
1 Mile Color Run

Register online at
PC's homepage

May

5

11:00am

Mother/Daughter
Banquet

PC Courtyard

May

18

9:15am

Senior Chapel

PC Gym

April

7-8

3:00 & 7:00pm

12 Angry Jurors

PC's Black Box Theatre

April

8

10:00am - 1:00pm

Open House

PC Campus

May

23

6:30pm

8th Grade Promotion

Trinity Bible Church

May

25

6:30pm

High School Graduation

Bethany Bible Church

April

11

7:00 - 8:30pm

Experience the Arts,
A Dessert Theatre at
Phoenix Christian

PC Gym

Letters

We would love to start receiving the newsletter via email. Will you please add us to the list? Thanks so much!! I was just saying the other day that it looks like God is really using you guys to bring PC back to its roots and doing amazing things for His glory!!

Richard graduated 2000 and I was 2001 (maiden name Cutting). We got married in 2004 and we are now living in Laveen, and just recently made the switch to Laveen Baptist Church (Pastor Jerry Neal, if you remember the Neal boys). We also see the Richardsons there often so it's neat to connect with PC families again. We have 2 girls, Addison who is 8 and Evelyn who

is 5. Richard works for SRP and I stay home but now that they're both in school all day I have actually started working part time (for my brother, actually, Anthony Cutting, 2005). I also launched a Walking School Bus (just what it sounds like, I basically walk students safely to and from school) program at the girls' school a couple of years ago so that keeps me busy too. I have attached a pretty recent photo!!



Richard '00 & Jacque (Cutting) Alvarado '01

God is really using you to bring PC back to it's roots

Produced by the PC Family
for the PC Family

CougarNow

Volume 3 • February 2017 Phoenix Christian Preparatory School



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