

Volume 5-1
[Print Form](#)

Newsletter

Fall 2006

Letter from the President

Home again

I never would have dreamt that it would be possible again. But as I hauled boxes and furniture up three flights of stairs into the renovated Marycrest Peterson Commons, here I was moving into Marycrest again!

Though this time it was my father-in-law, Don DeWitt, who was actually moving in to the dorm where I had lived as a junior some 20 years ago.

More than three years after my beloved college closed its doors – ending its chapter as an institution of higher learning, the Davenport campus now has accepted a new role. Known as the Marycrest Senior Campus, the housing complex of Signature Development Group is welcoming senior citizens like Don to reside in the dozens of newly refurbished apartments that now occupy the campus' buildings.

I can't express how much pride and joy I feel every time I go over to visit him and I walk across the Quad or through Petersen and realize that Marycrest lives on.

Don may not be 18 and away from home for the first time, but in many ways his story is much like mine or any other Marycrest alum. As we all did during our time there, he is making new friends, finding common ground with other residents, seeking conversation and recreation with people his own age and settling right into The Crest.



A resident of the Marycrest Senior Campus enjoys the view from the Quad during the 2005

In addition, the work Signature and Chris Ales have devoted to the renovations has brought the buildings back to the level where they deserved to be.

Don's two-bedroom apartment is much smaller than the house he left behind, but for an old dorm it feels so new, functional and very comfortable.

They're days I wish I were old enough to live there again.

Homecoming events.

If you were never in the old cafeteria, you can't appreciate how upscale and modern their cafeteria is – but I do. In his building, which offers assisted living services for the residents, there is an activity room, a family lounge and sitting areas that also promote a spirit of togetherness.

Across the Quad, a multi-level parking garage replaced what we knew as "The Pit." What a luxury that would have been.

And it's also an honor to see the building's original names still around the senior campus.

My Marycrest will never be there again. But thanks to its new owners – and the newest crop of residents -- it also doesn't feel so far away anymore.

Jennifer (Waddell) DeWitt, Class '87
Marycrest Alumni Association President

We Need Your Support

Throughout the history of the Marycrest Alumni Association, the organization has had the college, its staff and resources to lean on and to support the association's existence.

After having bid farewell to our alma mater in 2002 the association today more than ever before needs your help to keep going. We need alums to keep in touch with the board share your milestones with us, join us in our activities, visit our Web site and keep the Marycrest spirit going. And with an all volunteer board, we also need your financial support.



Peterson Manor

With your contributions, the board intends to continue producing a regular newsletter, maintain its Web site and host regular events such as [Homecoming](#) to keep drawing alums together. So whether you can give of your time to assist us in a project or offer a financial gift, your help is appreciated greatly.

Membership to the association is being expanded to not only include all graduates of Marycrest, but also all honorary alums, former students, faculty, staff, administration and friends of Marycrest.

Benefits of your generous support:

- Help fund our semi annual Marycrest Alumni Newsletter and Web site, which includes photos, activity information, and bios of the current class notes.
- Provide future scholarship programs.
- Support leadership within the Association and its mission to inspire leaders to become more involved in their community.

- Support the Sisters of Humility.

To help us defray costs, we are asking each member to send a yearly donation of \$15. Other gifts are:

- Memorial, In memory of... \$ _____
- Alumni Member, \$15
- Sustaining Member, \$25-\$49
- Marycrest Spirit, \$50-\$99
- Patron, \$100-\$249
- The Crest Gift, \$250 and up

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Gifts of any level will be appreciate. To donate to the Alumni Association, make checks payable to the Marycrest Alumni Association and send to Bob Merchie, Treasurer, 2410 40th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201.

page [1](#) . [2](#) . [3](#) . [4](#)

[back to top](#)



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