

I remember when ...

I will always appreciate what Dr. Robert Foster did for me when I was a student at Northwest.

I had four years of military service during the Korean War and worked for about 20 months before I decided I should go to college.

I came to Northwest in June 1956 wondering if I was too old to start a college career, but from the very start I was encouraged by Dr. Foster. In the fall of 1956, I was standing in a long line attempting to register for the semester when Dr. Foster grabbed me by the arm and jokingly inquired what I was doing.

He told me he was sure I had stood in enough lines during my military life and took me to the head of the line and told the young lady to give me the cards necessary for the classes I needed.

During my first summer semester, I told him of my strong desire to graduate as soon as possible and he said he understood that. He called me into his

office at the start of the fall semester in 1956 and told me he had a plan so I could graduate in August 1958. He explained to me that it wouldn't be easy, but it was possible and involved me going to two colleges at the same time. I assured him I would do my best to accomplish the goal. I never told him I had a full-time job in the evenings and weekends for fear he'd have second thoughts.

Thanks to him and his plan, I graduated in August 1958.

George E. Maher '58



Charles Gillis '61 crowns Martha Guest Rainey '62 the 1960 Barnwarming Queen at the Ag Club's primary social function of the year. Attendants were Betty Johnson, Etta Lee Gray and Marilyn Larson Frueh '62.

I met Dr. Robert Foster on my first trip to the Northwest campus in 1975 after being appointed to the Northwest Board of Regents. As the institution's president he gave me a warm welcome. He took time to explain my duties and responsibilities as a regent. He made me feel welcome and eased my concerns about my new responsibilities. He proved to be a fine administrator with an extraordinary love for the institution, the students and faculty. His wife, Virginia, was very hospitable and always made everyone feel welcome.

Alfred McKemy

Dr. Kelley Sowards, who taught humanities, opened my eyes to the world, and because of him I knew I wanted to travel and discover for myself the great works of art and architecture. Dr. Sterling Surrey was another great teacher. One morning before class I was sitting outside his classroom telling a classmate that I hadn't read the assignment. About that time I saw Dr. Surrey standing there, and when we got in class, he of course gave one of his famous pop quizzes.

Mary Jane Kurtz Judge '54

I remember my first year at Northwest when there was a major blizzard and classes were cancelled for the first time in years. The theatre department had a show scheduled, and several of us walked from Hudson to the Performing Arts Center with snow up to our waists. The normally five-minute walk took half an hour!

Carrie Cleland Fishner '01

Do you remember these events?

1958

Underclassmen are no longer allowed to enroll before seniors, allowing seniors to gain all necessary hours needed to graduate. *The Northwest Missourian*

Northwest begins its 53rd year with a record enrollment of 1,819, a 16 percent increase from the previous year. *The Northwest Missourian*

1968

A one-room schoolhouse is donated to Northwest. Under Tom Carneal's direction, the school is moved to a site north of the power house and east of the Administration Building. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*

1978

The Office of Computing Services acquires a computer that functions as a server with multiple terminal access, making computing available to students and faculty beyond the departments of mathematics and computer science. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*

1988

The use of e-mail is restricted to the hours of 9 p.m. to 9 a.m. because it becomes "nearly impossible" to access a computer during the day for academic use. *Tower yearbook*

1998

Ground is broken for Northwest's new Biomass Processing Center. The facility will create pellets to heat the University. *Tower yearbook*

Instead of having students who complete their graduation requirements in December return for a May commencement ceremony, Northwest adds a December ceremony. *Tower yearbook*