

Distinguished Alumni Award

Bardwell F. White

The University High School Alumni Association honors Bardwell F. White, class of 1960, as the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient for his contributions to his profession and civic service.

With almost 60 years of experience in the Information Technology (IT) arena, White is recognized for his significant industry accomplishments and overall contributions to his community.

White graduated from University High School in 1960 where he displayed an early interest in computer programming. During his senior year, he wrote his first computer program while attending a workshop for potential new students at the University of Illinois Engineering Lab. The computer he used to write the program was named the Illiac, which now resides in the Smithsonian Museum in Washington D.C.

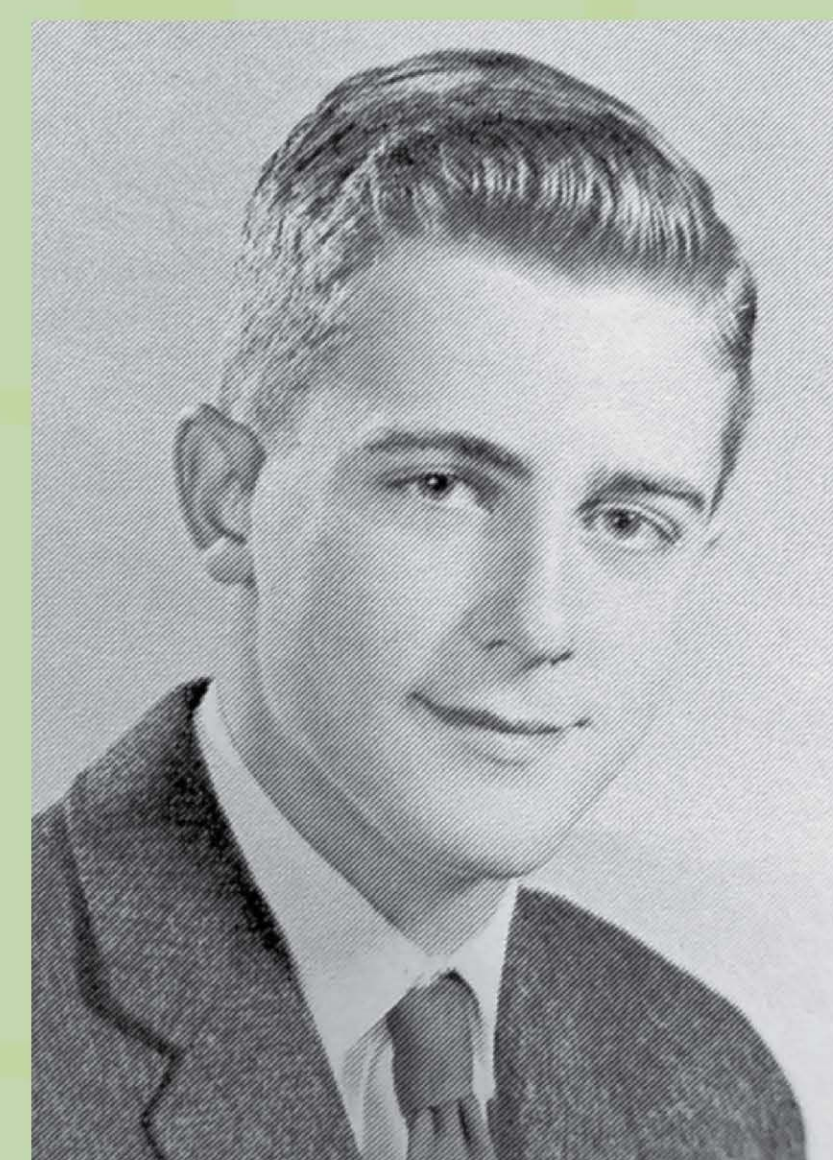
After graduation, White began his college career at Bradley University and later transferred to Parsons College (Fairfield, IA), earning his Bachelor of Arts in Management in 1964. While at Parsons, White took all the available computer and machine wiring classes offered and began working in the Parsons Library and the Computer Center. He started wiring IBM tabulating machines and later moved on to programming the first computer at Parsons – the IBM 1620.

White later went on to earn a Master's Degree in Computer Science from Southern Illinois University (SIU), where he was the first graduate of the computer science program in 1967.

White currently is the President (Founder) of the Whitecrest IT Consulting Group. Over his Information Technology career, White's experience has ranged from writing software business applications, to building computer centers and hiring/managing technical staffs, to managing large programming groups offshore in Ireland and India. In addition to his current position, he has held many significant leadership roles throughout his successful Information Technology career. White also served as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) for several worldwide manufacturing companies including Spalding Sports Worldwide, Pioneer Valley Transit, and Rexam Graphics. In 1995, he was named the worldwide CIO of the year by Bull Inc.

White's career has kept him very busy, yet he has found time to give back to the community. He currently volunteers a lot of his time teaching weekends in a Supermax prison and weeknights in four other area prisons. His teaching objective is to help people who will be returning to society to have values and practices that will help them avoid a future wrong course. White has also worked as a volunteer in Costa Rica, Panama, and New Orleans on earth quake and hurricane relief efforts.

White and his wife of 52 years have three children and four grandchildren. In addition to enjoying time with his family, White also enjoys being a Holocaust researcher in his spare time. He is currently collecting research material and writing a book on some of the unique stands of individual bravery in the World War II concentration camps and Federal prisons.



University High School
