

1951

A.J. ANTOINE is a retired educator with 52 years of service. He was a science and math teacher, principal, supervisor of science and math, and director



of secondary education for the Lafayette Parish School System for 38 years before retiring in 1986. Antoine then joined UL Lafayette's faculty, where he was an adjunct supervisor of student teachers in math and science for 14 years. During his career, he was president of several professional associations, president of the Lafayette Area Football Officials Association and chairman of the Lafayette Parish Vocational Education Advisory Committee. Antoine received the Phi Delta Kappa Outstanding Educator Award in 1989. He holds a bachelor's degree in science education from SLI and a master's degree in administration and supervision from USL. He and his wife, Sally, have been married for 57 years. They have four children, who all attended UL Lafayette, **MICHAEL ANTOINE**; **MARK ANTOINE**; **DAVID G. ANTOINE**, '79; and **LISA ANTOINE COLOMB**, '80.

1954

DR. JAMES V. BURNETT is a dentist in Fort Worth, Texas, who specializes in prosthodontics. He is a fellow in the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists. In 1983, he was named Texas Dentist of the Year by the Texas Academy of General Dentistry. He has also received a Distinguished Service Award from the Fort Worth

District Dental Society and the Texas Dental Association. A U.S. Navy veteran, Burnett was on active duty in World War II and the Korean War; he served in the Naval Reserve for 34 years. He is a Rotarian, Mason and Shriner. He helped establish the Salt and Light Charity Dental Clinic. Burnett received a bachelor's degree in biology from SLI and a doctor of dental surgery degree from Baylor Dental College. He and his wife, Janie, have a daughter, four sons and nine grandchildren.

1956

ROSE M. GIGLIO BRYAN, a Realtor®, established Bryan Realty in March 2007 in Farmers Branch, Texas, near Dallas-Forth Worth. She has achieved the designation of Graduate Realtor® Institute and is a certified real estate specialist. Bryan earned a bachelor's degree in secretarial science from Southwest Louisiana Institute. She has two children, Paul A. Billings and Herbert E. Billings.

1961

JEROME A. LANDRY recently retired as president and chief executive officer of Frontier Technology Inc., an information technology company in Reston, Va. He retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1994 as a brigadier general. Landry is a former senior vice president at BDM International and TRW. He holds a bachelor of science degree in liberal arts from USL and a master's degree from Auburn University. Landry and his wife, Theresa, live in Hollidaysburg, Pa. The couple have four children, Jerome H. Landry, Courtney Cochrane, Bernadette Landry and Jerome Landry Jr.

1966

GAY ANN PATIN BRASHER was recently inducted into the Hall of Fame of the National Forensic League Debate and Speech Honor Society. She directs the



forensics program at Leland High School in San Jose, Calif. That school's debate team is the largest in the United States, with more than 300 members. Leland High School named its new auditorium in Brasher's honor. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees in education from USL, where she was a member of the university's speech and debate team. She is married to **THOMAS BRASHER**, '70. Their daughter, **CAROLE LYNN BRASHER HEINEN**, '86, is a third-grade teacher who lives with her husband and two sons in San Jose.

1969

WARREN A. PERRIN was inducted into the Louisiana Justice Hall of Fame by the Louisiana State Penitentiary Museum Foundation in July 2007. The Hall of Fame was created in 2005 to honor members of law enforcement, the judiciary and related fields. Perrin received a bachelor's degree from USL and a *juris doctor* from Paul M. Hebert Law Center at LSU. He is an attorney with the firm Perrin, Landry, deLaunay, Darte and Ouellet in Lafayette. He is a former president of the UL Lafayette Alumni Association. Perrin is married to **MARY B. PERRIN**, '70.

1970

MARY B. PERRIN was recently honored at the 13th annual Women of Excellence award ceremony. She has helped promote Louisiana's native crafts, art and culture and has been instrumental in helping artists, especially Creoles and Houma Indians, market their work. She is the only Louisiana artist represented in the prestigious 20th anniversary Artist Book Exhibit at the National Museum of Women Artists in Washington, D.C. She earned a bachelor's of fine arts degree from USL and a master of fine arts degree from Vermont College. She and her husband, **WARREN PERRIN**, '69, live in Lafayette.

1972

JOSEPH WINSTON FONTENOT has a real estate investment company in Euleess, Texas. He is a former assistant vice president of Bank of America in Addison, Texas. During his career, Fontenot has been a senior information technology manager and a consultant to some Fortune 500 companies. He received a bachelor's degree in management from USL. He is married to Margaret Chaplain Fontenot.



1973

DIANNE BROWN WHITTINGTON is a clinical instructor in communicative disorders at UL Lafayette. She holds a bachelor's degree in communicative disorders from USL and a master's degree in communicative disorders from Bowling Green State University.

Whittington and her husband, **JAMES WHITTINGTON JR.**, '69, have a daughter, **RACHEL WHITTINGTON SAFFO**, '02, who is married to **DAVID SAFFO**, '04; and two sons, **MATTHEW WHITTINGTON**, '03, who is married to **GISELLE LUQUETTE**, '03, and **PAUL WHITTINGTON**, who was accepted into LSU School of Veterinary Medicine after completing his third year at UL Lafayette. Paul Whittington is expected to earn his degree in veterinary medicine in May.

1974

KAROLYN BROUSSARD is president of Region 1 of QHR Management Services. She oversees ongoing client service and new business development in the Eastern



and midwestern sections of the United States. She also manages a team of QHR regional executives who advise hospital management teams and boards on hospital operations. Broussard received a bachelor's degree in medical records science and a master's degree in business administration from USL. She lives in Nashville.

LOWELL HINCHEE recently earned the designation of master certified flight instructor – acrobatic, which is held by only 15 of the 91,000 certified flight instructors in the United States. He learned to fly in 1969 while serving in the U.S. Army at Fort Lewis, Wash. After completing his military service, Hinchee received a bachelor's degree in agronomy from USL. He flew crop dusters and later taught aviation at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. He left the teaching post to pursue development of specialized aviation training. In 1999, Hinchee established Foundation Flyers Inc. in Winter Haven, Fla. It offers specialized pilot training in lifesaving, unusual altitude recovery techniques. Hinchee is also a Federal Aviation Administration Safety Team representative.

1975

DAPHNE CAGLE was named the



Sacramento City Unified School District Teacher of the Year in June 2007. She teaches students at Sutter Middle School in Sacramento, Calif., who are communicatively handicapped. She also provides assistance to teachers there who are in the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment program. Cagle holds a bachelor's degree in speech and hearing therapy and a master's degree in speech pathology and audiology from USL. She is married to Elliot Mulberg; the couple have a son, Jonathan.

1976

JACK LANGLOIS is one of three attorneys establishing a Houston office for DLA Piper, the nation's largest law firm. He was formerly head of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer and Feld LLP's energy projects practice in Houston. Langlois received a bachelor's degree in prelaw from USL and a *juris doctor* from Paul M. Hebert Law Center at LSU.

TOM SANDAHL was named president emeritus and director of carrier relations of Wright and Percy Insurance in February. The company is based in Baton Rouge, La. Sandahl earned a degree in business administration from USL.

1977

MICHAEL LANGSTON, a U.S. Navy chaplain, recently returned from a two-year tour of duty in Afghanistan and Iraq. This summer, he will become the new commanding officer of the Naval Chaplain School in Newport, R.I. It's the only commanding officer position for chaplains in the U.S. Navy. He will have seven weeks of specialized training prior to assuming his new post. Langston

A Look Back



1946

Jeff DeBlanc, '46, was the first SLI alumnus to receive the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award. President Harry S. Truman is shown presenting the medal during a ceremony in Washington, D.C. In an air battle over the Pacific during World War II, DeBlanc risked his own life to help fellow fighter pilots. He died in November 2007.



www.louisiana.edu/Advancement/PRNS/lala/2001-SPRG/alumni.pdf

was a member of the Ragin' Cajuns football team from 1973-77. He and his wife, Kathy, have two sons, Michael and Jeff, and a daughter, Elizabeth.



champion trampolinist while a student at USL. Her father, Jeff Hennessy, was the gymnastics and trampoline coach at USL for over 25

1980

THOMAS COTTEN was recently reelected to a two-year term as a board member-at-large for the Society of Louisiana CPAs. He graduated *cum laude* from



UL Lafayette with a degree in marketing. Cotten operates his own consulting and tax firm in Baton Rouge. Cotten serves on the boards of directors for the Baton Rouge Area Foundation and The Center for Planning Excellence.

LEIGH HENNESSY was recently inducted into the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame at the national gymnastics championships held in San Jose, Calif. She was a world

years. He was inducted into the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame in 1992. The Hennessys are the only father and daughter team inducted into the Hall of Fame. Leigh

1900-1921
Southwestern Louisiana
Industrial Institute

1921-1960
Southwestern Louisiana
Institute

1960-1999
University of Southwestern
Louisiana

1999-PRESENT
University of Louisiana at
Lafayette

ALUMNI PROFILE: CYNDIE GUIDRY WILKINS

She's a Big Wheel on Campus

CYNDIE GUIDRY WILKINS, '73, learned to ride a unicycle when she was 10 years old in Rayne, La.

It's a skill she uses today as a sixth-grade and seventh-grade family and consumer sciences teacher at Fairhope Middle School in Fairhope, Ala.

"At the beginning of my course each year, I ride my unicycle for my students to reinforce the importance of setting goals and working very hard to reach them," she told *La Louisiane*.

In 2006, Wilkins was looking for a way to encourage kids to get more exercise after hearing a news report that Alabama had the highest rate of childhood obesity in the nation. So when her students expressed interest in unicycling, she decided to start a club. The group has since tripled its membership.

"We ride in parades, at pep rallies and for various community events," Wilkins said.

The Fairhope Middle School Unicycle Club is the first of its kind in the Alabama public school system. Wilkins also wrote and implemented the first middle school unicycle physical education curriculum in the state.

This year, she obtained a \$2,000 grant to purchase 25 unicycles and gear for the school's Physical Education Department.

In June, she was chosen Teacher of the Year by the faculty at Fairhope Middle School.

Wilkins holds a bachelor's degree in vocational home economics education from USL. She is married to Mason Wilkins. ■



Hennessy graduated *summa cum laude* from USL with a bachelor's degree in speech and audiology. She earned a master's degree in communication from USL two years later. Now a movie stunt-woman, Hennessy lives in Van Nuys, Calif.

1981

MARY ELLEN ROY, was recently featured in the 2007 "Louisiana Super Lawyers" publication as an expert in First Amendment law. She is a partner in the commercial litigation group of the New Orleans office of Phelps-Dunbar law firm. She also specializes in intellectual property law and business litigation. Roy

is a member of the Louisiana Board of Regents and a former chair of the Louisiana State Bar Association Intellectual Property Law Section. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science from USL and a *juris doctor* from Harvard Law School. Roy is married to John Harkins; they have two children, Madeleine and David.

RUSSELL WILLIAMS is a sound engineer and mixer for "Fox Morning News" and "Good Day LA" in Los Angeles. He holds a bachelor's degree in mass communication from USL. Williams and his wife, Kimberli Williams, have a six-year-old daughter, Nora Elizabeth.

1983

JOSEPH J. (JIM) GUIDROZ III is senior associate at BSA LifeStructures, an architectural firm that designs health care, education, research and technology facilities. He works in the firm's Indianapolis office. Guidroz earned a bachelor's degree in architecture from USL.

KEVIN D. HEBERT is a hydrogeologist for Southwest Ground-water Consultants Inc. of Phoenix, Ariz. His professional duties include project management and groundwater studies. Hebert holds a degree in geology from USL. He is married to Cheryl Pantea Hebert. They have a daughter, Dayle, and a son, Ben.

1984

TODD S. CLEMONS recently opened the law firm of Todd Clemons and Associates in Lake Charles, La., where he has practiced law for 20 years. He has served as a prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Justice, as an assistant district attorney for Calcasieu Parish and as a law clerk for Henry L. Yelverton of the Louisiana Court of Appeal, Third Circuit. Clemons earned a bachelor's degree in general studies from USL and graduated *summa cum laude* from Southern University Law Center. He is a member of the board of directors of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana.

JOHN N. FELSHER was recently promoted from managing editor to associate editor of *Sport Fishing* magazine, based in Orlando, Fla. In this new capacity, he does more

writing for the magazine, which is dedicated to salt water fishing. As a freelance writer, he has published more than 1,100 articles in more than 90 publications and contributed to four books. He also manages an e-zine, www.JohnNFelsher.com. Felsher holds a bachelor's degree in English



from USL and a master's degree from Webster University. He and his wife, Dawn, live in Winter Springs, Fla., with their two sons.

1986

J. MORRIS ARDOIN is director of communication of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society in New York City. The oldest migration organization in the nation, HIAS has helped rescue and resettle more than 4.5 million people escaping persecution since it was founded in 1881. "Today, we are in the thick of Comprehensive Immigration Reform Advocacy and work with refugees all over the world, including Darfur, where we are operating in five of the Darfur refugee camps in Chad, helping refugees develop emotional/psychological survival skills," he told *La Louisiane*. Ardoin has lived and worked in New Orleans, London and Warsaw, Poland. In Warsaw, he taught public relations to students in Poland's first private university. He received a master's degree in communication from USL.

SUSAN CONNOR BEGNAUD is executive director of United Blood Services in Louisiana, where she has been employed for 19 years. She oversees operations for the community blood center, which has offices in Lafayette, Baton Rouge, Thibodaux, Morgan City and Slidell. She also serves as district director for a tri-state area for the South Central Association of Blood Banks. Begnaud received a bachelor's degree in general studies from USL. She and her husband, Kevin, have a daughter, Courtney. They live in Lafayette.

ANITA ZIMMER was recently promoted to manager in the Litigation Support and Business Valuation division of Wegmann Dazet and Company, a New Orleans



CPA and consulting firm. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from USL. Zimmer, a CPA, is accredited in business valuation by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

1989

DANIEL SILAS is general manager of Hampton Inn Springfield-South in Springfield, Mo. He holds a Certified Hotel Administrator designation from the American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute. Silas received a bachelor's degree in restaurant administration from USL. He has three children, London, Sterling and Grace.

1991

CHRISTINE RASPBERRY DUNN, a CPA, recently became the 2007-08 president of the Acadiana chapter of the Society of Louisiana CPAs. She will serve a one-year term. Dunn earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from USL. She is an audit manager with Wright, Moore, Dehart, Dupuis and Hutchinson LLC in Lafayette.

TARA G. RICHARD is a partner in Jones Walker's litigation practice. She joined the New Orleans firm in 2000 after completing a clerkship with Catherine D. Kimball, associate justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court. Richard primarily practices in the fields of bankruptcy, creditors and debtors rights, environmental law and energy law. She holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from USL and a *juris doctor* from Paul M. Hebert Law Center at LSU.

1996

STACY ANN BROWN is senior administrative project coordinator for Ochsner Health System's Center for Health Research in New Orleans. Brown is a part-time inpatient medical records coder for Slidell Memorial Hospital. A registered nurse, she works part time in the intensive care unit of Touro Hospital in New Orleans. Brown holds a bachelor's degree in health information management from USL and a master's degree in health care systems management from Loyola University in New Orleans.

ALONZO FRANK is a gospel rap artist known as ZO. Drove Entertainment's Gospel Division released his debut CD, "Fully Committed," in the fall of 2007. "My main focus on this CD is providing the youth with music that will impact their lives in a positive way," Frank

stated in a press release. He is a youth director at the Spirit and Truth Church in Lafayette. Frank received a bachelor's degree in business administration from USL.

BRENDA HEBERT MELANCON will earn alternative teaching certification in secondary family and consumer science this spring. Melancon received a bachelor's degree in child and family studies and a master's degree in education from UL Lafayette. She lives in Breaux Bridge, La. Melancon's daughter, KIERA ROWLAND, and son, LUKAS ROWLAND, attend UL Lafayette.

1997

SIDNEY "JAY" BIENVENU, works at EPCI Systems in Verona, Wis., where he develops software programs for the health care industry. He earned a bachelor's degree in computer engineering and a master's degree in telecommunications from USL.

1999

MARGARET BIENVENU is a concierge at Walt Disney World's Yacht and Beach Resort and its Port Orleans Resort in Orlando, Fla. She also leads "Adventures by Disney" tours in London and Paris. Bienvenu received a bachelor's degree in sociology from USL.

ANDREW PERRIN recently opened an architecture firm, Andrew Perrin Design LLC, in Lafayette. He received a bachelor's degree in architecture from USL and a master's degree in architecture from Syracuse University.

2001

PATRICE M. GREIG, a fourth-grade teacher, was named Teacher of the Year at Teche Elementary School in Cecilia, La., for 2006-2007. She has served as fourth-grade 4-H leader for three years. Greig is enrolled in the master's of Gifted Education Program at UL Lafayette. She received a bachelor's degree in elementary education, grades 1-8, from UL Lafayette.

2002

ALI M. AL-ALAWI is an electrical engineer in Manama, Bahrain. He holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from UL Lafayette.

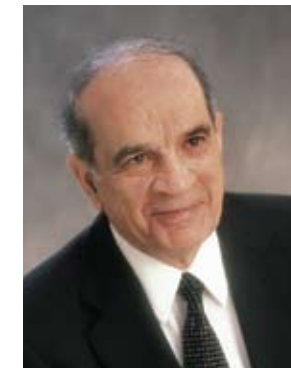
2003

SARAH BOLDING was recently chosen to serve on the Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants' first Young CPA board. That board represents the more than 800 LCPA members who are ages 35 and younger. Bolding received a bachelor's degree

in business administration from UL Lafayette. A CPA, she is a staff accountant with Broussard, Poché, Lewis and Breaux LLP in Lafayette.

NADINE DUNBAR is chief attorney and chief executive officer of the Law Office of Nadine Dunbar in Lake Charles, La. She is also a

Would you like to send your best wishes to Dr. Ray Authement?



More than 65,000 men and women have graduated from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette while Dr. Ray Authement has been its president.

He's the longest-sitting president of any public university in the United States.

Authement will retire this spring after serving as UL Lafayette's president since 1974. Under his leadership, the

university has made impressive progress. For instance, it:

- implemented selective admissions;
- was designated by the Carnegie Foundation as a "Research University with High Research Activity";
- joined NCAA Division I, the highest level of collegiate athletic competition;
- flourished despite repeated state budget cuts;
- helped diversify the local and Louisiana economies after the statewide Oil Bust of the 1980s;
- developed University Research Park; and
- raised its gifted assets from about \$500,000 to almost \$150 million.

One of his biggest accomplishments was relentlessly pursuing a name change for the university. In 1999, the University of Southwestern Louisiana became the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, a name that more accurately reflects its status as an institution with statewide and national, rather than regional, influence.

If you're a UL Lafayette graduate, attended the university or just appreciate Authement's many contributions to Lafayette, Acadiana and Louisiana, you are invited to send him your best wishes.

You can send a letter or card to this address:

ATTN: RETIREMENT COMMITTEE
PUBLIC RELATIONS AND NEWS SERVICES

UL LAFAYETTE
P. O. BOX 41009
LAFAYETTE, LA 70504

Or, you can email a message to him at prns@louisiana.edu

ALUMNI INFORMATION FORM

If you enjoy reading about where your former classmates are now and what they're doing, consider this: They'd like to read about you, too. Please fill out the form below and mail it back to UL Lafayette or go to www.louisiana.edu/louisiane to submit the information online.

NAME

FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST	MAIDEN NAME
-------	--------	------	-------------

ADDRESS

STREET OR BOX			
CITY	STATE	ZIP	

PHONE

HOME	OFFICE
------	--------

E-MAIL **FAX**

MAJOR & DATE OF GRADUATION

OR THE SEMESTER YOU LAST ATTENDED THE UNIVERSITY

CURRENT JOB TITLE

BUSINESS NAME

BUSINESS ADDRESS

PROFESSIONAL DUTIES

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SPOUSE'S NAME

FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST	MAIDEN NAME
-------	--------	------	-------------

SPOUSE'S USL OR UL LAFAYETTE GRADUATION DATE

AND MAJOR, IF A FORMER USL STUDENT

CHILDREN

(IF ANY ARE UL LAFAYETTE STUDENTS OR USL GRADUATES, PLEASE INDICATE)

CURRENT DATE

Please mail this form to La Louisiane, Box 41009, Lafayette, LA 70504-1009 or send it online at www.louisiana.edu/louisiane

member of Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal's staff. She focuses on initiatives related to people with disabilities. She served in that capacity in former Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco's administration. Dunbar, who holds a bachelor's degree in political science (pre-law) from UL Lafayette, received a *juris doctor* from Southern University Law Center.

2004

HEIDI A. FISHER is a pharmaceutical sales representative for Sepracor Inc. She holds a bachelor's degree in health information management from UL Lafayette and is a registered health information administrator. Fisher lives in Lafayette.

IN MEMORIAM

JEANETTE PITRE DOUCET, '27, died May 24, 2007, at age 100 in Opelousas, La. She graduated from SLI with a degree in education. Doucet taught in several St. Landry Parish schools before retiring from W. B. Prescott Elementary School in Opelousas in 1962. She was an active member of the St. Landry Parish Retired Teachers' Association and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary. She is survived by two stepsons, Charles Doucet and J.C. Doucet; one stepdaughter, Emma Lou Moory; and many nieces, nephews and step-grandchildren. Doucet was preceded in death by her husband, Marshall J. Doucet; a sister, **OLIVE P. THOMS,**



'28; and two brothers, Lawrence Pitre and Floyd Pitre.

OLIVE PITRE THOMS, '28, died in Opelousas, La., on Dec. 29, 2006. She was 98. A longtime resident of Rosa, La., Thoms was a retired teacher and past member of VFW Auxiliary Post No. 2483. She held a degree in education from SLI. Survivors include two daughters, Eugenia T. "Genie" Doucet and **ELIZABETH T. "BETTY" DUGAL, '52**; nine grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; five stepgrandchildren; and several stepgreat-grandchildren. Thoms was preceded in death by her husband, Hicks Thoms; one daughter, Muriel Elgie T. Sutton; and two brothers, Joseph Floyd Pitre and Lawrence Pitre. Her sister, **JEANETTE PITRE DOUCET, '27**, died May 24, 2007.



EDGAR GLYNN ABEL, '39, former dean of men at UL Lafayette, died March 22, 2008, in Lafayette. While a student at Southwestern Louisiana Institute, he was vice president of the student body and president of the Blue Key National Honorary Fraternity. He also lettered in track, football, and baseball. After graduating from SLI, he was named its assistant dean of men. Abel served in the U.S. Navy during World War II from 1942 to 1945. He was the command-



ing officer of a mine sweeper in the Gulf of Mexico and executive officer of a mine sweeper in the South Pacific Ocean. He continued to serve in the Naval Reserve for 31 years. After his discharge from active duty, Abel earned a master's degree in educational administration from Stanford University. From 1946 until 1969, he was dean of men at USL. He often been cited for his key role in the peaceful desegregation of the university in the mid-1950s. He was manager of the Lafayette Municipal Auditorium from 1969 to 1972. He then served as the city's director of Community Affairs. Abel was a 1983 recipient of the Civic Cup Award of Lafayette and coordinator of The Lafayette Centennial Celebration. Survivors include his sister, Freda Abel Harper; a son, Daniel Glynn Abel of New Orleans; two grandchildren, Shane M. Gates and Christine E. Hymel of New Orleans; and one great-grandson, Grafton Gabriel Gates of New Orleans.

LUCIEN BERNARD 'FRENCHY' GOVERNALE died Jan. 8, 2006, at his residence in DeRidder, La. He was 87. While attending SLI from 1937 to 1940, Governale was a pitcher for the SLI Bulldogs and ran track. After college, he played in professional baseball's minor league. Governale joined the U.S. Army and served in five battle campaigns during World War II, including the Invasion of Normandy. He later worked for Crosby Chemicals and was employed by Brown and Root Construction when he retired. He was honored by several organizations for his work with athletic programs for youth. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Sethie Cole Governale of DeRidder, La.; one son, **GARY B. GOVERNALE SR., '69**; three daughters, Barbara Governale, Jackie Schulz and Debra Lockerman; 11 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

JEFFERSON J. DEBLANC SR., '47, Louisiana's last World War II Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, died Nov. 22, 2007, in Lafayette. He was 86. As a Marine Corps fighter pilot, he earned the Medal



of Honor for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty." In January 1943, he was leading a section of six fighter planes during aerial operations against Japanese forces in the Solomon Islands. He continued fighting even after he realized his plane no longer had enough fuel to return him to his military base in Guadalcanal. After destroying five Japanese aircraft, he was forced to bail out of his damaged plane into shark-infested waters. Despite injuries, he swam to an enemy-occupied island and managed to survive until he could be picked up by a U.S. military plane several days later. After the war, DeBlanc earned a bachelor's degree from SLI, two master's degrees from LSU and a doctorate in education from McNeese State University. He taught mathematics and science in St. Martinville, La., and was supervisor of math and school transportation. He also taught in New Iberia, La., and was employed by South Central Bell for several years. He is survived by a daughter, **BARBARA DEBLANC ROMERO, '70**; four sons, Jefferson DeBlanc Jr., Richard DeBlanc, **FRANK DEBLANC, '79, '87** and **MICHAEL DEBLANC, '82**; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Louise DeBlanc.

LEE J. PITRE JR., '59, died Sept. 13, 2007, in St. Petersburg, Fla., at the age of 70. He was an electrical engineer who worked on the Apollo 11 mission at Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral. During his career, he was employed by Westinghouse, General Electric and Martin Marietta. Pitre held a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from SLI. Survivors include his wife, Judith Pitre Jr.; two daughters, Kathryn Driver and Karen Becker; a sister, Mary Barton; and three grandchildren.

KENNETH DOYLE FUNK, '60, died Nov. 15, 2006, in Alexandria, La. He held a bachelor's degree in animal science from Southwestern Louisiana Institute and a doctor of veterinary medicine from Texas A&M. Funk had a private veterinary practice in Houston. He was retired from the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Air Force Reserve. Funk has two children, Geoffrey and Kate.

ROBERT TRAHAN, '68, died Feb. 23, 2008, in Lafayette. He was 61. In 2004, UL Lafayette presented him with an honorary degree of humanities. The president and chairman



of the board of Lafayette Motors Co. Inc., he was named the 2004 Dealer of the Year by the Louisiana Auto Dealers Association. A longtime supporter of Louisiana's Ragin' Cajuns® athletics, Trahan was a founding member of Louisiana Classics Inc., created the Quarterback Club and was president of the Rebounders Club. He also served as president of the UL Lafayette Alumni Association. Trahan chaired fund-raising campaigns for United Way, St. Thomas More High School, Cathedral-Carmel Elementary School and the UL Lafayette Alumni Association. He was a founding member of the Miles Perret Cancer Center and the Games of Acadiana Inc. He also served as president of the Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. Trahan received the Lafayette Civic Cup Award for outstanding community service, the Bishop's Medal, and Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist Parish honors for distinguished service. He held a bachelor's degree from USL. Trahan is survived by his wife, Connie Roy Trahan; five children, **ALLYSON TRAHAN HEBERT, '96**, **TODD TRAHAN, '90**, **HUNTER TRAHAN, '94**, **ASHLEY TRAHAN GUIDRY, '98** and **BRANDON TRAHAN, '99**; 12 grandchildren; two sisters, Carole Champagne and Annette Leblanc; and a brother, Matthew Trahan. Contributions in Trahan's honor can be made to the Robert Trahan Internship Fund at Miles Perret Cancer Services, the Cathedral Carmel Foundation or the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Foundation.

MICHELLE FORET SLOVER, '70, of Knoxville, Tenn., died Feb. 11, 2007. She was a buyer for Miller's and Proffitt's Department Stores; she was also IT manager for Proffitt's. Slover received a degree in home economics from USL. She is survived by her husband, Mike Slover; two sons, David Slover and Bret Slover; three brothers, Jim Foret, John Foret and Jeff Foret; and six sisters, Renee En-

zee, Marcelle Langlinais, Yvette Yandall, Marie Broussard, Celeste Garborino and Adrienne Foret; a grandson; and several nieces and nephews.

JAMES PATRICK DUGAL, '74, died in June 2007 at the age of 56. He worked for UL Lafayette for 30 years. For the past eight years, he was director of Computing Support Services. Dugal received a bachelor's degree from LSU in Baton Rouge, La., and a master's degree in computer science from USL. He is survived by his parents, Paul and Mary Ann Dugal of Opelousas, La.; his grandmother, Irene B. Dugal; two sisters, Claudia Ann Dugal and Catherine Lynn Cahanin; one brother, Mark Dugal; one niece; three nephews; and two great-nieces.

BRYAN WOODWARD, '93, died Oct. 27, 2007, at the age of 38. He was director of bariatric operations at the Metabolic Surgery Center at Baptist Hospital in Nashville, Tenn. Woodward held a bachelor's degree in exercise science from USL, where he was president of Theta Xi fraternity. A licensed clinical exercise physiologist, he received a master of public health degree in nutrition from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Survivors include his wife, Deidre Estapa Woodward; a son, Wesley Woodward; a daughter, Laura Woodward; his parents, Minor Q. "Buddy" Woodward and Laura Colgnet Woodward; and a brother, Steven Woodward.

JOHN DAVID DELOUCHE, '03, died Dec. 30, 2007, at age 38. He was employed by C.W. Technical Services in Lafayette. DeLouche received a bachelor's degree in business administration from UL Lafayette. He is survived by his father, Cliff E. DeLouche; his mother, Darlene M. Marr; his stepfather, Robert Owens; two sisters, Renee DeLouche and Darlene DeLouche-Cox; two nephews, Evan and Christopher Cox; and his maternal grandmother, Marie Marr.

