

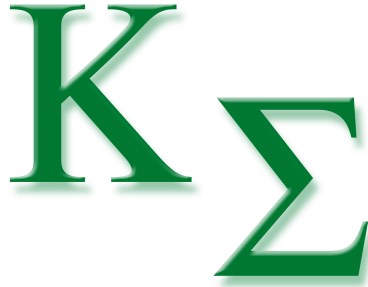
*University of Kansas*  
**GAMMA-OMICRON  
CHAPTER**

**Kappa Sigma Fraternity**



**12th Annual Hall of Fame**

**Saturday, October 18, 2003  
Crest Room, The Chapter House**



# GAMMA-OMICRON HALL OF FAME

The 12th Annual Gamma-Omicron Hall of Fame Awards are presented by the Gamma-Omicron Chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity at the University of Kansas. Conceived as a means of honoring our alumni for outstanding achievements and service, this award has become an integral part of our tradition here at Gamma-O.

Kappa Sigma is a national fraternity with great pride and a tradition of excellence that our many distinguished alumni have served to enhance throughout the years. Since its beginning on May 18, 1912 the Gamma-Omicron Chapter has seen many brothers rise to positions of prominence.

Congratulations to those who have been awarded this honor.

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**GAMMA-OMICRON CHAPTER**  
**12TH ANNUAL HALL OF FAME**

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**Welcoming Remarks**

Fred Green '61

**Undergraduate Man of the Year**

Presented to Jason Plagman '01

**Academic Achievement Awards**

Presented by Andy Klein '95

**2003 Hall of Fame Inductees**

Richard Guthrie '59

Roy Knapp '59

William Textor '59

**Closing Remarks**

Fred Green '61



# GAMMA-OMICRON CHAPTER UNDERGRADUATE MAN OF THE YEAR

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## Jason Plagman '01

He has greatly impacted the community and his chapter, and he hasn't even graduated yet.

He's Brother Jason Plagman '01, this year's undergraduate man of the year.

Brother Plagman regularly held leadership positions during his time at Gamma-O, rising up to Vice President last year. He spent his sophomore year as Secretary and served on the philanthropy chair for two years, which he used as a spring-board for plans to make an impact on his chapter and the community. While holding the reigns of the chapter's philanthropy interests, he tried to increase the amount of community service that the chapter was to complete. To help achieve that goal, he worked as a coordinator with an adopt-a-school program with Lawrence area elementary schools, sending brothers into the classroom to show 8-year-old students what it means to go to college.

"I just wanted them to act a role model for kids, to show them that it's possible to go to college no matter where you are," he said.

Brother Plagman also took his shot at journalism as well, writing for KU's greek student newspaper

During his time as Vice President, he chose to impress his stellar academic ethics in the chapter by coordinating study sessions with

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other brothers for classes they were all taking, and also tutored them on courses he had already taken.

“There were five people who were in the business school. We’d sit down, look at the old tests, and try to get through it together,” he said.

Thankfully, Brother Plagman’s brothers had him there, especially for the math courses, which were his forte.

Where else would a math man go in the business world than into business finance? Brother Plagman used his recourses as a Gamma-O wisely, looking to former Alumnus Advisor Andy Klein ’95 for advice on how to jump the first hurdles into the successful career Kappa Sigma Brothers are known for.

“He taught me the basics and how to make a really good impression. He’s just great,” he said.

While he plans on keeping a low profile in the chapter leadership until he graduates, he regularly stops at the house to encourage younger brothers to strive for success.

“I just remind them that they can get involved, get good grades, and have fun at the same time,” he said. “It is possible to get good grades.”

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# GAMMA-OMICRON CHAPTER

## HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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### **Richard Guthrie '59**

Though it's been more than 40 years since he graduated with a degree in business administration, Rich Guthrie still considers KU and Kappa Sigma his second home.

After all, many of the skills that helped him become a successful business man, influential lobbyist and community leader were learned as a member of Gamma-Omicron.

“Being a Kappa Sigma is always a source of pride and accomplishment for me,” Brother Guthrie said, adding that the chapter “provided the training, discipline and social skills for managing relationships that I’ve used all my life. This is a very special place!”

And, what a life it has been.

After graduating from KU in 1962, Brother Guthrie began his business career working for the Kansas Power and Light Company before moving on to Southwestern Bell in 1968. His Bell career spanned 25 years where he rose from Unit Manager to District Manager to Regional Manager where he was in charge of the company’s public affairs and government relations for Kansas. He retired from Bell in 1993 and for the next 10-years was the Director of Government Affairs for Health Midwest in Kansas City.

Rich is currently self employed, and lives with his wife, Diane, in Overland Park, Kansas. They have four grown children.

But, Rich isn’t just a business success; he is a community leader as well. He is currently president of the Overland Park Chamber Foundation and serves on the board of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He’s a former President and Board Member of the Johnson County Community College Foundation; served as President of the Chamber of Commerce in Dodge City and Hutchinson; and as a Board

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Member of many civic and philanthropic organizations across the state. He is one of a select few to be named an “Honorary Deputy Marshall” of Dodge City.

Brother Guthrie was active on campus as a representative on the KU Statewide Activities Committee along with serving as a Delegate on the Student Union Activities committee, playing in the KU Marching Band, and serving as Rush Chairman.

As an alumnus, he is a life member of the KU Alumni Association and Jayhawk Society, and is a long time supporter of the Williams Educational Fund. Rich has continued his service to Kappa Sigma, serving on the Gamma-Omicron board for the past 15-years.

## **Roy M. Knapp '59**

Brother Roy M. Knapp teaches for a living. He has been involved in education for more than 30 years.

And yet, Brother Knapp can see the impact that Kappa Sigma – one of his greatest teachers – has had on his life.

A farm boy from Gridley when he enrolled at KU in 1958, Brother Knapp graduated with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering in 1963.

“Kappa Sigma was a great introduction to a bigger world of people with different ideas,” he said. “For a green farm boy from Gridley, that was an important step toward growing up.”

He enjoyed life in Lawrence so much that he decided to stick around for awhile. Brother Knapp added a Master’s in petroleum engineering in 1969, and after more than six years with Northern Natural Gas in Omaha, he tacked on a Doctorate of engineering degree in 1973.

By the time he left Lawrence, Brother Knapp was ready for the real world, to say the least.

From KU, he took a job as an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas, where he stayed until 1979, when he became an associate professor at the University of Oklahoma.

Brother Knapp has remained in Norman ever since. In 1979, he was named Director of OU’s School of Petroleum and Geological

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Engineering, a position he held until 1988. After spending the better part of the 1980s as a Professor, he was named the Curtis W. Mewbourne Professor in 1993, and has held the position since.

In addition to his classroom work, Brother Knapp has supervised 13 Doctoral dissertations and 35 Masters theses. He also owns a pair of patents, and has written 110 publications and papers. He is a member of six different scientific and professional societies. He has served his profession through many committees for the NRC, DOE, and the Society of Petroleum Engineers who named him a Distinguished Member in 1991. Currently, he is a member of the Academic Advisory Committee for the College of Engineering at the United Arab Emirates University and also continues to serve on the Alumni Advisory Committee for the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering at KU.

But, like most Kappa Sigs, Brother Knapp has been successful in his personal life, too.

He and his wife Judi have three adult sons, Richard, Michael and Charles. When he's not working Brother Knapp is active in the McFarlin United Methodist Church, where he has been on four separate boards. He is also active in the University of Oklahoma's Music Theater-Opera Guild, the Norman Lions Club, the Student of the Month Committee, the American Cancer Society, and the Norman Citizens' Sewer Planning Coalition.

And to think: it all started with Kappa Sigma, a place where Brother Knapp met friends and learned lessons that have lasted a lifetime.

“During my four years in the house, I found brothers who have remained close friends for the 40 plus years since we first met,” Brother Knapp said.

## **Bill Textor '59**

As a soldier, businessman and father, Brother Bill Textor has been a success.

After graduating from KU in 1964, Brother Textor served in the Vietnam War as Company Commander and was awarded The Bronze Star for his service in the U.S. Army's Corps of Engineers.



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He then returned to Kansas, where he went to work as a Project Architect for Black and Veatch Consulting engineers. From there, he switched careers, becoming a realtor. Since then, he has worked for Kroh Brothers Realty, J.D. Reece Realtors, and Reece and Nichols Realtors, where he is currently employed as a Broker and Associate. Though he has worn many hats, Bill is still most identified as a loyal brother.

As an undergraduate, he was student member of the AIA, was active in Tau Beta Pi engineering society, a member of the Scabbard and Blade military society, and was a member of the honor roll. He was named Cadet Colonel of Army ROTC.

He was also actively involved in the fraternity, serving as Grand Treasurer for two years. He was a cast member of the award-winning Rock Chalk Revue, as well.

But his greatest accomplishment as an undergraduate is his wife, Mary. In fact, Bill proposed to Mary, a G-O Sweetheart First Alternate, at the 1962 G-O Spring Fling party.

Together, they have had two children.

Despite his success, Brother Textor hasn't lost touch with Kappa Sigma. As an alumnus and parent of son Matthew – who was past President and Undergraduate Man of the Year – Brother Textor served two years as President of the Kappa Sigma Parents' Club. He has also served as a member of Gamma-O's Corporation Board for the past 15 years. He has also been a member of the Chapter House Building Committee.

The reason for his volunteering is simple: he wants to give back to something that provided him with such great memories.

“Gamma-Omicron immediately gave me the warmth of brotherhood and the financial opportunities to allow me to put myself through school,” he said. “G-O Brothers and Kappa Sigma have been a lifetime of great joy and enrichment for me.”

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# GAMMA

*Hall of Fame*

# OMICRON

## 2003

Richard Guthrie '59  
Roy Knapp '59  
William Textor '59

## 2002

Walter Cole '50  
Richard Mai '50  
Cecil Edward Witt '52  
Bill McEachen '52  
Edgar B. Grass III '77

## 2001

### U.S. Armed Forces Memorial

Fred C. Campbell '12  
Don B. Fullmer '32  
Charles F. Pierson '36  
John D. Keeling '39  
Earl G. Lowe, Jr. '40  
William H. McCrum '40  
Francis B. Smith, Jr. '41  
Herbert S. Finney '42  
William H. Fountain '42  
John E. Strand '42  
John E. Sorem '48  
Samuel W. Simpson '57  
Larry E. Martin '58  
Lloyd M. Willson '59  
Jack C. Connell '62

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# GAMMA

*Hall of Fame*

# OMICRON

## 2000

Richard Nelson '44  
Jay Markley '51  
Jerry Palmer '59  
Richard Davis '60  
David Mackenzie '61

## 1999

Reed Hoffman '41  
Harry Callahan '42  
Frank Darden '45  
Warren Andreas '49  
Noel Rooney '53

## 1998

Robert Gould '63  
David Evans '64

## 1997

Raymond Calene '20  
Thomas Bertelsen '59  
Danforth Austin '65

## 1996

Frank Godding '40  
Harry Hutchens '45  
Richard McClain '53  
Jerald Pullins '61  
Alan Mulally '64

## 1995

Lawrence Ochs '42  
Harlan Ochs '47  
Kenneth Ochs '49  
Donald Ochs '50  
Lloyd Hanahan '56

## 1994

Kenneth Rankin '28  
Elis Cave '29  
Harry West '29  
Rich Lyon '34  
John Heisler '41  
Roger James '42  
Wallace Foster '46  
Henry Buck '53  
Fred Green '61

## 1993

Robert Ferris '34  
George Godding '39  
Paul Bartsch '55

## 1992

John Redmond '31  
James Hitt '32  
C. H. Cowell '34  
Albert Speath '34  
Howard Engleman '38  
Frederick Murfin '38  
Louis Ward '38  
William Murfin '39



**“The Star and Crescent shall not be worn by every man, but only by him who is worthy to wear it. He must be a gentleman...a man of honor and courage...a man of zeal, yet humble...an intelligent man...a man of truth... one who tempers action with wisdom and, above all else, one who walks in the light of God.”**