

## **Marion High School Hall of Distinction 2010 inductees named**

MARION — The purpose of the Marion High School Hall of Distinction is to give lasting recognition to Marion High School graduates who have made exceptional contributions to the achievements and prestige of Marion Community Schools.

Furthermore, it is the purpose of the Hall of Distinction to promote more interest in Marion High School and to display before current Marion students, the success of past graduates who have contributed in making Marion schools exceptional.

The Marion High School Hall of Distinction selection committee has chosen the Class of 2010 inductees. The selection task was difficult, as there were 22 highly talented and capable nominees for consideration. Nominees not selected continue to be considered for three years. A call for new nominations will be made annually.

The Hall of Distinction induction ceremony will take place on May 21st at 6:00 p.m. at the Roseburg Event Center, 2983 W. 38th St., Marion, IN 46953. Tickets can be purchased through the Superintendent's Office located at the Education Service Center, 1240 S. Adams Street, Marion, telephone #662-2546 ext. 125. Please respond on or before April 24, 2010.

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**Dr. Harold A. Wittcoff**  
**Class of 1936**

Dr. Wittcoff's career as a chemist and executive has spanned over 66 years. He was first inspired to pursue chemistry by his high-school chemistry teacher, and then his college professor. After high school graduation in 1936, Harold attended DePauw University on a Rector Scholarship. He graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1940 and in 1943, earned his Ph.D. from Northwestern University. He also received a certificate from the Advanced Management Program at Harvard University in 1964.

In 1943, at the age of 24 he started his career with General Mills, Inc. as a staff member. He became Vice President and Research Director in 1969, and held that position for 10 years. From 1982 to 1985 he served as Director, Process Evaluation and Research Planning for Chem Systems out of Tarrytown, NY. Harold was a Scientific Adviser to Nexant/Chem Systems, White Plains, NY from 1982 to 2009. He was also Director, Research and Development, Koor Chemicals, Beer Sheva, Israel, 1979-1982 and a visiting professor from 1995-2005, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand; and Adjunct Professor of Chemistry, Weizmann Institute, Israel 1980-2005.

Dr. Wittcoff has taught industrial organic chemistry at the University of Minnesota while serving as Vice President of Corporate Research for General Mills, Inc. As a Scientific Adviser to Nexant Chem Systems, he has presented 300 3-day short courses in industrial chemistry in twenty-eight countries. He is author/co-author of 130 patents and sixty technical publications.

Harold is a recipient of the Minnesota Award American Chemical Society in 1976 and listed in Marquis Who's Who in America. He also is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi and Phi Eta Sigma honorary fraternities.



**James W. Moritz**  
**Class of 1958**

Jim graduated from Marion High School in 1958. He attended Indiana University after high school and in 1962 graduated with a BS in English from Indiana University. Jim went on to receive his MS in English in 1977 from Indiana University. The theater was one of Moritz' loves. He performed with the Singing Hoosiers and the Varsity Singers while a student at Indiana University in Bloomington.

Jim started his teaching career at Marion High School in 1962. He retired on June 6, 2000 from Marion Community Schools after teaching for 38 years. He taught speech and English and was director of the MHS Auditorium, later named the F. Ritchie Walter Performing Arts Center, sponsor of the Marion Boys' Booster Club and the Girls' Booster Club from 1964-1970. During his years as booster club sponsor, the total average student involvement was 600 students. Jim was very instrumental in helping to raise \$10,000 for the 1970 Marching Giants to realize a dream trip to Europe. Jim was loved and respected by his students and colleagues.

You didn't have to look far to see Jim's love for the Marion Community. He had the rare gift of community leadership – getting people fired up about a project and being able to organize it and carry it off. He served as chairman of the Christmas City Walkway of Lights Committee, served on the Marion Easter Pageant Board of Directors, United Way Board of Directors, an officer and member of St. Martin's Community Center Board of Directors, and was instrumental in helping the Marion Philharmonic Orchestra gain strength in its early years. Marion audiences were very familiar with his work with the Little Acorn Theater, Brag-More Musicals and Marion Civic Theatre. As the Marion Easter Pageant Musical Director, he recruited and directed a 110-piece orchestra and 550 voice choir for 13 years. Jim also served on a community committee to raise funds for Kim and Wayne Seybold to represent the United States at the Winter Olympics in Calgary, Canada. He also was chosen to receive the Rotarian 4-Way Test Award in 2000 and was awarded the Marion Jaycees Distinguished Service Award-Man of the Year in 1975.



**Dr. Verlene 'Vee' Miller Herrington  
Class of 1966**

Dr. Herrington took a neglected, underfunded, library (housed in an old warehouse) with few customers, no computers and no shelving and transformed it into a state-of-the-art facility. She obtained program funding, assisted in the design, and oversaw the million dollar renovation project of the U. S. Army Military Intelligence Library. Due to her innovative, non-traditional and enthusiastic approach to library services, the new state-of-the-art library averages 700 onsite visitors daily. She spearheaded the expansion of additional library services by inviting the Foreign Language Center to relocate in the heart of the campus. Within two years, the library at Fort Huachuca won the Library of Congress Information Center of the Year Award. In 2009, Dr. Herrington was awarded the Library of Congress Federal Librarian of Year Award. The library, which had a 1800% increase since opening in 2003, has a non-traditional model of library services for the young soldiers attending the US Army Intelligence Center School. With 75 computers, Wi-Fi, a CyberCafe, Smart boards, VTC equipment and a Scola Dish with foreign language broadcasts from around the world. "Serving customers and meeting their needs is what being a good librarian is all about", Herrington said.

Vee attended Ball State University and received her B.S. in Psychology. She earned a Masters in Information Science from the University of Tennessee, a Masters in School Psychology from the University of Cincinnati, and her Ph.D. in Education from the Arizona State University.

During her career, she has authored numerous publications: "The Virtual Footlocker", Military Intelligence Professional Bulletin, Jan-Mar 2008; "Intelligence Reform Brings New Opportunities for Info Pros", Information Outlook (March, 2008); "Value of Open Source Intelligence in the Reformation of National Intelligence" Presentation at the Intelligence Warfighting Seminar, 11-15 December 2006, Fort Huachuca; "The US Military Intelligence Library: Always Out Front", guest speaker at the Army Library Training Institute, St. Louis, April 27, 2006; "Open Source and the Military Intelligence Library", Military Intelligence Professional Bulletin, October - December, 2005); Contribution to new Army Open Source Field Manual, FMI 2-22.9; "Way Beyond BI: A Look to the Future," Journal of Academic Librarianship 24 (September 1998): 381-386; "Toward a New Paradigm of Library Instruction in the Digital Library", In: Nikolaou, C. and Stephanidis, C. (eds.), 2nd European Conference on Research and Advanced Technology for Digital Libraries - ECDL 1998. 19-23 September, 1998. Heraklion, Crete, Greece. LNCS 1513, Berlin: Springer, pp. 661-662.



**Todd L. Nukes**  
**Class of 1981**

Todd was born and raised in Marion, Indiana and attended Clayton Brownlee Elementary, Jones Junior High and Marion High School, graduating in 1981. While a student at Marion High School he was selected as a Boys State delegate, and was a member of the Marion Giant basketball team and was on the 1980 State Final team. After graduation from high school he became a student at Ball State University and graduated in 1985 with a B. S. Degree in Criminology. In 1986 he graduated from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy and became a Grant County Indiana jail officer in 1986, and later was promoted to Merit Deputy and Detective. In 1990 he graduated from the Federal Law Enforcement Academy in Glynco, Georgia. In 1990, the Marion Exchange Club presented Todd with the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award.

In his spare time, Todd has coached Youth Upward Basketball, participated in the Marion Easter Pageant, and has been an umpire in the Lincoln Little League Program in Marion. Todd currently holds the title of Chief Deputy U. S. Marshal, Hammond (IN) Office, United States Marshals Service, United States Department of Justice. He was promoted to Chief Deputy United States Marshal of the Northern District of Indiana in 2008.

Todd is one of the approximately 3,000 Deputy U. S. Marshals in the entire United States. As a graduate of Marion High School he is a role model for the youth, as an example of how to reach for a goal and succeed by getting an education, making wise choices, along with a determination to achieve. In 2003, Todd was Senior Inspector for Judicial Security in Northern Indiana. Todd was assigned to various protective missions with the U. S., handling the security for U.S. Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas, Samuel Alito, Sandra Day O'Connor and other Justices. He has assisted the State Department with their protective missions in New York City to protect the foreign Ministers of Israel and Libya. He has had protective missions in Washington, D.C. for the Deputy Attorney General of the United States, and Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Both of these assignments have taken him overseas to Ireland and London, England.