

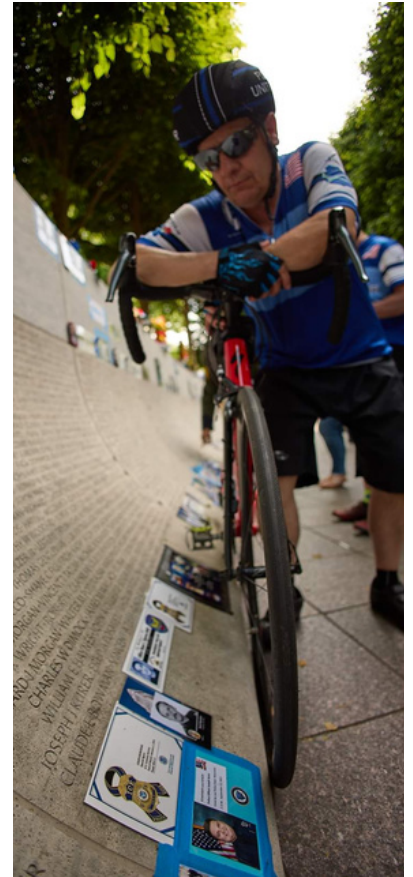
SUMMER 2023

A Father's Love: Marian Alum Rides to Honor Alum Son

Marian Alumnus Bill Kurer, ('91) a devoted father and a man of strong faith, embarked on a long-distance bike ride to honor his son, **Joseph Kurer**, also a Marian Alumnus. Joseph, a Criminal Justice Major who graduated with honors ('18), was an officer with the Fond du Lac Police Department, when he passed away after contracting COVID, while on duty in 2021.

Bill's journey was part of the Police Unity Tour (PUT) Memorial Bike Ride for Fallen Police Officers, an annual event that pays tribute to law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. Riders come from all over, making their way to the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, D.C.

"This ride was an incredible experience for me and at times, I really felt like Joe's spirit was with me and I was thankful to God for that, and it really reinforced why I wanted to do this ride," said Bill. "I'd do anything for my family and now in his passing, this was one more thing I could for him, to pay honor and tribute to him for his selfless service to others." (Read more on pg. 2)



coffee with kate candee

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Join me for a cup of coffee and a chat. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to catch up on your achievements since graduation, hear about your career path, and share updates about the exciting developments happening at Marian University.



UP NEXT...

5 QUESTIONS WITH
AN ALUM

Alumna **Nicole Timm**, works at the famed Boystown in Nebraska with middle schoolers with behavior difficulties. Read more on Page 4.

The Wisconsin Riders group was made up of thirty riders. This group joined the PUT Chapter IX from Delaware and the two groups, with a total of 122 riders, rode together from Valley Forge, Pennsylvania to Washington, D.C., where they gathered with other PUT riders at the National Law Enforcement Memorial. The group rode over four days, stopping at various Law Enforcement Agencies along the way to pay tribute and honor to each agency's fallen officers.

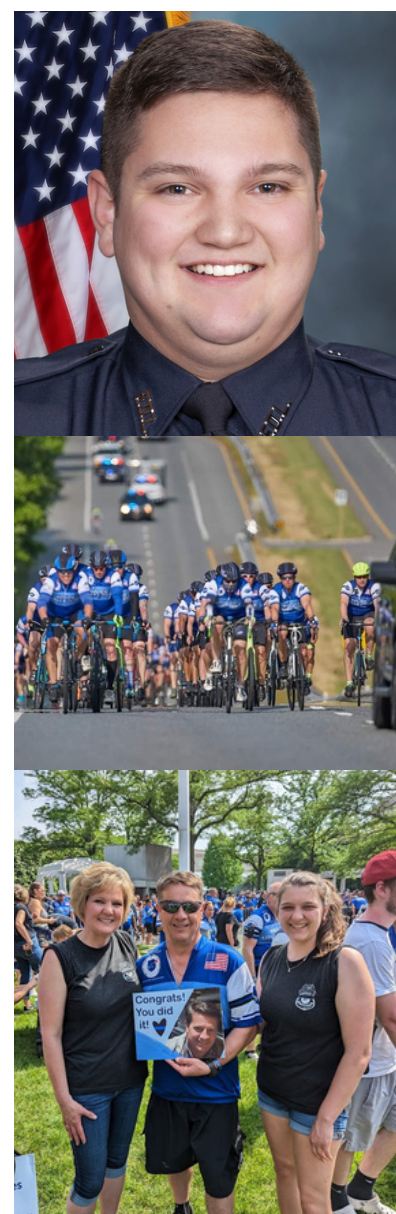
"On the second day of the ride, the morning prayer was dedicated to Joe and me by the PUT Chapter IX group. This was incredibly moving and emotional for me as well," said Bill. "I couldn't have done this ride without all the support of my family, my friends, the law enforcement community and my riding teammates. I'm grateful to everyone for their support and encouragement."

On day four, about 2,000 riders from all the PUT chapters gathered in the parking lot at RFK Stadium, to ride the last four miles to the Memorial together.

"Arriving at the memorial to be welcomed by my wife, Mary, daughter, Katie and friends from back home was a very emotional experience too," said Bill. "The Wisconsin Riders and the PUT Chapter IX group and their leadership team made this a very special experience for me."

The PUT Memorial Bike Ride is not only a tribute to fallen officers but also a fundraiser to support and maintain the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Riders are required to raise at least \$2,000 to cover the ride expenses. Bill plans to ride again next year and will be looking for sponsors. Donations for next year's ride open up in the fall.

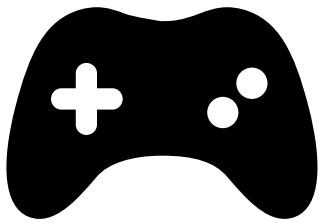
Photos by Dave Junion from Wausau WI



FACULTY AWARDS

Congratulations to these outstanding staff members for their dedication and persistence in their work.

- **Graduate Teacher of the Year:** Mary Polchert (Top left), Associate Professor, Nursing
- **Staff of the Year:** Sue Fuerbringer (Top right), Director, Excel and Undergraduate Programs
- **Graduate Teacher of the Year:** Gina Possin (Bottom Left), Assistant Professor, Industrial Organizational Psychology
- **Adjunct Faculty of the Year:** Merle Alix (Bottom right), Director of Writing and Reading Services



READY UP, TEAM!

Marian University welcomes **Trace Rutman** as the new Esports Head Coach. Rutman graduated from Calvin University with a BA in Film. During his time at Calvin University, he helped form the Esports team in 2020 and served as President/Head Coach. The program accumulated over a hundred members during his time there. Rutman was also part of the MIAA (Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletics Association) board of esports coaches, that built a state conference in Michigan. Rutman is from Michigan and will be moving to Wisconsin at the end of July. Although it is still summer, Rutman has made great progress with the Esports players through online means. He has joined in on calls and even played games with his players. Rainbow Six Siege and Valorant are the games he enjoys most.

Save The Date!

Our Homecoming Weekend is almost here again! Join us on September 23-24th.



Rosemary Lloyd, who made history last Winter when she became the oldest person to graduate from Marian University at age 88, passed away on Friday, May 12th, 2023. When Rosemary was too weak to walk across the stage at graduation, Marian University brought graduation to her in Appleton, Wisconsin, with diploma, cake and even the executive staff in full graduation regalia.



QUESTIONS WITH AN ALUM: NICOLE TIMM

Marian Degree: MS in Alternative and At Risk Education

Current Profession: Working in Boys Town, Nebraska as a paraprofessional working with middle schoolers with behavior difficulties.



1) What drew you to work on your degree in At Risk and Alternative Education?

I spent some time in college and afterward working with a wide variety of students from all different backgrounds and I realized I enjoy working with those that have more obstacles to overcome than the students who have it easier.

I had been looking into programs that work with students and I was deciding between Higher Education and ABA, but neither seemed to fit quite what I was looking for when I stumbled upon Marian's At Risk and Alternative Education program and it checked all the boxes I wanted!

2) What's one of the biggest challenges facing the clients or populations you work with?

All of the students I work with have some kind of struggle in their lives, whether it's that they're in foster care, they don't feel like their families love them, they have learning disabilities that lead to outbursts, or they had problems at their district schools and were asked to leave. Our job is to teach these kids appropriate replacement behaviors for the things that happen in their lives, whether that's accepting when someone tells them no or if it's dealing with difficult situations.

3) Can you tell us about a person you worked with who inspired you, challenged you or changed you in some way?

There have been so many people along the way that have inspired me. The first person that really inspired me was a Spanish teacher I had in high school. I ended up being a Spanish major but then realized I also have a love of teaching and working with students and whenever I interact with kids, I try to channel my high school teacher's bubbly energy and enthusiasm.

4) Why did you choose Marian University?

Marian is the only university in the US that has the At Risk Alternative Education program, which is so unique and yet so perfect for what the education world needs right now. It's a great program for everyone, not just those working specifically with disadvantaged youth, because nowadays nearly every child is going through something negative and so many of the classes in this program relate to how to interact with and uplift those students.

5) What do you like best about Marian University's program?

I loved that it was accelerated and asynchronous because it gave me the flexibility to complete my degree from where I was currently living and on my own schedule. The accelerated part was also incredible because it was a lot of material to learn in a short period of time, but that also really immersed me in what I was learning and I was able to get the entire degree done in 14 months!

It's a fabulous program to gain a better understanding of how to work with youth from all backgrounds and it was really interesting and eye-opening getting to talk with other educators from around the country and hearing what they were hoping to get out of the program and the various methods they already use.

Alumni Answers! What was your first job after graduating from Marian University?

Send your responses to Callista Gould at:
cgould95@marianuniversity.edu



Marian University Admissions has recently launched a four-part video series for incoming freshman to help soothe those "newcomer-nerves". These videos feature some of the student workers showing the hidden gems and small businesses of Fond du Lac. It's a fun way to introduce the town and provide some familiar faces for freshman. To watch, you can use the link below, or find them on our social media pages.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MrzXjRRMlns>



*Golf Outing
2023*

