Class of 1959 55th Reunion

Dear Friends,

Would you believe that several of us have already made hotel reservations for our 55th U of R reunion? At first we thought May 16-18, 2014 sounded so far in the future. Then we remembered how fast time seems to fly as we get older. We had to act now…before we forget! (Are Ron and I the only ones with momentary memory "issues"?) Anyway, we’ve found that old memories don't fade and are eagerly looking forward to reliving those memories with all of you.

One memory we don’t have is laboring to financing our Redlands experience for most of our lives. This week we heard that twenty- to thirty-year-olds were having to live with parents because of their huge student debt. Even fifty- and sixty-year-olds are still paying off their college debt. Ron was able to pay off his student loan after only 3 years in the Navy. The current student debt crisis is impacting our entire country. Redlands students have not been immune and we can help make a difference for them.

As you may know, it’s a tradition for each class to present a gift to the University during their reunion. This philanthropic tradition supports the Redlands Fund and has a positive impact on students by supporting scholarships and financial aid. Since 2008, Redlands has increased its spending on financial aid by nearly $21 million. This growth to meet increased student needs was made possible in part through alumni support like ours. Let's step up this reunion and do our part for the U of R students!

Some of us have given to the U of R in various ways over the years and our reunion year should be no exception. Whether you make a Redlands Fund gift, give via an IRA rollover, set up a Charitable Remainders Trust, or let the University know you’ve included Redlands in your will it all helps students and counts toward our reunion gift. Start today by making a gift online through www.redlands.edu/giving.

Remember to mark your calendar for our 55th Reunion for May 16-18, 2014 and send your gift to support the Reunion Class Gift. We're looking forward to seeing you there.

Och Tamale!

Ron and Janice Dong
55th Reunion Gift Chairs