

Wave Weekend: Class of 1965 returns for 60th reunion

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Members of the Class of 1965 returned to the Hutchinson Building for a tour. Although much has changed in the 60 years since they last walked these hallways, these mostly retired physicians have left a lasting impact on Tulane School of Medicine.

Members of the Class of 1965 and their spouses celebrated their reunion with a dinner at Arnaud's.

Then and Now: Drs. W. Howard Kisner and Earl Jones wanted to find the entrance they remembered from their medical school days. It has now been converted into office space, and most of the Art Deco details are on display in other spaces in Hutchinson.

This 1964 photo shows the Hutchinson Memorial Building on the left and the Charity Hospital on the right.

R. Shane Tubbs, PhD, MS, and Samir Anadkat, MBBS, MS, show the Class of 1965 the anatomy lab. The '65 class was the last to take their anatomy class in the Richardson Building. The inset photo from 1916 shows a portion of the former anatomy lab.

Corlis Trepagnier (left) showed Dr. James Bootle the Pathology lab space where he did much of his training 60 years ago. Ms. Trepagnier has worked in the department for nearly 30 years and provided updates to Dr. Bootle on many of the faculty members he fondly remembers.

From the Tulane archives: Photos taken in 1964 and 1967 show young doctors training at Charity Hospital. More than 40 members of the Class of 1965 completed their residencies at Charity or other area hospitals.

Dr. James Bootle (M *65, R *70) had one thing on his mind as he retraced his steps through the building where he studied medicine 60 years ago: he wanted to return to the 6th floor of Hutchinson. That's where the Department of Pathology is still housed today — the same floor where he completed his medical degree and residency at Tulane University School of Medicine.

It turned out to be the perfect stop. On the 6th floor, Dr. Bootle ran into Corlis Trepagnier, who has worked at Tulane for more than 40 years, nearly 30 of those in Pathology. Together, they visited the Reed Laboratory, a room named for [Dr. Richard Reed](#), who once mentored Bootle. As they walked, Dr. Bootle and Ms. Trepagnier swapped stories about faculty they both remembered from decades past.

Dr. Bootle was one of 15 members of the Class of '65 who returned to campus for their 60th reunion. The group visited with Dr. Lee Hamm, Sr. Vice President and Dean, and toured the "new" anatomy lab. They proudly note that theirs was the last class to study anatomy in the Richardson Building uptown.

Much has changed in Hutch since 1965. Drs. W. Howard Kisner (M *65|*66) and Earl Jones (M *65) wanted to see the original entrance they remembered on Tulane Avenue, now converted into office space. The tour continued through the Matas Library, where the alumni reminisced about studying in what was once a much smaller room. Each one remembered exactly which Hutchinson classroom they were in when they learned President John F. Kennedy had been assassinated.

The youngest member of the Class of '65 is now 84. Several alumni have returned for previous reunions — their 40th, their 50th — but the group's size dwindles with each passing decade. Fifty-seven members of the class have died since their graduation on May 31, 1965.

Their class's impact at Tulane began not long after that commencement ceremony. The medical students had held a pre-graduation party at the Phi Chi Omicron house,

where someone accidentally broke the onyx mantle above the fireplace. As class secretary, Dr. Jones used funds collected from classmates to cover the damages. After paying the bill, \$1,200 remained. His faculty advisor suggested [donating the leftover amount to the Tulane Medical Alumni Association.](#)

That simple act became the Class of 1965 Endowed Scholarship, which has received over \$200,000 in gifts and pledges from members of that class over the years and is now valued at more than \$700,000, supporting today's medical students.

In all, [the Class of 1965 has contributed more than \\$4 million](#) to Tulane University School of Medicine. And while much has changed in the Hutchinson Building and in New Orleans since these physicians were students here, the mission remains the same:

Non sibi, sed suis — not for oneself, but for one's own.

[View the Tulane Medical Alumni Association's reunion photo album here.](#)

[View photos collected by members of the Class of 1965, including photos of some classmates who were unable to attend the reunion.](#)