

2014 Distinguished Alumnus Award

Dan Jones, WHS '56



Wyoming School Foundation and the Foundation's Distinguished Alumni Society are pleased to announce Daniel S. Jones, Class of 1956, as the 2014 Distinguished Alumni, newest member of the Distinguished Alumni Society.

The Distinguished Alumni Society was established in 2002 to recognize alumni who have distinguished themselves in their lives and careers. Dan is the 12th Distinguished Alumni in the history of the Foundation. He is the founder and owner of NewsBank, inc., a web-based information technology provider of aggregated online news resources of over 10,000 local, national and international newspapers and other news publications. The company has digitized over 2,000 historical newspapers beginning in the 17th century. NewsBank, inc. is headquartered in Naples, Florida. What started as an obscure, unprofitable, employer-of-four, news clipping service in 1972 is now, 40 years later, a company with hundreds of employees and multiple offices with an international reach.

NewsBank also provides digitized text of the complete electronic editions of newspapers worldwide plus newswires and services, radio and TV transcripts, magazines and journals, military and government publications and American historical documents. In addition, it also provides curriculum support materials.

Dan had thought he wanted to be a doctor following in his father's footsteps. After observing an autopsy, he quickly changed course and decided he would major in business. Dan is a 1961 graduate of Northwestern University where he majored in accounting. He also received an MBA from Columbia University in 1966 where he was a McKinsey Scholar. From 1961-1965, he served in the U.S. Navy Supply Corps as a Lieutenant. After graduating Columbia Graduate School of Business, he served as Vice President of the First National Bank of Madison, Wisconsin from 1966-1969. From 1969-1972, Dan was a management consultant with Knight, Gladieux and Smith based in New York City. Dan stated, "My greatest achievement is succeeding as an entrepreneur for 41 years with my family at my side".

Dan is a true entrepreneur. Dan is a founder of the New Canaan Bank & Trust, the First National Bank of the Gulf Coast, Bankwell Bank and Columbia Naples Capital, a private equity firm. Currently he serves as a director of Bankwell Bank, Bankwell Financial Group and Advanced Technology Services, Inc. He is a trustee of his alma mater, Northwestern University, serves on

the Board of Governors of the Northwestern University Library, is President of the Northwestern Alumni Association and also co-chairman of the Northwestern Leadership Circle for Florida. In addition, he has served on the board of advisors for several other university schools of information studies. He was president of the New Canaan Public Library and New Canaan Field Club.

Dan and his wife, Susan, have hosted several Wyoming High School mini reunions for a range of classes and fellow classmates in their Naples, Florida and Vail, Colorado homes. His fondest Wyoming memories are of his friends and their parents. He has 3 grown children, Katie Cavanagh of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, Dan V. Jones II of Woodstock, Vermont, and Maggie Jones of Naples, Florida. He is the proud grandfather of eight (8) grandchildren, ranging in age from 4 years to 15 years.

His greatest passions in life are his family, his business, golf, Northwestern University and, of course, Wyoming High School!

The Distinguished Alumni Induction Ceremony will be held on Sunday, May 18th, followed by a reception in his honor. Monday, May 19th is Foundation Day at Wyoming High School, where Dan will be speaking with various classes of students in addition to the student body at the all school assembly.

Words that consistently described him are loyal, dedicated, leader, change maker, and dedicated professional in helping others succeed. We are thrilled to honor him as the newest Distinguished Alumnus. Please join us in congratulating Daniel S. Jones, Class of 1956!