



## Golden Jubilee Citation for the Class of 1963

1963: A chalkstripe across history. Memories of Camelot. The briefest glimpse of Robert Kennedy on a *Trinilogue* page. Nuclear anxiety deep in the Cold War frost. Missiles in Cuba, soldiers in the Mekong Delta. Aggiornamento and activism. Dallas as just a distant Texas town. Diane Sawyer winning hearts as the 17 year-old America's Junior Miss. "The problem that has no name," *The Feminine Mystique*. Massive generational change sweeping through the Class of 1963 in the flash of your college days.

Arriving at Trinity as freshmen in the summer of 1959, you could not have imagined the times of bright hope and deep despair, revolution and reaction that would be your world in the decades to come. Beyond Michigan Avenue, an old century seemed fresh and new with the election of a modern young president whose thousand days you would trace across your student years. A very old pope called John brought astonishing new ideas in opening a Vatican Council. A young man with an acoustic guitar and gravelly voice sang about Blowin' in the Wind, while four mop-topped guys in Liverpool electrified history with "Please, please me." A young preacher named Martin was arrested in Birmingham, Alabama for leading nonviolent marches for integration and civil rights, and while in jail Dr. King wrote a letter that proclaimed that "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

At home at Trinity, you balanced on the precipice between tradition and modernity, absorbing the wisdom Father Burke and Sister Helen James, Sister Ann Julia and Dr. Edna Fluegel. Dr. Jeanne Kirkpatrick laughs easily in a photo in your yearbook during what appears to be a Political Science department, sitting at table with Dr. Fluegel and others, all of whom appear to be indulging Trinity's great habit back then, having a smoke in the smoker. Miss Durbin gave you hockey workouts to balance out those evil habits, and Sister Columba kept you on the academic straight and narrow. Sister Janice Marie won your hearts and the yearbook's dedication.

Fortified by the knowledge that you embraced as the servant of your faith, you marched off to your destinies on that bright spring day in 1963, not quite able to imagine the tumult yet to sweep through the nation and world and yet so well prepared for the challenges of each succeeding age. You went to work and raised your children while riding the high crests of movements as vast as civil rights and women's rights, the unending quests for peace and justice, the changing Church, economic setbacks and roiling political landscape. You made your peace with the eternal question: iPhone or Android? You have a stray thought of wondering what Sister Columba would say about the devolution of your writing skills on your Facebook pages.

You might rightly ask, as we all do, where the time has gone, what sprite came softly, unannounced to steal the years so soon. Trinity Women that you are, you will hold fast to that spirit to soar to new heights in the days yet to come. Your 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion is not a day to mark an end, but rather, a moment of new commencement, calling you, the Class of 1963, to go forth once again, confident in the firm belief that you are still the best, the brightest, the exemplars of Trinity's ideals that never swerve in a world that needs your hope, your integrity, your charity and your faith in greater measure with each passing day.

For all that you have achieved thus far, and for the achievements we are sure you will still realize, Trinity is pleased to bestow the golden jubilee medals on the great Class of 1963.

Congratulations, Class of 1963!

*(Given by President Patricia McGuire '74 at Reunion, June 1, 2013)*