

Distinguished Alumni of Worthington Schools 2007 Honorees

George T. Harding IV, M.D. – 1946 – graduated from La Sierra University in 1949 and received his MD from Loma Linda University in 1953. He continued his postgraduate psychiatric education at The Ohio State University and Harding Hospital. George served as a psychiatrist in the US Army Medical Corps from 1955-57. He joined his father, uncles, brother and nephew in the operation of Harding Hospital which his grandfather had established in 1919 in Worthington. He served as Director of Residency Training from 1962-1981 and was President and Medical Director from 1973-1994, further developing the integration of spirituality and religion within the Bio-psycho-social-spiritual approach to Psychiatric treatment. He was a founding member of the Franklin County Mental Health and Retardation Board, the first in Ohio, and an ongoing advocate for mental health and the mentally ill. He served as President of the Ohio Psychiatric Association and was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the Board of Regents, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. George has been a clinical professor of Psychiatry at The Ohio State University since 1975 and a professor of Psychiatry at Loma Linda University in California since 2004. He negotiated the merger of OSU/Harding in 1998 which integrated the operations of Harding Hospital into The Ohio State University Medical Center. George has authored numerous scientific papers and publications. He and his wife, Joan, have five daughters, all of who attended Worthington High School. They currently maintain residences both in Worthington and California.

Herndon P. Harding, M.D. – 1948 – attended LaSierra College for his undergraduate work and graduated from Loma Linda University Medical School in 1957. He completed his internship at The Ohio State University Hospital and his residency in Worthington in Psychiatry. Herndon joined the United States Public Health Service as a service obligation, caring for coastguardsmen who needed mental health care. One of his major assignments was to interview all individuals seeking Peace Corps assignments. Upon returning to Harding Hospital, which his grandfather had established in Worthington in 1919, Herndon established an addiction program for men and women of all ages and all types of addiction. During his 35 years of practice at Harding Hospital, he served as staff psychiatrist, Director of Addiction Services, Director of Residency Training, and later Associate Medical Director. In his practice, he worked with the senior population and also taught medical students at The Ohio State University Medical School for over 30 years where he held the appointment of Assistant Professor of Psychiatry. He served as the president of the Central Ohio Psychiatric Society and President of the Medical Forum of Central Ohio. His three children all graduated from Worthington High School. Herndon and his wife, Belinda, reside on a farm in Centerburg, Ohio, and work with as many as 30 children per week who have special needs from a variety of handicaps, using specially trained horses in their therapy.

Lawrence “Pete” Fields (1932-1999) – 1950 graduate - was an athlete who excelled in baseball, basketball and football. He earned a B.S. in Education from Otterbein College and a M.S. Degree in Education Administration from The Ohio State University. He played many years of amateur and semi-pro baseball in the Columbus area. For over 41 years, Pete was known throughout Ohio as an umpire. He was one of the first African Americans to officiate in the Ohio Conference. Pete was a lifelong member of St. John A.M.E. Church in Worthington. After

serving in the U.S. Army, 3rd Infantry Division, Pete was employed by the Columbus Public School District, where he taught 5th and 6th grades at Eleventh Avenue School from 1958-1968. From 1968-71, he was a teacher on special assignment in the Department of Special Program Development and continued in that department from 1971-1989 as Supervisor in the Department of Federal and State Programs and as Fiscal Officer. He retired from the school system in 1990 after 32 years of service. His employment also included being a part-time instructor in the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation at The Ohio State University. His numerous civic activities included: Advisory Boards of: Oakley Baptist Church Boy Scout Troop, J.J. Ashburn Youth Center and St. Charles Preparatory School. He volunteered for Neighborhood House, J. Ashburn Youth Center, The Sideliners, Golden Glove, Beatty Recreation Center, and the 11th Avenue Recreation Center. He and his wife, Rosanna, are the parents of three children, all of who graduated from Worthington High School, and the proud grandparents of two grandsons.

Charles F. “Chic” Dambach – 1962 - earned a BA degree from Oklahoma State University and an MBA degree from Wake Forest University. He was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Colombia from 1967-1969 and elected Peace Corps Volunteer Leader for the region. He was President and CEO of the National Peace Corps Association from 1991-1997 and created an Emergency Response Network to link former Peace Corps Volunteers with the non-government organizations and government agencies to meet special needs throughout the world. The first major project sent dozens of volunteers to help the UN and several agencies in the aftermath of the Genocide in Rwanda. In 1998 Chic formed a team of returned Peace Corps Volunteers to work informally with the leaders of Eritrea and Ethiopia to help end their border war. Prime Minister Meles of Ethiopia recognized their team for “creating the momentum and the spirit which made the historic achievement of the peace treaty possible.” He was invited to the treaty signing ceremony. Chic was an official U.S. delegate to the United Nations World Food Conference in Rome in 2000, and in 2001 received the “Global Coalition Peace Award” from the International Platform Association. Chic served for eight years as Chairman of the Coalition for American Leadership Abroad, a network of 50 major international affairs organizations which co-sponsors nationally televised “town meetings” on foreign policy issues with the US Department of State. In 2005, he became President and CEO of the Alliance for Peacebuilding, a network of 50 leading organizations worldwide dedicated to reduce violence and foster peace and security. Chic has three children and lives with his wife, Kay, in Crownsville, Maryland.

Dana Tyler – 1977 – graduated from Boston University’s School of Management with a degree in marketing and broadcast journalism. She began her career at WBNS-TV in Columbus before moving to WCBS as a weekend anchor and reporter. In 1990 she became a part of history when she and the late Reggie Harris became the first African-American anchor team in the New York market on WCBS-TV. Throughout her tenure at WCBS, she has worked among the most famous and some of the most legendary faces in New York City. In 2003 Dana received Emmy Awards for coverage of an Instant Breaking News Story for anchoring the “New York City Blackout” and for Outstanding Single Newscast, “CBS 2 News at 11: City Hall Shooting.” In 2006, she received a New York Association of Black Journalists Award for her reporting on “The Color Purple.” An integral part of the CBS 2 news team for more than 16 years, Dana was honored by McDonald’s at the Museum of Television and Radio as one of the 2007 Black Broadcast Legends. She also has received numerous Emmy nominations for her work. Dana

participates in numerous station and charity events. After several years as a classroom volunteer, she is a member of the Board of Trustees of Learning Leaders, the nearly 15,000-member volunteer organization dedicated to New York City's 1.1 million public school students. Dana currently co-anchors the CBS 2 News at Noon and 6 PM weeknights with Jim Rosenfield. In addition to anchoring, Dana takes viewers inside the Metropolitan Museum of Art in her weekly report "CBS 2 at the MET" every Sunday morning.