

**Featured Alum: Don McMillan, 1976-79, '82
Associate of Arts (Biology)**



Years Attended: 1976-79, 1982

Area of Study: Associate of Arts (Biology)

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What I am doing now (any additional degrees, honors received)?

Additional Degrees: Received EMT certification at YC, 1979 (worked my way through the rest of my college years as EMT with three Ambulance companies) Bachelor's of Science in Speech and Hearing Science, 1981, at University of Arizona. Master's of Science in Audiology, 1984, at Idaho State University (Pocatello).

Worked as an Audiologist in the Phoenix area from 1984 to 1990. Master's of Divinity, 1994, at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (Berkeley, California). Current degree candidate: Doctorate of Ministry in Biblical Preaching, at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. 1988 Employee of the Year, Arizona Department of Health Services.

I have been an ordained pastor since 1994, and served Lutheran Congregations in Fountain Valley, California and Flagstaff, AZ. I have also served as a volunteer chaplain in local police departments and hospitals. Now, I am a chaplain with Hospice Compassus of Northern Arizona, serving Flagstaff, Sedona--Verde Valley, and Winslow.

Any significant person who positively impacted me while I was at the College?

Working with fellow students Mike Weaver and Jeff Humphrey to start the Y.C. Runner's Club in 1977 with hopes that YC would someday have a cross country team. Now there is a Cross Country Team; perhaps our efforts paid off. Our Y.C. Runner's Club sponsored running events to benefit Yavapai Rehab Center, and had lots of fun running together and competing at running events around the state.

Another special memory was going on music department trips with the choirs and band. Mr. Jim Burns and Mr. Richard Longfield were a lot of fun as our talented faculty leaders.

A third good memory was being in the cast of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum." We performed this musical at Hendrix Auditorium in the fall of 1977--The cast had some very talented students including Danny Anderson, who continues to be a local Prescott entertainer.

Any special memories I have of my time at the College or of any significant events that occurred?

Many of the faculty were positive influences, such as Charlie DeMenna, Jim Burns, Fulton Wright, Nancy Kirkpatrick, Frank Siehen, and Ken Abbott, but two persons were especially strong influences.

First was College Staff Member, Larry Humphrey. Over the years Larry wore many hats (I think property control, and human resources were two of them). Larry agreed to be the faculty/staff sponsor of our Runner's Club. As club president for at least one year, I spent a lot of time with Larry, as we worked out details of club activities. Our conversations often wandered to many subjects such as business, the environment, Prescott life, cars, faith, and who knows what else.

Having a club in the college environment presented challenges, hurdles, and some restrictions. Larry taught me a lot about persistence, and learning to accept limits, and negotiating when things got difficult.

Second, Mr. Rich Longfield was a positive influence in my YC years. I never had him for a teacher, but many of my friends agonized over his music theory courses. As difficult as his class work was, Rich was one of the few faculty I remember who took a true interest in everyone.

I got to know him in the halls before choir or music history classes, but he would often join us students for lunch in the student center. It was obvious Rich cared about each person.

Rich continues to be a great influence to me--I married his daughter. I like to say I married Janis because her father is Rich.