

SIU duo dedicated to the development and success of their students. They were surrogate parents who helped me and many others maneuver the obstacles and challenges that confront the first in a family in attending college.

A father of four, Taylor was equally at home singing the lead in an opera, as he was working in his wood shop. If I ever achieved one single moment of musical success, it was because I could hear his beautiful baritone voice booming, "Sing from your heart, Cindy!"

I was brokenhearted to hear of his passing and will be eternally indebted to him and Donna for their part in shaping my life.

Cindy Painter '72

Life Member

Chuckey, Tenn.

Touching Base From Northern Ireland

Living in Northern Ireland, I just recently received my winter copy of SIU Alumni magazine in the mail. I just wanted to touch base and say that I thought it was a great read. My thanks to Gene Green for the great cover story on Connie Price-Smith and her husband, John.

My first year at SIU was in 1980, and John was the first to step up and welcome me, inviting me to his home for Thanksgiving. I won't forget that. Connie and John are "rock stars" on this side of the pond!



The Breens are pictured reunited on the SIU campus several years ago. Tom was a four-year letterman on the SIU track and field and cross country teams from 1980-84. His daughter, Gina '06, '07, M.A. '10, later arrived from Ireland to earn three degrees and serve the Association as a member of the Student Alumni Council. She is currently working on her Ph.D. at Louisiana State University.

Congratulations to you all for the great work you do for the University.

Go Salukis!

Tom Breen '84

Life Member

Downpatrick, Northern Ireland