

Susanne Umiker Spurlock '78

How did Linden Hall affect your life after graduation?

The study habits I adapted served me very well, as I went right on to college and earned a bachelor's and master's degree within 5 years, and was offered a very good job right after graduate school at Brandywine Hospital. I also loved the experience of living and interacting with a large group of supportive women so much that I pledged a sorority in college. I lived with 95 other women in the beautiful Gamma Phi Beta house at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN. As sorority women, we were expected to participate in philanthropic, community, and social events, and maintain at least a 3.5 GPA. Linden Hall helped me to be a leader in the sorority and college life at IU.



What piece of advice would you share with girls at Linden Hall today?

Strive for academic excellence, but more importantly, hone your social relational skills to compete for and hold the best career opportunities, what Thomas Friedman calls, "stempathy jobs".

What did you love most about Linden Hall?

The intimately small class sizes, the supportively challenging teachers, all female learning environment (which took away the "boy crazy" distraction for me), the historical buildings, great food, and the lovely friendships I made.

Describe your experience at Linden Hall. What is your favorite memory?

My experience was one of quick adaptation. I did not enter the school until the middle of my junior year! I am proud that I was able to quickly make friends and adapt to a very different learning environment from all my years at a city public elementary/middle school and a Catholic high school.

My favorite memory was learning to type to music in Miss Sullivan's typing class! Tied for best memory.....sitting in Miss Sullivan's office on the floor with other girls and talking about life.

How many years did you attend Linden Hall?

1 ½ years

What clubs or sports were you a member of?

I was in drama club with Miss Sullivan and performed in plays and musicals, tennis team, field hockey team, bell choir, and started a cheerleading squad for the basketball team.

What Blue and White team were you on?

I can't remember....it was 40 years ago!!

What college did you attend and where?

Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. Attended and received my master's degree at Indiana University/Purdue University in Indianapolis, Indiana.

What is your occupation?

I have been a clinical social worker/psychotherapist for 34 years, and now practice as a Life and Wellness counselor for Wellness on Walnut in Lancaster, an integrative health center I started with a chiropractor 5 years ago.

Do you participate in professional organizations?

NASW (National Association of Social Workers) and ACSW (Academy of Certified Social Workers).

Do you participate in community service? If so, what organizations?

Lancaster History.org and Mental Health America

JUST FOR FUN

What is your favorite book?

Goldie: A Lotus Grows in the Mud by Goldie Hawn

What is your favorite movie or TV show?

Gone with the Wind....you will often hear me say in a time of needing to be strong, "As God as my witness, I will never....." haha.

Name three things you couldn't live without.

My adult children, friends, and family (that's one), walking, singing, and dancing to music, and my dog. That was a hard question to narrow down to three things!

Class notes and Alumnae Updates

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REFER A STUDENT TO LINDEN HALL

Do you know someone who would make a great Linden Hall girl?

Linden Hall now offers a \$500 tuition discount to an incoming student who was referred by an alumna. Have a student you would like to refer to Linden Hall? Email the Admissions Office at admissions@lindenhall.org or call (717) 626-8512.



Your Alumnae Coordinator

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Alumna Spotlight is a monthly e-newsletter sent out by the Advancement Department at Linden Hall. Please feel free to share or forward to other Alumnae or family members of Alumnae who may not be on our email list.