Clarence Edward Martin, Marshall University Hall of Fame 2012 inductee, went to his Lord and Savior on 8 January 2020. He was born in Milton, West Virginia on February 19, 1939, the son of the late Clarence H. and Ollie S. Martin. He is preceded in death by one son, Stephen Martin, brothers, John and James Martin and sister, Doris Lambert. He is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Sharon Lynn Martin, two sisters, Velma Clonch and Karen (Jim) Leach, three brothers, Bill (Aida Mae), Larry (Linda) and Bobby Martin, three sons Commodore Anthony (Cathy) Martin, Timothy (Tammy) Martin, Eric (Jamie) Martin, one step son John Cartwright, and one special son, Derek Chaffin, ten grandchildren and thirteen great grandchildren. He was the eldest of nine children, growing up in a home that consisted of two rooms and an outhouse, he learned quickly that hard work and determination is what it would take to better his life and become successful.

He graduated in 1957 from Barboursville High School with a graduating class of 167 people. While in high school, he played basketball, ran track, and played football. Clarence had significant influences in high school that affected his life and guided him in the right direction. One of his greatest influences was his Coach, Dick Ware. Coach Ware was the head football coach, and was a master strategist and motivator. He taught Clarence the value of teamwork, perseverance and determination. Before Clarence’s senior year of high school, he enlisted in the West Virginia Air National Guard. He received basic training that summer at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

Football was Clarence’s key into college, and with a football scholarship he attended Marshall College (at that time) in 1957-1958, and played football under Coach Herb Royer. During his sophomore year at Marshall, he realized that he did not have the funds to continue college. In February 1959, with the military training, he received his release from the West Virginia Air National Guard, and enlisted in the US Army. This offered him the opportunity to work with the army finance and administration personnel corp. He took advantage of this and this gave him his initial interest in his career path of finance and accounting. He was stationed in Germany for two years and was a finance specialist assigned to support seventh army. Clarence was discharged in February 1961.
When Clarence returned to the states, he was hired by Raytheon Corporation in Boston and worked for nine months. After leaving Boston in late 1961, he returned to West Virginia and went to work for Roman J. Claprood, a wholesale distributor in Huntington. In 1963, he went to work at International Nickel, or Inco Alloys, as it was called at that time, working in the mill on night shift. He once again enrolled at Marshall, taking classes during the day and working at night. He started working towards his degree in finance and accounting. He was able to finance it with the G.I. bill. He graduated from Marshall in 1967, with a BBA in accounting. After a period of time, he returned to Marshall and earned his MBA. After receiving his MBA, he did additional post-graduate work towards a doctorate at Ohio State University and the University of Kentucky.

After graduation from Marshall, he continued his employment with Inco Alloys where he held jobs in the accounting department as an auditor, assistant controller, plant accountant, and assistant to executive VP and Division President.

Clarence began his teaching experience in 1968-1969 part time at Marshall, and did full time teaching when he left Inco during 1969-1972. His first full time teaching job was with the Marshall branch at Logan, WV, which is now Southern West Virginia Community College. He then went to the University of Kentucky, where he worked full time until 1972, when he met Art Weisberg, and came to State Electric Supply Company. He continued to teach part time at the University of Kentucky Ashland Community College for three (3) years after he came to State Electric full time. He did this until it became too difficult to manage both jobs well.

Clarence was hired as controller at State Electric in 1972; became Chief Financial Officer in 1977, and Chief Executive Officer in 1994. When he began working at State Electric, there were two branches, Huntington and Dunbar. There were a total of 41 employees, which included Art’s brother and mother. The business was just beginning to grow. From two branches, Clarence focused on growing the business to 44 branches across seven states, and employing nearly 800 employees. He became a partner in the business in 1988, and one of the successors to the business.

Clarence was the Executive Vice President of Arthur’s Enterprises, which was formed in 1986 to provide organizational structure for the continued growth of State Electric. Clarence served as a member of the Board for Huntington Federal for over twenty years. Clarence served as Chair of the National Association of Electrical Distributors (NAED) Government Affairs Committee, and was previously on the NAED Legislative Committee in the 1990’s. Clarence was the Board Chairman for the National Association of Electrical Distributors in 2012-2013, representing an industry of over 72 Billion U.S. dollars.

Clarence’s most recent accomplishment was his induction into the 2012 Marshall University Business Hall of Fame. This is an award given annually to business leaders who have an outstanding record of achievement in their fields and have dedicated themselves to excellence.
Energy Efficiency Program gets foundation grant support

The Energy Management program in the Lewis College of Business led by Professor Margie Phillips has recently attracted two foundation grants to create the Energy Efficiency Center Community Outreach Program that will help to bring energy awareness training to K-12 schools, including Vocational and Technical Schools in West Virginia.

The first grant came from Toyota for $5,000. The second grant came from EQT Foundation for $12,500. These grants lay the foundation for further support and development of this initiative that is so crucial to the State of West Virginia.

These funds will help to establish a ‘Sustainability & Energy Efficiency Center’ within the College of Business. The goals of the Center will be: to identify sources of energy and the effects on the environment; to evaluate K-12 student knowledge of energy efficiency and sustainability at school and home; to analyze energy efficiency methods that will reduce energy cost and usage, reduce greenhouse gases, and improve indoor air quality; to define energy conservation methods by using energy more efficiently; and to provide community outreach opportunities to the Brad D. Smith Schools of Business students to enrich their learning experience and community involvement.

The Center will partner with the NEED (National Energy Education Development) Project and West Virginia K-12 schools. LCOB students will in turn work with and mentor younger students at the schools. At the completion of the training, the NEED Project will organize a STEM/Energy night for the schools and local communities.

Society for Advancement of Management – 2020 International Business Conference, Nashville, March 19-21

As the President of the Society for Advancement of Management (SAM), I am pleased to announce the 75th International Business Conference in Nashville from March 19 to 21. SAM is the oldest continuously active professional management organization in the world. It was founded on November 7, 1912, by colleagues of Frederick W. Taylor, the Father of Scientific Modern Management, in New York City. Over more than a century, virtually the whos-who of the world of business and government have been affiliated with SAM, in various capacities such as speakers, members and award-recipients, including President Herbert Hoover, President Ronald Reagan, Peter Drucker, J.W. Marriott, Alfred P. Sloan, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, and CEOs of most of the top Fortune 500 companies. In its heydays, SAM had 190 campus chapters and 12,200 student members. If you had a management role in a company or government in America, you probably were a member of SAM (https://samnational.org/aboutus/message-from-president/).
Today, SAM stands at the interface of fostering engagement, sparking innovation and creating impact. It seeks to bridge academics and practice, and is interdisciplinary in content foci. All LCOB faculty and students are in fields it seeks to further. SAM’s 75th Anniversary Conference — with the theme “Advancing Management: Entrepreneurial Thinking and Innovation” — is dedicated to exploring and contributing thoughts and scholarship on this central and contemporary aspect of management practice and education. Academics, practitioners and student researchers are invited to present business insights at this 2020 Conference. The conference website is: http://samnational.org/2020cfp. The Conference is under new leadership, and the Conference has been reimagined and reinvigorated reflecting this. You will find it offers a variety of venues for faculty, practitioners, and students to participate.

Management theory and practice have evolved in recent years to advocate innovation, entrepreneurial, and intrapreneurial thinking as drivers of success in all forms and sizes of organizations, in all sectors, and in all countries. As organizations try to adapt and respond to technological, demographic, and market transformations, today’s managers, entrepreneurs, employees, and stakeholders increasingly are called upon to demonstrate the agility, imagination, ambidexterity, inclusivity, and sustainability that foster opportunities through fast-paced and ever-larger disruptions. Design thinking towards entrepreneurship, intrapreneurship, and innovation is relatively nascent as the creation, operation, and consequence of new management thinking remain an uncharted territory that both scholars and practitioners are just beginning to navigate.

The conference has eight tracks. Research on a variety of topics that advance management education and practice is welcome. To participate, submit your Full Paper or Extended Abstract to one of the following Tracks for peer review and acceptance for Conference presentation: Organization Studies, Entrepreneurship, Innovation Management, Information Systems and Operations Management, Functional Areas of Business, Sector Specific Management, Social Issues in Management, and At Large.

The SAM Advanced Management Journal (https://samnational.org/journal/) will publish its 85th volume in 2020. The final version of the papers selected and presented must be sent by May 1, 2020, to be considered for publication in the SAM Advanced Management Journal. This allows authors time to review comments and to incorporate changes needed based on conference feedback. Authors may also elect to have their work published in our 2020 International Business Conference Proceedings.

On behalf of SAM, I invite and welcome you to join this year’s Conference.