

North Platte High School Distinguished Alumni Nomination

Marvin Webb, Class of 1965

- Describe what distinguishes this individual from others in the same field or occupation.

Marvin is the epitome of a community advocate. As an architect, this is the type of professional that both clients and the community seek in partnering and collaborating on projects. Marvin approaches each project with an enthusiasm for integrity, honesty, and inclusiveness to each client, who is an integral part of the design team. Marvin's approach drives teams to work together with one main goal in mind -- to make their community a better place.

As a community advocate, Marvin's passion is in preserving historic buildings and has led many historic renovation projects throughout Nebraska. Often, these rundown buildings have been close to being destroyed, but Webb & Company Architects has collaborated with community team members to save these worthy pieces of history. His historic renovation designs have artfully brought in modern styles, yet kept the historic character of the building.

Specific examples of historic preservation, including several buildings that were originally built more than 100 years ago, are listed below and on the projects section of the company website, www.wca-architects.com:

- Union Pacific Railroad Depot in Pleasanton, Neb., built in 1890
- Burlington Station in Grand Island, Neb., built in 1911, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2014
- Union Pacific Railroad Depot in St. Paul, Neb., built in 1914
- Odell Old West Museum in Odell, Neb., originally built in 1885 as the State Bank of Odell
- Federal Building in Grand Island, Neb., built in 1908, and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2006. In 2017, WCA worked with the current owners (Hall County) to remodel spaces for their use within the guidelines for a building on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Sandhills Journey Byway Interpretive Center, Broken Bow, Neb., was originally an old cow barn that was moved to Broken Bow and restored as a visitor center and museum. Now, driving along Highway 2, you can see a Big Red Barn that will surely catch your attention.

As a dedicated professional to the architecture industry, Marvin is a lifelong learner. Since graduating college, he has been a member of The American Institute of Architects (AIA) and has served many leadership roles including the Nebraska Chapter President in 2000. Marvin greatly enjoys attending local, state and national professional development conferences to learn new advances in the industry each year.

After gaining many years of experience at architecture firms in Lincoln, Omaha, and Grand Island, Marvin took the leap and opened his own firm in 1992. Now, having been a small business owner for almost 30 years, Marvin has mastered the art of being a leader as well as a team player for his clients and partners. For each project, Marvin pulls together his trusty rolodex of dedicated and innovative professional engineering consultants to not only meet deadlines and budgets, but truly impress his clients. Marvin continues to keep the grand vision

in mind for his company and the community alongside focusing on the details of the project at hand. In 2002, he was honored by the Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce with the Small Business of the Year award.

As a community volunteer, Marvin's list is quite impressive. Marvin has dedicated his time to a variety of organizations including school activities, youth sports teams, church groups, Habitat for Humanity, the Nebraska State Fair and as a board member for many non-profits. One of Marvin's passions was presenting the architecture class for the Overland Trails Council's Boy Scouts Merit Badge University for nine years at Stuhr Museum in Grand Island.

- Statements describing why this person should be selected and how they are an inspiration for future alumni.

- Marvin is an excellent candidate for this award because he has successfully mastered his 50 year career by being dedicated to his industry, civic engagement, and his family.
- Marvin is a continued inspiration for future alumni, not only for his success as an architect, but also for being an entrepreneur and small business owner for almost 30 years.
- Marvin shares his passion for the industry with the future generation by welcoming high school students to shadow him as they consider a career in architecture.
- Marvin has served as a mentor for his CAD drafters who have gained experience in the field and moved on to their next career opportunity.
- As Marvin's daughter, my dad has always been an inspiration to me as he has shown me how to give back to my industry and community through his continued actions, positive reinforcement, and prioritizing his family.
- If you have met Marvin in person, you'd know that there is no slowing down in sight. With a successful career of more than 50 years, he continues to find projects that make communities in Nebraska a better place to live, work, and play.

- Personal information

Marvin continues to practice architecture in Grand Island, Nebraska where he resides with his wife Jeanne. They have three children, now grown with careers and families of their own. Emily (Webb) and husband Jeremy Gildersleeve and children Wyatt and Makenna of Cairo, Nebraska; Dr. Justin and wife Shannon and children Jude, Grace, Zachary and Cecilia of Aledo, Texas, Kristin (Webb) and husband Steven Kelly and children Leah and William of Frankfort, Illinois.

Marvin's parents, Ernest (Bud) and Ruth Webb moved their family from Idaho to North Platte in 1951. He attended Washington and McKinley Elementary Schools and North Platte Junior and Senior High graduating in 1965. Marvin's sister Carolyn (Webb) Anderson, class of 1966, and her husband Ken live in Marshalltown, Iowa and brother Roger Webb, class of 1967, and his wife Ann live in Surprise, Arizona.

To learn more about the Webb & Company Architects' services, projects and history, visit www.wca-architects.com. In addition, here are links to news articles featuring Marvin that appeared in the Grand Island Independent in [2002](#), [2012](#), and [2017](#).

- In Closing

In 2021, it will be 56 years since Marvin graduated from North Platte High School. As a first generation college student in his family, he attended undergraduate school at Kearney State College (now known as the University of Nebraska at Kearney). Thank you to North Platte High School for aiding Marvin in achieving his educational requirements to pursue his goal of achieving a college degree.

While attending College of Architecture at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, he took advantage of an employment opportunity with the United States Army Corp of Engineers in Ft. Worth, Texas for two summers. He joined fellow architecture and engineering students from across the country in field measuring and data collection of potential fallout shelters. A true sign of the times in the 1960's! He traveled to various communities throughout Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas. Upon graduation and receiving his degree in architecture he put that degree to work throughout Nebraska and later became licensed in South Dakota and Wyoming.

In 2021, Marvin will celebrate almost 30 years of owning his own architecture firm in Grand Island. Over the years, he has indeed made a difference in many communities... not only in architecture, but in leadership and volunteerism which has impacted community development.

Thank you, North Platte Public Schools Foundation for honoring alumni, supporting teachers and staff and maintaining a bright future for current students.

Marvin Webb, AIA**Webb & Company Architects, Inc. 387 N. Walnut Street****Grand Island, Nebraska**

Marvin Webb has an extensive background in project management and architectural design on several project types. His experience with small, medium, and large scale projects has given him a depth of expertise in management of personnel, design schedule, project budget, and project delivery. **His steady attention to detail, his ability to listen, and his constant careful consideration of the client's needs has earned him a solid reputation of integrity and reliability.**

Education

Kearney State College/University of Nebraska - Kearney &
University of Nebraska - Lincoln, Bachelor of Architecture Degree 1971

Continuing Education

The American Institute of Architects, Grassroots Conference 1988, 1999
The American Institute of Architects, National Design Conference 2000, 2013, 2015

Professional Memberships

The American Institute of Architects, State Executive Board President 2000

Work History

Webb & Company Architects, Inc., President, CEO 1992 - present
Cannon & Associates, Inc. Architects, Project Architect 1981 - 1992
Bachtold & Assoc/Jim Johnson Architects/Findley +Assoc, Lincoln 1972 - 1981
DLR/HDR/RDG Wilsam Birge, Graduate Architect, Omaha 1971 - 1972

Community Involvement and Honors

2002 Small Business of The Year - Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce 2002
Board Member, Overland Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America 2011 - 2016
State Accessibility Advisory Committee by Governor's Appointment 1994 - 2001
Leadership Tomorrow, Class #10, Grand Island 1995 - 1996
Grand Island - Hall County Planning Commissioner, Chairperson 1995 - 2001
Grand Island Building Code Advisory Board 1991 - present
Grand Island Comp. Plan, Planning and Land Use Task Force 1992, 2002
Grand Island Community Redevelopment Authority
Consulting Architect for Facade Improvement Program 1997 - present
Architectural Committee for Downtown Development Office 1993 - 1995
Center for Independent Living, Board of Directors 1995 - 2004
Wings Over the Platte Task Force Committee 1990 - 1999
Jefferson Elementary School, PTA, Co-President 1986 - 1988
Grand Island YMCA Board of Directors 1997 - 2003
Cottonwood Group Sierra Club, Treasurer 1986 - 2001
Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Parish Council 1992 - 1994
Grand Island YMCA Boys Soccer Coach 1988 - 1993
Grand Island Girls Softball Coach 1985 - 1991, 1997 - 2004
Grand Island Little League Baseball Coach 1992 - 1994
Grand Island Hoops Mania, Site Tournament Director 1991 - 1999

Registration

Registered Architect - State of Nebraska, State of South Dakota until 2021, State of Wyoming
Registered Architect - The American Institute of Architects, State of Nebraska and National AIA