

MIDLAND SCHOOL



Eric Swain, '63
Trustee

November 7, 2006

Dear Midland Friends,

Thanks to many of you, Midland is off to a powerful start this year. Will Graham has fully embraced the difficult role of leading a community while learning about it, and he has done so with the same uncommon thoughtfulness and commitment that this year's senior class is bringing to its own leadership role. Good people are working, so the place is working. That is a tribute to everyone there and, as I said, to many of you.

Those of you who have supported Midland through its Annual Scholarship Fund have contributed to the single most important aspect of any school—the quality of its people. You have annually built a financial aid fund that has allowed the school to accept applicants and families based on their character, abilities, and interests rather than solely on their ability to pay full tuition. Students are selected because they will benefit from being at Midland and, at the same time, contribute to and create a rich academic and social environment for themselves, their teachers, and their schoolmates. ***Every financial aid dollar benefits everyone in the community, not just the direct recipient.***

During Midland's first sixty years, a lot of us said that self-sufficiency meant not asking and not giving, but the truth is that the school was built not just on strength of character, singular vision, and hard work, but also on gifts; e.g., virtually everything we see as we walk around campus was built with non-tuition dollars. Midland's make-do attitude remains deeply embedded, but over the last fifteen years, the school has made significant and long overdue improvements in programs, salaries, and facilities while maintaining its steadfast commitment to financial aid.

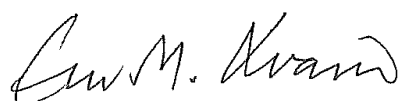
It has taken a lot of work from hundreds of people. Come to campus, meet Will and Marguerite Graham, see faculty and students dig themselves out of a flash flood as they did last week and feel great about

it, or sit in on some exemplary classes. You will know it has been worth it. Midland works. Midland is giving current students the same roots it gave many of us alumni.

This letter asks you to continue and even increase your support of our unique school.** As a contributor to three annual funds, I too wish they really weren't annual, but they have to be. Financial aid is essential every year. This year Midland has 38 direct recipients, with extended benefits going to the whole Midland community. The school is small enough that every contribution of \$100 will make a difference, and the need is great enough that significant donations of \$5000 and above are essential.

Thank you for doing what you can, and all the very best to each and every one of you.

Sincerely,



Eric M. Swain '63, P '87, Faculty '73-'90
Member, Board of Trustees

** Now you can make your Annual Scholarship Fund gift on-line and get it in before December 31st!! Please visit –
<http://www.midland-school.org/giving.html>.