

# Graduation 2005



**L to R:** Carol Vizzier, Prof. Alex Glashausser, President Jerry Farley, Dean Dennis Honabach





On Saturday, May 14, 2005, Washburn University School of Law graduated 168 students as parents, families, spouses, significant others and friends attended and watched. The ceremony was held in Lee Arena on the Washburn University campus. During the graduation ceremony, Professor and Interim Associate Dean for Student Affairs Alex Glashausser presented a Posthumous degree to Todd William Lowe, who was killed in an automobile accident in November 2004, one week prior to his December graduation date. Accepting the degree on his behalf were his parents, Alfred and Margaret Lowe and his son Andrew Lowe. Carol Vizzier, previous Associate Dean for Student Affairs, presented a bouquet of flowers to his mother Margaret Lowe.

The commencement speaker was Bill Kurtis '66, President, Kurtis Productions, Inc. An acclaimed documentary host and producer, network and major market news anchor and multimedia production company president, Kurtis has spent the past 35 years creating a body of work that is virtually unparalleled in the field of broadcasting.

Kurtis began his television career at WIBW-TV (CBS) in Topeka, Kansas. In 1966, after being recognized for his 24-hour coverage of a devastating tornado, Kurtis was hired by WBBM-TV in Chicago where he was a field reporter and later anchor of *The Channel Two News*. Kurtis moved on to the network level at CBS where he anchored *The CBS Morning News* and contributed to *CBS Reports*.

Returning to Chicago and WBBM-TV as news anchor in 1985, Kurtis began his career as a documentarian, traveling to the far ends of the earth for the Peabody Award-winning series *The New Explorers*, which aired on PBS. In 1990, he founded Kurtis Productions and began producing programs for the A&E Television Network, including the long-running, award-winning *Investigative Reports*, *American Justice*, and *Cold Case Files*. Kurtis is also Executive Producer of a new weekly series, *Investigating History*, airing on The History Channel.

In his home state of Kansas, Kurtis is a rancher, radio station owner, art gallery owner, small businessman, supporter of small town America and an active conservationist.

Kurtis is the recipient of numerous humanitarian, journalism and broadcasting awards including Emmys, CableACE Awards, and the Thurgood Marshall Award for his *Investigative Reports* installment on the death penalty. He is a published author and a member of the board of directors of several distinguished organizations including The Nature Conservancy, The National Park Foundation, and The Field Museum of Chicago.

*The Death Penalty on Trial: Crisis in American Justice* (Public Affairs), Kurtis' most recent book, discusses issues surrounding capital punishment in America. Kurtis discussed his views at graduation.

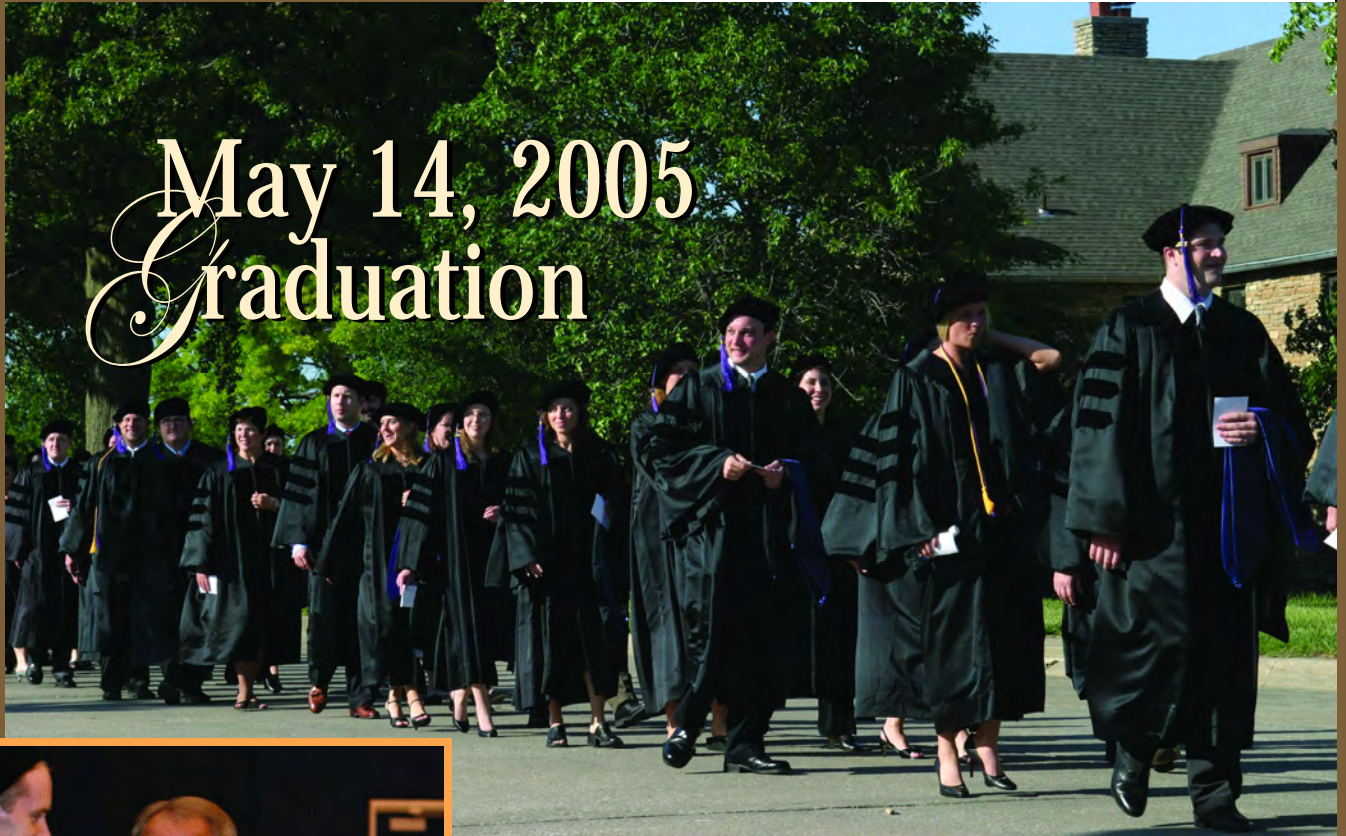
After the graduation ceremony, a reception for graduates and their guests was held at the Bradbury Thompson Alumni Center.



- A. Bill Kurtis '66
- B. Meaghan Dalton
- C. Dionna Mitchell and Tanya Bidwell
- D. Peter Bieri and Susan Richards
- E. Duke Dupre '73, President Washburn Law School Association
- F. Sarah Novascone, Lenora Nioce, Paul Mzembe, daughter Maya Mzembe and Trinity Muth



# May 14, 2005 Graduation



G. Professor Alex Glashauser, Alfred Lowe, Margaret Lowe and Andrew Lowe  
H. Patrick Foley, Dean Dennis Honabach and Tammie Mundil  
I. Ashley Polston, Tateasha Davis, Justin Mettlen and Jamie Parsons  
J. Bill Kurtis '66 and Professor David Ryan '65  
K. Graduation Procession  
L. Ava-Gail Delattibeaudierre