

Comet Alumni Spotlight

Mrs. Linda Kepple
St. Thomas Class of 1967

Educational Background: I graduated from Bergan High School and received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Maryville College of the Sacred Heart in St. Louis - now called Maryville University.

Recent Achievements: My son John and I have the Kepple Real Estate Group which I started in 1985 (we especially love to sell homes to St. Thomas grads!). I also brought the Keller Williams Real Estate brokerage to Peoria in 2006 and am the owner/operator - and son John is also my partner in that. I was very humbled to have been recognized as the 2019 Athena International Woman of the Year. It is a recognition given by the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce annually for contributions to the Community and also success in business.

Family: My husband Mike and I have 3 children, John-Michael, Casey Christopher and Mary Colleen. John and Casey are St. Thomas graduates and Colleen graduated from Peoria Academy. All 8 of my grandchildren attended St. Thomas this last school year!!

St. Thomas teacher who made an impact on you: Mrs. Cunningham. She was so kind and good at teaching things at levels everyone would understand. She was chill with how she would handle our "5th grade behavior" and always made it a teaching moment.



Favorite experience as a St. Thomas Comet: I loved my Catholic experience at STS. I loved the Friday stations of the cross, the all school masses, May crowning and Monsignor Rank individually passing out all our report cards to us after his careful examination! Also, there isn't much more excitement than the Diocesan sports competitions!

Piece of advice for current Comets: Always stay in curiosity! Keep asking questions - there are so many cool things to learn about and knowledge is power.

Comet Siblings: My brother Greg Pearl is Chief of Vascular Surgery at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas, sister Lisa Whitten is retired from managing our Mother's women's boutique, The Strawberry Patch and then as my VP of Operations of the Kepple Real Estate Team and now helping with her 12 grandchildren, Gary Pearl is Chairman of Pearl Insurance, a company our father founded in 1952, Lesley is married to a St Thomas grad, Matt Vonachen and is busy with her 4 children and also as co-owner of Interim Healthcare offering home healthcare, and Laurie also sells real estate and has children, who are all comet alums.