

# Mark Tracey

Class of 1973

Mark was head drummer/squad leader for the drum section in the Wooster High School Marching Band in 1971 and 1972 and was also a member of Senior choir. But perhaps Mark's greatest impact was as a gifted artist at Wooster High. He designed program covers, did cartoons for the school newspaper and his "roaring lion" mural graced the walkway from the cafeteria for the lower level for more than twenty-five years.



Mark went on to pursue Art Illustration, first at the College of Wooster then at Kent State, and graduating with honors from The Ohio State University. He also studied at the Columbus College of Art and Design in 1979.

That same year he founded *Illustrated Alaskan Moose*, his own commercial illustration company. His company grew rapidly adding designers, computer graphic artists, and sales staff and did design and illustration work for high level companies from Sony, Scotts, Wendy's to Warner Brothers, Milton Bradley, Tonka, Disney, Mattell and Steven Spielberg's *Dreamworks*. Mark was involved in designing artwork for various bible and Sunday school programs.

He was a frequent guest lecturer at Ohio State and the Columbus College of Art and Design, always refusing payment. Mark was a devout Christian and served his church with 6 mission trips to Russia, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Peru.

Mark is responsible for composing drum cadences that the WHS band continues to play to this day. When Mark came home and played for the WHS Alumni Band, his mother said he was pleasantly surprised to hear his compositions.

Tracey became a pastor in the Westerville area where he made his home with his wife and their three children. Upon his passing in July of 2006, there were 1500 mourners at his services, quite a tribute to his professional and personal impact on others.

***"Mark's first love outside of God was children and designing original characters that would touch them."***

***- Cabot Rea***