Who is Danny Dell?

He’s a staple at Sigma Sigma meetings and events. He’s often at UC football and basketball games. He’s pretty quiet and laidback and self-discloses very little. He laughs at our exploits and offers guidance only when asked.

He is one of the most important figures in Sigma Sigma history. For cryin’ out loud, now he’s even got a scholarship in his name! Yet, do any of us really know Danny Dell? All we had to do was ask.

Here are 15 things you may not know about our devoted brother:

1. Danny is actually from Northeast Ohio, a graduate of Alliance (OH) High School in the Akron-Canton area and yes - he grew up a Cleveland Browns fan.
2. Danny came to the University of Cincinnati because of the school’s co-op program. He entered as an engineering major, but after just one term he switched to the College of Business.
3. Danny ran track and cross country for the Bearcats for two years.
4. He earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1962 and a master’s in 1965. Danny started to work on his doctorate in economics, but never finished his dissertation.
5. While working as a graduate student in University College, a lab instructor suggested Danny think about becoming a teacher. And so he did. In 1963, he began to teach a variety of business courses in University College and eventually became assistant to the Dean.
6. Danny left University College to become Assistant Dean at University of Cincinnati Clermont College where he later became head of the Business Department. Danny taught at UC Clermont for 33 years before his retirement 17 years ago.
7. Now at age 75, Danny still serves as a part-time academic advisor at UC Clermont, working about two days a week.
8. Danny was tapped into Sigma Sigma in 1961. At that time, he was a student-athlete, president of the Theta Chi chapter at UC (where he previously held other offices) and an officer for the campus student organization that helped award money to other student organizations. “I did not know much about Sigma Sigma before then,” said Danny. “I am sure I got in because there were a couple of track guys in Sigma Sigma at that time (David Woody ’58 and Dick Anstaett ’59).”
9. Danny has been married to his wife, Claire, for 51 years. Their 52nd wedding anniversary is in December. The Dells have four children ages 40 to 51.
10. Aside from the Bearcats, Danny has no favorite sports team.
11. His beverage of choice these days is hot tea, which he drinks with three meals a day. Red wine is his current alcoholic beverage of choice, but when he does drink beer he favors Yuengling.
12. His favorite travel destination is Alaska, where he has been three times. “We like to hike and do outdoors kind of things,” said Danny. “We spent five days one time hiking pretty far north. One time we went to see the bears. They fly you in and you can watch bears in their natural habitat. We like the people; they’re laid-back.” Danny has also traveled to New Zealand, Thailand, the Mount Everest region and Hawaii.
13. Danny’s most memorable Bearcat-related road trips were to New York City for the Big East Basketball Tournaments. Claire favors basketball over football and prefers UC basketball road trips.
14. Danny originally became Sigma Sigma’s advisor when he was teaching a night class at University College that ended after 9:00 p.m. It was easy for him to head over to Huck Hall for the weekly meetings. His young kids were already in bed at this time and he didn’t have to get up and leave his home. He was Sigma Sigma advisor from 1969 - 1989 and again from 2002 - 2011.
15. If Danny Dell were being tapped today, during the ceremony when his brothers asked: Danny Dell, what does Sigma Sigma mean to you? His answer would sound something like this: “It gave me some lifelong friends and got me involved in the university. I enjoy being around the guys. I think it’s neat to have an organization that promotes the university. I think most people in the organization are gung-ho Bearcats like me and I like that.”

Well, that last one we already knew.
Sigma Sigma brothers on Danny Dell

“Danny, to me, epitomizes what Sigma Sigma stands for; selfless service to others. You can see his impact by the respect that is given to him from brothers of all ages. Danny’s simple, yet very wise, guidance has strengthened Sigma Sigma and improved the lives of all those who have had the pleasure of interacting with him over his many years of service.” - Cory K. Sims ’10

“Danny Dell is a ‘fixture’ with Sigma Sigma - working behind the scenes, doing anything that needs to be done; always there.” - Phil Shephardson ’66

“I met Danny Dell in 1997 and admired his commitment and passion for Sigma Sigma and UC. He inspired me to want to have the same type of lasting impact and I strive to follow his example.” - Jeff Rieder ’97

“When I think of the Four Horsemen of Sigma Sigma throughout the years, those men that really drove our brotherhood forward, I think of Jack, Mo, Jed and Danny Dell.” - Neil Van Uum ’81

“Thursday night after Thursday night, decade after decade, Danny was there at the house to bring order to the group of young men that entered our order.” - Scott Oyler ’00

“We all are active members for such a fleeting moment. Danny provided the continuity for generations of Sigma Sigmas.” - Gary Lessis ’82

“Danny was a great advisor, friend and brother. He knew exactly how to guide the active chapter in a manner that allowed us to lead at the same time. From his days of being a Tap to his days as an alumnus, Danny is the glue that brought the brothers together.” - Jerry Tsai ’05

Active Chapter Update

By: Peter Schmidt ’12, Chapter President

As another semester starts at the University of Cincinnati, another great year begins for the active brothers of Sigma Sigma. This fall, the active membership stands at ten brothers. We’ve trended larger than we historically do over the last couple years. We believe this is a direct reflection of continued record enrollment and an overall increase in outstanding men on campus. We strive to recognize and bring into our membership all men who demonstrate the highest example of ideals, congeniality and selfless service to the university.

Currently, we have brothers serving as fraternity presidents, captains of varsity sports, homecoming king, stars on the athletic fields, student trustee and much more. Our brother, Ronald Gillespie ’14, is having an experience of a lifetime while at a co-op in Singapore and Brandon Trame ’14 just wrapped up a highly sought-after internship with Google, Inc.

Thursday nights around the coffin are still filled with joyous spirits, rambunctious conversation and hard-fought games of dice. This semester will prove to be a unique one with home football games just wrapped up a highly sought-after internship with Google, Inc.

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Class Notes

Kenneth D. Conatser ’61
After graduating from the Air Force Academy, my son Dean went into the Marine Corps and was a helicopter pilot for 20 years. He earned a couple of master’s degrees which translated into some type of analyst job with Kroger in Cincinnati. He moved to Loveland this past year, which is next to Milford where I was a math teacher and head football coach the first six years of his life.

Kirby S. Neumann ’03
After seven years of helping clients raise money with OmegaFi, I’ve recently started a new job as the Director of Development for the Cincinnati Art Museum. I’m excited to work for, and advance, one of our city’s treasures.

Patrick Lawrence Carr ’06
After seven years away from Cincinnati, my wife and I have recently moved back to the area. I am currently working as a regional office manager for the engineering consulting firm, EN Engineering and can’t wait to see everyone at a Bearcat football game!

Samuel J. Walston ’08
This past April, I graduated with my master’s in marketing from the College of Business. After completing my degree, I left working for UC after three years in the Alumni Association to work for Ipsos. I’m forever thankful for the opportunities that UC provided me educationally and professionally.

Mark Kroeger ’11
I’m happy to share that I recently completed my CPA exam. It has been a busy last 18 months. Certain client responsibilities coupled with this test had me showing up to Bearcats tailgates a bit tardy. I won’t be able to attend the golf outing or Fall Banquet this year, but I’m looking forward to having some fun at the Spring Carnival! Excited to see everyone.

Continued on next page.
Class Notes continued
Aaron Pontsler ’12
Just made the move to Chicago, Illinois to begin my post graduate career with EY. If any brothers are swinging through the city, give me a call (419-356-9292) so we can grab a beer! Go Bearcats!

Charles Wiederhold ’12
This past July, I transitioned out of a year of service with AmeriCorps, working in East Price Hill for LISC and Santa Maria Community Services and into a position at the Cincinnati Museum Center as their Special Initiatives Coordinator. My current special initiative: Grassroots Campaign Manager for Save Our Econs - the project to renovate Music Hall and Union Terminal (in the news just about as much as our county commissioners go golfing).

Zachary Nieberding ’13
In April, I separated from my job as an aerospace engineer for the Air Force at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio. I took a job with Raytheon Missile Systems in Tucson, Arizona and started work at the end of June. Would love to meet up with any brothers who live close or come to visit nearby! (513) 910-2326
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Edit your member profile online at www.sigma-sigma.com, or clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send to:
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University of Cincinnati (1196)
PO Box 2187
Columbus, GA 31902

Name ____________________________
Initiate Year _______________________
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Visit the Sigma Sigma website
Visit www.sigma-sigma.com, the official Sigma Sigma alumni website, to:
- Learn more about the chapter
- Search for alumni
- Update your address, phone number and email address
- Find out about upcoming events
- Post noteworthy accomplishments (a new baby, a recent marriage, a recent promotion, etc.)
- Support the 2014 Sigma Sigma Legacy Fund Campaign


Upcoming Events

Friday, October 24
Fall Tapping

Saturday, November 1
Jed Small Scholarship Application deadline

Friday, November 14
Fall Banquet

TBD
Old Grand Dad Toast

Friday, April 10
Spring Picnic

Saturday, April 11
Spring Carnival