

News Release
For Immediate Release
September 10, 2014

Grand Forks Central Announces Second Class of Distinguished Alumni

GRAND FORKS, N.D. – Grand Forks Central High School has selected four alumni to join its group of Distinguished Alumni.

Peter Lindgren, Stuart McDonald, Dr. Casey Ryan, and Wes Rydell will be formally inducted during a school assembly on September 19 at 2 p.m. The inductees will also be honored during halftime of the Grand Forks Central football game at 7pm that same day.

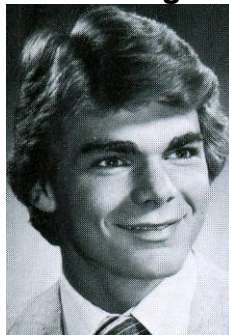
The Distinguished Alumni designation honors graduates of Grand Forks Central who have made a significant impact on their communities and professions and serve as models of success to current Grand Forks Central students.

The 2014 Distinguished Alumni are the second class to be inducted among the 128 years of Central graduating classes.

Portraits and biographies of the five inductees will hang in the hallways of Grand Forks Central

2014 Grand Forks Central Distinguished Alumni Class

Peter Lindgren

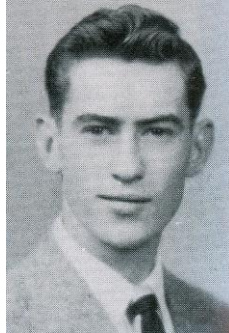


Peter Lindgren, a 1980 graduate of Grand Forks Central High School, is the president and chief operating officer of Otter Products, LLC, recognized by Forbes Magazine as one of America's most promising companies. Otter Products manufactures Otterbox and LifeProof, smartphone and tablet cases, and is nationally recognized as the number one selling case brand for smartphone protection in North America.

Lindgren received a bachelor of arts in business economics from Colorado College, Colorado Springs, and has spent most of his professional career working in electronics

manufacturing services; he started as a sales coordinator, then worked in middle management and finally has taken on the role of corporate executive leadership. Lindgren has also served as the executive vice president of global operations and as senior vice president of growth and emerging markets for Celestica Corporation, an electronics manufacturing services company that employs over 30,000 in over 27 locations throughout Europe, Asia, Latin America, and North America.

Stuart McDonald



Stuart McDonald, a 1949 graduate of Grand Forks Central High School, is perhaps most recognized for the cartoons he created for the Sunday editions of the *Grand Forks Herald*, where he was North Dakota's only regularly published editorial cartoonist from 1963-1969. McDonald received three George Washington Honor Medals from the Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge for his cartoons during this time.

McDonald attended the University of North Dakota for two years before joining the United States Air Force in 1951. Following his service, McDonald returned to Grand Forks and became vice president of McDonald Clothing Company. McDonald was involved in a number of community clubs and organizations including the Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce and the Sertoma Club. He also received the Jaycees Outstanding Young Man Award.

In 1967, McDonald was elected to the North Dakota House of Representatives where he served until 1971.

Dr. Casey Ryan



Casey Ryan, a 1967 graduate of Grand Forks Central High School, has served as a practicing physician in endocrinology and internal medicine in Grand Forks since 1979, and was assistant dean for the UND School of Medicine from 1991-1997. Most recently, Ryan served as the president of Altru Health System from 1997-2014.

Ryan earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Colorado College, Colorado. He received his medical degree from the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver, and completed his residency in internal medicine at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine, Rochester, Minnesota. Ryan has received a number of awards for his work as a physician and professor at the University of North Dakota Medical School including three Outstanding Achievement awards from the American Diabetes Association as well as the American College of Physicians Laureate Award.

Wes Rydell



Wes Rydell, a 1959 graduate of Grand Forks Central High School, was awarded the North Dakota Business Innovator of the Year by the UND Center for Innovation and, in 2005, was given the Sioux Award, the highest honor award by the UND Alumni Association.

Rydell is the current dealer principal at Rydell Auto Center as well as the chief executive officer of the Rydell Company, an automotive holding company formed in 1994. In 1976, Rydell bought his first car dealership from his father Leonard Rydell. From this original store, Wes Rydell has expanded the company into the largest automobile dealership in North Dakota, with over 70 stores located in 14 states.