

Scott Gardner

The Hon. Donald Barnes once told Scott Gardner:

“Your sister is faster than you, quick on her feet and sharp as a whip, but you do good research.”

Scott Gardner joins his sister, Anne, in entering the Smith-Cotton Academic Hall of Fame. Scott was valedictorian of the S-C Class of 1976, but he did much more than just hit the books. He was editor of the 1976 edition of the Archives yearbook, and a member of National Honor Society, L-Club, Student Council, Foreign Language Association and the Speech & Debate team. He performed with the S-C band on clarinet, bass clarinet and

taxi horn, and was an Eagle Scout with Troop 61. Scott ran cross country and track for the Tigers, and notoriously was lapped eight times by teammates Steve Stonecipher-Fisher and Jeff Mittelhauser in an indoor two-mile event at the Municipal Auditorium. He earned bachelor's degrees in Finance & Banking from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1978. During his time at Mizzou, Scott was a member of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity and the Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity. He chaired the student association's Board of Elections Commissioners and served as the student member on the Chancellor's Search Committee. In 1983, Scott earned his Juris Doctorate from the Vanderbilt University School of Law in Nashville, Tenn. He has been a member of the Missouri Bar since 1983, starting out at the firm Margolin & Kirwan in Kansas City before returning home to Sedalia to join Martin, Gibson & Gardner. He currently is a partner at Gardner & Gardner, Attorneys & Counselors at Law, where he specializes in Local Government, Estate Planning and Probate. Over the years he has served as Sedalia's city counselor, as well as city attorney at various times for Lincoln, Green Ridge and Cole Camp, where he is the current city attorney. Scott has given back to the district by serving on the Sedalia 200 Board of Education since 2005, taking the roles of president, vice president, secretary and Missouri School Boards Association delegate. Sedalia 200 Superintendent Steve Triplett said, “Mr. Gardner has been a valuable presence on the Board of Education and his legal expertise and leadership have helped elevate our district.” Scott and his wife, Judy, have three children: Ted and twins Meredith and Madeline.

Inducted in Smith-Cotton Academic Hall of Fame, 2021

