



# Litton Blast



Isaac Litton High School - Nashville, TN

Volume MMXXI Issue 3 July 2021

*The MISSION of the Isaac Litton Alumni Association is to preserve the rich heritage of our former school, to provide support to the present Isaac Litton Middle School, and be a positive influence in the lives of ALL the children in our community. We do this with effective communication that continually reaches out to bring the Alumni and the community together to promote our programs and services.*

## SAVE THE DATE!

**Yay! Information about our wonderful All-Alumni Banquet, November 13, 2021, can be found on pages 3-5 of this newsletter. Be there or be square!**

**Please continue to show your support financially through donations and by paying your annual dues (\$15).**

**Thank you for your generosity and STAY SAFE!**

**MAIL CASH OR YOUR CHECK (payable to ILAA) to:  
ISAAC LITTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**P.O. BOX 752**

**MADISON, TN 37116**

**(or to Roy "Buddy" Jones, Treasurer, 100 Windham Drive,  
Hendersonville, TN 37075)**

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Let me start by thanking everyone who came to the Memorial Day Remembrance. It was great to see such a response coming together to remember and honor our Alumni who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country. We plan to come together again next Memorial Day to remember once again those whose names are on the Blue Bricks on our Memorial Wall. If you would like to see what took place, feel free to go to the Litton web site ([www.IsaacLitton.com](http://www.IsaacLitton.com)) to see what took place.

I would also like to thank those who came to the Mack Hargis Book signing on June 5<sup>th</sup> at the Lions Hall. I think everyone who came enjoyed listening to Coach Hargis and to several of the stories that were told.

This year we will have the All-Alumni Banquet on November 13<sup>th</sup>. We will meet once again at Bluegrass Country Club and enjoy a meal of Traditional Thanksgiving fixings. I understand that there have been some changes made at Bluegrass and the food should be great. We would also like to honor all of our Veterans that will be at this year's event. When you fill out the response for the event, you will be asked to identify the branch of Military where you served.

We will also be celebrating the 50th year reunions for the classes of 1970 and 1971. We will also celebrate the classes of 1960 and 1961 as they have reached their 60<sup>th</sup> reunion years. We look forward to a great attendance from all of these classes at this year's event.

I know many of the classes have regular times to meet with their classmates, either as lunch or dinners and as groups or as men or women. I would be glad to attend any that you have to have a chance to discuss what your Alumni Association is doing and the importance of your yearly alumni dues. I've noted my email address below.

Thank you all for all you do to show honor to our great school that we all have memories of. Litton High Forever.

Don Clark

[dc925@comcast.net](mailto:dc925@comcast.net)

President - Isaac Litton Alumni Association (ILAA)



**Isaac Litton High School**  
**ALL-ALUMNI BANQUET**  
**Saturday, November 13, 2021, at 11:00 AM**  
**MAKE PLANS NOW !!!**

*Limited Space -  
Added  
Surprises*

Dear Fellow Alumni,

It's that time again. And from all reports, our past attendees will verify they enjoyed previous years and will definitely want to be here this year, as well. Covid messed us up in '20 and we've had to delay this year's, but WE'RE BACK! If you haven't attended before, we hope you will join us for a few hours of unmatched companionship, inspiration, good food and just plain old fun.

The banquet is being held again at the Bluegrass Yacht & Country Club where we will be served a delicious meal consisting of a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, assorted beverages, and a selection of desserts. Management has changed and we have been assured that the service and food will be great.

We will have guest speakers you won't want to miss, recalling memories of our years at our wonderful alma mater.

As always, we will recognize one very special Alumnus of the Year. The winner will be honored during our banquet by the presentation of a framed gilt-edged certificate, as well as his/her name being added to the wooden plaque displayed in the Lion's Hall Board Room. Also being given special recognition this year are the Class of 1970 on their 51<sup>st</sup> Anniversary and the Class of '71, on their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We have a super gift for them – talk about invoking memories! We will also celebrate the classes of 1960 and 1961 as they have reached their 60<sup>th</sup> reunion years.

When you make your reservation, your name is entered into a drawing for an amazing door prize which you could win just by being present! As always, your dues and all donations to the ILAA are fully tax-deductible. There will be some awesome new items for sale through our Merchandise Committee, too.

Deadline for making your reservations and Alumnus of the Year nominations will be announced in the upcoming email. Send it now and beat the rush!

In keeping with the mission of the Association, our aim is to be a positive influence in the lives of ALL the children of our community by continuously reaching out to bring the alumni and community together. We thank you in advance for your prompt response and sincerely appreciate your support in helping us achieve our goals. We look forward to seeing you this year, not only as we work together to support these worthy causes, but also to share our cherished memories.

See the upcoming separate email about the banquet for more information.

Don Clark, President  
ILAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Litton High Forever!

P.S. – Remember to pay your annual dues of just \$15.00 per person even if you are unable to attend this event. Your annual dues are so important in achieving our goals every year and perpetuating our legacy.



**Saturday, November 13, 2021**  
**Bluegrass Yacht & Country Club**  
**550 Johnny Cash Parkway**  
**Hendersonville, TN 37075**

**11:00 AM**

We encourage you to attend and pay your annual alumni dues, so that we can maintain the restored gym along with funding the various organizations that we support such as the Isaac Litton Middle School (ILMS) and Back Field in Motion (BIM) and more. ILHS merchandise and memorial bricks will be available for purchase. We will be honoring the **Classes of '70 and '71** on the 50th and 51<sup>st</sup> anniversaries of their graduation from ILHS.

**RESERVATION INFORMATION**

NAME (including maiden name): \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS OF: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (home): \_\_\_\_\_ (mobile): \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any veterans of the US Military attending and their years and branch of Service:

Please list here all guests attending with you and their graduation years if they are also alumni of ILHS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

<b>PAYMENT FOR:</b>	<b>How Many</b>				<b>Total</b>
Banquet Reservation		X	<b>\$35.00</b>	=	\$
Annual Alumni Dues		X	<b>\$15.00</b>	=	\$
Tax Deductible Donation					\$
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED</b>					<b>\$</b>

Please make checks payable to: **ISAAC LITTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** or **I.L.A.A.**  
 Enclose your payment along with this form (and your Alumnus of the Year form, if so desired) to:

Roy (Buddy) Jones  
 100 Windham Dr.  
 Hendersonville, TN 37075

You are encouraged to pay your annual alumni dues and update your contact information for our records, even if you are unable to attend our Banquet. **All reservation forms and payments are due by the deadline in the upcoming email. Send your reservation in now and avoid the rush!**

# NOMINATION FOR ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR for 2021

This award is presented to the Alumnus of the Year at our Annual Banquet. He or she is selected by Committee on the following criteria:

Characteristics of the Alumnus of the Year should include but are not limited to any one or a combination of the following:

- distinguished professional achievement
- distinguished leadership
- service to Isaac Litton High School
- service to community
- loyalty to the ideals of Isaac Litton High School
- positive representation of Isaac Litton High School

(If you want to include supporting documentation of this person's qualifications, please do so).

NAME of NOMINEE: \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS OF: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT EMPLOYER or AVOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

EDUCATION AFTER ILHS: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNITY SERVICES: \_\_\_\_\_

SERVICES WHILE AT LITTON: \_\_\_\_\_

HONORS OR ACHIEVEMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS OF: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND THIS FORM TO:

**Kitty Kincaid Woodson  
634 Bradshaw Rd.  
Lebanon TN 37087-7423**

**Deadline for nominations: TBA. Do it now!**



**WHY IS PAYING MY ALUMNI DUES SO GOSH-DARN IMPORTANT?  
WHAT IS MY MONEY USED FOR and WHY SHOULD I CARE?**

Alumni dues and generous donations from loyal supporters like you are the key to our success and make it possible for the ISAAC LITTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION to continue our services to the community, the Isaac Litton Middle School and all of our Alumni.

Our revitalized gymnasium building serves as a meeting place for our alumni holding class reunions, for the community and neighborhood associations to meet and find solutions to the many problems facing some inner-city areas today, and also houses the "Lion's Den", a fully viewable area filled with memorabilia from the proud 40+ year history of ISAAC LITTON HIGH SCHOOL.

Additionally, the Alumni Association is very proud of the recent designation by the American Red Cross to be a "mustering" location in the event of a community disaster. When the situation requires our neighborhood residents to evacuate their homes for any reason, the American Red Cross will set up a "command center" in our Lions Hall to serve the purpose of assigning these displaced community members to the appropriate facility to best assist them. (While they will not be housed or fed at our facility, the Red Cross has deemed this as a vital step in their ability to quickly help those in need.)

Of special focus for the ILAA is the participation in the BACKFIELD IN MOTION (BIM) PROGRAM. BIM is a nonprofit organization that combines academics and athletics to inspire inner-city boys to reach their maximum potential in order to become significant contributors to society. Funds provided by the ILAA are used to support tutorial programs offering academic remediation and homework assistance for these, Nashville's most vulnerable youth. BIM, in partnership with the Isaac Litton Alumni Association provides a permanent facility to offer the classes at our Lions Hall, in the lower level of the gym.

And, in keeping with the Mission of the Alumni Association, our aim is to be a positive influence in the lives of ALL the children of our community by continuously reaching out to bring the alumni and community together.



# They Gave Their All

Memorial Day, May 31, 2021

Submitted by Judy Butler Cline – Class of 1970



It was a beautiful morning with sunny, cerulean blue skies. The American flag was flying at half-staff, and stars and stripes festooned the Memorial Wall. A crowd of approximately 75 gathered at Isaac Litton Park. Litton graduates from many of the classes ranging from the class of 1951 to the class of 1972 were in the audience, as well as other members of the community. We were there to remember and celebrate the 41 graduates of Isaac Litton High School plus two coaches who gave their lives while serving their country in the military.

Don Clark, 2nd Lieutenant, USMC, Retired (class of 1970), and President of the Isaac Litton Alumni Association, kicked off the program at 10:00 am. Don stated, *"It is important to remember that*



*those who served, all gave some, while some gave all. We are here today to remember these 43 names that gave their all for the freedom that we enjoy still today.”* He then read off the names along with a brief history of each service man memorialized on the blue bricks in the Memorial Wall. There were Litton graduates and coaches representing World War II, both in Europe and Asia, as well as from the Korean War and the Vietnam War. Some of the fallen were merely teens, age 18 or 19, when they heroically sacrificed their lives in the service of our country. Truly, they gave their all.

When Don finished announcing each name, Commander John McHenry, USN, retired (class of 1970) together with Emily Benedict, a member of the Metro Council representing District 7, presented a beautiful wreath, while Jimmy Hearn solemnly played *“Taps”* on his trumpet. It was truly a moving ceremony. Many of us in the audience were tearful, remembering not only these fellow students, but also our grandfathers, fathers, brothers, and sons who so proudly served their country.



Don conceived the idea for this memorial service, and with help from Jerry Newman, many of the ILAA board members, and Don’s wife, Janis, he brought this idea into fruition. With the help of Jerry Newman and honorstates.org, they researched the facts around the service and death of each man.

According to an article on *“History”* which can be accessed on the Isaac Litton Website, *“During World War II, over 500 of its boys fought in both the European and Pacific conflicts, leaving thirty-one gold stars to shine on its Service Flag to remind all that Litton too had made the supreme sacrifice. The construction of a Memorial Wall still actively accepts requests to honor our graduates who have passed away, as well as to recognize other alumni.”* Since then, these thirty-one plus additional men have been memorialized on Blue Bricks on the Memorial Wall. Another four names were discovered during Don’s research and preparation for this 2021 Memorial Day celebration, and they will be permanently added to the Memorial Wall at a later date.



When the ceremony was over, most of the participants lingered either outside or in Lions Hall to visit, tour the Memorabilia Room, purchase Litton souvenirs, and reminisce. More than one of the attendees were heard to ask why we had not hosted a memorial service like this in the past. There is not really a good answer to that question. *“Jimmy Howell (class of 1947) was the driving force behind the creation of the Memorial Wall”*, according to Bill Stalker (class of 1970). This Memorial Day ceremony is building on the foundation of the Memorial Wall to ensure that we never forget the legacy of our classmates who Gave Their All.

If you are interested in reading more about these heroes, go to the Isaac Litton website where a copy of their history has been placed. Pictures taken by Hal Gibs during the ceremony are also on the website, [isaaclitton.com](http://isaaclitton.com).



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY  
AMERICA!!**

**Because this issue of the BLAST is coming out right before July 4, and in honor of our classmates who served our country, we present two articles about alumni who served in the Armed Services of the United States of America.**



## **Operation Restore Hope**

Submitted by John McHenry - Class of 1970

Upon graduation from Litton with the class of '70, I joined the Navy's ROTC program at Vanderbilt and began a career that spanned 21 years of service. I spent most of my time in ships ranging from a 125-foot-long hydrofoil to the largest aircraft carrier in the world, USS Eisenhower. Various duty stations eventually took my family to Northern Virginia for a four-year stint at the Pentagon, and then, oddly enough, to my final tour of duty, working for the Marine Corps at Quantico, Virginia.



This final job involved some travel but mostly saw my workdays as 9-to-5, Monday through Friday, which was just fine with me.

However, one day in December 1992, the unit master gunnery sergeant met me upon arrival at the office and said, "Sir, do you have a Will and a Power of Attorney?" I probably said something like, "Sure; doesn't everyone?" while really just trying very hard to appear to be the calm Navy guy in the midst of a bunch of Marines.

I soon learned that President George H W Bush had agreed to join a United Nations effort in Somalia and that my group was to become part of the first command group to deploy. At the time, I was involved as chairman of a not too pleasant problem-solving committee at my church, which I had to find someone to take over. To this day, my wife of 46 years accuses me of volunteering to go to Africa to get out of problems at church. In any event, the Marines issued me

a bunch of gear and a pistol that I had never even seen before, much less fired (Marines were issuing Beretta M-9s and the Navy was still using Colt 45s), I went to legal and got that Will and Power of Attorney, and in three days all of my closest friends and I were on our way to Mogadishu by way of Camp Pendleton in California.

Many of us have seen the movie “Black Hawk Down” and some may even remember that the events of the movie were based on fact and that they took place in Mogadishu. What I was about to take part in was the beginning of the sequence of events that led up to that famous battle.

The situation in Somalia was this: civil order had completely broken down and the civilian population was in dire need of food and other essential supplies to avoid a humanitarian disaster. The United Nations attempted to render aid through the port of Mogadishu, but militant factions ruled by powerful warlords, competing for control of the country, intercepted the supplies and used the captured food as weapons of influence against each other resulting in hundreds of thousands of desperate people on the verge of starvation. The United Nations decided to put together a multinational force from 28 countries, led by the United States which sent 25,000 troops, with orders to use all necessary means to establish as soon as possible a secure environment for humanitarian relief operations in Somalia. In other words, US Marines from the First Marine Division and soldiers from the Army’s Tenth Mountain Division were authorized to use force against militant factions, to defend those UN representatives attempting to feed the people of Somalia. President Bush agreed to send the largest contingent of all the participating nations, with the stipulation that US forces would be under U.S. command and not under the command of the United Nations itself. This operation was called “Restore Hope.”

In the ensuing months 37,000 troops from participating countries regained control of the port of Mogadishu and with a minimum of conflict, through total air superiority and the force of overwhelming numbers, established the required environment of relative peace. The populace began to receive the materials they so desperately needed.

The country was in shambles. Our US headquarters was established in what had once been a magnificent US embassy compound which had been reduced to a shell. Not one electrical or plumbing fixture, not an inch of copper wire or pipe or a single pane of glass remained in place. In one area of the local beach, there was a pile of airplanes. For no apparent reason, people had just stacked little (but real) airplanes on top of one another. The people were heartbreakingly poor.

As a sailor participating in my first and only land operation, I felt like a fish out of water. But to this day, I remain impressed by the ability of our armed forces to move massive amounts of people and material in a very well planned, and well-coordinated campaign, with clear objectives. While it was an honor to serve with the great US Marine Corps, this experience was God’s way of telling me that I had chosen the right service to begin with. Go Navy!

The operation successfully accomplished the mission, resulting in restoring sufficient order to allow supplies to flow again to the people who needed them the most. The UN Secretary General determined that the presence of these troops had a "positive impact on the security situation in Somalia and on the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance." An estimated 100,000 lives were saved as a result of this outside assistance. The operation as begun, was officially terminated on May 3, 1993. The tragic October 1993 battle of Mogadishu depicted in the movie was the result of a shift in mission, not represented in Operation Restore Hope. What was done in the winter of 1992 and 1993 in Somalia did not result in building a stable nation, but that was never the point.

In conclusion, my brief participation in this American led effort of humanitarian assistance was a great source of pride to me and one of the most memorable periods of my Navy career. Almost 30 years ago, Americans went to great lengths at considerable risk for the sole purpose of helping people on the far side of the world. Nothing more and nothing less. Amidst the cynicism of the 21st century we may forget these great things that we Americans have done and the reasons for which we did them and seem to have become reluctant to do them again. We mustn't ever let that happen. The old Navy motto, "a global force for good" still applies today.



# HONORING AN ISAAC LITTON PATRIOT

Submitted by Larry Collier – Class of 1969

Those of us who knew James Edwin Beakley back in the day could not have foreseen how his life would unfold. To be sure, we knew he was gifted academically and would be most successful, but many would never have imagined he would undertake the role of aeronautical engineer and decorated Naval Aviator.



Ed enrolled at Vanderbilt following graduation from Litton in 1964. While at Vandy he enrolled in the Navy ROTC program. He received his degree in 1968 in Electrical Engineering and was commissioned as an Ensign in the Navy. A little over a year later, he received his Navy wings. Of course, all the required training and course work he pursued was not in any way simple or easy. He was challenged every step of the way and he successfully met every single one.



Mom pins the Navy Wings.

On Ed's first assignment, he met the love of his life, Paulette, and they were married on March 11, 1972. Marital bliss did not linger for long, however, because he sailed out of San Francisco a month later on the USS Midway bound for Vietnam. Imagine his bride watching him slowly sail over the horizon to a most unpopular war zone. It undoubtedly was a moment only military wives and families can understand.



The USS Midway had to deploy early as a result of the North Vietnamese invasion of the South on March 30, 1972, otherwise known as the Easter Offensive. Ed and his compatriots carried out strike missions and close air support through both Linebacker I and II. Ed flew over 100 missions over North Vietnam in his A-7 Corsair II. Also, during that time, the Midway set a record of 269 days on the line for all carriers in the war. As a result of his efforts and the efforts of countless others on the Midway, the airwing and squadrons were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, which is the equivalent of the Navy Cross but at the unit level. Individually, Ed was awarded the Air Medal, 15 Strike Flight, Air Medals, 7 Navy Commendation medals with Combat V and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.



After completing his commitments in Vietnam, Ed returned home in February 1973. His next tour of duty was operations officer for a training squadron in Texas flying TA-4 Skyhawks with a mission to retrain returning POWs. Later, he also entered Naval Postgraduate School, and was awarded a Master's Degree in Aeronautical Engineering in 1979. He became the Designated Aeronautical Engineering Duty Officer.



*USS Midway*

Ed's final tour was the Pacific Missile Test Center, Pt Mugu, CA. He was project lead and test pilot in Attack Weapons Flight Test For Tomahawk cruise misleads program, flying both the A-6 Intruder and the A-7 Corsair. He retired from the Navy in 1988 as Lieutenant Commander.

Ed flew over 20 different aircraft during his time in the Navy. The most notable aircraft flown were the F-8 Crusader, A-7 Corsair II, TA-4 Skyhawk, and the A-6 Intruder.

Ed and Paulette now reside in Camarillo, California. They have 2 grown children, a daughter Tracey and her husband Martin, and a son Nathan. Martin is also a retired Naval Aviator. Nathan is a documentary film editor.



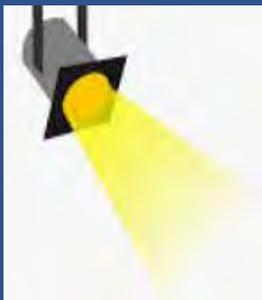
As if all his accomplishments were not enough, he is also a writer. He wrote *Project White Horse* which is a post-911 website on decision making in severe crisis situations. He also has contributed to *Remembered Sky*, which focuses on the air war in Vietnam, aviation history, airpower analysis, as well as some good old story telling. You can find his contributions at <http://rememberedsky.com/?p=1>.

Ed, saying "thank you for your service" seems to be too little, too late. However, I know that after reading this article, Litton Lions everywhere are feeling enormously proud of you for your service, your accomplishments and just being a gentleman. Lion Pride continues to this day because of people like you.

Perhaps the best way to sum up the Edwin Beakley we know is to use the quote accompanying his senior picture in the Littonian: "*He is complete in feature and in mind, with all good grace of a gentleman.*"

We salute you sir.

Litton High Forever



In future issues of the BLAST, we plan to include a feature entitled

## Spotlight on Alumni

The July 2018 issue of the Blast contained a wonderful article by Jerry Newman, our webmaster and member of the communications committee, about an alumna who was quite an athlete and quite a spectacular lady. It contained many stats from her baseball career.

Here is another article about her by former Board President, Mickey Collier.

If you have alumni who could be spotlighted for future articles, contact Alice Shehane, class of '65, editor of the BLAST with your ideas. [Shehane64@gmail.com](mailto:Shehane64@gmail.com)

## "When the mountains turn pink - it's time for a drink!"

Submitted by Mickey Collier – Class of 1965

Lillian Jackson, AKA Bird Dog, (August 4, 1919 - October 30, 2003) graduated from Isaac Litton in the class of 1937. She was secretary/treasurer of the student council. She lettered in basketball for three years and was the captain of the team her senior year.



After graduation, Lillian took classes at Nashville Business College and played on their softball team where she was spotted by a scout for the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League who invited her to the final tryouts at Wrigley Field in Chicago. She was an outfielder who was listed at 5 ft. 6 in 125 lbs. She batted and threw right-handed. Once the final cut was made Jackson and another 59 of the 280 girls who tried out were chosen to become the first women ever to play professional baseball in their inaugural season of 1943.

She was relocated to the Rockford Peaches in Illinois. Jackson saw little action during her rookie year. She was traded to the expansion Minneapolis Millerettes before the 1944 season. One of her teammates, Faye Dancer, gained notoriety for her practical jokes on and off the ball field, especially on the chaperones. One day Dancer said Jackson ran the bases and the outfield like a “Bird Dog” and the nickname stuck throughout her career. That season Jackson posted a .201 average, a pretty good performance considering it was a dominant pitching league and no batters surpassed .300 on the year. She also scored 23 runs and stole 24 bases in just 58 games. The Minneapolis franchise folded before the 1945 season and was replaced by the Fort Wayne Daisies. In her final game for the Daisies, Jackson chased a foul ball into the left field bleachers and caught the ball for the final out of the game, falling into the bleachers and splitting her upper lip. Fort Wayne won the game, but she paid the price with four stitches to close the lip.

In 1946 Jackson moved to Chicago to play in the rival National Girls Baseball League during five seasons before giving up the game. She stayed in Chicago and went to work for Sunbeam Corporation where she became a manager before retiring after 31 years of service. The All-American Girls Professional Baseball League suspended operations after the 1954 season.

In 1980, former pitcher June Peppas launched a newsletter project to get in touch with friends, teammates and opponents that resulted in the first-ever reunion in Chicago in 1982. Starting from that reunion the AAGPBL Players Association was formed five years later, and many former players of the defunct league continued to enjoy reunions. Jackson volunteered to help and was elected to the Board of Directors. The association was largely responsible for the opening of “Women in Baseball” a permanent display at the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York, which was unveiled in 1988 to honor the entire All American Girls Professional Baseball League.

In 1992 filmmaker Penny Marshall premiered her film “A League of Their Own” which was a fictionalized account of activities in the AAGPBL during its first season. Starring Geena Davis, Tom Hanks, Madonna, Lori Petty and Rosie O'Donnell, this film brought celebrity to many of the AAGPBL former players. Jackson provided advice and

assistance to Marshall and the production team before and during the filming process. Lillian Jackson was a longtime resident of Green Valley, Arizona where she lived with her dear friend and companion Ruth Heiden. She was a much-loved neighbor and a character, the life of any party. On observing a gorgeous Arizona sunset, she might opine in her Tennessee accent "When the mountains turn pink - it's time for a drink!" She died in 2003 in Tucson following a brief illness at the age of 84.





**ONLY 9 YEARS AGO?  
WE'VE COME SO FAR!  
HONORING OUR PREDECESSORS  
FROM THE AUGUST 2012 BLAST**

Vol. LXXXI No. 1

Isaac Litton High School

August, 2012

**A DREAM COMES TRUE...**

**Alumni Center Officially Opens**

**I**N THE MORE THAN 80 YEARS SINCE ISAAC Litton High School began holding classes at Jere Baxter School and then moved into its new building, there have been countless memorable occasions, both good and bad. After its closing and the destruction of the main buildings, those occasions have been treasured mostly in the minds and hearts of the thousands of graduates who graced its halls.



The official opening of the new Isaac Litton Alumni Center was held on August 11, 2012, at the newly renovated building. Participating in the ribbon cutting were (from left, front row) Nashville Mayor Karl Dean, Speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives Beth Harwell, Litton Alumni President Harvey Fischer ('70), 5th District Congressman Jim Cooper and ILAA Secretary Jane Hagewood Steinhauer ('49), along with Board of Directors and past presidents of the ILAA (rear).

Some 15 years ago, the Metropolitan Nashville Park Board established a park on the site, followed by the erection of an historical marker outlining the history of the school. During that time, an idea emerged that would renovate the still-standing gymnasium and create a place to return and house Litton's memorabilia. It was an idea that seemed impossible to accomplish. Much of the memorabilia had vanished and the building was in such a state of disrepair.

But that did not deter Jimmy Howell ('47) and behind his undying efforts, and that of many other friends and alumni of Litton, it was culminated on August 11, 2012, when the new Isaac Litton Alumni Center was officially opened and dedicated. And that became the latest—and probably the most cherished—memorable occasion in the school's storied history.

More than 500 alumni and friends were on hand for the ceremony, led by current Alumni Association President Harvey Fischer ('70). Following the invocation delivered by Ricky Binkley ('70), the Star Spangled Banner was sung, backed by the music of the Litton Marching 100+ band.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, invited guests were introduced and spoke briefly. They included 5th District Congressman Jim Cooper, Tennessee House of Representatives Speaker Beth Harwell and Metro Nashville Mayor Karl Dean. Mayor Dean read and presented a special citation to Jimmy Howell in appreciation of his efforts toward the completion of the project.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- Harvey Fischer ('70) – President
- Jane Hagewood Steinhauer ('49) – Secretary
- Jim Clift ('64) – Treasurer
- Bill Stalker ('70) – Past President

**BOARD MEMBERS-AT-LARGE**

- |                            |                          |                        |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Mary Ann Escue Baker ('54) | Rhonda Bale ('72)        | Jack Benz ('51)        |
| Carol Draper Bourque ('68) | Emily Burrow ('61)       | Larry Collier ('69)    |
| Johnny DuVal ('52)         | Joyce Wray Fogarty ('49) | Donnie Green ('59)     |
| Melinda Hoffman ('70)      | Forrest Hulan ('59)      | Linda Hutcherson ('64) |
| Jerry Kemp ('53)           | Charles Kimbrough ('57)  | Cliff McRae ('51)      |
| Shirley Parrish ('59)      | Gene Ward ('51)          | Ted Wynne ('54)        |

## *GONE, BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN*



*April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021*

<b>CLASS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE OF DEATH</b>
43	GRACE PEWITT WILLIAMS	16-Apr-21
44	MARGARET IRWIN CHANCE	27-May-21
44	MARY ELIZABETH LOWERY PATE	13-May-21
47	DOROTHY SALTSMAN BROWN	3-May-21
47	SARAH ELLEN WINN TERRY	20-May-21
50	RUSSELL E RICHARDSON SR	5-Apr-21
51	BARBARA ANN CAMP SADLER	9-Apr-21
51	MARIANNE CARUTHERS GRUSHESKI	14-May-21
51	EDITH ANNETTE WISE TAYLOR	18-May-21
53	ALTHEA MAE SORRELLS GANN	31-Mar-21
54	WILLIAM BURTON (BILLY) DUKE	20-Apr-21
55	GLENDON CORNELIUS FLEMING	3-Apr-21
55	ROBERT AARON (BOBBY) WOODALL	4-Apr-21
58	PATSY ANNE SMITHSON BRUCE	16-May-21
59	MOLLY JEAN ANDERSON BARNES	12-Jun-21
59	JUDY BROWN BEASLEY	16-May-21
59	DIANNA SUE DORRIS DALE	2-Jun-21
60	BARBARA ROLLER HENDRIX	6-Apr-21
61	SANDRA HARRIS BAKER	10-Apr-21
61	CLAUDIA JANE HENDRIX-JONES	6-Apr-21
61	MARIE KIMBER CRAFT	30-May-21
62	WILLIAM LAMONT HAISLIP	23-Apr-21
62	WALTER THOMAS (TOMMY) SULLIVAN	22-Apr-21
65	SANDRA JOAN DANIEL STURGIS	25-May-21
65	MARTHA LOVE FOSTER UNDERWOOD	18-May-21
66	BEVERLY ANN CAYCE HIX	2-May-21
68	CHARLES MICHAEL DAVIS	17-May-21
68	SHEILA DIANE HOOVER GOOSTREE	1-Jun-21
68	DAVID DOUGLAS ROSS THURMAN	27-May-21
71	JOHN THOMAS NARRAMORE	20-Apr-21

**NOTE: Due to the publication deadlines for each quarterly issue of the BLAST, the names of those departed alumni received after the 28th of the quarter will be included in the next issue.**

**Please send your class representative, as listed on the Litton website, [ilaacitton.com](http://ilaacitton.com), any notices as soon as possible. Thank you.**

# Isaac Litton Alumni Association Board of Directors 2021



**President**

**Don Clark**  
615-305-8067

dc925@comcast.net



**Past-President**

**Mickey Collier**  
615-347-7839

mickey4vols@comcast.net



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**Roy "Buddy" Jones**  
615-779-8513

rjonescpa@comcast.net



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**Alice Stewart Shehane**  
615-516-9287

Shehane64@gmail.com



**Judy Cline**

615-804-3453

clinejb@gmail.com



**Kaaren Andrews**

615-448-6438

Kaarena81@comcast.net



**Pat Collier, Honorary**

615-812-6862

mickeypat.1@comcast.net



**John Halliburton**

615-390-0901

johndhaliburton@att.net



**"Skip" Dean**

615-430-1267

skip@deanskitchencenter.com



**Phil Watts**

615-824-7464

philwatts68@outlook.com



**Kitty Woodson**

615-957-3587

kittywoodson@gmail.com



**Mike Riggins**

615-945-7160

Captmike69@gmail.com



**Sam Swor**

615-218-7507

svs@comcast.net



**Jerry Bean**

615-804-5726

Bjbean202@bellsouth.net



**Harvey Fischer,  
Honorary**

954-374-5518

Harveyfischer51@gmail.com



**Dr. Wil Clouse**

615-545-9461

Drwil.clouse@gmail.com



**Bill Beck, Honorary  
(Non-Alumnus)**



**John McHenry**

615-207-6092

j.mchenry@att.net