



Litton Blast



Isaac Litton High School - Nashville, TN

Volume MMXXII Issue 3 July 2022

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.

Happy Birthday, America!

**Please continue to show your support financially through donations and by paying your annual dues (\$15), due in June of each year. 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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Message
from the President



Judy Butler Cline, Class of '70

I am so honored to have been elected to this role as President of your Alumni Association. Thank you!

I admit I am a bit intimidated by the footsteps in which I am following. So many have laid the groundwork and built this solid organization. My fellow classmate, Don Clark, has led our organization so well these last two years. Even though we experienced all the challenges of Covid, our organization not only survived but thrived and we were able to serve our constituents through an improved website and by adjusting the way we collaborated with Backfield in Motion and Isaac Litton Middle School. Thank you, Don! And thank you Mickey Collier for your leadership as Past President, and the list goes on and on.

Like you, I love Litton! I love my classmates and I love my memories. But what attracts me to ILAA and compels me to offer my time and money are the children that we serve through our two partner organizations, Isaac Litton Middle School (ILMS) and Backfield In Motion (BIM). Without our support, these children might not have the opportunities we enjoyed when we were in school. And the more support we can provide, the more opportunities we can make available to them.

When I recall my time at Litton, two organizations *among many* stand out to me: The Band Boosters and the Men's Club. There were others, but these two impacted me personally. To have had the extremely incredible experience of participating in the Isaac Litton Marching 100+ required dedication on the part of the students, the immense talent and leadership of Mr. Sammy Swor (and the two band directors who succeeded him), and general resources of the school. But to achieve the success we did required money and time beyond what Metro could provide, and the Litton Band Boosters were selfless in their work so that we could have uniforms and accept invitations to march for halftime shows and parades around the country. For someone like me who had parents who could provide everything I needed but not much beyond that, getting to experience the excellence of our Litton Band was life changing. And the Men's Club likewise. I was the recipient of a scholarship from the Men's Club, and I now realize what all went into that wonderful gift--the fundraising, the

time and energy of the selection process, etc.

The point of this is that there were selfless adults, mostly parents, who influenced and accentuated my high school experience. I am sure many of you could point to other organizations that supported your activities in some way. Most of us were fortunate to have involved parents. There are too many children these days who are not so blessed, but who are at least equally deserving of adult intervention. I am so proud to participate in an organization that prioritizes ILMS and BIM for the work they do with the children in our community. I hope you will join me and our other classmates and commit to contributing your time and donations to support what these fine organizations are doing for the children who will be leading this city and perhaps even our nation in the future. If you have not yet paid your dues, please consider doing so as soon as possible, and if you want to add a little extra donation on top, I assure you it will be put to beneficial use. The [website](#) includes directions for where to send your donations.

I look forward to future interactions with some of the best people on the planet—my fellow friends and alumni of Isaac Litton High School. Have a great summer!

Litton High Forever!

Judy Butler Cline
Class of 1970
President, Isaac Litton Alumni Association



Memorial Day, May 30, 2022

Contributed by Judy Butler Cline, class of '70



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. He read the names of each service man memorialized on the blue bricks in the Memorial Wall, along with a brief history. 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 their country. Truly, they gave their all. Isaac Litton Alumni and Inglewood Community members gathered for the second annual Memorial Day Celebration at Isaac Litton Park. It was a beautiful morning; the American flag was flying at half-staff, and stars and stripes festooned the Memorial Wall.

A good crowd gathered, searching for shade during the beautiful sunny day. We were there to remember and celebrate the forty-one graduates of Isaac Litton High School plus two coaches who gave their lives while serving their country in the military.

When Don finished announcing all the names, 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 accompanied by a rendition of "Taps." Jay Dawson (class of 1965) honored us all by playing "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes. It was truly a moving ceremony.



Hal Gibbs, Class of '71, brought a tent displaying information about the organization, "Flags Across America."

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, reminisce, and sample the refreshments.

If you are interested in reading more about these heroes, go to the Isaac Litton website isaaclitton.com where a copy of the history has been placed. Pictures and video taken by Hal Gibbs and Janis Clark during the ceremony will also be on the website.

ILAA 2022-2024 Board of Directors

President Judy Butler Cline, Class of '70, 615-804-3453 clinejb@gmail.com

Past President Don Clark, Class of '70, 615-305-8067, dc925@comcast.net

Secretary Alice Stewart Shehane, Class of '65, 615-516-9287, shehane64@gmail.com

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Jerry Bean, Class of '69, 615-804-5726, bjbean202@bellsouth.net

Karen Huffine Brown, Class of '72, 615-519-0900, khbrown2005@gmail.com

Terry Bumpus, Class of '70, 615-708-3182, terrybumpus@comcast.net

Dr. Wil Clouse, Class of '55, 615-545-9461, Drwil.Clouse@gmail.com

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Mike Riggins, Class of '69, 615-945-7160. Captmike69@gmail.com

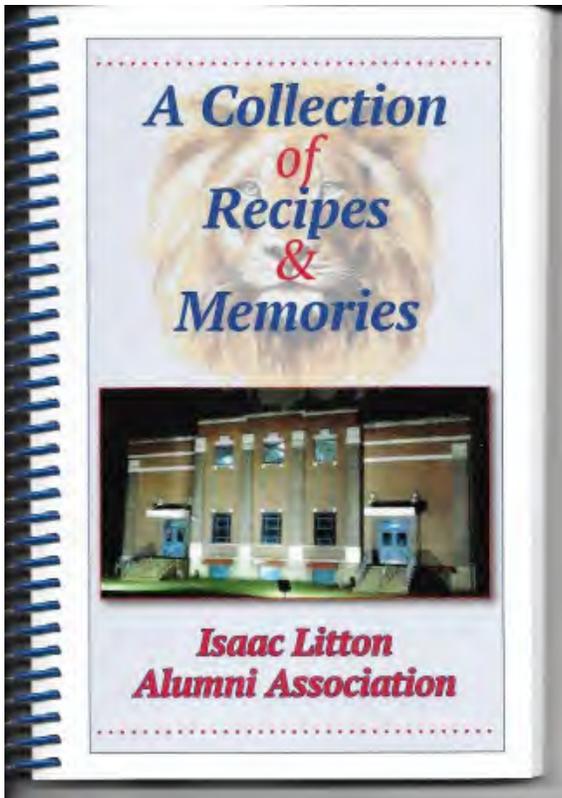
Marisue Stalker, Class of '69, 615-337-6865, marisuestalker@yahoo.com

Sammy Swor, Class of '64, 615-218-7507, svs@comcast.net

Kitty Kincaid Woodson, Class of '65, 615-957-3587, kittywoodson@gmail.com

Honorary Bill Beck

Honorary Harvey Fischer Class of '70



The ILAA Cookbook, A Collection of Recipes and Memories, has been a great success so far. We sold more than 25% of our initial supply in the first three weeks of publication. The recipes and anecdotes are priceless, and they make great gifts!

The cookbooks are now available by mail, \$24.00 for one, \$44.50 for two, including shipping and handling. Payment must be received before we can ship the cookbooks. Send payment to the address below. For larger order rates, please contact Judy Cline at 615-804-3453 (cell) or email her at clinejb@gmail.com.

Judy Cline
2176 Howell Rd.
Greenbrier, TN 37073



THINGS TO PONDER 🤔

1. If the No. 2 pencil is the most popular, why is it still No. 2?
2. Why do we press harder on the remote control when we know the batteries are getting weak?
3. Why are you "in" a movie, but "on" TV?
4. What was the best thing BEFORE sliced bread?
5. Why do we drive on parkways & park on driveways?
6. Why do "fat chance" & "slim chance" mean the same thing?

Isaac Litton All-Alumni Banquet

June 25, 2022, at the Lion's Hall

Contributed by Don Clark, class of '70



Once again we came together to visit, eat, and remember with our classmates from Isaac Litton High School. This year we had Alumni from the Classes of 1948 up to the Class that did not get to graduate from Litton in 1972. We had approximately 150 attend this year and it was a special day as we met in the Lion's Hall, Home to our Alumni

Center. We had so many tell us about the great food we had, catered by Uselton's Catering.

Tracie Patton, Assistant Middle School Principal, joined us gave us an update on all the great things going on at our Middle School this past year, one being that Chara Rand was named the MNPS Middle School Principal of the Year. We gave out many door prize and gift certificates to those who attended this year.

Mickey Collier ('65) gave an update on all the upgrades to our facilities and what Backfield in Motion (BIM) has done to help in upgrading our building both upstairs and downstairs. We continue to Partner with BIM to help meet their goals in helping those kids in need.



The highlight of the day was a DVD that Larry Collier ('69) brought with the halftime show from the Bears – Rams preseason football game at Vandy that showed the Marching 100+ halftime show on nationwide TV that day. Even

though the DVD was in Black and White, the sound brought us back to those halftime shows of our famous Marching 100+ band. What a great highlight to an outstanding banquet this year!

We surprised Larry Collier with the Alumnus of the Year award for 2022. Larry has been an outspoken advocate for the school and for the Alumni Association over the years and continues to serve, helping with great articles for the Blast that come out quarterly.

Jay McDonald ('64) was there to sign copies of his new book: STRATEGIC JAYWALKING – The secret sauce to life and leadership excellence. Jack Benz ('51) donated two of his new book, OLD GLORY – from Salem to Nashville. We encourage you to get a copy of both. We were also honored to have three nephews of the late Kenneth Duke on hand to celebrate with us, George, Ken and Stan Duke.



We elected Judy Butler Cline ('70) as our new ILAA Board of Directors President. We know she will do an excellent job leading our Alumni Association. We are fortunate to have such a great group of Directors serving on our Board who all work for the good of our association. Please continue to give them your support.

I also want to thank everyone for your support these past two years as the Alumni Association Board President. We stayed focused thru a pandemic most of my time, but still worked with the Middle School and BIM, with your support. We were also able to have the Banquet last November after postponing the year before, due to the pandemic. I especially want to thank my wife, Janis, for all her help with Programs, DVD's and anything needed.

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE IN 2023!!!!!!

CAN'T HIDE THAT LION PRIDE!!!!!!



Larry Collier, 2022 Alumnus of the Year

Contributed by Mickey Collier, class of '65

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

This year, the ILAA Board of Directors has selected Larry Collier, class of '69.

The presentation of his award was made by last year's Alumnus of the Year, his big brother, Mickey Collier, class of '65. Here are Mickey's remarks.



Larry was a member of some very good Litton baseball teams. He was a drummer in the Marching 100+. In fact he assumed the coveted position of playing the timbales. In his senior year, he was elected Band King. His greatest accomplishment, however, was having the guts to start dating Mr. Swor's daughter, Sue, who was the band queen that year. That must have been some half time kiss because they have now been married 49 years.

Larry received his Bachelors degree from MTSU and Masters degree from UT Nashville.

He began teaching in 1973 at Haynes Middle School, followed by assignments at Cumberland Elementary and Brick Church Middle School. He was appointed Assistant Principal at Shwab Elementary. After that, he was appointed principal at John Early Middle School. He then was promoted to a Central Office position as Coordinator of student assignment. He was then promoted to the position of Director of Zoning from which he retired.

Larry was also a long time TSSAA basketball official in Middle Tn. One night he called me to say, "It finally happened. A guy in the crowd yelled, "Get In The Game Chrome Dome."

Larry played drums for about 15 years with other Litton grads with The Howard Fine Band. They played gigs all over the area. The annual Bash at Old Hickory Country Club was the big blow out of the year. They always drew a big crowd.

Larry served early on as ILAA president and secretary at the same time. He was given special thanks for providing pictures and stories for the 2009 Images Of America Nashville's Inglewood book.

He contributes interesting articles for the Blast several times per year.

Larry and Sue live in the Vineyards of Twelve Stones where he serves on the HOA BOD. They have two great kids and seven grandchildren. Family gatherings are loud and funny.

A True Blue Litton Lion - the 2022 Alumni of The Year, Larry Collier



SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNUS:

JAY McDONALD, CLASS OF 1964

(Contributed by Kay Rayner Cunningham, Class of 1964)



While a student at Isaac Litton, Jay distinguished himself in every area of achievement – with teachers as well as students, serving as a role model to many of us. He was President of the Student Body and a Student Council representative; he excelled on the athletic field in Football, Track, and Baseball; he was a member of the Littonian Staff, Letterman’s Club, Southern Gentlemen, French Club, and Prom Committee. While at Litton, he also served as a Congressional Page in Washington, D.C.



In 1964, his graduation year, he was voted Mr. Litton & Most Outstanding and was selected as Litton’s representative for Youth Incorporated’s Great Smokey Mountain Leadership Tour, all while maintaining his status as an Honor Student.



Jay was married to Jani Gragg McDonald, also Class of 1964 and standout basketball star of the NIL Champions. Jani sadly passed away in 2015.



Jay has two children, a son Sean, a daughter Stacy, and one grandson, Mid.

After graduation from Litton, Jay graduated with honors from Georgia Tech, serving later as President of its national Alumni Association and as a Foundation Trustee. In February of this year, he was chosen as a winner of the Joseph Mayo Pettit Distinguished Service Award, the highest award conferred by the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, honoring alumni who have provided outstanding support of the Institute and Alumni Association throughout a lifetime and who have provided leadership in their chosen professions and local communities. In Georgia Tech’s history only 150 Alumnae out of over 200,000 have

received this award.

He received his MBA, with honors, from the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia, where he was later chosen Distinguished Alumnus in 1982 and served for many years as an Alumni Board Trustee. His continuing educational and civic achievements are far too many to list here.

Jay's own words about his childhood: "Born in Germany to American parents, I moved to Tennessee with my pregnant Mother after my dad was killed in the crash of a military plane, he was piloting. Though I have no intention of ever "growing up," my childhood was largely spent in Nashville, Tennessee. We lived in an 800 square foot, two-bedroom, one-bath house with a narrow central hallway which accommodated exactly one person at a time. Until age fourteen, I shared a bedroom with my brother, Chris. Later, our one-car garage was converted to a bedroom with a bath, so I got to move into what seemed like a penthouse suite. Our family was middle class at best. We had our mother's love, attended church every time the doors opened, and never wanted for a thing. Born a couple of years after me, my brother Chris and I were partners in mischief and childhood in all we did and remain proudly connected today. We had the privilege of being raised in a community and an era where trust abounded in our part of the world. We safely played outside from daybreak until dark, without a care, coming home only for a bite to eat. We developed friends from all walks of life, played sports and pick-up street games in everything from traditional sports to kick-the-can and red rover. Creativity, learning to get along and to navigate the real world, and a sense of belonging were all part of our early lives. Common sense was learned out of necessity.

With a knack for organization, detail, and a tad on the geeky side, I mapped out my paper routes on index cards (yes, index cards) for each block of every street by drawing boxes for the houses/addresses receiving each paper and coloring coding them so my helper and I could deliver the correct paper to the right house. In the early morning darkness, things need to be simple but reliable. With this small business, I began absorbing both business and leadership principles."

His accomplishments have influenced and inspired many all over the world. And, throughout it all – he has remained loyal to Isaac Litton, always eager to lend his time and energy to any effort requiring his attention and never denies a request to contribute anytime he's needed. He has frequently been heard extoling the foundation he had at Isaac Litton.

In Jay's own words again, about his *TODAY*: "Other ways I try to give back: Give speeches throughout the country on leadership. Write blogs and articles on leadership. Try to lead by example. Mentor young students each year at Georgia Tech and the Darden School. Volunteer for the East Lake Foundation to raise money for underprivileged children and the First Tee. Been the only president of my Homeowners' Association since its inception. On committee for Atlanta Coaches vs. Cancer event in Atlanta. Have held leadership and board

positions in lots of non-profits and civic organizations that raised dollars and did good works throughout the community. I've always tried to be a giver not a taker. My "why" in life is to help others, especially leaders, to be their best possible selves."

Jay's most recent book is titled *Strategic Jaywalking: The Secret Sauce to Life and Leadership Excellence*. This sure-to-be-a-big-seller is about measuring risk and finding ways to think critically in pursuit of novel methods or solutions. It's designed to provoke thought about how we can become our best selves as humans and leaders. Drawing from Jay's observations, experiences, failures (yes), and successes across a varied career, it offers sage advice not just about what you should be thinking, but how.



Through vivid stories, it explores the qualities of exceptional humans and leaders, people like Jeff Bezos, Ted Turner, Albert Einstein, Steve Jobs, Martin Luther King, Jr., Mother Theresa, and Oprah Winfrey to name a few. Jaywalkers all. The book's take-aways are captured in compelling stories, throughout the short, succinct, topically organized chapters, then summarized into condensed, actionable summaries at each chapter's end, offering a road map for discovery.

Since his book was published, Jay has been heard on over 1,575 radio stations across the country! Not only has he been featured as an Serial Entrepreneur, Board Member, Keynote Speaker, Executive Leadership Coach and Thought Leader in big cities such as San Francisco, Philadelphia, Houston, Dallas, Denver, Seattle, Miami, Phoenix, Sacramento, San Diego, Tampa, Vegas, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Atlanta and Chicago - just to name a few! - but he's also gotten the seal of approval from major media brands, including Wharton Business Daily, SiriusXM Radio, Westwood One, iHeart Media, Audacy (Formerly Entercom/CBS - and this number will be higher after finishing his Fox tour later in June.



OUR LEGACY

Contributed by Mickey Collier, class of '65

In March of 2022, we hosted a focus group meeting here with alumni groups from other area schools. Some, like us, Madison, Cohn and Goodlettsville, are no longer high schools. Others like Antioch and East are still High Schools. Frankly, they were amazed at our facility. And why not? The school has been closed longer than it was open. Opened for 40 years and closed over 50 years. We have the best website of any school, thanks to the active ILAA board and 1958 grad, Jerry Newman. All senior pictures with contact information, obits and now entire annuals are online.

Litton Middle School, under the leadership of Ms. Chara Rand and Ms. Pruitt are thriving. In fact, Ms. Rand was named Middle School Principal of the Year for all of Metro Schools.

The Inglewood community is thriving. Just price a home in this community! Inglewood Neighborhood Association meets here once per month.

Backfield In Motion

BIM used virtual learning labs last year, assuring that laptops were available for all the kids, with counselors and paid tutors making sure they did the work.

During this tutoring, you could hear a pin drop in this room. Everyone wearing masks.

Kids are well mannered and polite. It is heartwarming to see.

What does BIM do for us?

BIM is part of the reason we were able to get grants to restore this building.

They recently were winners of one of 100 grants awarded nationally by Lowes. They received \$100,000 and chose to spend it here.

They painted the exterior doors and railings. And painted the Lion Hall and rest rooms.

They recoated the gym floor and will have a new curtain made for the stage.

The ILAA paid to have the board room flooring replaced with wood.

We had a 70 inch tv installed with a PA system and ceiling speakers.

55 bags of mulch were distributed. We had the floor waxed.

The Lions Den memorabilia room is better than ever, beautifully displaying items donated as well as those found in yard and estate sales.

The Board has approved one more project: To restore the historic marquee in front of the school.

We are losing 15-18 Litton grads per month. How much time do we have left? It is hoped that this building will be used for the betterment of Inglewood youth long after we are all gone.

So I'm asking for your help to fund the sign renovation. It will cost about \$5,000 to repair and repaint.

Please give! Mail a check to our Treasurer as listed on the first page of this Blast, marked "Sign Donation." Many of you have had successful careers and lives because you learned skills and values at this school. **Help us!**



Litton High Forever!!

GONE, BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN



April 1, 2022- July 1, 2022

CLASS	NAME	DATE OF DEATH
42	JUANITA ROBERTSON BOLING	2022-06-00 Age 91
45	CLAUDIA WARREN WEATHERSPOON	2022-05-04 Age 94
50	HENRY EARL LEECH	2022-05-15 Age 90
50	SUE SMARTT PAPUCHIS	2022-06-26 Age 90
51	JOHN LYTTON HEWGLEY	2022-06-05 Age 89
52	BILLIE JEAN DUNCAN MORROW	2022-05-27 Age 88
54	ANN McDOUGAL GILLESPIE	2022-03-31 Age 86
55	CAROLYN JACOBS-JOHNSON	2022-06-03 Age 84
57	ROBERT LINDSEY (BOBBY) RICHEY	2022-05-19 Age 82
58	BETTY ANN DOBBINS HUNT	2022-04-07 Age 81
60	DONALD HARRIS GREEN	2022-06-06 Age 81
61	JAMES DONALD HOOVER	2022-05-13 Age 78
65	TOMMY RAY ESCUE	2022-06-13 Age 75
65	ROY RANDALL (RANDY) WARREN	2022-06-18 Age 75
67	LESLIE HOUSTON NEELY	2022-05-19 Age 73
69	JAMES ROBERT PEARSON JR	2022-06-15 Age 71
69	DOUGLAS ALLEN THOMPSON	2022-05-15 Age 70
70	KENNETH TYRONE ROBINSON	2022-04-20 Age 69

NOTE: Due to the publication deadlines for each quarterly issue of the BLAST, the names of those departed alumni received after the 27th of the quarter will be included in the next issue.

Please send us any notices to your class representative or Kaaren Andrews, as soon as possible. Thank you.