



Litton BLAST

Isaac Litton High School - Nashville, TN

Volume MMXXIII Issue 3 July 2023

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 these dates:

Sock Hop/Car Show, Sat., Sept 9, 2023, See article on p. 10

Veterans Day Breakfast, November 11, 2023

All-Alumni Banquet, Sat., June 15, 2024

For more details read articles below, FB page, and website.

Please continue to show your support financially through donations and by paying your annual dues (\$15), even if you're not able to attend the banquet.

Thank you for your generosity!

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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Dear Fellow Alumni,

This past year has really flown by; it's hard for me to believe that I am already starting my second year in this role. Since the last issue of the BLAST, we have celebrated two big events at our Lions Hall.

On Memorial Day, we came together to remember our fallen classmates—those who died while serving on active duty and who are represented by the blue bricks on our Memorial Wall. It was a picture-perfect day.

Then, on June 10, we had a great turnout at the Annual Luncheon—more than 150 in attendance. We elected Mickey Collier as President-Elect, so he will be taking the helm of this organization, once again, on July 1, 2024. We also celebrated Alice Shehane as Alumna of the Year. The write-up about Alice is elsewhere in this issue of the BLAST. Jim Henry, class of 1955, blessed us with so many amusing and poignant stories about his time at Litton, as well as memories from his years as a pastor. All in all, it was a wonderful day. I hope you will all make plans to attend next year.

The following is an excerpt from my remarks at the Annual Luncheon. I've never considered myself a numbers person, but did some research with the help of Jerry Newman, who is our webmaster. Here's what I found: For the 40 years of our existence, nearly 7500 students have been listed as graduating from Isaac Litton High School. Of those students, there are roughly 650 that we don't have information on, so they could be living or deceased. Of the ones we know about, nearly 3500 have passed on, and 3300 are still alive. These numbers indicate we have passed the tipping point in our school's history, with fewer than half of our alumni who remain living. And of those, 285 are aged 90 or older including half-dozen who are 100 years or older. Even to the rest of us graduates, who by the way are all 70 or older, that seems rather old.

Now this was as of May 15, and you know that these numbers have changed since then, and they are only going in one direction, if you get my meaning. Those who have passed on, who are our beloved classmates, teammates, fellow jellybeans, boyfriends, girlfriends, moms, dads, brothers, sisters, and even husbands and wives—we celebrate

and honor and memorialize these precious relationships.

I say all this not to be a downer, but as a solemn reminder to each of us who remain—and a challenge—to make the remainder of our lives count, a legacy if you will.

I want you to know that our board of directors is rising to that challenge and hoping to recruit each one of you and your able support, in three key ways:

1. Continuing to create ongoing memories and opportunities for fellowship among our alumni. This includes our focus on honoring our Veterans and remembering those of our number who died serving their country, as well as luncheons and reunions. We are even planning a Sock Hop for September 9! Help spread the word.
2. Continuing our support of Isaac Litton Middle School and Backfield in Motion. Your donations are used to recognize teachers and staff, supplement their activities, and provide needed supplies for students. So please continue to pay your dues and make donations as you are able, because this is how they are used.
3. We are also beginning the strategic planning process to memorialize and protect our legacy even after we are all gone. In fact, we have attracted the interest of the Tennessee State Museum and may have some neat news to share with you in the future. So please stay tuned and stay in touch with your ideas and suggestions. This is **your** Alumni Association.

We can only do this if we all work together. Thank you for being here; thank you for your financial support, and for your involvement. You are making a difference, and you should be very proud of not only your history and past accomplishments related to Isaac Litton, but also for being part of the ongoing work in this community.

For now, please put these upcoming all-alumni events (all at Lions Hall) on your calendar, and be on the lookout for other gatherings to be planned and announced:

- Fall “Sock Hop”, September 9, 2023
- Veterans Day Breakfast, November 11, 2023

To you who are reading this letter, a tremendous **THANK YOU!** for your interest in the organization and what we are all trying to accomplish. 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.

Litton High Forever!

Judy Butler Cline

Class of 1970

President, Isaac Litton Alumni Association

THEY GAVE THEIR ALL

Memorial Day, May 29, 2023

On Memorial Day, 2023, Litton Alumni, friends, and community members gathered to remember our fallen heroes whose names are engraved on the blue bricks on our Memory Wall outside the Litton Alumni Center.

The flag flew at half-mast as attendees pledged their allegiance to the American flag, sang the National Anthem, and listened to taps being played.



Don Clark read the names and service records of the graduates of Isaac Litton who made the ultimate sacrifice in the military of our country.

A beautiful wreath from Basket of Flowers in Hermitage was laid at the wall by Jack Benz, class of '51, and Honorary Board Member, Bill Beck. Sadly, Mr. Beck died only 6 days later. An article about him is in this Blast.

After the impressive program, those attending had an opportunity to visit and share light refreshments in the Lions Hall.



A video, a book containing information about our Litton heroes, and additional photos can be found on the "Galleries" tab at isaaclitton.com

2023 All-Alumni Banquet



On June 10, 2023, more than 150 alumni met to celebrate our amazing school and to renew old memories.

They were met at the door by ILAA Board members Karen Brown and Pat Collier.

Nametags were in a font big enough for our old eyes to read!

Lovely tables were set with flowers and placemats that spotlighted the sponsorship activities that help keep our legacy alive.



An attractive and informative program designed by Don and Janis Clark (class of '70) kept attendees informed.

Former "jelly beans" celebrated the Marching 100+ accomplishments by viewing memorabilia that our ILAA committees have collected and preserved, like the actual banner carried in front of the band at the 1964 Rose Bowl Parade.





There were door prizes, a 50/50 ticket sale, opportunities to share memories, re-establishing old friendships, and wonderful food prepared by Uselton's.



Judy Butler Cline ('70) presided over the joyful affair!



Jim Henry, class of '55, gave an inspiring and entertaining speech.

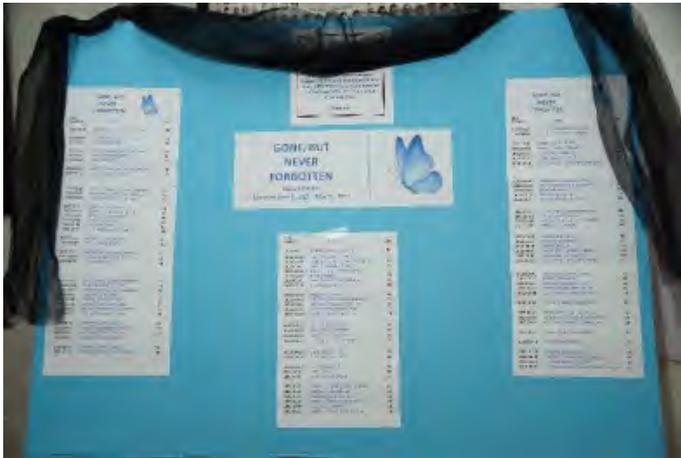


ILAA Board Treasurer, Buddy Jones, class of '68, presented a bouquet of flowers to his mother, the oldest graduate attending the Banquet. She is Mae Helen Demontbreun Diamond, Class of '46, on the right.



Nominations Committee Chair, Kitty Kincaid Woodson, class of '65, presented incoming officers for election, Mickey Collier ('65) president-elect, Alice Stewart Shehane ('65) secretary, and Roy Lee (Buddy) Jones '68, treasurer.

Alumna of the year, Alice Shehane, '65 was surprised by her sons attending to help honor her.



Our brother and sister Lions who left us this past year were remembered.

Join us next year on June 15, 2024, as we renew old friendships and rejoice in the heritage that we have as LITTON LIONS!



To view and download more photos of this wonderful day, photographed by Lewis Lampley, Class of '58, visit the "Gallery" tab at isaacitton.com

ILAA Alumna of the Year

By Judy Butler, Class of '70 and Mickey Collier, Class of '65

When an algebra teacher retires, how do they deal with the aftermath?

This year's alumnus of the year is Alice Stewart Shehane, a long time Metro math teacher. She graduated in 1965. Alice was a member of the marching 100+, playing clarinet and oboe. During marching season, she was a four-year member of the color guard.



Her accomplishments at Litton were epic, National Honor Society, National Merit Scholarship Finalist, Junior Classical League Award, and selected "Most Intellectual" in the 1965 senior class. She also managed to win first place in the State Women's Club poetry contest.

She received her undergraduate degree from Peabody and served as the layout editor of the school paper there. She taught math at

Goodlettsville High School for 17 years. During summers at Goodlettsville, she attended MTSU and attained her master's degree. When that school in Goodlettsville closed, she taught another 17 years at Hunters Lane High School, retiring in 2003. She is a 50-year member of Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority, which is an international honorary organization of women educators dedicated to educational excellence, altruism, and world understanding.

She and 1964 Litton graduate, Steve Shehane, were married for 43 years before Steve lost his battle with cancer in 2017. They have two children, Dr. Jeffery Shehane, a doctor in Hendersonville and Gallatin, and Michael Shehane of Knoxville. She has five grandchildren.

FYI: Alice's mother was also a teacher in the small town of Hendersonville, Tn, before the dam was built. A street there is named after her "Elnora." Her mother lived to the ripe old age of 103! Good genes.

Regarding her post graduate Litton involvement, Alice is the class representative for the class of 1965. She has been the committee leader for class reunions of 40 and 50 years for her class. Alice has served the Alumni Association in many ways. She is our current secretary and editor of the quarterly Blast. She serves as chairperson of the Communications Committee.

Please join me in congratulating Alice Stewart Shehane as the 2023 Alumnus of the Year!



ILAA Giving Initiative - Fiscal Year 2022-2023

The Isaac Litton Alumni Association is taking this opportunity to thank our supporters and benefactors for their continuing support and encouragement.

Listed here are the names of those to whom we extend our deepest gratitude for gifts received through May 15, 2023.

Please note that future gifts will be recognized during the next fiscal year.

This list will also be posted on the Alumni Association website, isaaclitton.com.

\$1000 or over

Magnum Logistics

Farmers Employees & Agents PAC

Anonymous

\$500 - \$999

Christy Cason Robinson, Class of '68

Alice Stewart Shehane, Class of '65

Class of '72

\$100 - \$499

Patricia Robinson Waggoner

Edward/Diane Waggoner

Linda J. Bogenschutz

Albert and Judy Waggoner, Class of '65

Stephen and Sherrill Harrington, Class of '67

Jerry Goad, Class of '62

Class of '62

Nancy Stackhouse Wilson, Class of '54

Don and Janis Clark, Class of '70

Thomas E. Bateman, Class of '56

Judy Butler Cline, Class of '70

Howard (Skip) Dean, Class of '68

Judy H. Roberts, Class of '61

James M. Carter II, Class of '68

Patricia Matthews Neely, Class of '69

Colonel Bill Colbert, Class of '57

Phillip L. Taylor, Class of '67

Donna M. Hiller, Class of '58

Pat M. Martin, Class of '69

Kitty Kincaid Woodson, Class of '65



SAVE THE DATE

ILAA IS HAVING A SOCK HOP!!

SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

4:00 - 9:00



Food --- D J---Dancing ---Vintage Cars --- FUN!!!

More Info to Follow



A Love Story



**Above is a photo of a trio of bricks,
purchased by
Fred White, to honor his beloved Carolyn
and their love for one another.**

**Most of you are aware of our Memorial Wall that stands
outside the Lions Hall, below our U.S. Flag.**

**Alumni and others can buy bricks to honor family members,
friends, and faculty at Isaac Litton High School.**

**If you are interested in purchasing one or more bricks,
contact Mickey Collier, mickey4vols@comcast.net**

Here is the latest installment of ...



From Hugh LaFollette, Class of '66:

Miss Mary Moss was instrumental to my personal, intellectual, and professional development.

She loved history. She knew history was not a list of facts to recollect, but a narrative unfolding of our individual and collective lives. Society, art, and ideas shape and illuminate who and what we are. A sound, liberal education, with history at its core, empowers us to be more empathetic and cooperative, to live “richer,” fuller, lives.

I will always be indebted to her for informing, inspiring, and challenging me. I regret I never said that to her.



The following two listings are really special. The first is a posthumous recommendation, submitted by the son of one of our first graduates. The second is from the son.

From Herman Rippey, Class of '32, remembered by his son, Nolan.

My dad, Herman Rippey Sr., was in the first graduating class at Litton in 1932. I recall him speaking about Mr. Molly Malone of the faculty a few times. However, his favorite staff member, though not a teacher, was the principal, **Mr. James Brandon**, who was a graduate of The University of the South (Sewanee). Dad said that he and a good buddy, Paul Startup, also class of '32, used to ask Mr. Brandon from time to time to favor them with the alma mater of his college. Mr. Brandon



JAMES BRANDON

would gladly oblige and put on his best voice and sing it loudly as students would gather around him. Dad said this brought much joy to the students and more importantly it made the students realize that teachers (and principals) were regular people too.

[From Nolan Rippy, class of 1969](#)

Having so many wonderful teachers during my six years at Litton makes this a challenge but I will select one who not only taught the subject matter well but also taught me a teaching method that I have personally used for many years. I had the good fortune of having **Coach James Boyd** for American History and Civics/Government classes as well as my basketball coach for a couple of seasons. Coach would usually list a series of names, dates, places, terms, and events on the blackboard prior to class. He would then take us through the lesson explaining meanings and details while connecting all these items together to make the material interesting and relative and easier to learn. He knew his history and he knew how to teach it. I have taught Sunday School classes for over 35 years using his method of instruction. My class members enjoy it and so do I. Thanks, Coach Boyd, you taught me more than you would ever realize.



[From Alice Stewart Shehane, Class of '65.](#)



Math was always my worst subject. I understood most of it but made careless mistakes. Then came Algebra I and II. Once again, not my favorites and the vagueness of it left me cold, although I did make decent grades. Then (cue angelic voices) came Geometry. Call me crazy, but it suddenly all made sense. In 1963, **Ms. Marilyn Wilson** and her Geometry class in the basement of the gym (where our alumni center is now) changed my life. I decided then and there that I wanted to become a math teacher. Here we are, 60 years later and I taught everything from 8th grade math to AP Calculus for 34 years, 17 at Goodlettsville High School and 17 at Hunters Lane High. I wish I knew where Ms. Wilson is now so I could thank her for her inspiration. I've had many wonderful teachers, but she is the one who transformed the path of my life.

Remember to send your memories of your favorite teacher to shehane64@gmail.com to be included in a future BLAST!

Miss Nashville, 1959

by Mickey Collier, Class of '65, ILAA archivist



Some time ago, I received a care package of Litton documents from Jimmy Chappell, class of '59. Included in this package was the program for the Miss Nashville High school Beauty Contest. This event was held on February 7, 1959 at the Litton Gymnasium. The entertainment and door prizes are funny and interesting.

The Master of Ceremonies was Boyce Hawkins. One of the guest artists was Don Gibson. The Litton contestant was Patsy Borum, escorted by Jerry Parrish. There were 11 schools represented. 10 of the 11 no longer exist. The Crown Bearer was little Joanie Smartt, a member of the '72 class that did not get to graduate from Litton. Little Joanie grew up to be a Litton cheerleader!

The #1 door prize was the following: A used car from Yates Ford, seat covers from Rayco, floor mats from Alvin's Auto Supply, five gallons of gas from Douglas Service station, a grease Job at Bink's Conoco, a paint job from Auto Paint Clinic, a battery from Hester and finally upholstery from Wright Upholstering Co. All of these were just a few of 23 prizes!

Other highlights were \$3.00 gift certificate to Cooper and Martin, one gallon of paint from Fremar's Hardware, a complete dinner for two at Litton Dairy Queen and a heavy duty tire tube from Tom Polk Tire Service! Wow! 1st ,2nd and 3rd place contestants were awarded a bevy of gifts including record albums, boxes of candy, pearl necklaces, shampoos and sets.

The title sponsors for the event were the Litton Blast and the Nashville Banner. I'm sure that a good time was had by all. Does anyone know who was named Miss Nashville High School that year?

Following are pages from the actual program of the contest. If you have similar treasures, contact the ILAA to contribute!

Eighth Annual

Miss Nashville High School

BEAUTY CONTEST

Sponsored by

THE LITTON BLAST

and the

Nashville  Banner

7:30 P.M.—FEBRUARY 7, 1959

ISAAC LITTON HIGH SCHOOL

PROGRAM

Emceed by Boyce Hawkins

GUEST ARTISTS

Don Gibson

Mac Boswell & The Outcasts

The Monarchs

Louise Coursey and Lynn Williams

Pat Barlow

Johnny Shea

Drawing for Door Prizes

Presentation of "Miss Congeniality" Loving Cup

Crowning of "Miss Nashville High"—Mrs. L. W. Jones

Presentation of BANNER Awards

Presentation of Gifts—BLAST Representatives

*Miss Nashville High of 1958

DOOR PRIZES

1. Used Car—YATES FORD MOTOR CO.
Seat Covers—RAYCO
Floor Mats—ALVIN'S AUTO SUPPLY
Five Gallons Gas—DOUGLAS SERVICE STATION
Grease Job—BINK'S CONOCO
Paint Job—AUTO PAINT CLINIC
Battery—HESTER
Upholstering—WRIGHT UPHOLSTERING CO.
2. Camera Set—McGINNIS CAMERA CENTER
3. Sportsman's Light—PORTER ROAD HARDWARE
4. Ski Belt—CORE TIRE SERVICE
Ski Hitch—MODERN MARINE
Ski Rope—TOMMY'S BOAT SHOP
5. \$10 Dry Cleaning—CORN BROS.
6. Chip and Dip Set—HARRIS HARDWARE
7. Rabbit Ears—SOUTHERN T.V. CO.
8. Table Lamp—WALLER FURNITURE CO.
9. Peck of Popcorn—CLARK'S READY-TO-EAT POPCORN
10. Stove Top Protector—BOB'S HARDWARE
Casserole—INGLEWOOD HARDWARE
11. Heavy Duty Tire Tube—TOM POLK TIRE SERVICE
12. Grease Job—BAKER'S GULF SERVICE
13. \$3.00 Gift Certificate—COOPER & MARTIN
14. Lubrication Job—DAVIS AMOCO SERVICE
15. One Dozen Doughnuts—HONEY CREME
16. One Gallon Paint—FREMAR'S HARDWARE
17. Shampoo and Set—ALBERTA'S BEAUTY SALON
18. Dance Certificate—ARTHUR MURRAY STUDIOS
19. Complete Dinner for Two—LITTON DAIRY QUEEN
20. Parker "51" Pen & Pencil Set—GREENLAND PHARMACY
21. Record Album—PATTY'S RECORD SHOP
22. Mystery Surprise Box—GORDON'S JEWELERS, UNITED
JEWELERS, BARRICK JEWELERS, GAMBLE'S HARDWARE,
DONELSON DRIVE-IN
23. Haircut—PAPPY DAVIS BARBER SHOP

**FIRST PLACE WINNER
WILL RECEIVE:**

Loving Cup—NASHVILLE BANNER
White Gold Crown with Rhinestones—
COLES & WALLER
16x20 Oil Portrait—WALDEN S.
FABRY STUDIOS
Bouquet of Roses—INGLEWOOD
FLORIST
Box of Candy—MARY BALL CANDIES
\$50 Saving Bond—MADISON SQUARE
SHOPPING CENTER ASSOCIATION
Necklace and Earring Set—MAYLON'S
Gift Certificate—HOLIDAY SHOES
Record Album—GENE'S RECORD SHOP
Engraved Sterling Silver Bracelet—
PHIL BRODNAX JEWELERS
Pearl Necklace—JACOB'S JEWELERS
Personalized Stamp—G. A. PICKUP &
SON
Shampoo and Set—MR. LANE, HOUSE
OF BEAUTY
Cosmetics—INGLEWOOD PHARMACY
\$5 Dry Cleaning—BOB'S CLEANERS
Jonathan Logan Dress—SULLIVAN'S
DEPT. STORE
Handbag—AKIN'S SPORTSWEAR
Hair Brush—PORTER ROAD
VARIETY STORE
PRIZES FOR ESCORT:
Gift Certificate—JARMAN SHOES
FOR MEN
Cuff Links and Tie Bar—LEVY'S
(MADISON)
Gift Certificate—STAG'S (MADISON)

**SECOND PLACE WINNER
WILL RECEIVE:**

Loving Cup—NASHVILLE BANNER
16x20 Oil Portrait—CHESTER'S
Camera—MELROSE CAMERA CENTER
White Orchid—LEBANON ROAD
FLORIST
Box of Candy—MATTHEWS DRUG
STORE
Record Album—ERNIE'S RECORD
MART
Cosmetics—BRUSH DRUG STORE
Sterling Silver Bracelet—REALE &
DRAPER JEWELERS
Shampoo and Set—MR. LANE, HOUSE
OF BEAUTY
Personalized Stamp—G. A. PICKUP
& SON
Pearl Necklace—ARCADE JEWELERS
Lingerie—WILLETTE'S LADIES'
APPAREL
Pearl Bracelet—SAM SMALL JEWELERS
\$3 Dry Cleaning—BOB'S CLEANERS
Gift Certificate—MARTHA SHOES
Lingerie—OLDEN'S LADIES APPAREL
PRIZES FOR ESCORT:
Gift Certificate—FLAGG BROS. SHOES
2 Sets of Cuff Links—GILBERTS

**THIRD PLACE WINNER
WILL RECEIVE:**

Loving Cup—NASHVILLE BANNER
White Orchid—EASTLAND FLORIST
11x14 Portrait—TOOLEY-MYRON
STUDIOS
Box of Candy—CANDYLAND
Lingerie—KORNMAN'S DEPT. STORE
Record Album—HERMITAGE MUSIC CO.
Sterling Silver Bracelet—KAY
JEWELER'S (MADISON)

Pearl Necklace—GOLDNER'S JEWELERS
Shampoo and Set—MR. LANE, HOUSE
OF BEAUTY
Necklace—HAROLD SHYERS JEWELERS
Personalized Stamp—G. A. PICKUP
& SON
\$2 Dry Cleaning—BOB'S CLEANERS
Photo Album—DAVIDSON'S 5c & 10c
STORE
PRIZES FOR ESCORT:
Gift Certificate—JOHN HARDY SHOES
Cuff Links—GILBERTS

**MISS CONGENIALTY
WILL RECEIVE:**

Loving Cup—NASHVILLE BANNER
8x10 Portrait—BLANKINSHIP STUDIOS
Box of Candy—CANDYLAND
Orchid—SMOOT'S FLORIST
Record Album—ZIBART'S RECORD
SHOP
Shampoo and Set—GREENLAND
BEAUTY SHOP
Necklace—E. J. SAIN JEWELERS
Dance Certificate—NANCY LAUX
SCHOOL OF DANCE
Stationery—EDWARD'S GIFT SHOP
Manicure Set—CARUTHER'S
PRIZES FOR ESCORT:
Gift Certificate—JARMAN SHOES
FOR MEN
Cuff Links—GILBERTS
ALL CONTESTANTS WILL RECEIVE:
Miniature Loving Cup—NASHVILLE
BANNER

**THE LITTON BLAST
is indebted to:**

The FIRMS whose names appear beside the
valuable GIFTS for contestants and door
prizes
The following FLORISTS:
EMBASSY FLORIST—5 Orchid Corsages
BATES FLORIST—Table Arrangement
GENY'S EAST NASHVILLE FLORIST
—3 Corsages
FRIENDLY FLORIST, Old Hickory—
Identification Ribbons
FLOWERLAND—Palms
SELLERS FLORIST, Madison—
Boutonnieres
NASHVILLE TENT & AWNING CO.
—Canvas
FRANKLIN BREEKO BLOCK CO.
VELVET ICE CREAM COMPANY—
Tickets
COCA-COLA BOTTLING WORKS—
Posters
THE GUEST ARTISTS for the
entertainment
CLAUDE P. STREET PIANO CO.
DEE KILPATRICK—Manager of Grand
Ole Opry
THE NASHVILLE BANNER for TOMMY
KNOWLES' ORCHESTRA, the beautiful
LOVING CUPS, PROGRAMS, and
PUBLICITY
WSIX Radio and TV
WSM Radio and TV
WLAC
WENO
WMAK
WKDA
BOYCE HAWKINS—Mater of Ceremonies

MASTER OF CEREMONIESBoyce Hawkins

JUDGESMrs. Murray Severance—Mrs. Tennessee of 1958

Mrs. Rusty Cobb—Cymballet Instructor, Cain-Sloan

Stewardess—American Airlines

Mr. Walden Fabry, Fabry Studios

Mr. Ben Donnell—Vanderbilt University Football Star

ORCHESTRATommy Knowles

Trophy Presentation by Marshall Foster, Litton High Principal,
and BANNER City Editor Bob Battle

Contestants and Escorts

Antioch—Becky Butner & Bill Welsh

Bellevue—Jeanie Ussery & W. A. Martin

Central—Judith Lynn Boyd & Buford Crain

Cumberland—Linda Hamilton & Jimmy Lewis

Donelson—Ann Crouch & David Whitefield

DuPont—Sydney Sherwood & Larry Law

Goodlettsville—Sylvia Phipps & Henry Key

Hillsboro—Gwynn Hastings & Taylor Wray

Joelton—Mavis Bishop & Howard Redicker

Litton—Patsy Borum & Jerry Parrish

Madison—Jennie Smith & Ray Slate

CROWN BEARER—Joanie Smartt

FOOTMAN—Doug Harris



The Genius of Steven Wright:

Many of you have heard of a comedian named “Steven Wright.” His dry humor has entertained us for years.

Here are a few of his best one liners.

1. I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
2. Borrow money from pessimists -- they don't expect it back.
3. Half the people you know are below average.
4. 82.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
5. A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
6. All those who believe in psychokinesis, raise my hand.
7. The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
8. I almost had a psychic girlfriend, ... But she left me before we met.
9. OK, so what's the speed of dark?
10. How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
11. If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
12. Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
13. When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
14. Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
15. Hard work pays off in the future; laziness pays off now.
16. I intend to live forever ... So far, so good.
17. If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?
18. Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
19. Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?
20. Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
21. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.
22. The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it.
23. Everyone has a photographic memory; some just don't have film.
24. If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.

GONE, BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN



Reported January 1, 2022- March 31, 2022

CLASS	NAME	DATE OF DEATH
43	VIRGINIA ANN REEVES CLINE	2023-06-02 Age 97
44	ROBERT OWEN DEPRIEST	2023-06-23 Age 96
47	MARY LILLIAN STONE DEPRIEST	2023-05-20 Age 94
48	JOMELIA DUKE CHENAULT	2023-05-05 Age 92
50	FLORA JEAN SCOTT ANDERSON	2023-05-04 Age 91
51	JAMES WARWICK ARMSTRONG JR	2023-05-15 Age 90
51	RICHARD EWING ELLIOTT	2023-04-05 Age 91
52	PATSY JUNE BATEMAN HEAD	2023-06-23 Age 89
52	CAROLE ANN HAWKINS RICE	2023-06-04 Age 88
53	SAM SHAW CRUTCHFIELD JR	2023-04-05 Age 88
55	JUDITH LEE (JUDY) GRAVES MARRERO	2023-04-05 Age 85
55	DAVID H SELLERS	2023-04-08 Age 85
60	RONALD LEWIS (RONNIE) HEAD	2023-04-04 Age 80
61	BETTY GAYLE BOTTS HAMILTON	2023-04-07 Age 79
61	LEONARD RAY (BUTCH) SHAW JR	2023-04-13 Age 81
63	SARAH DEAN CASON	2023-05-04 Age 78
65	NANCY CAROL JOHNSON ENGEL	2023-04-09 Age 75
72	SHARON SOWELL BAUMAN	2023-05-13 Age 68

NOTE: Due to the publication deadlines for each quarterly issue of the BLAST, the names of those departed alumni received after the 25th of the quarter will be included in the next issue.

Please send us any notices as soon as possible. Thank you.

Carson W. “Bill” Beck

March 21, 1962 – June 4, 2023



Carson W. “Bill” Beck, Age 61, of Nashville, TN, passed away on Sunday, June 4, 2023. Preceded in death by his father, Robert “Bob” Beryl Beck, Sr. and father-in-law, Andy Evans. He is survived by his wife, Pamela Beck; daughter, Meredith (Andy) Costello; mother, Martha Lucinda Cone Beck; brother, Robert B. (Sonia) Beck Jr.; sister, Perkie (Jim) Cannon; nieces and nephews, Karl Beck, Sara Cannon, Clare Cannon, Katherine Fincher, and Reese Lovely; sisters-in-law, Karen

Zanoni and Melissa (Billy) Lovely; mother-in-law, Jo Ann Evans; and future granddaughter, Evelyn Costello.

Representative Beck will lie in state on Thursday, June 8, at the Tennessee State Capitol, at 600 Dr. M.L.K. Jr. Blvd. in Nashville, TN, 37243, in the Legislative Lounge on the 2nd Floor from 2pm – 6pm.

The service will be in the Polk Room of the Tennessee Performing Arts Center (TPAC), 505 Deadrick St., Nashville, TN 37243 on Saturday, June 10, at 11am, doors open at 10:30am. A private graveside will be held at a later time.

Bill Beck didn’t graduate from Isaac Litton High School, but he was a friend to our school and alumni. He was an honorary member of the ILAA Board of Directors and helped and advised us in many legal matters.



He was a widely respected attorney and a very effective state legislator in a time when partisanship often made representing his constituents difficult. He represented Inglewood, Madison, Old Hickory, and parts of Donelson.

Just six days before his death, he joined us in honoring Litton’s fallen heroes at our Memorial Day Remembrance.

From Harvey Fischer, Litton Class of '70, Honorary ILAA Board Member

The sudden death of Rep. Bill Beck has shocked me to the core. He and his family were close friends of mom and dad and I worked with Rep. Beck for several years in the Tennessee General Assembly. He always represented his constituents first and foremost and was a dedicated member of the legislature and his community. His death is a loss to his family, friends, City of Nashville, and the State of Tennessee. RIP, my friend!

From Kay Rayner Cunningham, former ILAA Board member.

For many years, Bill Beck was a valuable honorary board member of our Alumni Association, always available to answer our questions and offer suggestions for our future operation. We were never billed for his time - not only that but he was a generous donor and sponsor. Not only the ILAA but the entire community will miss him.

Bill Beck, our friend, you will be missed.