



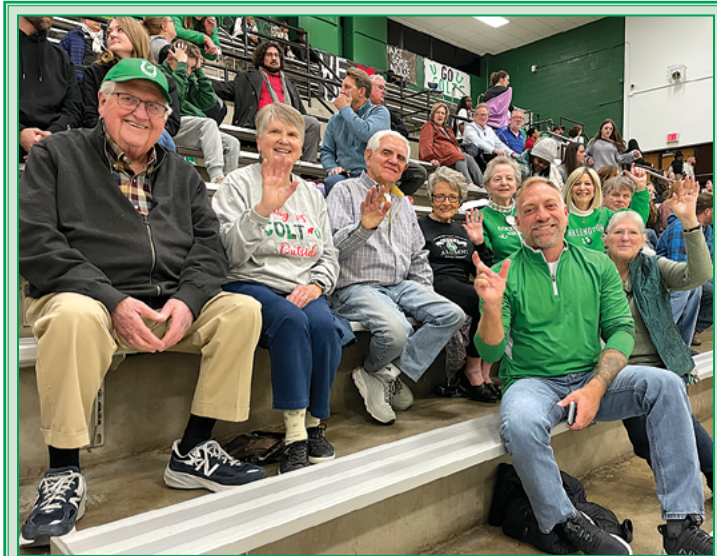
ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL Alumni Association



Volume 29 Issue 1

P.O. Box 152578 ♦ Arlington, Texas 76015
www.ahscolts-alumni.org

Spring 2025



Several AHS Alumni Association board members, sporting their green and white, were invited by the Lady Colts Basketball Head Coach, Will Floyd, to attend the game against the Haltom City Buffaloes in January. Following the basketball game, an autographed photo of the team was presented to AHS Alumni Association president Chris Hightower in appreciation of a recent donation which was used to purchase floor mats for the gym.



Lady Colts Basketball Team Recognizes Alumni Association

During halftime of the Lady Colts-Haltom City Buffaloes basketball game held Jan. 21, special recognition was made for the Alumni Association's donation to the team. In addition, an autographed team photo was presented to President Chris Hightower following the game, as a way of saying "thank you".

Last year, Coach Paul Williams and JoAnna Messimer made a presentation to the board asking for support from the AHS Alumni Association to help purchase mats to be used under the team chairs to prevent wear and tear on the gym floor. The association matched funds raised by parents and supporters of the Lady Colt basketball team. Over \$3,000 in combined donations was raised.

Besides being used by the basketball team, the mats will be beneficial to the volleyball program and other programs using the gym.

May 1 Deadline Approaching DCA Nominations Being Accepted

May 1 is the deadline for submitting nominations for this year's Distinguished Colt Award. To receive this honor, the selection committee must see how the nominee has shown the *Spirit * Pride * Tradition* of AHS after leaving high school.

Nominees whose tireless efforts to "give back" to our school or who have brought honor to Arlington High School and Arlington through significant accomplishments in their lives after high school will receive strong consideration for this honor. Honorees will be introduced at both the fall Homecoming Pep Rally and Open House.

The Honor Roll of Distinguished Colts from 1997, when the first award was given, through 2024, overflows with AHS alumni who meet these criteria. They are listed on our website: http://www.ahscolts-alumni.org/dca_awards.htm.

To nominate an AHS alum, follow these steps:

- **Go** to www.ahscolts-alumni.org
- **Click** on Awards
- **To see** the Honor Roll, **click** on DCA Awards
- **To nominate**, **click** on DCA form
- **Fill out and submit**

The decision of the Board shall be final.

Alumni Association Names New Leadership Positions

Four new AHS Alumni Association board members have been named including David Keal, Chris Wade, Rickie Windle and Karen Cherry Cox.

David Keal, Class of '78, joins the Alumni Board as our new Vice-President. David owns Aubrey Keal Commercial Real Estate, LLC, founded in downtown Arlington in 1965. He fondly remembers Friday night football games and playing on AHS sports teams. He values the enduring friendships he has with many of his AHS classmates. David welcomes the chance to be part of the Alumni Association as it gives back to Arlington High School.

Chris Wade, Class of '79, has been a CPA for over 35 years, and is currently with Catlin, Lillard & Co PC in Fort Worth. He has great memories as a senior class officer, topped only by the Colts beating Sam Houston in football his junior year. It was the first victory by the Colts over the Texans in a long time. Chris and his wife Sherri Smith

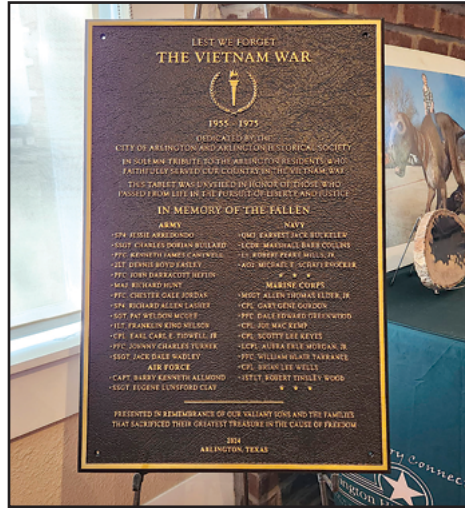
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Vietnam Memorial On Display Honoring Former Students

This memorial tablet, unveiled last Veterans Day by the Arlington Historical Society, honors 28 Arlington residents who lost their lives serving in the Vietnam War. Several of those honored attended Arlington High School.

Now on display at the Fielder Museum, the museum is still finalizing the plaque's future home.

It is expected to be on display at the museum through the end of March.



Reunions

If your graduating year ends in 0 or 5, you may be having a reunion this year!

Contact Ella Jo McGovern, at AHSColtsforever@gmail.com, with any information and we'll help spread the word.

Stay up to date and get upcoming reunion contact information at <http://www.ahscolts-alumni.org/>

CLASS OF 1965

The class of 65 will hold its 60th reunion on March 15th at J. Gilligan's beginning at 7pm. For more info, contact Ojio113@aol.com.

CLASS OF 2005

Rekindle memories and renew friendships at the 20th high school reunion sponsored by the graduating class of 2005 on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 10 and 11.

The festivities are scheduled to begin at 7pm., Oct. 10 at the Chicken N Pickle, 2965 State Hwy. 161, in Grand Prairie. A fajita bar, music and DJ, along with a Photo Booth to capture the memories will be provided.

The following evening, an informal event will be held at 7pm at J. Gilligan's, 407 E. South St., in Arlington. The \$55 per person payment, can be made online through Zelle: ColtsReunion05@gmail.com or Venmo: [ColtsReunion05](https://venmo.com/ColtsReunion05).

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

MAY 1
DCA NOMINATIONS DEADLINE
JULY 4
ARLINGTON PARADE
SEPT. 13
ALUMNI OPEN HOUSE
Details Coming Soon!!

Reminder - It's Time Again; Membership Renewals Due

Invoices for the 2025 Annual Membership Renewal were mailed in January. Through mid-February, 28 percent of the renewals due have been received. If you received an invoice for dues renewal, please submit your payment before the end of March.

Class Notes

CLASSES OF 1960-1969

The girls of '62 took an 80th birthday year cruise...and they rocked the ship!



Classmates of '62 with their fascinators on Dressy Night (above) included: (bottom row) Genie Culbertson Hermann, Donna Post Oliver (holding Dee Butler Morehead's photo who was unable to attend), and Bonnie Beebe Watkins. (Top row): Dorothy Ibsen Zemler, DeeDee Mosby Winter, Phyllis Deardorff Graham, Kathy Dormier Hancock, and Stevie Campbell Beaverson. Getting dressed up for 70's Night (below) were: (Left to right): Phyllis, DeeDee, Dorothy, Stevie, Bonnie, and Kathy.



CLASSES OF 1970-1979

Cheryl Taylor-West, Class of '74, college professor and currently Lake Whitney City Council member, was featured at the Lake Whitney Public Library in February for publishing her first book, a memoir of her life, titled "Long Night's Journey into Day", which is now available on Amazon.

Her journey in life delves into betrayal, addiction, adult estrangement, divorce, financial struggles, aging and loneliness, but through it all, she discovers that life does go on.

For more information on the book visit <https://cheryltaylor-west.com>.



Cheryl Taylor-West was featured at a recent book signing, answering questions for curious readers.





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From “Golden Ropers” to “Colt Kickers”

Colt Alumni Support Displays Generosity

Whether you are a “Golden Roper”, “Arlie’s Angel”, “Colt Star” or “Colt Kicker”, a first-time donor or have been supporting the Alumni Association for years, the AHS Alumni Association is very grateful for your support during North Texas Giving Day last fall. Your combined gifts and generosity will allow us to give \$20,000 in scholarships to

graduating seniors again in 2025.

Over \$17,000 was raised during North Texas Giving Day. This section of the Spring 2025 newsletter has the complete list of donors and sponsors who helped make this possible. Choose to support them and let them know their gift is appreciated!

Make sure to add this year’s North Texas Giving Day, Thursday,

Sept. 18, to your calendar this fall and be on the lookout for more opportunities to be involved in the community!

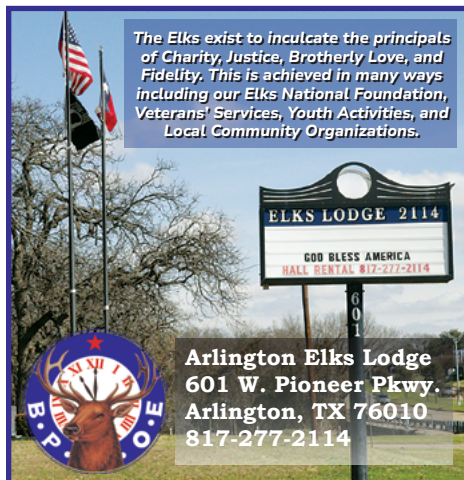
GOLDEN ROPER SPONSORS (\$500 and more)

Golden Roper sponsors - those who have donated over \$500 include The Cravens Family Fund (alumni sponsor), The Elk’s Lodge No. 2114, Ken Watkins, CPA, (alumni sponsor), Lash Cove and Frost Bank.

In addition, seven individual contributions of \$500 or more were received from Ronnie Cates, Andy & Carol Wright, John Hightower, Bonnie Beebe Watkins, Guyler Allbright, Ella Jo McGovern and Ben George.

This continued support for the Alumni Association is greatly appreciated and helps provide college scholarships for graduating seniors, as well as helps support Alumni activities throughout the year.

Continued on Page 4



The Elks exist to inculcate the principals of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity. This is achieved in many ways including our Elks National Foundation, Veterans' Services, Youth Activities, and Local Community Organizations.

Arlington Elks Lodge
601 W. Pioneer Pkwy.
Arlington, TX 76010
817-277-2114

**ELK’S LODGE #2114 -
GOLDEN ROPER DONOR**



**THE CRAVENS FAMILY FUND -
ALUMNI SPONSOR**



KEN WATKINS, CPS - ALUMNI SPONSOR



LASH COVE - GOLDEN ROPER DONOR



FROST BANK - GOLDEN ROPER DONOR

AHS Alumni Association

NTGD Donors – continued from Page 3 —

ARLIE'S ANGELS SPONSORS (\$301 to \$499)

This year, Chambers Automotive continues to support the Alumni Association and we recognize them as our lone commercial **Arlie's Angel** Sponsor this year. **Arlie's Angels** include those sponsors who have donated between \$301-\$499.

In addition to Chambers Automotive, Scott and Debbie Ericson, Mac and Peggy Martin and Patti Schimpf made individual donations at this level.



CHAMBERS AUTOMOTIVE - ARLIE'S ANGEL ALUMNI SPONSOR

COLT STARS SPONSORS (\$201 to \$300)

Six corporate sponsors have renewed their sponsorship to be **Colt Stars**, by donating between \$201-\$300 for various scholarships and programs the Alumni Association sponsors during the year.

This year's list includes Curves - Southeast (alumni sponsor), Ray Givens, State Farm, McAndrew Automotive, McGaw's Auto (alumni sponsor), Mad Mike's, and Taylor's Inspection (alumni sponsor).

Dwight Thompson has also contributed to be a **Colt Star** individual donor. Thanks to each of you for the continued support!

COLT KICKERS SPONSORS (\$150 to \$200)

Our **Colt Kickers** Donors are those who have contributed \$150-\$200 to support the Alumni Association. This year, 12 companies are among those who have generously supported the Association. They are A+ Driving School, Dr. Bryan Bishop (alumni sponsor), David's BBQ, Green's Produce, J. Gilligan's (alumni sponsor), Jo-Ed's Bomber, Mr. B's Burgers (alumni sponsor), Pantego Café, Prespa's, Texas Airwall Service, Upstairs Gallery (alumni sponsor) and Wade Funeral Home (alumni sponsor).

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RAY GIVENS, STATE FARM - COLT STARS DONOR



McGAW'S AUTOMOTIVE - ALUMNI SPONSOR



McANDREW MOTORS - COLT STARS DONOR



CURVES - SOUTHEAST - COLT STARS DONOR – ALUMNI SPONSOR



MAD MIKE'S - COLT STARS DONOR



TAYLOR'S INSPECTION - ALUMNI SPONSOR

Colt Kickers Sponsors – continued from Page 4

Others giving at the **Colt Kicker** level are Kim & Joann Anderson, Charlene Mahan and Cindy Bane Wilson.

Thank you for your support which will allow us to support the teachers, staff and students of AHS through ongoing projects.



MR. B'S BURGERS
ALUMNI SPONSOR



GREEN'S PRODUCE –
COLT KICKER DONOR



THE BOMBER
COLT KICKER DONOR



DAVID'S BARBECUE –
COLT KICKER DONOR

*Thank you to
Dr. Bryan Bishop
for your continued
support of the AHS
Alumni Association!*

DR. BRYAN BISHOP –
ALUMNI SPONSOR



J. GILLIGAN'S –
ALUMNI SPONSOR



UPSTAIRS GALLERY –
ALUMNI SPONSOR



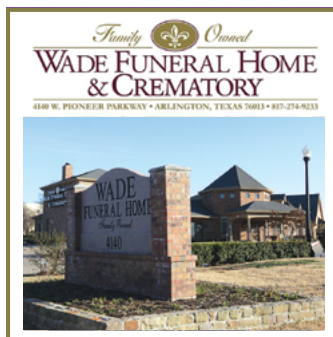
PANTEGO CAFÉ –
COLT KICKER DONOR



TEXAS AIRWALL SERVICES
COLT KICKER DONOR



PRESPA'S –
COLT KICKER DONOR



WAIDE FUNERAL HOME –
ALUMNI SPONSOR



A+ DRIVING SCHOOL –
COLT KICKER DONOR

DEDICATIONS

Several donations were received on North Texas Giving Day which were given in memory or in honor of various alumni or classes.

This list of Dedications and to whom each was made included:

Dan Rash - Dedicated to the memory of former principal John Webb

Susan Malone - Dedicated to the Class of 1976

Mac & Peggy Martin - In memory of Lt. Robert Tinsley Wood

Debbie & Scott Ericson - In honor of the Class of 1968 and all those we lost this year

John Bruton - Dedicated to Scotty Keys

Dan & Barbara Ormond - Dedicated to the Class of 1957

John Hightower - In memory of his sister, Suzanne Hightower Clark, Class of 1963, restricted to a Joyce Heffington Preisser scholarship

Paula J. Crossman - Dedicated to the Class of 1957

A+ Driving - Dedicated as a Thank You to all the dedicated teachers trying to make a difference

Lynn Darst - Dedicated to Debbie Ericson

Jennifer Stone - Dedicated in memory of Randy Garmon

Cindy Bane Wilson - Dedicated to the Class of 1963

The Time is Now To Make A Difference

Association Continues to Provide Opportunities for Giving Back to Arlington High School

No high school in Arlington has the history and tradition of Arlington High School. But that takes nurturing and sustaining by every generation.

There has been an Arlington High School for more than 100 years, starting at Cooper and Abram, and then moving to the current site at Cooper and Park Row almost 70 years ago. It was the city's only high school until 1963.

Those dates indicate how many service veterans, city leaders and just everyday Colts have passed through the halls.

That history and the resulting traditions means there are thousands of alumni who have a place in their lives for Arlington High School. But just because they get their degrees doesn't mean their Colt times are over.

The Alumni Association helps those grads reunite and ensure the tradition thrives. It provides scholarships for current graduates to move on. It also honors graduates from all the years with annual Distinguished Alumni Awards. These are chosen through committees of graduates.

Sometimes, it is just an opportunity to get back together. But there are times when someone might want to give a little more to the school that was crucial in their composition.

For example, the Association

currently needs a chair for the North Texas Giving Day committee. This spring, that chair and the committee will begin reaching out to sponsors to fund everything from the \$20,000 of scholarships to ten seniors to Future Farmers of America and Fine Arts.

The Association needs those with time for leadership, but also wants to extend the membership base to ensure all generations are represented. More graduates from the '80s, '90s and into the new century are being recruited to see old friends and tell the tales of their times.

Round up your longtime best friend and come back to Arlington High.



Are You Ready To Start Making a Difference?

The Alumni Association really hopes to find one more alumni in the Arlington area who wants to join our board in support of Arlington High School students and staff.

Sometime in 2025, we will surpass \$300,000 in gifts to AHS. Most of it goes to scholarships for students who love Arlington High School – like we did.

If you like fundraising, or have a previous sales background, the North Texas Giving Day chair, which is currently open, may be just for you!

Sponsoring this “Day of Giving” in the North Texas area, is the

Communities Foundation of Texas, which provides the leadership and direction - nothing has to be created by the chairperson. We have two solid people who are excellent fundraisers ready to hit the road when NTGD people say, “GO!”

Debbie Ericson, who has chaired the effort for several years, will be mentoring the new chair throughout the “season,” which is roughly late spring through the September donation period, plus some recordkeeping after that.

No matter what committee or volunteer work you have ever done, sitting on the AHS Alumni Association board as project chair is the best, most fun, least complicated and least time-consuming commitment you have ever said yes to. Plus, you get to give back along with others who love AHS and want to see it succeed.

If this isn't for you, but you know someone who would be perfect for the position, let us know! Email us at AHSColtsforever@gmail.com.

“Thanks” To Our Outgoing Directors

The Association and its Board of Directors express deepest thanks to our two outgoing officers: Beth Anne McGovern Woodard, '88, and Ken Watkins, '61.

Beth Anne has served faithfully in supporting the work of the board and the mission of the Association: to give back to Arlington High.

Ken stepped into the office of treasurer when the prior treasurer had to resign due to a serious illness in her family. He not only finished the term, but agreed to serve his own term as our financial officer. His reports to the board were timely, clear and correct. Thank you, Beth Anne and Ken!

New Members

Welcome to the following new members (through February 2025):

CLASSES OF 1960-1969

*Robert Hankins, '60; *Gerald Moore, '64; *Phyllis MacKinnon Moore, '64; Guy Graves, '67; John Robison, '69

CLASSES OF 1970-1979

*Zina Halpin Juroch, '74; *Patti Schimpf, '74; *Kim Forehand Burlette, '75; Tracey Stone Thomas, '76; *Karen Williams Featherston, '79

CLASSES OF 1980-1989

*Teresa Erickson Sieben, '81; Dawn Conley Prejean, '84; Jeanne Caffey Drapeau, '86

CLASSES OF 1990-2000

Domini Harrell Davis, '93; *Travis

2024 Alumni Association Board of Directors

OFFICERS:

President: Chris Hightower, '90
Vice-President: David Keal, '78
Secretary: Mary Poston Gunn, '67
Treasurer: Chris Wade, '79

CHAIRPERSONS:

Membership:

Judy Whitenight Northup, '69
Assistant: Kim Counts Cathro, '78

Corresponding Secretary:

Karen Giorgio Logos, '68

Webmaster:

Mac Martin, '61

Reunions:

Jo Colliflower McGovern, '66

Product Sales:

Kristina De La Rosa Randerson, '99
NTGD:

Advisor: Debbie Koehl Ericson, '68

Distinguished Colts:

Jerrell Womble, '71

Assistant: Karen Cherry Cox, '76

Special Events:

Erin Hawkes Chaney, '64

Publications:

Patti Schimpf, '74

Reporter: Rickie Windle, '75

Scholarship:

Peggy Wood Martin, '66

July 4th Parade:

Kathy Einhaus, '68

Alumni Band:

Tanya Terrell-Weidemann, '81

Colt Volunteer Corral:

Michelle Barlen, CBC

Members-at-large:

Mike Enger, '74;

Campus Liaison:

Natasha Newsome, CBC

Arnn, '98

CLASSES OF 2010-2020

*Lauren Beard Curnutt, '15

CLASSES OF 2020-2030

*Corwin Campbell, '23; Gabriel Davis, '24

*New Life Member



Milestones

We are no longer listing names of AHS grads who were not members of the Association. Several websites provide obituaries of folks with Arlington ties. The Facebook page: Arlington HS Colts Alumni Memories & Memorials is a great resource. When you know of the passing of a Colt, feel free to pass along to us. If a member of the Association, the name will appear in Milestones.

PASSINGS:

(SINCE 2024 FALL ISSUE)

CLASSES OF 1950-1959

Barbara Bobo Barksdale, '51, December

Jim Binion, '54, December

J. Luke Gilbert, '55, September

Beverly Matlock Fleury Kelley, '55, November

Carol Bisset Thompson, '56, December

Carroll Butler, '59, December

Allan Price, '59, December

CLASSES OF 1960-1969

William Raney, '62, August

John Bruton, '63, September

Bill Snider, '65, December

Tim McGee, '68, August

CLASSES OF 1970-1979

Larry Armour, '71, October

MEMORIAL MEMBERSHIPS

Memorials support the Scholarship Fund. In addition, the names of the memorialized are placed on our roster with their classes. Go to our website to make a one-time gift of \$35 or more in memory of a deceased Colt.

Barbara Bobo Barksdale, '51, by Mary Jane Pope, Helen Schrickel and Kathleen Smith

Andy Chambers, '63, by Jacque Roll

John Featherston, '79, by Karen Featherston

Priscilla Cooper Feuerbacher, '58, by Butch Feuerbacher, CBC

Leon Hayes, '57, by Martin & Brenda Ross

Jim Binion, '54, Harriet Shotola Hardwick, '54, by Class of 1954

Carileta Mayfield Ross, CBC, (AHS Home Economics teacher and Life Member), by Kathleen Smith

Carol Thompson, '56, by Kathleen Smith

DONATIONS – SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Anonymous for Joyce Preisser 2025 Scholarship

John Gardner, '57, Class of 1957 Scholarship

Cynthia Ives, '65, Scholarship

Marcia Jacobs, '60, for 2025 Charles Jacobs Scholarship

Doug & Catherine Middleton, '63, Scholarship Fund

Al Preisser, CBC, Joyce Preisser 2025 Scholarship

DONATIONS – OPERATING OR UNRESTRICTED

George Ray, '61

Tommy Phillips, '68

Gary & Juanice Young, '60/'61

THAT'S AHS?

“Yes, the school of your youth meant to serve the students of today. But it is still the Colt world for all. Learn more how the old is becoming new again in upcoming Alumni Newsletters and InstaNews Editions!”



New Alumni Board Members – continued from Page 1

Wade, '81, have been Life Members of the Association since 2008. Chris hopes to help the Association carry on Arlington High's legacy.

Rickie Windle, Class of '75, was *The Colt* editor in his senior year. Journalism teacher Phyllis Forehand was transformative not only to his education, but also his life.

He attended UTA and did reporting stints at the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and *Arlington Daily News*. The majority of his journalism career was with the *Austin Business Journal* where he eventually served as editor.

He says the alumni newsletter is an opportunity to bridge the time between past classes of Arlington High School and the operation, opportunities and spirit of current Colts.

Karen Cherry Cox, Class of '76, and a Life Member since 2007, is the fourth new member to join our Alumni Board of Directors.

Karen will serve as

Jerrell Womble's assistant for the Distinguished Colt Alumni project and will assume the chair in 2026.

Many may remember Karen's father, Dr. Kent Cherry, who was a longtime

doctor for the Colt football team and was named a Distinguished Colt Alumnus by the Association in 2009.

Please welcome each of these new board members in their efforts this year!

Sons (and Daughters) of the White and Green – Come Join the Alumni Band!

The AHS Alumni Band is seeking all ex-Band members to join in the fun. The band rehearses once a month and plays in the 4th of July Parade, at the fall Alumni Association Open House and the Christmas Parade of Lights.

“The Horse”, Fight Song and Alma Mater will bring back great memories! Contact Tanya Terrell-Weideman at 817-797-8297 or e-mail her at shadowlr@swbell.net for more information.



Alumni Band float in the Christmas Parade of Lights in December