



Munster High School Alumni Association

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8808 Columbia Ave. | Munster, Indiana 46321 | <http://alumni.munster.us/>

Munster Alums Remember Richard Holmberg

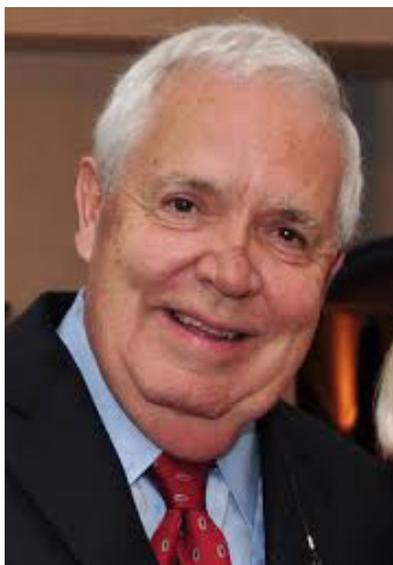
Richard Holmberg, 77, former director of music at Munster High School for 35 years, died Tuesday, Nov. 24 at Joanne's House at Hope Hospice.

Mr. Holmberg lived in Estero, Fla., since 1997 and is survived by his companion of more than 50 years, Gene A. Fort, also of Estero, along with his two sisters, Lynn K. Dahl of Presho, S.D., and Kay J. Lutz of Carrington, N.D., many nieces, nephews and friends.

Mr. Holmberg is remembered for his work and dedication to the Munster High School music department. He began his career there in 1965.

While at MHS, Mr. Holmberg built the music department into one of the most successful programs in the state. He also was in charge of the vocal music department, which included as many as 300 students participating in choirs and select vocal ensembles.

After his retirement in 1995, he moved to Southwest Florida where he continued to support the music community.



He became active in the Naples Orchestra and Chorus where he served as the director for four years. He served on the Board of Directors and eventually as President of the Naples Music Club. He was also involved with the Classic Chamber Concerts serving as secretary to the board for 10 years.

In 2000, he was offered a position and taught music at The Community School of Naples.

Richard was the founder of the New Chorale of Southwest Florida. He was a member of the Greater Naples Northwestern University Alumni Association also serving on their board of directors.

He will truly be remembered by thousands of MHS alumnae across this country who will recall endless stories of how Mr. Holmberg touched their lives.

“A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.”

Henry Adams

MUNSTER HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Show your pride by honoring the past, celebrating the present, or acknowledging the future!

Munster High School will be designing the main entryway to reflect the accomplishments and commitments to the school. You can show your support by purchasing a personalized, engraved 4x8 or 8x8 brick. Bricks are available for the following individuals and businesses:

- *Munster student/family
- *Munster graduate
- *Community member
- *Business owner

Some symbols are shown below. Other customized symbols may be available.

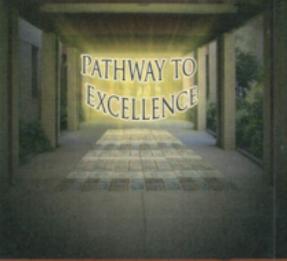
4x8 Minimum donation of \$100

8x8 Minimum donation of \$250

Add up to 4 lines of text and symbols

By purchasing a brick and joining the Pathway to Excellence, you will be supporting future projects for the School Town of Munster.

Join the Pathway to Excellence Program





MHSAA Steering Committee

Chairman Dr. Ingrid Schwarz Wolf

ingridschwarz@hotmail.com

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Jim Magrames ('88)

Paul Czapkowicz ('89)

Kurt Popovich ('08)

Alex Ingoglia ('12)

MHS Parent Kathy Sharpe

Editor Nancy Coltun Webster ('79)

nanwebster@gmail.com

School Updates

Superintendent Hendrix keeps us informed about all the building updates with the Monthly *Mustang Express* and his *Superchat Podcast*. Both can be accessed online www.munster.us. Please check out the "Pride in Excellence" video on the home page. It's AMAZING!!! You may also see some familiar faces...

Get Pinned

Show your Mustang Pride. Pins are available in the high school office.



Pathway to Excellence

You can show your support by purchasing a personalized, engraved 4 X 8 or 8 X 8 brick.

A minimum donation of \$100 is required for a 4 X 8 brick and a minimum donation of \$250 is required for an 8 X 8 brick. Add up to four lines of text and symbols.

Symbols include a basketball, football, golf ball, baseball, mustang logo, a paint-

er's palette and more. Bricks are available for individuals or businesses:

- MHS student/family
- MHS graduate
- Community member
- Business owner

Honor the past, celebrate the present, or acknowledge the future. Visit our website: alumni.munster.us select Support download an order form



Alumni Hall of Fame 2015 Inductees

Shaun Blue
2000

Colonel James Dryjanski
1988

Robert T. Grand
1974

Dr. Nan Sutter Hayworth
1977

Michelle Kelchak
1982

Hal Morris
1983

Dr. Blase Polite
1987

Nicole Rittenmeyer
1987

Todd Rokita
1988

John Sullivan
1970

Volunteers Needed

Help is needed for the 2016 Alumni/Faculty Staff Hall of Fame Banquet to take place in August or September. Volunteers are needed to work with the MHS administration, reserve the venue, sell tickets and handle food, rsvps, flowers, etc.

Contact Ingrid Schwarz Wolf
ingridjschwarz@hotmail.com



Hall of Fame to Include Teachers, staff members

By **Mike P. Wells**
MHS Principal

This year, in addition to inducting five new Alumni Hall of Fame members, five retired faculty and staff members will also be inducted into the inaugural Faculty and Staff Hall of Fame.

We realize our educators have played an integral part in the successes of our students throughout the years.

Over the years Munster High School has had amazing teachers, non-certified staff members, custodians and administrators who have dedicated much of their lives to helping students achieve the successes they went on to accomplish.

We are in the middle of selecting the initial five staff members who will be recognized in the fall of the 2016-

2017 school year.

We hope you will join us in this celebration at the Center for Visual & Performing Arts—date to be announced—to recognize these five staff members as well as the five new alum members inducted into the Hall of Fame.

The **Pathway to Excellence** brick project is finally a reality. In just seven short months we have raised enough money to install the brick pathway by the main entrance of the high school.

If you are interested in purchasing a brick, you can visit the MHS web page and click on the Alumni tab (Pathway to Excellence).

Visit our website:
alumni.munster.us
select Support
download an order form

Reunions

Are you in the class of 1976, 1986, 1996, or 2006? OR maybe class of 1991? Send us your reunion plans and we will help you get the word out to your classmates! The date of Homecoming 2016 will be announced in March so stay tuned.

Where Are You Now?

We hope to reach out to graduates all over the U.S. and the world. If you would like share news of what's new in your life, please send a note to let us know where you are and what you've accomplished since graduating from MHS.

Send your updates to nanwebster@gmail.com

Support the Teacher of Merit Program

We love our teachers!

By Ingrid Schwarz Wolf

Munster schools have been fortunate to have such high-quality teachers over the years, making our school district one of the strongest in the state of Indiana.

Unfortunately, due to a financial shortfall and a change in state educational laws, the School Town of Munster asked teachers to return their pay increases. This was four years ago and they still have not had any financial increases.

In an effort to keep our quality teachers who have sacrificed salary and benefits over these past few years, Mary Yorke and John Friend spearheaded the Teacher of Merit Award program.

Under the umbrella of the Munster Education Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation, the Teacher of Merit program will reward teachers who rank in the Top 2 evaluation levels. It

is estimated that vast majority of our teachers will fall into this category. Again, a tribute to the quality of our teachers.

A 1974 MHS graduate, Joe Mansueto, has generously pledged \$1 million to the Teacher of Merit Award program over a five-year period.

It is our hope that other community members, alumni, and supporters of education will follow Joe's lead. It is critical for Munster schools to retain our quality teachers and keep quality education as a top priority.

If you would like to support this effort to retain and reward our exemplary teachers, please visit the school district website at: www.munster.us and find us under "Our Community."

Or You can write to Teacher of Merit Award, c/o 8616 Columbia Ave, Munster, Ind. 46321.

Questions can be emailed to: teacherofmeritaward@munster.us

4 STAR SCHOOLS

19 AP Courses offered

60 lbs of JUNK MAIL collected by Mrs. Mariner's 4th grade class

21 Athletic programs offered

5 School Board Members to Govern

50% of all

MUNSTER TEACHERS

have their master's degree

500-plus children receive toys from the MHS Football Team's Toy Round-up Program

RATED BY THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION