Fall 11-11-2020

The Parthenon, November 11, 2020

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Why We Remember

By JEROME A. GILBERT, Ph.D.
PRESIDENT, MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

Fifty years is a very long time, and it is a long time to grieve. In an individual’s life, a half century usually encompasses countless milestones, some large and some not so large. There are school years, parties, holidays, vacations, graduations, marriages, children and grandchildren. These are just some of life’s events that make up the “dash” in a person’s lifespan.

This year, we mark the 50th anniversary of the Nov. 14, 1970, plane crash that took the lives of 75 people, and we naturally have many strong emotions and thoughts as we approach that date. Even though it is sad to reflect on their shortened lives, I can’t help but think about what life would have been like for the 39 students who died that evening. We will never know the life events the others on the plane would have experienced.

What would their “dash” have encompassed? Perhaps you have had similar thoughts.

Every year, I say the area around the Memorial Fountain becomes sacred ground as we pay our respects to those lost in 1970. But, this year, it seems even more hallowed as we mark the 50th anniversary. There is a weighty significance to 50 years.

Generally, we have accepted the tragedy of the event and have, in many ways, come to peace with the pain and loss. But we have not forgotten, nor will we ever forget. Even though we sometimes become melancholy, we continue to be strengthened by the lasting memory. We know the resilience of this community and that this university has triumphed over loss. We have persevered and have grown stronger because of having to deal with such a heartbreaking event.

This year, the Marshall University community has worked to remember the 75 in a couple of different and special ways. One of those is the addition of banners across the middle of the Huntington campus featuring each person we lost that day. The production of the banners was a labor of love for our staff, who were personally committed to ensuring each flag was treated with respect and reverence.

For the second year now, I have had the honor of planning the Memorial Fountain Ceremony. Each time, I learn more about members of the 75 – funny stories, their hobbies, fond memories, and more. I also learn more about the impact of the 75 on the Huntington community and how this tragedy shaped the lives of so many.

What many people find most profound about the 1970 tragedy is the resilience of the families, Marshall University, and Huntington. I have learned that the reason for this resilience rests with the legacies of the 75, whose strong spirits gave many the courage and hope to move forward.

Each year, on November 14th, this community and this University come to a pause. We remember not just the worst sports tragedy in United States history; we remember the character, livelihoods, smiles, and memories of the 75 lives lost.

For many, including myself, we see reflections of our own lives in those of the 75. Perhaps it is our career choice, our hobby, our shared experience, our family, or our love of Marshall University football.

see REMEMBER on pg. 10

see NEVER FORGET on pg. 10

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Marshall football memorial statue rededicated

By CARSON MCKINNEY
REPORTER

A Marshall University football memorial statue was installed in a new location on campus after restoration.

Robin Howell of the Marshall Football Memorial said over the past 50 years, the original sculpture has become a symbol of hope for the entire Marshall family and Huntington community.

“The crouching football player sculpture was created by artist Vernon Howell, Marshall graduate and former co-captain of the 1958-59 Marshall football team, as part of a class he took while supplementing his master’s degree. It was crafted from the steel bars from his children’s old playset,” said Howell. “Metal artist Mike Sizemore of Mountain Artworks Studio in Athens, West Virginia repaired, replaced and restored the damaged sections of the original sculpture. He also powder-coated the steel using the Marshall University color scheme, making the sculpture look brand new and able to withstand the elements.”

The new statue is located near the Rec Center, directly across from the Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

“The base of the memorial was reconstructed earlier by Jason Kirby of Kirby’s Masonry who donated his time and materials. Mr. Kirby’s son and daughter are current students at Marshall, and the marble name plaques are from the original memorial,” Howell said.

Howell also said Vernon Howell donated the sculpture to the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity to establish the memorial.

“The Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity lost five brothers in the plane crash that devastated the Marshall football team: starting quarterback Ted Shoebridge, and offensive linemen Jim Adams, Mike Blake, Pat Norrell, and Bob Patterson,” said Howell. “1970 PKA John Bodo designed the original memorial to honor his fraternity brothers and their teammates lost in the crash. Marshall graduate and former PKA Jacob Roman, currently president of the Huntington Estate Planning Council, worked tirelessly with the local and national Pi Kappa Alpha organizations to get the memorial donated and ownership transferred to Marshall University.”

Due to the ongoing pandemic, Howell said the sculpture’s ceremony was slightly different than normal.

“Due to COVID-19 restrictions and a larger-than-anticipated response, the ceremony [was] presented online only,” said Howell. “Members of the public who want to attend the ceremony [were] asked to do so virtually.”

Howell also said that Jack Lengyel dedicated the original memorial in 1971.

“Head coach Jack Lengyel, who resurrected the Marshall football program after the crash, dedicated the original memorial in 1971, stating that the crouching football player represented the spirit of the new football squad and that, ‘We’re rising off the ground for the season ahead,’” said Howell. “We are very grateful to Marshall President Jerome Gilbert and Sr. Vice President of Operations Brandi Jacob-Jones for everything they did to make this happen and save a piece of Marshall history.”

Carson McKinney can be contacted at mckinney129@marshall.edu.
Remembering my father, Charles E. Kautz

By LUCIANNE KAUTZ CALL
DAUGHTER OF FORMER ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Hello students, faculty, staff, Marshall sports fans, and the community,

What has transpired over the 50 years since that fatal night November 14th, 1970? Let me walk you through it. The rebuilding of the Marshall football team, the campus, and the Huntington community. This week marks the 50th anniversary of what some thought was the end of Marshall football.

Well, that was not the case. We came from ashes to glory ... to become the winningest football program in the 1990s. We Are ... Marshall we are ... family we are ... one town. We are ... Winners!

When you step on Marshall’s campus you immediately are a daughter or a son of Marshall. This is truly a special place. Go Herd!

My Dad Charlie E. Kautz, Director of Athletics, passed away on that night. In the eyes of everyone he met he was a gentleman but more importantly a teacher, coach, & a leader.

He was a positive influence on the young men he coached. My Dad had an unmatched LOVE for Marshall. This being Veterans Day Week, it is fitting to say my dad proudly served as a member of USMC during WWII & the Korean War.

I attended Marshall in 1967. I received my degree in Elementary Education in 1971. I worked in the ticket office, cheered from 1967-70, & was a member of the Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority.

I thoroughly enjoyed my college years. I taught in Cabell County Schools for several years. In 2000, I decided to change professions. I pursued a job as a flight attendant. Yes, I worked for US Air Express at the Tri-State Airport. I am very thankful the pilots took great care of me. It was a rewarding experience.

My husband and I have four children and their spouses as well as seven grand children who of course bleed green. We are ... so blessed.

Thinking about the fountain ceremony this week, which symbolizes the 75 lives, who will live on in our hearts forever. Each time we walk by it, we remember & reflect what their lives stood for.

To all the Marshall students: you too are a part of this story. I want to inspire you to be a winner everyday of your life with 3 basic qualities to strive for. Be passionate, be committed, and be an encourager to others. Like the movie states... What do you want to be remembered for?

Marshall made a difference in my life. So, I challenge you to set yourself on a course to became significant in the lives of everyone you meet. No matter where you roam wearing the Kelly green & white someone will say hey, We are... Marshall.

Warm regards,
Lucianne Kautz Call ’71 Alumni

Lucianne pictured with her father, Charles E. Kautz, when he was inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame.

Lucianne was a cheerleader for the Herd during her time at Marshall University.
No. 16 Herd to face Blue Raiders on 50th Anniversary

By TAYLOR HUDDLESTON
SPORTS EDITOR

On the 50th Anniversary of the Marshall Plane Crash, the Marshall University football team will take on the Middle Tennessee State University Blue Raiders at Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

Marshall head coach Doc Holliday said captains for this week are redshirt senior safety Nazeeh Johnson and redshirt senior linebacker Tavante Beckett on defense, redshirt junior running back Sheldon Evans and Brenden Knox and redshirt senior offensive lineman Alex Mollette on offense.

The No. 16 Herd are entering the contest 6-0, 3-0 Conference USA, while the Blue Raiders come in with a 2-5, 2-3 C-USA record.

“This is the biggest game on our schedule every year,” Holliday said. “They’ve got a do a good job of preparation for this game and go play. We have to find a way to win. We constantly talk about our history and we play because of it. They hear the stories, the people that have been affected by it. They go out and play their hearts out for the 75.”

Redshirt freshman quarterback Grant Wells received the Conference USA Offensive Player of the Week on Monday, announced by the league.

“You’re only as successful as the people around you,” Wells said. “I not only take that as an individual award, but a team award.”

This will be Wells’ first time going out and playing in the 75 game as starting quarterback for the Herd.

“It’s my first opportunity to go out there and represent the 75 as the starting quarterback,” Wells said. “There’s a lot of emotions. It certainly raises emotions this whole week. Practices seem different. This game isn’t about us anymore. It all goes out the window when this game comes. The whole community rallies for this game. This program has come such a long way from 1970.”

Abstract memorial continues to memorialize plane crash

By XENA BUNTON
REPORTER

In response to 50 years since the Marshall University plane crash on Nov. 14, 1970, Huntington Museum of Art (HMA) is displaying the art of Harry Bertoia, creator of the memorial fountain, that crafted an abstract representation to the loss of 75 players, coaches and supporters.

“Harry Bertoia’s work is timeless,” Celia Bertoia, founder of ‘Harry Bertoia Foundation’ and youngest daughter of the artist, said. “Art should evoke some kind of emotional response and I think when you look at Bertoia’s work there is a lot of life, movement and joy.”

‘Rising, Renewing, Reaching: Harry Bertoia and the Marshall University Memorial Fountain’ exhibit in HMA’s Switzer Gallery displays various pieces from Harry Bertoia’s collection of 50 public works in his career such as jewelry, monotype drawings, steel-wired chairs, sculptures and a focus on the Marshall fountain. The exhibit will be open to the public through Jan. 3.

Chris Hatten, HMA senior curator, said Harry Bertoia was originally suggested to design Marshall’s student center before the plane crash occurred. Hatten said the committee decided to have the Italian artist create a football related or bison memorial instead.

Harry Bertoia agreed to do a memorial, but just like his other work, he was going to make an abstract piece.
We Missed Jeff Today...

By RALPH TURNER
FORMER INSTRUCTOR IN JOURNALISM

*Editor’s Note: This piece originally ran Nov. 18, 1970.

Jeffery Nathan or Nathan Jeffery?
I remember the first day in the beginning reporting class.
Was that student's first name Jeffery or Nathan?
They both sounded like first and last names.
The name stood out. At that time – in September, 1969 – it was because of the unusual ring of the name alone.
But in a few days Jeffery became Jeff. The name didn't stand out anymore just because of the “ring” of the name. Jeff Nathan was something special.

In Journalism 201 beginning reporting, students do very little actual reporting for the University newspaper. Work is mostly confined to classroom exercises.
I made a special notation beside Jeff Nathan's name in my class book early in the semester. It was to remind me he was doing something special.

“He writes stories” was the note to myself. Its a reminder that Jeff did more than required. He was not satisfied with writing only the required articles. He was out covering news events, interviewing and writing stories for publication.

The next semester came Journalism 202 – advanced reporting. This is the class where aspiring journalists really begin to get their feet wet. They write for actual publication.

The class requirement – two stories a week.
Again Jeff was something special.
I don’t need to look back at the class register. I can well remember what Jeff did. But it’s there in the class records – five, six, seven stories a week.
Reporting 202 was more than a class to Jeff.
Jeff not only covered his own assignments, but was always available, anxious and ready to do whatever else was needed.
He became a major part of The Parthenon.
Editors picked him “reporter of the week” several times. At the end of the semester there was no doubt in any editor’s mind as to who they would pick for “reporter of the semester.” They went through the process of discussing all the top writers, but they knew who it had to be, Jeff.
And Jeff carried the title well.

see JEFF on pg. 7
To some the honor of being one of the “reporters of the week” didn’t mean that much.

But to Jeff it did. He was proud of it.

“You know many people recognized my picture in the paper and said ‘you’re the reporter of the week,’” Jeff once remarked.

Then came last spring.

Jeff was one of the first to sign-up for a reporting summer internship on a daily newspaper. He wanted to be near home during the summer so he worked for the Marietta, Ohio, newspaper.

It was no surprise last September when Jeff was one of the first students back on campus anxious to start the new publication year with The Parthenon.

Jeff was a natural to be sports editor.

Again, he wore the title well.

Some often joked with Jeff that he should install a bed in the newsroom. He was almost always there except when covering an assignment. He was there long after his paper had gone to press. He was working on a sports column for the next day – perhaps another “Feerless Fosdick” prediction on college football game outcomes.

“We should call this Jeff Nathan edition,” one copy editor commented one day when Jeff had written about half the copy for that day’s newspaper.

Then came the Oct. 8 disturbance near campus.

This had nothing to do with sports, but Jeff was one of the first ones on the scene to cover for his newspaper. He joined the handful of other editors working all night to put out a special edition.

And the Thundering Herd football team – Jeff stood by them all the way.

The record was three wins and six losses.

Jeff as “Feerless Fosdick” predicted a win almost every week. The two times he didn’t, he had The Herd losing by only three points and then he hoped he would be wrong.

“Miami-20, Marshall-7 – I hope I’m wrong,” he wrote, “but Miami’s defense appears to be too much for The Herd. Miami’s the pick, but with all the spirit generate by the ‘Buffalo Babes’ watch for a possible upset.”

Sports editors for the school paper are expected to got to all the home games and some away games, but few have made it to every game.

Jeff did.
50 years later...We still remember

By TAYLOR HUDDLESTON
SPORTS EDITOR

11.14.70., a day that will forever live in the hearts of Marshall University students, faculty, staff, student-athletes, athletics personnel, the Huntington, Ceredo and Kenova, West Virginia communities and so many others.

50 years later...I’m the Sports Editor for The Parthenon. I never pictured that I would be in the shoes of former Sports Editor, Jeff Nathan, who perished in the 1970 plane crash. I never pictured I would be the Sports Editor during the 50th Anniversary of the Marshall Plane Crash.

Jeff traveled to East Carolina University to cover the Marshall vs. ECU matchup, not knowing he and 74 others would not return home. The Herd had just lost 17-14 to the Pirates. They boarded Southern Airways Flight 932 and crashed around 7:36 p.m., just short of the Tri-State Airport runway.

My heart aches for every single person that was personally affected by the tragedy. The football team, coaches, flight crew, fans and supporters were on that plane.

Time stands still...75 beautiful lives were taken too soon. This is known as “the worst sports-related air tragedy in U.S. history” and we still feel the 75’s presence today.

We do not celebrate this moment, rather we honor and commemorate such a somber moment in Marshall University’s history.

Every year on Nov. 14, the Memorial Fountain, that sits in the middle of Marshall University’s campus, gets turned off in honor and remembrance of the 75 at the Annual Fountain Ceremony.

There’s no better sight than seeing the community and so many loved ones come together to pay their respects and honors to the 75.

The fountain is turned back on at the spring fountain ceremony to commemorate “the rebirth of Marshall football and the Young Thundering Herd” who persevered through the tragedy and rebuilt the football program and Huntington, Ceredo and Kenova communities.

While this year looks a lot different due to COVID-19, the Annual Fountain Ceremony is still planned to be held in person, with social distancing protocols and face masks required. It is invitation only and will be live streamed for all who are wanting to attend virtually.

This historical moment in history is what makes Marshall University so special, and I couldn’t be more honored and prouder to not only be Sports Editor but also a Daughter of Marshall.

There’s no other place I’d rather be. Our football team plays for them. Our community honors them. We remember them. We are strong and unified as one because of them. We are one Herd family.

We will never forget.

The 75 Sons and Daughters of Marshall are always with us, now and forever.

From the ashes we rose and continue to rise from...We Are Marshall.

Taylor Huddleston can be contacted at huddleston16@marshall.edu.
Athletes of the Week: The 75

On a standard week, The Parthenon’s sports staff would be honoring a current Marshall athlete for his or her performance from the previous week.

But on this week every November, it is not an ordinary week. It is a week of mourning, celebration and remembrance.

On Saturday, it will have been 50 years since the tragic Marshall football plane crash that claimed the lives of 75 members of the Marshall community. Not only did it take players and coaches from this world but also parents, spouses, sons, daughters and integral members of the Huntington community.

The plane crash did not simply shake a football program; it struck a town and a university to their core.

Although the 50-year anniversary is no different from any other year in terms of significance, the 50th represents a cultural milestone that allows us and others to stress the memory of “The 75” to an even greater extent.

Thus, it would be a disservice to everyone to not use this opportunity to recognize those 75 lives that were lost 50 years ago.

In memory of:

Capt. Frank Abbott
James Adams
Mark Andrews
Charles Arnold
Rachel Arnold
Mike Blake
Dennis Blevins
Willie Bluford
Donald Booth
Deke Brackett
Larry Brown
Tom Brown
Al Carelli Jr.
Dr. Joseph Chambers
Margaret Chambers
Roger Childers
Stuart Cottrell
Rick Darding
David DeBord
Danny Deese
Gary George
Kevin Gilmore
Dave Griffith
Dr. Ray Hagley
Shirley Hagley
Art Harris
Art Harris Jr.
Bob Harris
E. O. Heath
Elaine Heath
Bob Hill
Joe Hood
Tom Howard
James Jarrell
Cynthia Jarrell
Ken Jones
Charles Kautz
Marcelo Lajterman
Richard Lech
Frank Loria
Gene Morehouse
Jim Moss
Barry Nash
Jeff Nathan
Pat Norrell
Dr. Brian O’Connor
James Patterson
Charlene Poat
Michael Prestera
Dr. Glenn Preston
Phyllis Preston
Dr. H. D. Proctor
Courtney Proctor
Murrill Ralsten
Helen Ralsten
Scotty Reese
Jack Repasy
Larry Sanders
Al Saylor
Jim Schroer
Art Shannon
Ted Shoebridge
Allen Skeens
Jerry Smith
Jerry Stainback
Donald Tackett
Rick Tolley
Bob Van Horn
Roger Vanover
Patricia Vaught
Parker Ward
Norman Whisman
Fred Wilson
John Young
Tom Zborill

Gene Morehouse
Jim “Shorty” Moss
Barry Nash
Jeff Nathan
Pat Norrell
Brian R. O’Conner
REMEMBER cont. from 2

We are also adding a chapter to the remembrance of the students who perished in the plane crash. The university is awarding each of those students a posthumous degree and presenting the diplomas to their families.

Marshall University and the cities of Huntington, Ceredo and Kenova are forever linked through this tragedy. It is part of the fabric of our lives and so it is good to remember. Remembering strengthens us and binds us together.

As we move farther and farther away from 1970, it is my hope that those who come after us at Marshall University will always remember and honor our 75 Sons and Daughters of Marshall.

NEVER FORGET cont. from 2

I think of these words often.

As the 50th ceremony inches closer, I think of the many family, friends, and community members whose determination, in the face of an unthinkable tragedy, pulled our community and campus back together, piece by piece, to be stronger than ever before. For them, I am most grateful.

This week, as we reflect on and commemorate the 75, I am hopeful many find peace and clarity. I am certain of this community’s strength. And, I am reassured by our commitment to one another as members of the Marshall University family – we will never forget.

MEMORIAL cont. from 5

From the Harry Bertoia Foundation webpage, Harry Bertoia is quoted to have said, “You go through these emotions – joy, suffering, happiness, sorrow – and if you happen to have a bit of metal in your hands – you shape it.”

Bertoia created the 6500 pound 13’ high sculpture of bronze, copper tubing and welding rods that is still presented outside of the Memorial Student Center.

Hatten said Bertoia’s abstract and “controversial” memorial has allowed viewers to concentrate on “an internal feeling that they have.”

“We don’t need to see something realistic,” Hatten said. “Time has proven that it is a successful memorial. The quality of the sculpture, the fact that it is not representational - you bring your own meaning.”

Celia Bertoia said she remembers sitting around the dinner table, having a conversation with her family that Marshall officials wanted a buffalo. She said it was humorous then and understands, even more today, why her father made the fountain in an abstract form.

“Harry would throw himself into each project,” Celia Bertoia said. “From start to finish, he would put all of his passion, love and joy into whatever he was working on.”

On Nov. 13, Celia Bertoia plans to present the Dr. Lawrence B. and Shirley Gang Memorial Lecture at HMA and will see the finished product of the fountain for the first time.

For more information on ‘Rising, Renewing, Reaching: Harry Bertoia and the Marshall University Memorial Fountain,’ visit hmoa.org or call (304) 529-2701. Chris Hatten can be contacted at 304-529-2701, Ext. 316. Celia Bertoia can be contacted at 435-673-2355.

Xena Bunton can be contacted at Bunton2@marshall.edu.
Worship Directory

To advertise on this page, call Linda at (304) 526-2723

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733 Shaw St.
Barboursville, WV 25504
304-736-4563
Find us on Facebook LIVE for Sunday Service at 10AM
and on our Church website www.steelememorial.com
Rev. Ralph Sager, Associate Pastor

OUR LADY OF FATIMA
Catholic Parish & Parish School
545 Norway Ave., Huntington - 304-525-9866
Mass Schedule: Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
Sunday 8 am, 11:00 am & 6:30 pm
Spanish Mass: Second & Fourth Sundays of each month at 9:30 am
Las misas en Español: los domingos segundos y cuartos de cada mes a las 9:30 am
Confession: Saturday 3:30 - 4:30 pm or by appointment
www.ourfatimafamily.com
Father Paul Yuenger

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
2015 Adams Ave. Huntington, WV
304-429-4318
Mass Times: Sat. 5:30pm, Sun. 9am,
Confessions on Sat. 4:45pm-5:15pm or anytime by appointment
Office Hours Mon-Fri. 9am-2pm
Rev. Fr. Douglas A. Ondeck

St. Peter Claver Catholic Church
828 15th St. (on 9th Ave) Htgn.
304-691-0537
Sunday Mass: 11:00a.m.
Daily Masses: 12:05 on Monday,
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
Confession by appointment
Rev. Fr. Douglas A. Ondeck

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church
HUNTINGTON, WV
526 13th Street
(304) 525-5202
Pastor: Fr Dean Borgmeyer

Sunday Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am,
12:00 Noon, 5:30 pm
Confessions
Saturday 8:00 am-8:25 am
Saturday 4:00 pm-4:25 pm
Tuesday 5:00 pm-5:25 pm
or by appointment

CATHOLIC

Fifth Avenue Baptist Church
1135 Fifth Avenue
Corner of Fifth Avenue & 12th Street in downtown Huntington

Sunday Morning Worship – 10:45 am Online Only
Visit our website for Worship Services
and for other times of Bible study, worship, and activities
for children, youth, and adults.

www.fifthavenuebaptist.org
304-523-0115

Methodist

Rev. Kevin Lantz
Rev. Ralph Sager, Associate Pastor

Fourth Avenue Baptist Church
1135 Fifth Avenue
Corner of Fifth Avenue & 12th Street in downtown Huntington

Sunday Morning Worship – 10:45 am Online Only
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Saturday 8:00 am-8:25 am
Saturday 4:00 pm-4:25 pm
Tuesday 5:00 pm-5:25 pm
or by appointment
The Haunting Void

By LESLIE FLOWERS
NEWS EDITOR

*Editor’s Note: This piece originally ran Nov. 18, 1970.

An emptiness now floods the new laid green
And magnifies the grief that fate has stirred.
Tenses change from ‘will’ to ‘would have been’
---Marshall is without the Thundering Herd.

Who knows what wields the ruthless hand of fate
Whose arbitrary grip was felt that night;
What had they done in their short lives to rate
The tragic, shattering ending to the flight?

The sports directors, newsmen, fans and wives,
Who supported Marshall’s team through thick and thin,
Gave so much: they gave their lives;
Against the odds of death they did not win.

The sky that watched was cruelly cold and grey
As seventy-five hearts were turned to flames,
Those who played, and those who watched them play:
There’s no one left, just memories and names.

And we who weep at that which has occurred
To brother, husband, son, Mom, Dad and friend,
Must face the fact the thundering we heard
Was not a storm beginning, but an end.

As life goes on the tears and grief will fade,
An empty green will echo cheers again,
But memories of those who watched and played
For the Sons of Marshall ever will remain.

A message from Marshall Head Football Coach

Students:

This week is the most important week of the year for our Marshall Thundering Herd football program. This week is for the 75.

Marshall University is like no other place I have ever been. The relationship between the campus, community, fan base and football program is unique. Marshall is special.

We appreciate your support through an unusual 2020 football season. We could not accomplish what we have – and what we still hope to achieve – without a loud and proud student body. Our players love the atmosphere you help create at Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

Our football program is nationally ranked, undefeated and in contention for a conference championship. All of our hopes and dreams are still in front of us. We hope you continue on this journey with us.

College football is special because it takes everyone. We have to have great student-athletes and great coaches, but we also need a great staff, administration, fan base and student section. We have all of that here, and we are so thankful for you.

Take a moment this week and remember the 75 and what they have meant to our university. We will never forget them.

GO HERD!
Doc Holliday

*Editor’s Note: Photographs of the 75 featured throughout this edition are courtesy of Marshall University Office of University Communications.