

# Husky Connections



September 2022

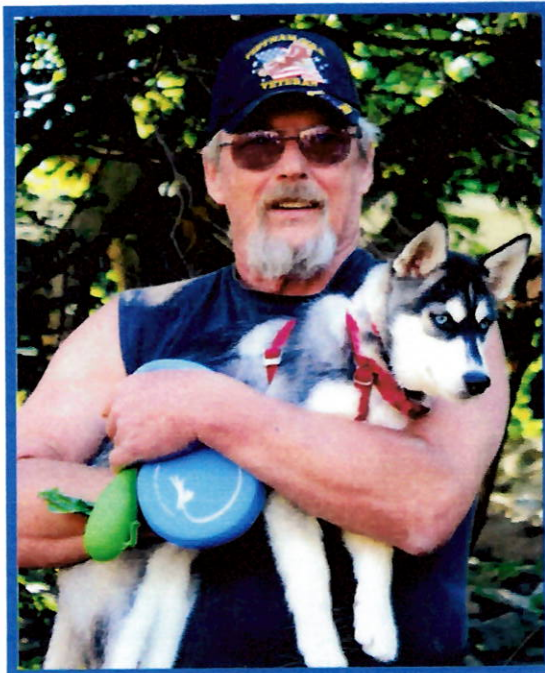
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### Curt Swoyer Has Your Six

***"I've got your six."*** As a Viet Nam Era Army veteran, Curt Swoyer, Dieruff Class of 1972, is quite familiar with that phrase. Commonly used in the military, it translates into "I've got your back".

Now, decades later, Curt is using that phrase once again... this time with a totally different meaning.

Curt recently came to realize that, for the first time ever, Dieruff High School was without a live husky mascot. Karen Coleman has faithfully served as the "Kiska Mom" for the past 46 years, owning Kiska II, III, IV, and V. On February 17, 2020, her beloved Kiska V passed away at the age of eleven. Karen had arranged to adopt another husky, a rescue that had been brought up from Texas. A series of unfortunate circumstances prevented a successful adoption, leaving the school void of a mascot.



Realizing the gravity of the situation, Swoyer has stepped up and adopted a husky puppy that will serve as the new mascot. With a great deal of Husky Pride, Curt exclaims, ***"I've got your six....Kiska VI"***.

On August 19, 2022, Curt escorted Kiska VI to Husky High for her debut as the new mascot. With canine love flowing freely, Kiska greeted the Dieruff Leadership Team, faculty, students, and alumni. Everyone is in concurrence: Dieruff has a winner of a new mascot. Kiska VI, welcome aboard. Photos on Pg.7.

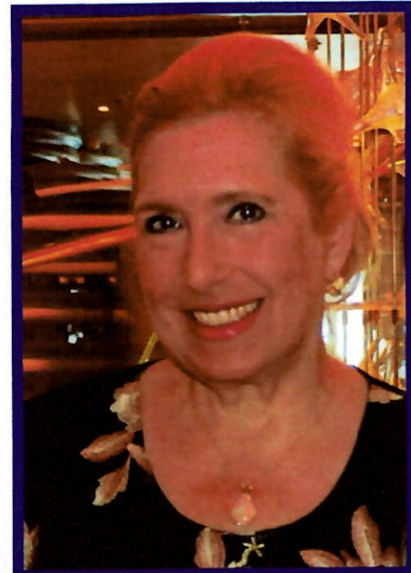
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## President's Message: Please Join Us For Wall of Distinction

The induction ceremony for the Dieruff Alumni Wall of Distinction is truly one of the most impressive and memorable events on our calendar, and we would like to give you all an opportunity to experience it.

The ceremony for this year's class is scheduled for 6:00PM on Friday, October 14, 2022 at The Palace Center in Allentown. The five honorees are:

1. **Karen Benkert Coleman** - "Mascot Mom" for 46 years.
2. **David E. Fritchey, Esq.** - '65, Federal Prosecutor who took down the Philadelphia mob.
3. **Keith E. Groller** - '79, Senior sports writer for The Morning Call.
4. **Tony Hanna** - '69, Founder of SteelStacks at former Bethlehem Steel site.
5. **Kim A. Koehler** - '74, retired Navy Lieutenant Commander and consultant for US Department of Defense.



**Kay Kurtz**  
President Alumni Association

In addition, we will be inducting **William F. Gilly, PhD** - '68, Biology Professor at Stanford University, CA and world's leading expert on giant squid. Gilly was unable to attend last year's program.

You will have an opportunity to meet these distinguished honorees and hear their incredible stories. The induction ceremony includes heavy hors d'oeuvres and there will be a cash bar.



**Louis E. Dieruff  
High School  
Alumni Wall of  
Distinction**

Induction Ceremony  
for the Class of 2022



Friday, October 14, 2022  
The Palace Center  
Allentown, PA

**Class of 2022**  
**Dieruff High School Alumni Wall of Distinction**



We have a limited amount of discounted tickets (\$20) available, so I encourage you to send in your check and ticket request right away.

**Ticket request form is on Page 11**



## 2022 Wall of Distinction Honoree - Keith E. Groller



The most heartwarming comment that I have ever heard about our next 2022 honoree came from a fellow Husky who said that she was very thankful to have had the opportunity to tell his parents that they did a fine job raising such a wonderful son. That son, a distinguished alumnus from the Class of 1979, needs no introduction to anyone who has picked up the Morning Call Sports Section in the past four decades or scrolled on-line to check out his weekly column. Of course, I am referring to the one-and-only Keith Groller.

Only a few months after he graduated from Dieruff, Keith covered his very first high school football game on October 19, 1979. He later joined the Morning Call staff as a full-time reporter in 1982 and never looked back. Today, as the Morning Call's Senior Sportswriter, Keith covers high school football, basketball, softball, and Lehigh University football. He also reports on state championship games from Hershey and promotes the summertime Lehigh Valley Sports Fest and Stellar "Catch a Rising Star" basketball showcases for high school athletes.

Although he followed in the footsteps of the legendary sportswriter John Kunda, Keith successfully forged his own path as he went on to become the Morning Call's top columnist as well as a popular



host on his own television and radio programs. During his 40-year career, he has also covered Super Bowls, the World Series, the Philadelphia 76ers and Eagles, the Indianapolis 500, and NASCAR races from the Pocono Raceway.

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## 2022 Wall of Distinction Honoree - Keith Groller (Continued)

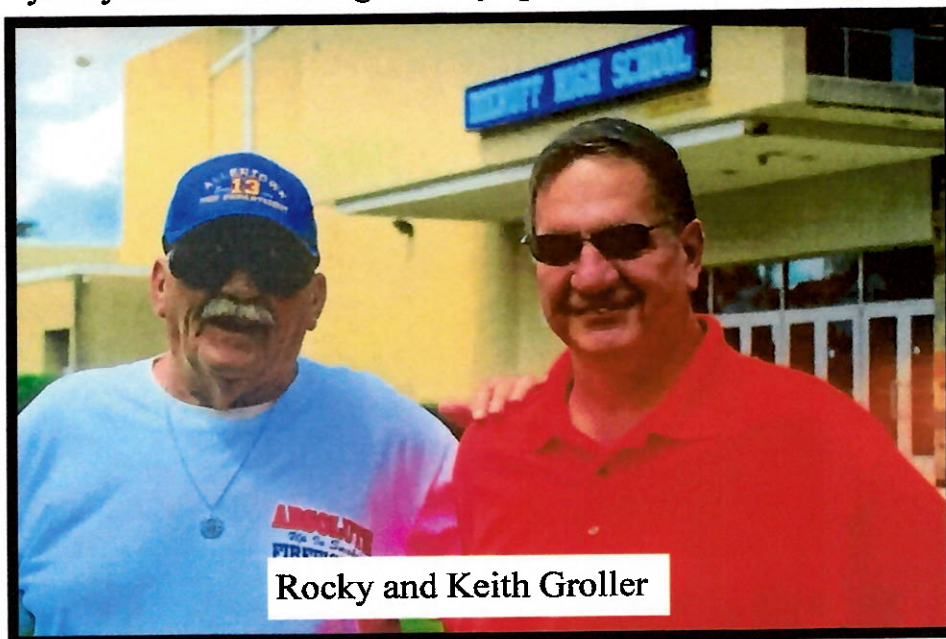
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Keith's immeasurable contributions to the local sports landscape have been widely recognized throughout the Lehigh Valley and beyond. He has been the recipient of numerous community service awards and has been inducted into seven Halls of Fame. He was also saluted by the Morning Call in 1999 with the Publisher's Excellence Award as the newspaper's top employee.



Loyal readers would undeniably agree that Keith's outstanding character shines with his sincere kindness and humility which are matched only by his life-long devotion to the coverage of high school sports. This is evident when he reminds students to "follow their passion" and in his Twitter feeds which always include post-game interviews with players whose talents he highlights. He truly cares about the kids and wants to support them in the best way possible. Keith even hosts his annual "Kegger Awards" – his initials are K.E.G. - to salute the unsung heroes of area high school basketball.

Yes, Rocky and Nancy Groller did, indeed, raise a fine son whose name has become synonymous with Lehigh Valley sports. And we are so grateful that they raised him



in a home on North Irving Street in Allentown from which he also became a loyal son of Louis E. Dieruff. He is a Husky. Our Husky. We are so very proud to call Keith Groller one of our own.

Joanne Ogrydziak  
'76



## 2022 Wall of Distinction Honoree - Tony Hanna

The 1.5 million people who visit the SteelStacks campus each year can thank our next Wall of Distinction honoree who led the revitalization efforts of the former Bethlehem Steel site on the Christmas City's South Side. The Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association is proud to salute Tony Hanna, Class of 1969, who, as the Executive Director of the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Bethlehem, was the driving force behind the award-winning urban renewal project which transformed the nation's largest "brown field" site into a cultural arts and entertainment mecca.



Raised in the Sixth Ward, Tony worked hard to prepare himself for the academic challenges of a college education. He continued his studies at Lehigh University from which he graduated cum laude in 1973 with a degree in Engineering and Environmental Science. Although he was offered many employment opportunities, he decided to remain in his hometown to advance the city in which he grew up. During his ten years with the City of Allentown, he served as the Executive Vice-President of the Allentown Economic Development Corporation, the Assistant Director of City Planning, and Finance Director for the Allentown Redevelopment Authority.

Tony then spent 15 years in the private sector in real estate development and property management. As President of Butz Development, Inc., his primary focus was on medical office development in the Lehigh Valley and Philadelphia areas.

With a desire to return to public service, Tony took his planning and development skills eastward when new opportunities were presented to him with the City of Bethlehem. Prior to stepping up to his leadership role with the Redevelopment Authority, he served as the Director of the Department of Community and Economic Development. A most significant accomplishment was crowned in 2017 when his SteelStacks

and Hoover-Mason Trestle projects were honored with the nationally-acclaimed Rudy Bruner Foundation Gold Award for Urban Excellence.



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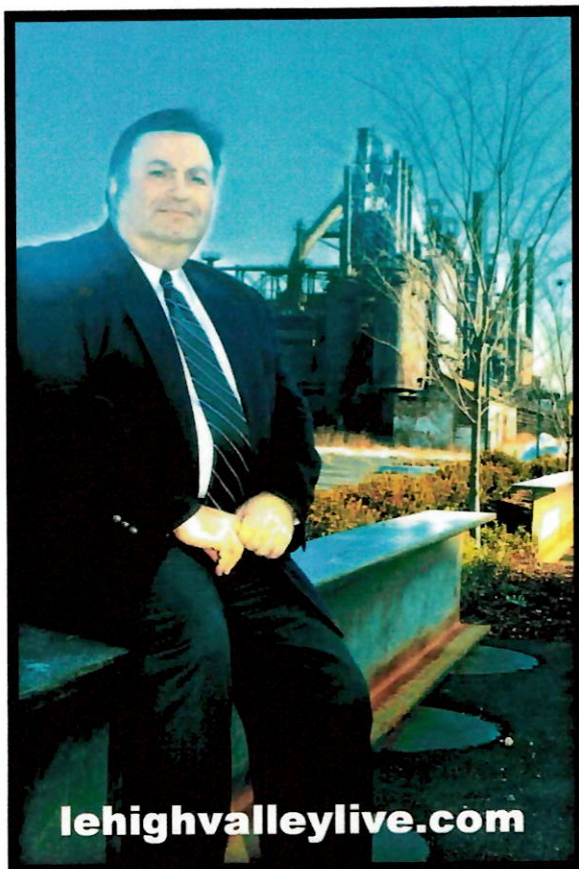
## 2022 Wall of Distinction Honoree - Tony Hanna (Continued)

A recipient of numerous awards for community and economic development, this '69 Husky who had spent two summers as a steel worker while a student at Lehigh, shared these thoughts about his long and successful career :

*"Being able to help Bethlehem rebuild itself after the devastating loss of Bethlehem Steel was both a challenge and a source of great pride and professional achievement. My almost 25 years in Bethlehem allowed me to do something not many people are able to do, help a City reinvent and rebuild itself - and we did.*

*Long after I'm gone, my work will live on. Whether it's part of the redevelopment of the former Bethlehem Steel site, or a medical building on one of the campuses of Lehigh Valley Health Network, it is an awesome feeling.*

*Nothing makes me happier than to hear people talk about how much they enjoy visiting Bethlehem, whether it's Main Street on the North Side or SteelStacks or the Casino on the South Side. Even a visit to a doctor's office is a source of great pride and accomplishment, particularly if I developed the building that the doctor is practicing in."*



Yes, Tony's work will surely live on. It will live on when anyone looks up at the towering signature blast furnaces that seem to guard and preserve the history of the Steel's flagship mill. It will live on when folks enjoy a guided tour along the easily-accessible trestle pedestrian walkway or stroll along the cobblestone streets in Historic Bethlehem.

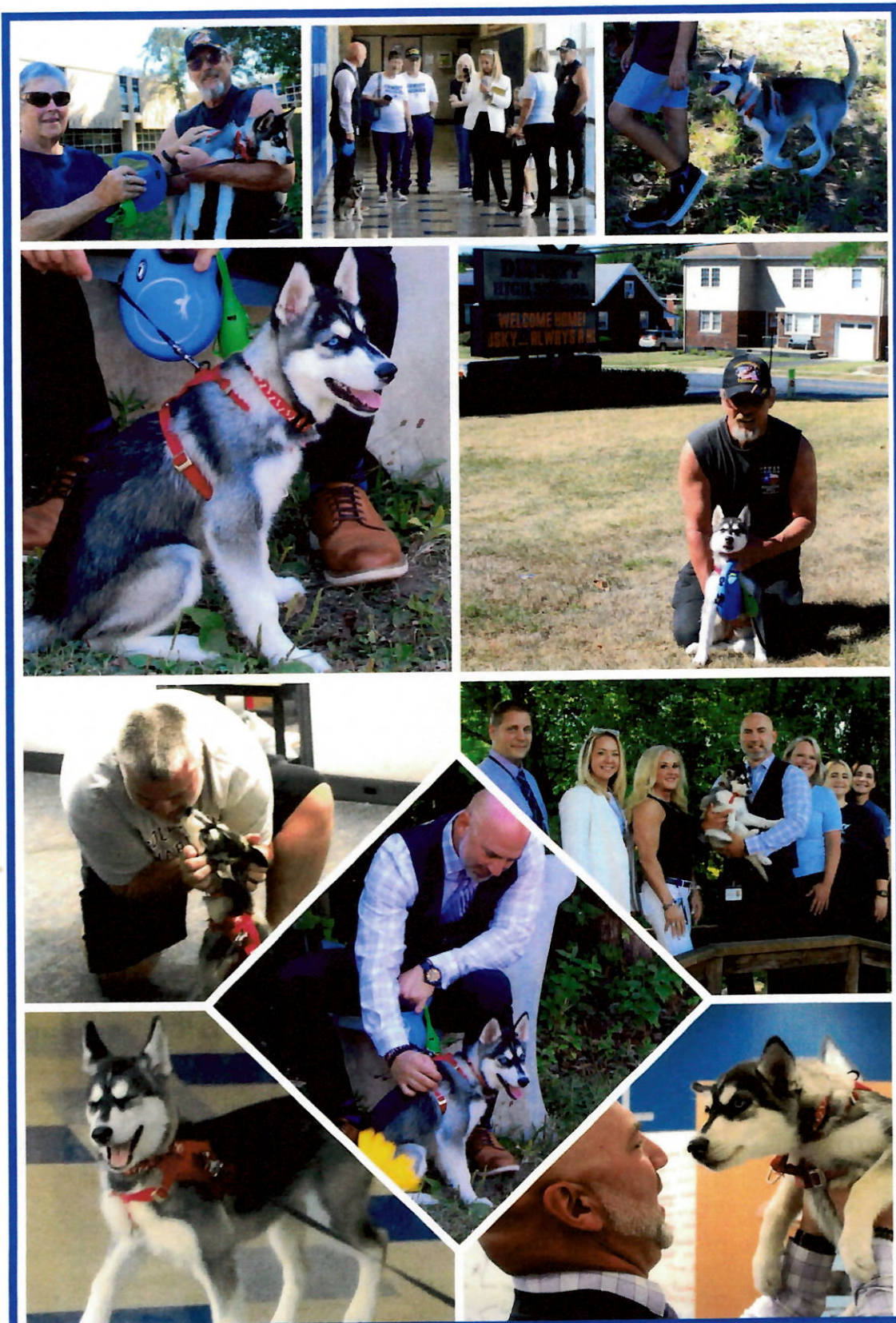
And his legacy to his community and to his alma mater will forever be enshrined on the Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Wall of Distinction.

As Tony remarked, *"I am proud to be an Allentonian and even prouder to be a Dieruff Husky."*

Joanne Ogrydziak '76



## Husky Happenings: Kiska VI Makes Her Debut





## Husky Happenings - Kiska Helps Usher In Football Season





## FLASHBACK: EPC Football Champions 1992

On October 7, 2022, before the Homecoming Game against Pocono Mtn. East, the 1992 EPC Championship Football Team will be honored. If you would like to participate, Football Players call Amy Lutte 484-894-0353 or Dave Hausman 484-664-4685 Cheerleaders call Paulette Kish 484-347-4623

**Varsity Cheerleaders:** Row 1: M.Tomel,B.Jacobus,J.Reyher,C.Daher  
Row 2: T.Barry,R.Flamisch,N.Clarke,A.Dinh,  
S.Benner Row 3: P.Kish,K.Faust,S.Poh,  
M.Bartholomew,D.Mann,D.Schaeffer



**Row 1:** A.Oswald, Mgr., K.Brantley, T.Berger, B.Kish, B.Burch, E. Smith, B.Frederick, D.Schwab, C.Roca, J.Dreisbach, M.Morgan, O.Aguirre; **Row 2:** T.Mann, Mgr., A.Amary, P.Nguyen, N.Harvey, D.George, J. Mercado, J.Solarek, M.Jones, A.Brown, D.Hausman, M.Ziegler, J.Brezack, J.Lovell; **Row 3:** Coach Wood, S.Feichtel, P.Mitchell, R.Reichard, T.Held, I.Rizzotto, J.Flamish, G.Fallen, L.Santiago, K.White, L. Nguyen, J.Morales, D.Roundtree, N.Brimfield, E.Smith, S. Werle, W.Tews, Coach Mareks; **Row 4:** Coach Wright, Coach Hannis, G.Breitfeld, J.Frederick, L.Issa, C.Shearer, J.Best, J.Sipul, P.Vermuelen, J.Hertz, S.Kerrigan, W.McClafferty, T.Truong; **Row 5:** J.Okuniewski(Head Trainer), Coach Burch, Coach Molotzak, M.Wright, R.McNeil, C.Rivas, T.Hedrick, J.Shirer, J.Pfingstl, E.Freeman, T.Smith, A.Borbor, B.Carlson



## Giant Cash For Causes Gift Card Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

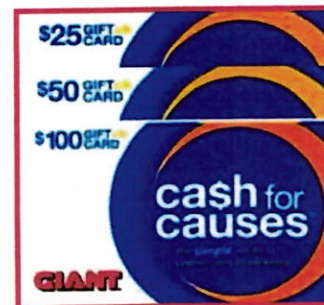
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of \$25 cards \_\_\_\_\_

Number of \$50 cards \_\_\_\_\_

Number of \$100 cards \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Clip order form and mail, along with check payable to "Dieruff Alumni Association", to John Hughes, 2038 Majestic Overlook Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18015

**ADVERTISE IN OUR MONTHLY BULLETIN 1/4 Page Ad: \$20/ Mo. Business Card Ad: \$10/ Mo.**

**Past Dieruff Yearbooks**  
**For Sale - \$25**  
 The Alumni Association has a limited supply of new yearbooks from the following years:  
 1989 1990 1991 1998 1999  
 2001 2002 2004 2005  
 2009 2012 2013  
 You can order yours by going to our Website and placing your order online.  
[www.dieruff-alumni.org](http://www.dieruff-alumni.org)

### **ADVERTISE IN THE "Husky Connections" Monthly Bulletin**

Reach over 5,000 Dieruff Alumni each month  
**Quarter Page Ad - \$20 / Mo.**  
**Business Card Ad - \$10 / Mo.**

See contact information in  
 Masthead on last page of Bulletin

### **CHRISTMAS CITY PRINTING**


Est. 1981 in Bethlehem, PA



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## Upcoming Events



**Dieruff Alumni Wall of Distinction Ticket Order Form**

Please send one (1) ticket for October 14, 2022 event to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad. Class: \_\_\_\_\_


Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Send this completed form, along with a check in the amount of \$20, made payable to "Dieruff Alumni Association" to Dieruff High School, 815 N. Irving St., Allentown, PA 18109 Attn: Dieruff Alumni Association

Print one form for each ticket ordered. Forms and check may be submitted together.



**Louis E. Dieruff  
High School  
Alumni Wall of  
Distinction**

**Induction Ceremony  
for the Class of 2022**



**Friday, October 14, 2022  
The Palace Center  
Allentown, PA**

**Class of 2022  
Dieruff High  
School  
Alumni  
Wall of  
Distinction**



## Dieruff Huskies Football Schedule

Home	Friday	08/26/22	7:00pm	vs Nazareth Area HS
Away	Friday	09/02/22	7:00pm	vs East Stroudsburg So. HS
Away	Friday	09/09/22	7:00pm	vs Pocono Mountain West HS
Home	Friday	09/16/22	7:00pm	vs Pleasant Valley HS
Away	Friday	09/23/22	7:00pm	vs Stroudsburg HS
Home	Saturday	10/01/22	7:00pm	vs Allentown Cent. Catholic HS
Home	Friday	10/07/22	7:00pm	vs Pocono Mountain East HS
Away	Friday	10/14/22	7:00pm	vs East Stroudsburg North HS
Home	Friday	10/21/22	7:00pm	vs Northampton Area HS
Away	Saturday	10/29/22	2:00pm	vs William Allen HS





**Louis E. Dieruff High School  
Alumni Association**

**Louis E. Dieruff High School  
815 North Irving Street  
Allentown, PA 18109**

**"Husky Connections"  
Alumni Bulletin**

**Contact Information:**

**John G. Hughes, Jr.**

**2038 Majestic Overlook Drive**

**Bethlehem, PA 18015**

**(610) 868-4490**

**Email Address:**

**Jhughes2038@gmail.com**

**Website:  
www.dieruff-  
alumni.org**

## Huskies In The News....

The front page of the August 17, 2022 edition of The Morning Call featured the photo below along with the headline, *"The 'Semper Fi guy' remains true to form"*. The article describes how Staff Sgt. Tim Chambers, better known as the "Saluting Marine" visited Marine veteran Bob Bulldog Hontz and members of the Dieruff High School class of 1966 and 1977 at their monthly breakfast meeting at the City View Diner in Allentown.

Chambers earned his nickname on Memorial Day about two decades ago at a Rolling Thunder demonstration near the Pentagon. On that day, he stepped off the curb and began saluting the passing motorcycle parade of veterans riding by in honor of the nation's MIA's and POW's. He has continued that profound action annually, often holding his salute for hours while in dress uniform.

Following breakfast, Chambers and several of the Dieruff group went to VFW Post 7293 in Whitehall for a tour of the facility. Staff Sgt. Tim Chamber expressed his pleasure with the visit, and likened it to his salute in D.C. He said, *"I get to jump off a curb in a diner in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and reach people before they pass away, and show that they're appreciated."*

