

Howe High – Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association  
124th Annual Banquet and Reunion



Billerica MA

This booklet is dedicated to Larry and Carol DeBenedictis

And the classes of 1970 and 2020

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HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA  
MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
Established 1896

**Around the Corner**

Around the corner I have a friend,  
In this great city that has no end,  
Yet the days go by and weeks rush on,  
And before I know it, a year is gone.

And I never see my old friends face,  
For life is a swift and terrible race,  
He knows I like him just as well,  
As in the days when I rang his bell.

And he rang mine but we were younger then,  
and now we are busy, tired men.  
Tired of playing a foolish game,  
Tired of trying to make a name.

"Tomorrow" I say! "I will call on Jim  
Just to show that I'm thinking of him",  
But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes,  
and distance between us grows and grows.

Around the corner, yet miles away,  
"Here's a telegram sir," "Jim died today."  
And that's what we get and deserve in the end.  
Around the corner, a vanished friend.

By Charles Hanson Towne – 1899

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124th Annual Banquet & Reunion

Agenda

The agenda for the banquet was not final prior to the cancellation of the banquet.

May 16, 2020



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124th Annual Banquet & Reunion

*Letter from the President*

Dear Alumni,

Over the past 2 years, our alumni board has been very busy organizing an epic banquet. The board has allied with the Billerica Community Hall of Fame and Principal Tom Murphy to organize the first annual BCHF award presentation and the Banquet, with it all being held at the new BMHS building. How exciting!

The board went before the school committee several times, first to introduce ourselves and then to request use of the school and permission from the board to apply for a one-day license. We were given permission for use of the school, and we took off running getting things organized. We hired a new caterer, Amy, hired our wonderful DJ, Kathy Conway, and our photographer Sarah Strunk. The BCHF started accepting nominations, (I have included a deeper explanation of the BCHF in this booklet) our invitations were sent out.

Meanwhile we had not gotten the blessing of the School board on our one-day liquor license. Please note: the alumni board went to the school board (and principal) first, we asked #1 for permission to use the school for our banquet and #2 permission for moving forward on a one-day liquor license. We told them either way we would move forward with the banquet, if they said no to all, yes to all, or yes to the holding it at the school and no to the liquor license, and yes it was very contentious in our town by a very small group of people who wanted a no alcohol policy for all schools.

By a 3-2 vote we were given permission to apply for a one-day liquor license. Please note, there were very strict restrictions put on us, and we had a very reputable company who would provide the bar and wait staff of their own. The restrictions were a two-hour window of beer and wine only. (there was much more but I simplified it). This was all fine with us and the company we hired. Once the application was filled out, we had to get the application signed by all the departments. The application was submitted to be put on the agenda for the next available Selectmen meeting. And then COVID-19 happened. We at first postponed and then had to cancel everything.

This is the short letter put out to our members:

Due to the concerns of the coronavirus and large gatherings are not yet allowed in Massachusetts, the Alumni Board has decided to cancel this year's banquet. Along with our canceling of the banquet, the town of Billerica Community Hall of Fame has canceled this year's inductions, and will continue to accept

We will still be giving out 27 scholarship awards, along with the Jack Fay Athletic Achievement award!

We encourage all our alumni to please support us by paying your dues.

There will still be a booklet for this year. It will be put up on our website ([bmhsalumni.org](http://bmhsalumni.org)), Facebook and mailed if desired.

This is unprecedented times we are in, please be safe and follow precautions set.

Stay well and God bless.

Continued:

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March 2020 - Presidents Report

In June, the high school principal, Tom Murphy, and his wonderful staff pulled together a beautiful graduation ceremony, held over 4 days. 360 students graduated! The alumni board met via zoom and decided to hand out each of our graduates a coin welcoming them as alumni. Mr. Murphy handed each student a coin as they walked out as graduates. It was so awesome.

This booklet is coming out later than I wanted. You see, this virus has done some crazy things to us. It has caused great strain and stress with our friends, family and anyone, getting sick, being hospitalized, jobs lost, businesses lost, people dying, and the isolation. It has played on all of us, including members of this board. I did my best to keep myself well, but it has taken its toll.

On that note, please stay safe and well. Be kind, even when you don't think you need to, just be kind. You just don't know.

With my deepest regards;

Elizabeth (Betty) Patriquin

HHS-BMHS Alumni President



This picture is the staging the staff of BMHS did for the graduating class of 2020



This is where the students walked through to be seated.



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**The Secretary's Report for the HHS-BMHS Alumni Association**  
Minutes of the Annual Meeting for the 2019 year  
Town Hall, Room 210

**March 5, 2020 Thursday**  
Annual Business Meeting  
Secretary Report

Doors open at 6 pm

At 6:35 pm the meeting opened in Room 210 at the Town Hall and we were asked to go to another room by the Finance Committee. We then opened the meeting at 6:45 pm in Room 110 in the Town Hall.

Welcome to the 124th HHS-BMHS Alumni business meeting

Introduction of Officers and Board

**Executive Board:**

**President:** Elizabeth Patriquin 1977, **Vice President:** Sandra Lee 1960, **Vice President:** Steve Meltzer 1975,  
**Treasurer:** Sharon Cameron 1979

Board members:

Lillian DeBenedictis 1960, Angelo DeBenedictis 1957, Nancy Solomon 1959, Donna Robillard 1959,  
Barbara Reinecker 1959, Lynne Cloutier 1960, Sarah McClellan 2002, John Baraldi 1951, Jennie Lee Higgins 2002,  
Joe Gearin 1959, Mike Rea 1959

Secretary Report – January 10, 2019 the Secretary report for the Annual Meeting for 2018 was presented and read. A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented, seconded and passed.

Treasurer Report –Sharon Cameron: The Treasurer report for the 2019 year was presented. A few questions were asked and requested the treasurer break out the expenses for a better understanding. A motion was made to accept the Treasure report for the 2019 year and seconded, and passed.

President report – Betty Patriquin:

Betty reported to the Board on the 2020 banquet. This process was started in late 2018 and the board went before the school committee several times. At this time the School Committee had given an all clear for the use of the school and an application was made out for the use of the school, combining the Town of Billerica Community Hall of Fame and the outline of things were coming together. A discussion of the timeline for the day of the banquet: 12 noon would be set up, allowing the caterer, (April) and the DJ (Kathy Conway) to set up also. The CHOF would be held at 3:30 pm and be done by 5:30. A reception would be held in the down stairs lobby. The doors for the banquet would open at 6 pm. Dinner would be seated at 7 pm.

The Board has also requested a liquor license (one day) for the banquet. We were met with caution and care by the school committee and they did approve 3 yea and 2 nays. We now have an application into the Selectmen's office for final approval. A discussion on the bar service we will hire, along with a backup for drinks (soda, water) if we were not to be approved for the liquor license.

Betty also stated that all of the mailings for the banquet have gone out for the 2020 banquet. Thank you to all who helped out.

On the 2019 banquet, everyone had a great time and we look forward to our banquet at the High School.

Reports of Subcommittee:

Yankee Doodle – Sarah McLellan: Sarah reported the new placement of the vendors was not good, people or vendors were spread out too far from one another. This was due to the continuing construction of the new school. Our tent fell apart when we took it down. We did not make much.

Scholarship Committee – Sharon Cameron We gave out 26 Scholarships and 1 Jack Fay award in 2019.

Nominating Committee: None - due to the change in the constitution last year all members will be currently in their position until 2021. There will be nominations from the floor for two Board members and one Secretary Position.

Billerica Community Hall of Fame: Members need to get photos and information in as soon as possible.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Motion to adjourn made by Jennie, and seconded by Lillian and passed. Adjourn at 7:36 pm

***President:*** Elizabeth Patriquin - 1977  
***Vice President:*** Sandra Lee - 1960  
***Vice President:*** Steve Meltzer - 1975  
***Secretary:***  
***Treasurer:*** Sharon Cameron-1979

***Board of Directors:***  
John Baraldi - 1951  
Angelo DeBenedictis - 1957  
Donna Robillard – 1959  
Barbara Reinecker -1958  
Joe Gearin – 1959  
Mike Rea - 1959  
Lynne Cloutier – 1966  
Lillian DeBenedictis - 1960  
Sarah McClellan - 2002  
Jennie Higgins- 2002  
Melissa Passalaqua – 2002

***This meeting was held prior to lockdown.***



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**The Treasurers Report for the year 2019  
January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019**

**Opening Balance 12/31/2018** \$8,674.54

***Receipts:***

**Annual Banquet/Reunion (2019)**

Paid Dinners	\$ 7,035.00
Patrons	\$ 205.00
Dues	\$ 4069.00
Donations	\$ 16,482.00
Merchandise Sold	\$ 40.00
Coins Sold	\$ 270.00

**Subtotal** **\$28,101.00**

**Fundraisers:**

Yankee Doodle 50/50	\$ 100.00
Merchandise sold at YD	\$ 16.00
Banquet 50/50	\$ 446.00

**Subtotal** **\$ 562.00**

Donations for Yearbooks	\$ 328.00
Scholarships Outstanding (2019)	\$ 1,000.00

**Total Receipts** **\$29,991.00**

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**Subtotal** **\$38,665.54**

***Expenses***

**Annual Banquet/Reunion**

Scholarships (23 @ \$500, 1 @ \$1,000)	\$ 13,500.00
Catering	\$ 8,057.48
Music	\$ 275.00
Photographer	\$ 300.00
Gifts / flowers/ decorations	\$ 525.57
Booklets	\$ 279.76

**Subtotal** **\$22,937.81**

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**The Treasurers Report for the year 2019**  
**January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019**  
**(Continued)**

**Other Expenses**

Yankee Doodle	\$ 196.14
Merchandise: Vests, Coins, ect.	\$ 3,891.54
Postage and PO Box rental	\$ 2,464.81
Printing	\$ 309.78
Office supplies	\$ 1,447.38
Web site (go daddy)	\$ 270.47

**Subtotal** **\$ 8,580.12**

**Total Expenses** **\$31,517.93**

**Ending Balance as of 12/21/2019** **\$7,147.61**

**Savings Accounts as of 12/31/19**

*Permanent Fund/Brigham	1581	\$21,455.72
*Baraldi	2341	\$ 589.26
Class of 1984	8627	\$ 320.37
*Robbins	5293	\$ 541.04
*Whiteway	2006	\$ 830.73

\*2019 Scholarship Awards had not been transferred to the checking account at the time of this report.  
Contact us at [billERICAalum@gmail.com](mailto:billERICAalum@gmail.com) for any questions.

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The following Alumni are our current Lifetime Members:

- 1972 Cathy Conway
- 1945 Betty Leavitt Glavine
- 1959 Donna Strom Robillard
- 1959 Barbara Rounds Reinecker

Per our By Laws, all Life Time Members will have their dues paid for life. They also will be the Alumni's guest at our banquet/reunion each year.

The following are past Lifetime Members who have passed on.

1928	Doris	Kinney	Hunter
1945	John T.		Glavin
1951	Grant H.		Whiteway
1951	Ann	O'Neill	Baraldi
1934	Mary	Jackson	Rounds
1932	Alice	Dunstan	Webber
1939	Mary		Pasho
1937	Margaret		Mason
1934	Helen		Knight
1939	Lillian	Horman	Matthews
1932	Margaret	Blakely	Ingraham
1945	Francis J.		Glavin
1951	John		Baraldi*
1948	Larry		DeBenedictis*

\*John Baraldi and Larry DeBenedictis passed away 2020



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**Honorary Members**  
**1896-2020**

**These members were voted in as honorary members of the Alumni Association for their generous help and volunteerism with our organization. Although they did not graduate from Billerica High Schools, they were a huge part of the Alumni Association.**

Dr. Eugene C. Vining  
Mr. Charles Eames  
Dr. J Harold Dale  
Mrs. Mildred McKeen  
Mrs. Doris Bergner  
Mrs. E. Ruth Belcher  
Mr. Cyril D. Locke  
Mrs. Louise Messer  
Mrs. Fannie Stearns  
Mrs. Ruth Locke  
Mrs. Harriet C. Baker  
Mr. Charles "Chuck" Lampson  
Mrs. Louise Brown  
Mrs. Rose Anne Whiteway

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The Town of Billerica Community Hall of Fame

Taken from the Mission statement: The Town of Billerica community Hall of fame is established to honor individuals, having lived in, worked in, serviced or volunteered for the town of Billerica, whose exceptional contributions have substantially enhanced the live of its citizens and /or community values.

This is a committee that has been organized by the HHS-BMHS Alumni Association, The Billerica Athletic Hall of Fame, The BMHS educator’s hall of fame and the Town of Billerica Civic Hall of Fame.

These four branches will each in its own right accept nominations for the BCHOF throughout the year and once a year, during the weekend of graduation, hold a ceremony for those who have been accepted.

Nominations for a particular year will end in October/November of that year so we may decide on nominations for June. The website will allow applications for nominations to continue year-round.

<https://townofbillericachof.org/chof-nominations>

You can also mail in applications. Hopefully, the ceremony will happen in 2021.



This is the lobby of the High School where the pictures of the BCHOF will be displayed.

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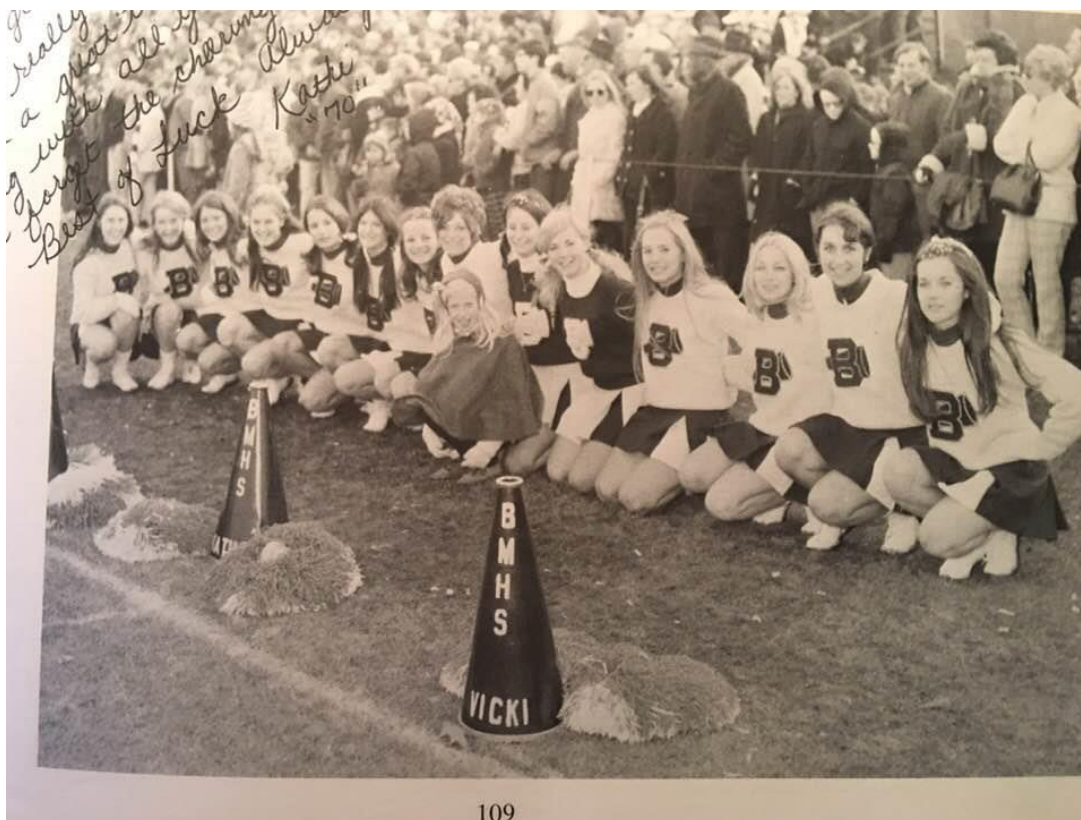
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As of May 16, 2019

**Celebrating 50 years the BMHS Class of 1970:**

The Class of 1970 cancelled their reunion for September of 2020.

It is with great pleasure I announce the BMHS Class of 1970 will be holding a reunion scheduled on September 11, 2021 at the Billerica Elks Pavilion 5 pm to 10 pm. Tickets are \$45.00 each. Forms can be found on the BMHS Class of 1970 Facebook page. Or contact us at [bmhsalum@gmail.com](mailto:bmhsalum@gmail.com)



Boola Boola that's the war cry of Billerica High!

Thanksgiving Game Class of 1970! Coleen Foley, Debbie Gracie, Jeanne Lily, Kathy Glavin, Lisa Dumas, Janice White, Mim Tilton, Nancy McMenimen, Jane Harold, Gail Fanning, Kathy Pedi, Victòria Lafferty, Melanie Mahan & Lillian Healy.



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**2020 Scholarship Awards**

**The Ann (O’Neill) Baraldi Memorial Scholarship**, class of 1951: Ann was an Alumni member, past Officer and Executive Board Member Of the HHS/BMHS Alumni: The Award went to: William West

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Ann O’Neill Baraldi Memorial Award

Congratulations  
Class of 2020  
<https://bmhsalumni.org>



**BILLY WEST**  
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LOWELL  
MAJOR:  
BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION  
**UMASS  
LOWELL**  
Learning with Purpose

**The John Baraldi Memorial Scholarship**, class of 1951: John, who passed away in March (2020), was an athlete and a current board member for many years, along with being a life member of the Alumni. The award will be going to: Laurin Sargent

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The John Baraldi Memorial Award

Congratulations  
Class of 2020  
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Lauren Sargent  
University of  
New Hampshire at Durham  
Biology



**The Brown Family Memorial Scholarship.** Bob was a three-sport athlete and an HHS/BMHS Hall of Famer. His wife Heather was an athlete and a dedicated member of the Alumni who passed away suddenly in 2015. Selected for this scholarship is: Kayleen McCormack

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Robert & Heather Brown Family Memorial Award

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Kayleen McCormack



Fitchburg State  
University  
Elementary Education

**The Howe High Scholarship in memory of Lawrence (Larry) and Carol Hughes DeBenedictis:** Larry was a veteran who lost both his legs in Korea while serving his country. He worked hard and overcame all obstacles. He was a HHS/BMHS Hall of Famer. His wife Carol (Hughes) was his biggest supporter and attended every Alumni Banquet with him each year. The Senior receiving this scholarship is: Sydney Diorio

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Howe High School Alumni Award in memory of Larry & Carol DeBenedictis


Congratulations  
Class of 2020  
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**SYDNEY DIORIO**

PROVIDENCE  
COLLEGE

MAJOR:  
PSYCHOLOGY



**Billerica Memorial High School (BMHS) Annual Scholarship.**

The student selected for this Award is an athlete, a community volunteer and an excellent student. Selected for this award is: Isabella Tossone

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Billerica Memorial High School Alumni Award

Congratulations  
Class of 2020  
<https://bmhsalumni.org>



Isabella Tassone  
Wesleyan University

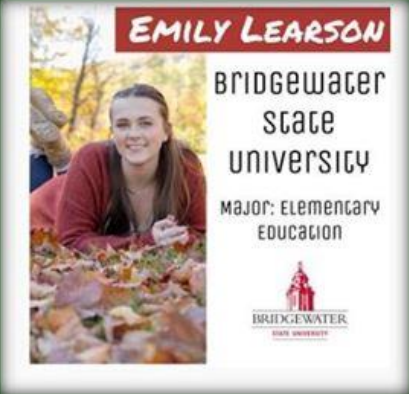

**The Karyn (Hansis) Marmiani Annual Scholarship,**

Karyn, class of 1959, was a three-sport athlete at BMHS and was inducted into the Billerica Hall of Fame. She owned her own business, “Karyn’s Cookies”. This scholarship is being given in her memory by her family. The senior receiving this scholarship is Emily Learson.

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Karyn (Hansis) Marmiani Memorial Award

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EMILY LEARSON  
BRIDGEWATER  
STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
MAJOR: ELEMENTARY  
EDUCATION  
BRIDGEWATER  
STATE UNIVERSITY



**The Rose Anne & Grant Whiteway, Sr. Memorial Scholarship.**

Grant was a 1951 graduate of Howe High and a long-time executive member of the Alumni, and a Life member of the Alumni, Grant and his wife Rose Anne worked on the Alumni Association for many years. The Whiteway family will be giving two scholarships. The seniors who will be receiving these scholarships are: Emma Burns and Nicholas Joseph Gualtieri.

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Grant & Rose Anne Whiteway Memorial Award

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Emmy Burns  
Western New  
England University  
Lacrosse

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Grant & Rose Anne Whiteway Memorial Award

Congratulations  
Class of 2020  
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Nick Gualtieri  
Nichols College  
Lacrosse & Football



**The Ralph Brigham Scholarship.**

Mr. Brigham, class of 1944, bequeathed a generous endowment to the Alumni. Mr. Brigham served on many boards in Billerica as well as our Alumni Board. A scholarship will be given to a deserving senior for many years to come. Mr. Brigham was Past President of the Alumni and very active in town. The senior receiving this award is: Roshni Bhat

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

**The Ralph Brigham Memorial Award**

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**ROSHNI BHAT**  
UNIVERSITY  
OF  
CONNECTICUT  
MAJOR:  
MOLECULAR & CELL  
BIOLOGY



**The Mary-Jo O’Mahony-Colburn Memorial Scholarship.** Mary-Jo, Class of 1969 taught at the Dutile Elementary and the Locke Middle School, a beloved teacher who is honored by her family and friends. Receiving this scholarship is: Jaimie Tanner

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

**The Mary-Jo O’Mahony-Colburn Memorial Award**

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**JAIMIE TANNER**  
UNIVERSITY OF  
MASSACHUSETTS  
LOWELL  
MAJOR:  
ELEMENTARY  
EDUCATION

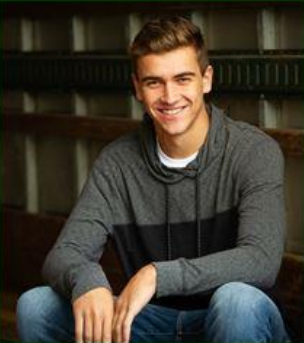



**William (Bill) Robbins and the Sonny Robbins Award.** Bill, class of 1953, was a unique 14 letter awardee and a Hall of Fame member. He was a tremendous athlete and friend. Bill's brother, Sonny, class of 1949, was a great athlete in his own right and continued to partake in baseball as an umpire. He was also a supporter of the Alumni. This award is given in loving memory by their family. The recipient of this scholarship is: Shawn Colby

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The William & Sonny Robbins Memorial Award

Congratulations  
Class of 2020  
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Shawn Colby  
University of  
Massachusetts  
Amherst  
Engineering

**The Sheila Russell Memorial Scholarship.** Sheila is a 1981 graduate from BMHS, she was an excellent athlete playing volleyball, winter and spring track, running the hurdles and throwing the javelin. This award is given in loving memory from her family. Receiving this award is: Brianna Elena Martini

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Sheila Russell Award

Congratulations  
Class of 2020  
<https://bmhsalumni.org>



BRIANNA MARTINI  
UNIVERSITY  
OF NEW  
HAMPSHIRE  
MAJOR:  
NURSING



University of  
New Hampshire

**The Class of 1959 Scholarship.**

Through the hard work of the Class of 1959 in raising funds, they have been able to give a scholarship to a deserving senior for a number of years. The recipient this year is: Melissa Claire Lavery

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School Alumni Association Scholarship*

**The Class of 1959 Award**

Congratulations  
Class of 2020  
<https://bmhsalumni.org>



MELISSA LAVERY  
SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY  
MAJOR: PSYCHOLOGY  
MINOR: HUMAN SERVICES

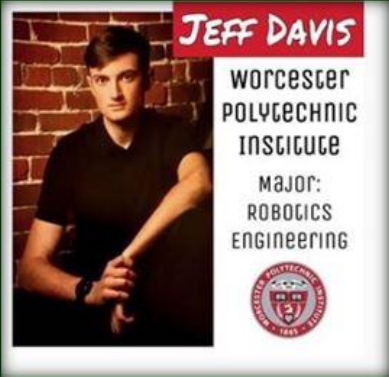

**The Class of 1970 High School Scholarship.**

Each year this scholarship is given in honor of the class celebrating 50 years since their graduation. The scholarship is being presented to: Jeffrey Davis

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

**BMHS Alumni in honor of the 50 year class – Class of 1970**

Congratulations  
Class of 2020  
<https://bmhsalumni.org>



JEFF DAVIS  
WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE  
MAJOR: ROBOTICS ENGINEERING



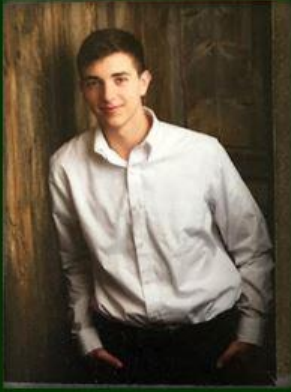

### The Mal Marshall Scholarship

This award is presented by the Marshall Family in memory of Malcom, who was a proud member of the class of '59". Mal was a former Billerica Firefighter and entrepreneur of Marshall's Auto Body and Sales and Property Developer. He was driven to succeed in life and helped others in that endeavor. The senior receiving this award is: Christian Belden

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Mal Marshall Memorial Award

Congratulations  
Class of 2020  
<https://bmhsalumni.org>



Christian  
Belden

University of  
Maine Orono

Economics

**Mr. Tom Murphy, principal, and Mrs. Betty Patriquin, alumni president, at the last 2020 graduation. Betty handing Mr. Murphy a Class of 2020 challenge coin.**





**The Doug Dooley Scholarship.**

Through the generosity of Doug Dooley, Class of 1961, scholarships will be given out to eleven BMHS Seniors. Doug is the owner of DRACO Homes in Dracut. He is the husband of Gail (McGurn) Dooley, Class of 1962. Doug and Gail have been married 50 years and have two beautiful daughters and seven grandchildren.

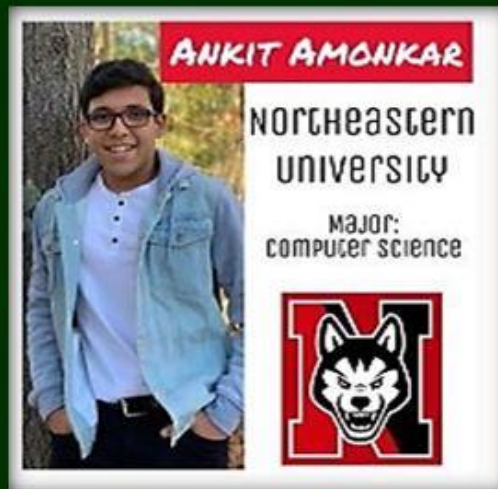
The Alumni cannot thank Doug enough for his generosity to the seniors at Billerica Memorial High School. Doug is the benefactor to 12 scholarships! The following seniors will receive the Doug Dooley awards.

Matthew Catanzano, Jessica D’Antona, Laney Wyatt, Ankit Amonkar, Timothy Smilgis, Jesse Jiaqi Wang, Avani Agrawal, Taylor Gibson, Lauren Smith, Ryan O’Leary, Kaylie Efstratiou, Megan Moore

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Doug Dooley Award

Congratulations  
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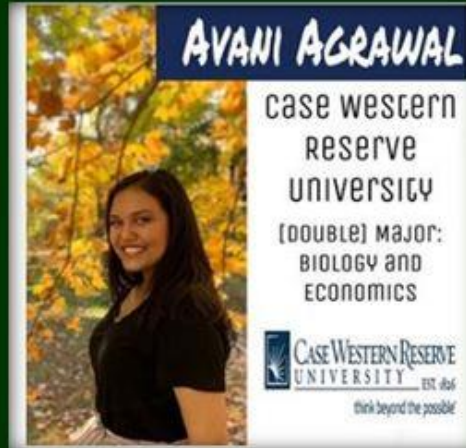
*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Doug Dooley Award

Congratulations

Class of 2020

<https://bmhsalumni.org>



*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

The Doug Dooley Award

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Jesse Jiaqi Wang

Northeastern University

or

Boston University

Biochemistry

on a pre-med track

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Matthew Catanzano

UMass Lowell -  
Engineering

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Ryan O'Leary

Salem State University  
Sports & Movement  
Science Education



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Taylor Gibson

Springfield College  
Physician Assistant  
Program



*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
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<https://bmhsalumni.org>



Timmy Smilgis  
University of New  
Hampshire  
Elementary Education

Thank you to all the students of the class of 2020. I hope you remain graceful, patient, kind, curious, peaceful and push the boundaries of your knowledge.



This is vice principal Brooks who retired at the end of June 2020.  
We wish you a wonderful and fulfilling retirement.



**The 2020 Awardees**  
HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA  
MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
Established 1896

**In 2018 the Alumni Association introduced the  
*The Annual Jack Fay Athletic Achievement award.***

Jack Fay was a standout athlete at Howe High School, playing first string on the football, basketball and baseball teams in his sophomore, junior and senior years. He was selected to numerous all-star teams and, on several occasions, selected most valuable player. After graduating in 1953 he enlisted in the Air Force. During tours of duty in Japan and Europe he played on Air Force-wide basketball teams. In 1965, he arranged to be transferred to the US Army and immediately volunteered for duty in Vietnam. While assigned to an Airborne Unit, he was awarded the Bronze Star for conspicuous performance during combat operations. During his 22 years of military service, he managed to attain a Baccalaureate in history and a Master's degree in business administration. In 1974, he retired from the Army and went to work for the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council, then to the University of Louisville where he served as Director of the National Crime Prevention Institute, then to corporate-level management with British Petroleum. During the years he spent in the private sector, he authored ten-plus non-fiction books principally dealing in corporate security management. In 1999 he left BP to start up a business of his own. Called Learning Shop USA, the business provides adult education and training courses online.

Selection Criteria for the Jack Fay Athletic Achievement Award:

- Would be a senior; male or female
- Has been a player on any BMHS team in his/her senior year during all of that year
- Has demonstrated an above-average athletic skill
- Has demonstrated an attitude of fair play and sportsmanship
- The selection be made by a BMHS coach or coaches

In 2020, the Jack Fay Award will be granted to a male and female student-athlete from Billerica Memorial High School. The class of 2020 has an abundance of talent three sport athletes but 2 of them have made a tremendous impact to their teammates and coaches alike.

This year the 2020 Jack Fay Award is granted to  
Garrett Murphy and Kayleen McCormack.

**The 2020 Awardees**  
HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA  
MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
Established 1896

From the Athletic Director, Coach John Magliozzi:

Both student-athletes have been selected by their teammates as 3 sports captains of their respected teams and both students received the most nominations by the coaching staff at BMHS. This is a clear tribute to their character and impact they have had to their teams.

With that said, today is a day for Garrett to be recognized as a great teammate and athlete. Most importantly, Garrett has represented Billerica Memorial High School with the utmost integrity and sportsmanship that a school could expect. Garrett is a true scholar student athlete with a 3.6 GPA and long list of athletic accomplishments. He will attend UMASS-Lowell for his undergraduate degree and be a member of their Division I Lacrosse team.

Over the past 4 years, Garrett has participated in at least 150 varsity games in hockey, lacrosse, and golf which has earned him “The Master of Sports Award” at BMHS. He has also earned All-Conference Awards from the Merrimack Valley Conference in hockey, golf, and lacrosse. As a senior, Garrett has been awarded with the prestigious “Barbara Hood Scholar Athlete Award. I would like to add that he was also a captain of three teams.

Likewise, Kayleen McCormack was a three-sport captain of the soccer, basketball, and tennis teams. She has been described as a great teammate with a relentless work ethic! She takes great pride in all that she does. Kayleen has also been recognized as a Merrimack Valley All-Conference athlete in all 3 sports as well as earning the “Master of Sports Award at BMHS. Kayleen will continue her education and athletics at Fitchburg State University as a member of the girls’ soccer team.

In today’s athletic environment, it difficult to find a 3-sport student athlete that has had such a profound impact on all 3 of the teams. It’s with great pleasure to see 2 students such as Garrett and Kayleen be awarded with the honor of the Jack Fay Award.

**The 2020 Awardees**  
**HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA**  
**MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
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**The Jack Fay Athletic Achievement Awards for the Class of 2020**

**Quotes from their coaches;**

**Kayleen McCormack:**

Her competitiveness and unselfishness make her the perfect teammate and an incredibly reliable member of a team. Never once, did Kayleen put herself first and she always had the knack of embracing the toughest of situations and pulling all those around her through them.

Kayleen is an exemplary student-athlete who challenges herself every day and motivates those around with her incomparable energy and effort. Her commitment and dedication are second to none and she is never satisfied with what she has achieved, but only interested in how she can improve and help her team.



*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School*  
*Alumni Association Presents*

**The Jack Fay Athletic Achievement Award**

<https://bmhsalumni.org/jack-fay-award>



Kayleen McCormack  
Fitchburg State University  
Elementary Education  
Soccer

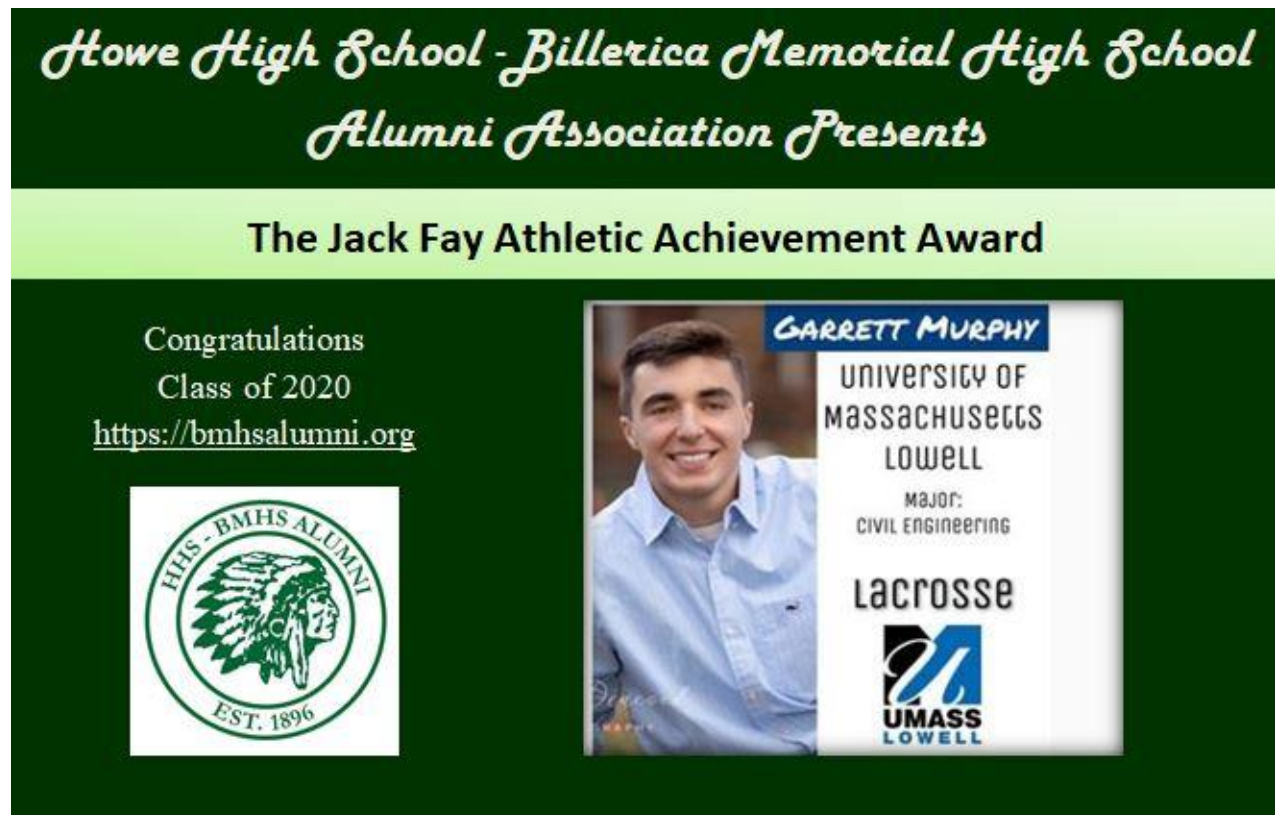
**The 2020 Awardees**  
**HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA**  
**MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
Established 1896

**The Jack Fay Athletic Achievement Awards for the Class of 2020**

**Garrett Murphy**

Garrett exhibits the relentless drive and commitment that is necessary to becoming a great student-athlete, a reliable teammate and more importantly a great well-rounded person. He has always applied a hard work-ethic in the classroom, on the ice, playing golf and on the lacrosse fields. All while finding the time to set the example in the weight room and in the community.



In my mind he is a first class kid who embodies the true sense of Billerica P.R.I.D.E!!




*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School  
Alumni Association Presents*

**The Jack Fay Athletic Achievement Award**

Congratulations  
Class of 2020  
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**GARRETT MURPHY**  
UNIVERSITY OF  
MASSACHUSETTS  
LOWELL  
MAJOR:  
CIVIL ENGINEERING  
**Lacrosse**  
**UMASS  
LOWELL**

HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA  
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**The Framingham State University Scholarship**

**This award has been established to encourage interest in and matriculation at Framingham State University. Dr Roberta Walsh (Emeritus Professor, Florida Gulf Coast University) is an alumna of Billerica Memorial High School, class of 1962 and of Framingham State, Class of 1966**

**The awardee is selected by Framingham State, they will be chosen by the following criteria: a Billerica High School Graduate, has applied, been accepted and a deposit is put down. The awardee for 2020 is: Ashley Doohan**

*Howe High School - Billerica Memorial High School Alumni Association Scholarship Awards*

**The Framingham State University Scholarship**

Congratulations  
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**HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA  
MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

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**2020 Alumni Donors**

<b>1st</b>	<b>Class name</b>	<b>last</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>Class name</b>	<b>last</b>	<b>Yr.</b>
Fay	Lloyd	Bowers	1942	Cynthia	Cooper	Martin	1956
George A		Ouellette	1942	Lois	McCarthy	Fay	1956
Vincenet		DeBenedictis	1946	Anne	Shack	Thompson	1956
Elinor	Watts	Greenway	1946	Richard L		Garrant	1956
Daniel j		DeBenedictis	1946	Janet	Kenyon	Lyna	1956
Joan	Frobese	Potter	1946	Jane	Hyatt	Brown	1957
William		Shinkwin	1950	Jacqueline	Peake	Corlett	1957
Ludolf W		Megow	1950	George		Outerbridge	1957
Florianna H	Potsus	Tobin	1951	Carol Doris	Brien	Maghakian	1957
Joan L	Graham	O'Rourke	1951	Angelo		DeBenedictis	1957
Marie Joyce	McAndrew	Stolarski	1951	Judith	Covell	James	1957
Margaret	O'Connell	Kalin	1951	Robert		Knowles	1958
Joan D	Sargent	Fortier	1951	Mary	Rowlandson	Knowles	1958
Richard D		George	1952	Walter		Adley	1958
Barbara	Barnard	George	1952	David		Solomon, Jr	1958
Nancy I	Barton	Cahill	1952	Arthur		Gifford	1958
Genevieve	Caulfield	Otte	1952	Anthony	Marmiani		1958
Harold J		Towle	1952	Bernice	Keoughan	McQuaid	1959
Virginia	Kelm	Stowell	1953	David W		McQuaid	1959
Carol A	Levesque	Lynch	1953	Joyce	Theriault	Bradley	1959
Roberta	Leavitt	Bocko	1953	Donna R		Robillard	1959
Frederick		Bocko, Sr	1953	Marilyn C	Cooke	Strobel M.ED., LLP	1959
Forrest		Stickney, Jr	1953	Oliver J		Caron	1959
Constance	DeMaggio	McQuay	1953	Robert A		Hodgdon	1959
John		Fader	1953	Geraldine			
Rosemary	Power	Parker	1954	Angell		Healey	1959
James		McGinnis	1955	Joe		Gearin	1959
Paul		Wellington	1955	George		Tribun	1959
Helen	Neiss	Bunney	1955	BMHS Classof 1959			1959
Jack		Fay		Lillian	Smith	DeBenedictis	1960
				Sharon V and Gary C		DeCet	

HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA  
MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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2020 Alumni Donors

1st	Class name	last	Yr.	1st	Class name	last	Yr.
Douglas F		Dooley	1960	Gudrun Stella	Malinsky	Skoropowski	1969
Linda	Currie	Horne	1961	Patrice	Stanton	Hamilton	1969
Frank P		Bernarducci	1961	Tom		Francis	1969
Janet	Callahan	Bean	1961	Michael T		Bright	1969
Marcia	Taylor	Gratton	1962	Gary		Allen	1972
Forrest W		Irons	1962	Karen		Boyd	1972
Jeannette M	Jette	Popovsky	1963	Stephen		Lentine	1973
Janet	Troiano	Goode	1963	Joseph E		Higgins, Jr	1973
Bobbea	Peverill	Wilcher	1963	Dr. Matthew J		Doyle	1974
Carol	Rebinskas	Martin	1964	Brian		Goguen	1974
Rosemary M		Viggiano	1964	Lauren M	Libby	Goguen	1974
Terrence		Goode	1964	Leonard P		Sullivan, Jr	1975
Thomas D		Sullivan	1964	Ellen J	Brigham	Allen	1975
Alec		Ingraham	1964	William P		Oconnell	1975
Nancy		Wells	1964	Anthony "Duke"		Diaz III	1975
Wallace H		Langell, Jr	1964	Pamela		Graves	1975
Barbara Lee	Roberts	Flight	1965	Elizabeth	Whiteway	Patriquin	1977
Donald		Rogers, Jr	1965	Alison	Murphy	Weingartner	1979
Raymond P		Sprague	1965	Virginia	Whiteway	Ford	1979
Karen J	Nielsen	Nielsen-Silva	1965	Sharon M	Russell	Cameron	1979
Joma	Lavery	Connors	1966	Cindee	Stoddard	O'Mahony	1980
Tom		Connors	1966	Andrea	LaRosa	Couvee	1981
Nancy A	Gill	O'Keefe	1966	Jerry		Climo	1981
Barbara Ann		Nelson	1966	Jim		Haines	1983
Ernest Paul		Skoropowski	1967	Lori	Bramlett	Cavaretta	1984
James		Brown	1967	Kristin L	Falzone	Lentz	1990
Paula		Skelton	1967	Sean		Climo	2018
Georgia	Stewart	St. Louis	1967	Kayleigh		O'Mahony	2018
Susan	McAdams	Rogers	1968	Morgan		Bauman	2018
Margaret	Murray	Patmos	1968	Lillian		De Benedictis	1960
Robbins Scholarship				Kathleen E		Marshall	1960
Stephen		Baraldi		Chelmsford High School Alumni Association			



**HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA**  
**MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Established 1896

**List of 2020 Patrons**

1st	Class name	last	Yr.	1st	Class name	last	Yr.
Fay	Lloyd	Bowers	1942	Jane	Hyatt	Brown	1957
Margaret	Gagnon	Beann	1943	John		Soule	1958
Margaret	Loranger	Metivier	1944	Walter		Adley	1958
Charles D		Mason	1946	Arthur		Gifford	1958
Elinor	Watts	Greenway	1946	Joyce	Lee	Carpenter	1958
Vincenet		DeBenedictis	1946	Mary Geraldine	Doherty	Hickey	1959
Joan	Frobese	Potter	1946	Angell		Healey	1959
Shirley M	Hall	Hall	1947	George		Tribun	1959
Jean M	Sanders	Cullen	1948	Larry		Benjamin	1959
William		Shinkwin	1950	Joe		Gearin	1959
Marie Joyce	McAndrew	Stolarski	1951	Donna R		Robillard	1959
Joan D	Sargent	Fortier	1951	Lillian	Smith	DeBenedictis	1960
Florianna H	Potsus	Tobin	1951	Al		Shaw	1960
Joan L	Graham	O'Rourke	1951	Douglas F		Dooley	1960
Margaret	O'Connell	Kalin	1951	Frank P		Bernarducci	1961
Carol	Fitzpatrick	Azadian	1952	Janet	Callahan	Bean	1961
Jane	Ensor	MacIntosh	1952	Linda	Currie	Horne	1961
Nancy I	Barton	Cahill	1952	Ellen	Brown	Bordieri	1963
Genevieve	Caulfield	Otte	1952	Jeannette M	Jette	Popovsky	1963
Harold J	& Joan T	Towle	1952	Karen	McDewell	Farmer	1963
Virginia	Kelm	Stowell	1953	Philip		Farmer	1963
Forrest		Stickney, Jr	1953	Carol		Eagles	1963
David w		Martinson	1953	Nancy		Wells	1964
Constance	DeMaggio	McQuay	1953	Lorraine		Heintz	1964
Carol A	Levesque	Lynch	1953	Thomas D		Sullivan	1964
Roberta	Leavitt	Bocko	1953	Rosemary M		Viggiano	1964
Frederick		Bocko, Sr	1953	Alec		Ingraham	1964
Gloria		Rosa	1954	Gail	Swiacky	Kelleher	1964
Robert Charles		Hartshorn	1954	Carol	Rebinskas	Martin	1964
Karla	Hutchings	Conway	1954	Wallace H		Langell, Jr	1964
Barbara	Maclennan	Flynn	1954	Barbara Lee	Roberts	Flight	1965
Helen	Neiss	Bunney	1955	Kathleen	Quinlan	Gale	1965
James		McGinnis	1955	Karen J	Nielsen	Nielsen-Silva	1965
Robert		Fox	1956	Pat		Rebinsakas	1957
Angelo		DeBenedictis	1957	Paul		Rebinsakas	1958
Carol Doris	Brien	Maghakian	1957	Anthony		DeBenedictis	
George		Outerbridge	1957				

**HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA**  
**MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
 Established 1896  
**List of 2020 Patrons**

<b>1st</b>	<b>Class name</b>	<b>last</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>Class name</b>	<b>last</b>	<b>Yr.</b>
Mary E	MacDougall	Gerossie	1966	Laureen	Libby	Goguen	1974
Nancy A	Gill	O'Keefe	1966	Ellen J	Brigham	Allen	1975
Barbara Ann		Nelson	1966	William		Oconnell	1975
Joma	Lavery	Connors	1966	Gayle		MacLennan	1977
Tom		Connors	1966	Elizabeth	Whiteway	Patriquin	1977
Charles R		Gerossie	1966	Alison	Murphy	Weingartner	1979
James		Brown	1967	Cindee	Stoddard	O'Mahony	1980
Georgia	Stewart	St. Louis	1967	Jerry		Climo	1981
Margaret	Murray	Patmos	1968	Lea	McLaughlin	Cahill	1983
Patrice	Stanton	Hamilton	1969	Therese	Connolly	Tedford	1985
Michael T		Bright	1969	Helena		Bird	2014
Gudrun Stella	Malinsky	Skoropowski	1969	Kayleigh		O'Mahony	2018
Karen		Boyd	1972	Sean		Climo	2018
Stephen		Lentine	1973				
Joseph E		Higgins, Jr	1973				
Dr. Matthew J		Doyle	1974				
Brian		Goguen	1974				

HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA  
MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
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**In Memory of those who have passed on**

In Memory of Sheila Jean Baker Irons class of 1962. Wife of Forrest W Irons class of 1962

In Memory of Herbert C Nickless: Class of 1942, who passed December 9, 2019. With love from your daughter, Ellen N Pozzetta

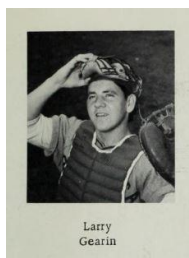
Jean Plunkett Parrott, Class of 1956 passed August 6<sup>th</sup> 2019. In loving memory from her daughter Bonnie Pyke



♥ In Memory of Ruth (Strom) Murphy, Class of 1950 and her brother George (Bo) Strom, Class of 1947. From their sister, Donna Strom Robillard, Class of 1959.



♥ In Memory of Grant Whitway, Sr. Class of 1951, and Rose Whitway, Alumni volunteer. With love from their family.



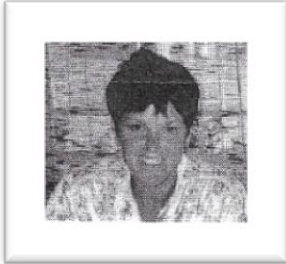
♥ In Memory of Lawrence Gearin, Class of 1962,  
Gone but not forgotten  
RIP brother  
From your brother Joe Gearin.



♥ In loving memory of Eileen (Hurly) Quinlan Shannahan. An educator, valued friend and loving family member. Survived by Children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Preceded in death by two cherished husbands, Joseph James Quinlan and William John Shannahan. Eileen taught for many years at Holy infant School in Ballwin and Bristol Primary in Webster Groves. She received her Doctorate of Education for the University of Missouri. Eileen was a graduate of Howe High School Class of 1947.  
From Carl Hedberg and the Class of 1947

**HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA**  
**MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
Established 1896

**In Memory of those who have passed on**



♥ In memory of Kathi Glavin Higgins a 1971 graduate of BMHS:  
A beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Glavin and cherished sibling of 1 sister and 5 brothers, lifelong Billerica resident and a 1971 graduate of Billerica Memorial High School. Kathi graduated from North Adams College in 1975 and earned her master's degree at Lesley College. She was a Special Education Teacher for Billerica School systems for 30 years. Kathi was a champion of special educations and cared deeply for her students. A devoted wife and mother, Kathi was married to Joe Higgins, director of Billerica recreation Department and the loving mother to 5 children.

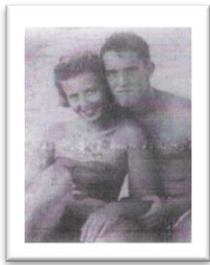
In 2003 Kathi was diagnosed with mesothelioma, a rare form of cancer associated with asbestos exposure that invades the lung's surface. She endured multiple surgeries and chemotherapy to combat the disease for two years. On November 10, 2005, Kathi passed away surrounded by her loving family. In loving memory from Joe.

The Kathi Glavin Higgins Scholarship holds a Dance in her memory each February and a Scholarship is awarded through the Billerica Dollars for Scholars program to a student whose intent is to become a teacher after college.



Robert Einar Nielsen, Sr. AKA "Nimmy" Class of 1969  
September 23, 1951-January 31, 2018

From your only sister Karen Nielsen, Class of 1965, with both Thanks & Love forever for providing me the gift and beauty of being able to say and live the words 'my brother my only brother' You were cute, grand, funny and smart and our neighborhood was the best like you. North Billerica on back side of woolen mills with the loom rhythm, day and night shifts, and the waterfall where you fished – (while I worried about the fate the worms.) Yep, we had it all. Potters Pond, Kohlrausch Park, Casey's field, herb and all right next door, prince our collie , your dirty dozen crew, the train station and your black GTO. And so much more that all I can say even though it is not enough. Thanks NIM and always Love NIM. we all miss you and angels be with you.



♥ In loving memory of William P Mahoney, who passed away January 15, 2019. William was a graduate of Howe High School (1952) and Lowell Technological Institute (1957). He was married to Ann O'Brien since August 21, 1958. Together Ann and William had five children, Michael, Thomas, Marianne Cahill, Carolyn McKenzie and Susan Despres, Ten Grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.





♥ HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA  
 ♥ MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
 ♥ Established 1896  
 ♥ In Memory of those who have passed on



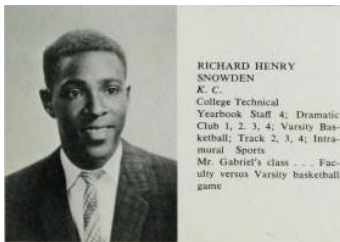
♥ In Loving memory of Sheila Jean (Baker) Irons, who passed away May 19, 2010. Sheila was a graduate of BMHS, class of 1962. She was married for 46 years to Forrest Irons, Class of 1962. They had two children, Keith and Erin, along with 8 grandchildren. With love from her husband, Forrest.

♥ In Memory of Mrs. Bertha Parris Finnagan, Class of 1916, the first black graduate in Billerica, and Mrs Finnagan hand stitched the girls' basketball and cheerleader uniforms. In loving memory from your grandson Donald Snowden.



VIRGINIA FINNAGAN  
 Class Treasurer 2-Year; Book Staff—French Broadest 3—Tri-Delta—  
 Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4  
 Ample  
 Pet Peewee—  
 Wants to be a  
 "Ginger" our middle star. Represents all that is typical of youth. She  
 is full of pep and shines on the dance floor.

♥ In memory of Mrs. Virginia Finnagan Snowden class of 1941, who was on the first girls' basketball team and the first black cheerleader, in loving memory from your son Donald Snowden, class of 1962 (and 3<sup>rd</sup> generation graduate).



RICHARD HENRY SNOWDEN  
 K. C.  
 College Technical  
 Yearbook Staff 4; Dramatic  
 Club 1, 2, 3, 4; Varsity Bas-  
 ketball; Track 2, 3, 4; Intra-  
 mural Sports  
 Mr. Gabriel's class . . . Fac-  
 ulty versus Varsity basketball  
 game

♥ In memory of Richard Snowden, class of 1964. From your brother Donald Snowden, Class of 1962.



WALLER FINNAGAN  
 Treasurer, 4; Baseball, 3, 4;  
 Basketball, 3, 4, captain, 4; Foot-  
 ball, 3, 4; Glee Club, 3, 4; Year  
 Book Staff.  
 Waller is one of the jolliest fel-  
 lows in school. He is active in  
 every sport, and does well in all  
 of them. His ambition is to be a  
 star player. You have a good  
 start, Waller. Keep it up!

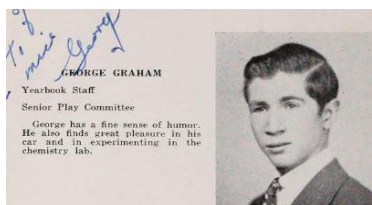
♥ In memory of Waller Finnagan, Class of 1939 from your nephew Donald Snowden, Class of 1962.

♥ In memory of Richard Finnagan Class of 1942. From your nephew Donald Snowden, Class of 1962.

**HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA**  
**MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
Established 1896

**In Memory of those who have passed on**

- ♥ In Loving memory of Charlotte (Bernard) Johansen, Class of 1950. Charlotte was a past president of the Alumni Association, as well as a substitute teacher and piano teacher. With love from children, Brenda, Karen, Martin, and Sandra, along with her husband Arthur Johansen (class of 1949).
- ♥ In Memory of Larry McCluskey, Class of 1944. He always had a special place for Howe High. Larry passed away on March 19, 2018. Jean McCluskey
- ♥ In memory of the Sullivan's: Dorothy class of 1946; Charles, class of 1948; Paul, class of 1950; and Eleanor, class of 1952. In Memory of Frank "Mac" McCaffrey \*Class of 1959\*, and Barbara Sullivan McCaffrey, Class of 1959. In loving memory from their sister Pat, class of 1956.
- ♥ In loving memory of Karyn Hansis Marmiani, Class of 1959, an Athletic Hall of Famer and business owner, wife, mother and friend. From her loving family.
- ♥ In loving memory of Doug Grattan, Class of 1962, by his sister Carol Grattan Gill Class of 1957
- ♥ In loving memory of Doug Gratton, class of 1962. I still chuckle when I read his favorite memory in our yearbook (class of 1962). Favorite Memory- Demerits! From your wife Marcia Taylor Gratton, class of 1962.
- ♥ In loving memory of Gary Rowe, who is deeply missed by his family and especially by his mother, Hazel Keefe , who is an honorary member of the Class of 1959.



♥ In memory and honor of my father, George R. Graham, Jr. Howe High School class of 1944. Dad was a true 'townie' who often spoke of his growing up on Nuttings Lake, the roller rink and the great social life on "the south side". He often related stories about Howe High School with a special mention of his math teachers. He lamented this fact that so many of his classmates graduated as early as January 1944, or dropped out to join the service. He was a fixture in Billerica Center having a post next to 'the diner' where he established 'Grahams Taxi'. He later spent many years working for Pyro Fax Gas, located next to Jimmy's Barber Shop. He later retired after 29 years with the Massachusetts National Guard at Fort Devens. Dad passed away in September 2017 suddenly, age 91, at his retirement house of 33 years, Englewood, Florida. Although he was excited to make every 5 years class reunion with his sister Joan and Brother Jim he was hesitant to celebrate his 75<sup>th</sup> this year as he thought there was only about 3 classmates left and he was unsure if they would be able to attend. The entire 'class of 88' kids from Billerica 'class of 44' were truly a part of America's greatest generation. Respectfully submitted; George R Graham III class of 1969

- ♥ In Memory of JoAnn McNulty Cosedio , and Richard Bemis, both from the Class of 1955, from your classmate Helen Neiss Bunney.

**HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA**  
**MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
Established 1896

**♥ In memory of Robert W. Solomon, Class of 1961**

I am writing this in remembrance of Robert W. Solomon, BMHS Class of 1961, who passed from this life way too soon. I have very cherished memories of my four years at Billerica Memorial High School, and Bobby is right there in most of them and still giving me reminders to keep my eye on the ball.

In those days, and probably now I expect, you went to the one High School near Billerica Center, travelled to and from on foot or by bus or car from one of the well-known sections of the town - Pinehurst, Nuttings' Lake, North Billerica, or "The Center". My coming from "The Lake", and Bob from "The North", I had never set eyes on Robert Solomon until freshman year started in the fall of 1957, going out for the Freshman Football team. However, it didn't take long to feel like he had been a friend forever. Bobby was an all-around American boy. He played football on a team where the starting eleven spotted the opposition about 35 to 50 pounds per player, even when we were seniors. Nevertheless, he managed to spin through some infinitesimally small holes that we were just about able to pry open for him, and roll up scores. We actually had a winning season senior year. We also had some other great players such as Doug Dooley who could catch anything thrown within five yards of him, but to me Bobby Solomon put his soul into every minute he was on the gridiron. Bobby was that way with all his endeavors. Our friendship started in a casual way on the field and then built in the classrooms, cafeteria, back on the field, after school. I didn't realize we were that close until, of course, we would never be again.

I've called him Robert, Bobby, Bob. That's on purpose because he went by all three, and had a spark-plug personality. He was friendly and easy going to everyone unless you berated or bullied someone. By senior year, as I zeroed in on my long held dream, he was quick to push me to maintain grades, go to interviews, etc. to gain an appointment to the US Naval Academy. When it finally came through he was one of the two closest friends I had who drove me to South Station, where I boarded the night train, about four days after graduation, for Washington D.C. with transfer to a bus over to Annapolis Six days after graduation day I was in a formation in Annapolis Maryland, taking the oath along with some eight hundred other young men as a Midshipman in the U.S. Navy. I feel I might never have been in that formation if not for Bob. In a way that was very much a trademark with him he would talk up after school workouts, even if it were not our season, but to get me prepared for all the rigorous tests one had to go through to just qualify, so we were fixtures around the gym almost every day through senior year. He even went to Mr. Gracie, our PE teacher and asked him why he had given me a B in PTE and didn't he know I wanted to go to Navy. George Gracie told him he gave it to me because he thought I could push myself harder. So, Bob pushed me harder and I got back to an A grade.

All of the above might make you say what the heck, Bob was doing what any friend would do, but I knew he was adding the difference that only a true friend could. There was an incident at the end of my first leave and return to Billerica during Christmas 1961 break that speaks to the heart of that remarkable young man.

I had answered a call from two First Class (Senior) Midshipmen from Massachusetts to fill an extra seat they had in the car they were renting to drive home for Christmas leave and return. The price was right as I couldn't afford air fare, and they should know what they were doing after three previous Christmas seasons. I was, of course, very well aware that if I didn't get back to the Academy, and inside the walls of Bancroft Hall, before mid-night on the 3rd of January I would receive a Major Violation of Naval Academy conduct regulations. Not good for someone as new to the place as seven months, and Major Violations could, by definition, be reasons for dismissal.

The upperclassmen were to drop me at an agreed to spot on the Mass Pike where my Mother would pick me up and then I would meet them there for the return trip at an also agreed time on the day of return. We had till midnight that day to check in and there would be a Navy Commander waiting at the only open entrance to snag anyone not on time.

My Mother was going to drive me to the departure point on the designated day. The drive to Annapolis was a very makeable trip in the allotted time but only if you didn't dally. Bobby volunteered to come along and ride with us to the drop and keep her company back to Billerica. We arrived at the site early and as the old saying goes, things went awry. The upperclassmen never showed. We were absolutely at the right place and well before the stated time.

Well, as time was, as they say, awasting, I knew I had to be accounted for in Annapolis and before the door of Bancroft hall closed at midnight or my goose was cooked. We waited as long as prudent for them to show and Bob was the first to say, "let's get going and drive you back." It was a fairly demanding trip, especially when you have a tight deadline, and Bob and I took turns driving. The nugget of the story is, however, the way Bob was a friend who put me first and he was an absolute gentleman in making the entire hectic and rushed trip easy on my mother. She said she'd like to put up for the night before driving back in the dark, and he absolutely agreed. She paid for accommodations for them both and later told me of the trip back: "What a sharp, considerate young man Robert is." That's high praise from my mother. Bob was all of that though, and in every instance I know of, he put himself out and/or changed his own plans to accommodate others; that time with no prior knowledge and with no regard for losing basically two days for nothing that profited him.

Sadly, I never got to be with him much at all after that as our paths crossed infrequently but I had cause to think about him often. We were within about 150 miles of each other when he was an Army helicopter Crew Chief in Viet Nam and I was a Navy Swift Boat Skipper in country. I was, and still am of course, proud of him for his service to our country.

Bobby, I'm proud I knew Ya, and may God keep your memory alive for all who love you.

To Barbara: I thank you for allowing me to place this with the Reunion Committee. I hope you can glean even more reasons to admire and love him - as if you needed any.

James F. Amerault, VADM USN, Ret. BMHS 1961





HOWE HIGH – BILLERICA  
MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
Established 1896

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Mr. John A. Richardson (1879)	Mr. Leo Virgin (1941)
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This booklet is dedicated to all that was lost in 2020. It is with hope we cherish those we lost and those who are still with us. The last time this Alumni Association did not hold a banquet was in 1918 when it was decided not to hold our annual reunion and banquet due to the war. I am sure there were other pressing reasons.

The Board wishes you all good health and well being through this crazy time. Sending you all blessings. We hope to see you next year!

The End.

See you in 2021