



BETA UPSILON BOOSTER

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CHAPTER ETERNAL

Remembering Brother Martin Dyer '65



Brother Martin Patrick Dyer entered the chapter eternal on October 5,

2016. He was the Vice President and General Counsel for Noble House Hotels and Resorts and was regarded as driven and fair in everything he did by those who knew him best. He graduated from the University of Illinois with a law degree and began his career as a criminal prosecutor shortly after. He later made a transition into private practice in northern Wisconsin, focusing on real estate, before ending up at Noble House. Martin's charisma was one of his best traits, and it won him many lasting friendships. He was also a great athlete, excelling in both baseball and football. He was even a champion water ski jumper and a member of the nationally renowned Min-Aqua Bats. After graduating from college, he pursued his athletic talents by trying out for several NFL teams, but later decided that practicing law was a much better fit.

REUNIONS

Take a Trip to Tampa

Two Beta Upsilon reunions are scheduled for this September in conjunction with the Illinois/South Florida football game.

The UIUC Delt classes from 1958 to 65 are meeting from Sept. 14 to Sept. 17. For more information, contact Bob Rankine (srankine@tampabay.rr.com), Don Cooper (Ugolf90@yahoo.com), or Bob Pfeifer (rpfeifer1@cfl.rr.com). The classes from 1960 to 1966 are also planning a reunion.

HISTORY ON THE HARDWOOD

The 'Flying Illini' Electrified Crowds During Magical '88-'89 Season

In the history of the men's basketball program at the University of Illinois, there may have been better teams. But there was only one called the "Flying Illini."

The 1988-89 Illini won their first 16 games, advanced to the Final Four, and sent five players to the NBA. Although their run at a national championship ended with a heart-breaking two-point loss to Michigan – a team that Illinois had defeated twice during the regular season – in the national semifinals, the "Flying Illini" are still the most revered hoops team in the university's history.

Illinois didn't have one particular star that year, it had a plethora of talented players: Nick Anderson, Kenny Battle, Kendall Gill and Marcus Liberty. Stephen Bardo was the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year that season.

The team's run-and-gun style exhilarated crowds and made for great clips on late-night sports shows. They went over 100 points eight times and scored at least 85 in another 11 games. ESPN analyst Dick Vitale was the one who first called them the "Flying Illini."

In an interview with the Chicago Sun-Times years later, Gill said that the Illini that season were "the best team never to win the national championship."

Perhaps the biggest victory of the year was a comeback win over Georgia Tech. Ranked No. 2 at the time, Illinois rallied from a 16-point deficit to win in double overtime. That victory propelled them to No. 1 in the country.



Front row, from left: Graduate Assistant Scott Nagy, Assistant Coach Jimmy Collins, Head Coach Lou Henson, Assistant Coach Dick Nagy and Assistant Coach Mark Coomes.

Back row, from left: P.J. Bowman, Eddie Manzke, Larry Smith, Brian O'Connell, Lou Aguilera, Nick Anderson, Lowell Hamilton, Marcus Liberty, Ervin Small, Stephen Bardo, Kenny Battle, Andy Kaufmann, Mike MacDonald, Kendall Gill and Mark Shapland.

Photo courtesy of University of Illinois Athletics Communications

They just missed out on a Big Ten championship that season, finishing a game behind Indiana. But the Illini beat the Hoosiers twice that year and also had the aforementioned two blowout victories over eventual national champion Michigan.

There was no Big Ten tournament in those days, so once the regular season ended, the Illini prepared for the NCAAs. They held off a game McNeese State squad in the first round before recording double-digit wins over Ball State and Louisville in the next two rounds. The Illini then topped Syracuse by three in the Midwest Regional final.

Alas, the Illini's run came to an end in the national semifinals; one of the great teams in Illinois history was stopped just two victories shy of an NCAA championship. They finished with a 31-5 record and a No. 3 ranking in the AP poll.

How well do you remember the 1988-89 Illini? Did you attend any games that season? Do you remember where you were when they beat Syracuse to become the first Illinois team in 37 years to advance to the Final Four? Were you in Seattle for the national semifinals? Maybe you were still unsure about where you wanted to go to college but changed your mind after seeing the school spirit at the basketball games that year.

Whatever your memories, we want to hear about them! Send us your stories about that magical season by going to www.illinidelts-alumni.com.

The Future of DTD from UIUC to the Mayor of D.C.? Beta Upsilon Brother running to lead nation's capital

After graduating from Illinois, **Brother Dustin Canter '08** returned to his native Washington, D.C. Now that he's back, he's interested in running the place.

Canter is running as an independent for mayor of the nation's capital. Although the election isn't until November 2018, Canter is already campaigning. He has his own web site – dustincanter.com – in which he lists organizations that he supports, and his campaign Facebook page can be found here: [@dustincanter4dc](https://www.facebook.com/dustincanter4dc).

"I had an innate calling to serve the public, create a secure future for our



Canter is challenging Democratic Mayor Muriel Bowser for the right lead the nation's capital.

residents, and use my hometown love of DC to prepare for when my children are born," Canter writes on his web site.

His campaign is built around three core issues: social justice, efficient services and DC statehood. DC statehood has been a hot button topic for years, with many of the city's residents wanting statehood. However, congress would have to approve it, which thus far it has been reluctant to do.



Canter is a member of the DC Education Coalition for Change, a community-organizing group that works for social justice. Back in September, he was involved in a DECC-sponsored question-and-answer session in which candidates for city council spoke on educational issues.

As an independent candidate, Canter is fighting an uphill battle. Mayor Muriel Bowser is a Democrat who won nearly 55 percent of the vote when she was elected in 2014.

Should he prevail, Canter would be the ninth mayor of the District of Columbia and one of the youngest mayors of a major city in the country.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Brother Finnegan '05 Says His Beta Upsilon Roots 'define who I was'

Mike Finnegan '05 came to the University of Illinois never intending to join a fraternity, but he wound up pledging Delta Tau Delta and he hasn't looked back.

"The house we had was so awesome and everyone I met was so nice and warm," he said. "My life would be dramatically different if I hadn't joined. It's been 10 years, and the guys that I met through DTD are still my best friends."

Mike added that many of his brothers were taking business classes, just like him, and this helped him get through some really tough courses.

"The brothers in my major created a network that made things easier. We worked as a team to accomplish things. I honestly don't know if I would have graduated without DTD and those brothers supporting me," he said.

Although the time he spent with his fellow brothers in the classroom was productive, Mike's favorite memories occurred outside the classroom, at the Chapter House.

"We had so much fun at the house and created so many great memories. At night, we would go out together and all come back to the house we lived in together. When else are you going to get to live in a house with a ton of guys who are all your friends?" he said. "I was a bartender, so I worked odd hours, but there was always someone there to hang out with."

In addition to the lifelong friends he gained through DTD, Mike



is also extremely grateful for the social skills and the opportunities it provided to build a professional network.

"Every year, I met new guys who joined the group and it was a chance to build my social skills, define who I was, and make a ton of great friends," he said.

Mike and his wife, Annie, still live in Illinois. They have one son, named Michael, and another on the way. He currently runs a company called Medasource and leads their national efforts to implement healthcare-specific software. They currently support 24 major markets across the country and in 36 states and have thousands of consultants in the field.

Not surprisingly, Mike says when he hires people to support the company's mission, he looks for guys just like the brothers of DTD.

"When I go through the hiring process and come across anyone who is a DTD, it always strikes up a conversation," he said. He also encourages younger brothers to reach out to older brothers, like himself, who are looking to hire and connect with fellow DTDs.

"I wish I would have taken advantage of more of the professional opportunities provided to me as a DTD," he said.

Mike's company is currently hiring for a number of different positions across the United States. Reach out to him via email at mfinnegan@medasource.com.

WORLD WAR II

Beta Upsilon Brother Fought at Pearl Harbor

Harry A. Ripkey later served with distinction in Europe

Like many men of his generation, **Brother Harry A. Ripkey '40** was inspired to serve his country during World War II. But unlike the untold number who took up arms following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Ripkey was there from the very beginning.

An Army lieutenant stationed in Hawaii, Ripkey fought at Pearl Harbor. During the attack of Dec. 7, 1941, he commanded an anti-aircraft battery.

But Ripkey's time serving his country was only just beginning. He later spent 3 ½ years fighting in Europe as a captain in the 9th Armored Division. He returned home with



Anti-aircraft fire at Pearl Harbor

two Purple Hearts, two Bronze Stars and a Silver Star.

Ripkey, who died in July 2002 at the age of 83, studied



The Arizona Memorial

and a proud patriot.

engineering at Illinois. After the war, he lived and worked in Chicago as a manufacturer's representative. He relocated to Fontana, Wis., where he was a supporter of the Geneva Lake Sailing School. In 2007, the Lake Geneva Yacht Club named its Harry A. Ripkey Championship Trophy after him.

Considering that the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor occurred in December, the brothers of Delta Tau Delta honor Harry A. Ripkey. He was a proud UIUC grad, a proud brother of Beta Upsilon Chapter,

HOME COOKING

After Serving 500 Delts, Maden Much More Than Just a House Cook

In September 2008, Trudy Maden walked through the doors at Delta Tau Delta House on the campus of the University of Illinois. It was a match made in heaven.

Maden, who's worked as the house cook ever since, has found her experience rewarding serving the guys at Beta Upsilon. She's also the unofficial "house mother."

"I love my job caring for the guys," she says. "They are always respectful and polite. I consider them my 'not-family' family."

In her years at DTD, Maden estimates that she's served nearly 500 young Delts.

"They always come back – and I love that they do," she says. "I am still in contact with guys that graduated eight years ago."

"There's not one person who gets more respect than she does," senior Sean Kelley says. "She definitely cares about all of us."

But no matter how much she loves the guys, Maden wouldn't have the job as house cook if she couldn't deliver a mean meal. Her specialty is calzones, which she prepares every Wednesday for dinner.

"That's been going on as long as I can remember," says law student and graduate advisor Michael Leszczynski, who's lived in the house – first as an undergraduate brother, now as a law student – longer than anyone. "Henry Wilson, one of my pledge brothers, made a point every Wednesday to eat two of them."

"The amount of effort that she puts into cooking food that guys like brings guys together," Kelley adds. "She's one of the rocks of our fraternity that keeps people together and coming back."



And when brothers do come back, they usually make a bee line for the kitchen so they can talk to Maden again.

"Whenever (alums) visit," Leszczynski says, "everyone makes a point to go and see her and see how she's doing."

Although she loves her time at the Delt house, Maden was able to get away from Champaign during the holiday season. She headed out to Pasadena to work on a float for the Rose Bowl Parade. It was a "bucket list" excursion that she fulfilled with two of her childhood friends. The day before the parade, they worked on the Lutheran Ministry Float.

Maden sat and watched the parade the next day. She also – by sheer coincidence – sat behind a friend who lives in California.

"It was a great experience for a small-town girl," Maden says. "My new hip got a workout and I did great with all the walking."

In an effort to be there for the Delt Brothers, Maden went under the knife to get her new hip around Thanksgiving, thereby limiting the amount of time she would miss at the house.

"That's a testament to how much she gives our house," says Kelley, who introduced his girlfriend to Maden before his parents met her. "This woman really does care about us."

And the feeling is mutual.

"My life would not be as full or as rewarding without Delta Tau Delta," she says. "Definitely ready for 2017 to begin at Delta Tau Delta. I've missed the guys!"

A BETA UPSILON TRADITION

Dtd Brother Keeps Local Establishment in the Family

For undergraduate students at the University of Illinois, KAM'S, a bar on E. Daniel Street, has been the place to be for decades. The bar has seen many DTD members pass through it for all the generations it has existed, but for one brother, it has always been more than a spot to hang out.

Jack Kamerer's '63 parents started the bar, and at first, it was mainly a restaurant. There were no meals on campus, so the bar served food and drinks to undergraduates. Originally opened under the name Kamerer's Annex, it was later given the nickname "KAM'S" by the students who frequented it.

During WWII, the bar became increasingly popular. "Soldiers began to return to the university and they would frequent the place," said Jack, "the restaurant kept growing from there."

When Jack was a freshman, his uncle and a few other family members purchased the bar from his dad. Later on, in 1974-75, John began running the bar at its current location. **Jeff Coleman '76** (who later became DTD President) managed the bar during this time. One of Jack's goals as the



owner of the establishment is to ensure that it doesn't change. "Popularity is probably higher than ever. The bar really has not changed. It still looks the same," he said.

Jack will always cherish the memories he has of the bar and the DTD brothers who visited it. "I used to be the chapter advisor for a while, and I remember opening up one day only to find the brothers hanging out with each other in the beer cooler," he said.

A LOVE STORY

Brother Bruce Ream '59 Met His Wife Through DTD



Bruce and Linda

For many brothers, the decision to pledge DTD was one that would change the rest of their lives, and this is certainly true for **Bruce Ream '59**, who would not have met his wife of 60 years if he hadn't pledged. He recently shared their love story and said that he was even able to share the big day with many of his fraternity brothers.

Bruce said, "On Feb. 16 of 1957, Linda Lee and I got married in Jacksonville, Ill.. Linda was a member of the Kappa Delta Sorority, and I met her on a blind date followed by a house exchange with

the KDs."

On their wedding day, several DTDs and KDs travelled from Champaign to Jacksonville to attend the ceremony.

"Everyone had a good time at the celebration. We remained lifelong friends with many of the Delts and KDs that attended," Bruce said.

Bruce and Linda have now been married nearly 60 years and have two daughters, a son, five grandsons, a granddaughter, and one great-grandson. All thanks to Delta Tau Delta.

BETA UPSILON HERO

Brother Tim McCarthy '71 on the Release of John Hinckley



Tim McCarthy

Brother **Tim McCarthy '71** risked his life to save President Ronald Reagan when John W. Hinckley Jr. attempted to assassinate him in 1981.

A federal judge ruled last fall that Hinckley is well enough to be released from the government psychiatric hospital he's been residing in since the incident; he was then released on Sept. 10, and the national media has been seeking Tim's reaction to the news.

In a video released by the Chicago Tribune,

McCarthy said that he understands Hinckley's release is only happening after evaluation by experts and he hopes that they're right.

"If they're not right, it could be catastrophic," he said.

Under the conditions of Hinckley's release, the secret service will keep tabs on him, but McCarthy says he doesn't know to what extent.

McCarthy has had many conversations with the press about the incident since it happened over 30 years ago, and he's always downplayed his bravery in the moment, saying that any other secret service agent would have done the same thing because it's something they practice doing many times during their training drills.



Reagan was shot in the chest, just below the left underarm. White House Press Secretary James Brady, was left paralyzed by a wound to the head. Secret Service agent Tim McCarthy and Washington D.C. police officer Thomas Delahanty were also wounded.