

Alpha-Sigma
Hall of Fame
Alpha-Sigma
2015



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2015



HALL OF FAME

INDUCTION CEREMONY

PURPOSE: To honor and recognize those brothers whose contributions and service have brought honor to the Alpha-Sigma Chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. Honorees are selected as role models to motivate and inspire active members of the Chapter and make those members proud to be part of an organization that helps develop such a prestigious group of brothers.

ELIGIBILITY: Any initiate of Alpha-Sigma is eligible for selection, whether living or deceased. Contributions and/or service may encompass activities while in school, business, government, military, sports, non-profits organizations, the arts as well as service to the Chapter as an alumnus.

Kappa Sigma is a national fraternity with great pride and a tradition of excellence that our many distinguished alumni have served to enhance throughout the years. The Alpha-Sigma Chapter has seen many brothers rise to positions of prominence. Congratulations to those who have been awarded this honor!





Program

Welcome & Introductions

Walt Shuler '75

Greetings & Invocation

Most holy and glorious Lord God,
the Giver of all good and perfect gifts,
who in Thy name has promised that when two or three
are gathered together in thy Name,
Thou will be in the midst of them and bless them.

We humbly invoke Thy blessing at this time
may brotherly love prevail,
and all moral and social virtues,
unite and cement us.

AMEN

Undergraduate Awards

Chapter Celestial Hall of Fame Inductees

Herschel "Butch" Meredith (1928), Sam Swope (1944), Tom Moody (1948)

Hall of Fame Inductees

James R. "Jay" Beatley, Jr. (1959), Robert "Bob" Weltlich (1963),
Terry Ruggles (1965)

CELESTIAL INDUCTEES

Herschel T. “Butch” Meredith ’28

Herschel “Butch” Meredith was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio. He attended The Ohio State University and became a member of the Order in 1928. It was during his Kappa Sigma undergraduate years that he met his future wife, Suzanne Armbruster (the sister of a fraternity brother). Graduating in 1931 he pursued Suzanne to California. Many voiced the two were too young to marry but they married and were together for 57 years before Suzanne’s passing in 1988.

Brother Meredith became a nationally prominent businessman while in California. He had a remarkable 33-year career with General Mills. Butch rose to become the Western Division Manager for the conglomerate, handling all business operations west of the Mississippi River.

A lifelong devotee to all things Ohio State, Brother Meredith showed the most interest in the Buckeye football team. His love of OSU saw Meredith fund several OSU athletic scholarships while also contributing to Ohio State causes he felt ran true to his own love of the University. Today there is the Herschel T. Meredith Memorial Athletic Scholarship supporting Ohio State football. There is also the Suzanne G. Meredith Memorial Athletic Scholarship Fund supporting Ohio State women’s tennis.

Butch and Suzanne didn’t have children yet many of Brother Meredith’s younger friends looked to him for advice and for stories of Ohio State. He was well known for mentoring Kappa Sigma brothers at chapters on the campus of many California-based universities. Visits to Columbus meant he’d pop in on Alpha-Sigma chapter alumni from time to time to catch up on “The House on the Hill” activities. He was a contributor to the capital campaign from 1964 – 1968, a drive which built the South Wing of the chapter house.

At his passing at the age of 92 years (June 11, 2002), Brother Meredith’s estate was able to give upwards of \$1 Million to The Kappa Sigma National Fraternity in the name of his beloved Alpha-Sigma chapter at OSU. The Herschel Meredith Student Leadership Award is given out annually to qualified undergraduates. Brother Meredith was buried next to his beloved Suzanne in Alta Mesa Memorial Park in Palo Alto, California.

Sam Swope ’44



Brother Sam Swope spent most of his life around cars.

Raised in Rittman, Ohio, a small town southwest of Akron, Swope received his driver’s license at the age of 12. While in high school he earned money running a business washing & polishing cars.

After a tour in the US Navy, Swope enrolled in The Ohio State University where he studied marketing and gained membership into the Alpha-Sigma Chapter of Kappa Sigma.

After college he and his friend, Al Graf, with a great deal of financial assistance from Sam’s father, purchased a small Dodge-Plymouth dealership in Elizabethtown, Kentucky. With a pair of gas pumps and 14 employees inside, it was the smallest dealership in the area and many local were concerned it wouldn’t last more than six months. The two accounted for 2/3 the sales staff of Swope-Graf motors, where Sam did a bit of everything, including pumping gas and washing cars. In 1951 they sold 41 cars.

Graf left two years later, and the dealership found success four years after that, when thanks to strong models released by Dodge and Plymouth, and a lot of hard work, the dealership sold 400 vehicles.

Swope was a brilliant salesman, turning adversity to promotions. In January of '59 a propane truck parked in a service bay exploded, burning down one of his Elizabethtown centers. Brother Swope lined up the cars outside the burned building, took a picture, and published it in a newspaper ad with the caption "We have NO OVERHEAD and PLENTY OF CARS."

Years later when a nasty hail storm damaged every car on his lot, he invited customers to a "Hail Sale", where those who came out to count the dings could receive a discount based upon the number of dents. "We had people all over the lot," remembers Patti Swope.

He liked to say "Early to bed, early to rise. Work like heck and advertise. And always treat people the way you'd like to be treated."

With his vision, work ethic, and philosophy, the number of dealerships soared to 21, making him the largest auto dealer in the state and the 69th largest in the nation.

Brother Swope understood the importance of philanthropy and giving back. He gave millions to Kentucky Masonic groups and the Boy Scouts. He donated \$1,000,000 to the Humane Society of Kentucky to build a lifesaving and treatment center for animals. His decade long involvement with Kosair Charities led to "untold millions" donated to the charity to help disabled children.

Randy Coe, President and CEO of Kosair charities as well as a friend of Sam's said about him, "He was just a tremendous example to others. Sam didn't measure success by the amount of money he gave. I never once heard about the amount. It was always 'What can we do better?'"

Alpha-Sigma was also a huge part of Sam's life. He had a 1912 photo of his dad and Alpha-Sigma brothers standing in front of the House hung in his home office.

"When you reach the age when you stop lying about your age, and start bragging about it, you have many memories. My happiest, and most unforgettable, are those spent with my Alpha-Sigma brothers at the House on the Hill."

Tom Moody '48



Brother Tom Moody was born in Columbus, Ohio in 1929. He graduated from South High School and entered The Ohio State University where he would become a member of Kappa Sigma and obtain his undergraduate degree. Brother Moody attended Franklin College and would eventually earn his Juris Doctorate from Capital University Law School.

Moody became a member of the Counter Intelligence Corps as a special agent following law school. His work with CIC would take him into public service. Brother Moody became a member of City Council and then followed this experience by becoming a Franklin

County Judge of both Municipal Court and the Court of Common Pleas.

In 1972 Brother Moody entered the Columbus mayoral race. He was elected in a surprising upset over incumbent Mayor Jack Sensenbrenner who had held office for 12 years. His campaign promise to be "quietly effective" was a winner making him Columbus, Ohio's 44th Mayor, an office he held for three consecutive terms. Brother Moody is credited with negotiating the land acquisition that would become Rte. 315 through Columbus and a corridor to The Ohio State University. He and his administration ushered in Huntington Center, Nationwide Plaza and the AEP Building developments. Mayor Moody was in charge during Columbus Public School District's period of desegregation.

Brother Moody was eloquent and well-respected. He served as the president of the National League of Cities; president of the Ohio Municipal League; was the 1st US president of the International Union of Local Officials; and a distinguished and valued member of the Masons.

There is also Moody-Hall Neighborhood Policing Center, dedicated in 2009, that serves the University District and Weinland Park areas. The center is a safety center, housing Columbus Police, OSU Police, a community crime patrol office and neighborhood pride center.

Brother Moody visited the undergrads at Alpha-Sigma chapter many times often sharing a meal at Monday night formal dinners in the 70s and 80s. Brother Moody's signature graces every pledge paddle needed in those days as part of pledging. His signature was preceded only by that of a pledge's Big Brother.

Brother Moody passed on October 30, 2008. He left behind a wife (Jean), a son (Todd Moody), a daughter (Paula Moody Fox) and three grandchildren (Erik Moody, Brett & Audrey Fox).

James R. "Jay" Beatley, Jr. '59



Brother Beatley graduated from The Ohio State University in 1962 and received a JD degree from The Ohio State University College of Law in 1965. He was awarded the Order of the Coif (law school honorary) and served as a member and editor of The Ohio State Law Journal.

Jay began his professional career as a law clerk to Hon. Julius J. Hoffman, US District Judge at Chicago from 1965 to 1967. Then he joined the Columbus law firm of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP. Jay's career would span 40+ years and see him rise from associate to partner.

Jay was very active and involved with both fraternity and Ohio State. Today, he is a member of the OSU President's Club and a life member of the OSU Alumni Association. Brother Beatley faithfully served the Alpha-Sigma chapter for 20+ years as Trustee of the Kappa Sigma House Company and was its president for a time period. Jay was also the Editor of the Kappa Sig STATER.

Jay is a member of the professional associations of Columbus, Ohio State and the American Bar Associations. He also has served as Chairman of the General Practice Committee of the Columbus Bar Association. Brother Beatley has been a member of the Washington DC Bar Association and was admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. Jay has been the past Chairman of Section on Corporate Donations for United Way and has served as a Trustee and Past President of the Central Ohio Chapter of the Leukemia Society, and is a member of Charity Newsies.

James has a son, Jacob R. "Jake" Beatley.

Reflecting on Alpha-Sigma, Brother Beatley comments, "As an undergraduate, Kappa Sigma provided me with role models, mentors, and the opportunity to prepare for the challenges one encounters in life. To this day, many of my closest friends are Kappa Sigs I met as an undergraduate. The fraternity experience shaped my life and, by providing a full college experience, enhanced my affection for, and connection to, Ohio State."

Robert "Bob" Weltlich '63



Brother Bob Weltlich served Alpha-Sigma Chapter as Grand Master and represented the chapter on campus as a member of IFC and the Ohio Staters, Inc., prior to graduating in 1967 with a degree in education from The Ohio State University. Bob then became a teacher and assistant basketball, football and head track coach at Rittman High School in Ohio for two years.

Bob would leave teaching in 1969 to enlist in the Army where he would

become an assistant basketball coach at the United States Military Academy. In 1971, Brother Weltlich would follow Bobby Knight to Indiana University where, during a five year stint as assistant coach, the Hoosiers would win five Big 10 Championships and in 1976 become the last undefeated national champions in NCAA Div I basketball.

After the 1976 season, Bob was hired as the Head Coach at the University of Mississippi and guided the 1981 Rebels to their first ever SEC basketball championship. In 1980 he was selected SEC Coach of the Year. He then accepted the Head Coaching position at the University of Texas in the Southwest Conference, winning the regular season SWC championship and being selected SWC Coach of the Year in 1986. During the remainder of his coaching career, Bob was named Coach of the Year at both Florida International University (1995) and the University of South Alabama in the Sun Belt Conference (2000) while winning Conference championships at both institutions.

Weltlich prides himself as being one of a select few coaches to have taken four different teams to post-season tournaments while being named Coach of the Year in four different leagues.

Other achievements include; Assistant Coach in Selection of the US Pan-Am Team (gold medal - 1979); Head Coach of the National Sports Festival South Team (1981); Head Coach of the US World Games Team (silver medal - 1982); Assistant Coach in Selection of the US Olympic Team (gold medal - 1984).

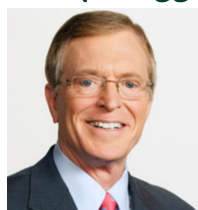
During his career, Bob has further served as a basketball analyst on the CBS/NCAA national radio game of the week, announced Jefferson-Pilot TV's SEC game of the week and done ESPN regional TV games. His career also includes having served on the NABC Legislative committee, the National Invitational Tournament Selection Committee and the National Faculty of the United States Sports Academy. Bob also authored the nationally recognized book titled "Crooked Zebra".

Brother Weltlich is a member of the Wayne County of Ohio Sports Hall of Fame, the Orville High School Sports Hall of Fame and was recognized in 2011 by the Southeastern Conference as one of its "Basketball Legends".

Bob and his wife, Nancy, have two sons, Casey and Chad.

Brother Weltlich shares his thoughts as, "Alpha-Sigma of Kappa Sigma has meant a lifetime of lasting memories and friendships that have helped guide me through college, career, and life while still enduring today as they did while I was an undergrad at OSU."

Terry Ruggles '65



Brother Ruggles, initiated in 1965, provided leadership during his undergraduate years by serving as the chapter's Rush Chairman in 1966 - 67. His graduation from The Ohio State University brought Terry the additional honor of being recognized as a distinguished military graduate.

Brother Ruggles shares with Kappa Sigma brethren, freely, his challenging childhood. As a young man, just 11 years old, his mother passed away. The loss meant Terry had to step into an adult role at home. As Terry puts it, "I couldn't be a kid... I had to act like an adult, washing clothes, making lunches, cleaning rooms as well as being a sounding board for my father". Terry's dad was burdened with financial trouble and held a place in his heart for his deceased wife while dealing with the pressures of Terry and his brother.

Terry has always viewed attending The Ohio State University as "turning a page" in his life. His introduction to a few Kappa Sigs left an immediate impression upon him. They were leaders. They were doers. They cared about each other and surprisingly Terry realized they also cared

about his well-being. Terry couldn't move into the chapter house fast enough if you hear his story. After college, Terry became a 1st Lieutenant in the US Army and was running a closed circuit TV station at an Army training center. After exiting service Terry stayed involved in broadcast journalism, working in Green Bay (WI), Grand Rapids (MI) and Philadelphia (PA). It would be in Philly that Terry made his name.

Terry became a part of Philadelphia media and worked there for 38 years with local CBS and NBC affiliates. He held numerous positions, including general assignment reporter, science and environmental reporter, weekend anchor, weather anchor, finally becoming a morning news anchor.

During his tenure in Philadelphia, Terry covered events such as the Nation's Bi-Centennial, the deadly outbreak of Legionnaire's disease, the nuclear disaster at Three Mile Island, both M.O.V.E. shoot outs, two World Series parades and the visits to Philly and New York City by Pope John Paul II. Brother Ruggles has interviewed five United States Presidents during his outstanding career.

Brother Ruggles covered nine hurricanes, four space shuttle launches, the Challenger disaster, both World Trade Center bombings, the Winter Olympics in both Albertville, France ('92) and Salt Lake City ('02) along with U.S. operations in Haiti. Reporting assignments took Terry to Saudi Arabia, Germany, England and Italy to cover world affairs.

Terry received the Pennsylvania State Police Meritorious Citizen award after he helped negotiate the release of two social workers held hostage at a local prison on Christmas Eve 1978. He was the honored recipient of the 2013 John G. Tower Distinguished Alumni Award from Kappa Sigma Fraternity.

Brother Ruggles and his wife, Maryjane, have two children, Matthew and Meredith. Terry is a cancer survivor and he focuses on raising cancer awareness funds for the Abramson Cancer Center at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Terry is quick to remark, "I spent 5 years of life at 1842 Indianola Avenue; 25% of my life at that point. I learned to respect, to care, to be concerned and value others no matter what their background. I learned teamwork and humility. I had three jobs in college to pay the bills. One of those jobs was washing dishes at the house to pay for my meals. Each job taught me the value of a dollar. Growing up in Cuyahoga Falls, because of the circumstances, I was a kid doing adult things. As an Alpha-Sigma brother, I became an adult and the things I learned there have been the cornerstone of the things I have done throughout my adult life."



Star & Crescent

The Star and Crescent shall not be worn by every man
but only by him who is worthy to wear it
He must be a gentleman,
a man of honor and courage.
A man of zeal yet humble,
An intelligent man, a man of truth
One who tempers actions with wisdom
and above all else, one who walks
in the Light of God.