Plattsmouth Alumni Association

Linking the Past with the Future

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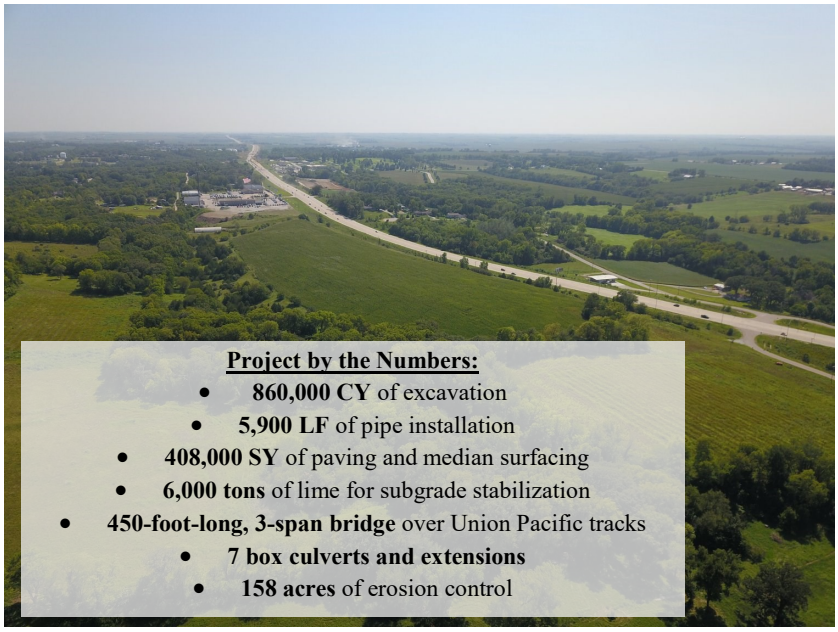
LONG AWAITED HIGHWAY 75 PROJECT CONNECTING PLATTSMOUTH TO MURRAY REACHES COMPLETION.



The long-awaited expansion of Highway 75 between Plattsmouth and Murray is making significant strides. This Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) project, designed to transform seven miles of the existing highway into a four-lane expressway, is now substantially complete.

First envisioned more than 30 years ago, the project was awarded to Hawkins Construction in November 2020, with work officially beginning in July 2021. Despite obstacles such as underground utility relocations, labor shortages, and global supply chain disruptions, progress has remained steady.

The project will enhance safety and improve traffic flow in the region.

-credit: Hawkins Construction Website

Celebrate Tradition at the 25th Annual PHS Alumni Banquet!

Mark Your Calendars! The Plattsmouth High School Alumni Banquet is celebrating its **25th year** on **May 24, 2025**, at **Plattsmouth High School**—and you won't want to miss it!

This cherished annual event brings PHS graduates together for an evening of memories, laughter, and celebration. Whether you're reconnecting with old friends or making new ones, this banquet is the perfect way to honor your class and the legacy of PHS.

Honoring Milestone Reunions

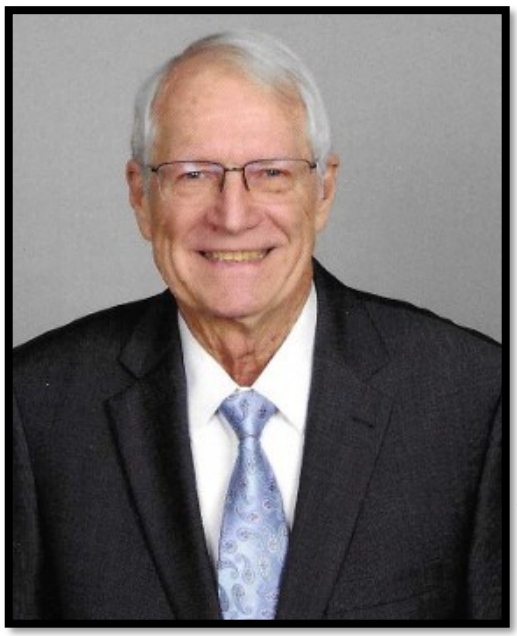
In 2025, we will be celebrating several milestone class reunions, including:
2000 – 25 years; **1995** – 30 years; **1990** – 35 years; **1985** – 40 years; **1980** – 45 years
1975 – 50 years; **1970** – 55 years; **1965** – 60 years; **1960** – 65 years; **1955** – 70 years
1950 – 75 years

Reserve Your Spot Today!

Join us for an unforgettable evening filled with nostalgia and camaraderie. **Reserve your seat today** by visiting https://plattsedfoundation.org/alumni/ or by completing the form on the last page of this newsletter.

We can't wait to celebrate with you on **May 24, 2025**! See you there!

PHS Hall of Fame Inductees 2025



James (Jim) Dietz graduated from Plattsmouth High School in May of 1968. During his time in high school, he was a member of the Spanish Club, Chess Club and golf as well as a four-year member of the award-winning band, participating in marching, concert and pep bands. Upon graduation he attended the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. While at the university, he was Activity Chairman for Cather Hall, published a newspaper for a three-dorm complex and passed the national engineer in training exam - a prerequisite to becoming a registered professional engineer. He received a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from Iowa State with a minor in Industrial Engineering. Original research for his master's thesis was titled "Field Induction in Long Cylindrical Objects Parallel to Transmission Lines" (i.e. center pivot irrigation systems). In addition, he also studied courses at Creighton University and University of Nebraska Kearney toward a master's degree in Business Administration. He has worked for Omaha Public Power District (OPPD), including participation in preliminary design studies and construction engineering for the Nebraska City Unit 1 Power Plant, and was directly involved in bringing improved electrical service to the Plattsmouth area. He served five rural cooperatives (four in Minnesota; one in Iowa) and was a manager in three utilities in Nebraska - Columbus, Auburn and Cambridge. He became a registered Professional Engineer in Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota and a member of several professional engineering societies. At the Columbus utility, he was instrumental, from beginning to end, of an FM commercial radio load management system (largest coverage of its type in the US) which launched a wide area paging system prior to the cell phone age. He was involved in recruiting a large corn processing plant which is currently the largest ethanol producer in Nebraska. As General Manager/CEO of Twin Valleys Public Power in Cambridge he oversaw eleven towns and provided wholesale power to five other communities and a rural area in six counties larger than the state of Rhode Island, doubling revenue in five years and doubled the irrigation horsepower served in seven years. While serving Cambridge, he oversaw the successful recovery efforts of the damage due to one of the largest ice storms since the electrification of rural Nebraska. During his professional career, Jim was appointed by two Nebraska governors to the State Electrical Board which regulates electrical inspections, electrician licensing, continuing education, etc. for the entire state, including a time serving as the board president. He was also appointed by the governor to the Republican River Sustainability Task Force as the power district representative. The purpose was to generate reports for the Legislature providing a solution to declining ground water levels due to irrigation. Jim has been actively involved in each of the areas he has served in Nebraska by promoting the communities and surrounding areas, serving on boards, involved in organizations, raising money and volunteering his time. Multiple times, he helped judge MATHCOUNTS, a nationwide math contest for middle school students, assisted with Odyssey of the Mind, coached youth sports, continued his musical interests and is involved with his church.

NOMINATIONS FOR PHS ALUM OF THE YEAR

The Plattsmouth Alumni Association is seeking
Nominations for the 2025 ALUM OF THE YEAR.
Nominations will be accepted until **May 1, 2025**
Please submit nominations to: Plattsmouth Alumni Association, Attn: Alum of the Year Committee
P.O. Box 283 Plattsmouth, NE 68048
The recipient will be selected based on the following:
***Individual must be a PHS ALUM *Contributions to the betterment of his/her community**
The nominator should submit a biographical statement of the nominee, to include a brief family history and accomplishments the individual has made during their life since graduation (please state year of graduation). The nominator must submit a brief statement explaining why they have nominated this individual and that the candidate can attend the banquet.

Kenny Dasher was raised in Plattsmouth and graduated from Plattsmouth High School in 1958. He demonstrated exceptional leadership and excelled in football, basketball, track and lettered in all sports all four years. He was co -captain of the football and track teams. Kenny was awarded Twin Rivers football all-star conference team as well as Aksarben All-Star squad. He was also the recipient of the Henry F Schultz Numeral 1 Award. Kenny received the Omaha World Herald Athletic Role of Honor star of the week in 1958. In addition, he played baseball with the local teams. Kenny was a member of the Bowlero- Yopp team of Plattsmouth slow pitch baseball league, winners of the Class B state tourney. Well-liked by his classmates, he was the King of the Yuletide. After graduation, Kenny married Judy Lutes and they made their home in Plattsmouth. They were married at the Methodist Church where Kenny was baptized. Kenny and Judy had two children, Kelly (deceased) and Kevin, also a graduate of PHS. Kenny has one grandchild, Sam, and has enjoyed teaching Sam the finer points of hunting, fishing, and talking sports. Kenny began his working life as a machinist at the Burlington Railroad shops in Plattsmouth, and later at the Vickers plant in Omaha, retiring after 34 years. Vickers had been purchased by the Eaton Corp., moving the Omaha operations to South Carolina. Eaton asked Kenny to do consulting and training work for them at that facility but after two years of traveling back and forth to Nebraska he decided to retire from Eaton as well. Not being someone to sit around, Kenny began his second career at the Plattsmouth Schools in 2004 as a custodian, painter, and ultimately a role model for kids at the high school. He remains employed at the school currently, having completed 21 years of service. He is known for his notorious work ethic with his motto for each day "If we do more today, then we'll have less to do tomorrow". Being an avid supporter of Plattsmouth athletics, Kenny began volunteering by keeping football stats at the high school, which he continued for 30 years. To this day he attends many of the school's athletic events. He is recognized by the students and staff for his dedication to the school. Kenny takes great pride in his duties at the school and loves to visit with the students. He has a passion to have a positive impact on students and to help them make better decisions. The kids respect Kenny and enjoy his stories of the past. They happily sing Happy Birthday to him each year and never fail to say hello when they see him outside of school. He rarely misses a graduation party invite. Kenny's hobbies are fishing, hunting, gardening at his brother's farm, following horse racing, and spending time with family and friends. Kenny is a true example of BLUE DEVIL PRIDE.

Roger Dee Moore was a 1990 graduate of Plattsmouth High School. During high school he played football, as well as track where he threw the shot put and discus. His college academic journey began at the University of Nebraska Lincoln where he earned a Bachelor of Arts with Distinction degree majoring in political science and minors in history, psychology and philosophy. Roger was a beloved member of Chi Phi fraternity and held various positions to mentor his peers. He continued on to receive his Juris Doctorate of Law in 1997 from the University of Nebraska College of Law. He was admitted to practice in all state and federal courts in both Nebraska and Iowa. His practice focused on Worker's Compensation, Social Security Appeals and Personal Injury cases, wrongful death and employment rights. Roger was a respected attorney who began his practice in Crete in 1997, moving on to the Rehm, Bennett, Moore P.C. law firm in Lincoln and Omaha where he was an integral part since 2000. He served as President of the Nebraska State Bar Workers' Compensation Section. He tried and won many important cases for injured workers at the Nebraska Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. One of his most important accomplishments was arguing and winning at the Federal 8th Circuit the eligibility of civilian National Guardsman to receive Social Security disability benefits. This brought thousands of dollars to these National Guardsmen - not only in this part of the country but he also helped argue the same issue in the 3rd and 10th Circuit courts affecting thousands more dollars. He made presentations at Nebraska Bar Association Workers' Compensation Seminars. Roger served his community in many ways. He was a youth softball, baseball and football coach and as an attorney he educated a Boy Scout Troop on the constitutional rights and obligations of a U.S citizen. He was a member of multiple Bar associations, Work Injury Litigation Group, Nebraska Trial Attorneys, Worker's Compensation Section Executive Committee member and officer along with several other law affiliated associations. In addition, he was an extremely active in Eastern Star and Scottish Rite Masonry, becoming a 32nd degree Mason and installed in the Tangier Shrine of Omaha. Roger Moore, lovingly dubbed ‘007’, had a zest for life and his kind, jovial, positive attitude and love of family took him far in life. Unfortunately, he passed away in 2023 - too early as he had so much more to accomplish.

Robert 'Bob' Priebe. A Nebraska native, Bob Priebe graduated from Hastings High School in 1962 where he was a seven-time letter winner in football, track and swimming. He was the captain of the football team in his senior year and was selected to play in the Shrine Bowl. He attended Hastings College with a football scholarship, graduating in 1966. While in college he lettered three times in football and twice in track as well as being selected to the Student Senate. After receiving an academic scholarship to study geography, he graduated in 1967 from the University of Chicago graduate school. He went on to teach at Barrington Illinois High School for two years before moving to Plattsmouth where he taught for thirty-one years. During his tenure at PHS, Bob was selected the Teacher of the Year in 2000, teacher of the month multiple times, as well as having the PHS Yearbook dedicated to him in 1975. He served as chairman of the Social Studies Department teaching Geography, History and Government. As a teacher, Bob literally brought the world into his social studies classroom. His world travels allowed him to give a firsthand account of the content to his students, opening their minds to the world. He truly served as a leader, a mentor and a friend. When he wasn't teaching classes, he was busy serving the athletic department where he was the assistant football coach for six years, assistant wrestling coach for 25 years and assistant track coach for 31 years. Bob coached multiple conference, district and state champions in the shot put and the discus. He was very much in command of teaching technique and character. When it came to throws Plattsmouth was always seen as a leader under Bob's guidance. With all that experience and dedication, it's no surprise he was selected as the Nebraska School Athletic Association Assistant Coach of the Year, and received the Distinguished Service Award from the Nebraska State Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association as well as an Award of Gratitude for service to the wrestling program from the PHS Athletic Department Upon retirement from teaching, Bob served on the Plattsmouth School Board for 12 years, eight years as president and two as vice president. While on the school board, Bob became active with the P.A.C.K. project to raise funds for turfing the football field, building a baseball field as well as fixing up the softball field and a new track. In each of the above roles, Bob always worked diligently to make sure everything was done right and in the best interest of the students. He was truly dedicated and committed in his role as teacher, mentor and friend. In addition to Bob's many awards, he was also an Eagle Scout and selected to the Order of the Arrow.

Jeff Wiles is a 1981 graduate of Plattsmouth High School where he was involved in multiple sports - football (lettered 2 years) playing defensive back on the state runner up team, basketball (lettered 2 years) and track (lettered all 4 years) as well as band 4 years, Student Council, National Honor Society, class officer, editor of the yearbook his senior year and sports editor his junior year. Some of his highlights of high school include playing on what is arguably the best football team in Blue Devil history and having made three interceptions in the state semi-final game against Columbus Lakeview. He learned many different people and writing skills while serving as the editor of the yearbook and had the opportunity to meet and go to school with many great people. He started his college years at Midland College, Fremont, where he played football for two years before transferring to the University of Nebraska Lincoln where he received a BS in Social Science education in 1985. Jeff was the recipient of a Nebraska Economics Fellowship (1993 -1996). While on the Program Fellowship team he wrote curriculum for the National Association of Economic Education. At the end of the Program, Jeff earned a master's in economics from the University of Nebraska Lincoln. In 2001, he received an endorsement in Administration from the University of Nebraska Omaha. Jeff spent his entire professional educational career at Plattsmouth High School for a total of 33 years. He spent 15 years as a social studies teacher, 5 years as the Activities Director and is the longest serving principal in the history of PHS, with 13 years. During his tenure as a teacher Jeff served as the head boys and girls track coach for 19 years. Under his leadership as the track coach, PHS had multiple individual state champions, conference and district team championships and a state runner up finish in boys' track. Other coaching duties included an assistant football coach (6 years) and assistant boys basketball coach (5 years). Jeff served on the Nebraska Coaches Association Advisory Board for four years. In addition, he served as the Junior Class Sponsor and Student Council advisor for many years. The Plattsmouth Student Council hosted the state conference twice under his leadership. In 1999 he was awarded the Nebraska Association of Student Councils (NASC) Outstanding Advisor Award. From 2000 -2004 he was the State Executive Director of NASC. As the Activities Director he implemented Changing Lives a character education program in athletics. He assisted in spearheading the drive to build the fitness center in order to alleviate safety concerns in the weight room and wrestling room. While Principal, PHS was awarded the Healthy School National Award. With his assistance, the plans for the current athletic facilities and walking track were designed, and he worked on raising funds for the project. Under his guidance PHS also saw the creation of the Veteran's Day Assembly, Trunk or Treat, and other community service projects. He was instrumental in the transition of PHS becoming a Wall-to-Wall Career Academy school - one of the first schools in the state to do so. As a result, he was appointed to the Nebraska Department of Education Career Academy Advisory Committee. Jeff has continued to keep busy in retirement by serving as a co-commander for the Offutt Advisory Council. The Council works to provide community outreach events for members of the United States Military. Events include handing out turkeys and hams for Thanksgiving and Christmas to enlisted men and women as well as hosting a picnic that serves more than 12,000 members of the military and their families. He continues to influence future educators by teaching courses in coaching and athletic administration and supervising 10 -12 student teachers each semester at UNO. He and his wife, Vicki, also serve the community by operating a small local business, Permite, a third-generation family-owned business founded in Plattsmouth in 1961.

Plattsmouth Alumni Association

Linking the Past with the Future

25th Annual Plattsmouth Alumni Association Celebration May 24, 2025

A wonderful opportunity to visit with old friends and make new ones. Held in the Gallery of the beautiful CTE building on the Northwest corner of the PHS campus at 1916 Old Highway 34 in Plattsmouth. Accessible through Doors #55, #60, & #61. Return the reservation form below before May 12, 2025, make checks payable to Plattsmouth Alumni Association and send to P. O. Box 283 in Plattsmouth, NE 68048. Any questions/concerns call: Sandy Holman McKnight at: 402-298-8513 or go to the Plattsmouth Alumni e-mail: plattsmouthalum@gmail.com

Doors open at 5:00 PM
Dinner at 6:00 PM

DINNER RESERVATION

Dinner will be served at 6:00 P.M. in the Plattsmouth High School cost is $25.00 per person.

Online registration available at www.plattsedfoundation.org/alumni

_____Number attending at $25.00 per person TOTAL due $_____ (please list all names attending below)

PHS Alum Yes - No Grad. Yr. _____ Name _____ (include Maiden name if PHS grad.)

PHS Alum Yes - No Grad. Yr. _____ Name _____ (include Maiden name if PHS grad.)

PHS Alum Yes - No Grad. Yr. _____ Name _____ (include Maiden name if PHS grad.)

PHS Alum Yes - No Grad. Yr. _____ Name _____ (include Maiden name if PHS grad.)

Time to pay Annual Plattsmouth Alumni Association Membership Dues - $10.00 Help us keep our membership records current, provide us with your current address even if you do not plan to attend the annual banquet.

Name _____ Graduation Year _____

Address _____

City _____, State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Register for the free E-mail Newsletter, go to Mail Chimp at: http://purl.com/ddrSOP

Enclosed is my Annual Membership dues fee of $10.00 per person $_____

Enclosed is my Lifetime Membership Dues fee of $150.00 per person $_____

Enclosed is my donation to the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund $_____

Enclosed is my donation to the Alumni Association General Fund $_____

Enclosed is my donation to be used in the following way: $_____

Total $ _____

Send check to Plattsmouth Alumni Association, P.O. Box 283, Plattsmouth, NE 68048 The Alumni Association is under the 501(c)(3) tax umbrella of the Plattsmouth Education Foundation A receipt will be returned for donations.

Plattsmouth Alumni Association
P.O. Box 283
Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048

Save The Date:

PLATTSMOUTH EDUCATION FOUNDATON PRESENTS
CECIL McKNIGHT 10th ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

A benefit event of the Plattsmouth Education Foundation – Grants for Teachers Program
When: Saturday, September 27, 2025 a 9:00am shotgun start 18 holes & dinner & prizes
Where: Lake Ridge Golf Club at Beautiful Beaver Lake
Why: A benefit to finance the Grants for Plattsmouth Teachers Program. To inspire and facilitate innovative methods of teaching in and outside the classrooms.
Watch for Registration forms to be available at a later date on: www.plattsedfoundation.org

5th ANNUAL COACH MCKNIGHT FUN RUN

When: Saturday, November 8, 2025 www.CoachMcKnightFunRun.com
What: a 1 mile walk, a 1 mile kids run, and a 5K run, Chip timed
Where: PHS Blue Devil Stadium and Community Walking Trail
Why: Fun for the Whole Family. To benefit scholarship and Plattsmouth High School Activities