



Class of 1980 – 12th Man Rededication
Rudder Plaza • Texas A&M University

October 24, 2015

Ceremony of Events

Class of 1980 12th Man Rededication

Welcome & Attendee Recognition

Mark Rhea

E. King Gill, The Man & Class of '80 Connection

Doug Vorpahl

The Gift History – Symbol of
Selfless Service...What's next

Mark Murphy

Paul Gulig

Formal Rededication

Texas A&M University

Class of 1980

Reunion Class Photo

Class of 1980



Class Agents Involved with 2014 Statue Move

Phil Gougler
Bill Jentsch

Carolyn (Storm) Kettenacker
Mark Rhea

Class Officers Involved with Statue When Given to the University

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
President	Ken Lewis	Jeff Mason	Mark Murphy	Mark Murphy
Vice-President	Kathy Cox	Kathy Cox	Kathy Cox	Kathy Cox
Treasurer	Brian Miller	Brian Miller	Brian Miller	Brian Miller
Secretary	Peggy Walker	Peggy Walker	Peggy Walker	Valerie Rivera
Historian				Susan Clerihew

Class Council

Kay Klein
Valerie Rivera
Cathy O'Connor
Kay Martin
Bonita Barnes
Susan Clerihew

Minta Walker
Lance Templeton
Paul Gulig
Kathy Cox
Jeff Mason
Brian K. Miller

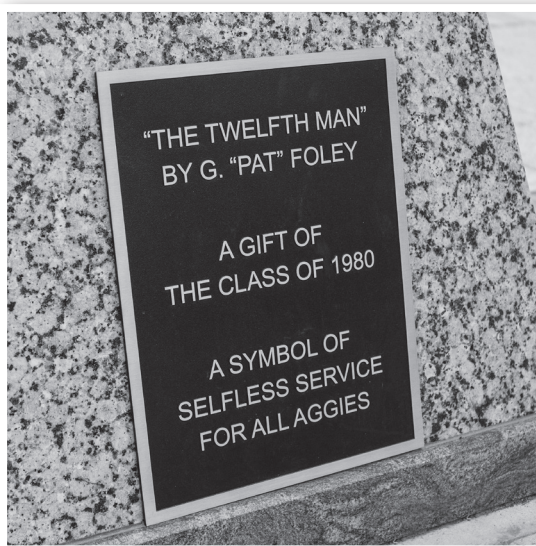
Denis J. Koutsandreas
Mark Murphy
David Kaiser
Gary Brock

*Classmates with Personal
Ties to E. King Gill
12th Man Memories by
Doug Vorpahl '80*

“The world knows him as ‘E. King Gill – Original 12th Man of Texas A&M’. In the Army he was ‘Colonel E. King Gill’. In his post-war professional life, he was ‘Dr. Gill’. But we knew him as ‘Big King’. He was a father figure and best friend to my dad, Lucky Vorpahl. And Big King was like a grandfather to me and my siblings. We spent many summer weeks at his cabin in Rockport. He retained his athleticism to the end, dove hunting, fishing, and playing golf. Even after passing 70 years of age, he could still shoot in the 80’s. And Big King was very competitive; whether we were shooting doves, fishing for specks and reds, or playing golf, he wanted to win, and he hated to lose.

When it came to his 12th man fame, he was very humble about it – I can’t ever remember him talking about it. But he dearly loved Texas A&M, and everything it stood for.”

– Doug Vorpahl '80



12th Man Memories by Nancy Sims Meehan '80

One of my dearest memories of the 12th Man, Dr. King Gill, is my father telling me that Dr. King was a very modest man and never mentioned anything about being the 12th Man unless he was asked.

My hope is for all to understand that E. King Gill not only stood at the ready the day of that fateful football game, but he stood at the ready the rest of his life as a leader, doctor, husband, friend, citizen, the most honorable of men, and a proud but humble Texas Aggie!

Dr. King Gill and my father (Charles N. Sims, Jr. '44) met sometime in the mid 1960's after Daddy retired as Marine pilot, and we settled in Corpus Christi in 1964. Daddy's second career was as a stockbroker, and had a good number of physicians among his clients and friends.

We believe it was through these connections that Dad became acquainted with the 12th Man, Dr. E. King Gill. Daddy was also a member of the Corpus Christi A&M Club, so perhaps they met there.

No matter how they got to know each other, in many ways, they were kindred souls as Aggies, former military and humble men of honor. Dr. Gill and Daddy would often go fishing or hunting. Being very much the tomboy, I was allowed to join them on a few occasions, but generally, it was my older brother, David, who went with them.

As Dr. King was getting older he wanted Daddy to buy his small weekend or vacation cottage in Rockport. Mom was not at all the outdoor type, so I think she talked him out and we vacationed in Europe instead. What a missed opportunity that was.

Daddy did buy his fishing boat. Dr. Gil had named the boat "Schatzie". My brothers and I cannot remember whom Daddy said the boat was named for, but we think, "Schatzie" may have been a nickname for his wife. "Schatzie" was

a wonderful tri-hull, open boat with a powerful 150 hp engine, so it could really rip through the water for great skiing. Our primary enjoyment with “Schatzie” came from fishing the Intercostal and Bay for many years.

Daddy introduced me to Dr. Gill and his wife when I was about ten or so. I remember visiting with them at their weekend home in Rockport. When I was in my early teens, I was especially delighted as Dr. Gill gave me his bird dog, Belle. He had tried to train her to be a hunting dog, but she was scared to death of the gunshot and had too timid of a personality to be any good as a hunting dog. Belle was a wonderful pet and running companion for many years.

In my eyes, Dr. Gill was a very friendly, older man who was every bit the gentleman and very kind hearted. Little did I know that years later I would be standing with my fellow Aggies through every A&M game to demonstrate our willingness to come to the aid of the Team just as Dr. E. King Gill, the 12th Man, stood ready.

This great Aggie Legend and Hero was a gentle memory from my youth. I count it a true honor and privilege to have known Texas A&M’s 12th Man, Dr. E. King Gill.

– Nancy Sims Meehan ’80

Thank You

Sr. Associate Vice President – James Massey

University Architect – Lilia Gonzales

Sr. Associate Athletics Director – Jason Cook

Office of the President Staff

MSC Director – Luke Altendorf

2014 Student Body President – Kyle Kelly ’14

2014 MSC President – Ryan Trantham ’15

2014 Corps Commander – David Trigg ’15

Selfless Service

“Any definition of a successful life must include serving others.”

– *George H.W. Bush , 41st US President*

"Selfless service in all areas of life is having the mindset to see someone's specific need and to act accordingly on their behalf even at your own expense."

– *Kyle Kelly '14, Student Body President 2014-2015*

"Selfless service is one of the most important Core Values at Texas A&M, as this quality in our students, faculty, and staff is what separates us from every other university. Thousands of Aggies have selflessly served our communities, state, nation, and the world since our beginning in 1876, and will continue to do so because of what it means to each of us. Selfless service means putting the needs of others much further above that of your own, sacrificing your time and effort to help those in an unfortunate situation, and giving back to a community that has provided you with memories, wisdom, and friends, all the while knowing that the Aggies alongside you would do the same for you in the case that you found yourself in a similar situation."

– *Alyssa Michalke '16, Corps Commander 2015-2016*

“Selfless service is epitomized by E. King Gill's willingness to stand up when he was needed. We can all make the world a better place in ways both big and small by answering the call to action, then applying talents and energy we didn't know we had within us to make a difference.”

– *Mike Fossum '80, Astronaut*

“Selfless service is a willingness to put great causes and other people above ourselves – a willingness to sacrifice for the greater good. Selfless service is something that Texas Aggies have been known for over 135 years, and our record of service and achievement is second to none. There is a very good reason why selfless service is a core value at Texas A&M – it is fundamental to what being a Texas Aggie is all about.”

– BG(R) Joe E. Ramirez, Jr '79,
Commandant of Cadets, Texas A&M University

"Providing help and support to an individual, group, or cause that fulfills a legitimate need without hopes of retribution"

– Dr. John Koldus, VP Student Services,
Texas A&M University, Retired

FBI, CIA, NSA,—The Bush School has become a prominent recruiting ground for government agencies, James Olson says, because of the way it prepares its students with hands-on training and guidance from faculty who served in the field. ... Olson chairs the admissions committee. He looks for students that he calls “infected,” because they “have that bug to serve.” “And if they don’t convince us that they are genuinely called to public service, then we’re general going to go somewhere else,” ... “Students who come to the Bush school, who are all graduate students, do not want to be academics. If we sense that they want to be academics, we screen them out, frankly, because we’re looking for people who see the Bush degree as a terminal for public service.”

– Article about former CIA intelligence officer and current
Bush School professor James Olson in an article that appeared in The Eagle

EXCELLENCE LOYALTY
INTEGRITY RESPECT
LEADERSHIP SELFLESS SERVICE