BELTON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Believing every day in the future

Announcing the 2023 Belton High School Hall of Fame Inductees!

Fred Ashbaugh
Cynthia Boydston
Gary Sowell

Read about why they were selected to be honored...

Fredrick Alan Ashbaugh
Class of 1953



Fred was born in Belton in 1935. He attended Belton School District, playing football and basketball, graduating in 1953.

Fred graduated in 1958 from a tool and die apprenticeship at Westinghouse and was later employed at Summit Engineering. He completed a basic training program in the US Army, then returned to Summit Engineering to work and remained on military standby/reserve for eight years.

In 1961, Fred went to work at the Bendix Corporation. Fred proved himself by creating tools and parts per Engineering specifications. He became an Engineer within two years. In 1992, he retired after 32 years at Bendix (aka Allied Signal/Honeywell) as a Professional Engineer.

Fred's hobby was motorcycles, and in the 1960's he built a successful side business on North Scott in Belton, called Safari Cycles. In the mid-1970's, Harley Davidson was added and the name changed to Belton Harley Davidson. Fred also created a motorcycle park near Stockton, MO. After exiting the motorcycle business in 1974, Fred started Hot Set-Up Products, a fiberglass business, which was on North Scott in Belton for many years.

Fred's success has also been marked by obtaining two patents for inventions at Bendix and in his fiberglass business.

Upon retirement, Fred invested in real estate with many rental properties in Belton. He and his wife, Suzie, live in Raymore and still attend church and many activities in Belton.

Cynthia Boydston
Class of 1973



Following four years of working full-time while involved in the PEP Club, Marching and Concert Band, and serving as the treasurer of the BETA Club, Cindy graduated from Belton in 1973. Cindy graduated with honors, was voted Most Likely to Succeed, and was given the honor of speaking at the Class of 73's Graduation Ceremony.

After high school, Cindy attended the University of Chicago as a GRTS scholar and the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business. There she learned two of the most important lessons for business and life:

1. Listening is much more important than speaking when working with people.

2. The smartest person in every room is not the person who talks most, but the person you will learn from if you listen.

Cindy looked for new challenges and emerging opportunities her entire career – including being an early participant in women's intercollegiate sports, serving in the reserves, and being a founding member of multiple startups. For 40 years every position Cindy undertook involved new fields, innovative technology, or new government and regulatory challenges. Looking to the future and providing assistance where needed has been a hallmark of Cindy's life. She made a career of working with startups and consulting with major corporations on new technologies and changing regulatory environments.

Since retirement, Cindy has volunteered for nonprofits and community organizations as a technical and regulatory advisor.

Gary Steven Sowell
Class of 1973



Gary graduated high school with numerous honors from his athletic endeavors. He participated in football, basketball, and track. He was captain of the football and basketball teams, earned many individual honors, held the pole vault record for years, and participated on the championship basketball team which was one of the most successful in Belton's history. He was named co-athlete of the year in 1973. He was consistently on the honor roll.

After graduation, Gary received an athletic scholarship to Missouri Valley College. During his time at MVC, he played on one of the best teams in MVC history, coming up just short in the national championship game. He won all-conference and all-American awards during his career. He entered and won the Kansas City Golden Gloves Tournament in 1974. He was on the dean's list, served as commander of his fraternity, and was on the student disciplinary board with the Dean of students. He was inducted into the MVC Hall of Fame.

After college, Gary achieved his lifelong goal of owning and operating his own business. He attributes his success to the many people he hired and worked with over the years and his wife who supported him every step along the way. His motto is "Keep things simple and treat people how you would like to be treated."

Gary resides in Lenexa with his wife Paula, married 41 years. They have a daughter and are blessed with two grandbabies.

We will be celebrating these three individuals at the Belton High School All Class Reunion and Hall of Fame Induction on October 7th. Come celebrate with us!

Pirates for Life

Belton High School
All Class Reunion Luncheon and
Hall of Fame Induction

Saturday - October 7, 2023

Location: Belton Middle School
107 Pirate Parkway - Belton, MO

10:30 am - Doors open (Drinks, snacks, social time)
12:00 noon - Lunch, class recognitions, and Hall of Fame Induction program

Purchase tickets in advance for $25.00
Or $30.00 at the door

Online at: https://bit.ly/BHSAllClassReunion23

Or mail your form and check payable to:
Belton Educational Foundation
110 West Walnut - Belton, MO 64012
Gifts in lieu of attendance can also be mailed or submitted online.

BELTON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
Believing Every Day in the Future

Pirates for Life...You're invited!

Belton High School Alumni/
Former Teacher Tailgate Party
Friday - October 6, 2023

Location: Belton High School's Southwick Stadium (west parking lot)
801 West North Avenue - Belton, MO
Time: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

RSVP by making a donation online for your ticket (suggested minimum $10) by September 16 to the Belton Educational Foundation:
https://bit.ly/BHSAllClassReunion23

Or RSVP by mailing your ticket donation
Checks payable to:
Belton Educational Foundation
110 West Walnut - Belton, MO 64012

Click here to RSVP and purchase your tickets for the All Class Reunion & Hall of Fame Luncheon

It is SO exciting to get to recognize the accomplishments of our most outstanding Belton High School Alumni each year!
You can find a complete list of all of the members of the Belton High School Hall of Fame on our website at BeltonFoundation.org. Hover on the Alumni tab and click on BHS Hall of Fame.
Do you know a Belton High School Alum or Friend of the Belton Schools who deserves this honor? You can use this link to submit their nomination to the Hall of Fame Committee to be considered.
Thank you for supporting Belton students and teachers through the Belton Educational Foundation.
Sincerely,
Sonja



Sonja Abdelgawad, Executive Director
sabdelgawad@esd124.org
816-348-1150

The mission of the Belton Educational Foundation is to provide funding to enrich the educational opportunities and encourage innovation to maximize the learning potential of every student attending the Belton School District.

Thank you to our BEF Pirate Foundation Sponsors who support children and education in Belton ALL year!

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Thank you! for your support to our mission... enriching educational opportunities and encouraging innovation to maximize the learning potential of every student attending the Belton School District.

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Would you like to become a Pirate Foundation Sponsor and show the community that you care about supporting children and education in Belton?

Click Here for Pirate Foundation Sponsorship Information

Please forward this newsletter to others who might like to learn about the work of the Belton Educational Foundation. Thank you!
To sign up to receive our newsletters, visit our website at www.beltonfoundation.org and fill in the fields in the Contact Us section at the bottom of the page then click Send.

Belton Educational Foundation
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Belton, MO 64012
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