



JTHS BAND ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
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STATEMENT REGARDING THE PASSING OF TED LEGA

There is something uniquely special about an alum that returns to their alma mater as a teacher. Ted Lega was part of the great JT Band program legacy as a student and continued to carry on that tradition as the Joliet Central Band Director for thirty-three years. Even after all of the many awards the band received under his direction, his greatest contribution to the band program was the impact he had on his students. Through his passion for music, attention to detail, and sense of humor, Ted brought out the best in his students and inspired them to achieve greatness in music and in life. To watch alumni from multiple decades return to participate in our various alumni concerts just for the chance to perform “March of the Steelmen” again under his baton speaks volumes.

During the band program’s Centennial Celebration Concert in 2012, Ted shared the following:

“The common threads that exists in the thousands of alumni that have played with the Joliet High School Bands are: Loyalty, Dedication, Devotion, its History, and that all important word...Perseverance. For it is the very time when the music seems too difficult – almost impossible – that we grow as human beings, passing through that time and persevering to our goals. These things truly have been the Joliet High School Bands’ past, The Joliet High School Bands’ present, and surely will be its future.”

Our deepest sympathies to his wife Marsha and his family as well as our thanks and gratitude for sharing Ted with us.

Douglas Kaiser
JT West, 1990
JTHSBAA President