



the ALPHA-DELTA NEWS

A Publication of Kappa Sigma Fraternity at The Pennsylvania State University

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Letter from the President



Dear Brothers,

Wishing all of you a happy spring, with plenty of warm weather ahead! Of course, we know many of you live in places where it's always warm. Good for you; we are jealous!

In this edition of the newsletter, we're excited to feature an alumni profile on Brother **Vince Gaeta '86**. Vince has been a longtime member of our alumni board of directors, and we thank him for his many years of dedicated service to our Order.

We are proud to share some fantastic news: Kappa Sigma International Headquarters has launched a successful recolonization effort at Penn State this spring semester. The new colony has already exceeded expectations by recruiting over 100 members at the time of this writing. We look forward to working with



the next generation of Kappa Sigs as they strive to restore the Alpha Delta charter. More updates to come in the months ahead. Alpha Delta is on its way back!

“

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As we look to the future, we continue to seek Alpha Delta alumni willing to serve in officer and director roles. Many of our current alumni volunteers have generously served for years. If you have the time and passion, please consider stepping up to help support our chapter's continued success.

This issue also shares the somber news of the passing of three of our brothers who have entered the Chapter Celestial:

- **Wayne A. Pihl** (November 9, 2024)
- **Calvin Lewis** (January 24, 2025)
- **Anthony Parente** (January 29, 2025)

Tragically, Anthony was taken from us at a very young age. He was a passenger on the American Airlines regional jet involved in the January 29 mid-air collision

with a US Army Blackhawk helicopter. More about their lives and legacies can be found below.

Lastly, we'd love to hear from you. Please send us a brief update and photos, if you have them! Alumni updates are always a highlight, and your brothers enjoy seeing where life has taken you. Additionally, please ensure we have your current email address and contact information so we can keep you informed.

Wishing you all a wonderful spring and a relaxing, enjoyable summer!

AEKDB,

Matthew B. Weisberg

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Alumni Profile: Vince Gaeta '86



We recently caught up with **Vince Gaeta '86**, and we were so glad to hear from him! He shared some valuable insights about his time in the fraternity and what he has been up to since graduation. Check out his interview below!

If you're interested in being featured in an alumni profile, we'd love to hear from you. Go to kappasigpsu.com/alumni/share-alumni-news to let us know!

What impacted your decision to pledge to Kappa Sigma?

My decision to pledge Kappa Sigma was because of the dynamic and enthusiastic group of brothers who were all striving to make our fraternity the best on campus while having a great time doing it. That, coupled with the fact that we had the "Starduster program". I hadn't seen anything like that at other houses I rushed, and it was a great bonus.

Tell us about the house when you were at Penn State?

The physical structure was very unique. I liked our house, and it was huge. We had everything we wanted there. It was heartbreaking to have to sell it.

What sets Kappa Sigma apart on campus?

Kappa Sigma was a truly diverse group of brothers from very different backgrounds and different life goals, but all seemed to get along and enjoy each other's company.

What was one of your best memories?

I can't choose just one of the best memories. It ranges from winning Greek Week, with the help of our custom-made chariot, to the darts fundraisers, annual *luau*s, and numerous road trips.

What impact did Kappa Sigma have on your life after graduation? How did it prepare you for life?

Kappa Sigma had a great impact on my life. As a painfully introverted person, it helped me step out of my shell a bit more than I wanted to. Later

in life, it helped prepare me for attendance at the police academy. Being a recruit there was much like pledging. You learn a lot, clean a lot, and both experiences lasted about six months.

Why is giving back to Kappa Sigma so crucial?

Giving back to Kappa Sigma has always been important to me. I could have participated more as an undergraduate but wasn't able to. So, I decided to give back after graduating as a director for the alumni board. I have been a member for over two decades now.

Anything else you would like to add?

I often think about my undergraduate days in the house. Whether I was part of your favorable memories or, on rare occasions, not so favorable ones, I look fondly on my days as an undergrad. I always look forward to seeing everyone again, whether that is at a football weekend, board of directors meeting, or local get-togethers. I am truly appreciative of what Kappa Sigma has given me.



Alumni Catch Up at the Wedding of Brother Ed Gorkes' Daughter

Pictures from the past.



Congratulations to **Ed Gorkes '79** and his family as they celebrated his daughter's wedding! It was incredible to see so many Alpha Delta fraternity brothers from his years in the house come together for this special occasion. Alex Dezubay recently hosted several brothers in his Bethlehem home the evening before the wedding. Shown to the right are **David Payne, Alex Dezubay, Lee Thaete, Bruce Brackbill, Tom Nyquist, Jim Garcia, and Mark Breedlove**.

A true testament to the lifelong bonds of brotherhood. What a fantastic reunion filled with great memories! AEKDB.



IN PENN STATE News

The following is from a Penn Live news article.

On Friday, March 21, three fraternities, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Sigma Chi, and Pi Kappa Alpha, announced they have joined together to form the State College Interfraternity Council (SCIFC). The three fraternities are no longer affiliated with Penn State, and the SCIFC will not affiliate with the university. "The SCIFC's mission is twofold: to cultivate a stronger sense of brotherhood among its members and to make a meaningful impact on the State College community through dedicated service initiatives," SCIFC said in a press release. A key part of creating the independent Interfraternity Council, the organization said, was getting away from the 2019 Piazza agreement made between Penn State and the family of Tim Piazza, a sophomore who died because

of hazing. All three fraternities' international headquarters fully support the effort. Penn State has expressed unease and is gathering more information regarding the council, as two of the three fraternities have been suspended for violations. Currently, Penn State has 42 fraternities and 28 sororities with a combined membership of 7,753 members.

Additionally, over the years, many Alpha Delta brothers began their Penn State journey at one of the university's numerous branch campuses. Penn State President Neeli Bendapudi announced her intention to close some commonwealth campuses due to budgetary constraints and declining enrollment. No final decisions on

which campuses will be closed but eight locations have been reported to be kept open: Abington, Altoona, Behrend, Berks Brandywine, Great Valley, Harrisburg and Lehigh Valley. Several state Representatives have come forward with support for campuses in their area that are not on that list.





CHAPTER CELESTIAL

Calvin Joseph Lewis '71



Brothers, we are saddened to announce the passing of Calvin Lewis. We want to extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and loved ones. Please read below to view his obituary, written by Calvin himself, and comments from brothers who knew Calvin.

Source courtesy of jobefuneralhome.com/obituary/Calvin-Lewis.

Enjoy yourself. It's later than you think.

Once upon a time in a land known as Wilksburg, Pennsylvania, **Calvin "Cal" Joseph Lewis, Jr. '71** was born. I am the eldest child of Calvin "Jake" Lewis, a proud World War II army veteran, and Margaret Lewis.

I grew up in Turtle Creek alongside my oldest sister, Sharon, and youngest brother, Keith. A true Creeker at heart, I was extremely proud when my Creeker team won the WPIAL Basketball Championship in 1967. **Creekers up!**

Upon high school graduation, I entered the Pennsylvania State University, where I majored in secondary education. I had some of the best times of my life when I joined Kappa Sigma Fraternity. Those bonds of brotherhood still exist. Even today, we all get together for reunions. Amazingly, I graduated even though I spent a lot of time at the "library."

During my senior year at Penn State, I enlisted in the US Army National Guard, where I served my state and country for over 30 years. I obtained a social studies job at my high school alma mater, which later merged with other districts to form Woodland Hills. Over the last several years at Woodland Hills, I had the honor of working for the athletic director and coach, George Novak, as his site manager. George, you are an outstanding coach and friend. (It's a great day to be a Wolverine!) Altogether, I taught for 40 years.

Early in my teaching career, I met the love of my life, Linda. She was also a teacher at Turtle Creek. We got married and several years later had our talented daughter, Britainy, also a Penn State graduate. (I did tell you that I graduated from Penn State, right?)

I am survived by my wife, Linda (Slim), my favorite daughter, Britainy (B), my oldest sister, Sharon Lewis, and her husband, David Parco, and my youngest brother, Keith Lewis, and his wife Donna, who both graduated from the other school. I'm also survived by my wife's siblings and their spouses, nieces, and nephews.

I would like to thank Dr. Joel Weinberg,

Dr. Jennifer McComb, Dr. Daniel Kass, and Dr. Gina Piscitello.

My final resting place will be at the National Military Cemetery, where my second home was located at Fort Indiantown Gap.

For the Glory.

"Remember, no man is a failure who has friends." (Clarence from It's a Wonderful Life)

We Are.

"Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it." Psalm 14:34



Comments & Memories for Calvin Joseph Lewis '71

Brother Brad Lawrence '69

My relationship with Calvin, or by his childhood nickname Corky, goes back to our childhood days. He would visit my next-door neighbor, Corky's aunt, uncle, and cousins. Calvin had a wry sense of humor, was a fiercely loyal Kappa Sigma, was a true patriot who served his country with distinction, and an educator who returned to his hometown, making a significant positive impact on several generations of students. His legacy is one to be admired and celebrated.

I am proud to have played a part in introducing Cal to Alpha Delta, we are all better off for having had him as a brother. Throughout our adult years, he always referred to me by my Kappa Sig nickname, "Humphrey," which always brought a smile to my face. He will be missed.

Brother George Strachan '70

In my most recent conversation with Calvin, he told me that becoming a brother at Kappa Sigma was one of the most treasured and significant decisions of his life. That is a sentiment that many others have shared, and it is at times like this that it echoes its loudest. Calvin was there for his brothers, and his brothers for him. May it always be that way for all of us.

Brother Bill Vitori '73

Brother Lewis will truly be missed, but his suffering is now over. Calvin was one of the main reasons that I joined Kappa Sigma. I will always remember him standing on top of the few steps in the foyer on a Saturday or Sunday morning in his blue bathrobe and a beer in a plastic glass in his right hand.

Calvin helped me out with semester seminars and semester receptions for the Penn State student teachers in the Pittsburgh region. We even used his classroom at Woodland Hill High School for our student teacher seminars. The world lost a true American, Penn Stater, and a Kappa Sigma brother. As mentioned, he will be missed! AEKDB.



CHAPTER CELESTIAL

Anthony Parente '12



Brothers, we are saddened to announce the passing of Anthony Parente '12 into Chapter Celestial. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and loved ones. Read below to view his obituary.

Source courtesy of everloved.com/life-of/anthony-parente/?flow=201.

Washington, DC

April 12, 1990–January 29, 2025

Anthony Parente's life was a testament to passion, dedication, and the power of connection. Born and raised in a small rural town in New Jersey, Anthony's journey took him to Penn State University, where he pursued his dream of studying aerospace engineering. At Penn State, he excelled academically, built lifelong friendships, and became a proud member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity.

After graduating in 2012, Anthony began his career at Pratt & Whitney, where he worked on the design and production of aircraft engines. His career later brought him to Washington, DC, where he joined Deloitte's Government and Public Service (GPS) practice. As a senior manager, Anthony specialized in the digital

transformation of maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) operations for aircraft, combining his technical expertise with a vision for modernizing supply chain operations. His colleagues admired him for his professionalism, work ethic, unwavering support, and sense of humor.

Washington, DC, was home to him, his fiancée Laura, and their adopted and adored puppy, Oli. Anthony and Laura's wedding date was July 12, 2025, in their cherished city, with wedding celebrations in Colombia and New Jersey.

As his plane was descending into DCA on his return home from a business trip, Anthony's life was unexpectedly cut short in the mid-air collision between American Airlines flight 5342 and an Army Black Hawk helicopter. His passing on January 29, 2025, has left an immeasurable void in the lives of all who knew and loved him.

Anthony was a beloved son to Bill and Renee, brother to Justin and Faith, fiance to Laura, and a friend to many. He was a cherished member of the "DC5", a close-knit group of Penn State alumni and friends, where Anthony brought joy and connection to their monthly supper-club gatherings, a tradition that spanned nearly four years. His warmth, laughter, and

loyalty touched everyone he met.

We have established the Anthony Parente Fund for Academic Excellence in honor of Anthony's incredible life and legacy. Together, we can ensure that his memory lives on by empowering future generations of Penn State engineers to achieve their academic goals and make a difference in the world.

We invite you to celebrate Anthony's life by contributing to this scholarship fund. Every donation will help us build a legacy that reflects Anthony's hard work, kindness, and connection values.

Thank you for helping us honor Anthony's life and his profound impact on ours.

Contribute to
**The Anthony Parente Fund for
Academic Excellence**



Brother John Wray '73

Our love and prayers go out to Linda and Brittany. Calvin loved his family, his fraternity, and his country. He was a great guy who will most assuredly be missed.

Brother Thomas Hall '72

Calvin Lewis was more than a friend and brother. He was a personality. Rare was the dull moment, and many the laugh when you were lucky enough to be in his company. An unforgettable individual, he will certainly be missed. AEKDB.

Brother Harvey Thompson '69

Calvin, wow! All that service: teaching kids and

serving our country. All that dry wit, laughter, and joy he gave all of us. What gifts. Thanks Calvin! Love, Harvey

Brother John Wilchek '73

Sadly, I just heard from Brother Stiteler that our dear brother Calvin Lewis has passed away. May his soul rest peacefully. I loved the guy, and I will miss him! I'm glad I sent him a note not long ago.

Brother Ed Gorkes '79

I had the privilege of getting to know Calvin over the years as the president of our alumni

corporation. Our paths often crossed at PSU football tailgates, where I always made a point to stop by, say hello, and catch up on all things fraternity related.



Beyond our shared love for those gatherings, we also shared the bond of having served in the United States Army, united by the values of duty, honor, and country. Calvin was a genuine, down-to-earth man who will be deeply missed.

My heartfelt condolences go out to his family. I hope they find peace and solace during this difficult time.



CHAPTER CELESTIAL

Wayne Pihl '56



Brothers, we are saddened to announce the passing of **Wayne Pihl '56** into Chapter Celestial. We want to extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and loved ones. Read below to view his obituary.

Source courtesy of goerie.com/obituaries/psom1001043.

Wayne A. Pihl, beloved husband of the late Marion Pihl, passed away peacefully on November 9, 2024, surrounded by his loving family.

Wayne was born in Ridgway, Pennsylvania, on January 2, 1931, to Oscar and Ethel Pihl. He graduated from Millcreek High School in Erie, Pennsylvania, and Penn State University in State College, Pennsylvania. He was a veteran of the Korean War. Wayne and Marion settled in Erie, where they raised their family before moving to Shell Point, Fort Myers, Florida in 2003.

He had a distinguished career at General Electric, where he worked for 37 years before retiring in 1991. He served on several boards, including the City Mission in Erie. Wayne served in many leadership positions in the churches he attended throughout his life. He was an active volunteer with Prison Fellowship and ECHO Ministries in Florida. He loved to read his Bible and was constantly seeking to grow in the grace and knowledge of his Lord.

He had a lifelong commitment to faith, family,

service, and friendship. His genuine love for people had an enduring impact on those he met. He always had an encouraging word for others. He had a keen sense of humor and wit and delighted in prompting and enjoying laughter. He was an avid Penn State sports fan. He especially loved the Nittany Lion football team and enjoyed cheering them on along with his children and grandchildren.

Wayne is survived by his three children, Susan (Tom) Green of Fort Myers, Florida, Beth (Dave) Poor of North East, Pennsylvania, Greg (Sara) Pihl of Simsbury, Connecticut, and his special friend and companion, Winnie Ballard of Fort Myers, Florida. He is the beloved grandfather of Laura (Steve), Lisa (Kyle), Kristopher (Katie), Kelsey (Kyle), Peter (Lauren), Kyle (Bri), Kendall (Rachel), Daniel (Kirsten) and Matthew, and great-grandfather of seven. He was pre-deceased by his wife, Marion.

Donations may be made in his memory to Legacy Foundation at Shell Point, c/o Larsen Health Center Memory Care, 15010 Shell Point Blvd., Fort Myers, Florida, 33908.



Wayne Pihl '56
College Years

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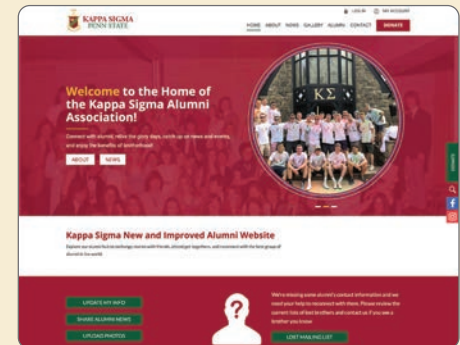
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Help us fill in the blanks and add your missing contact information to our database. You'll get great stories and updates like the ones featured in each Alpha-Delta News newsletter.

To sign up, just send a quick note to eoneill@elevateims.com and let our alumni partners know to add you the Kappa Sigma at Penn State alumni emailing list! 

BROTHERS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Have a life update or an interesting story that you would like to share with your fellow Alpha Delta brothers? Or is there someone you haven't heard from in a long time, but would like to reconnect with? Or do you know of someone who deserves our congratulations for an accomplishment or life event? And, let's not forget the little sisters.

Let us know by emailing **Steve "Zip" Uzupis** at stevezip722@gmail.com. Positive responses only, let's keep it brotherly.



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