

# ALUMNI TALON



Atwater High School Alumni News and Notes

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..December 2023

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## Welcome 2024

As we bid farewell to the past year and into the promise of a brand new year, we want to thank all of the alumni who have supported us over the last seven years. After the challenges of the past pandemic years it was exciting to see several classes once again take the opportunity to organize reunions to reconnect, reflect and rejoice in our shared memories.

With the support of the reunion committees and their members we were able to expand our Legacy Scholarship Program to include additional student scholarships in 2023. Our sincere thanks to all. You demonstrated the Falcon spirit.

We want to wish all Falcons and their families a very joyful new year.

## Alumni News

We reported on several class reunions throughout the year. Some were big events, dances, and dinners. Some had secondary events scheduled with them, golf tournaments, footballs games and afternoon lunches. Some were smaller get togethers at local venues for a night.

Regardless of the event size and make up, one thing that was reported from each of them was the amount of fun it was to see old friends, remember past shared experiences and reconnect with classmates. Each one also committed to do it again.

For those members of classes who will celebrate milestone years in 2024 now would be a good time to get a group together and begin to plan a celebration. Regardless of the size of the event it will be memorable for all who attend. Also, if you talk to alumni who have participated in the planning of reunions, they will all say the process was as much fun as the reunion itself. So, if you're a member of a class that ended in 4 or 9 this is your year.

The Alumni Association can help in publishing your committee and the event itself on our social media and website and provide some information on best practices to help get started. Good luck to all and hope your 2024 is a great year for Falcons everywhere.

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## Interesting Facts

Pluto has not made a full orbit of the sun since its discovery in 1930

A group of frogs is called an army.

## Reunion Planning

Being part of a reunion committee can be a fun and rewarding experience. Just ask anyone who has participated. Starting early is the key. If your class year ends in a **4** (64, 74, 84, 94, 04, 14) or an **9** (69, 79, 89, 99, 09, 19) now would be a good time to get a group together and start the fun.

**Reunion Updates**— The following are upcoming reunions the association is aware of. If your committee would like to be included contact us at [AtwaterAlumni@outlook.com](mailto:AtwaterAlumni@outlook.com).



The **Class of 79**, always the plan ahead class is looking for members to update and provide information for a informal **45 Reunion** get together next summer and looking ahead to their 50th. Its never too soon to start planning and it only increases the fun. You can contact Tina Kramer on Facebook to update or provide new information



The **Class of The 60's** has announced the return of their popular multi class reunion theme. Planning is underway for an event currently scheduled for November 2, 2024, so make your calendar with more information to come. For those who attended the last event you know how much fun was had, for those who didn't this is another chance to renew old friendships and reminisce. Any one who is interested in helping the event can contact the committee though their Facebook group page or send a note to [AtwaterAlumni@outlook.com](mailto:AtwaterAlumni@outlook.com) and we will forward the offer.

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## Looking Back

The following class years are celebrating milestones this year. Here are some interesting things that happened during the months and year they graduated. There were many interesting events every month, and these were selected as only one interesting and, in some cases, fun example.

### December

**1963** — TV Game Show “Let’s Make A Deal” hosted by Monty Hall debuts on NBC. The top song was “Dominique” by The Singing Nun.

**1968** — Elvis Comeback Special airs on NBC, his first live performance in seven years. The top song was “I Heard IT Through The Grapevine” by Marvin Gaye.

**1973** — US President Richard Nixon signs the Endangered Species into law. The top song was “The Top Of The World” by The Carpenters.

**1978** — Dianne Feinstein is named the first woman mayor of San Francisco after the assassination of George Moscone. The top song was “Le Freak” by Chic.

**1983** — The city of Atwater presented award plaques to Paul Crookham and Paul Owens in honor of their 50 years of service as volunteer firemen. The top song was “Say, Say, Say” by Paul McCartney and Michael Jackson.

**1988** — A terrorist bomb destroys Pam Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie Scotland killing 270 people. The top song was “Look Away” by Chicago.

**1993** — Jacksonville and Charlotte are awarded NFL expansion franchisees, in the first expansion in 19 years. The top song was “Again” by Janet Jackson.

**1998** — The Space Shuttle Endeavor was launched, the first of 43 missions that will build the first ever space station. The top song was “I’m Your Angel” by R Kelly and Celine Dion.

**2003** — Atwater announces the building of a second fire station on property donated near Buhach Colony High School. The top song was “Hay Ya” by OutKast.

**2008** — Bernie Madoff is arrested in New York and charged with running a \$50 billion dollar Ponzi scheme. The top song was “Single Ladies (Put a ring on it)” by Beyonce.

**2013** — Nobel Prize winner and former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela dies at the age of 95. The top song was “Wrecking Ball” by Miley Cyrus.

**2018** — Atwater High School Leadership class holds its first “Miracles do Happen” assembly for students and families of the school. The top song was “Thank U, Next: by Ariana Grande.

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## Association Notes:

- The Association wants to recognize the great **Class of 1973 and Class of 2003** for including a Legacy Scholarship fundraising element as part of their reunion programs. Thanks to the reunion committee's and all the classmates who attended and supported this program. The scholarships go to aid students continuing their education in college or trade schools and these class's stepped up with their support.

## AHS News

- Atwater High School recognized teacher Capri Abbasi as their certified staff member of the month and student service member Tim Labendeira as classified staff member of the month.
- Atwater High School selected Mr. Paul Bristow, longtime coach and teacher as the 2023 Grand Marshal of the homecoming parade.
- Atwater High School Falcon Band placed second in the Santa Cruz Band Review. Drum Major Miah Ward placed first in Military Drum Major.
- The Falcon JV football team are CCC League champions for 2023.



Atwater High School Alumni Association, Inc. is a private nonprofit 503(3)c foundation and is not affiliated with the Merced Union High School District or Atwater High School. . Follow us at [www.atwateralumniassociation.com](http://www.atwateralumniassociation.com) and our Facebook group page. Contact the association at [AtwaterAlumni@outlook.com](mailto:AtwaterAlumni@outlook.com), mailing address 106 Laura, Atwater CA. 95301, phone 760-333-6195.