

Patrick John Hughes Parent/Booster Award

PRESENTATION FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2021

The Patrick John Hughes Parent/Booster Award annually recognizes the extraordinary commitment, dedication, support, and sacrifice of music parents and boosters around the world by shining a spotlight on an individual who exemplifies these qualities. The award is named in honor of Patrick John Hughes, the father of Patrick Henry Hughes, a remarkable man who, despite physical challenges that would seem overwhelming to many, excelled as a musician and student. Learn more at <https://education.musicforall.org/>.



2021 Recipient **Tom Shrump** Norwin H.S., PA

Tom Shrump's legacy is profoundly unique. His memory is cherished by the Norwin High School Band and all who knew him in Western Pennsylvania and beyond.

Tom began his musical journey at Norwin High School in 1981 and helped capture the band's 1982 Grand National Championship - a defining moment for Tom which inspired his lifelong dedication to the pageantry arts. He would serve the band program at Norwin for decades and remained actively involved until his passing. Tom served as instructional staff, logistics and transportation director, chairman of the Norwin Band Festival and Winter Guard Show, and Norwin Band Aides President.



Through his years at Norwin, Tom earned the trust of five band directors as he worked tirelessly to support students. He knew the benefits of participation in music education and regularly advocated for its importance. Tom had a deep understanding and appreciation of the past, evidenced by his respect for tradition, which enabled him to help the band program grow and adapt to changing needs. A keeper of institutional knowledge, along with 2013 recipient Dick Zentner, he was always ready with a smile, encouragement, a listening ear—or even to pitch in himself to help solve the problem at hand. Whenever someone in the Norwin Band Aides had a question, the answer usually started with, "Let's ask Tom."



As executive director of the Three Rivers Winter Ensemble Association, Tom led the way for members of Western Pennsylvania's color guard and percussion community. He excelled at event planning and providing memorable opportunities for those who attended. Tom was glad to help band programs across Western Pennsylvania, stepping up to share best practices for their booster programs and offering suggestions on hosting successful events.

After a courageous fight against COVID, Tom passed away on April 28, 2021. PBS NewsHour referred to Tom as "an amazing American lost to the pandemic." Tom's lifelong dedication and commitment to the Norwin band and his community exemplify the attributes of an extraordinary music parent and booster. His caring personality and warm smile are proudly remembered by the thousands of people he positively influenced throughout his life.