



Nu Zeta Chapter "Open Letter of Appreciation and Gratitude" to Brothers Taylor W. Cannon, Jr. and Michael McLendon

Michael McLendon
Beta Epsilon

Taylor W. Cannon, Jr.
Beta Initiate / Theta
Gamma Charter
Member

"Two Kool Kappa Brothers"

Of course we stand on the shoulders of our revered founders. Of course we stand on the shoulders of our big brothers from the Beast of the East (Beta Epsilon), Erie Alumni and our past province polemarchs. However, the brothers of the Nu Zeta Chapter would like to extend their appreciation and gratitude to two guiding brothers, Taylor "TC" W. Cannon, Jr. and Michael "Black Magic" McLendon.

Brother Cannon is the architect of Nu Zeta. His story and legacy goes like this. Nu Zeta (Edinboro University a swing chapter of Beta Epsilon - University of Pittsburgh) roots were planted by Brother Cannon. Brother Cannon (in his own words) was initiated at Beta Chapter in 1975 through their swing chapter at Eastern Illinois University. He later was a charter member of Theta Gamma chapter at Eastern Illinois University.

Chapter Invisible

Taylor W. Cannon, Jr.
(Architect)
George Charlton
(Pro. Polemarch)
Scott Law
(Erie Alumni)
Rev. Dr. Paul Martin
(Erie Alumni)
Greg Thompson
(Erie Alumni)

The eventual formation of Nu Zeta was a tireless effort that began in 1982 when Kevin Wright a student at Allegheny College expressed interest in joining Kappa Alpha Psi. Brother Cannon shopped around the idea of Kevin joining the fraternity through chapters from northeastern Ohio to southwestern Pennsylvania. Those initial efforts didn't work out. However, that wasn't a deterrent. After countless interactions with Brother George Charlton (Province Polemarch) to come up with a game plan, it was agreed that the best fit was to begin a pledge class at Edinboro University and work with Brother Michael McLendon and use brother Cannon's swing chapter experience to begin a charter at Edinboro.

Fast forward to 1987, through the efforts of both chartered and non-charted members, Nu Zeta Chapter was formally created to serve the northwestern area of Pennsylvania which include the colleges of Edinboro University, Gannon University, Behrend College, Alliance (now defunct), Allegheny College, Thiel and Mercyhurst University. Nu Zeta has its origin from brothers who represent Beta Epsilon, south, and midwest chapters. Although Brother Cannon sparked the effort, he was quick to point to others, especially the Erie Alumni Chapter (Brothers Cannon, Chance, Evans, Harper, Horton, Jefferson, Knupp, Law, Martin, Meredith, Taliefero, and Thompson) who ushered the dream to fruition.

Kudos

Borden - 2010
Wedding (06/2019)

Hitt - 84'
Health, peace, happiness
Marital Bliss (30 yrs)
Wife
(itsapleasuretoeach.com)
Bday (Double Nickel)
Nep (D1 Bball Scholarship)

Kelly - 2002
Kelly Tax Srv (5 yrs)
Marital Bliss (8 yrs)
Wife (Doctorate)

Morris - 86'
Promo (Asst' Principal)
Wife (Credit Director)
Son (D1 Bball Scholarship)

Murray - 2007
Wedding (04/2019)

Page - 86'
Retire (DoD 30yrs)


G. Thomas - 88'
NY Alumni Pole (3 yrs)
N.E. Prov L. Chair (3 yrs)
Gr. Mast. Mst King
Solomon (3 yrs)

J. Thomas - 85'
Mom (healthy)
Daughter (Masters)
Birth (grandson)
Promo (Sr. Manager)

If Brother Cannon was the architect and laid the foundation, then Brother McLendon (University of Pittsburgh / BE / Philadelphia / Overbrook finest) was definitely the brother that gave us our soul. "Brother Black Magic" consistently made the 2 hour trip from Pittsburgh to Erie to ensure things were going well during various initiation periods in the early 80s. Brother McLendon has consistently and humbling over 35 years shown us the way to be good Kappa brothers and men. He has ushered us from one era to the next giving us the knowledge to keep Nu Zeta relevant as well as keeping us in the know with the direction of the frat.

Although Brother Cannon joined the Chapter Invisible in 2017, his indelible spirit is still with us. Although many of us from Nu Zeta may not have had a chance to meet him face to face, some were able to connect via phone, text and email where he shared his story. Brother McLendon is still with us. When you see him, holla - take him to dinner, a Conclave or provincial meeting or something and thank him because without these two, the love, bond and legacy many of us have would not be enjoyed today.

The younger brothers continue to honor the energy and spirit of these two Kool Kappa Men by keeping the Nu Zeta ship afloat through various social and scholastic activities. We hope brothers Cannon and McLendon's spirit continues to inspire us to spark the next generation. If one brother can create something from nothing ("Creatio ex nihilo") then the next brother can definitely pay it forward and take the ship to another level! To the newest brother on the ship, Tyrique Coston - welcome and keep the torch lit!

Teamwork makes the  work!

Everything has come full circle, the state that Brother Cannon breathed life into the Nu Zeta Kappaship and the "City of Brotherly Love", birthplace of Brother McLendon is now hosting its bi-annual Conclave. Here's to Brother Cannon and McLendon. We Got You!

"Kongratulations to the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Alumni Chapter and Hosting Committee of the 2019 84th Grand Chapter Meeting and Conclave in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania" Enjoy the Sip of the Loving Cup!

Dedicated to the memory of Taylor W. Cannon, Jr.

YITB,

Brothers Stacey J. Hitt, PhD. (Gannon University / Nu Zeta Charter and Life Member, BE Swing 84', 8 of 11, Miami Alumni) and Cory L. Borden (Edinboro University / Nu Zeta 010', 1 of 1)

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83 Odom Wright Thomas Oatneal Carter Hampton Ward	84 Bosley Savariau Scott Bracy Ball Ewing Head Hitt, Ph.D Stevens King Brown	85-86 Thomas Dr. Wilson Atty. Ward Ross Page Riggins Morris	88 Green Giles Thomas Watts Ward Smith	88-89 Willis Tucker Webb Williams Paul Moore Coleman Russell Richardson	90-91 Vincent Glover Tucker Mason Rankin Redman Rollins	92 Drayton Gardner Hudson Atty. Wade Ford Spencer	93 A. Jones T. Jones Jordan Mcbride Brooks	94 Bremmer Brooks Crim Morris Nixon Owens	99-02 Day Quearles Yates Rhodes Tadesse Kelly Telp	03-06 Sturdivant Kirby Renfro Thompson Borden	07-2001 Pope Hopkins Murray Allen Wells Smith	2017 Coston
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Every Field Of Human Endeavor

