



# HOOP HISTORIANS NEWS

Committed to promoting goodwill through basketball

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## JOHN TIERNEY 1934 - 2020

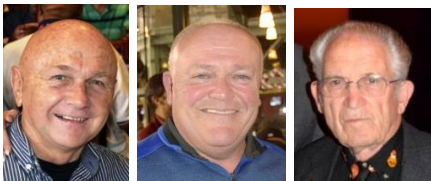
Hoop Historians member **John Tierney** passed away in early April.



Tierney was a high school basketball coach in Iowa and Illinois and was inducted into the Illinois Basketball

Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2011. As a player, John was a two-time first team All-Conference selection for Upper Iowa University. Tierney entered college after a two-year stint in the military with the U.S. Army 82 Airborne Division. He attended 45 Final Fours dating back to 1973. John was a member of the Hoop Historians since 2012.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION RESULTS



Congratulations to **Dennis Mishko**, **Tom Tallarito** and **John Mayberry** who were all re-elected to positions on the Hoop Historians Board of Directors. Mishko and Tallarito will serve two-year terms through 2022, and Mayberry will serve a one-year term which expires in April of 2021. The three join **Ted Reineking** and **Al Sack** on the five-person Executive Board.

### HOOP HISTORIANS OFFICERS

Ted Reineking, Chairman of the Board  
John Mayberry, Board Member  
Dennis Mishko, Board Member  
Al Sack, Board Member  
Tom Tallarito, Board Member  
Joe Spagnolo, Executive Director

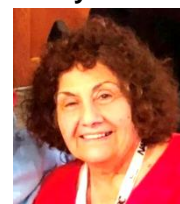
## FIVE NEW MEMBERS JOIN HOOP HISTORIANS

Despite the 2020 Final Four being canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Hoop Historians continued to conduct business by electing new members, giving the group 73 total full-time and honorary members. Five individuals with an array of diverse basketball backgrounds were selected as members of the Hoop Historians in the first ever election by mail. All of the new inductees received more than 75% of the received ballots in order to meet the qualifications of being a Hoop Historian. This year's Class of 2020 includes: Bill Gappy, Nancy MacKay, Daniel Marinkovich, Danette Shirley and Steve Traktman.



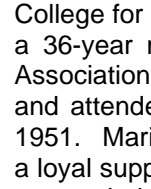
**Bill Gappy** was the winningest coach in Michigan Tech history where he coached from 1972 to 1985. He led the Huskies to the school's first league championship during the 1979-1980 season. Bill started his coaching career as a part-time assistant at the University of Minnesota in 1969. Since leaving coaching, Gappy works for Horner Flooring, the company which provides basketball floors for the Final Four. Bill has attended 49 consecutive Final Fours dating back to 1971.

**Nancy MacKay** has been a fixture at Hoop Historians Final Four activities dating back to 2007. She was not much of a basketball fan until she met Coach and Hoop Historian Don MacKay. Two months later she was keeping score at his Briarcliff College games. Later that year she went to her first Final Four and was hooked.



**Daniel Marinkovich** was a four-year basketball player at the University of Montana from 1946 to 1950. He coached basketball at Custer County High School and Miles Community College for 20 years. Dan has been a 36-year member of the National Association of Basketball Coaches and attended his first Final Four in 1951. Marinkovich continues to be a loyal supporter of his college alma mater, helping the Grizzlies raise three million dollars in funding over a three-month period.

**Danette Shirley** has been a staple at the Final Four, attending the event with her father Coach Daniel Marinkovich since 1996. Danette has continued to make the annual trip with her father to the NCAA championships after her mother passed away in 2010.



**Steve Traktman** has always had an admiration for the sport of basketball dating back to being coached in his youth by Hall of Famer Joe Lapchick. Traktman's love of the game continued as a fan, as he has attended three Final Fours and eight Pac-12 Tournament Championships.



**HOOP HISTORIANS BY THE NUMBERS**

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The 63 full-time members of the Hoop Historians have attended a collective 1,318 Final Fours and 5,548 NCAA Tournament Games. The total group has representatives from 19 different states. The Hoop Historians had ten original charter members when it started in 1999.