



The Unanimous Declaration of Fellowship — 1976

When in the course of time it becomes necessary for one body of people to more fully consolidate the bonds, which have connected them with another, in order to assume a more lasting and meaningful relationship; the combined efforts of both should then be declared so that a continuous state of fellowship can long exist.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men of the Milton Hershey School Alumni Association were treated as equals; that they were endowed with more than most; that among these endowments were Education, Self-Discipline, Kindness for and to Others, Character Building, and the pursuit of Joy and Happiness.

Prudence, indeed, dictates that ideals long established, should not be changed for light and transient causes, and accordingly experience hath shown that the fundamental purpose of the Milton Hershey School, therefore, was not so much to make scholars as to develop men. "Educate for character" was the watchword. To prove this, let these facts be submitted to all:

*We were given the necessities of life in order to build a solid sense of security on which to build a life,
We were taught ideas of cleanliness, neatness and good taste in order to fit us for the conflict of life,
We were taught that all we received was the result of work by someone and that the way to get ahead was to work,
We were taught wholesome attitudes towards work,
We were taught that the ability to do a job well was a prime requisite for self respect,
We were taught discipline and self-control,
We were taught how to get along with others,
We were taught habits of economy and industry,
We were taught that man's reach should exceed his grasp.*

Now therefore be it known to all mankind the world over that because Milton Snavely Hershey lived — we too, shall, live! Because he lived, because he cared, because he dared, because he shared, because his deeds are his monument — his life is very definitely our inspiration!

Let us then, this day, determine in our hearts and minds that because of his deeds, we will endeavor to the best of our abilities, to be more understanding and helpful to our fellowman; that we will be more purposeful in our intents; and more vigilant in our watch. Let us extend always the helping hand of fellowship so that not only we, but all of mankind will be more richly blessed. More directly, may we this day, help, guide, counsel and direct the young men of the graduating class of nineteen hundred and seventy-six so that they too can more fully experience the joys and blessings of a richer and fuller life

Further, let it be known that for these traits and characteristics to long endure, that we, the members of the Milton Hershey School Alumni Association, do hereby declare that we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our time, our abilities, and our sacred honor.

Dated at Hershey, Pennsylvania, this twenty-fourth day of April, nineteen hundred and seventy-six.

By and Behalf of The Association

Attest:

