

Today

On Saturday morning, May 30, the Form of 1970 convenes once again on the chapel lawn to revisit and celebrate the LOVE sculpture event. This time, we will gather around a scaled down version of the original sculpture and, just as we did so long ago, we will take part in an informal, outdoor Holy Eucharist...a "love feast" or "agape" service as we called it in 1969.

This seemingly random act of artistic expression has remained a symbol of the friendships and relationships that were formed almost a half-century ago when 100 young men from all over the United States were thrown together, mostly through no choice of our own, in a time of alienation and disconnection. But 45 years later, we are still united by deep, mysterious ties of love and friendship.

Jesus talked a lot about friendship, but, for Jesus, friendship is not the fellowship of a club or pub where you choose your friends. Friendship grows out of the experience of living in community with people who may not share similar interests, education or social background. Friendship is a mystery... the sum total of ties of love, care, and respect that is ultimately a gift from God.

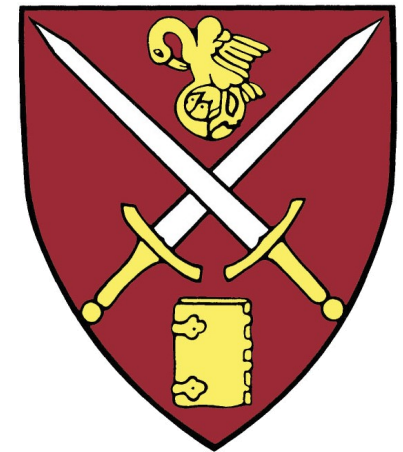
And it is this experience of the gift of friendship, forged in the chaotic atmosphere of 1969-70, that has formed many of our classmates and enabled them to live out lives of love and service in their communities, our nation and the wider world.



SPS '70

'Band of Brothers'

The Remarkable Story of the Form of 1970's LOVE Sculpture



*A fascinating tale of
grace, redemption, and
love for the School and
one another spanning 45
years.*

Fall 1969

Today's Sixth Former might find it hard to understand to what extent the heady, yet highly confrontational mood that pervaded U.S. society during the late 1960s had spilled over into our day-to-day lives at the School.

Into this charged atmosphere, in the middle of a Friday night, a 16 foot high, 54 foot long sculpture was stealthily erected on the chapel lawn by a small group of sixth Formers from the Form of 1970. It came as a total surprise.

The story, perhaps apocryphal, goes that on Saturday morning Rector Matthew Warren, passing by a window in the Rectory, glimpsed only one or two of the four huge letters. Sensing mischief, he dialed School Administrator Cal Chapin and told him that *'The boys have been out doing pranks, get those big letters off the Chapel lawn'*. Cal responded, *"What do the letters spell?"* The Rector took a second look, *"L...O... V...E... LOVE! Forget what I just said! Get me a step ladder and inform the School that morning chapel will take place on the chapel lawn!"*

That morning, the School came together and became one in an entirely spontaneous, deeply moving 'agape Service'. For the school overall its redeeming effects lingered over the remainder of the school year; for the Form of 1970, their lives.



The Form of 1970

Irreverent, impulsive, independent -- but dedicated, hardworking and community oriented. Just as our music heroes (Clapton, Stones, Hendrix) borrowed from and returned to the Blues, we have remained connected to key '60's values of community, service, inclusion, independence, change, individual expression, environmental protection and candor. We wore the grubbist ties allowable, went to anti-war protests, and demanded intellectual freedom, co-education and independent study. But, then and now we volunteer, support each other, love sports, appreciate Episcopalian values and value academic and professional achievement. We still make things happen—LOVE sculptures and days of service. Yes, for us Saint Paul is not just an iconic Christian apostle building the church, but a bearded stick-baller coping a plea in Latin.

