

HOMETOWN HEROES 2007

Welcome

Justin Peterson
President, Class of 2011

You Raise Me Up

Sung by **Josh Carswell**
Accompanied by **Haidee Dollak**
Words and Music by Larry Henly and Jeff Silbar

A Reading about Leadership

Brandi Sheehan
Secretary

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Matt DeSimas ♦ **Fairhaven, Massachusetts**

Nominated and introduced by **Kendra Cirillo**
Award presented by **Evan Davis**, Senator

Courage, faith and joy have heroically been demonstrated by Matt during his struggle with Lafora Disease, a progressively debilitating genetic disorder. He has inspired others to have hope through his fortitude to complete high school and he encourages others to find happiness in their lives.

Ada Gustin ♦ **Katy, Texas**

Nominated and introduced by **Lisa Carter**
Award presented by **James Pope**, Senator

Ada is a single mother who lives with the challenges of cancer and continues to inspire and impact those around her. Her faith is a major part of the sustenance that fuels her as she courageously fights for her life and shares her "life gift" with others ~ teaching others to live each moment and to strive towards taking nothing for granted.

Elaine Malone ♦ **Atlanta, Georgia**

Nominated and introduced by **Lindsay Mass**
Award presented by **Hillary Srsic**, Senator

A 29-year veteran of the Theatre department at Galloway School, Elaine inspires students to appreciate the arts while empowering them in all aspects of theatre production. Her community involvement in numerous theatrical committees has extended her influence to many as a positive role model, encourager and educator.

Linda Sheftel ♦ **Allentown, Pennsylvania**

Nominated and introduced by **Natalie Saragusa**
Award presented by **Adam Walton**, Senator

The tragic death of her teenage son has inspired this mother to use her family's loss as a teaching tool for youth throughout the East Coast. Often, when Linda speaks to groups, she does so alongside the driver of the vehicle. Together they impress upon teenagers the devastation suffered by one's choice to drink and drive.

Karen Zimmerman ♦ **Blacklick, Ohio**

Nominated and introduced by **Christy Zimmerman**
Award presented by **Justin Peterson**, President

Karen's sincere commitment to others has had a tremendous impact on students as a high school guidance counselor. She has opened her home to students struggling with drug addiction and counsels numerous students who struggle with unstable families. Her passion to make a difference in others' lives inspires those who know her.

Hero

Sung by **Chelsea LeValley**
Words and Music by Mariah Carey and Walter Afanasieff

Closing Remarks

Sara Baker, Vice President

Benediction

Adam Walton, Senator

Hometown Heroes Criteria

The criteria used in the nomination and selection process were adapted from the book *Some Do Care: Contemporary Lives of Moral Commitment* by Anne Colby and William Damon (Free Press, 1992).

Based upon the lives of the persons they studied, the authors conclude that there are five criteria by which to identify "moral exemplars." They are persons who exhibit:

1. A sustained commitment to moral ideals or principles that include a generalized respect for humanity, or a sustained evidence of moral virtue.

2. A disposition to act in accord with one's moral ideals and principles, implying also a consistency between one's actions and intentions and between the means and ends of one's actions.

3. A willingness to risk one's self-interest for the sake of one's moral values.

4. A tendency to be inspiring to others and thereby to move them to moral actions.

5. A sense of realistic humility about one's own importance relative to the world at large, implying a relative lack of concern for one's own ego.



The Selection Committee

was comprised of the elected SGA Officers of the Class of 2011

The Vocalists

are from Elon's Class of 2011

This Program is Sponsored

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Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life



Hometown Heroes 2007

*Honoring five persons
who are making a positive difference
by touching lives and strengthening
their home communities*

*selected by
Elon's Class of 2011*

4:00 PM
November 5, 2007
McKinnon Hall, Moseley Center