

JOSEPH AND ARLENE NIKISCHER
Letter of Support

“Mr. and Mrs. Nikischer”, as we referred to them back in the day, were huge supporters and volunteers for the Cadet Plebes (our feeder Corps back in the late 60’s and 70’s) and the regular Cadet Corps, for many years. Both of their sons, Joe and Jon started in our Plebe organization back in the late 60’s, and Joe and Arlene immediately began their tenure with the Corps, initially becoming Quartermaster and Quarter Mistress with the Plebes. When the separation of several Plebe members to join the Epoch’s organization took place during 1969, Joe and Arlene stayed with the Corps and moved into management positions. Both Joe and Arlene also worked as fundraisers with our Cadet Booster Association (the fund-raising and business organization for both the Plebes and the Cadets). I also remember Mrs. Nikischer working bingos for the Corps when we had that opportunity with the local Garfield Girls Club. Yes, all as volunteers.

They were at every Cadet Plebe parade performance, every Plebe competing winter guard performance, making sure that the uniforms looked sharp, equipment was available and working, and made sure that the kids represented the Cadet organization with pride and dignity. I believe Mr. Nikischer was even a bus driver for the Plebes back in the day. . . whatever was needed . . .

They were always smiling whenever you saw them, especially when they were around the kids of the Corps, always leading by example and never asking for anything in return. After their direct involvement with the Corps, they continued to participate in all Cadet functions and fundraisers, and were the sole contributors for the floral decorations (J. Michael’s Florist of Clifton) at many Cadet banquets, events, and Cadet Masses, donating the flowers for the good of the Corps.

We are blessed to have special volunteers like Joe and Arlene Nikischer working with the Corps and are eternally grateful for their selfless contributions. It is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Mr. and Mrs. Nikischer, for consideration to the Cadets Hall of Fame, Class of 2021.

Sincerely,

GREG CINZIO
1967-1977