

Hastings, MI WOW!!!

By Josie Cole
Thirty four year member of
the Four Freshmen Society

Let's start with the Gathering. There were 14 from the Four Freshmen Society. We all had dinner at the Seasonal Grill. While there, we all enjoyed a great dinner and reminisced from the past years of Four Freshmen fun! From there we all went to the Hastings Performing Arts Center, and what a beautiful venue for the audience as well as the performers.

Opening the evening was the Thornapple Arts Council Jazz Festival All Star Band under the direction of Kyle Wellfare. This part of the evening was most enjoyable ... what a great treat. The evening concluded with the World Famous Four Freshmen after 76 years, and still awesome!! The show ended with a standing ovation and a wonderful encore.



In Remembrance

Evelyn Searl, Grand Rapids, Michigan and twenty-year member of the Four Freshmen Society passed away peacefully at home May 28, 2024 while listening to recordings of the Four Freshmen.

Evelyn was a determined woman who fought hard to stay alive after being diagnosed with cancer. Even though her health was deteriorating rapidly she was determined to attend The Gathering in Hastings, Michigan to join members for dinner and hear the Four Freshmen one last time. After the concert she met up with Bob and ask him if she could have her last dance with him.



Keep dancing Ev and rest in peace.

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Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids and Riverview, Michigan. Other FS members were in the audience but unable to join us earlier for dinner.

Thornapple Arts Council presents an annual TAC JAZZ FEST, a three-day jazz festival similar to that at Tiffin University. The Freshmen were invited as clinicians to work with high school vocal and instrumental jazz students from the area. The small town was buzzing with hundreds of students participating in the festival. Closing the three-day "Jazz Fest" The Four Freshmen were the Festival Headliners in concert at the Performing Arts Center Saturday night, playing to a sold-out crowd of 800! The guy's performance was outstanding as was the audience, showing extreme enthusiastic and responsiveness to their performance which was followed by



a standing ovation and encore.

Following the concert, members and friends gathered around a table handing out Playbills and selling CDs. It was another great time of Gathering with members of The Four Freshmen Society, and once again hearing the fabulous Four Freshmen live in concert.

We hope you will attend a Four Freshmen concert in your area, plan a Gathering of members to keep lasting friendships and the love of The Four Freshmen.

