

# 49ERS ALUMNI MAGAZINE



2016 EDITION

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# DEAR 49ERS ALUMNI,

I trust you have enjoyed a healthy and happy summer and are as anxious for the start of football season as we are here in Santa Clara.

I would like to begin this letter by congratulating my uncle, Eddie, on his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. As you know better than anyone, he has had a tremendous impact on the 49ers and the entire National Football League, an impact still felt today. I am confident you would agree that he is the best owner in the history of the NFL. So, thank you, Uncle Eddie, for your remarkable contributions to this franchise, this league and this game.

As an organization, we are coming off hosting a successful Super Bowl 50, where we were able to show off Levi's Stadium and the entire Bay Area to the world. The feedback from the league, as well as the fans, was overwhelmingly positive and I would like to thank all of you who participated in the events of that week.

On the field, our players and coaching staff put together a tremendous offseason program and are champing at the bit to get the 49ers back to the championship level that we are all accustomed to. We are excited about what Chip and his coaching staff bring to our team, and we are pleased to introduce them and our 2016 draft class to you in this magazine. Additionally, we have highlighted some great resources the NFL has to offer you, so be sure to check out the information on Player Care Foundation, 88 Plan and NFL Lifeline.

Thank you for your continued support and contributions to this storied franchise. I look forward to reconnecting with many of you at the upcoming Alumni Weekend, from November 18th through the 20th, where we will celebrate Uncle Eddie and his distinguished career.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Jed York'.

Jed York



## 2016 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS SCHEDULE

SEP 12	7:20 P.M.	ESPN			RAMS
SEP 18	10:00 A.M.	FOX	AT		PANTHERS
SEP 25	1:05 P.M.	FOX	AT		SEAHAWKS
OCT 2	1:25 P.M.	FOX			COWBOYS
OCT 6	5:25 P.M.	CBS/NFLN/ TWITTER			CARDINALS
OCT 16	10:00 A.M.	FOX	AT		BILLS
OCT 23	1:05 P.M.	FOX			BUCCANEERS
OCT 30	BYE				
NOV 6	1:05 P.M.	FOX			SAINTS
NOV 13	1:25 PM	FOX	AT		CARDINALS
NOV 20	1:25 P.M.	CBS			PATRIOTS
NOV 27	10:00 A.M.	FOX	AT		DOLPHINS
DEC 4	10:00 A.M.	FOX	AT		BEARS
DEC 11	1:05 P.M.	CBS			JETS
DEC 18	1:05 P.M.	FOX	AT		FALCONS
DEC 24	1:25 P.M.	FOX	AT		RAMS
JAN 1	1:25 P.M.	FOX			SEAHAWKS

\*ALL TIMES PACIFIC

## SAVE THE DATE

### HALL OF FAME & ALUMNI WEEKEND

NOVEMBER 18-20

Alumni Dinner  
Saturday, November 19

Patriots vs. 49ers  
Sunday, November 20

More details to follow

For more information,  
please call 408.673.2076

## 49ERS ALUMNI CONTACT INFO

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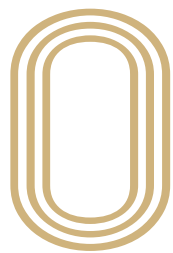


# Edward J. Debartolo, Jr. NOW AMONG NFL ROYALTY



By Jerry Walker, Team Archivist

During public introductions over the years, the name Edward J. DeBartolo, Jr. has always had a royal ring to it...



On February 6th, 2016, that stately sound seemingly evolved even more so as the fourtime Pro Football Hall of Fame finalist finally found his rightful spot among other heroes and icons in the sport's shrine.

From that day forward, whenever introduced publicly, his name will forever be preceded with some variation of the regal designation "Pro Football Hall of Famer . . ."

Through the entire hubbub, however it's important to note, that while the honor may fulfill him, it will never change him.

To his inner circle of friends and relatives, especially those members of his beloved "Forty Niners Family," Mr. DeBartolo will ALWAYS be known by such endearing monikers as "Eddie" . . . "Eddie D" . . . or "Mr. D."

While several other friends and employees, including Dwight Clark (WR, 1979-87), often lovingly refer to him as "Boss," . . . and he was even called "Unc" (as in "Uncle") by Freddie Solomon (WR, 1978-85) over the years.

But, by any name, he's finally a "Hall of Famer!"

"I'm still in a state of shock . . . so honored, so humbled!" Eddie admitted, his voice still filled with emotion following the announcement on that "Super Saturday" in San Francisco.

"No one IS MORE deserving than you," Hall of Fame President & Executive Director David Baker exalted, when officially informing the former 49ers owner of his selection on the eve of Super Bowl 50!

And anyone who knows football or knows Eddie D personally would agree wholeheartedly - especially those among his Niners family of players, coaches and staff from back in the day.

As a matter of fact, here's what a few of them had to say . . .

Roger Craig (RB, 1983-90), a Hall of Fame candidate himself, praised: "There was no owner like Mr. D. He WAS a true Hall of Fame owner . . . and IS a true Hall of Fame human being!"

"We wanted to win, we were totally committed and I think it started really from the owner," remembered fellow Hall of Famer Jerry Rice (WR, 1985-2000). "And, we had guys that wanted to put everything on the line for Eddie - our owner . . . our Hall of Fame owner!"

Joe Montana (QB, 1979-93), a Class of 2000 Hall of Famer, acknowledged: "When I look back on it, there wasn't a better owner in the league than Mr. DeBartolo!"

George Seifert, the Niners two-time Super Bowl winning coach, stressed: "Simply put, no other owner has had as much success as Eddie has."

"I'm so glad that he's finally, and rightfully, taking his place as a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame this year - he so

deserves the honor," complimented Fred Dean (DE, 1981-85), a 2008 Hall of Fame inductee.

Steve Wallace (T, 1986-96) may have summed it up best, when he said: "It's going to be a special, special day for him . . . and he REALLY deserves it!"

"I couldn't be happier for Eddie D., on his pending Hall of Fame induction . . . he's finally found his rightful place among the sports other icons in Canton, Ohio," insisted Clark.

*Hall of Fame Coach Bill Walsh declared him "the best owner in the National Football League, period!"*

Keena Turner (LB, 1980-90), the Niners vice president for football affairs was quick to praise: "Mr. D is an amazing, amazing guy with a heart of gold and a heart of a champion. All the success we had - none of it happens without him!"

"Yes, he deserves to be in the Hall of Fame," stated John McVay, who spent 21 seasons with the team in several capacities (1979-2003), including vice president and general manager during the glory years. "The reason for the success of the 49ers was because of Eddie's involvement in every major decision on and off the field over the years."

"Mr. D is the greatest owner in professional sports history!" lauded Ronnie Lott (DB, 1981-90), another Class of 2000 Hall of Famer.

"BEST owner in all of sports! And, BEST friend to so many," agreed Harris Barton (T, 1987-98).

## HALL OF FAME NUMBERS...

What a resume!

During Mr. DeBartolo's successfully unprecedented tenure as Forty Niners owner from 1977 to 2000, he won more games and celebrated more Super Bowl victories than any other single owner in League history!

Between 1981 and '99, he created a "duo-decade dynasty" that helped shape the NFL into what it is today, while also setting the gold standard for ownership in pro sports!

His 49ers teams averaged nearly 13 victories a year, winning 73 percent of their 329 games during those 19 seasons - including an impressive 22-11 postseason mark over that span.

The franchise was the first in League history to win FIVE Super Bowl crowns (XVI in 1981, XIX in 1984, XXIII in 1988,





XXIV in 1989 and XXIX in 1994), making him the ONLY individual NFL owner ever to claim five Lombardi Trophies.

Five World Championships under two head coaches. Walsh won the team's first three Super Bowls (1981, '84 and '88) and Seifert was Niners' head coach for the most recent two World Championships (in 1989 and '94).

As of this writing, no other team has ever won five NFL titles in any 14-year window.

During those five championship campaigns, the Niners won 80 times in 95 games (counting postseason play). They finished with records of 16-3 (1981), 18-1 (1984), 13-6 (1988), 17-2 (1989) and 16-3 (1994) . . . winning 84 percent of their games, going 80-15 in those five seasons.

That 1984 squad recorded 18 total victories as the first NFL team ever to win that many games in a single season . . . and, from 1988 to '90, the Forty Niners won an NFL record 18 consecutive road games.

Under Eddie D's leadership, the 49ers won 13 (of a possible 17) NFC West titles (from 1981-97), reached the playoffs 16 times in his final 18 seasons and appeared in 10 NFC Championship Games over his 23 years of ownership.

## THE NEW OWNER...

Eddie DeBartolo was just 30 years old when he took over the San Francisco Forty Niners reins in 1977 - just 30 YEARS OLD!

He was, by far, the youngest owner in the NFL . . . younger even than several of his top players on that 1977 roster, including offensive lineman Cas Banaszek, defensive end Tommy Hart, tight end Tom Mitchell, defensive tackle Woody Peoples, safety Mel Phillips . . . and just a few weeks older than linebacker Skip Vanderbundt.

He was younger than nearly all his head coaches over the years, starting with his first hire, Ken Meyer (who was 20 years older than the new owner).

That string, which included Pete McCulley (15 years older), Fred O'Connor (seven years old), Walsh (15 years older) and Seifert (six years older), came to an end in 1997.

Steve Mariucci was nine years younger than Mr. D when hired to replace Seifert in '97.

DeBartolo definitely proved age discrepancy was no hurdle between him and his desired goals to create a championship culture in the Bay Area, but the Niners lack of early success did give cause for frustration and many sleepless nights for the youthful, driven owner.

"I had a few rough seasons to start, trying to create a winning atmosphere as owner - then I hired Bill Walsh and John McVay . . . and they did such a great job as relationships throughout the organization developed."

"It soon became like a family, especially in the way we treated our players . . . I think that's a key - surround yourself with really good people and let them do their jobs!"

Through the first four years of DeBartolo's ownership, the 49ers managed only 15 total wins, including just eight victories

(against 24 losses) in Walsh's first two seasons (at 2-14 in 1979 and 6-10 in 1980) . . .

Then the calendar year turned to 1981 and San Francisco began a string of 17 consecutive "full seasons" of 10-or-more wins (not counting the strike-shortened 1982 campaign).

Walsh owned seven of those "double-digit victory" seasons, Seifert coached eight of them and Mariucci claimed the final pair of them.

## A PLAYERS' OWNER...

Deserving of induction? Yes, without a shadow of a doubt!

DeBartolo was a Hall of Fame owner with a "golden touch" when it came to producing winning teams and collecting championship hardware, nobody can ever argue that . . .

But, he was also a Hall of Fame owner beyond just on-field wins and trophies!

*"He created a family, a sincere emotional feeling . . . something he had the strong ability to do," said Seifert. "That, and if we ever needed something, he allowed us to get it."*

Eddie was a players' owner AND a coaches' owner . . . an NFL innovator . . . a mover and a shaker within the League.

And most importantly, he was an owner that cared for his players AND an owner that took care of his players ON and OFF the field.

Fellow 2016 Hall of Fame inductee Tony Dungy (who played for the 49ers during Mr. D's third year of ownership and Walsh's first season as head coach) had a front row seat to the Niner's building of their dynasty.

And he shared a secret from back-in-the-day: "Eddie told me way back then - 'I want to not only make this a championship team, but also a championship organization!'"

"As he proceeded to change things around from top to bottom, it didn't take long to see that this indeed was going to be a championship organization," Dungy explained.

"He always took care of the players - always looked out for them . . . 'I want the players to know I've got their backs and I want them to be comfortable and be able to go out and do their best' he told me and that's what he was all about!"

"Pro Football was Mr. D's profession, but that alone doesn't define him, totally . . . his love for life and his love for others is way more who he is - than just an NFL team owner!" praised Dungy.

"Simply put, he was the best owner in the NFL . . . Everyone knows his reputation for being so generous and as owner, but the most important gift he gave us was the creation of an environment where we all had the chance to succeed!" pointed out Seifert.

Want a few examples? Okay, here you go . . .



## Example One:

Wide Body Players Should Fly Wide Body Planes . . .

In week five of the 1981 season, the Niners were 2-2 and hunkered down at San Francisco International Airport waiting to depart for Washington, D.C. and a road game against the favored Redskins, when word came down that their United charter flight (a Douglas DC-8) was facing a lengthy delay due to mechanical problems.

With a growing uneasiness among the travel party of players, coaches and staff as the departure time kept being bumped back, 49ers' Business Manager Keith Simon huddled with Head Coach / General Manager Bill Walsh and Director of Football Operations John McVay to discuss options.

And, what they came up with was downright historic . . .

Rather than hold tight and react to the possibility of waiting through an extended delay of undetermined length while repairs were completed OR a different plane could be ferried into SFO for their eventual flight . . . They went on the offensive.

Simon noticed another United Airlines plane queued up one gate over, also headed to the Nation's Capital, but not scheduled for departure until later in the day.

So, he got creative and reached out to Jim Goodwin (United's regional manager and future president of that airline) and inquired about "commandeering" THAT aircraft (albeit a much larger DC-10) docked at that neighboring gate.

Great idea . . . But what do YOU think Mr. D?

Eddie's response was - "What are you waiting for, do it!"

Even though it would cost him immensely more to charter a 254-seat DC-10, rather than wait for their DC-8 (a much smaller, but very common size charter used by teams throughout the League), he was all for the upgrade.

Just typical of the best owner in the NFL and maybe of all professional sports!

The Niners won that game, 30-17, over a very good Redskins squad . . . and when Eddie D arrived in the 49ers locker room postgame, he did so to joyful chants of "D C Ten - D C Ten!" . . . and . . . "Da Plane, Boss - Da Plane!"

To which, he simply replied: "You keep winning and I promise you'll keep flying wide bodies!"

Following their comfortable return flight home to the Bay Area on that same DC-10, his charges upset a heavily favored Dallas Cowboys team, 45-14, a week later at Candlestick Park!

And, true to his word, as the Niners kept winning both home and away, Mr. D treated them like the World Champions they turned out to be in 1981 . . .

They flew DC-10 charters to each of their remaining road games (all victories, by the way), including Super Bowl XVI - on which they flew (to and from) in their custom-painted United Airlines "Forty Niner Liner!"

"What a great move that was by Eddie," explained Simon. "And it was done, totally with the players comfort and physical well being in mind."









Yes, those wide body plans were perfect for wide body players.

With the NFC West's odd geography (that included New Orleans and Atlanta within the division), San Francisco was always among the League leaders in miles traveled each season.

And, the DC-10 had that 2-5-2 configuration in the back so players could have two to five seats each, to spread out/stretch out and relax a little more on all those long flights instead of being so tight and so cramped.

"That upgrade to flying DC-10's spoke volumes to us, the players - as to what a special person, a special owner Eddie was and how much he cared for us," praised Dwight Hicks (S, 1979-85).

"Traveling for road games was not much fun to begin with and our owner wanted to make it more comfortable and less draining for us all - no matter the cost . . . I mean, is that a Hall of Fame owner or what?"

## Example Two:

A New Home . . .

In 1988, Eddie moved the team to Santa Clara and into the NFL's first state-of-the-art year-round facility - the Marie P. DeBartolo Sports Centre (named in loving memory of his mother).

A two-story, 52,000 square foot facility, situated on 11 acres . . . the building was three times larger than their Red Morton Center in Redwood City, and included a player's only lounge, a spacious dressing room area for the team with 60 permanent oversized lockers, an indoor hydro-therapy pool and a sauna (to help refresh those tired muscles and alleviate aches and pains).

New classrooms, a theater, larger weight room and bigger offices for coaches and staff.

There was also a new dressing area for the coaches . . . One of the best improved attributes of which was no need for any shouting out warnings prior to flushing toilets (to prevent those in the shower, from getting scalded by hot water - as was common place in their old Redwood City facility)!

A player's owner? Yup! A coach's owner? Indeed!

## Example Three:

Football Games and Globe Trotting . . .

Or "join the 49ers and see the world . . ."

Because of the team's international popularity of the 1980's and '90s, San Francisco was often the League's logical selection to take part in international "American Bowl" games, starting in the late '80s . . . the Niners played internationally seven times in the DeBartolo era . . . and in such locations as London (1988 & 1992), Tokyo (1989 & 1995), Berlin (1991), Barcelona (1993) and Vancouver (1995).

And each time, the entire organization was invited to join in the fun . . . every coach, every player, every administrator, every member of the staff (AND his or her "significant other") was invited along for the week to EACH international locale . . . AND all courtesy of the owner!

That was a procedure repeated not only with each "American Bowl" trip, but also with EVERY Super Bowl appearance - employee's "families" were always invited to take part.

Can you imagine if hash tags were around back then: #UltraTeamBonding . . . #BeyondAppreciativeEmployees . . . #WorldTraveling49ers . . . #BestOwnerEver!

And, each member of the travel party was treated like a VIP. There were tours available, outings and/or dinners on the schedule, shopping excursions and various other activities on tap in each city.

One of the most memorable events occurred in London, on a July evening in 1988, when Eddie and wife Candy rented out the Natural History Museum (yes, the ENTIRE Natural History Museum) for a private party for a few hundred of the DeBartolo's friends and family, including all the Niners employees and their guests.

It was not just a party, but a 49ers party!

And, a 49ers party of Super Bowl Party proportions . . . right there below the towering dinosaur skeletons, among so many historic and priceless exhibits, including rare specimens collected by Charles Darwin.

Very possibly a first for that 100-year old English museum - with its ornate architecture.

And why?

Just to show appreciation for all the hard work being performed by his coaches, players and staff!

An impressive, heart-felt gesture indeed by the future Hall of Fame owner . . . and something each member of the Forty Niners Family could get very used to and remember the rest of their lives!

## Example Four:

Limited ONLY by the space in this publication . . . how about one more?

Those Super Bowl Ring Ceremonies . . . From the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco . . . to the Broadmoor Resort in Colorado Springs, Colorado . . . and seemingly everywhere in between - including the Hawaiian Island of Kauai.

Spectacular parties, indeed . . . and precious moments in time!

Always FIRST CLASS and always with no expenses spared.

What would you expect from a Hall of Fame owner?

*Over the years, Mr. D constantly went "above and beyond" in showing his appreciation for his players, coaches and staff!*

It was legendary how he showed his love and appreciation, constantly showering his Forty Niners Family members with it . . . birthday cards and notes for special occasions . . . flowers to wives (or mothers) upon winning division championships and playoff

games . . . roses for wife's birthdays, anniversaries and even Easter . . . Neiman-Marcus gift cards for Christmas . . . more flowers (and/or gifts) for weddings . . . more gifts (and/or roses) when babies were born . . . and don't forget those Super Bowl Bonuses and gorgeous Super Bowl rings!

## AND THEN THERE WAS "REUNITE!"

The "all-time, all-time" party had to be "REUNITE" . . .

It happened 10 years ago (March 23-26, 2006) and was held at Paris - Las Vegas . . . AFTER Mr. D had left the 49ers!

It was a four-day, three-night affair to remember a lifetime - a "Forty Niners Family Reunion" for ALL FIVE Super Bowl Championship teams - hosted by Eddie and Candy and their three daughters: Lisa, Tiffanie and Nikki.

Invitations went out to all the players, all the coaches and all the staff of all FIVE World Championship teams (AND their significant others).

And, what a glorious weekend it was . . .

When guests arrived in their rooms, they were greeted with a "REUNITE" Welcome Package - that included: FIVE \$100 Paris casino chips "JUST to get the fun started," a \$500 Visa Gift Card for weekend incidentals, DVD's of the team's FIVE Super Bowl victories, a miniature crystal (commemorative "REUNITE") Lombardi Trophy and a commemorative "REUNITE" bottle of wine, among several other treats.

And, among the scheduled activities for the weekend, was a "Kickoff Cocktail Reception," a golf tournament, a poker tournament, a slots tournament and, of course, the main event - a fabulous Saturday night "Super Bowl Reunion Gala!"

To say a "Super" time was had by all would be the understatement of all understatements . . .

## "HUMAN HALL OF FAME SIDE" OF EDDIE...

Talk about a "Hall of Fame Owner!"

And, all that you've read so far . . . doesn't even take into consideration another side of Eddie D - the "human side of him!"

The side fans and the rest of the public seldom saw or heard about - the countless people that were touched (and continue to be touched) by his love, by his thoughtfulness and by his caring nature.

"People know he's a competitive kind of guy," Craig pointed out. "But, he's even more loving and caring than he is competitive . . . so darn passionate about giving to others. We kept it in our "Forty Niners Family" and not many people outside the organization heard about it - we never publicized it, but his legacy will be how passionate he was and continues to be today!"

"When Mr. D talks about it being a family, it truly was a family," confirmed Montana. "There are guys that he takes care of, and has taken care of, that nobody even knows about. From guys with injuries, to helping families that are suffering, he just does not forget."

That selfless giving side of the "Boss" was mostly known by

those "behind-the-scenes" - it was never publicized or promoted like his other, more celebrated and competitive side!

That is until Bay Area sports journalist Daniel Brown of the San Jose Mercury News wrote what will undoubtedly become an award winning feature on Mr. D.

THAT was the topic of Brown's news/sports article as he shared with the world (for the first time) some of those previously untold stories and the lives the former Niners owner has touched over the years.

The timing and placement of Brown's essay was perfect as it appeared on the Merc's front page and was picked up by wire services and social media nationally - just days before the final Hall of Fame vote this past winter!

The writer talked with former employees and alums (and/or their relatives), who were all recipients of Eddie's love!

The emotions and the stories just flowed . . . the general consensus was that Eddie D is indeed a Hall of Fame person!

The accounts, included:

## A Knock on the Door, During a Family Tragedy

It seemed routine when San Jose Police Officer Jeffrey Fontana, on solo patrol duty in a quiet Almaden cul-de-sac, pulled up behind a driver sitting in his car a little after 4 a.m. on October 28th, 2001.

It turned out to be anything but routine, however as the man, wanted on previous warrants - pulled a gun and ambushed the 24-year old police officer at point blank range, as Fontana approached the car.

Jeffrey, the first San Jose police officer killed in the line of duty in 12 years, was the son of 49ers Business Operations Assistant Sandy Fontana.

The murder took place on a Sunday morning.

On Monday night, there was a knock on the door of the Fontana's Woodside home and as Sandy tells it - emotions building with the memory of it: "Eddie was there, at the door! And to this day, you don't know how much that means to me and the family!"

DeBartolo, who had arrived unannounced, after hearing the shocking news while at home in Tampa, Florida.

What was the owner to do in this time of heartbreak and loss?

Fuel the plane and fly to the Bay Area and Sandy's side - where he could show support, pay respects and see how else he might be able to help . . . that's what!

So, he did just that . . . and arrived in time to sit for hours with the grieving parents, console other family members, help arrange dinners for the Fontana family all week and help plan for (and pay for) Jeffrey's funeral.

"Oh my gosh, talk about a wonderful person . . . To fly from Florida and stay for however long he stayed," Sandy remembered. "He came to our house and then after the rosary spent hours with us. It just meant so much . . . and still does - it's probably one of the kindest things anyone has ever done for me."





## Redeye Flight for Dave Rahn

Mr. D flying all night from his home in Tampa, Florida (in September, 2014) to San Diego and the La Jolla Hospital bedside of a former 49ers Public Relations assistant & team travel manager, to say a last farewell in a scene reminiscent of one from the movie “Brian’s Song.”

It was more fitting, than surprising that Eddie was there in Dave Rahn’s final hours, no matter how much effort it took.

Heck, he was seemingly always there for Dave (and wife Holly) from the moment in July, 2012, when Dave first learned that stage 4 cancer had returned and was ravaging his body.

DeBartolo was constantly there during the entire two-year battle - Seemingly every day, calling, texting, sending messages, offering both moral and financial support and even flying Dave to Tampa to meet with some of the top medical specialists in the country.

Besides helping out financially with the overwhelming medical bills related to the cancer fight AND the eventual cost of a very memorable memorial service, which drew several hundred friends, relatives and former co-workers and included “Dave-style” BBQ and music (along with impromptu remarks by several celebrities in attendance, paying their last respects), Eddie D also helped Holly get into nursing school after her husband’s passing.

## Lifetime Annuity for Jeff Fuller

Jeff Fuller (S/LB, 1984-89) was injured in a regular season “home game” played at Stanford Stadium due to the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake earlier that week and the at-the-time unanswered questions about any possible structural damage to Candlestick Park.

It was a ferocious collision, helmet-to-helmet as Fuller crashed into New England Patriots RB John Stephens . . . Jeff knew it was bad and he was correct, as it left him with two fractured vertebrae and torn nerves near his neck – partially paralyzing him and leaving him unable to use his right arm normally.

Eddie knew it was bad, as well . . . and immediately headed from his booth to the locker room and followed the ambulance to the hospital.

“He was the first one in my hospital room.” Jeff confessed to Mercury News writer Brown. “And he told me how much he cared about me and let me know that I wouldn’t be alone going through this battle . . . and I haven’t been – because of him.”

As Brown relayed it in his feature story: “DeBartolo sat with Jeff in the hospital on that first night, and they both cried. At the time, the NFL had no provision for handling such debilitating injuries. So the 49ers owner winged it: he paid Fuller’s remaining contract in full for the 1990 season, even though the safety was finished and even though DeBartolo was under no legal obligation to do so.”





“After that, DeBartolo essentially signed him to a lifetime contract. He contributed to an annuity that would pay Fuller \$100,000 a year.”

“That situation was so new to everyone,” explained Jeff. “I don’t think anybody with the 49ers ever had an injury like this. So we were in new territory. Mr. DeBartolo put it upon himself to make sure that I was OK.”

And, to this day, Jeff constantly hears from his friend and former owner, sometimes as often as several times a month.

### Freddie & Eddie, Friends from The Start

Being bigger than life in so many ways, despite his small physical stature - it’s hard to believe that Freddie Solomon (WR, 1978-85) is no longer with us!

Because of their microscopic age difference of only a half-dozen (or so) years, they were fast friends from the start – the team’s new owner and the newly-acquired veteran receiver.

Solomon was the perfect addition to the Niners – a true “team player,” who did anything he could for the betterment of the team . . . while DeBartolo, the ultimate “team player” was, of course busy doing all HE could for the betterment of that same team!

Freddie played receiver from scrimmage, kick and punt returner on special teams AND even quarterback . . . Eddie’s kind of player, Eddie’s kind of guy!

In Freddie’s heart of hearts, doing all he could do FOR the team, also meant working with Jerry Rice, the team’s top draft pick in 1985 – Freddie’s last with the Niners.

So, at every opportunity, often including one-on-one “clinics” after practice . . . the veteran took it upon himself to pass along his vast professional experienced-knowledge – actually schooling the rookie and helping prep Rice to take his job!

DeBartolo and Solomon were always close, but they became even closer in 2000 - when Eddie D and his family moved his DeBartolo Sports And Entertainment business to Tampa, Florida, where Freddie had starred on the grid iron at the University of Tampa, and an area he called home following his NFL retirement.

In 2001, however Freddie was diagnosed with colon cancer . . . it hit fast and it hit hard – nine months later he died.

During that nine-month ordeal, Mr. D seemingly never left his friend’s side . . . And did what the receiver did on the football field: Anything He Could.

Freddie’s wife Delilah (Dee) told the Merc that DeBartolo was the first person “Freddie told what was going on. And, from the beginning, he helped us in so many ways. He was there throughout the entire ordeal – and was just amazing.

“He was always there - advising us to make sure that we had the best doctors possible, helping out financially in areas insurance didn’t cover completely AND even driving Freddie (40 minutes) to his doctor’s appointments, waiting with his friend the entire time during those chemotherapy sessions and then driving him (40 minutes) home.

DeBartolo did more and more as the situation turned dire, sometimes sitting by Solomon’s bedside for hours.

“He’s such a remarkable person . . . just a special, special person. He’s more than a friend. Really and truly, he’s

been like a beacon of light for us because of the friendship and because of his dedication and because of his love for my husband and myself and my family,” said Dee.

*“Besides all that, it was just knowing that he was there that gave us the support we needed to keep going. He’s just amazing. He’s just an amazing person,” Dee said. “He’s still checking on me and my family and making sure everyone is OK.”*

In the end, DeBartolo issued this statement, which says as much about him as it does his former wide receiver and friend: “I am deeply saddened by the passing of my dear friend Freddie Solomon today. My heart goes out to Dee, the family, our 49ers football family, the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s office and football fans everywhere.”

“Freddie and I have been friends for 35 years, and he was one of the most gentle and best men I have ever met in my life. Scores of generations will remember Freddie through their children and the youth he’s helped over all these decades. I have never met a man who cared so much about the human race, and there will never be another Freddie.”

The number of other examples are endless . . . here, are a few more that were not cited in the Mercury News article:

### Steve Wallace

“When I broke my leg late in Super Bowl XXIII at Miami, I was devastated and in great pain, both physically AND mentally,” said Steve Wallace (T, 1986-96). “I thought I was going to be the reason we would lose this game!”

“I had been taken off the field and into the locker room . . . and, Mr. D was the first person to show up beside the medical staff,” Wallace continued. “We watched the end of the game together on TV and when the going got tough during that last drive, I’m began stressing even more - thinking ‘man, can we do this?’”

“He’s trying to make sure I’m comfortable and kept telling me there was ‘nothing to worry about – we’re going to find a way to win this game,’” he told me.

“And, when Joe (Montana) connected with JT (John Taylor) on that last minute touchdown pass, Eddie poked me and said: ‘There you go Steve, nothing to worry about – you’re a champion for life!’” the big lineman remembered.

“It’s a moment in time I’ll never forget – THAT was pretty special. I’m not sure many owners would have left their luxury suite to come down to the locker room to support and comfort an injured player as he did me,” Wallace said appreciatively.

### Bryant Young

“He is a true Hall of Fame individual,” said Bryant Young (DT, 1994-2007) “As an owner, he would constantly and consistently go above and beyond for you and your family . . . and THAT made you want to give back all you had, the best you had - for him and the organization.”

“On Nov. 30th, 1998 - I broke my leg early in the third quarter of a prime time Monday Night Football game against the NY Giants at Candlestick Park,” Young recalled. “And, believe it or not, Mr. D was one of the first to get to me as they were taking me off the field AND he rode with me in the back of the ambulance and made sure he did all he could to comfort me.”

It must have been quite a scene, because even in as much pain that Bryant was in, he still wanted to make sure his owner was comfortable, as well.

“He may have stood the whole time during that trip in the ambulance,” Young remembered.

“I was a little groggy, sure - but I was still aware of him directing and consoling, consoling and directing, just supporting me, making sure I was doing okay AND that they gave me what I needed to be as comfortable as possible.”

“I’ve thought about that many times,” said Bryant. “I don’t know how many owners would have left the game to do something like that . . . I was so taken-aback, yet so appreciative!”

“What a great owner Mr. D was . . . his success in football is well known, but he’s even more successful at life,” stated the former All-Pro. “He’s so selfless & such an alter-centric person.”

And, today Eddie is still “supporting, consoling and directing” Bryant (and his wife Kristin) – although the former owner’s energy is now aimed at their son, Bryant Colby Young (known to friends and family by his middle name).

The 14-year old Colby is fighting cancer and has gone through radiation and chemo for a brain tumor . . . during which time “Mr. D has been a super support for Colby and all of us,” said Bryant.

“Things were looking up last year, but in March, Colby had a slight relapse, when doctors found another tumor, this time on his spine.”

“He’s just 14, but he’s tough,” praised the former All-Pro. “He’s still fighting . . . he’s very persistent, his resilience and his fight are impressive!”

“I only wish I could carry that cross & bear that burden instead. If I could, I would in an instant.”

### Richard Dent

Not long after the 49ers acquired Richard Dent (DE, 1994) from the Chicago Bears in 1994, the big defensive end injured his knee in a game at Kansas City (September 11th).

Dent’s family hadn’t even arrived in the Bay Area from the Midwest, yet. They were still back in Chicago . . . so he had nobody except his new “Forty Niner Family” to take care of him.

When he was released from the hospital to the house he was renting, Eddie made sure there was a refrigerator full of food



waiting for him and that he had someone going there to rehab with him.

In other words, Mr. D made sure Richard had everything he needed until his wife arrived in town a couple of days later.

At which time, the Niners also made arrangements to pick up the family at the airport and drive them to the house.

Just typical of the owner's attention to detail and how he always looked out for his players.

### Harris Barton

Toward the end of his career, Harris Barton's father's health began to fail and Eddie became aware of it . . . and made the offensive lineman a "very kind, no strings attached offer – typical of his love for others."

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, Harris was the County MVP his senior season at Atlanta Dunwoody High School and his family still lived back there.

"My father was in Atlanta, in a wheel chair and very sick," the two-time All-Pro tackle remembered.

"When we went there to play the Falcons, Mr. D gave me the owner's box and allowed my entire family to sit in there.

"I'll never, EVER forget that gesture as long as I live," said Harris.

### Ricky Sandoval

Ricky Sandoval was a big guy and could have easily been mistaken for one of the NFL players he protected and looked out for . . .

But "Big Rick" didn't play – he worked security for the Niners for years, before moving to Detroit and the position of Director of Security with the Lions in 2001.

On May 30th, 2006, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

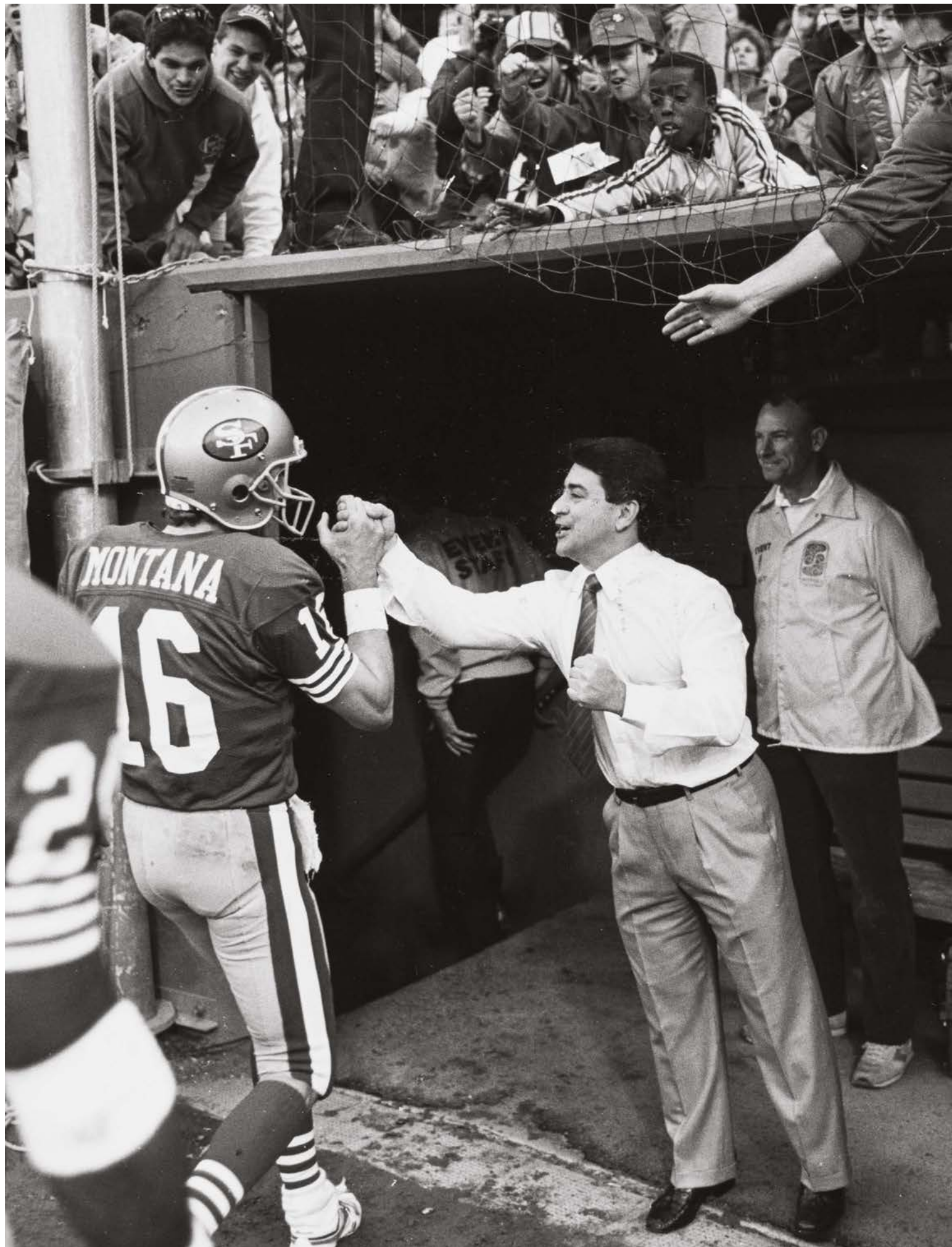
When his old 49ers boss, Eddie D heard the news – he jumped into action and was right there for Ricky (and wife Gael) ready to fight the battle at their side.

"Whatever we needed, just let him know" Gael said of Mr. D's constant offers.

"You face bills your insurance doesn't cover – let me know. You want me to fly Ricky to Tampa to meet with specialists or the Cleveland Clinic to do so – let me know. You need anything at all, ANYTHING – let me know . . . Mr. DeBartolo would tell us," Gael recalled.









“And for the next 37 months, he checked on us constantly to see how Ricky was doing, how I was doing . . . if he could help in any way,” Gael said. “To this day, we’re still in touch. What a truly wonderful, compassionate, loving person he is!”

With that never-give-up attitude and determination, Ricky was an inspiration to thousands and out-lived the doctors’ original life expectancy projections (of three to six months) by a ton.

Due to his spirit and his fight, the Lions renamed their practice field "Sandoval Field," in his honor - prior to his passing on July 2nd, 2006.

## CARING FOR OTHERS, BEYOND THE NINERS...

It’s not just Niners players or members of the “Forty Niners Family,” that Mr. D cares for . . . it goes way beyond that.

In 1991, for example – Eddie and daughter Lisa created The 49ers Foundation, a non-profit community funding extension of the San Francisco 49ers.

Now in its 24th year, the 49ers Foundation supports development programs for underserved youth that keep them “Safe, On Track, and In School.”

Since 1992, the Foundation has donated \$34.6 million to support non-profits, contributing \$4 million in 2015.

There’s also The DeBartolo Family Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation created by (and funded by) the members of the Edward J. DeBartolo, Jr. family to benefit local communities.

*The Foundation annually awards scholarships to high school students, provides school supplies to local teachers, adopts Bay Area families during the holidays, provides grants to organizations with exceptional requirements and presents the Spirit of Humanity Award, honoring local non-profit, grass roots organizations.*

The mission of the Foundation is to provide leadership and financial resources to extraordinary organizations and individuals to improve the community.

Giving back is something, he learned from his father, Edward J. DeBartolo Sr. - as proven by the major gifts that have built buildings on the campuses of Youngstown State University and the University of Notre Dame.

The DeBartolo Family's contributions at Notre Dame, include: DeBartolo Hall (the main classroom building) and DeBar-

tolo Performing Arts Center (DPAC), both located on a quad that students refer to as "DeBartolo Quad".

There is also a DeBartolo Hall, a six-story building on the campus of Youngstown State University in his hometown of Youngstown, where The DeBartolo Corporation was founded and continues to be based in nearby Boardman, Ohio.

## CLASS OF 2016 & OTHER HALLS OF FAME...

DeBartolo is one of eight members in the Class of 2016, which includes:

Tony Dungy, HEAD COACH -- Tampa Bay Buccaneers (1996-2001) & Indianapolis Colts (2002-08)

Brett Favre, QB -- Atlanta Falcons (1991), Green Bay Packers (1992-2007), Minnesota Vikings (2008) & New York Jets (2009-10)

Kevin Greene, LB/DE -- Los Angeles Rams (1985-92), Pittsburgh Steelers (1993-95), Carolina Panthers (1996, 1998-99) & San Francisco 49ers (1997)

Marvin Harrison, WR -- Indianapolis Colts (1996-2008)

Orlando Pace, OT -- St. Louis Rams (1997-2008) & Chicago Bears (2009)

Kenny Stabler, QB -- Oakland Raiders (1970-79), Houston Oilers (1980-81) & New Orleans Saints (1982-84)

Dick Stanfel, OG -- Detroit Lions (1952-55) & Washington Redskins (1956-58)

Coincidentally or not, three of those new inductees have ties to the 49ers. Dungy (as mentioned earlier) and Greene each played for the Niners under Eddie’s ownership and Stanfel was the team’s offensive line coach (1971-74) and offensive coordinator (1975) under Dick Nolan. Dungy played in 1979 (Walsh’s first season as head coach) and Greene was a member of Steve Mariucci’s 1997 team.

In the NFL’s 96-year history, Eddie D is one of ONLY 22 honorees ever inducted via the Hall’s Contributors Category, along with such icons as: Lamar Hunt, George Halas, Pete Rozelle, George Preston Marshall, Bert Bell, Curly Lambeau and Al Davis, among others.

And, ONLY 13 of those 22 Contributors have been Team Owners (including Bell, Davis, Halas, Hunt . . . and now DeBartolo).

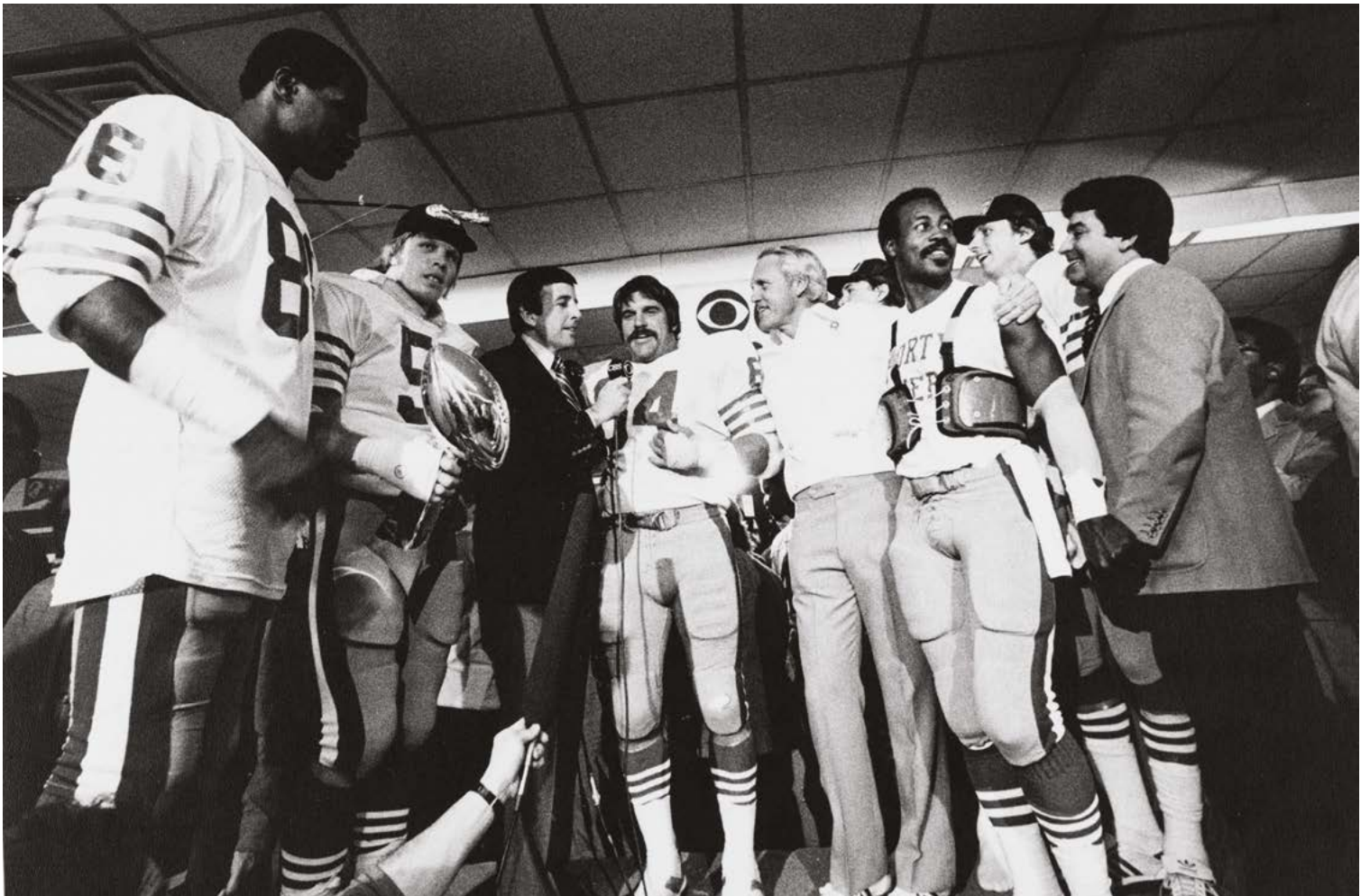
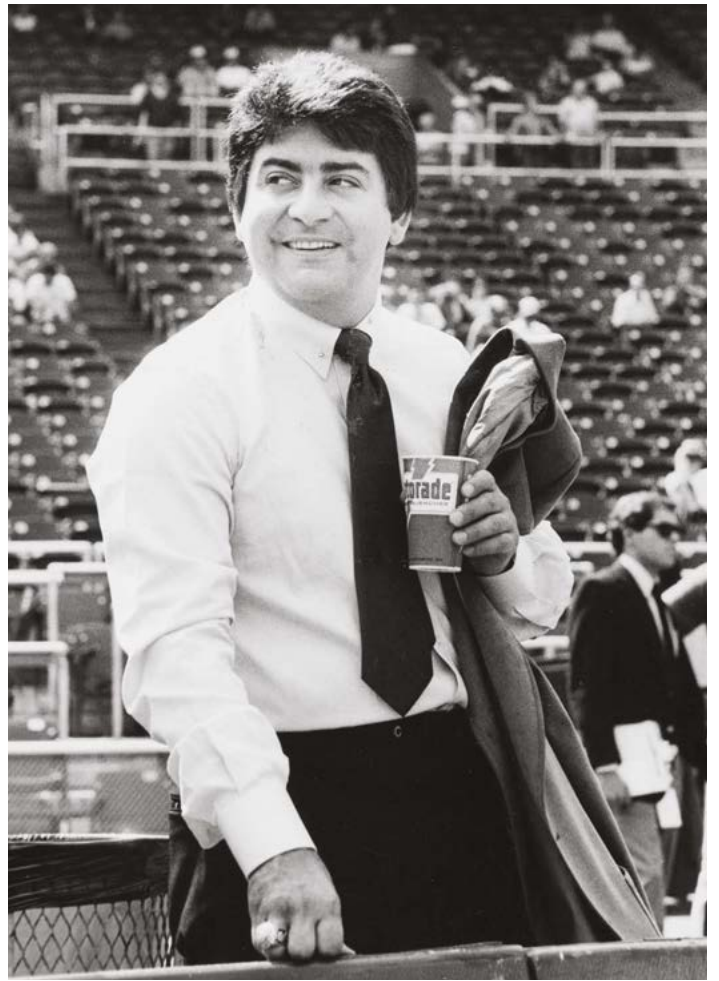
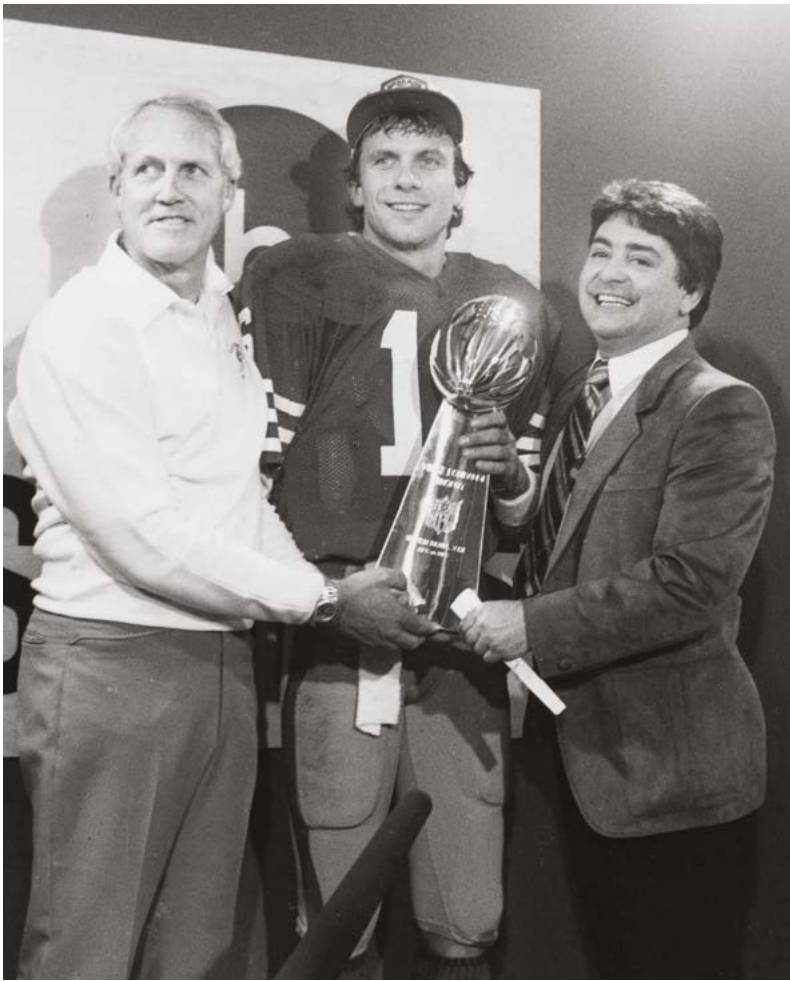
It’s no doubt his biggest honor, but it’s not his first Hall of Fame induction.

In 2008, Mr. D was inducted into the Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame, the first person ever to receive this honor that did not coach or compete in a professional sport.

And, in 2009, he was inducted into the Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr. 49ers Hall of Fame (named in honor of the storied franchise’s beloved patriarch).

Eddie Jr. was officially introduced as the team’s first Hall of Fame inductee during halftime of the 2009 season opener versus Seattle, a game won by San Francisco, 23-10 – by the way.

His selection as the Hall’s inaugural inductee was announced by his nephew Jed York, the team’s president and CEO, a mere week after the creation of the hall by the York family.



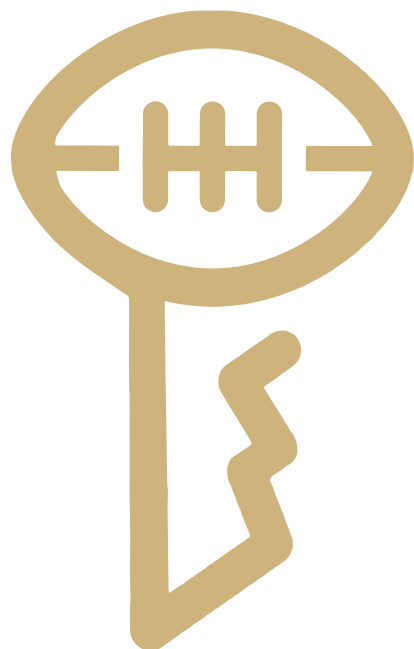




The National Football League recognizes the enormous contributions former players have had in the development and success of America's favorite sport -- NFL football. To acknowledge and express appreciation for their contributions, the NFL Owners, in partnership with the NFL Players Association, Pro Football Hall of Fame, and the NFL Alumni Association, created the NFL Player Care Foundation (PCF) in September 2007.

PCF is administered by a board of six directors. The National Football League, NFL Players Association, Pro Football Hall of Fame and the NFL Alumni Association each nominated a director and there also are two outside directors with expertise in foundation management and social welfare issues.

PCF is an independent organization dedicated to helping retired players improve their quality of life. PCF addresses all aspects of life – medical, emotional, financial, social and community, providing programs and assistance in each area. For more information about PCF, 800-NFL-GOAL (800-635-4625) OR 954-639-4584.



## **THE TRUST**

### **POWERED BY THE NFLPA**

The Trust is a set of resources, services and programs that provide former NFL players with the support, skills and tools they need to help ensure success off the field and in life after football.

A tailor-made experience that focuses on your own unique needs through a customized game plan.

A program designed to help you achieve your health, wellness and career goals through VIP access to premiere facilities and partners – with no cost to you.

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866.725.0063

**EMAIL**  
INFO@PLAYERSTRUST.COM

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# THE 88 PLAN

The 88 Plan is designed to assist players who are vested under the Bert Bell/Pete Rozelle NFL Player Retirement Plan (“Retirement Plan”) and who are determined to have dementia, as this condition is defined in the 88 Plan.

The 88 Plan will pay the cost of medical and custodial care for eligible players, including institutional custodial care, institutional charges, home custodial care provided by an unrelated third party, physician services, durable medical equipment, and prescription medicine.

For eligible players who are institutionalized as an in-patient, the maximum annual benefit is \$88,000. For eligible players who are not institutionalized as an in-patient,

the maximum annual benefit is \$50,000. 88 Plan benefits may be paid on behalf of an eligible player even if that player is also receiving total and permanent (“T&P”) disability benefits from the Retirement Plan, but only if he is in the “Inactive” category. Players receiving T&P disability benefits from the Retirement Plan in the “Active Football,” “Active Nonfootball,” and “Football Degenerative” categories cannot also receive the 88 Plan benefit. For players who convert, or have converted to retirement benefits from those three T&P categories, an offset applies that may or may not eliminate 88 Plan benefits.

For more information contact NFL Player Benefits Department at 1-800-NFL-GOAL (1-800-635-4625).

In 2012, the National Football League provided a grant to establish the NFL Life Line for members of the NFL family – current and former NFL players, coaches, team and league staff, and their family members who may be in crisis. The NFL Life Line is a free, confidential, and independently operated resource that connects callers with trained counselors who can help individuals work through any personal or emotional crisis. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Individuals can simply call (800) 506-0078 or chat online to be connected with a counselor. These caring profes-



sionals are trained to understand the specific issues that may arise during or after a professional career in football, as well as a variety of general problems that can affect anyone. No confidential

information about individual calls or callers is shared with the NFL, teams, or any other organization. They're there to listen and assist callers in finding solutions in challenging times, provide support for individuals who are calling out of concern for somebody else, and can connect callers with programs and resources offered by the NFL and other organizations. Federal evaluations of hotlines similar to this service have shown that they can effectively reduce emotional distress and suicidal thinking in callers.



# in MEMORY of



**BOB TONEFF**

Bob Toneff, a second round draft pick by the 49ers in the 1952 NFL draft, passed away on March 15, 2015, in San Anselmo, California at the age of 85. After his rookie season, the Pro Bowl tackle joined the fight in Germany for World War II, returning to the 49ers in 1954. Toneff played seven of his 12 NFL seasons in San Francisco (1952 and 1954-59), appearing in 69 games for the 49ers.



**TIM GRAY**

Tim Gray, who spent one season with the 49ers in 1979, passed away on October 8, 2015. Gray originally entered the NFL as a first round draft pick by the St. Louis Cardinals in the 1975 NFL draft. In addition to the 49ers, Gray logged one season with the Cardinals in 1975 and three seasons with the Kansas City Chiefs from 1976-1978.



**JOHN DAVID CROW**

Heisman Trophy winner John David Crow, who spent four of his 11 NFL seasons with the 49ers (1965-68), passed away on Wednesday, June 17, 2015, surrounded by his wife, Carolyn, their two daughters, and several grandchildren. The four-time Pro Bowl halfback appeared in 56 games for the 49ers, amassing 1,474 rushing yards and five touchdowns on 307 carries. Crow was inducted into the Texas A&M Hall of Fame in 1968, the Louisiana Hall of Fame in 1976 and was also named to the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame that same year.

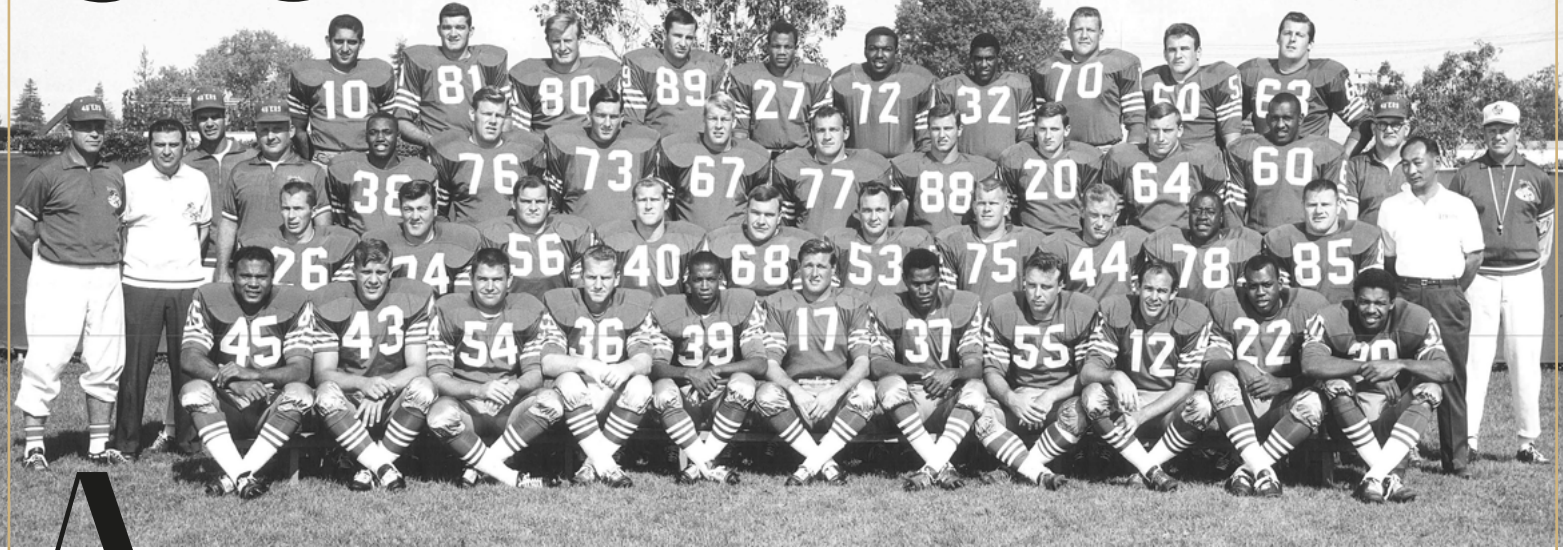


**BILL TUCKER**

Tucker, who spent four of his five NFL seasons with the 49ers (1967-70), passed away on November 26, 2015. Originally a third round draft pick by San Francisco, Tucker appeared in 55 games for the 49ers, amassing 349 rushing yards on 95 carries and six touchdowns. In addition to his career as an NFL running back, Tucker was an accomplished artist who had pencil drawings and oil paintings featured in Bay area art shows.



# 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1966 TEAM



**A**fter a somewhat slow start, the 49ers got in gear just before the midway point and became one of only two teams to beat the eventual world champion Green Bay Packers. After that, they finished with a respectable 6-6-2 record and were in

the battle for second place in the Western Division until the final league game. G John Thomas and E Dave Parks were All-Pro, and they joined G Howard Mudd, C Bruce Bosley, FB Ken Willard and LB Dave Wilcox in the Pro Bowl.

## ED BLOCK COURAGE AWARD

The Ed Block Courage Award is named after Ed Block, the former head athletic trainer of the Baltimore Colts of 23 years. Block was a pioneer in his profession and a respected humanitarian whose most passionate cause was helping children of abuse. The award is presented in his name each year to the player that exemplified a commitment to sportsmanship and courage. Ed Block Courage Award winners from each of the 32 NFL teams

are honored at a banquet in Baltimore, MD. All proceeds from the event benefit the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation's Courage House National Support Network. Named after the NFL team in a respective NFL city, a Courage House is a facility that provides support and quality care for abused children and their families in that community. The 49ers dedicated their Courage House in October 2003 at the Edgewood House in San Francisco.

**1984** | DB Ronnie Lott  
**1985** | LB Keena Turner  
**1986** | QB Joe Montana  
**1987** | WR Mike Wilson  
**1988** | CB Eric Wright  
**1989** | DB Chet Brooks  
**1990** | WR Mike Sherrard  
**1991** | DB Dave Waymer

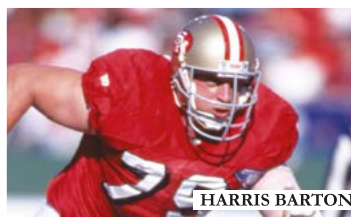
**1992** | DB Eric Davis  
**1993** | CB Don Griffin  
**1994** | T Harris Barton  
**1995** | DE Dennis Brown  
**1996** | FB William Floyd  
**1997** | C/G Jesse Sapolu  
**1998** | WR Jerry Rice  
**1999** | DT Bryant Young

**2000** | RB Garrison Hearst  
**2001** | S Lance Shulters  
**2002** | S Tony Parrish  
**2003** | C Jeremy Newberry  
**2004** | LB Jamie Winborn  
**2005** | C Jeremy Newberry  
**2006** | RB Frank Gore  
**2007** | C Eric Heitmann

**2008** | LB Manny Lawson  
**2009** | CB Shawntae Spencer  
**2010** | DT Justin Smith  
**2011** | QB Alex Smith  
**2012** | WR Kyle Williams  
**2013** | C Jonathan Goodwin  
**2014** | WR Kassim Osgood  
**2015** | LB NaVorro Bowman



MIKE WILSON



HARRIS BARTON



SHAWNTAE SPENCER



NAVORRO BOWMAN





# MUSEUM

PRESENTED BY SONY

EDWARD J. DEBARTOLO JR.  
**SUPER BOWL**  
GALLERY



## SUPER BOWL GA

### Dedicated to Edward J. DeBartolo Jr.

By Joe Hession, 49ers Museum Historian

The sparkle of diamond-encrusted rings and silver Super Bowl trophies provoke eye-popping admiration. The sight of such elusive championship jewelry, prized by athletes, coaches and executives throughout the National Football League, provides one of the most popular stops for guests at the 49ers Museum presented by Sony.

Former 49ers owner Edward J. DeBartolo Jr., the catalyst behind the team's unprecedented championship run of the 1980s and 1990s, recently was honored at the museum for his role as the architect behind the club's five Super Bowl titles. The Edward J. DeBartolo Jr. Super Bowl Gallery, which opened in February 2016, is now home to all the 49ers championship hardware.

"If there is one area in the museum that should be dedicated to



Mr. DeBartolo it is the Super Bowl gallery,” 49ers museum director Jesse Lovejoy said. “It does justice to his legacy.”

In the museum gallery that now bears DeBartolo’s name, San Francisco’s five Super Bowl rings rest alongside five gleaming Vince Lombardi Trophies as a tribute to DeBartolo’s reign and influence over one of the winningest clubs in the history of professional sports.

“Without Eddie, none of this happens,” said former 49ers wide receiver Dwight Clark, who played on two 49ers championship teams.

In addition to the five Super Bowl titles won during Mr. DeBartolo’s 23 year tenure as owner, the 49ers collected 13 division titles and amassed 16 consecutive seasons of at least 10 victories.

Those achievements recently were recognized by the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Mr. DeBartolo will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at Canton, Ohio with the Class of 2016 this summer. His bust will reside alongside NFL immortals like George Halas, Vince Lombardi, and Bill Walsh.

“My Uncle Eddie drove the 49ers to a level of success rarely achieved by organizations in professional sports, constructing arguably the greatest dynasty in NFL history,” 49ers Chief Executive Officer Jed York said. “His fingerprints are all over each of the five Super Bowl titles won by this franchise, therefore it is only fitting we celebrate his tremendous influence on our history by dedicating the 49ers Museum’s Super Bowl Gallery in his honor. He was instrumental in the greatness achieved by the San Francisco 49ers and certainly deserves recognition of the highest caliber.”

The DeBartolo name is now forever linked with football legends at Canton, but the DeBartolo touch has always been evident at the 49ers headquarters and practice facility. As the 49ers assembled a dynasty during the 1980s and 1990s, “Mr. D” as he’s fondly known at team headquarters, was lionized by his players, coaches and employees as the NFL’s most generous executive. The chartered planes were always bigger, the food was better, and the Super Bowl winning seasons were capped with lavish parties in tropical paradises like Hawaii.

“I could talk for hours about how good Mr. D was to us. He gave us the best of everything. But he also had high expectations,” Clark said.

Of course, the 49ers produced. They put together plenty of wins to please their boss. But the most telling example of the team’s affection for Mr. D is that five of the biggest names in 49ers history asked Mr. DeBartolo to be the presenter at their Pro Football Hall of Fame induction. Those five, Charles Haley (2015), Jerry Rice (2010), Fred Dean (2008), Joe Montana (2000), and Bill Walsh (1993), regaled the Canton crowd with effusive praise for the Youngstown, Ohio native who became the team patriarch.

“Eddie would say, ‘I’ll give you guys everything you want,’” Jerry Rice recalled during his 2010 induction speech. “‘You’re going to have the best hotels, the best planes to travel on. You’re going to go a day early to the East Coast. All I want for you to do is win championships.’ Eddie was like that 12th man. He loved football, loved his players even more, and he wanted to win. And, man, did the 49ers win under Eddie DeBartolo. Five Super Bowls in 14 seasons.

“Mr. DeBartolo was the most influential person in the success of the 49ers,” Lovejoy said. “That success absolutely starts with him and the work he did with Coach Walsh and John McVay and Edward DeBartolo Sr. We could never do enough to recognize his contributions to this franchise.”

But DeBartolo’s success and influence goes beyond the victories and Super Bowl rings. It includes the relationships he established with players, employees and fans, and his business philosophies.

“Mr. DeBartolo not only established a winning atmosphere with this franchise but he instilled a sense of values that we still hold dear to this day,” Lovejoy said. “That includes the idea that we are a family, that we treat people with respect, and that we conduct ourselves with dignity.”

Keena Turner, who earned four Super Bowl rings as a lineback-



er during the DeBartolo years, and currently serves as the 49ers Vice President of Football Affairs, agrees that Mr. D instilled a championship work ethic in the 49ers franchise and a special family bond among players.

*“He not only made me a better player. He made me a better man,” Turner said.*

In the new Edward J. DeBartolo Jr. Super Bowl gallery, several legendary 49ers including Rice, Montana, Steve Young and Ronnie Lott offer their insight and personal recollections about the former team owner. They can be seen and heard on film in the gallery discussing DeBartolo’s impact on their careers, the 49ers franchise, and the entire San Francisco Bay Area.

DeBartolo’s influence can be seen in other areas of the museum as well. Since Edward Jr., was the first inductee to the 49ers Hall of Fame in 2009, his life-size statue stands near the entrance to the Hall of Fame Gallery alongside that of his father, Edward Sr. Another noteworthy artifact on display is the key to the city of San Francisco, presented to Mr. DeBartolo by Mayor Dianne Feinstein after the 49ers Super Bowl XVI victory in 1982.

The DeBartolo mystique is clearly evident to any museum guest. To see the Edward J. DeBartolo Jr. Super Bowl Gallery, the 49ers five Super Bowl trophies and rings, and assorted artifacts and photographs from Edward J. DeBartolo Jr.’s remarkable tenure as the 49ers owner, visit the 49ers Museum presented by Sony. To schedule a visit, please call (408) 673-2045 or email [museum@49ers.com](mailto:museum@49ers.com).



# FROM THE BATTLEFIELD TO THE GRIDIRON

By Joe Hession, 49ers Museum historian

Joe Arenas was known for his reckless running style as a 49ers halfback and kick returner in the 1950s. The way he saw it, sprinting through a herd of football players was much easier than his previous occupation as a U.S. Marine at Iwo Jima.

After being severely wounded at the famed World War II battle, Arenas returned to San Francisco and played seven years with the 49ers from 1951-1957. During that stretch he was one of the NFL's most dangerous return men. But kickoff duty was a walk in the park compared to the day he was hit by shrapnel and earned a Purple Heart.

"I was fixing my fox hole (on Iwo Jima) and all these shells were coming right over us," Arenas said. "Then something hit me in the back. It felt like a big axe hit me."

Arenas is one of the numerous military veterans who swapped combat gear for a San Francisco 49ers uniform. The Battle of the Bulge, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Saipan and many other legendary World War II encounters included at least one future 49ers player. From team administrators like Lou Spadia, to Hall of Fame tackle Leo Nomellini, to legendary running back Len Eshmont, nearly all contributed to the war effort before entering the pro football world. Many sharpened their skills prior to being discharged by playing for



powerful military football teams.

One of the best military squads was located at tiny St. Mary's College in Moraga, California, where the U.S. Navy established a flight training school in 1942. St. Mary's Preflight, as it was known, featured the 49ers first big star, Frankie Albert, at quarterback and several other future 49ers players including Len Eshmont, Bob Titchenal, Emil Sitko, John Kuzman, John Woudenberg and Parker Hall.

Woudenberg, a two-way starting tackle, later discovered future Hall of Fame running back Joe Perry, who played for the Alameda Naval Air Station Hell Cats. Woudenberg watched in awe as Perry rushed for five touchdowns in one game, then reported what he saw to 49ers owner Tony Morabito. Perry was signed to the 49ers roster in 1948.

But as Morabito initially began compiling his first 49ers roster in 1946 he mined the local military teams and colleges for talent and

struck gold. Returning military veterans with local pedigrees dominated the roster and provided the nucleus for one of pro football's most dynamic new teams.

Even Morabito's first administrative staff, consisting of just



four people, was made up of military veterans. John Blackinger, the first 49ers employee hired by Morabito, was a college buddy from Santa Clara University returning from U.S. Naval duty. Blackinger was named general manager of the 49ers, then hired Spadia who served alongside him in the Navy.

"I think I got the job because I could type and take shorthand," Spadia jokingly recalled in an interview shortly before he passed away in 2013. "When I realized I could hire someone else, I brought in Helen Dill, who had been a Navy WAVE, to help with the typing."

Spadia, a graduate of San Francisco's Mission High School, eventually became team president, general manager and part owner of the club. Before the 49ers first game, an exhibition against the Los Angeles Dons in San Diego, he assumed the role of equipment manager and turned to the U.S. Marines for essential help.

"We had all these uniforms and equipment and no way to transport them," Spadia said. "I found out about a surplus store out on Market Street, that was selling Marine Corps duffel bags for \$1 each. I bought 40 of them and they became our equipment bags."

*Organizing a pro football team may have been chaotic behind the scenes, but on the field Morabito and coach Buck Shaw assembled a stellar lineup. Virtually every player on the original 33-man roster had military experience. According to Spadia, the discipline and maturity brought on by their military service were essential ingredients in the club's early success.*

Throughout the 2016 season the San Francisco 49ers would like to recognize its players, coaches and executives who proudly served in the US military. Since the team's formation in 1946, the 49ers family has been represented in every military branch during times of peace and war. We hope to share their stories at the 49ers Museum and on the pages of the team's Gameday magazine. Any help 49ers alumni may be able to provide in locating military artifacts and photos of former players would be appreciated.

Some of the most fascinating stories we've unearthed include: Receiver and kicker **Gordy Soltau**, who was one of the original U.S. Navy "frogmen," a precursor to the Navy Seals, and worked for the Office of Strategic Services, the forerunner of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Receiver **Alyn Beals** saw action at the Battle of the Bulge and

Remagen Bridge. After Germany surrendered, he served as part of General George Patton's security force at the Nuremberg trial of Nazi war criminals.

Running back **Sam Cathcart** participated at the Battle of the Bulge and at the Colmar Pocket in France, where he was wounded and earned a Silver Star. The French Consulate presented Cathcart with the Pierre Claeysens Veterans Foundation award for his WWII service. Cathcart was recalled to active duty during the Korean War and missed the 1951 NFL season.

Hall of Fame defensive tackle **Leo Nomellini** fought in Saipan and Okinawa during WWII with the U.S. Marines. He also played organized football for the first time while stationed at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point in North Carolina.

Lineman **Clay Matthews** missed the 1951-52 seasons while serving as a paratrooper with the famed 82nd Airborne Division during the Korean War.

Fullback **Norm Standlee** earned Pro Bowl honors as a rookie with the Chicago Bears in 1942, then enlisted in the U.S. Army and served 17 months in China and Burma. In 1946, 49ers owner Tony Morabito made him one of the first players ever signed by the club.

Quarterback **Jesse Freitas** saw combat as an Army Artillery Commander at the Battle of the Bulge. He earned a Bronze Star for ordering an artillery barrage against an enemy position. He then supervised the rescue of several comrades pinned down by machine gun fire.

Fullback **Leonard "Mickey" Masini** enlisted in the U.S. Army during WWII. He spent two years in battle zones from Africa to Europe earning 10 battle stars and two Presidential unit citations for heroic service. While enroute to North Africa on a troop transport ship his unit was attacked by German planes.

Coach **Bobb McKittrick**, the 49ers offensive line coach, from 1979-1999, and the recipient of five Super Bowl rings, served as a U.S. Marine officer from 1957-1960. He received a letter from the Commandant of the Marine Corps, which is on display at the 49ers Museum, attesting to his honorable service.

A new exhibit at the 49ers Museum presented by Sony will focus on the military experience of our 49ers alumni. Photos, military artifacts and written memories from 49ers alumni and their families are welcomed at the museum for future display. Memorabilia, programs and pictures from military football teams are also welcome. To include your story, artifacts and pictures contact Joe Hession at [joe.hession@49ers.com](mailto:joe.hession@49ers.com) or Beth Atlas at [beth.atlas@49ers.com](mailto:beth.atlas@49ers.com) or by phone at (408) 562-4973.





# The Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr. 49ERS HALL OF FAME

The Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr. 49ers Hall of Fame was created in 2009 in honor of the patriarch of one of the most storied franchises in all of professional sports. The Hall of Fame recognizes players, coaches and executives who have displayed one-or-more of the following qualifications: outstanding production and performance on the field, key contributions to the team's success, and/or the embodiment of the spirit and essence of the San Francisco 49ers.

To open the 2009 season, Edward J. DeBartolo became the inaugural inductee into the 49ers Hall of Fame. At that season's alumni weekend, members of the 49ers family who had already been selected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, or who had already had their jersey numbers retired by the 49ers organization, were automatically enshrined in the team's Hall of Fame.

In 2010, Jerry Rice, as well as Tony and Vic Morabito were inducted. The 2011 class included Roger Craig and R.C. Owens, with Gordy Soltau joining the esteemed group the following year. In 2013, John McVay was added to the exclusive club, followed by another iconic 49ers head coach, George Seifert, in

2014. Most recently, Charles Haley was inducted into the 49ers Hall of Fame in 2015, following his enshrinement in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Inductees of The Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr. 49ers Hall of Fame are both selected and confirmed by 49ers team ownership, which includes the option to nominate up to two candidates each season. San Francisco ownership also uses the recommendation of a selection committee composed of designated media members and 49ers officials. Each year, ownership has the option to recognize a former member of the organization who has displayed one-or-more of the necessary qualifications for induction into the 49ers Hall of Fame.

The current selection committee includes: former radio voice of the 49ers, **Joe Starkey**; FOXSports.com editor and member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame selection committee, **Nancy Gay**; San Jose Mercury News columnist, **Mark Purdy**; host of 49ers Total Access and KTVU-TV sports anchor, **Joe Fonzi**; 49ers Vice President of Football Affairs, **Keena Turner**; 49ers Director of Alumni Relations, **Guy McIntyre**; and 49ers Vice President of Communications, **Bob Lange**.

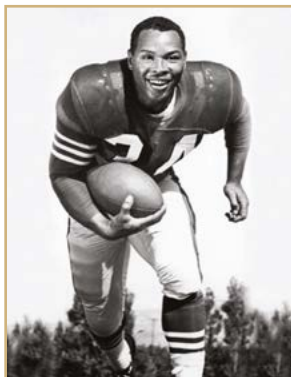
## CLASS OF 2009

### OWNER EDWARD DEBARTOLO JR. (1977-2000)



DeBartolo is widely regarded as one of the most successful owners in the history of professional sports after taking over the 49ers in 1977. In 23 years at the helm, he guided the 49ers to a 22-11 post-season record and 13 division titles as San Francisco became the first franchise in NFL history to win five Super Bowl Championships (1981, '84, '88, '89 and '94).

### FB JOE PERRY (1948-60, 63)



Perry was the first player in NFL history to gain 1,000 yards in two consecutive seasons. His 9,723 rushing yards placed him second only to Jim Brown when he retired. Perry finished his career with 12,505 combined yards. Nicknamed "The Jet" because of his quick starts. Born January 22, 1927 in Stevens, AR.

### DT LEO NOMELLINI (1950-63)



Nomellini was the first ever draft choice after the 49ers joined the NFL. He played in every 49ers game for 14 seasons and had 10 trips to the Pro Bowl. Nomellini played in 266 contests. "The Lion" became one of the few to be named to an All-NFL team on both offense and defense. Born June 19, 1924 in Lucca, Italy.

### RB HUGH MCELHENNY (1952-60)



McElhenny was one of only three players to gain more than 11,000 yards carrying the ball. He scored 60 career touchdowns, 38 rushing, including a 42-yard touchdown run on his first pro play in preseason. Born December 31, 1928 in Los Angeles, CA.



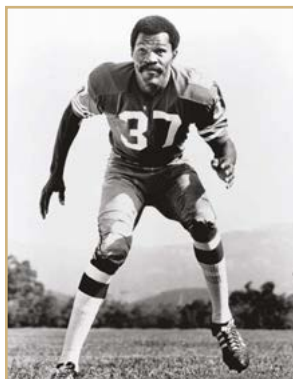
## CLASS OF 2009 (continued)

### QB Y.A. TITTLE (1951-60)



Tittle finished his career with 33,070 passing yards and 281 touchdowns (39 rushing). He won the NFL MVP Award in 1961 and 1963. Tittle threw 33 touchdown passes and a career-high 3,224 yards in 1962. Born October 24, 1926 in Marshall, TX.

### CB JIMMY JOHNSON (1961-76)



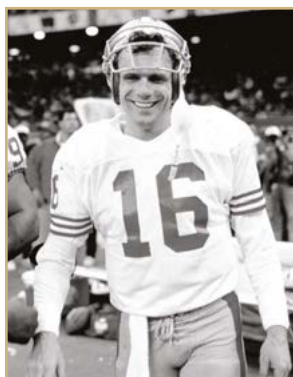
Johnson began his 49ers career as a defensive back, moved to offense, then stayed at defensive back in his third season. Johnson intercepted 47 passes for 615 yards. As a receiver in 1962, he caught 34 passes for 627 yards and four touchdowns. Recognized as one of the best man-to-man defenders in NFL history, Johnson played in five Pro Bowls and twice won the prestigious Len Eshmont Award, selected by his teammates for inspirational play. He was born March 31, 1938, in Dallas, Texas.

### FB JOHN HENRY JOHNSON (1954-56)



Johnson was a member of "The Million Dollar Backfield" and "The Fabulous Foursome." He gained 6,803 yards rushing, including 48 touchdowns. Born November 24, 1929 in Waterproof, LA.

### QB JOE MONTANA (1979-92)



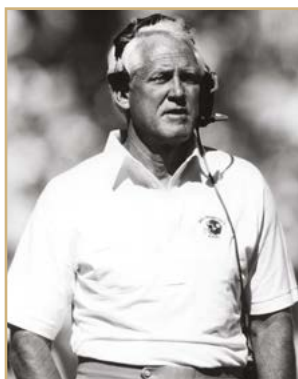
Montana, a third-round pick out of Notre Dame in 1979 was considered undersized with questionable arm strength, yet retired with the highest QB rating (92.3) in NFL history. He led 31 fourth-quarter comebacks, including 92-yard game-winning drive in the closing moments of Super Bowl XXIII. Montana also led the 49ers to four Super Bowl Championships in the 1980s and was a three-time Super Bowl MVP. Montana played in eight Pro Bowls and ranks among the all-time leaders in passing yards (40,551) and touchdowns (273).

### T BOB ST. CLAIR (1953-63)



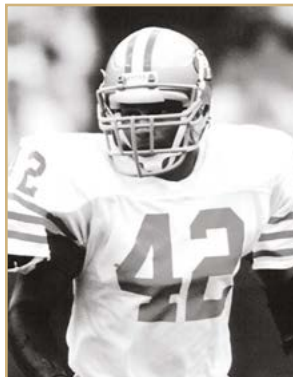
St. Clair was known to be an exceptional offensive lineman. He also played goal line defense and blocked 10 field goals in 1956. St. Clair once lost five teeth when blocking a punt. He earned All-NFL honors three times and made five Pro Bowl Appearances. Born February 18, 1931, in San Francisco, CA.

### HEAD COACH BILL WALSH (1979-88)



Walsh led "The Team of the '80s" to three Super Bowl titles (XVI, XIX, XXIII) in 10 years. He compiled a .617 winning percentage with a 102-63-1 mark. Notorious for his reputation as an outstanding offensive coach, Walsh developed the "West Coast Offense." Born November 30, 1931, in Los Angeles, CA.

### DB RONNIE LOTT (1981-90)



Lott, a former USC star was the eighth overall pick in the 1981 draft. He was an All-Pro cornerback before switching to safety in the mid-80s. Lott played corner in first two Super Bowl wins, safety in last two. Lott ranks fifth on the all-time interceptions list (63) and first with nine postseason interceptions. Lott played in 10 Pro Bowls and was the defensive leader of San Francisco's first four Super Bowl championship teams. He was named to Pro Football Hall of Fame's 1980s All-Decade Team.

## CLASS OF 2009 (continued)

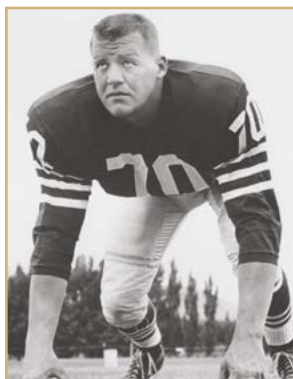
### LB DAVE WILCOX (1964-74)



Wilcox, a third-round pick out of Oregon in 1964 was excellent in every phase of linebacking play. Wilcox's coaches nicknamed him "The Intimidator" for his aggressive style of play. Wilcox was a master at shedding blocks and shutting down the run. Rams QB Roman Gabriel once said of Wilcox, "He plays outside linebacker the way Dick Butkus plays middle linebacker." Wilcox started in two

NFC Championship Games and played in seven Pro Bowls.

### DT CHARLIE KRUEGER (1959-1973)



Krueger was drafted in the first round (9th overall pick) in 1958 by the 49ers out of Texas A&M. He was a two-time Pro Bowl selection (1960, 1964) and three-time All-Pro (1960, 1965, 1966) who anchored the defensive line for San Francisco during his 15 seasons. Born January 28, 1937, in Caldwell, TX.

### QB STEVE YOUNG (1987-99)

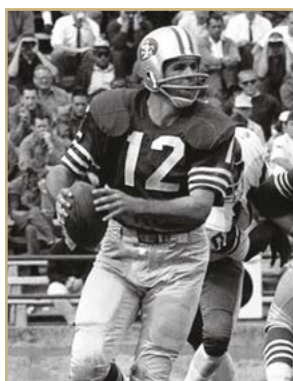


Young stands as the most proficient passers in NFL history with a 96.8 quarterback rating. He threw 232 regular season touchdown tosses (17th all-time) and rushed 3,581 yards during his years at Tampa Bay (1985-86) and San Francisco (1987-99). He ranks 19th all-time with 33,124 yards passing and second in league history for rushing yardage by a quarterback with 4,239 yards.

Young was a two-time NFL Most

Valuable Player (1992 & 1994), Super Bowl XXIX MVP in 1994 and was named to the Pro Bowl seven consecutive years (1992-98).

### QB JOHN BRODIE (1957-1973)



Brodie holds the team record with 17 years of service, ranking second in team history with 31,548 passing yards and third with 214 touchdown passes after being drafted third overall by the 49ers in 1957. Guided the 49ers to back-to-back NFC Championship games in 1970 and 1971 while being named NFL MVP in 1970. Born August 14, 1935 in Menlo Park, CA.

### DE FRED DEAN (1981-1985)



Early in the 1981 season, Dean was traded to the San Francisco 49ers where he continued to demonstrate his extraordinary talent. He contributed 12 sacks in 11 games for the 49ers en route to the team's first Super Bowl victory. Dean played in three NFC Championship Games and in two of San Francisco's Super Bowl victories (Super Bowls XVI and XIX). He

earned all-conference honors four

times – twice with the Chargers and twice with the 49ers. Dean was also named to four Pro Bowls (1980-1982, 1984) and selected All-Pro twice (1980-1981).

### WR DWIGHT CLARK (1979-1987)



Clark was a two-time Super Bowl Champion (XVI, XIX), Pro-Bowler (1981-1982) and first-team All-Pro (1982-1983), with 6,750 receiving yards and 48 touchdowns. Was the recipient of the winning touchdown pass from QB Joe Montana against the Dallas Cowboys in the 1982 NFC Championship Game. Born January 8, 1957 in Kinston, NC.



## CLASS OF 2010

### WR JERRY RICE (1985-2000)



Rice was a 13-time Pro Bowler and played for 20 seasons in the NFL, the first fourteen of which were with the 49ers. At the time of his induction, he held 14 regular-season League records and 11 Super Bowl records. Rice had 14,100-yard seasons in his career, along with the highest number of career receptions with 1,549 and 208 touchdowns. He broke the 49ers all-time receptions record

against Seattle in 1991, and finished his career with just under three times the record. Born October 13, 1962, in Crawford, Mississippi.

### FOUNDER TONY MORABITO (1946-1957) AND CO-OWNER VIC MORABITO (1950-1964)



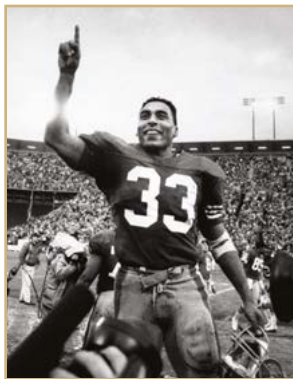
Tony Morabito established the Bay Area's first major league professional sports franchise when the 49ers played their first season in 1946. The brothers from San Francisco transitioned the team from an upstart in the All-America Football Conference to a major NFL franchise in 1950. Signed future Pro Football Hall of Famers Joe Perry, Hugh McElhenny, John Henry Johnson, Y.A. Tittle, Bob St. Clair, Leo Nomellini and Jimmy Johnson and also attracted the likes of R.C. Owens, John Brodie, Charlie Krueger, Billy Wilson and many other top talents during their tenure. After Tony's passing in 1957, Vic retained control of the organization until his own death in 1964. Throughout both the AAFC and the NFL, the 49ers went 128-110-6 during Tony and Vic Morabito's era (including a trip to the AAFC Championship Game in 1949 and the NFC playoffs in 1957) and became one of the NFL's premier franchises.



bitto's era (including a trip to the AAFC Championship Game in 1949 and the NFC playoffs in 1957) and became one of the NFL's premier franchises.

## CLASS OF 2011

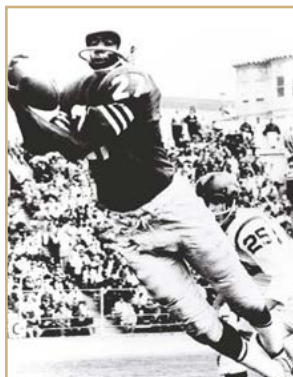
### RB ROGER CRAIG (1983-1990)



An 11-year NFL veteran, Roger Craig spent eight seasons as a member of the 49ers after being drafted in the second round of the 1983 NFL Draft out of Nebraska. Known as a relentless competitor, Craig is one of the most versatile running backs to ever play the game, and in 1985, he became the first player in NFL history with 1,000 rushing yards and 1,000 receiving yards in the same season.

In eight seasons with the 49ers, Craig totaled 11,506 yards from scrimmage, which ranks second most in team history. He finished his NFL career with 8,189 rushing yards, 4,911 receiving yards and 73 total touchdowns, making the playoffs in each of his 11 seasons. The four-time Pro Bowler (1985, '87-89) and one-time All-Pro (1988) won three Super Bowl titles with the 49ers (Super Bowls XIX, XXIII and XXIV) and was named AP Offensive Player of the Year in 1988.

### WR R.C. OWENS (1957-1961)



R.C. "Alley Oop" Owens, an eight-year NFL veteran, spent his first five seasons as a member of the 49ers, totaling 177 receptions for 2,939 yards and 20 touchdowns with San Francisco. His most productive year came in 1961 when he started all 14 games, caught 55 passes for 1,032 yards and scored five touchdowns. A former college basketball star, Owens transferred his skills over to the football field

and was notorious for out-leaping defensive backs for high arching passes from QB Y.A. Tittle. Thus, the origin of the term "Alley Oop" was created, and later became more well-known from its use in basketball. A free agent in 1962, Owens went on to play with the Baltimore Colts and New York Giants, before retiring following the 1964 season. After his playing career ended, Owens spent more than two decades working for the 49ers. In that time, he held various positions for the team, including Director of Training Camp and Director of Alumni Relations.

## CLASS OF 2012

### WR/K GORDY SOLTAU (1950-1958)

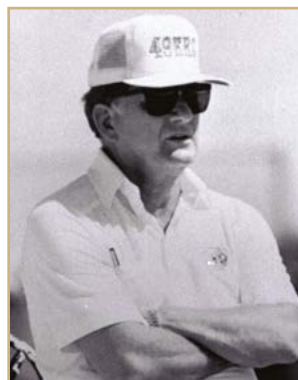


Gordy Soltau spent his entire nine-year NFL career as a member of the 49ers (1950-1958), excelling as both a wide receiver and kicker. A three-time Pro Bowler (1951-53) and three-time All-Pro (1951-53), Soltau led the 49ers in scoring in eight of his nine seasons played, including an NFL-high in both 1952 and 1953. Upon his retirement in 1958, Soltau was the 49ers all-time leading scorer with 644 points. He

recorded 249 catches for 3,487 yards and 25 touchdowns, while converting 70 of 139 field goals for 303 points, during a career in which he missed just two games. Prior to attending college, Soltau served in an elite branch of the Navy – the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) – where he became one of the original frogmen during World War II.

## CLASS OF 2013

### VP AND GM JOHN MCVAY (1979-2003)

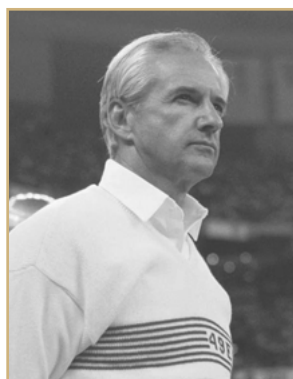


McVay played an integral role in the great success the franchise has achieved, helping to construct teams responsible for five Super Bowl victories. He joined the 49ers in 1979 as the team's Director of Player Personnel and went on to spend 21 seasons with the franchise. Among the many roles he filled throughout his tenure, he served as Vice President and General Manager from

1983-94 before retiring in 1995. McVay rejoined the 49ers in 1999 and served as Vice President/Direct of Football Operations through the 2003 season.

## CLASS OF 2014

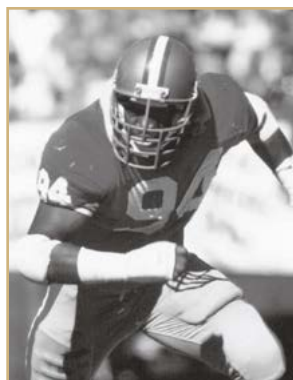
### GEORGE SEIFERT (1980-1996)



Spent 17 seasons with the 49ers after joining the franchise in 1980 as the team's secondary coach before being promoted to head coach in 1989. In his eight seasons as head coach of the 49ers, Seifert produced a 98-30 regular season record (.766) and collected two Super Bowl victories (XXIV, XXIX). Seifert is one of three coaches in NFL history to win a Super Bowl during his rookie campaign. Born January 22, 1940 in San Francisco, CA.

## CLASS OF 2015

### CHARLES HALEY (1986-1991)



The only player in NFL history to have won five Super Bowl Championships (XXIII, XXIV, XXVII, XXVIII, XXX). Originally drafted by the 49ers in the fourth round (96th overall) of the 1986 NFL Draft from James Madison University, he played two stints for the 49ers, re-joining the team in the 1998 postseason following five seasons with the Dallas Cowboys. He appeared in a total of 106 regular season games (63 starts) with San Francisco.

During his 12-year NFL career, Haley was a five-time Pro-Bowler (1988, 1990-91, 1994-95), two-time First-Team All-Pro (1991, 1994) and was twice named NFC Defensive Player of the Year (1990, 1994). He finished with 100.5 career sacks, registering 10-or-more sacks six times during his career. He also either led or shared the team lead for sacks in each season he played for San Francisco, including 12 sacks as a rookie and a career-high and NFC-leading 16 sacks in 1990. His 66.5 sacks as a 49er rank second in franchise history, he holds the Super Bowl record with 4.5 sacks and his 11 post-season sacks rank tied for fifth in NFL history. Born January 6, 1964 in Gladys, VA.











# 49ERS INDUCTED INTO OTHER HALLS OF FAME



**TIM ANDERSON**  
Ohio State Hall of Fame



**THE PENNSYLVANIA  
SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

**MATT BAHR**  
The Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame



**TERRY BEESON**  
Kansas Sports Hall of Fame



**TOM COUSINEAU**  
College Football Hall of Fame



**EDWARD J. DEBARTOLO**  
Pro Football Hall of Fame



**TONY DUNGY**  
Pro Football Hall of Fame



**KEVIN FAGAN**  
Florida High School Athletic  
Association Hall of Fame



**JEFF GARCIA**  
San Jose Sports Hall of Fame



**KEVIN GREENE**  
Pro Football Hall of Fame



**CLARK HIGGINS**  
Colorado State  
Hall of Fame



**CHARLES HALEY**  
Super Bowl 50 Golden Team



**TOMMY HART**  
Multi-Ethnic  
Hall of Fame



**DAN IRONS**  
Southwest Conference  
Hall of Fame



**Washington State Athletics  
Hall of Fame**

**ALLAN KENNEDY**  
Washington State Sports Hall of Fame



**RONNIE LOTT**  
Super Bowl 50 Golden Team



**SCOTT McKILLOP**  
Kiski Area Sports  
Hall of Fame



**BRUCE MILLER**  
Cherokee County Sports  
Hall of Fame



**JOE MONTANA**  
Super Bowl 50 Golden Team



**OLA LEE MURCHISON**  
Placer High School Athletics  
Hall of Fame



**KASSIM OSGOOD**  
Salinas Valley Sports  
Hall of Fame



**TOM RATHMAN**  
Grande Island (Neb.) High  
School Islander Football  
Hall of Fame



**JERRY RICE**  
Super Bowl 50 Golden Team



**DEION SANDERS**  
Super Bowl 50 Golden Team



**GEORGE SEIFERT**  
Utah Crimson Club's  
Hall of Fame



**BEN WALLACE**  
CIAA Hall of Fame



**WESLEY WALLS**  
Mississippi Sports  
Hall of Fame



**GENE WASHINGTON**  
Pro Football Researchers  
Association Hall of Very Good



**ROD WOODSON**  
College Football Hall of Fame



## THE 2016 COACHING STAFF



### HEAD COACH **CHIP KELLY**

4TH NFL SEASON | 1ST WITH 49ERS

Chip Kelly was named the 19th head coach of the San Francisco 49ers on January 14, 2016, after spending the previous three seasons as head coach of the Philadelphia Eagles.

Kelly joins the 49ers with 26 seasons of coaching experience at both the NFL and collegiate levels. Before his time in Philadelphia, Kelly served as the head coach at the University of Oregon (2009-12) after spending the previous two seasons as the team's offensive coordinator (2007-08). Prior to Oregon, Kelly served as the offensive coordinator at the University of New Hampshire (1999-2006).

Over the span of Kelly's three seasons in Philadelphia, the Eagles ranked third in the NFL in points per game (26.9) and total offense (392.8 yards per game), and fourth in rushing yards per game (131.3). The Eagles also recorded the second-most running plays of 10-or-more yards (175) and the fourth-most passing plays of 25-or-more yards (109).

In 2015, QB Sam Bradford registered a career-high 3,725 passing yards while setting single-season franchise records with 346 completions and a 65.0 completion percentage in 14 games played. Second-year WR Jordan Matthews had 85 receptions which tied for the fourth-most receptions in Eagles single-season history, while leading the team with 997 yards and eight touchdowns. DT Fletcher Cox earned Second-Team Associated Press All-Pro honors and was selected to the 2016 Pro Bowl, joining teammates T Jason Peters and RB Darren Sproles in Hawaii.

In 2014, Kelly's team posted its second consecutive 10-6 record as the offense scored a team-record 474 points after setting the franchise record with 442 points a year prior. That year, Jeremy Maclin returned from injury to post 85 receptions for a career-high 1,318 yards and 10 touchdowns, while

QB Mark Sanchez set a team record at the time with a 64.1 completion percentage. The Eagles had four players selected Second-Team AP All-Pro, and eight players named to the Pro Bowl, including RB LeSean McCoy, who finished third in the NFL with 1,319 rushing yards, and LB Connor Barwin, who registered a career-high 14.5 sacks, which tied for fourth-most in the NFL.

*In Kelly's first year as the Eagles head coach in 2013, he took over a team that totaled just four wins a year prior and guided it to a 10-6 record and an NFC East Division title, becoming just the second head coach in league history to win a division title in his first season in the NFL.*

Philadelphia set a NFL record with 99 plays of 20-or-more yards, while leading the NFL in rushing yards per game (160.4) and ranking fourth in points per game (27.6). QB Nick Foles threw for 27 touchdowns and just two interceptions with a passer rating of 119.2, the third-highest quarterback rating in NFL history. McCoy set single-season franchise records and led the NFL in rushing yards (1,607) and yards from scrimmage (2,146), while WR DeSean Jackson recorded career highs with 82 receptions for 1,332 yards and nine touchdowns. Five Eagles, including McCoy and Jackson,



were selected to the Pro Bowl while three members of the team earned First-Team AP All-Pro honors: McCoy, G Evan Mathis and T Jason Peters.

Prior to Philadelphia, Kelly spent 22 seasons at the collegiate level. As head coach of the University of Oregon (2009-12), his team's produced a 46-7 (.868) overall record and victories in the Rose Bowl and Fiesta Bowl. In four seasons, the Ducks scored 44.7 points per game while leading the nation in big plays, including 220 pass plays of 25-or-more yards and 110 rushes of 25-or-more yards. Kelly became the first coach in school history to guide the program to three consecutive undisputed conference championships (2009-11) and led the Ducks to their first three 12-win seasons (2010-12). Under his direction, Oregon made an appearance in a BCS Bowl game in each of his four seasons, including a trip to the National Championship game in 2010.

In 2012, Kelly's Ducks posted a 12-1 record, including their third consecutive conference championship and a Fiesta Bowl victory over Kansas State, 35-17. Oregon ranked second in the nation in scoring (49.6 points per game) and fifth in total offense (537.4 yards per game). Freshman QB Marcus Mariota threw 32 touchdowns while RB Kenjon Barner finished sixth in the nation with 1,767 rushing yards. Mariota would go on to win the 2014 Heisman Trophy and become the number two overall selection in the 2015 NFL Draft.

Kelly led Oregon to a 12-2 record in 2011, their second straight conference championship and a win in the Rose Bowl over the Wisconsin Badgers, 45-38. The team finished third in the country in points per game (46.1) and fourth in FBS in total offense (522.8 yards per game). The 2010 Ducks finished with a 12-1 record and earned a trip to the BCS Championship game while averaging the most points (47.0 points per game) and total yards (530.7 yards per game) in the FBS. In becoming the Pac-10's first unbeaten regular season champion in five years, Kelly was named AP Coach of the Year, Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year, Walter Camp

Coach of the Year and Pac-10 Coach of the Year.

In 2009, Kelly was promoted to head coach at the University of Oregon following two seasons as the team's offensive coordinator. In his first season as head coach, he led the Ducks to a 10-3 record and a trip to the Rose Bowl, while the offense finished sixth in the country in points per game (36.1) and rushing yards per game (231.7).

As the Ducks offensive coordinator in 2008, Kelly's offense led the Pac-10 in rushing yards (280.1 per game), points per game (41.9) and total offense (484.9 yards per game). The Oregon offense produced two 1,000-yard rushers in RB Jeremiah Johnson and RB LeGarrette Blount, while eclipsing 300-or-more rushing yards in eight of 13 games.

In Kelly's first season in charge of the Oregon offense in 2007, the Ducks led the Pac-10 in points per game (38.2) despite playing four different quarterbacks in the team's final four games. QB Dennis Dixon finished fifth in the Heisman voting with 2,136 passing yards and 20 touchdowns, and RB Jonathan Stewart registered 1,722 rushing yards, the fifth most in college football.

Before his time at Oregon, Kelly spent 13 years at his alma mater, the University of New Hampshire, where he was the team's offensive coordinator for his final eight seasons (1999-2006). In 2006, QB Ricky Santos earned the Walter Payton Award as the most outstanding player in FCS. Kelly was promoted to offensive coordinator after having served as the running backs coach (1992 & 1994-96) and offensive line (1997-98).

Born November 25, 1963 in Dover, NH, Kelly played quarterback and defensive back at the University of New Hampshire from 1981-84. Following his playing career, Kelly was an assistant at Columbia University for two seasons (1990-91), coaching on the defensive side of the ball and special teams. In 1992, he returned to New Hampshire to become the running backs coach before spending the 1993 season as the defensive coordinator at Johns Hopkins University.

## KELLY'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Won 10 games in each of his first two seasons with the Philadelphia Eagles, including a NFC East Division championship in his first season in 2013, becoming the second head coach in league history to win a division title in his first season in the NFL.

- Finished with a 46-7 (.868) record as the Oregon Ducks head coach from 2009-12, including an appearance in four BCS Bowls and a trip to the National Championship game.



## THE 2016 COACHING STAFF



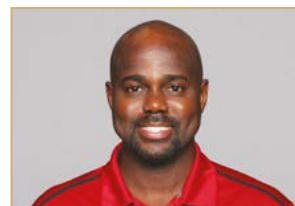
**CURTIS MODKINS**  
Offensive Coordinator



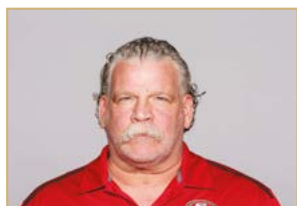
**JIM O'NEIL**  
Defensive Coordinator



**DERIUS SWINTON II**  
Special Teams Coordinator



**ROY ANDERSON**  
Assistant Defensive Backs



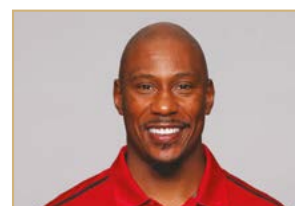
**JERRY AZZINARO**  
Defensive Line



**DANA BIBLE**  
Senior Analyst



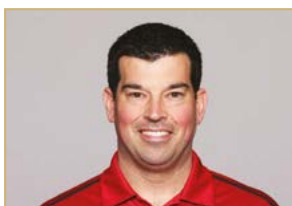
**BOB BICKNELL**  
Wide Receivers



**JOE BOWDEN**  
Inside Linebackers



**MICHAEL CLAY**  
Assistant Special Teams



**RYAN DAY**  
Quarterbacks



**PAT FLAHERTY**  
Offensive Line



**JEFF HAFLEY**  
Defensive Backs



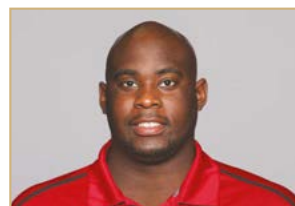
**MICK LOMBARDI**  
Offensive Quality Control



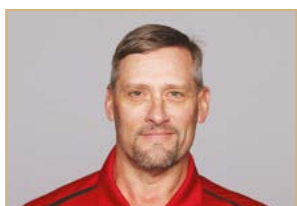
**TEM LUKABU**  
Defensive Quality Control



**JEFF NIXON**  
Tight Ends



**VINCE OGHOBAAASE**  
Assistant Defensive Line



**TOM RATHMAN**  
Running Backs



**JASON TARVER**  
Outside Linebackers



**ERIC WOLFORD**  
Assistant Offensive Line



# THE 2016 DRAFT

## BRYANT YOUNG ANNOUNCES PICK

For the second consecutive season, the NFL Draft was held at the historic Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University in Chicago, Illinois. Thirty-two former players from the NFL Legends Community, representing each team, were featured to announce specific selections throughout the Draft, including former 49ers first-round draft pick, Bryant Young.

Young was originally drafted by the 49ers in the first round (7th overall) of the 1994 NFL Draft from the Uni-

versity of Notre Dame. He played his entire 14-year career in San Francisco, starting in each of his 208 regular season and 11 postseason appearances with the club. The former defensive tackle was a member of the 49ers team that won Super Bowl XXIX, 49-26, over the San Diego Chargers.

Throughout his 14 seasons, Young went to four Pro Bowls (1998-99, 2002-03) and earned AP All-Pro honors in 1996 (First-Team), 1998-99 (Second-Team) and 2001 (Second-Team). He registered 619 tackles, 89.5 sacks, 11 forced fumbles and seven fumble recoveries, as his sack total still stands as the most in franchise history.



# THE 2016 DRAFT

## 49ERS DRAFT PICKS



### DeFOREST BUCKNER

ROUND 1 \ PICK 7  
POSITION DL  
6-7 \ 300 LBS.  
COLLEGE OREGON



### FAHN COOPER

ROUND 5 \ PICK 174  
POSITION OL  
6-5 \ 306 LBS.  
COLLEGE MISSISSIPPI



### JOSHUA GARNETT

ROUND 1 \ PICK 28  
POSITION G  
6-5 \ 321 LBS.  
COLLEGE STANFORD



### JEFF DRISKEL

ROUND 6 \ PICK 207  
POSITION QB  
6-4 \ 231 LBS.  
COLLEGE LOUISIANA TECH



### WILL REDMOND

ROUND 3 \ PICK 68  
POSITION CB  
6-0 \ 186 LBS.  
COLLEGE MISSISSIPPI STATE



### KELVIN TAYLOR

ROUND 6 \ PICK 211  
POSITION RB  
5-10 \ 205 LBS.  
COLLEGE FLORIDA



### RASHARD ROBINSON

ROUND 4 \ PICK 133  
POSITION CB  
6-1 \ 177 LBS.  
COLLEGE LOUISIANA STATE



### AARON BURBRIDGE

ROUND 6 \ PICK 213  
POSITION WR  
6-1 \ 208 LBS.  
COLLEGE MICHIGAN STATE



### RONALD BLAIR

ROUND 5 \ PICK 142  
POSITION DL  
6-4 \ 270 LBS.  
COLLEGE APPALACHIAN STATE



### PRINCE CHARLES IWORAH

ROUND 7 \ PICK 249  
POSITION CB  
5-11 \ 193 LBS.  
COLLEGE WESTERN KENTUCKY



### JOHN THEUS

ROUND 5 \ PICK 145  
POSITION OL  
6-6 \ 303 LBS.  
COLLEGE GEORGIA













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