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Contact: Joan Riise, Alumni Events Director
773-907-2114 or riisearch@stgregory.org

PRESS RELEASE: Re-Creation USA Performance

- WHAT:** A live on-stage performance of *Re-Creation USA* plus *Echo Taps* by Tom Day and Tom Cushing '57
- WHO:** In honor of Michael F. Manning '61, former Director - *Elks National Veterans Service Commission*
- WHEN:** 2:00 PM on Wednesday, September 9, 2009
- WHERE:** St. Gregory the Great High School Auditorium/Gym at 1609 W. Gregory, Chicago IL 60640
- WHY:** **To establish a scholarship in the name of Michael F. Manning '61** in recognition of his selfless work on behalf of both America's veterans and the students of St. Gregory the Great High School
- COST:** **The performance itself is free** in memory of Mike's own generosity. Donations in any amount are welcome in support of St. Gregory's effort to establish the **Michael F. Manning Scholarship**
- HOW:** Contributions may be sent to:
St. Gregory the Great High School • 1677 W. Bryn Mawr • Chicago IL 60660
Attn: Joan Riise • Please note: "Manning Scholarship" on check
★ Donations by credit card are welcome and can be accepted by phone: 773-907-2114
- TICKETS:** **Seating capacity is limited please contact us early!**
For tickets or questions please contact: Joan Riise, Alumni Events Director at SGHS
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Mike Manning loved America! As Director of the *Elks National Veterans Service Commission* he was renowned for his tireless and creative service on behalf of her veterans.

Mike also loved his alma mater, St. Gregory the Great High School! He served on its School Board for six years during which time he inspired everyone by sharing real life stories and bringing leaders to school assemblies. For two years he transported an entire class to *North Chicago Veterans Hospital* providing an opportunity for students to visit with wounded vets reading, playing cards and games, listening and sharing meals. The visits were an act of compassion that opened young minds to the value of service, the human price of war, and courage in the face of adversity. The monthly visits were a welcome breath of support for the military patients in recovery or rehab.*

On several occasions Mike brought faculty to the North Chicago VA Hospital for performances of **"Re-Creation USA"**. It was his often expressed desire to bring this electrifying song and dance production to St. Gregory but God had other plans and called Mike home before he could realize that dream.

Through special funding and arrangements with Jay Muller, Director of *Re-Creation USA*, Tom Day, Founder of *Bugles Across America*, and the *Roenigk Family Foundation*, Mike's wish will be fulfilled when the troupe performs live on stage at St. Gregory on 9/9/09.

Tom Day, *Bugles Across America* founder along with St. Gregory's own Tom Cushing '57 (Bugler's Hall of Fame) will open the performance with *Echo Taps* in Mike's honor.

Guests, inquiries and stories related to Mike are welcome!
Please contact Joan Riise (773-907-2114 or riisearch@stgregory.org) for tickets and donations.

* It was St. Gregory's privilege to add Michael F. Manning to its Wall of Fame just two months before his death. ★