

# **THE JOHN J. SHUMAN ENDOWMENT FOR POST GRADUATE FOOTBALL**

## **A case for your support**

Established to honor the dedication and service of John J. Shuman, Fork Union Military Academy Post Graduate class of 1976, to his alma mater, this endowment fund will stand in perpetuity to support the operational costs of the Academy's Post Graduate football program.

John Shuman came to Fork Union Military Academy in the fall of 1975 from his hometown of Salem, NJ with the goal of becoming a college football player. His efforts on the field, in the weightroom, and as a student were rewarded when he received a scholarship to the Virginia Military Institute. He was a four-year starter and letterman for the Keydets, capping his career in 1979 as a first-team All-Southern Conference offensive tackle and the winner of the prestigious Jacobs Blocking Trophy.

After his graduation from VMI in 1980, he returned to Fork Union as a teacher and began his coaching career as an assistant to his former coach, Red Pulliam. In 1987 Coach Shuman was selected to take over the program upon Coach Pulliam's retirement and compiled a record of 190-110-1, ending his tenure in 2018 with an undefeated season. He was named Athletic Director in December of 2018, serving the Academy in that role until January 2023 when he joined the Advancement Department as Major Gifts Officer.

During his time at the Academy, Coach Shuman has impacted the lives of countless cadets. His consistent expectations for his players and his tireless efforts to find the right college for them has been instrumental in many young men becoming not only collegiate athletes, but also college graduates. He has produced multiple NFL players, successful coaches, inventive businessmen, dedicated teachers, and loyal members of our armed forces, but most importantly he has developed the kind of men needed to lead families, churches, and communities.

This endowed fund was initiated by Kendrick Ashton, Fork Union Military Academy Post Graduate class of 1994, to honor his coach and secure the future of the program that positively impacted his life. Donations to the fund will establish a corpus from which a Board of Trustees approved percentage will be drawn each year to be applied to the operational costs of the Post Graduate football program. The fund will be eligible for use upon reaching \$100,000 and considered fully funded upon receiving \$1,000,000 in donations.

Gifts of at least \$12,500 will be credited towards the Academy's campaign to receive 125 major gifts in celebration of its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Gifts may be cash or a cash equivalent, marketable securities (including options), life insurance policies, 401 (k)/IRA beneficiary status, real estate (with or without restrictions such as life estate, but subject to acceptance by the Academy), or in any other form acceptable to the Academy, and may be made by individuals, families, corporations, foundations, or groups such as Academy graduating classes or collections of former teammates. Gifts may also be made anonymously or in the name or memory of another individual.

John Shuman was a part of Fork Union Post Graduate football as a player, assistant coach, and head coach, and the establishment of this fund will allow his name to be tied to the program forever, thus ensuring that the impact he had on generations of cadets on the field, in the classroom, and in the barracks continues.

Talented educators like John Shuman are not only a key factor in the Academy's athletic success, but also teach and reinforce the mission of Fork Union Military Academy through their interactions with the Corps of Cadets. Please join us in honoring his years of dedication to our mission of preparing young men for their future.