You are cordially invited to an informal reception honoring

STATE HIGH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION’s

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS of 2018

BRUCE D. GAMBLE, ‘76

WHERE: Room F142, SCAHS South Building
See included drawing of SCAHS campus
for reception location and parking instructions

WHEN: Thursday, September 20, 2018, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
(prior to the State High Homecoming Parade)

Reception will be held even if parade is rained out.

Attire is casual
Spouses or friends are also welcome
Light snacks and beverages will be served

Kindly respond by September 10th
with names of persons who will attend to:
Tom Smith ‘50, 814-238-1184, <tlsces@bestevent.com>

During that last duty, Bruce was diagnosed with a malignant spinal cord tumor and underwent a complicated surgical procedure. Although it saved his life, it resulted in a permanent spinal cord injury, and he was medically retired from the Navy in 1989.

Starting over as a wheelchair user, Bruce began volunteering at the National Naval Aviation Museum and eventually worked part-time as a staff historian for the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation, where he collected oral history interviews from notable aviators and wrote numerous articles for Foundation, the museum’s semiannual magazine. Then, in 1998, he made the leap to freelance writing and published his first book, The Black Sheep: The Definitive Account of Marine Fighting Squadron 214 in World War II. Led by Greg “Pappy” Boyington, the squadron was one of the best known and most colorful combat units of World War II, especially after the popular television series Baa Baa Black Sheep added to its legend.

Winner of the Admiral Arthur W. Radford Award in 2010 and Florida Book Award in 2013, Gamble’s narrative style and depth of research have earned him acclaim from Publishers Weekly; American Library Association; Air & Space Smithsonian magazine; World War II magazine; and many others. He now has six books in print, with his 7th book, Kangaroo Squadron: American Courage in the Darkest Days of World War II, to be published in November of this year.

In addition to writing, he is the featured historian in documentaries produced by History Channel, Fox News Channel, PBS, and Pritzker Military Library.

Cancer-free now for almost thirty years, Bruce lives in the countryside near Madison, Georgia.

Bruce D. Gamble, State High class of 1976, was born on the 17th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, so perhaps it was preordained for him to later achieve national recognition as an award-winning author and respected historian on World War II. His specialty is the Pacific theatre, where his father piloted a B-29 and his uncle served as a B-17 navigator.

Raised in Boalsburg, Bruce graduated from Penn State in 1980 with a pre-law degree and then proceeded to the U.S. Naval Aviation Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida, where he earned his Naval Flight Officer wings in 1982.

Upon receiving his active duty assignment, he flew as an electronic-warfare navigator during the closing years of the Cold War – the famous “Top Gun” era – as part of an eight-year military career with deployments aboard the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson in both the Pacific and Indian Oceans and then instructor duty back in Pensacola.
HOW TO FIND ROOM F142 FOR THE RECEPTION

1. General parking is available in the new lot on the north side of Westerly Parkway.
2. Handicapped parking spaces are in the lot in front of South Building's main entrance.
3. Go in South Building main entrance on Level 0 (ground floor).
4. Take stairs or elevator up to Level 1 (1st floor).
5. Go past "Pod C", then turn right down corridor to Room F142.