



Family Weekend 2023 Outstanding Parents/Family Members

Congratulations to the parents/family members nominated as the Outstanding Parent/Family Members for Family Weekend 2023:

- Carol and Chuck Hardin nominated by Courtney Hardin of Richmond Residential College
- David Landreth nominated by Emilia Landreth formerly of Hart Residential College
- Alisa McDaniel nominated by Kailee Goff of RH White Residential College
- Tabitha and Trenton Norment nominated by Xander Norment of Springer-Franklin Residential College
- Jason Heggen nominated by Austin McCutchen of Elizabeth Residential College
- Christine Mercer-Divine and Matthew Divine nominated by Caitlynn Divine of Regents Residential College

The parents selected as the Family Weekend 2023 Outstanding Parent/Family members are Cathy and Doug Morgan from Louisville, Ky nominated by Sara Morgan of Lee Clark Residential College!

Sara said this about her parents:

"Cathy and Doug Morgan, are no strangers to being Racer Parents. As their second child to attend Murray State, this is the 6th consecutive year helping pack up one of their kids and sending them off to the "friendliest small town in America." While some may say they are now "empty nesters," my parents' commitment has never diminished. Even when their kids are 3.5 hours away from their hometown, they both make you feel like they're still sitting on the sidelines, cheering you on at your high school soccer game.

The true experience of a Racer Parent starts on move-in day - where you unpack your overfilled car with all the things you've claimed you "need," and truck it up four flights of stairs. Of course, my parents go above and beyond just dropping our things off and hitting the road. As Murray State has been both my sister and I's home away from home, our mom and dad do everything they can to make sure we feel their support even from far away. You can always find our mom making our bed with the sheets tucked in perfectly, or our dad hauling a huge load from the storage unit.

Yet, their support doesn't stop on move-in day. On numerous occasions, our parents have made the trip down from Louisville each semester to support us in activities we are passionate about.



We are Racers.

Whether it's my sister's BFA senior exhibition, or ASA's mother-daughter tea and family events - they make it a priority to show their support of both of their daughters near or far. While visiting, you can find them chatting with Dr. T about his newest ice cream flavor, or stocking up our fridge at the local Walmart.

Being a parent involves wearing a lot of hats, and mastering many roles. It can be messy, imperfect, and overwhelming at times. It involves many tireless nights and sacrifice. At the end of the day, somehow and somehow, my parents are always there for me every second I need them. Whether right next to me, or 230 miles away.

Your college journey isn't always easy, but the support of parents like mine can make even the toughest of times a little easier. As a young woman, I aspire to be as strong and resilient as my parents when I grow up. They have supported my sister, and now myself during our time at Murray State with grace and love, and I would want nothing more than to give them the recognition they deserve - but never ask for. My parents, Cathy and Doug Morgan, are proud Racer Parents, and an excellent example of what it means to be an Outstanding Family Member."

Thank you to all the parents and family supporters that help their students become the best Racers they can be! Congratulations!



Pictured above (L-R):

Emilia Landreth, David Landreth, Austin McCutchen, Jason Heggen and Family, Christinea Mercer-Divine, Matthew Divine, Caitlynn Divine and Family, Doug Morgan, Cathy Morgan, Sara Morgan, Lauren Morgan, Dr. Chris Trzepacz, Dr. Don Robertson