

Campbell Thunder



**Cadet Huggins and Dawn Campbell
in front of Luray singing tower**

awarded the group with the largest participation at a tailgate party a grand prize. Dawn invited friends and relatives from as far away as Maryland and North Carolina to attend and won the \$5,000 first place prize with over 190 attendees. That prize along with donations from many friends and family has enabled the Campbell Thunder fund to surpass \$60,000 as of February 2016. The funds have paid for the kilt Cadet Huggins is pictured wearing along with a set of bagpipes. \$50,000 from the fund will endow an Emerging Leader Scholarship for a piper and the operating account will buy a second set of pipes and fund other costs for the pipers. Additional contributions are welcome to support more pipers.

**Pictures courtesy of Gage
Lackovitch**

When Dr. Wayne W. Campbell '65 lost his battle with cancer in May 2013, his widow Dawn asked for donations for the Campbell Thunder fund to benefit the Corps of Cadets. Though not a cadet, Wayne had close associations with many cadets through the German Club and developed an appreciation for the leadership development program that is the mission of the Corps. He and Dawn believed that the Corps of Cadets is the one thing that separates Virginia Tech from its peer institutions—a program that teaches ethics, honor and leadership within a superior academic environment.

In addition to a love for the Corps, Wayne and Dawn had a love for bagpipes as a reflection of the Scottish roots of the Campbell clan. A piper piped “Amazing Grace” and “The Campbells are Coming” along with other selections at his funeral and memorial services. Wayne had visions of a Virginia Tech piper who would be available to play at such events in the future. His vision caused Dawn to request memorial donations in lieu of flowers to the Campbell Thunder Fund after he passed and she continues to look for additional ways to grow the fund.

Dawn invited Cadet Piper Bren Huggins to an event in Luray in September 2015. The Luray Downtown Initiative



Dawn and friends celebrate the \$5,000 first place prize