

Elizabethtown College 125th Anniversary
National Historic Preservation Trust This Place Matters Campaign & Campus Historic Building Survey
Based on the National Parks Service Historic American Building Survey
2024 Summer Creative Arts and Research Program SCARP
Ava Barton Class of 2027 and Shawn Gipe Class of 2027
Jean-Paul Benowitz, Director of Prestigious Scholarships and Fellowships and Public Heritage Studies



Benjamin Garber Musser (1921-2010) Vera Shoop Musser (1921-2003)



In January 1983, the Board of Trustees voted to name a chemistry building, which was in the process of being erected, after Benjamin G. Musser and his wife, Vera Shoop Musser, and was dedicated on October 29th of that year.¹ Both he and his wife were originally alumni of Elizabethtown College, graduated in 1942, and were considered some of the College's most loyal students.² Dr. Benjamin G. Musser had been a trustee of Elizabethtown College since 1966 and was also the nephew of the former president of the College, Ralph Schlosser.³ Benjamin Musser was national co-chairman of the Annual Fund campaign and also received the alumni associations Educate for



¹ Jean-Paul Benowitz, Peter J. DePuydt, *Elizabethtown College* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2014), 27.

² Chet Williamson, *Uniting Work and Spirit: A Centennial History of Elizabethtown College* (Elizabethtown, PA, Elizabethtown College Press, 2001), 287.

³ Ibid.

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Service Through Professional Achievement Award. Additionally, Vera Shoop Musser was active in the institution for several years as a member of the Elizabethtown College auxillary.⁴ In 1986, Benjamin Musser also gained an honorary doctoral degree from Elizabethtown College. February 2, 2000, was designated Founder's Day, with the goal of looking back at the past century of Elizabethtown College and acknowledging the faculty, staff, alumni, trustees, and others who greatly impacted the college. Of the thirteen people given a Centennial Medal during the morning assembly of that day by President Long, Benjamin G. Musser was one of the recipients.⁵

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⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid., 384.

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