January 2, 2019

Dear <Name>,

Football has been integral to the life of Earlham College for more than 100 years and, with your help, we can ensure that the program continues to be part of campus life for the foreseeable future. The recent outpouring of support from football alumni has been overwhelming – many of you have made clear the importance the sport played not only in your college experience, but your entire lives. We want to ensure that future generations of Earlham students are provided with the same opportunity – but we need your help.

As Earlham continues to work through its current budget reduction process, the Board of Trustees and Interim President Avis Stewart ’74 have determined operational dollars cannot be used to fund a program that has, in recent years, overrun its budget while fielding less than optimal size team rosters. However, we have been given a charge. We must raise $300,000 by March 30, 2019, in order to hire coaches who can recruit, retain and inspire a new generation of Earlham football players. Additionally, we must secure a total of $600,000 in gifts and pledges, payable by June 2021. This will ensure a two-year timeline that will allow the Quakers to return to competition as soon as 2020 and to begin to build a program that will be financially self-sustaining as well as offering future student-athletes an excellent experience.

This is a game we can win – but we need you on the team.

If every Earlham football alumnus makes a gift of $300 this year and pledges to continue that level of support for three years, we will make our goal. Once we have met the financial goal, we can help build a foundation for the future. With your help, we can
recruit an appropriate-sized roster, and create an environment that will better protect the health and safety of our student-athletes. You can help them to find success both on the field and in the classroom. If you have the resources to pitch in where a former teammate can’t, you will take us that much closer to the goal line. But we can’t do it without you.

As you know from your experience, Earlham football is about so much more than wins and losses – it’s about character and determination. It’s about selflessness and teamwork. It’s about brotherhood on the field that evolves into lifelong friendships. It’s about coaches who teach you how to be better human beings, not just better players. Please consider joining us in this effort and support Earlham football today.

EC PRIDE!

Ian Henry ’01

Gerry Cooper ’62

Stan Hill ’93

Mark Meyer ’73

Michael Kitchel ’01