

Hinkey Haines accomplished something no one had ever done before and no one has ever done since – he played on both a Major League Baseball World Series winner (the 1923 Yankees) and a National Football League Championship winner (the 1927 New York Giants). His friends in sport gave a banquet in his honor on December 8, 1927 at the Astor Hotel in New York City.

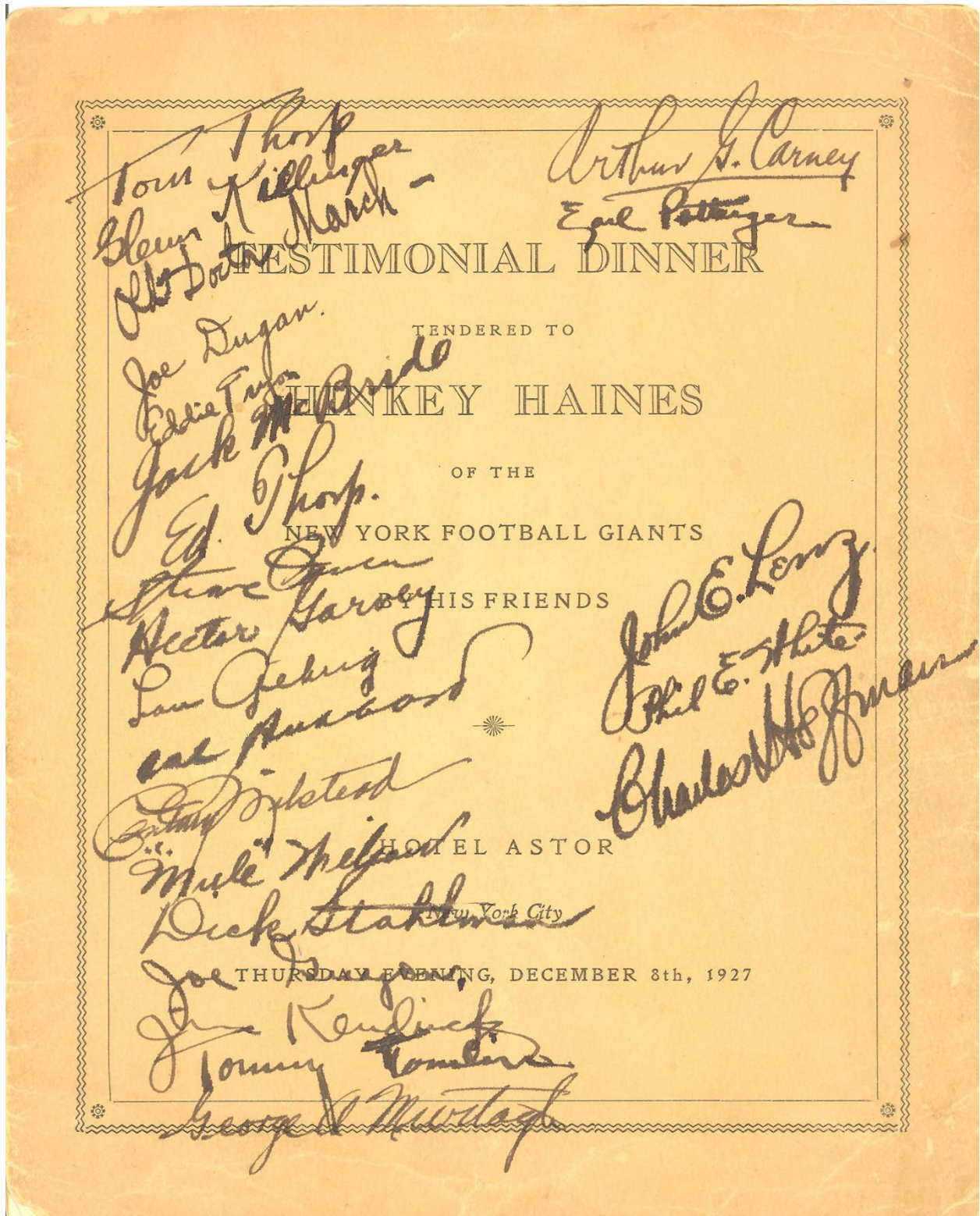


The room was filled with New York sports icons. Lou Gehrig is seated half turned toward the camera at the second table from the front on the left in the photo above. Below, in a detail from the head table, to the extreme left, are Hugo Bezdek (Hinkey’s football coach at Penn State), Hinkey Haines, Harry N. Bentz (captain 1922 Penn State Football team), Harry Haines (Hinkey’s father), Glenn Killinger (also Penn State), Tom Thorp and Dr Harry March.



March was president of the NY Giants and Thorp was a famous official. Tom Thorp’s brother Ed was also at the banquet. Ed Thorp died in 1934 and, until the death of Vince Lombardi, the NFL Championship Trophy was named “The Ed Thorp Memorial Trophy.”

The program for the evening was a good way to get autographs – here's one sample



5 Responses to Hinkey Haines, A Singular Achievement

Jim Loyer says: June 4, 2013 at 4:14 pm Wonderful photo! I live in Hinkey's hometown & have done considerable research on his career for the local historical society. I'm intrigued by the unidentified man seated in a place of prominence between Hinkey & his father. Any idea who that might be? One typo-in your text you state the event was December 3. The date on the program cover seems to be Thursday, December 8. Reply

MM says: June 4, 2013 at 9:00 pm Thanks, I fixed the date – I was wondering if that person between Hinkey and his father might be another Haines brother – I think I see a family resemblance to his father – I don't know if he even had a brother, but that's my best guess.

Reply Cris Chavarria says: July 29, 2013 at 7:11 pm Thanks for posting this photo. Hinkey Haines was my grandmother's brother (Mary Rebecca Haines Stabley b.1900). I met Uncle Hinky in Red Lion, PA. in the early 70's when I was about 11-12 years old. I've always been fascinated with his life and his success as an athlete in both baseball and football. The man in between Uncle Hinkey and my Great Grandfather is not a brother. Uncle Hinkey's only brother was my Uncle George Haines (b: 1915), who would have been 12 years old in 1927 when this photo was taken. Great-Grandfather Haines (Papap) and his wife Cora (Mama Haines) had 5 children: Henry/Hinky, Mary, Charlotte, George, and Jeanette.

Reply Russell says: February 22, 2015 at 10:19 am This is great stuff. I learned of Hinkey Haines about three years ago. I can't believe how many life achievements. Thanks for posting.

Reply Tom Frangicetto says: October 9, 2016 at 11:59 am I was fortunate to meet and become friends with Hinkey in 1977, when we were both acting in a production of Agatha Christie's "The Mouse Trap." At that time I was also a free lance writer and I did a piece for the Bucks County Courier Times on Hinkey, which is still among my favorites of the many I've written. The inspiring hours I spent in his lovely home interviewing him are still vivid in my memory. His marvelous turn as Major Metcalf in "The Mousetrap," taught all of us in the cast the art of stealing a scene; as he did, so delightfully. Great tribute to a singular man.