Auburn’s famed golden eagle, War Eagle VI, Tiger, became the first Auburn eagle to free fly at Jordan-Hare Stadium on Aug. 31, 2000. Two years later, she made an internationally-televised flight during opening ceremonies of the Winter Olympics.

Tiger came to Auburn Oct. 8, 1986 at six years old from Kentucky where she was being held by federal agents from an illegal breeding operation in St. Louis, Mo. For 14 years, Tiger was under the care of the Delta Chapter of Alpha Phi Omega, a national, coeducational service organization founded on the principles of leadership, friendship and service. APhiO cared for the eagles for 40 years and grew the eagle tradition to what it is today. In 2000, the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine’s Southeastern Raptor Center assumed responsibility for Auburn’s eagles.

Tiger made her last stadium flight prior to the Auburn-Georgia game in 2006. The symbol of the Auburn University spirit for nearly 30 years, Tiger died June 18, 2014. At 34, she was believed to be among the oldest golden eagles in captivity.
For more than 100 years, eagles have been associated with Auburn University. From rousing flights circling Pat Dye Field at Jordan-Hare Stadium to their presence at educational events, eagles are one of Auburn’s best-loved icons.

While the eagle’s flight is uniquely Auburn, their role is to promote wildlife conservation, education and rehabilitation for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine’s Southeastern Raptor Center.

Auburn’s eagles and numerous other non-releasable raptors are a part of hundreds of educational programs each year throughout the Southeast. Annually, hundreds of other birds of prey are brought injured to the Center, where they are treated and released into their native habitat.

Since its inception in mid-1970s, the Southeastern Raptor Center has rehabilitated and released thousands of injured birds of prey and educated more than 1 million people about raptors and other wildlife.

Help the Southeastern Raptor Center continue its mission of conservation, education and rehabilitation. Invest in the War Eagle Forever program with a charitable contribution today. You can make a tax-deductible gift through the Auburn University Foundation either online at www.auburn.edu/raptor or by mail. Gifts by mail should be made out to “Auburn University Foundation” and sent to the attention of:

Diana Turner
College of Veterinary Medicine
Office of Development
317 South College Street
Auburn, AL 36849

Go online to www.auburn.edu/raptor to find out more about how you can support this uniquely Auburn tradition. Call the Southeastern Raptor Center at 334.844.6943