



SPRING 2020

THE GRAPEVINE



The newsletter for Alumni and Friends of Our Lady of Angels Academy, St. Mary's High School, Mater Dei High School, Prince of Peace College Preparatory & Prince of Peace Catholic School.

How a Global Pandemic Brought Together a Once in a Lifetime Reunion

Written by Matthew Lowy, MDHS 1999

In late April 2020, actor of stage & screen, Josh Gad began his virtual pop-culture reunion series 'Reunited Apart' bringing the cast & crew of the 1985 hit 'The Goonies' back together. Watching the pure joy of this former team, who were mostly in their youth during their time together, get back together as a group now with many different life experiences and successes under their belts made a lasting impression on me. Decades had passed since they had been together and yet with each of them having experienced the usual highs and lows life inevitably brings they click back as a fun loving, functional unit clearly with so much love and admiration for each other. Memories long forgotten for 35 years suddenly came back in a flash with big smiles all around.

It was nearing 21 years since the 1999 Class of Clinton Mater Dei graduated at Central Catholic Auditorium on a Sunday in May. All that time had gone by with a few get-togethers among smaller groups of classmates but no formal reunion to mark any anniversary year. With Zoom and virtual collaboration more accessible and utilized than ever, I asked myself why our class of 20 graduates couldn't have their "Goonies" moment.

As a result of a run of bad choices post-graduation, I found myself not everyone's favorite alum in my class and sure wouldn't be voted to the Student Council as I was in the late 90s. Undeterred, a Facebook event was created for classmates encouraging folks to reach out to others who we thought would like to connect. I felt it would be a success if 50% of the class attended the reunion. That would make for 10 participants. As I think with most reunions, initially there was some reluctance among the class for the reunion. In fact, fellow classmate, Samantha Nelson, who still has enough family ties to the school to make Michael J. Fox proud, shared with me "I was initially hesitant at the idea of a video call reunion, thinking it may be awkward or impersonal". We moved forward and going into reunion game day, there were more maybes and unknowns than confirmed attendees.

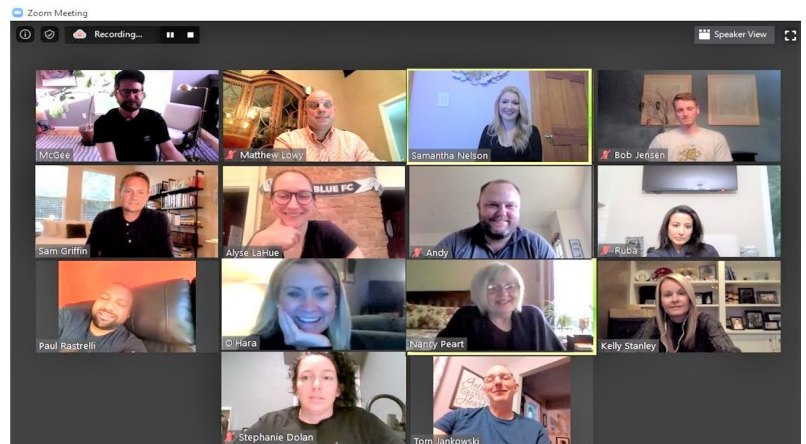
Our reunion overachieved in terms of attendees as we had 12 (60% of the class)! My fellow classmates gave up a portion of their Sunday evening. The Goonies may have had Steven Spielberg and Richard Donner drop in as special guests but we feel that our guests were even more special in our former English teacher... now school Princi-PAL, Ms. Nancy Peart ,

and our former P.E./ Religion/Theater teacher, the now retired Mr. Tom Jankowski. It was evident very quickly that we all felt a great sense of pride and admiration for one another as we heard our collective stories about how we were doing and about the families we have created. Reflections from those that have lost parents created a bonding experience that many didn't expect but was so very treasured. Many laughs were had, many toasts, a few tears, and oh so many smiles!

As Ms. Nelson attests "I was pleasantly surprised by how well it went. Everyone had a chance to speak, there were no breaks in the conversation, and we were all able to catch up. What was scheduled as a two-hour call ended up being over five hours, with plans to meet again on Zoom soon."

Even with a small class of 20, the class of 1999 proudly touts lawyers, doctors, proven entrepreneurs, teachers & professors who sacrifice so much to ensure the youth of America are in good hands, industry leaders ranging from hospitality headquarters to graphic design firms, advisors to our world's greatest banking institutions, the Pentagon and most impressively, our class sports a general manager for a professional sports team. From coast to coast (L.A & San Francisco to Washington D.C. and Charleston), our class takes pride in our Catholic School roots as it helped create the professionals and people we are today.

As the Beach Boys so well said "Be True to your School". Your grade school and high school years combined may rival the most hours spent with any group of people other than your families. Those bonds may weaken with time apart, but they are always present. If your graduating class hasn't stayed as close as you would like, I challenge you to be that leader and plan out a reunion of some shape or form. Our class got a much-needed boost from our reunion and perhaps yours will too!



Reunion attendees: Top, L to R: Matthew McGee, Matthew Lowy, Samantha Nelson, Bob Jensen. 2nd row: Kevin McCarthy, Alyse LaHue, Andy Droste, Ruba Barakat. 3rd row: Paul Rastrelli, Laura McCarthy, Nancy Peart, Kelly Stanley. 4th row: Stephanie Dolan, Tom Jankowski

ALUMNI NEWS



Camanche hosted an alumni basketball tournament the night before Thanksgiving. Alums from Clinton High School, Camanche High School, Northeast High School and the Clinton Catholic schools participated. Representing the Clinton Catholic Schools are: Front L to R: Caleb Kaczinski (2016), Derek Witt (2011), Kaidion Larson (2019). Back L to R: Aidan Sager (2018), Travis Witt (2012), Drew Sikkema (2009), Nic Roth (2014), Eric Sikkema (2011), Seth Moeller (2017), and Owen Howard (2004). Not in photo: Seth Hinrichs (2011). The Irish lost their first game to Clinton High and defeated Camanche in the 2nd game.

Go Irish!



Cody Isham (POPCS 2018) graduated from Basic Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base on April 23, 2020. Cody is currently at Sheppard Air Force Base and will be trained to work on M15 fighter jets.

Thank You For Your Service



Jacob Kaczinski, POPCS 2012, graduated from Officer Candidate School at Ft. Benning on January 16, 2020. Jacob is an Army National Guard 2nd Lieutenant.

REMEMBERING COACH GALETICH

CLINTON (St. Mary's High School)



Little did Coach Galetich and this group of athletes know at the time this photo was taken that they would soon take their place in Iowa athletic history. The photo at left is a copy of the photo that was published in the Official Program from the IHSAA 1953 State High School Basketball Tourney.

Front row (left to right): Tom Peterson, Jim Hyde, Dave Junker, John Piper, Tom Montgomery, Coach Louis Galetich.

Back row: Jack Dermody, Tom McAndrews, George McAndrews, Dick Lingle, Terry Petrehn, Joe Shanahan.

Some of the surviving team members had stayed in touch with Coach Galetich. He will be missed by many.

Sixty-seven years ago, tiny St. Mary's High School showed the state of Iowa, what winners look like. The team was coached by a young St. Ambrose College graduate named Lou Galetich. Lou was born in 1929 in Highbridge, Dallas County, Iowa, and graduated from Madrid (IA) High School in 1947. He graduated from St. Ambrose in 1952, and while a student there worked as a trainer for the Quad City Tigers. They liked what they saw and Lou worked with the Detroit Tigers farm club in the spring of 1952. That fall, young Lou returned to Iowa and began his coaching career at St. Mary's. Under his coaching, the team won the Iowa State Basketball Championship in 1953. At that time Iowa basketball was not separated into class divisions based on enrollment. Lou continued to coach at St. Mary's for 2 more years and then went on to coach in Remsen and Carroll, Iowa. Lou eventually returned to Madrid and continued to coach until his retirement in 1998. Lou also served as the mayor of Madrid for 12 years. In 1987, Lou was inducted into the St. Ambrose University Athletic Hall of Fame of Athletics and Coaching. Coach Galetich passed away on March 9, 2020. Rest in peace, Coach.

YOUR SCHOOL TODAY



Left: Girls wrestling in the state of Iowa is rapidly growing! Our own Prince of Peace Kindergarten student, Shelby Cowger, won the Pee Wee State Wrestling Championship Tournament in Waterloo. Shelby wrestled in the K-2 girls division at 40 pounds. This is Shelby's second year of wrestling. Congratulations, Shelby!

Right: One of the most beloved traditions at Prince of Peace School is the "Big Buddy-Little Buddy" program. Every year our seniors are partnered with a 1st grade student for the year. They spend time together doing activities and getting to know each other. This year senior Nathan Moeller was partnered with Ma'Kai Holt. During the 2020 Catholic Schools/Homecoming Week, Ma'Kai donned a jersey with Nathan's number on the back for Blue-Gold Day. According to one senior parent, "This is how life long memories are made."



Right: That is correct! Your Prince of Peace School Quiz Bowl team reigned supreme this past December as they defeated Calamus-Wheatland in the finals at the Clinton Community College Quiz Bowl meet. Team members include: front row: Alexis Rickertsen, Abby Telford, Tasha Cody, Evan Tiesman, Gavin Stoddard and Coach, Mrs. Andrews. Back row: Karie Gorden and Evan Hessing.



IN LOVING MEMORY, WE ACKNOWLEDGE THOSE SPECIAL CLASSMATES AND FRIENDS WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US.

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

1940s

Kathryn (Monroe) McCauley, 94, Princeton, IL 12-11-19, MSCA 1942
June (Hass) Dunk, 94, Savanna, IL 12-12-19 MSCA 1943

1950s

Margaret (Kenney) Burken, 86, Clinton, 1-17-20, MSCA 1950
Ruth (Lingle) Lemke, 83, Clinton, 12-15-19 SMHS 1955
Margaret Mary (Kenney) Burken, 86, Clinton, 1/17/2020, MSCA 1950

1960s

Marilyn (Webb) Lee, 77, Goose Lake, IA, 9/19/19, MSCA 1960
Betty Jean (Faur) Andresen, 77, Clinton, OLA 1960

1980s:

Michael McDonnell, 56, Clinton, 2/26/2020, MDHS 1981

Friends of Catholic Education:

Lou Galetich, 91, Madrid, IA, 3/9/2020, SMHS basketball coach
Sr. Marcella Narlock, OSF, 82, Clinton, 3/9/2020, Taught at St. Boniface School/former director of Mt. St. Clare Speech and Hearing Center.

Memorial Gifts—Gifts were received in memory of:

Elizabeth Cavanaugh
Margaret (Kenney) Burken
Donna Van Buer
Your gifts are greatly appreciated

Our apologies. In the Fall 2019 Grapevine, we listed the named scholarships that are held in the Prince of Peace School Foundation. We missed the Deb Lind Memorial Scholarship. Each year, two Deb Lind Memorial Scholarships are awarded to a PoP student. We are sorry for our omission and appreciate this scholarship and all named scholarships.



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A year like no other!

Catholic education in Clinton has survived tough times since the 1850's. Events such as the two World Wars, The Great Depression, Viet Nam/Korean Wars, September 11th impacted our community, country and world. This spring, the Covid-19 virus will take its place in history.

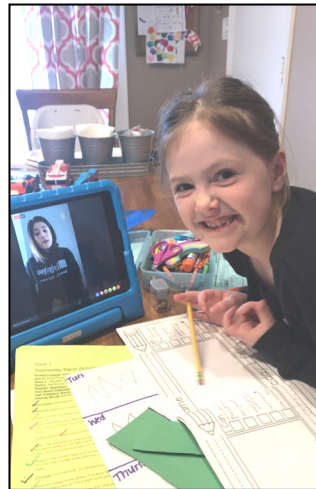
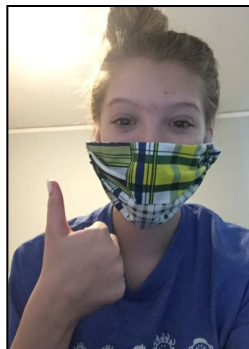
In mid March, Iowa's Governor Reynolds closed school buildings. Prince of Peace, as with many schools, found ourselves having to develop and implement online teaching/learning in a short time. Principal, Nancy Peart and Assistant Principal, Jennifer Hansen-Wauford led staff, teachers and parents in what was no less than herculean efforts to keep our students learning.

Word came down on April 17th, that schools would not open for the rest of the 2019-2020 school year and spring sports were cancelled.

Again, staff, teachers and parents regrouped to adjust to our new normal. Our school year ended on June 2nd.

We did it!
We did it together!

Right: Freshman, Shannon Kenneavy gives the thumbs online from home.



2020 Commencement July 5, 2020

Left: Kindergarten student, Mila Jones, reads to Mrs. Smith (on computer) as she studies from home.

Right: Senior year is always a special year. This year it is especially true. Senior, Gavin Stoddard, poses under his banner for a photo during a downtown senior celebration. Cars drove through the downtown area honking and waving signs to congratulate and support our seniors.

