Class of 1945

Send your Notes to:
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The annual Alumni Banquet will be held at Mount Carmel on May 5, 2017, 6 PM at Mount Carmel. Hard to believe it’s been 72 years since we graduated in 1945.

Attending our last luncheon on October 12, 2016 were Rev. William Sheridan, John Tumpich, Bob Knoerzer, Mario Ortigara, Packey Butler, Vince Giammario, Gene Herman, Vic Gonzalez and Joe Piette. Tom King hoped to attend if a doctor appointment was on time. One of the subjects in our conversation was upcoming 90th Birthdays. Fr. Bill announced he would be ninety on November 9th. His birthday was celebrated at St. Philip Neri Parish his residing parish for 52 years on November 6th. For those of you who did not know, Fr. Bill passed away in his sleep on December 11, 2016. He was lying-in-state on Friday, December 16th and a Mass of the Resurrection celebrated by Cardinal Blasé Cupich Saturday, December 17th at St. Philip Neri Church. After graduation from Mount Carmel he enrolled as a “special student” at Quigley for two years, taking Latin and Greek, then went onto Mundelein Seminary. He was ordained in 1954 by Cardinal Samuel Stritch. In 1957 he was appointed to the teaching staff of Quigley. During his summer months he attended Notre Dame University for 5 years after which he received his master’s in classic languages and became an avid Notre Dame fan. Fr. Bill will be missed by many relatives and friends, in particular by the local 45ers who attended the annual Alumni Banquet and our luncheon group.

Our classmate Tom King lost his wife, of 67 years, Ellamae King on December 14, 2016 and our classmate Gene Vanreeth lost his brother, Philip Vanreeth (class of 1948), on February 15, 2017.

In closing Carmel remains strong with 206 candidates for the Class of 2021 taking the placement test. Our son Dave and his wife Gloria visited Carmel in January 2017 and were escorted on a tour of the facilities including the headquarters of Bro. John in our day. They came away with an assortment of gifts for my 90th birthday which was on February 3rd.

I sure could use some news from you 45ers out there for next column. In the meantime, keep Fr. Bill and the rest of our deceased in your prayers. Until the next time. “Be careful out there”

Class of 1947

Send your notes to:
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Classmates share 70-life years each joined with unique individual careers, experiences, and maturity. We owe a
lifetime debt to the Priests and Brothers who dedicated their lives to inculcate spiritual values, knowledge, and to welcome life’s challenges as men of Carmel.

This Memorial Day we join in remembering our Classmates, James Ford and James Doyle who were killed in action during the Korean War. With the payer’s of their classmates may they bask in the embrace of eternal life.

We learned of the death of our classmate, Armand (Mando) DeQui, after last Class Notes went to the printer. Armand retired after 30-years as comptroller for International Harvester/Navistar. Armand was a Korean War veteran, a University of Chicago graduate, and life member of the Knights of Columbus.

His obituary reads: “loving and kind in all his ways, Upright and just to the end of his days, Sincere and true in his heart and mind. A beautiful memory he left behind. He had a nature you could not help loving. A heart that was purer than gold. And to those who knew him loved him. His memory will never grow old.”

Since the last edition of Class Notes I learned of the death of our classmate, Gene Gallagher. Gene was widely admired by fellow classmates for his leadership, scholarship and Carmel spirit. We recall Gene’s athletic prowess. He earned letters in football, track and wrestling. Well rounded athletically and academically, Gene was truly a man of Carmel. After graduation from Carmel, Gene attended Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio. Gene was commissioned as a Marine Corps Officer upon completing his degree. He distinguished himself leading young Marines in combat against enemy North Korean and Chinese Communist aggressors during the Korean War. Always reticent about himself I learned from his wife, Virginia, some of his lifetime accomplishments. After Marine Corps service Gene entered the business world with NCR Corporation. During a 40-year career Gene advanced to top management leading National NCR product and service sales.

A strong family man, Gene cherished Virginia, his wife of 58-years, three daughters and four grandchildren. Gene was a lifetime booster of Mount Carmel. At alumni reunions Gene enjoyed renewing friendships. He often remarked that Mount Carmel’s facility modernizations are a tribute to Carmelite leadership and the generosity of contributing graduates.

Our classmate Frank Link and his wife Elaine celebrate 39-years of marriage. Frank says, “The Lord has given us three sons and a daughter and nine grandchildren.” Frank and Elaine thank the Lord for life and good health. Frank has been a Third Order Carmelite for over 70-years. He joins fellow Carmelites at Our Lady of Lay Carmelite Community, Aylsford Community, Darien, Illinois.

We ask for prayers for Ernest LeTourneau who is coping with advanced cancer. Ernie is a widower having lost his wife, Cecilia, after 61-years of marriage. He lives with the assistance of his son, Scott. Experimental drugs have enabled Ernie to regain mobility. He is now capable to climb house stairs. In previous Class Notes we reported that his grandson, Landon, born at one pound—six ounces would only survive through prayerful intercession. Happily we can report that Landon has thrived. Ernie’s grandson will celebrate his second birthday this coming August.

I will take this space to add personal notes. Following military retirement I entered the business world. My second career ended by retirement, SPX Corporation in 1997, as Vice President of Service. I taught at a local community college, engaged in management consulting, and visited widely dispersed sons and daughter.

Military service incurs frequent reassignments. One by one we had to leave children behind to remain in school. Inevitably emotional attachments occurred. They were in school, met their eventual spouses and remained while we moved on to my next assignment. My devoted wife Connie patiently accepted the challenge and opportunities for each military reassignment.
Three of our children chose temporary military service. Our son, Jay, saw infantry service in Germany. Jay now works in Washington D.C. Second son, Joseph, also served in Germany as a tank gunner. Joe and family live in Lexington, KY. Our daughter, Joan, was deployed to Iraq where she served three tours of duty in the combat zone as a Major, Quartermaster and as General Staff Officer on the Iraqi Multi-National General Staff. Joan and her family live in California. All three Jay, Joe and Joan, returned to civilian life after Army service. Our youngest, William, born with Down Syndrome, is a special gift from God who enriches our life with endless love and his great sense of humor.

Class of 1948

Send your notes to
Martin Cosgrove
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m.cosgrove@sbcglobal.net

The last Carmelite News reported the deaths of four of our classmates from 1948.

**Walter Brightmore:** I have little about him. He was the husband of the late Betty and father of Leanne and Elizabeth. He was buried from St. Christina Church and a member of the Knights of Columbus Post 1444 Fr. Perez. Please let me know if you remember him. He died July 2016.

**Richard Cunningham.** Dick came from St. Clotildes, but that’s all I know.

**Joe Morrison.** Joe came to Carmel from St. Lawrence. He retired from the Chicago Fire Department after 32 years with Engine Company 121. He was the husband of the late Ella May and the father of Steven, George and the late Maria. He served with the Marine Corp during the Korean War. He died September 2016.

**John Pasco.** John came to Carmel from St. Willibrords in Roseland. He played quarterback for two years, in his senior year behind Jim Gibbons. He received a football scholarship from Santa Clara University, where he played quarterback from 1948 to 1952. At the age of 19 he quarterbacked the 1950 Broncos to victory in the Orange Bowl. Upon graduation in 1952 he married his college sweetheart Beverly. A week later he was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Army and spent a year in Korea. Upon return he attended and graduated from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles as President of his class. He passed the bar and practiced law for 29 years in San Jose. He was appointed to the bench in 1985 as a municipal court judge. In1994 and joined the Superior Court where he remained until his retirement in 1999. He was elected to the Santa Clara Hall of Fame in 1977. He was survived by his wife of 63 years and daughters Susan and Janet, son John Jr. and five grandchildren. He died November 26, 2015.

**Bill Lemm** has returned to the Chicago area and has moved to 1774 Willow Circle Drive, Crest Hill IL 60404. Welcome back Bill!!

**Terry Yeager**’s wife, Adrienne, passed away October 16, 2016. They had been married 59 years had four children and lived in Andover, MN. Condolences to Terry, a member of the old St. Kilian gang.

Another old friend from the St. Kilian gang at Mount Carmel died December 26, 2016. **Dick Seaman** was a bundle of nervous energy, we called him Shaky. He won his letter in track and was a member of the Monogram Club. A. He was a member of Carmel’s Glee Club. He ran a wholesale candy distributorship until he retired. He was active for 32 years in community theater, appearing in many productions at the Beverly
Art Center. He was also a member of the Dorian Ensemble, a singing group.

Class of 1950
Send your notes to:
Bill Morrison
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46sc50mc@att.net

I hope all of my classmates are in good health and enjoying life. I enjoy hearing from you guys on what’s going on in your life and your families.

It is with deep regret that I inform you of the passing of Bob Hubacek and Jerry Krane. Please say a prayer for them.

I usually tell you about my vacations overseas, but this year I didn’t see any overseas location I wanted to go to and spend a lot of money and I don’t go traveling in the Fall because I still attend all the Carmel Football games.

I hope all of you will attend the Carmel Annual Banquet on May 5, 2017 at 6410 S. Dante and see the wonderful changes that have been made in and around the building. It may make you want you come back and start as a freshman.

Good luck and God Bless all of you. Bill

Class of 1952
Send your notes to:
Fran Houlihan
franhoulihan@gmail.com

Greeting to the Class of 1952. I hope to see all of you, who are able to attend, at the Alumni Banquet on May 5 as the great Class of 1952 celebrates our 65th anniversary of graduation from Mount Carmel High School. Also, please keep all our classmates, especially those who are no longer with us, in your prayers.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, pray for us!!

Class of 1953
Send your notes to:
Jim Kane
Jimmari57@comcast.net

Greetings to the Class of "53". Once again the correspondence has been pretty sparse, but I will trudge along and pass on whatever tidbits I have.

Received an email from Tom Bresnehan, which somehow got deleted from my computer, so I'll try to give
you the info my feeble brain can remember.
Tom’s grandson is a high school football kicker and has several scholarship offers. His best field goal was a 47 yarder. Not bad for a prep player

Got another email from Erv Slawinski. He said that my last class notes talking about Jim Shea, Brad Bomba, Butts Pinn and Vito brought back memories of a day at the Lewis death camp (Erv’s description). The pre-season two week football practice session at Lewis College. Coach Terry and Ed went to town and we took the opportunity to send our runners to town and bring back sausage sandwiches and pop. We had a blast in that stupid dorm. However when our coaches returned late that night someone dropped a dime on us. I think it was Bro John! Now the drama unfolds. Our coaches were sampling something other than buttermilk and needed to work out their school spirits. There we were in our underwear and whistled off to Death Valley -where we ate grass for about an hour and a half. The next morning was a one on one between the party committees and Coach Ed.

Finale- Mount Carmel City Champs 11-0!!!

Sorry to report Bill Herne passed away. Please keep him in your prayers....

That's all for now. God Bless, Jim Kane

Class of 1955
Send your notes to:
Bob Fattore
fattorer@gmail.com

Greetings Gentlemen,

I hope you’re all doing well. The years are quickly going by, but thankfully we’re around to enjoy them.

All of you either have nothing interesting to report, or you’re too busy to send a note letting me know how things are going with you. It makes the job of writing this column difficult when I don't hear from you.

Unfortunately, I have sad news to report once again; Tom Lowery passed away. By now you probably have heard the news of his passing. Tom and I go back a long way. We were born and raised on the East Side and lived three doors from each other. We attended Taylor grammar school and then of course, MountCarmel. We’ve remained good friends all through the years. Tom was a good source of information for the articles. Before I would start writing, I would call him for the latest news, if any, about our classmates. He was always interested and concerned about them. He never disappointed!! When we would visit Jerry Marciniak, who was in a nursing home in Glenview, Tom would drive to my house and then I would drive to visit Jerry. Bill Drew would meet up with us also. We had some great visits together.

It’s really sad to say that they’re gone now. I hope Pearl, Elette, and Alice are doing well. Three great ladies, for 3 great guys. Also, great kids from great parents! I’m taking this time to write about Tom, Jerry, and Bill because they were true MountCarmel men, and very involved with the school.

Well, that’s it for now, if you get the Carmel Life before the Alumni Banquet which is Friday, May 5th, please purchase your ticket early so we can reserve a couple of tables for our class. That’s the key to securing the
tables.

PLEASE send in notes for my next article. Something must be going on in your lives, and I know your classmates would love to hear about it and I would too! You can email your notes to: fattorer@gmail.com

So until next time, bye bye!

Class of 1956

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This issue, lads, we have fewer stories but each is a showstopper.

First up! After many years of happy marriage and the death of his beloved, Paul Kovacevich has remarried. Six months now have gone by since their wedding. He and bride Sharon honeymooned in Mexico, climbing the 120 foot wall both ways. Using tied bed sheets, he first boosted Sharon (can we get a hand for adventurous lady!!) up on his shoulders, she would then hold on and he would climb up onto her shoulders and repeating...well, you remember the drill from Michael Patrick Aloysius Murphy’s rope climbing classes.

Batting #2, Jim Kauffman. “I had a great 2 hour lunch with Tom Burton in February. Tom is doing great and looks good. I gave him the reunion coffee mug. We were remembering things that happened 50 plus years ago in detail, but we had trouble remembering what we did yesterday.” (Dear reader: Sure and this is NOT a problem suffered by ANY other 1956 classmate.)

Our #3 hitter Bill Donnelly, “My wife's mother, Louise Sreedain, passed Feb 19, 2017. She was born December 13, 1909, making her 107 years young when she died peacefully with family around her. Last summer, her son Dick let the Cubs know her age when they were looking for the oldest living Cubs fan to acknowledge when (not IF) the Cubs won the Series. Just before the series, Louise was second oldest, beaten by a lady of 108 who died just days after the Cubs won. Smiling a lot, Louise was thanking God for letting her be the oldest living Cub fan for those last few remaining months of life.” (One might say she was smiling bigly!)

Batting in the clean up slot, Carol Moriarty Bauer, our own Gene Moriarty’s widow. As you may know, Carol and friends (including many nurses from Little Company of Mary Hospital, Evergreen Park) founded the Beverly Breast Cancer Walk way back when, that is grown to involve--in addition to the MCHS Mothers’ Cub--some 15,000 walkers a year in Beverly alone with 2 other Chicago sites equally supported.

Carol and her team journeyed to San Salvador during Christmas 2015, to assess women’s cancer needs there. In the Spring of 2016 and again this March 8 -15 they returned to help the women raise funds to fight Breast Cancer. This March, they brought with them a gift of an up-to-the-minute cancer screening unit plus a year’s supply of needed medicine.

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Their highlight was a March 12 Walk which brought supporters from the mountain areas and nearby villages. Next for Carol? a plan to partner with the St. Vincent Sisters to build a San Salvador facility to house the women who come in for cancer treatment for their recovery/rest days before they trek home to their villages.

Fifth, Jerry O’Connor: “My upcoming book, The Secret Places and Unknown Spaces of WW II, has Hollywood, a documentary, interest with translation rights. I am currently at 25,000 words with 85,000 due in late fall 2017. I work 8-10 hours every day of the week. In researching, I visited Fall River MA, New York, New Orleans, Germany and Russia all in 2016. In May, I return to England to seek out remains of some of the air bases built for the Eighth and Ninth Air Force. A 2019 release date is expected, in advance of world observances of the 75th anniversary of the end of WW II. At 80 in 2020, I will be among the oldest authors ever published. Previews at www.Historyarticles.com”

Sixth, Mar 20, 2017, Jim Ciresi reports: “Just in from Phoenix. I am freezing.... came back for tax clients. Saw Cub games; shocked by cactus league prices. I suppose regular games prices will be equally high. Got a letter from Carl Zencka with an article he clipped from the Trib about a football game we played as kids: an electric football game ...field vibrated and players moved in any direction... terrible game. They still make it.”

Seventh, News of Your Generosity Bats Last! Tom and Terry Grojean’s 2016 fall challenge to our classmates—the two matched each classmate’s gift up to $1,000 each----raised $20,000 for the School’s scholarship program. This is not the first time Terry and Tom have led the way in generosity to the school. A beautiful couple.

Also, Jack Brennan and Emmett and Dan have contributed generously to MC over the year, in their help to build the McCarthy Building, the science wing of the school, named after the twins’ dad who graduated from MC in the ‘nineteen teens’ just about 100 years ago. Many other members (near to 165) of our class, Brian Shannon comes to mind, have shared their financial generosity with the school too; enough to make us one of the top 10 classes over the years in total giving.

Lost and not yet found: I lost my left shoe in the ‘Polar Plunge,’ Mar. 5. If anyone finds it, it is easy to spot--size 12, brown—please return. I miss it... All reports to the contrary, Phil Gleeson and Tom McLaughlin are still alive making trouble. And Dennis Kasper’s email is still not breathing life—waiting for a grandson to come in to perform the necessary surgery.

PLEASE NOTE: I still have a few reunion cups left here at the house if anyone wants them. (773-255-7523 Robertkeeley555@gmail.com) By UPS to you $15 AND I’ll bring them to the May 5 banquet.

In our prayers this evening, let’s remember Hugh Davis, a St. Ailbe’s guy. Our West Coast correspondent Tom Rooney called to inform me of his passing. Our world travel-planner Chuck Larson reminds us to add, “Our Lady of Guadalupe -- the Patroness of the Unborn. Pray for us” also, ”The World Is a Book and Those Who Do Not Travel Read Only One Page!” from St. Augustine.

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Happy Anniversary to us. We are celebrating our 60th year as Alumni of the Mount Carmel Class of 1957. As of the date of mid-March, plans are being put together to celebrate this occasion. Watch your e-mail and mailbox for information.

Congratulations to Dr. Joseph O’Gallagher, PhD., on his election into the Mount Carmel Hall of Fame. He joins Fr. David Dillon, O.Carm., Thomas (Jay) Huizenga, Frank Kiszka, Ed Kosteck, Bernie McGinn, Jim O’Donnell and myself as HOF members of the class of 1957. Joe will be presented with his induction at our Alumni Banquet on Friday, May 5.

Congratulations to me for being named the Mount Carmel Man of the Year. I will be honored at the same banquet as Joe. What a coincidence. I will join Fr. David Dillon, O.Carm., Jim Riedle, Frank Kiszka, Ed Kosteck, John McDonnell and Jim O’Donnell with being awarded this honor.

I have been attending the Men of 6410 monthly luncheons at Mount Carmel. It is about two hours long, a nice lunch is served for only ten dollars, a speaker from the MC staff brings us up to date on activities at the school and a few pieces of MC outer apparel is given to those in attendance selected by a drawing. The luncheons are held every third Thursday of the month. If you would like to attend, contact the MC Alumni office.

I received this e-mail from Rich Hobson. Last year I visited five of the eight kids I sponsor through Child Fund. Three in Sri Lanka and two in Vietnam. A truly magical trip. One of the boys I sponsored was 7 and is now 34, married with three terrific daughters. They live in a jungle area. The little girl in Vietnam lives in a commune so all the shopping (like your wonderful food bank) is consumed by the families in the commune. The boys all love soccer or cricket and all are doing well in school. Another child I hope to see again this year is in Africa in the third largest city, Kisumu. Her name is Elizabeth and her father is Hezekel. The father is a peanut farmer. The children at the Catholic school take a two day holiday on Obama’s birthday.

I received this e-mail from Matt (Bud) Kulusic. September, 1953, age 13, I boarded the 35th St. bus at Hoyne Ave.. I got off at 35th and State and climbed the stairs to connect to the Englewood 'A' train. I got off at the next stop (41st/Indiana) to connect to a Jackson Park 'B' train. The 'B' train deposited me at 63rd and Dorchester a short 2 block walk to 6410 South Dante. For me, it was a 50 minute non-event, no problems. Given the violence on the Southside today, I am in awe of the young boys who make a similar journey to receive an education at MC today. That said, when you sing the ‘fight song’ it’s not about "stand up and cheer for the men on the field" but more importantly, cheer for the young boys who accept the challenges of attending MC today.

I received this from Julian (Jay) Olejniczak. Matt, this is not much, or very significant, so don’t feel obligated to use it. A few months ago, Jay and Sylvia Olejniczak finally joined the Chapel Hill (NC) Country Club since both are UNC Chapel Hill grads. Sylvia as an undergrad in 1964 and Jay as an MBA/JD in 1988. Very good Southern cooking in the dining room.

I received this from Fr. David Dillon, O.Carm. I look forward to attending our Carmelite Provincial Chapter from
June 19 to June 23 at our Carmelite monastery and Retreat Center in Niagara Falls, Canada. It is a five day meeting held once every three years to elect our Carmelite Provincial and his four men board to lead our Carmelite Province for the next three years. All the members of our Province are invited to attend and share in the election of our Provincial leaders. It will be a great occasion to see so many of my Brother Carmelites coming from all over the country and from our foreign missions in South America. Needless to say, I will see many of the Carmelites who have ministered at Mt Carmel over the years. Very likely Frs. Silvan Boyle, Canusius Hilde and Marcel Dube who were on the faculty at Mount Carmel when we were students will be attending. It’s also very nice to visit our monastery in Niagara Falls. When we graduated from Mt Carmel in 1957, I entered our Carmelite Seminary that was located at our Monastery in Niagara Falls back in those days. The trip will bring back many warm memories.

Received this from Deacon Ken Jackson. I recently read a library book recommended by my son called “Proof Of Heaven”. It was written by Eben Alexander, M.D.. Dr. Alexander is a Neurosurgeon who wrote about his extraordinary journey into the afterlife. He was in a coma for seven days and not expected to recover. While his family kept vigil hoping and praying that he would survive, his doctors, many of them close friends, thought otherwise. It is a short read, 176 pages, packed with a powerful experience that possibly can move the most intransigent atheist. I strongly recommend this book for many reasons but two reasons in particular. 1) It has confirmed for me that some of the positive things that have happened in my life where not by chance but because of God’s love for me. Some of the negative things that happened in my life were not by chance but because of my love for me. 2) Even before I was born God's love for me has never, ever diminished.

Received this from John Grace. Nothing new, still enjoying life in Florida.

Received this from Tony Matz. Still living part time in Tucson AZ. and San Carlos MX. Trying to change career from construction contractor to lowly charter fisherman. Currently have 4 twin diesel vessels from 31 to 38 ft. Fully equipped with conning tower, galley, head, outriggers, fishing gear, Captain and mate. Also, have living accommodations available. Anyone interested go to www.pezvelacharterfishing.com Not sure if this fits in with your request for updates on class of 57. Oh, one more thing, looks as if I will be undergoing my third spinal surgery.

Received this from John McDonnell. Ralph Hughes has a place on Longboat Key, Florida and Ed Hester has a place in Sarasota, Fl. We talked a lot about Ralph’s experiences in the CIA, Ned Hughes (Ralph’s brother) being President of MC and some of the crazy things we did at MC . We all agreed to maintain the code of silence on specifics. So no juicy stories for the News Letter. We had a great lunch together and covered 64 years in about 2.5 hours.

Received this from Einer (Joe) Bohlin. Family is doing great. Thank you Lord for all Your gifts. My main activities, in order of frequency and importance: thanking the Good Lord several times a day for His gift of my Karen and all His other gifts, keeping up with the "kids" and grandkids, reading, writing, medical appointments (shoulder, ankle, knee, and probable cataract surgery), geezer golf, and TV sports programs. I try to spread out my medical appointments so I don’t get bored or broke, and only visit medical offices that provide comfortable and quiet waiting room seats so I can read. I also hope I can nod off while I wait without dropping my book or drooling too much, and still hear the nurse when it’s my turn to hustle along to that little room and wait another 20 minutes for the doctor. Hired a guy to clean the gutters and change the smoke alarm batteries. That made the highlight reel in early March. Karen turns the clocks ahead. I probably wouldn't get around to that until August. And then wind up late for tee times. Got the only speeding ticket of my life driving to graduation 60 years ago this June. As they say, seems like yesterday. Stand up and cheer, 1957 men of Carmel........

I received this from Tom Wargin. I feel guilty for never submitting to this but i don’t have much of which to be proud. I had three wives (not to brag about) and four children (3 girls and 1 boy). I had a 40 year railroad career (9 years as a towerman and 31 as a computer programmer) (24 years for the Rock Island and 16 for CSX). The CSX job involved a move to the East Coast and I am still here, even though retired for 18 years, living near D.C. I read the
Joliet Patch and listen to the Chicago classical live streaming WFMT so still keep an eye on what's going on back home (Hooray Cubs!)

Received this from Ed Kosteck. My wife Kathy and I are enjoying the golf courses and fishing in Florida for a few months. I am looking forward to our 60th reunion in May honoring inducting Joe O’Gallagher into the Hall of Fame and Matt Taylor as Man of the Year. Can't wait to celebrate our 60th with all my classmates.

Received this from Dave Fetyko. I followed up knee replacements in April and July 2016 with a trip to Sicily and the Italian coast between Rome and Sicily in late September and early October. It's great to have a son, Matt, who has traveled with me to Europe for more than 10 years now and does all the driving, although we did hire driver/guides for Romania and Bulgaria and for Bosnia, Dubrovnik and Montenegro during the past 4 years. Despite sciatica problems, I made it to SW Florida for February (best weather in the past 3 years there) and hope to make the drive to Chicago in May for our 60th class reunion. While basking in the sun there, I completed an itinerary and arranged flights and hotels for late September and early October to spend 5 days visiting Gdansk, the birthplace of the Solidarity movement and the initial landing of the Nazi’s in Poland in September 1939, and Hitler’s Wolf’s Lair in NE Poland, followed by 10 days in Germany starting in Frankfurt and traveling along the Luther trail and Brothers Grimm Fairy Tale Trail along with visits to Leipzig, Dresden, and Berlin.

Received this from Paul Cieslak. As of last November my bride, Joan (Aquinas ’58) and I have been married 55 years. Our four children have blessed us with seven grandchildren and they have given us four great grandsons. We still live in Sun Lakes Arizona, a suburb of Phoenix, and have since 1999. We have another home in northern Wisconsin to which we escape each summer where I can catch up on my walleye fishing. The kids join in from time to time from the northwestern Indiana area. I continue to work for an auto dealership near our home. We thank God everyday for our good health especially when we hear some of our classmates have difficulties, and we pray for their recoveries. I am wearing an OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL medal around my neck which my wife found in a Church religious store. OUR LADY is pictured on the front with a SACRED HEART image on the back side. It is oval, about the size of a penny. If you want one send me an email (oxbow50@aol.com) and I'll mail you one. The cost is a prayer for the Cieslak Family. We all know OUR LADY has an insider line to OUR LORD. God’s Blessings to all of you and your families.

Received this from Tom Hyland. Sorry so late, but did want to let you know that I am happy and proud to say that two of my grandsons are going to Mt Carmel and both are on high honors with distinction. Charlie graduates this year and his brother Zack next year. They get their brains from their mother and certainly not from me.

We note the passing of our classmates, Dennis Hearne, Dennis Meehan, and Ron Murphy. Ron and I attended St. Peter and Paul in South Chicago. While planning our 50th reunion, I noticed the e-mail name streetcarman and I knew it was Ron. During our grammar school years, we rode the Chicago streetcars down South Chicago Ave. to Stoney Island and transferred to the Stoney streetcar down to 57th street to go the trolley and streetcar exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry. I believe that Ron enjoyed riding those streetcars more than he enjoyed the exhibit.

The annual dues of the Mount Carmel Alumni Association is $35.00. The benefits are threefold. One, it goes into a legacy fund which is used to lower the tuition by $1,000.00 to young men whose fathers, or grandfathers or great-grandfathers attended Mount Carmel. Two, you get a 15% discount when buying Mount Carmel apparel at the Spirit Shop. Three, you are assured an issue of what you’re reading, “CARMEL LIFE”.

See you on May 5.
Michael Fallaw  
mfallow@ameritech.net

It has been awhile since the Class of ’59 has had news to put in. We do now. A group of Mount Carmel Class of ’59 graduates and a few others established a scholarship to commemorate their departed classmates and to honor their friendships dating back to the 1940’s. There will be three Mount Carmel students benefiting from this memorial in the fall. If any other members of the class that have not been part of this scholarship would like to get involved please contact Michael Fallaw at mfallow@ameritech.net.

Bonita Springs, Florida has a new resident, Mike Edwards. Mike, will still maintain his Silver Lake Drive home but will spend most of his time at Bonita Springs. Mike was recently kicked upstairs from CEO of Triton Manufacturing Co., which he incorporated in 1967, and is now the Chairman of the Board. He has three sons in the business and states “I am very proud of them.” Mike spends his time with his 11 grandchildren, playing golf and on his boat when he can.

Spotted at the last few “Men of 6410” luncheons were Lane Schnotala, Jack Ahern, Pete Woods and Mike O’Connor. If you can fit it into your schedule the April one is on the 27th at 11:30 AM. They are at the school. Check your e-mail for more info.

The Alumni Dinner is coming up on May 5th and I hope to see a lot of you there.

Class of 1963
Send your notes:
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johnmcq@aol.com

Frank and Irene Drew’s "Mardi Gras hello to all" was the first response to my pitch for class news. Nice thoughts on a cold March morning!

Further north, Ralph and Ana Rangel welcomed their fifth grandchild, Emma. Both of Ralph's daughters and their families are recent Beverly homeowners. "Now, my only grandson, three-year-old Luke, will be coming to Mount Carmel." Added Ralph, "God willing, his introduction to 'all things Carmel' will be this Fall at Gately." Young Luke will need to put on a few years, however, before Grandpa can buy him his first Gately Dog. Ralph earlier expressed disappointment that both daughters married Cub fans. This should reduce the sting a bit.

Joining young Luke at 6410 will be Bill Desmond’s two grandsons, William (Duke), class of ‘33, and Anthony (Tony) the following year. Their dad is Bill Desmond, ’98. Just think, when Luke and Duke go to their fifth Carmel reunion, their grandpas will be celebrating their 75th! Pass on the prime rib, guys.

Tom and Lani Tyrrell’s annual "See America First" road trip focused on the mid-South. Multiple stops included a wedding in Knoxville and a self-tour of the nation’s capital. Said Tom, "Since we won't be taking a plane at any point, we already consider the trip to be a huge success." Speaking of grandsons, the Tyrells
Jim Cusack’s fifth grandchild, Owen, was baptized at Chicago's St. Josaphat Church, which Jim described as one of the most beautiful he's ever seen. Jim and the entire Cusack family were very touched by the heartfelt response to the death of Jim's brother, Tom ('68).

Did you have any favorite days at Carmel? One of mine was October 1st of our freshman year -- the '59 World Series opener. I snuck a transistor radio into school hoping some teacher would let us listen to the game. Finally, in eighth period gym, Mr. Robinson said we could skip the usual 45 minutes of push-ups if, "somebody brought a radio." Bingo! We roared as Ted Kluszewski smacked his second homer of the day. I thought an 11 - 0 victory was a powerful omen for a White Sox sweep, but the Stony bus driver warned that teams winning big in game one frequently lose the series. Sadly, he was proven right. Nonetheless, I've always been grateful to Phil and Klu for a really great afternoon. Now, fast forward three decades: I'm godfather at my great-nephew's baptism in Naperville, and Phil Robinson, yes, that Phil Robinson, is grandfather of the next baby in line. Later, when I introduce myself as a former student, his daughter blurts out, "Dad, you only taught at Mount Carmel a couple years, but every time we go someplace, somebody remembers you." Phil rolled his eyes and said, "I doubt if they'll ever forget me." I assured him, “None of us will ever forget you.” And, I said it with a straight face.

Let me hear from you boys. I've been making this stuff up for a couple decades. Unfortunately, my imagination and my prostate are going in opposite directions! Help!

Class of 1964

Send your notes to:
Jim Civik
10933 S. Longwood Dr. #1
Chicago, IL 60643
312.480.6979
jimcivik@gmail.com

From Chuck Blasgen – (Chuck has been a recipient of the Fr. Aquinas Colgan, O.Carm Humanitarian Award.) He informs me that as part of his duties as president of the Merrillville (IN) Civitan Club, he is working on Civitan’s annual Youth Diversity and Leadership Conference, to be held July 11-16 in Angola, Indiana. Chuck’s ongoing devotion to Mount Carmel has resulted in the nomination of two of the school’s students, Kamren Gallas and Charlie Johnson, to attend the event, sponsored by the Merrillville Civitan Club. Well done, Chuck.

Chuck has been a recipient of the Fr. Aquinas Colgan, O. From Chuck Blasgen – (Carm Humanitarian Award.) He informs me that as part of his duties as president of the Merrillville (IN) Civitan Club, he is working on Civitan’s annual Youth Diversity and Leadership Conference, to be held July 11-16 in Angola, Indiana. Chuck’s ongoing devotion to Mount Carmel has resulted in the nomination of two of the school’s students, Kamren Gallas and Charlie Johnson, to attend the event, sponsored by the Merrillville Civitan Club. Well done, Chuck.

From John Crois - Last August my wife, Mary, and I vacationed in Ireland. It was my first time in Ireland and I was excited to learn more about the history and culture of the country. But the first thing that greeted us as we stepped into the terminal in Dublin was an arch of balloons and a sign that read "Welcome Boston College and Georgia Tech football fans".
The first room we walked through was a gift shop filled with t-shirts, sweatshirts, caps and other souvenirs for the football fans. I felt like I was walking into the Notre Dame bookstore on a football weekend. Ireland is a beautiful and very friendly country. We had a great vacation.

From **Neill Merck** - Not able to do any other sport, I joined the Mount Carmel Swim Team. There were so many guys in a lane that it seemed more like drowning. But it was better than getting crushed on a football field, or bent on a mat.

One day, at the end of practice, a few members of the fresh-soph football team showed up for a swim. Somehow, I ended up on the starting block beside **Tom Gibbs**. "Ah, no problem, he plays football, not swimming," I thought. Forty yards later, Gibbs was back at the start, smiling. He crushed me.

Moral: don't compete against anyone who is always smiling. Hi Tom.

If any of you would like to get away for the summer, I definitely recommend the Utah State University Summer Citizens program in Logan. The website is [http://summercitizens.usu.edu/](http://summercitizens.usu.edu/).

From **Ed Skutecki** - I did my 16th Alaskan fishing trip this past August with my brother, **Ron Skutecki**, and **John Depre**, both Carmel '75. We each brought home a freezer full of halibut and coho salmon fillets. I have an April fly fishing trip scheduled for the San Juan River in New Mexico. This an annual trip that's catch and release only. Hope to again catch several 20 inch plus rainbow and brown trout.

We will be spending our 11th summer in a row in Logan, Utah. I mostly fish, hike, attend cultural events, and play golf. Come to think of it, that's what I do in Phoenix, but it's about 25 degrees cooler in Logan during the summer months. The fishing here in the west has been great, but I'd kill for a Lake Michigan perch dinner!

From **Tim Wozniak** - The winter sports season is upon us. I have been going to watch my grandchildren play their various sports. Two girls ages 12 and 8 play basketball as does their 10 yr. old brother. I have a grandson at 13 yrs. playing hockey at center and his 11 yr. old sister also plays hockey as a defenseman. She is the only girl on an all boy team.

As for me I am still working part-time at the Lockport Library. I keep busy working out 2 or 3 times a week. I am still bowling - looking for that elusive 300 game. I volunteer at the homeless shelter in Joliet feeding the homeless. My wife and I are looking forward to our trip to Charleston, S.C. and We are thrilled to present the Saint Albert award to those individuals who have made an impact on Mount Carmel.

From **Yours Truly** - In early April, I treated myself to a cruise on Europe’s Danube river. My adventure began with a flight to Munich, Germany and then boarding the ship in nearby Passau. Next we visited Linz, Vienna, and Melk in Austria. Then Bratislava, Slovakia, and ending the trip with two days in Budapest, Hungary, where I boarded the plane for home.

Last October I helped organize a reunion for St. Bride’s Class of 1960, and it was absolutely delightful. I had forgotten how many of the boys in our class ended up at Mount Carmel. I’m also writing on a regular basis for the Beverly Review, and volunteering a two local retirement homes.

The biggest news about our class was **Tom Gibbs** and wife Sheila being named recipients of Mount Carmel’s prestigious St. Albert Award, presented at the Caravan Gala in February. It is with the highest honor that we present the 2017 Saint Albert award to Tom and Sheila Gibbs.

Their involvement and devotion to the school has truly been inspiring. As school President Ned Hughes stated at
the event, “Since being invited by Fr. Bob Carroll in the 1980’s, Tom has served as a chair on the school’s Board of Directors and served on the board of the Mount Carmel Educational Foundation. Since graduating, Tom has been a near constant presence at games and school events. Tom and his wife, Sheila, raised four children, and have still found time to remain deeply committed to the school.”

From class president Ken Kmiec - “Tom was a great co-captain on our football team. Pound for pound the toughest guy I’ve ever seen.”

Class of 1965
Send your notes to:
Terry Stadler
Tjs47@att.net
John Potocki
apotocki@aol.com

The Largest Carmel Graduating Class Ever, the Class of 1965 continues to meet informally every other month at the Cork and Kerry Pub. 10614 S. Western Avenue. Come and join us. Dates are announced via e-mails to the 146 classmates who have given us their e-mail addresses. We have anywhere from 15 – 20 guys show up at these informal (no agenda) gatherings. Just great conversations, stories and fellowship!

How do ‘old, retired’ guys keep busy? If we ask Bob Massa, we would hear things like: golf a few times each week (he lives in South Carolina), a once-a-week teaching job, his grandkids, and his almost daily workouts. Way to go, Bob!

Terry reached out to Malachy O’Connell from St. Bride’s and now in South Carolina. He left MC after 2 years and ended his HS time at South Shore. Bill Lucas was good enough to share an old telephone number for Mal, and it was still working! Catching up with an old 1-A section chum was fun: After HS, Mal went into the Marines, but instead of going to Vietnam, he ended up by a stroke of luck and a count off (1 – 2 – 3, “OK all you ‘3s’ are going to Okinawa) in Japan for the duration.

Mal’s story reminded us of how five of our classmates didn’t return from Nam: Tom Bromley, Jim Clare, Tom Connolly, Don Mate and Pat Sweeney. The 50th anniversary of the death of the first of these five great guys, Tom Bromley, just came up, February 20, 1967! Let’s keep these guys and the other 52 classmates from 1965 in our prayers. Frank O’Rourke suggests that we all pledge to say a few ‘Hail Mary’s’ for them and their families every day. Great suggestion!

Our classmate, Dan Butler, passed away on Saturday, March 4th. He was fighting some lung issues. May he rest in peace. Let’s keep both Dan Krause and Dan Butler and all those who are struggling with an illness (and their families) in our prayers.

John went to the Mount Carmel Gala in February, accompanied by a “much younger” woman on his arm! “Holy Cow!!! What an event!” Tom Gibbs ’64 was honored as well as his wife and mother who, at age 97, is still a ‘Mount Carmel mother’ in every sense of the word. We think that anyone who attends something like this annual Gala really sees the true spirit of our school.

John talked with Ron Thomas ’66 who is a bronze star winner from the Vietnam war. That means he saved
someone’s life in a war zone. Thanks to Ron and all of the guys who sacrificed so much for each other over there.

John recently met George Dombrowski at Strack’s Super Market in Whiting Ind. He goes every Wednesday because it 10% discount for seniors. Although his wife Jackie does not look a day older than 39, according to John!

Yes, Frank Jachim is coming to the annual Alumni Banquet on May 5 all the way from Wales in the United Kingdom! He calls John once a month and always talks about those 1961 - 1965 Carmel years. The school had a big impact on his life.

Speaking of being impacted by our Carmel experiences, both John and Terry read the book, The Brown and White by Lawrence Norris ’71. Neither of us could put it down. It’s a fictionalized account of his freshmen year at Carmel, September 1967 to June 1968. The moral of his stories is how the school and his experience shaped him into becoming who he is today. Most of us could say the same about our experiences at Mount Carmel. We hope the students of today’s Mount Carmel can experience the same growth, insight and appreciation.

John keeps up a relationship with Bill Lucas. Bill picks up our good friend, Tom Reilly, and brings him to our Cork and Kerry gatherings. Bill’s wife died around the same time as John’s wife. It’s good to have Mount Carmel brothers like him.

Bob Kieta and wife Pat are always checking up on John. One of Bob’s loves is golf but can’t get out as much as he wants. He likes that John is still working, too. But, John’s second retirement is up in June.

Neil Maas, a Vietnam vet and retired Chicago PD Officer, really had us laughing about his Carmel exploits at our gathering on Western the other month. You would never guess that he had a heart operation just 2 years ago.

Dan McEnery looks good. He looks like he could still play the game of football, well touch anyway.

After talking to John Ready the other day, John was totally surprised that Ready had 10, yes 10 siblings, in this family. So did Dick Sellers. It was great fun as we listened to them comparing notes on how they survived.

Lastly, Ray Sarnowski is coming from Florida to the May Alumni Banquet. He and Mick Rogan will probably stay with John in Whiting, right on the beach. Just like the Rainbow Beach days! Hope to see more of you soon. Our Lady of Mount Carmel, pray for us.

Class of 1966

Send your notes to: 
Rich Kuzmar
Ccarak1@yahoo.com

Greetings 1966 Classmates:

It’s been almost one year since the memorable experience of our 50th Reunion. Since then, I am happy to say that some of us have had the opportunity to re-engage a number of times to reminisce about our experiences at Carmel and share about our lives and those of our classmates over the past 50 years. I will continue to keep you informed of upcoming events via email and encourage you to participate. I would also like to thank those who contributed to the memories and comments below, and I ask all of all of you to send me your thoughts for future
In Memoriam – Tom Ulrich

We were all surprised and sad to hear from Henry Jazdzewski about the sudden death of our classmate Tom Ulrich on February 10, 2017 from a rare form of leukemia. Tom was a picture of health when several of us had connected with him in December of 2015 as he was recognized at the Alumni association “Salute to the Champions” and later at our Reunion where he was reunited with his swim teammate, Rich Balcerak. Many of Tom’s swim records set during our time at Carmel still stand. After graduating from college, he taught in high school and went on to distinguished himself as a world famous nature photographer and author.

Bill Sconza, Ron Thomas, Rick Johnson, Jim Garlanger, and Paul Nowakowski attended Tom’s memorial service at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Darien. During the service, Tom’s life partner, Linda, delivered a moving eulogy describing the great life Tom had lead. It was truly a privilege for all of us to have known him. “Our Lady of Mount Carmel, pray for him!”

Thaddeus O’Brien commented upon learning about Tom Ulrich:
“Thanks very much for the note about Tom. It was a grace to have time with him at the reunion. He could be characterized as the strong silent type who always seemed centered. Your mini-bio was a great refresher on someone who found a passion in life and followed it purposefully. The suddenness of his illness and death is reminder of how fragile our time here is and how we have to make the most of every day.”

“I will keep Tom in my prayers.”

1966 50th Class Reunion Memories Package:

Hope all of have downloaded our 50th Reunion Memories Package with the reunion picture, which now shows all (except one) who attended with their names appended, additional biographies, a video with music (thanks to Bill Sconza), and many photos from the Reunion Celebration and events that have taken place since then.

Instructions for downloading were sent to all classmates in an email on 9/27/2016. If you need a copy contact Rich Kuzmar @ccarak1@yahoo.com.

Once again, many thanks and much appreciation go out to our classmate Ray Maddalone for the countless hours he spent creating this wonderful memory for all of us. We hope you thoroughly enjoyed it.

Facebook Page:

Our class has a Facebook page. Please visit it and feel free to post any news you may have. See: https://www.facebook.com/Mount-Carmel-High-School-Chicago-Class-of-1966-50th-Reunion-1522611401364240/

Ongoing Events and Communications:

Our Committee will to continue provide future opportunities for us to get together. Last fall we met twice at Krapil’s in Worth. In March we plan to get together at Cork and Kerry with the Class of 1965. We hope to change the venues from time to time. All are welcome to come. Watch your e-mails for future time and locations.

News from/about Classmates:

Reflections on graduation 50 years ago from Classmate Dennis Sura:
“I attended a Chicago Public Grammar School in a neighborhood called South Chicago located in the shadows of the then US Steel at 87th and the lake. The rigor of walking 6 blocks to catch the route #1 bus each day coupled with the class load was a new experience. I shared this journey every morning with my new friend Bob Cwalinski. Like Bob, I was not involved with extra school activity as we both worked after school. Mount Carmel and Mr. John Woods was responsible for getting me into shape coupled with the four years of after school work.

The majority of our teachers back then were Carmelite Priests and male lay teachers. These folks drilled us well as we experienced new subjects like foreign language, higher mathematics and in depth science. The Catholic education required us to take many religion classes that supplemented a base that the nuns at St. Michael’s provided at catechism classes. In speech class we were made to stand up in front of our peers and make various talks as requirements for class. This paid me many benefits for preparation while attending college as well later in my sales career.

When I think back I am most appreciative for the priests like Clavier, Malley, Bruno, Neal, Aloysius and Blaine as well as the lay teachers like, Guterez, Gutch, Scanlon, Murphy, and Fagan who labored to make us better men. This new knowledge complemented the base I already had and I have good memories from each of these men for what they taught me. The rigor Mount Carmel provided was tough and fit the era well in which we grew up. We didn’t know it at the time, but we were developing into people who could take care of ourselves and further our chances of making something of our lives.

Fifty years later after graduation from Carmel it was good to come back and reminisce with old classmates and friends. Men of Carmel came from all over the city, suburbs and Indiana. Back then most relationship developed in the neighborhoods in which we live. At the reunion it was fun to listen and share life experiences when we were boys turning into men and returning after 50 years later as grandfathers.

I so much enjoyed influencing Fr. Vernon Malley into attending our 50 reunion. I so much enjoyed talking to him now when he is 82 and I am 68 as when we met in 1962 he was 28 and I was 14. We still talk and I visit him on my travels west. Now he is my favorite holy man. Mount Carmel thanks for all you have done for me. “Our Lady of Mount Carmel Pray for Us.”

P.S. Dennis caught a 49 inch Muskie in Holcombe, Wisconsin last summer.

Marty Hughes shares the following:

I recently read the book, The Brown and White, by Lawrence Norris. A fictional story, that is pretty much factual, about a young kid who enters MC as a freshman in 1967, so, a year after we got out. It will never capture any literary awards, but you will recognize many of the players and their methods of dishing out corporal punishment. You might have a little fun reading it, but be prepared to skim over some of the sections.

I am still working hard, but beginning to think about retirement. I will continue to explore the possibilities over the next several months, but, it is a big decision and one you want to get right. I will report back on my progress as time goes by.

Julie and I are going down to our house in Cabo for a couple of weeks and looking forward to that, as 5 of our grandkids will be down there for 8 days with us. They are a joy! That is all until next time.

Dick Post relates:
Dick continues to run his real estate company from his Orland Park office after over 45 years! Fortunately two of his four daughters are working in the business with him and doing a wonderful job. Dick frequently goes to San Diego where he has another home and two daughters and two grandchildren, Max seven and Riley four. Hoping for the day that the two girls can take over the office and just send a check once a month. (Ha Ha) By the way we can work with both buyers and sellers throughout all Chicagoland. GO CARMEL!

Classmate **Dave Byrne** who now lives in Minneapolis, MN recalls:

Here is a little story that I think has never been told. At the end of the 1966 school year, the Carmel baseball team had one more game with DePaul Academy. I am pretty sure classes had ended for the year ensuring that this story never had a wide audience. The coach, Wil Kozlowski, had some kind of an emergency and called the DePaul coach to forfeit the game because no coach was available. The DePaul coach would not agree as he had a shot at the playoffs and did not want to get in by forfeit.

On Friday night, Wil called John Genell and told him that he and Jim Callahan should run the game. Players had been told earlier in the week that the game would not be played. On short notice Genell and Callahan had to round up players and field a team in Jackson Park on Saturday morning. By Saturday morning, they were still short players. I was along for the ride hoping to see Genell and Callahan play which was always amusing.

John and Jim made a slew of phone calls from the school and finally had 8 players at the school or on the way. Even this little incident showed Carmel spirit above and beyond the call of duty. **Ed Brosius** showed up with his head wrapped in bandages. It looked like something out of *Red Badge of Courage*. This was a Keystone Cops scenario with cars showing up and racing to Jackson Park. I never did hear what happened to Brosius' head. Brain surgery or a bad haircut?

Eventually Genell and Callahan had to face the reality that I was the 9th player. I headed to Jackson Park in street shoes, black socks, and a too small uniform. I took my place at first base and threw grounds to the infielders.

To the best of my memory, here was the lineup.

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After 50 years, these are all the names I remember.
At the very last minutes, a chubby sophomore first baseman showed up and I went to the bench. The only spectator was an old guy eating his breakfast, Hormel chili right out of the can. DePaul won a close game as Callahan went the distance. He didn't have much choice as there was no bullpen.

P.S. Genell learned so much from his first coaching job that he was eventually baseball coach at Morgan Park.

**Rich Stupka**, now living in Los Alamos N.M writes:

Remodeling bathroom and putting new carpet in the house! Hoping for Sconza, Kuzmar, Sura, and a few others to make a trip to New Mexico to see the sights! My home will be upgraded and ready, are you? It’s a beautiful state with many attractions close by. A very enriching experience with some unbelievable NM food to top it off. And room is free!

**Jim Judson** update:
Jim lives in Minneapolis. Jim has an 8 year old daughter, Jasmine, who attended our reunion with his wife Maria. Jim continues to tell his daughter that he was the smartest student in our class and that everyone copied off of his tests and papers. I am sure you will all agree that Jim still has quite a creative imagination. Jim asked me to send along the following:

Jim is the 2017 President of TCRG, the Twin Cities Rubber Group http://www.twincitiesrubbergroup.org/ which is part of the Rubber Division of the American Chemical Society. Not bad for a guy who just barely passed Mr. Smith’s chemistry class at Mount Carmel. My real life job title is Sales and Marketing Manager for NorthStar Elastomers www.northstarelastomers.com which is a member company of TCRG.

Ron Thomas and Bill Sconza are still waiting to hear back from John Springer. Are you back from Florida yet?

Mount Carmel vs. Taft - August 28, 2016:

Mount Carmel had no trouble disposing of Taft yesterday at Soldier Field. We had a great time at the game and before the game tailgating on the Soldier Field Waldron Parking Deck courtesy of the Sconza family with some of our fellow 1965 classmates. Bill Scona has declared that this will be an annual event going forward and welcomes you all to come this summer.

In attendance were: Rich Kuzmar, Spike O’Hara, Terry Hotchkiss, Bill Sconza, Tighe Reardon, Chuck Fabing (Our classmate Tom's brother and Ignatius grad), Jack Roberts ('65), Tom Hotchkiss ('65), and John Drew ('65).

On October 7, 2016:

Tom Fabing, Bill Sconza, Rich Kuzmar, Ron Thomas, Bob O'Donnell, and Bob Moody got together for $2 beers and half price appetizers at Krapil’s. Marty Hughes was on his way out to join us from the city, but unfortunately got turned back on the Stevenson due a nasty traffic jam.

On Veteran’s Day (Observed) October 10, 2016:

Dennis Sura, Bill Sconza, Bob Moody, Ron Thomas, Jack Leonard, and Rich Kuzmar visited the grave site of our classmate Leo Rolek at Holy Cross Cemetery in Calumet City, Illinois. We prayed for our classmates Leo and Danny Miller as well as all of our classmates who served in the military. Afterwards, we joined to celebrate with other veterans at the American Legion Post 330 in Calumet City where Dennis Sura is a member. While there we called to chat with Esther Rolek, Lee’s mother. She was very grateful we had remembered her son.

On December 8, 2016:


Bill Sconza and Rich Kuzmar are looking forward to playing more golf in 2017 with Tighe Reardon and Rick Johnson.

Ron Thomas is living in Burr Ridge, IL and has five grandchildren:

Recently learned from Ron that he and his wife Tina celebrated their 48th Wedding Anniversary on November 23rd, 2016 which also happens to be Tina’s birthday. Ron considers himself lucky he met Tina and also that he only has to remember one important date!

Heard from Tim Cullnan. He could not make the reunion but says “Hello” to all!
Recently talked to **Terry Hotchkiss**. He has four children and he and his son, Brendan, who graduated from Carmel in 1997 and lives in Scottsdale, plan to be at this year’s reunion to celebrate Brendan’s tenth anniversary.

Good to hear from Ron Lis via email:

Ron is a retired Naval Officer (Captain) and lives in Frisco, Texas (near Dallas) with his wife who is a 20 year career naval officer. This past summer he wrote that he was attending a Texas Ranger game with his son. However, he still favors the White Sox. Ron’s son also plays high school football and recently played a game at the new Dallas Cowboys practice facility (Ford Center at the Star) in town.

Last spring **Kevin Sheehy** wrote:

Good to hear from you. I did three years eleven days in the Land without Sun as I called it. I was a Ranger Advisor to the BDQ or Vietnamese Rangers … Let everyone know that I wish them well and that they are in my prayers.

St. Mary Magdalene parish was recently combined into St. Michael Parish on 83rd and South Shore Drive.

St. Kevin Parish in South Deering was recently combined with St. George (East Side) and Saint Francis De Sales (East Side).

Wishing you all the best, keep sending me your news!

Rich Kuzmar

**Class of 1978**

Send your notes to:
Mike Stenson
10337 S. Keating Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
Mikestenson80@aol.com

Greetings to the Class of 1978. I want to get our class notes column up and running again so please send me your updates.

Please save the date for the 2017 Frank Kiszka Memorial Golf Outing on July 14 @ Cog Hill. I would love to get a few foursomes of ’78 guys together as we kick off the beginning of our 40th Anniversary celebration.

Take care and talk to you soon.

Mike

**Class of 1979**

Send your notes to:
Craig Ferguson
cferguson@mchs.org

Guys, I don’t have of news to report, but please send me your updates. It was great seeing some members of our class at the recent Caravan Gala in February. **Don Manning, Mike Rosner, Paul Matijevic** were a few of the many that helped Mount Carmel raise a lot of money for the Mount Carmel Education Foundation.
There are some great MC events coming up in the future. Fight Night is Saturday, April 29 at Mount Carmel. The 81st annual Alumni Banquet will be held on Friday, May 5 at Mount Carmel and the Frank Kiszka Memorial Golf Outing will be held on Friday, July 14 at Cog Hill. Hope to see many of our classmates at these functions.

Lastly, please go to mchs.org/alumnidues to pay your $35 alumni dues. All of your dues payments go directly to help fund the Gilmore Legacy Scholarship that provides tuition assistance to students whose fathers, grandfathers or great-grandfathers preceded them at Mount Carmel.

**Class of 1981**

Send your notes to:
Don O’Keefe
okeefedon@hotmail.com
Cell) 708) 473-6364
Work (312) 596-0656

Once again, I am flirting with the editor’s deadline. I did attend the MC Day at the Races in December to witness the 1980 5A State Champion football team and Coach Bill Barz receive their Man in the Arena awards. The members of the team from our class in attendance were Marty Walsh, Mike McElheny, Mike Novickas, Ed Kurasz, Brian McDonough, and Ray Gronowski, and, of course, Coach Barz. Congrats to them on a long overdue honor!

Brian McDonough has established a tremendous legacy himself as the highly successful football coach at Oak Forest High School. I rode to the event with some ’82 guys – Pat Kordas, Jim Sherlock, and Steve Gibbons. I won’t steal Mike Mahoney’s material for his Classnotes column, but someone should tell those ’82 guys that Park Ridge is NOT on the way to Hawthorne from the Southside!!! I will share that Kordas talked ponies in the car with Gibbons, and then proceeded to give us some real horse$&!% tips, while hitting it big on his bets. Gibbons brought his son, Riley, along for the day, and he will be attending MC next year all the way from Park Ridge.

Brian O’Connell was in town recently to visit with his delightful parents, and he got the opportunity to watch Dan and Marty Walsh and I drink on a couple of occasion. Lucky Brian!

Send me some updates, boys! My son, Liam ’08, got engaged over Christmas – so our family will be welcoming another daughter in June of 2018, when he marries Melissa.

One last note – please consider paying your Alumni Dues on a yearly basis. The money goes to legacy scholarships for those young men following their dad or grandfather to Mount Carmel. Pay your Alumni Dues online at mchs.org/alumnidues.

**Class of 1982**

Send your notes to:
Mike Mahoney
Mikmoon222@yahoo.com
708-650-0807

Hello and thanks for reading the updates from the Class of 1982, submitted on a broken bracket first weekend of NCAA action in March. Saw a lot of familiar faces at the recent South Side Irish Parade last week but the most enjoyable visit was a chance encounter with long time Parade Marshall, Dave Mutter. Coach Dave was holding down the vicinity of 104th and Western and nobody, I mean NOBODY was crossing that street without proper credentials. We missed Dave at the recent Day at the Races tribute at Hawthorne for Coach Bill Barz back in
December, but did catch up with Coach Barz and Bill Rowan, as well as ‘81 legends and icons such as Marty Walsh, Brian McDonough, Ed Kurasz, Ray Gronowski, Butch McElheny, Mike Novikas and many of our classmates (Jim Sherlock, Steve Gibbons, Rich Mosior, Vashon Morgan, Bill Wagner and Mike Maloney among others). It was a great day and reminded me again how fortunate I am to have such men as teammates, and now lifelong friends. Speaking of Maloney, he wants to invite everybody to his spread in Dubuque, Iowa for his wedding July 29. The first couple of times he got married was a gas, and I’m sure this edition will not disappoint. Give him a call or text at 563-663-2640, he will be glad to hear from you.

We have our Alumni Banquet on Friday, May 5. Dave Novosel ’77 and Don O’Keefe ’81, among others, are being honored. The May date gives Don a decent chance at recovering from his St. Patrick’s week of Guinness drinking just in time to gear up for Irish Fest in August.

It figures the Cubs win the World Series in the first season that Mount Carmel didn’t qualify for the football state playoffs, but we will be back in the fall. Alek Thomas is a must see player and you can also watch him play outfield and get pitched around this spring for coach Hurry’s baseball team. The basketball team, under coach Phil Segroves had a tough debut season, but will improve and nobody will ever outwork Coach Phil, outsmart him maybe, but not outwork him. – just kidding coach, you know I love you. Finally, I want to acknowledge Alumni Director and legendary hockey coach Craig Ferguson on his recent retirement from the bench. Few, if any have had the kind of career both as a player and coach in the annals of CCL Hockey and he remains such a humble and unassuming guy. Thanks Coach Ferg and I’m sure we’ll still see you around the rink soon.

Class of 1983

Send your notes to:
Chuck Toland
5570 Ann Marie Lane
Oak Forest, IL 60452
cotland@pacor.com

Hello Class of ’83. I hope you are all doing well.

Everything is going fine at the Toland household. Kids are busy with water polo, swimming, and baseball. My daughter, Samantha broke her hand in a water polo game. She is out for a while longer. She is a junior at Oak Forest High School, and is starting to look at colleges in Florida. I think I will move with her. I can get a tent on the beach in the Keys for next to nothing…

Work is going a little better. Rates are still fantastic, but they are definitely moving up. Give me a call if you need to get locked into a fixed rate or if you are buying a new house. I offer all referral deals $2000 in closing credits, and I have never been beat on prices. I take care of all friends and their families the same way.

So, I haven’t seen too many of you over the recent past, although I did run into Paul O’Grady at a local watering hole. He is doing great with his own law practice, and busy with his family. We sat around and talked way too late.

I ran into Tony Schackmuth ’83, Rich Lewis ’83, Mike Walsh ’84, Mark Antonietti ’84 and Joe Baker ’82 at a Mount Carmel hockey game. It was senior night, and I went to see some of my Oak Forest kids play. That night, I learned how Mark Antonietti learned Mandarin Chinese in a couple of years. He taught himself because he wanted to teach something else. Is that amazing??? I guess the MC students can confidentially order a beer and find the bathroom in Mandarin. They call it “MC Mandarin.” It’s like the MC band that only knew how to play the Budweiser song when I was in school. Well, it’s not that close. I really think that was cool of Mark to do. Of course it was great seeing Coach Craig Ferguson ’79 in one of his last games. He will be missed, but not forgotten.

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It looks like he will be staying at MC in his role as Alumni Director and a consultant to the hockey team.

Joe O’Brien writes:

I am living in Grand Rapids, Michigan now and am a project manager in the global network services group (still a computer geek). For fun, I like to do a lot of mountain biking and some races like the Iceman up in Traverse City. Also golf and good beer are within very close reach living in the GR area - Beer City USA. For part-time work/fun, I teach scuba and EFR as a PADI Staff Instructor and love to travel to dive destinations for vacations (it’s how I met my wife). The kids are grown with one in Chicago and the other in Seattle. I have two great step-kids that are working their way through college now/soon - nursing and pre-med. Hit me up some time for some beer and golf, as I’m only 2.5 hours away from Chicago’s south suburbs.

Well, I hope to run into some of you at Fight Night and/or the Alumni Banquet. It has been way too long since we have gotten together. We are getting to the age where we need to do things now when we think of it before it gets too late. If you need tickets to the banquet, or if you want to place an ad in the ad book, please let me know. I can get all the information to you.

Have a great spring, and please give me a call if you are ever looking to do something.

Chuck Toland ‘83

Class of 1984

Send your notes to:
John LeRose
jlpartytrain@comcast.net

Greetings class of 1984. Hope all of you survived your 50th birthdays. From what I hear, time starts to fly faster and faster from this point on. Congrats to our brother Roderick Martin ’84 who lost 25 pounds and is looking lean and mean. Rod, I hope by the next classnotes column I’m right there with you. I’m doing the paleo (diet) lifestyle change and hope to shed a few pounds myself. I’m also having fun playing music in a Grateful Dead tribute band these days. Thanks to John Cleland ’83 and Arthur Kragness ’84 who came out to see our band play recently. It was a night of fun music and good times.

Need a laugh? I’m always cracking up at jokes Michael Gulley ’84 is telling on Facebook. Some are “R rated” but after I’m done laughing I just go to confession for the “all-clear”. Also congrats to my favorite Speech Teacher Mr. Kevin Taylor who recently retired. Thanks for all your years of service to MC Mr. Taylor. You rock! (“Cept the time you hit me with a ruler). I still suffer emotional scars from that (kidding). Last night I drove 15 hours home from seeing extended family down in the Big Easy in New Orleans and brought home 65 pounds of shrimp, crawdads and alligator meat for a big ‘ol post Mardi Gras party at my house. Hence, I’m running a bit behind in chasing ya’ll for info for this column but be assured, I’ll be a bit more ready for the next one. Best of luck to you for a great 2017.

John LeRose
MC ’84
708-466-6273

Class of 1991
CLASS OF 1991: A 25TH REUNION TO REMEMBER, A CLASS TO REMEMBER AND A GREAT EXAMPLE FOR PROSPECTIVE MOUNT CARMEL STUDENTS AND PARENTS

By: Daniel Harkins ’91

Saturday, September 24, 2016 was a big day at Mount Carmel. MC welcomed back the Class of 1991 for their 25th reunion. The weekend started on Friday night with Mount Carmel playing St. Rita at Gately where we witnessed a heartbreaking last second loss. The ’91 class quickly got over it while reminiscing on how we won two state titles as juniors and seniors and beat St. Rita in their last game in “the pit” on the old St. Rita campus. The reunion took place the following evening at the new Mount Carmel Convocation Center. We had roughly 100 men from the 1991 class with guys in from all over the country including: New York, Texas, California, Florida, Georgia, Arizona, Wisconsin, New Jersey, Indiana, Iowa, and Ohio. We even had about 40 wives in attendance, which was a nice change from the norm. The highlight of our evening was when Big Ron Bogan showed up to see everyone. Ron has been battling ALS for a while now and he was adamant that he wanted to be there to see his brothers and he did not disappoint! Attendees enjoyed a night of dinner, drinks and amazing footage and videos of our time at MC, which were provided by ‘91 Alum and New York PR man, Alfonso Quiroz.

Dave Lenti was on hand to give tours of the new facilities and update us on what is happening these days at MC. Guys were thrilled to tour all the old digs, including the old gym and the basement which was home to many distinguished alumni!! It was absolutely awesome to see everyone who made it. It was not a surprise that we had a huge turnout. The ’91 class was as tight as it gets and the reunion proved as much. Like most MC classes, we have guys from many different backgrounds and it seemed like everyone picked up where we left off in the student center 25 years ago. It was a night to remember! Mount Carmel has shaped my whole life in terms of how I live my life and what type of people I surround myself with and that sentiment was shared by everyone who was in the room that night. I did not come across anyone who did not want to attend and most who missed was due to work, children or weddings. MC said that was the first big reunion of it’s kind (outside the alumni banquet) at the new convocation center and they were so impressed by our group that they said they hope to use our reunion model for future big reunions. In fact, the 1992 class is planning their 25th now.

I was bombarded by many after the reunion who were excited to see all the new things happening at MC. Many reached out to see how the 1991 class can contribute to the Campaign for Mount Carmel. There is a lot of information about the campaign on the mchs.org website showing the status of finished projects as well as the plans for the future. They’ve done an amazing job, but there is an awful lot that still needs to be done. In addition to all the physical improvements, MC is trying to build their endowment fund to the level it really needs to be. New MC President Ned Hughes said they are hoping a whole new generation of alumni plan on stepping up to not only continue the storied legacy of Mount Carmel for the foreseeable future, but to take it to a new level in academics, athletics, and diversity (or as he says “the three important pillars of excellence at MC). As such, a new committee came together post reunion to put together the 1991 Campaign Challenge. We set our goal at $250,000 over a five year time period.

The 1991 class at Mount Carmel High School accomplished some amazing things. We were at MC during a magical time with 3 State titles in football, multiple Kennedy Cups and a state hockey title, four straight Catholic League Championships in baseball, powerhouse wrestling and basketball teams and a hell of a performance of Stalag 17. Craig Ferguson commented at the reunion “No wonder you guys won those state titles, you have some big dudes in your class”. Our class kept up with the great athletic tradition that everyone has come to know Mount Carmel
for. It is a very tight knit class that forged lifelong bonds that will never be broken. My cousin, Terry Fagan, regularly says “there is no Catholic school around anywhere that creates the brotherhood that Mount Carmel does (which is the #1 reason he sent his sons there)”. I happen to think he is right. When I look back, the brotherhood is incredibly strong and I always thought it was a place where no one was picked on (because it was simply not tolerated by the students there). And I never thought there was the haves and the have nots, in fact I always thought it seemed the opposite. It seemed like just about everybody there thought the guys from their neighborhood were the coolest guys there, I know I did (Dolton-Riverdale boys). In other words, it was a class of guys who were proud of where their guys came from and just wanted to do big things together including work hard and struggle! I had a nephew a few years ago that was being recruited by about 6 Chicago Catholic schools. He ultimately did not choose Mount Carmel (which broke my heart a bit). Although he is doing incredibly well where he is at, at the time, the reason I felt so strongly about MC is because I know the outcome of MC Alumni full circle. The outcome for most MC graduates I come across is a beautiful thing and is extremely impressive.

I’ve often thought, when people think of Mount Carmel, they should look beyond the championships and focus on the incredible academic success and the overall success of MC’s Alumni. I’ve always thought, if you’re promoting Mount Carmel to prospective parents, don’t just show the great academics and the championships - more importantly, showcase the end results. If you want to see an impressive group of Alumni, you should start with the ’91 class. Many in our class attended the finest collegiate institutions in the country. Our class is filled with pillars of the community. We have pastors, non-profit owners, surgeons, engineers, artists, authors, radio hosts, musicians, bankers, traders, lawyers, business owners, international businessmen, and union members of all the trades. We also have a ton of guys on the front lines of our safety including policeman, fireman, and military that have served or are serving communities everywhere. We also have an enormous group of entrepreneurs.

Here’s an incredible list of some of our classmates and what they are up to now: Jim Baker is the Sr. Director for Planning and Allocation at Sketchers USA in Manhattan Beach, CA and is living the dream. Jim Bracken is the owner of Brackenbox (you probably see his orange dumpsters all over the Chicago area every day). Glen Brooks owns a non-profit called Kamp around Kids in Woodlawn and is keeping kids off the streets of Chicago (Glen won the MC Man in the Arena Award this year for his efforts in the community). Glen had over 200 kids covered through sponsorships for summer camp at the Gary Comer youth center last summer. After Northwestern, Carmen Bucci became a founding executive and spokesperson at NCSA (National Collegiate Scouting Association; rebranded Next Collegiate Student Athlete); if your son is pursuing a college athletic scholarship, give Carmen a call. Scott Budlove is the key project manager for a construction firm down in Florida. Mike Busking is a popular real estate broker at Ask Nagel in the West Loop, call Mike if you need an agent in the city. Willis Cardwell is an engineer with Boeing down in Texas. Jerry Carey runs security for Chicago Public Schools. Ed Cavanaugh (one of our Harvard Graduates) is a copy editor and sportswriter with the Chicago Tribune. Howard Clark is the owner of Enterprise2edu and specializes in education sector software and consulting. Ashami Collins is a successful personal trainer and bodybuilder. John Corona is with the US Department of Education in Arizona. Jerry DeLira, Lieutenant Colonel, USMC, just retired this fall after a decorated 25 year career in the marines (congratulations to Jerry). Jimmy Dowling is the Owner of Shamrock Painting in Chicago (please pray for Jimmy’s son Beau who is 2 years old and battling an aggressive cancer). Brian Droski is the main operator of the Sewer District in Monticello, Indiana. Chris Duignan is an international businessman and lived in Vietnam for many years, he is currently an adjunct lecturer at DePaul University. Robbie Estrada is the owner of Lakeshore Home Gallery in Austin, TX and builds high end custom cabinetry - he installs nationally (hint-hint). Geoff Evert is an Executive Director at Oppenheimer & Co. (call Geoff if you have some big money to play with). Kenny Frazier is the President of Chase Bank in Boca Raton. Marcus Gary is the best Barber on the southside of Chicago. Sean Genell is a writer, musician, etc. and he just published his first novel titled All the Help You Need: A Vic Pasternak Novel (buy it and support Sean). Eddie Ginn is with the CTA. Darryl Griffin is the National Team Leader, Major Gifts for the American Heart Association (I think Darryl lives the movie Up in the Air). My brother, Tim Harkins, is the owner of FK Kelter Contractors in Chicago and is the President of the Steel Erectors Association. Wade Harrison serves as Primary Legal Counsel for the University
of Wisconsin at Madison. **Ken Hawes** is the Telecommunications Administrator for Sears Home Improvement near Orlando, Florida. **Chuck Hesser** is a successful personal trainer and leading sales rep. for Advocare products. **Tom Hughes** is the owner of Quantum Polymers and is a leading plastics power broker in the oil industry and throughout the country. **Daryl Jackson** is with the American Physicians Institute. **Mike Hallahan** is a Data Integrity Analyst at Essendant. **Marc Hill** is an executive with Informatica and resides in Cincinnati. **Jarrett Joyce** is an owner of Ryan & Joyce Builders, call Jarrett if you’re building a new home or addition. **John Kelly** is a leading lobbyist and is the owner of All-Circo which is one of the leading public affairs consulting firms in the Midwest. **Pat Killeen** is a regional territory manager for Best Buy. **Bryon Koepke** is a Vice President/Senior Counsel for the Avis-Budget Group. **Brian Leonard** is the Executive Vice President for JLL, a major corporate real estate advising company in Cincinnati (Brian loves reminding Ohio folks about how we crushed Moeller High School at Riverfront Stadium our senior year). **Derek Lindsay** is the head of Marketing/Analytics at Cortland Partners in Atlanta. **Sean Lyon** has been a leading software sales executive, traveling across the globe for 20 years now (he also lives Up in the Air). **Tommy Madden** is a very successful actor in Los Angeles appearing in many TV shows/movies/and commercials. **Ed Malinowski** (one of Mr. Smith’s star pupils) is now based in Hong Kong and is the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of Shangri-La Hotels worldwide (we all need to call Ed to name drop if traveling internationally and looking for a five-star hotel). **Mike Mandujano** has owned Lawyers Legs for almost 20 years now, they are a leading expediting firm in Chicago for lawyers (if you’re a lawyer, don’t waste time out there – call Mike). **Brian Martin** and his brother Keith (a Carmel graduate) are leading tobacco distributors in the Chicago area. **Emmett McCarthy** is a Partner at Flamm Teibloom Stanko & McCarthy Ltd., a leading real estate tax firm. **Jim McDonough** has been a high school teacher and coach in the Chicago area for 25 years. **Pat McNulty** (our University of Chicago Grad) is the Director for Project Management at First Data Corporation in Atlanta. **Eddie Mendoza** is the Executive Chef at Sanaa Restaurant at Disney’s Animal Kingdom Resort in Orlando, Greg Mitchell is a successful mortgage broker in Chicago, call Greg for your mortgage needs. **Ricky Munoz** recently left his job as the President of America’s Sleep Network to be the Director of the sleep disorder clinic at UIC Hospital in Chicago. **Melvin Langhart** is an MBA educated accountant and has worked for prestigious investment firms throughout his career. Our football stars, **Jeremy Nau** (Belvedere Trading) and **Bobby Sanders** (Wolverine Trading) have been crushing it at the board of trade for about 20 years now and are still rolling. **Seth Nix** is a successful DJ in New York. **Kevin O’Brien** is a senior executive at Inland Bank & Trust (call Kevin for a great mortgage loan as well). **Jason O’Connor** is an Aerospace Engineer (of course we have one of those). **John Paetsch** is a major player with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management (just like Evert, call John if you have big money to play with). **Alan Polewski** has Owned Property Bridge Management & Realty Company for a decade now. **Joe Quinn** is the Primary Construction Manager for Kenilworth Monroe. **Alfonso Quiroz** has been a superstar PR man in New York for a long time in both politics and the private sector – he is currently the primary spokesman for Con Ed (the utility company for New York City & Westchester County). **Ray Raffin** is a partner of Raffin Construction and they are as successful as ever, especially because **Mark Kezler** has been a project manager with the Raffins for many years now (call Ray for any major concrete jobs). **Bill Rebeles** is all over as a financial education coach for Transamerica. **Steven Rittmeyer** is an application analyst for Northwestern Medicine (exactly what one of our smart guys should be doing). Let us know what your bro is doing Steven. **Dan Robinson** (another smart guy) is a strategy consultant for Mars & Company. **Chris Rush** is the primary Estimator for new business at Weathershield. **Chris Ruza** (our goalie) recently sold his home health company and is plotting his next move (he’s keeping it close to the vest). **Pat Ryan** is a pilot for Delta Airlines. **Ray Sandoval** has been a healthcare administrator for many years now. **Ron Sapon** is a sought after OR Nurse at multiple hospitals in Chicago – I say that first hand as I own Acumen Medical Staffing in Chicago and Ron crushed it for us part time for a while (everyone wanted him), BTW, if anyone knows any nurses looking for full or part time hospital work – send them my way (Dan Harkins). **Tim Sexton** is the City Manager for Elk Grove Village. **Eric Sonntag** is an independent writer in Brooklyn, NY and covers writing assignments for major publications, Speaking of Brooklyn – **Roger Spencer** owns a Surgery Center in Brooklyn – It’s not hard to find Rog these days – he’s the sharp dressed guy at the Knicks games (Move over Spike). **Tim Tupiak** runs video production for the Merrill Corporation (Legal Solutions). **Ed Vrdolyak** is holding down the family business with his brothers, call Eddie at the Vrdolyak Law
Group for any legal issue. Pete Vrdolyak owns Charter Fitness which are all over the Chicago area. Our smartest guy (Ante Vucic) is a Partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz and does Corporate Litigation, M&A – you name it (call Ante if you’re a baller in the corporate world and need help) – Ante resides on the North Shore, where Valedictorians belong! Dan Weber owns Aftermath Crime Scene Cleanup (hopefully none of us will be calling Dan – no offense brother). Dan Ward is a longtime high school teacher and is currently the varsity Defensive Coordinator at Brother Rice. Chris Wisniewski owns Apexx Group in Milwaukee, WI – they are sales and marketing gurus/consultants, call Chris if you’re looking to expand your business. Our track man (Ed Yurco) is a Network Engineer & Analyst for Amita Health. Kwane Clay runs plumbing for a major contractor in new construction projects. Scott Lane is a specialty Ironworker and seems to be working all over the country. Tom Gill is a master carpenter in Chicago. Bill Gainer, Dan O’Rourke, and John Kowalski are Operating Engineers, and Eddie Peloya in an ironworker. Dave Myron and Danny Munoz are with the City of Chicago. Eddie Rosa is the guy to know at the Ford plant and is the head of quality control, his old backfield partner Vita Bibbs is there too - they probably still race at lunch to see who is faster in the 40 now (Vita – I think you might have Eddie now). Our Captain, Kevin Boyle (always there to greet you with a smile) is an executive with the Haggerty Auto Group.

We also are blessed to have a bunch of police officers protecting communities all over. CPD officers include: Anthony Acevez, TJ Brady, Jason Brandstetter (also of the Jerry Springer Show), Detective Bill Brogan, Andy Camarillo (Andy is also very involved with Brotherhood for the Fallen which helps out families of police officers who have been killed in the line of duty all over the country and they make donations in person at officer’s funerals - think about making a donation), Mike Connelly, Brandon Dougherty, Terry Julian, Detective Matt Kerlin, Chris Lenti, Victor Montoya, Joe Rotkvich, Doug Szymanski, Alex Velez. Jason Menclewich is a Calumet City Detective. I’m probably missing a few. We also have Roxy Ohse, Steve Bouch, and Mike Rowan putting their lives at risk with the Chicago Fire Department. The following guys served in the armed forces: Marines: TJ Brady, Bill Brogan, Jerry Delira, Scott Budlove, Pat Ryan, Bill Conover, Bill Lyman and Eric Sonntag. Air Force: John Corona. Navy: Ashami Collins, Mike O’Brien. Army National Guard: Jerry Carey, Tim Sexton.

Lastly I wanted to mention 2 guys and I meant to bring this up at the reunion. Pat Winfield is the Pastor of a huge congregation outside Dallas. Pat is Pastor TD Jakes right hand man and heads up a big portion of his congregation. Pat does mission work all over the world and he is a rising star. Mark Holland (McCray) had the #1 radio show in West Palm Beach Florida for a decade. He left to become the program director and operations manager for Radio One in Dallas (He runs 2 stations, is a high rated on air talent and is now doing TV as well). They both happen to be the kindest men you would ever want to meet. Both of these men were recognized in healing the city of Dallas after the horrible police shootings there last year. They both led some of the first meetings with the Police Department and the community of Dallas. Mark received a letter from Congress thanking him for his dedication. These are special men.

These are only a fraction of the stories of our class (the ones I know) and it is an honor to share them with you. We look forward to building on the Class of 1991’s incredible legacy – in my opinion – the most exciting class in Mount Carmel History!! You members of the 1991 class – please forward me any information on what you’re up to so I can let people know – send any class notes to me at dharks@hotmail.com

Before I depart, I encourage you to share these successes with prospective families. I’ve been talking to Craig, Dave and Ned about making a major push for all these kids being raised in the city. One of the major things on the table is getting the hockey program back to prominence. Craig recently hired the a new head coach (who is leaving Marist). He is a Carmel Grad. Share this info and these stories with people you know and their children. Let them know “We are MC” – a great place to be! And you hockey guys, send your kids to MC, we’re coming back baby!

May our deceased classmates rest in peace:

Emmett Burke, Bill Flynn, William Leverenz, Marshall Morgan, Maury Richardson, Keith Murray, Daniel Turner,
Kevin Helwig.

It’s been a rough few years for our class. Daniel Turner (Nate’s brother) and Maury Richardson passed away last year. Danny battled through some tough health problems. It was especially heartbreaking when Maury passed so suddenly as he was getting his line of cologne out nationwide and was so excited about it. Just a few months ago Kevin Helwig passed away suddenly, just after being confirmed a Deacon at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Frankfort, IL. Prayers to the families of all these people.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Pray for Us!!!

Class of 1994
Send your notes to:
John McGowan
Johntmcgowan76@hotmail.com

Pete Kramer and his wife Regina welcomed Walter James, class of 2035. Surely there are many of you who have also had kids recently- so feel free to send that info along and it will be announced in the next alumni magazine issue. It’s fine if the announcement is old- my wife and I welcomed Tess Catherine on January 10th, 2016 and I’ve failed to mention this until this issue...

I’ve been a terrible alumni board member for the last year or so- two very young kids at home will rob you of your extracurricular activities (and sleep). Thankfully Matt Osiol covered me at the January meeting held at Cork & Kerry- many of the Robert’s Rules were followed (and broken). I love the generation of guys older than us- you can just tell they were so much more organized (like Osiol). Matt is planning to help us plan our 25th reunion activities in 2019. If you have ideas on how we should celebrate, please forward them on (coolers of beer in a parking lot sounds about right). But now is the time to plan, recruit and share information with those who still refuse to use the internet. Some classes plan multiple events, in addition to attending the banquet in May. For those who are online, I created a class of 94 Facebook page called “Mount Carmel (Chicago) Class of 1994.” If you are not following, be sure to send a request to join the group, as I repost announcements from the school’s official feed, the father’s club, and so on. I do not restrict this to our class, many from 93/95 have joined. Very unofficial, I just keep the group private so we are free to comment without misrepresenting the school.

Sandor Williams moved to my neighborhood, he is expecting a baby. I also saw Mike King running around our area (literally running for exercise), his girlfriend lives in my condominium complex. I believe Mike writes one of the MC football previews in late Summer so I’ll have to see if he’s willing to post that to our page before the 2017 season begins this Fall.

That’s all I have this time. Still looking for someone else to write this blurb. It would be good to have some fresh news on people I haven’t been able to connect with... I’ve exhausted all my social connections.

Send notes to johntmcgowan76@hotmail.com

Class of 2013
Send your notes to:
Hello fellow readers! From the Class of ‘13, I caught up with Matthew Gomez, a fellow Caravan Alley Player during our time at MC. Gomez is currently active working in the Indie film industry and has shared some exciting things with me. Here’s what Mr. Gomez has been up to:

“For the past few years, I’ve taken a break from the traditional collegiate route. I have acted in, written, and produced various independent film projects. Most notably I am in partnership with my best friend, Joey Casasanto ‘13, he was able to adapt a stage-play into a feature length screenplay. Furthermore, we successfully crowdfunded $30,000+ to produce the aforementioned screenplay into a film.”

When referencing back to his MC days, Gomez takes the “Live With Zeal” mentality to heart and makes sure it’s evident in his work.

“My zealousness for filmmaking and the arts has never gone away. I was involved with the plays and musicals at MC and that’s what inspired me to pursue more creative opportunities. I learned some of the most valuable lessons while I was on stage,” Gomez said.

Gomez has also shared some great advice for those entering their final moments in high school saying, “Take your time. I wish someone would’ve told me to slow down and take it one day at a time. There is no rush.”

In addition to living in the moment, Gomez advocates for young high school students to jump out of their comfort zones because you never know where it’ll take you.

“Be open; try new things. Go see a play, join an improv club, take a painting class, go dancing, travel, etc. All those experiences and memories will help shape you into the artist you want to be and might just give you some inspiration for a good story.”

For all members from the Class of ‘13, please email me at piglesias@mail.bradley.edu to share your stories! We would all love to hear what great adventures you have to share!