

# WEST CATHOLIC ALUMNI EMISSARY

The Official Publication of the West Catholic Alumni Association

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## Our Mission Statement...

*Our mission is to preserve the spirit and traditions of West Catholic High School by instilling fellowship among the faculty, friends, former students and graduates of West Catholic High School and to provide support to West Catholic High School and its students.*

"West Catholic High School" is intended to be defined broadly to include the current West Catholic Preparatory High School as well as its predecessors.

The mission statement is read at every meeting of the Board of Governors and is intended to remind the members of the Board and the Association that all actions, plans and programs should be consistent with the purposes set forth in the mission statement.

## WHY IS WEST SO SPECIAL

To most grads of West Catholic there is a special feeling that comes to mind when the school is mentioned, or when you meet someone that you never met before but you find out that you have 'WEST' in common. What is it that makes the years that you spent at this school whether it was at 49th and Chestnut or 45th and Chestnut, so remarkable, so special? I remember the first time I walked into the building at 49th and Chestnut Street. It was an August day and I walked from my home below Baltimore Avenue and found my way through that big grey, stone building to the bookstore in the basement level. It was there that I encountered my first Christian Brother, Brother Gregory Martin. He was a gruff and down to business guy who I bought my books from for my freshman year that was to begin in September. Little did I know that it was the beginning



of a 49 year relationship with WEST CATHOLIC. Eight years later I started teaching at WEST and Bro. Gregory was my department head. As a student, WEST became a special place and not just for education but for a lifetime of friendships that I would realize to be more important as time goes by. We came from different parishes, different neighborhoods, different expectations and we graduated as young men and women who had the WEST experience in common. During the 45 years at WEST after my graduation, I got to realize first hand what that WEST experience really entailed. It was the Faculty - I have had the pleasure of working with some of the finest teachers that ever took up the profession. Those who provided great classroom experiences (Sister Ave, Bill Monillas, Bro. Andrew), Those who made us think (Paul Grillo, Tom McPhearson, Bro. Kevin Stanton), and those who became role models (John Flanagan, Joe Byrne, Bro. Tim Paul). There are too many to mention and I just mentioned these teachers as examples.

Every West student has been influenced by at least one of his or her teachers. The WEST experience - It was the Coaches and the Moderators. They were the people that taught us what no textbook could teach and gave us the opportunity to develop and shine. To name a few of so many - Brother Luke, Jack Devine, the McAnany Brothers, Brian Fluck, Mary DeMasi, Mr. Harwell, all the Newspaper, Yearbook, Student Council and Dramatics moderators, etc. that gave of their time and talent. The WEST experience - It was the students. The West Catholic Halls of Fame pay tribute to grads who distinguished themselves in Athletics and in their Careers but for every one so honored there are hundreds of grads who have distinguished themselves by the lives that they have led, the families that they have fostered and for many the ultimate sacrifice they have given to their community and their country. It was always about the students and how they came together in some of the most



trying times, their unselfish contributions to the charitable mission of the school, their willingness to give all they had and then some more when needed, their spirit and drive to make their parents and their school community proud of them. Every good school has good teachers, coaches, and students but only WEST has them and then mixes in a Tradition of Excellence, an active and supportive Alumni/ Alumnae, parents who make unbelievable sacrifices, and a continuous allegiance to God and Country and WEST has been doing this for ONE HUNDRED YEARS. There is no other school like this - anywhere and I have been so very fortunate to have experienced - WEST. It is, indeed, very special.

## 2015-2016 ANNUAL FUND DRIVE...NOW MORE THAN EVER.... WE NEED YOU!

2015 was a very productive year with many positive highlights; We have been able to increase our assistance to the West Catholic family in the form of donations for tuition assistance, building improvements in the school, helping families through difficult times, lending our support to academic enrichment programs within the school and began work towards Alumni sponsored events for our West Catholic family. We are executing many of the ideas we had over the year and are creating a more active alumni community. We thank you for helping us achieve these milestones.

improvements to our website, alumni store and online tools including the digitizing of ALL our past Yearbooks. Finally, we will be putting money aside this year to execute a years worth of events to commemorate **West Catholic's 100th Anniversary!** The special occasion will be celebrated throughout the year and it is vital that we budget now to make sure that we celebrate as only West can!

Our West Catholic Alumni Association is an independent entity that exists to preserve the spirit and traditions of West Catholic by keeping an active interest among its Members, instilling fellowship among the faculty, friends and former students of West and providing financial support to West Catholic and its students.

Drive mailing a year to ask for your financial support and we rely heavily on this Annual Fund Drive to fuel the rest of the expenses for the year. If every person who receives this paper donates \$20, we will reach our goal! But every contribution, of any size, to our Annual Fund Drive is vitally important and appreciated. Please help keep the West Catholic Spirit alive through your renewed support!

Visit the alumni website at [www.WestCatholicAlumni.org](http://www.WestCatholicAlumni.org) and donate online or use the below coupon and mail your generous contribution today.

Thank You for your continued support!

----- Detach and mail the below coupon with your contribution in the enclosed reply envelope -----



**2015 West Catholic Alumni Association Annual Fund Support Coupon**  
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*The West Catholic Alumni Association is a 501(c)(3) entity, your contributions may be tax deductible! Your gift will DOUBLE if your employer has a MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM*

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It is our goal for the Alumni Association to raise \$200,000.00 in 2015-2016 campaign! This will allow us to achieve our goal of providing a minimum of \$50,000.00 in grants and tuition assistance to students attending West Catholic. The remaining funds will be budgeted towards educational programs, human capital investments for West families, production and delivery of our two Emissary's, continued



**Thank You again for supporting your Alumni Association ... WEST IS BEST!**  
Visit [www.WestCatholicAlumni.org](http://www.WestCatholicAlumni.org) for all the latest news and updates!



# A day of bonding and bruises on the Paintball battlefield

by Randy Duck



“West is Best” mantra, as well as instilled the Spirit of West Catholic in all of us. I feel all of us have a responsibility to the current students to continue those traditions and values we all received. There was so much talk and excitement surrounding Burrs at the Beach that the current students wanted to attend. Unfortunately, due to the venue and age restrictions, they were not allowed to partake in the festivities. Because of this, several students approached Aaron Spence Alumni Board Member, Chair Young Alum Committee) about having a under 21 event. As a result, a day of paintball was organized. A week after Burrs at the Beach, Aaron and I took 20 students (male & female) to Loco Poco Paintball Park in Limerick, PA. The park was reserved for the

In the last couple of years, there has been more of an emphasis from the Alumni Association to become more involved with the current student body. As a result, the students have expressed a desire and interest in being a part of the Alumni Association over the last few years. Whenever there has been an opportunity for Alums to interact with the students, they have done so and it's has always been good time for all. The students are engaged,

excited, and very appreciative of the Alumni efforts. They always express their gratitude knowing that the Alumni are there for them and are dedicated to their success, not only at West Catholic but in their future life as well. I'm reminded of my days at West Catholic when there was a lot of involvement from the Mothers & Fathers Club, Alumni Association and families volunteering their time at sporting events. It solidified the

entire day and we played for several hours on the various courses & terrains. The members of the Red Team were victorious overall, led by yours truly (Navy training prevailed). However, everyone won as a great time was had by all. Several newly graduated seniors said this was a great close out to their West Catholic career. The students asked if this could be turned into an annual event. As a result, Aaron will present this idea to the Young Alum Committee for

consideration as a future event. The Alumni Association is always looking for Alums to share their time, talents and treasures with the students as well as young alumni. If you would like to get involved on any level, please contact any member of the Executive Board or check out the website, [www.westcatholicalumni.org](http://www.westcatholicalumni.org). Let's continue the tradition and build our future. The Spirit of West Catholic is alive and well. GO BURRS!!!!

**GET INVOLVED - MAKE A DIFFERENCE**  
 You need not be a board member to participate in any of our committee's. If you see a committee that you wish to join please contact us via email at [westcatholicalumni@gmail.com](mailto:westcatholicalumni@gmail.com) or submit your request through our website [www.westcatholicalumni.org](http://www.westcatholicalumni.org)

**COMMITTEE'S**

- Young Alumni
- Communion Breakfast
- Membership
- Communications
- Spiritual Affairs
- Veterans Committee
- Scholarship
- Burrs at the Beach
- Fundraising
- Financial Review
- By-Laws

# He met the pope, and one wonders, who is luckier?

By Lou Baldwin courtesy of CatholicPhilly.com

When Gerald Davis accompanied his wife Anna, daughter Kimberly and grandson Jordan in the procession to present the



Davis was a laborer with the Baldwin Locomotive Works who, whenever he could, started his day with Mass at St. James Church two blocks away from their home. Unfailingly a hallmark of his evening was the recitation of the rosary, during which he prayed for each of his children by name. “He gave us love,” Davis said. “He helped us to understand we need a spiritual base in life.” In a certain sense his dad was more of a grandfather figure who kept the household running on an even keel, with the eldest children pitching in to help raise the little ones. There wasn't much money in the house, but they didn't think of themselves as poor. The father and the older children would sacrifice, for example, to see that the little ones had Christmas gifts. After attending St. James

School Davis went on to West Catholic High School. To earn a bit of money he would clean at St. James School in the late afternoon then after dinner work at the parish rectory. It was a big rectory then, with as many as seven priests, including some who might be attending the University of Pennsylvania. This cemented what has been a life-long respect for priests. “They treated me like a son,” Davis said. He continued this work after he entered La Salle College. Financially it was a challenge, but thanks to his parish work and a bit of help from his family he made it. Growing up as a mentor for him was his brother Charles, who joined the Marines and was severely wounded in Korea. It was touch and go, but after a long recuperation Charles did recover.

offertory gifts at the Mass celebrated by Pope Francis at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul on Sept. 26, he will lead his family by example. For Davis, a retired executive from Sunoco, that indelible example was given to him by his own father, Isaac Davis, many years ago. “I was the youngest in a family of 10 children; my mother died when I was 3 and my father raised us,” he said. The family lived in West Philadelphia and Isaac

These are the faces of the young men who lost their lives. Special Thanks to Tom Mc Ginn for compiling the memorial in the center and Frank O'Donnell Sr. for sending along the photos of these heroic young alumni.

**West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys**  
*In Loving Memory of the Graduates Killed in Viet Nam*  
*Pro Deo et Patria*

<b>ROBERT J PIATKOWSKI</b> DOB: 9/1/1941 Class of '61 US Army DOD: 5/26/1968	<b>JOHN T O'DONNELL</b> DOB: 9/6/1946 Class of '64 US Army DOD: 6/12/1968
<b>VICTOR DICAVALLUCCI</b> DOB: 2/2/1947 Class of '61 US Army DOD: 2/26/1968	<b>JOSEPH T GALLAGHER</b> DOB: 11/26/1947 Class of '61 US Army DOD: 2/26/1968
<b>CHARLES T HERSHEY</b> DOB: 9/26/1947 Class of '61 US Army DOD: 11/11/1968	<b>FRANK T ROTH</b> DOB: 2/16/1947 Class of '61 USMC DOD: 4/30/1967
<b>JAMES B SCOTT</b> DOB: 2/22/1947 Class of '61 US Army DOD: 9/22/1968	<b>AUSTIN M GAUGHAN</b> DOB: 4/11/1948 Class of '66 USMC DOD: 3/15/1968
<b>RICHARD C CHUBB</b> DOB: 4/2/1948 Class of '67 USMC DOD: 1/14/1968	<b>JOSEPH E DAVIS Jr</b> DOB: 11/15/1949 Class of '67 USMC DOD: 11/1/1968
<b>RICHARD W HANLEY</b> DOB: 1/17/1949 Class of '67 USMC DOD: 7/26/1968	<b>PATRICK J RONAN</b> DOB: 9/22/1949 Class of '67 US Army DOD: 2/16/1968

*Live Jesus in Your Heart, Jesus*

Labels: Piatkowski, DiCavallucci, Hershey, Scott, Chubb, Hanley, Ronan, Davis, Jr., Gaughan, O'Donnell, Gallagher, Roth.

# We would like to Thank the following sponsors from our 2015 Communion Breakfast

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for more information on becoming a sponsor for the 2016 Communion Breakfast please contact us at [westcatholicalumni@gmail.com](mailto:westcatholicalumni@gmail.com)

## West Catholic Alumni Association 2015-2017

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Johnnie Walker '86	Recording Secretary
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Jim Britt '72	James Mulhern '60
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Bill Dixon '85	Marie O'Connor '80
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Kia Gray '92	Andre Saballete '04
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**CHECK IT OUT!**



The Alumni Website has been completely redesigned with **new features & enhancements** to better serve our Burr Nation!

**ONLINE STORE IS NOW OPEN!**

This is YOUR website and we are making it easier for you to stay in touch. So send stories, photos, announcements, special events, reunions and anything Burr related to westcatholicalumni@gmail.com

more enhancements coming soon!

[www.WestCatholicAlumni.org](http://www.WestCatholicAlumni.org)

## From The President



Dear Fellow Burrs,

The Alumni Association adopted a mission statement last year that is read prior to every meeting to remind us of our goal. **Our mission is to preserve the spirit and traditions of West Catholic High School by instilling fellowship among the faculty, friends, former students and graduates of West Catholic High School and to provide support to West Catholic High School and its students.** The mission is pretty clear and simple: Providing support to West Catholic High School and it's family. Support is often viewed as

monetary in nature and for most it is the most convenient sacrifice that they can make to help. The financial support is always appreciated and helps us bring the Emissary to you. If everyone on the mailing list sends the Alumni Association a donation of \$10 we could have a much greater impact on the lives of the West Catholic family members.

The school has asked that we spread the word about various other opportunities to help; Tutoring and Mentoring programs, Internship opportunities, Blocks tax credit programs and career day presentations are just a few of the ways you can contribute. Money is not the only answer for supporting the West family. Time and Talent is something you can provide to these young men and women that will have a far greater impact. Showing them you care about their future is something that they will forever hold in the hearts. And someday they will be able to pass along that special spirit to the next great classes of West Catholic graduates.

Even though these asks are simple in nature, the harsh reality is that most people won't make a donation or take the time to support a school that just a few short years ago was slated for closure. The community around West is growing into an amazing support system. People who are not West Alumni are recognizing the importance of this institution and what it means to the community. They see that our beloved West Catholic continues to rise up from the trenches and is making a difference. But if you just sit back and watch what is going on at West, it is not good enough. If you want to make a difference in the lives of the students of West Catholic and their families you NEED to STEP UP and GET INVOLVED. Whether it is writing a check or volunteering your time, this school; this community; this family NEEDS YOU!

The WC is proudly worn by alum around the world and our alum continue to be key players in building thriving communities. From bricklayers to board room executives, owners of Mom and Pop shops to large multi national companies, West has produced amazing men and women who are making an impact on the communities they serve and we want to continue the great history of West Catholic.

I ask that you join me in supporting our very special West Catholic family in any way you can!

All the best!  
David F. Joslin, Jr. '88



## TEAMMATES *By: Ed Kerr, '60*

BURR LAND is home for all student athletes that ever represented West Catholic High School in their chosen sport or more over the 95+ years of its existence. The wheel is turning round and round and Where it will stop? I will tell you, it is the fall of 1960a very exciting period and the year that our 35th President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, age 43 (Democrat) defeated Richard T. Nixon, age 47(Republican) on Tuesday, November 8, 1960 with an Electoral College Victory of 303 to 219 but with only a very slim Popular Vote difference of 49.7% to 49.6% representing a difference of 112,827 Votes that represented one of the closest elections in generations. While this Presidential Election couldn't be any closer with the Popular Vote, the 1960 BURR football season proved to be very competitive. Tom Dorrian, Sports Editor of the West Catholic NEWS that year recalls that this team was very much underrated before the Philadelphia Catholic Season began. Led by Co-Captains

Nick Cirone and Fran Dougherty, (according to the 1961 blue and white) West foils foes...for a surprising second place finish. For the record, the 1960 BURRS were victorious in six league contests, with two ties and only one defeat. They also were victorious on Thanksgiving Day with a 49-16 win over Bartram High School the neighborhood rival. This 1960 Squad outscored their opponents 231 to 92 and missed out on any chance at the Championship before their last League game, with two tie games against LaSalle 0-0 and Bonner, 14-14. No matter what they did against Bishop Neumann there was no chance of finishing any higher than second which they did. Spoke with Tom De Fiore recently who helped with details about this Season. When West Catholic went up against LaSalle, in the 0-0 Game, They did so without starting Offensive Linemen, Tom Bazis, Tom De Fiore and Bill Schumacher who were out with injuries. The Coaching staff for the 1960 team included Vince & John McAnaney, Bernie

Cleary and Robert Aylmer. All of the Coaches, team members and fans agreed that one of the most exciting contests of this season was their second game against the St. James Bulldogs from Chester, PA. This game was played at Lloyd Field in Chester, nothing fancy, lots of dust, rocks and stones, before the Rolling Stones had their first hit. Due to weather the West Catholic team had a change in their schedule and got to see St. James play their opening game; in doing so the Coaching staff picked up something to help with their attack the next week. That something was the breakout game for #33 senior fullback Wayne Sutkus, who couldn't be

stopped in a 30-22 barn burner victory for the BURRS. With the recent passing of Wayne a regular at BURRS on the Beach each year, we wanted to remember him for this game and extreme loyalty to West Catholic and his teammates, especially Nick Cirone who was with him at the end. Many of Wayne's friends and teammates paid tribute to him this summer in North Wildwood where they toasted him in their Hawaiian shirts. Wayne would have been pleased, and to know that he is missed and remembered for his accomplishments on the gridiron. Other members of this special team included Calvin Townes, Lou Di Martino, Al Caputo,

Jim Mayo, Tom Ostroski, Tom McCool, George Southcott, Bill Serody, Bob Mahan, Ed Recke, Carmen De Felice, Joe Fanelli, Joe Duncan, Dick Dougherty, Tom Hamilton, Joe Hilferty, Jim Walsh, Mike Wilson, Pete Spence, Ron Deli Compagni, Jack Brady, Jack Gillespie, Henry De Williams, Don Patterson, Angelo Masciantonio; Paul Touey and others who were honored to play for Mr. Mac. In closing let us not forget the School Marching Band and Cheerleaders to include: Mike Doyle, Joe Duffy, Dan Signs, Ed Springer, George Sucher, Frank Lamont, Joe Janasik; John Niehenke. There are other TEAMMATES stories that many of you remember, please share them with us for future editions of The Emissary.

Send your stories and memories to westcatholicalumni@gamil.com



Wayne Sutkus running the ball in the St. James game with Calvin Townes providing Key Block

## PLAN NOW FOR THE 95TH ANNUAL COMMUNION BREAKFAST! *by Fran Crowley*

Mark April 17, 2016 On Your Calendar! Nominees And Volunteers Needed! The Communion Breakfast Committee is pleased to announce that the Alumni Association's 95th Annual Communion Breakfast will be held on Sunday, April 17, 2016 at the Springfield Country Club. Mass will begin at 9:00 am, to be followed immediately by the Breakfast and Awards Ceremony. The Annual Communion Breakfast is the longest standing tradition in the West Catholic Family! We invite all alums to join the Communion Breakfast Committee to assist in carrying on —and improving -- this tradition! Please contact Fran Crowley '77 at Crowley@blankrome.com if you are interested in joining the Communion Breakfast Committee. A major part of the preparation for each year's event is identifying and selecting the alums and friends of West Catholic to honor at the breakfast. The Communion Breakfast Committee would like the input of as many alums as possible. Please take the time to nominate fellow alums and friends of West Catholic by sending an e-mail to Crowley@blankrome.

comwith the name of the nominee, the award for which you are nominating them, a short paragraph stating why you are nominating the candidate and your contact information. Please send nominations by December 1, 2015. The criteria for the awards traditionally presented at the Communion Breakfast are as follows: **Brother Edwin Anselm Award, Brother D. Aloysius Award, Brother G. John Owens Award and Brother G., Martin Strickroth Award and William H. McGarvey Award:** A nominee must (a) be a Catholic gentleman; (b) be an alumnus of West Catholic; (c) be a proven "loyal son" of West Catholic; (d) have achieved outstanding success in a chosen field of endeavor; and (e) have contributed significantly to West Catholic in any form. The **Brother Edwin Anselm Award** typically is given to a Christian Brother or teacher. **Margaret Porter'40 Blue & Gold Award:** A nominee must be (a) an alumna of West Girls, West Catholic or West Catholic Prep; (b) who exemplifies the West Catholic Tradition, (c) who has achieved success in

her chosen field, and (c) who has contributed significantly of her time and talents to the West Catholic Community. **Golden Burr Award:** A nominee must (a) be a Catholic gentleman; (b) be an alumnus of West Catholic; (c) be a proven "loyal son" of West Catholic; (d) have achieved outstanding success in athletics and in a chosen field of endeavor; and (d) have contributed significantly to West Catholic in any manner.

**Bishop John McCort Award:** A nominee must (a) be an outstanding Catholic person; (b) have contributed to West Catholic in an ethical manner; and (c) have achieved outstanding success in a chosen field of endeavor. Nominees for the Bishop McCort Award do NOT have to be graduates of West Catholic. **50th Anniversary Golden Burr Award:** A nominee must (a) be a Catholic gentleman; (b) be a member of the 50 year anniversary class of West Catholic (the Class of 1966); (c) be a proven "loyal son" of West Catholic; (d) have achieved outstanding success in a chosen field of endeavor; and (e) have contributed significantly to

West Catholic in any form. **25th Anniversary Golden Burr Award:** A nominee must (a) be a Catholic gentleman; (b) be a member of the 25 year anniversary class of West Catholic (the Class of 1991); (c) be a proven "loyal son" of West Catholic; (d) have achieved outstanding success in a chosen field of endeavor; and (e) have contributed significantly to West Catholic in any form.

(Note —contributions mean time, effort, non-financial support, etc., and is not meant to be limited to monetary donations. Additionally, the terms "alumnus" and "alumna" include men and women who attended West Catholic for at least one year and whose class has graduated.

The Association recognizes that, for many reasons, students that started their education at West Catholic may not have been able to complete their four years at West but remain very important members of our West Catholic family!)

### West Catholic Merchandise SHOP ONLINE NOW!

Alumni Merchandise items provide the opportunity to spread West Catholic Spirit & Pride while supporting your Alumni Association. You can see all of the merchandise and place your order at

[www.WestCatholicAlumni.org](http://www.WestCatholicAlumni.org)

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\* Hooded Sweatshirts \* West Catholic Print 49th St. \* Flags

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**CHECK OUT ALL BURR ITEMS ONLINE!**

## BURR LAND MEMORIES *By: Ed Kerr,'60*

The year 1953 delivered magical moments for the members of BURR LAND, to include the current Classes attending (1953-1956) as well for those graduates who had attended and those who couldn't wait to attend in the near future. 1953 provided an opportunity for West Catholic Hoopsters to continue their Championship ways following a very successful year in 1952 when the BURRS basketball team won both the Catholic and City of Philadelphia Championships. Back to Back Championships had the attention of Coach Jim Usilton and his BURR squad that included sharp shooter Bill Lindsay, (second in scoring for Catholic League, '53 season) and a starting five that included Joe Gardler, Bob Devine, Drew Denmead; Jim McNicholas. West Catholic did play for



Drew Denmead

Back to Back Championships in 1953 and ended up facing the future great, Wilt Chamberlain and his Overbrook High School Public League Championship team at the Palestra. Coach Usilton made one change with his starting five when he decided to start sophomore Jack Rowan in place of Jim McNicholas. West went with seven players to also include McNicholas and Charley Eltringham. The result of this Championship game was not close,

West Catholic brought home the Championship as Bill Lindsay outscored Wilt Chamberlain 32-29 as Bill and his teammates played the defensive game of the decade. The entire student body at West Catholic was beaming with pride, and so too were all Alumni members and the grade school kids awaiting their day at 49th & Chestnut Street in West Philadelphia. While Bill Lindsay, '53 is a name that people from the 1950's will certainly recall and remember fondly, Another graduate



from this talented Class is one Peter Boyle, the Actor. As I prepared to write this guest Article for the Emissary I communicated with a key Communications person from LaSalle University, Brother Gerry Molyneaux, Ph.D., '53. Brother Gerry, a classmate of Peter Boyle and a very good friend, was a person who would help me connect the dots about this 1953 grad who delivered many magical screen moments for his fans.

Peter performed on both the Big Screen and in a Major TV Show, "Everybody Loves Raymond" from 1996-2005. As graduates of West Catholic we beam with pride for all BURRS who succeed in their chosen field, Peter Boyle was a true professional in his chosen field of Acting. When I spoke with Brother Gerry, I requested that he share his favorite films With Peter Boyle...They are: Young Frankenstein (1974) partly because he loved working with Mel Brooks and would go to the set to have fun, even on his days off and because he met his wife to be, Loraine Alterman who was a reporter for the Rolling Stone. Joe (1970 his first feature, and he and Susan Sarandon became long-life friends. He got \$2500 for his playing his part. Medium Cool (1969) in which He had a bit part. Steelyard Blues (1973) a favorite comic role as Eagle The Candidate (1972) with Robert Redford, a politics and media movie way ahead of its time. Taxi Driver (1976) — the chance to work with Martin Scorsese and opposite Robert DeNiro "Everybody Loves Raymond" Not a Film, but this program (1996-2005) was a huge factor in keeping Pete employed at an age when acting work is hard to find. Brother remembers being in LA and going out to dinner with Peter the first time the show was renewed, He was



Peter Boyle

delighted. The cast and crew of that show loved him and they were all at his funeral in NYC in 2006. The Brinks Job, (1978) shot on location in Boston with Peter Falk. He invited me to see the shoot. I learned a lot. The Friends of Eddie Coyle (1973) with Robert Mitchum was also a solid film that holds up well. Monster's Ball (2001) was also a solid performance late in Peter's career. I am thankful to Brother Gerry Molyneaux, Ph.D., '53 for taking time from his tight schedule. If you are a Fan of Film, check out fellow BURR, Peter Boyle, '53 and Beam with Pride...I had the opportunity to be with both Bill Lindsay and Peter Boyle and was proud to know them both. May they Rest in Peace.

Support your Alumni Association and submit your BURR LAND MEMORIES for future editions of The Emissary...Thank you!

### Class Reunion & Luncheons

Your Alumni Association can provide your Reunion Committee with a current listing of your classmates. Any Class planning a reunion or that would like to plan one, please call the Alumni Office at 215-387-8560

If you are having a gathering of any kind let us know about it. We can post it online at [www.WestCatholicAlumni.org](http://www.WestCatholicAlumni.org) as well as put it in print for your right here in the Emissary. Just send an email to [westcatholicalumni@gmail.com](mailto:westcatholicalumni@gmail.com) or call the alumni office at 215-387-8560

[www.WestCatholicAlumni.org](http://www.WestCatholicAlumni.org)

**ATTENTION: All Service Members, Current, Retired, Drafted, or Volunteered Active or Reserve**

On Friday November 13, 2015 at 8:00 a.m., the Veterans Committee of the West Catholic Alumni Association will hold the 3rd Annual Veterans Appreciation Mass in the auditorium of the School. Every year this event gets bigger and bigger. James Mulhern USMC, WC '60, Chairperson of the Veterans Committee and the rest of the committee members would like to invite all West Alums who served or are currently serving in the Armed Forces to attend. Please help us to spread the word; we ask you to notify friends, family, and neighbors that

have served in any Branch of service, in any capacity, peacetime or wartime, and encourage their attendance. The students will be on hand to honor and celebrate the Veterans of West Catholic for their service. From WW I to Iraq and Afghanistan; West Catholic graduates have donned uniforms and answered their country's call to serve. Please wear your uniform or branch of service swag if possible. The students will be on hand to honor and celebrate the Veterans of West Catholic for their service. Help us to demonstrate to the students of West Catholic

Preparatory High School the proud history and tradition of honorable and faithful service to our country by the many generations of West Catholic Alumni. We ask that you please arrive early to check in with the Veteran Committee staff. Parking will be available in the school lot. Student escorts will direct you into the school. The Mass will include a Veterans procession into the auditorium, performance of the National Anthem by the students of West Catholic's Music Department, the Joint Services Color Guard, and



remarks by our Guest Speaker. Also, there will be a rendition of Taps to pay tribute to those West Catholic Alumni who made the ultimate sacrifice. A reception will follow the Mass in the school Library as students will be available to provide tours of the school for anyone interested. In addition, each veteran will receive a small token of our appreciation. So come on out honor our vets who have served, tour the school, and reconnect with West Catholic. Help us to keep the spirit... WEST the BEST!

**DATE:**  
Friday, November 13, 2015

**TIME:** 8:00am

**LOCATION:**  
West Catholic School Auditorium

Veterans please RSVP to the email addresses below to let us know you are attending:  
Randy Duck: gmgcs@hotmail.com  
Johnnie Walker Jr. at fstsgetwalker@comcast.net

**CALLING ALL MEMBERS OF THE CLASSES OF 1966 AND 1991 TO JOIN THEIR CLASSMATES AT THE 95TH ANNUAL COMMUNION BREAKFAST**

Congratulations to all members of the Classes of 1966 and 1991 as you approach your Golden Jubilee and Silver Jubilee respectively! The Communion Breakfast Committee and the Alumni Association invite each of you to join us at the 95th Annual Commune Breakfast on April 17, 2016. Each year, in recognition of the many contributions and successes of the members of our Jubilee classes, West Catholic Alumni Association honors members of the 25-year and 50-year graduation classes. At our 95th Annual Communion Breakfast on April 17, 2016, the Association

will honor the Classes of 1966 and 1991. In addition to providing special recognition to the each of the Classes, the Association will present individual awards to members of each class who represent the values, contributions and accomplishments of the many members of their respective classes. The Communion Breakfast Committee asks each member of the Classes of 1966 and 1991 to consider nominating one or more members of your respective classes to receive the 50th Anniversary Golden Burr Award or the 25th Anniversary Silver Burr Award. Nominations can

be submitted to Crowley@BlankRome.com. Please include the nominee's name, year, a short summary of their competence and contributions and your contact information. The Communion Breakfast Committee and the Alumni Association hope to see many members of the Classes of 1966 and 1991 on April 17! The Communion Breakfast will be held at the Springfield Country Club and will start with Mass at 9 am, followed immediately by the Breakfast Awards Ceremony. More information about the Communion Breakfast can be found on the Alumni Association's website, WestCatholicalumni.org.

To Uniformed West Grads  
We've been successful in getting the names of many of you that have served your country!  
If you haven't let us know your current whereabouts, please fill out the coupon below and get it off to the committee soon!

**West Catholic Alumni Association Needs All Veterans or Active Military**

Are you a veteran or active military that has graduated from a school who's motto is "For God and Country?"  
The Alumni Association newly-formed Veterans/Military Committee would like to hear from you concerning your service to these United States!  
Please supply the requested information below and mail to:  
Mr. Jim Mulhern '60, Chairman  
244 Baltimore Pike, Unit 433, Glen Mills, PA 19342  
or e-mail to veterans@westcatholicalumni.org  
Any questions may be directed to any committee member listed below:  
Jim Mulhern (USMC) '60 - jrmulhern@aol.com  
Rich McCann (US Army) '68 - webmaster@westcatholicalumni.org  
Harry Mirra (US Air Force) '52 - harrymirra@RCN.com

Name.....Branch of Service.....  
Street.....City.....State.....Zip.....  
Phone.....e-mail.....



**WEST CATHOLIC BOYS SCHOOL PRINT AVAILABLE!**



The West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys 1916-1989

For thousands of us 49th and Chestnut was our West Catholic home. Now you can own this beautiful, full color 18 x 24 print, original photographic collage by Matt McCauley class of '89, The Alumni Association is proud to present this EXCLUSIVE print though our Alumni store for \$49.00!  
ORDER TODAY at www.WestCatholicAlumni.org

**Class of 2015 the next chapter**

On Monday June 1 the Class of 2015, 65 seniors in all, graduated on a beautiful morning. A senior class with only 65 students may sound surprising, compared to graduating classes many years ago that numbered in the hundreds. However, this is a strong class of young men & women who are survivors. When the Archdiocese announced in 2012 that West Catholic would be closing its doors forever, this class was in its freshmen year. By God's grace, West Catholic remained opened. Thanks to a lot of hard work, dedication and perseverance from the faculty, administration, and these students, they are now Alums of our beloved West Catholic. Now the next chapter begins for our newest graduates. To start their futures, the members of the graduating classes have been

awarded in excess of three million dollars in scholarships & financial aid offers. Thirty nine students will move onto 28 different colleges & universities across the country with a combined total of 2.6 million dollars awarded in scholarships & financial aid offers. Two students will be joining the proud ranks of the United States Navy.

The Burr Nation will be proudly represented at the following colleges & universities:

- LaSalle University
- Cabrini College
- Community College of Philadelphia
- Manor College
- Drexel University
- Delaware Valley College
- University of the Sciences
- Johnson & Wales University
- Villanova University
- Gwynedd-Mercy University
- Philadelphia University

- Indiana University
- of Pennsylvania
- Temple University
- Neumann University
- Pennsylvania State University
- Widener University
- University of Millersville
- Arcadia University
- Burlington County Community College
- LA Pierce College
- Lincoln University
- Chestnut Hill College
- Delaware County Community College
- East Stroudsburg University
- Lock Haven University
- University of Pennsylvania
- St. Joseph's University
- West Chester University

Congratulations once more to the Class of 2015 and Welcome to the West Catholic Alumni Association!

## Greetings from the Principal's Office! *Mr. Jim Gallagher*



I hope that the summer was a good one for all of you and your families, filled with much fun and relaxation in whatever form that takes! As my term begins, I am amazed by the extent to which this amazing family reaches and how warm so many of you have been in welcoming me as a new member. As this journey has begun, I have noticed just how much of my life is "connected" to the West Catholic and Christian Brothers communities. My first exposure to West Catholic dates back to my elementary school days growing up in Reading, PA. Robert McLennan ('55) was a friend of my parents and we were travelling down to the Palestra

for a Big 5 doubleheader. Back then, most of us in Reading were unfamiliar with the happenings in Philadelphia: to me, Philadelphia was just a place we had to drive through to get to Ocean City, NJ for our summer vacations. But Mr. McLennan spoke fondly of parishes, neighborhoods and his days at West. The size of the school, physically and in number of students, was mind-boggling for someone who attended a relatively small catholic high school (the former Holy Name High School) with fewer than 500 boys and girls. In typical pre-teen fashion, I quickly forgot about all things West Catholic after returning home. When searching for a college to attend after high school, I was attracted to LaSalle University for many reasons including the rich athletic heritage, the beautiful campus, proximity to the city and the environment of learning and community the Christian Brothers cultivated at 20th and Olney. I left after my first year due to the death of my father but the LaSalle spirit remained with me after my departure. Fast forward to

2015, as I progressed through the interview process for this position, I became acutely aware of how many times my life has been touched by West, through interactions with alumni/ae themselves and/or their children/grandchildren. To name just a few: my neighbor, Mary Louise Scanlon (English) class of '41; "Reds" Bagnell's ('46) great nephew, Jim Baldwin's ('55) and Whitey McGarvey's sons are close friends; and George Light's ('58) son-in-law and I lifeguarded together in Sea Isle City. More recently "down the shore" this summer, we vacationed alongside Joe McGinn ('55) and Mike Hoban ('82). You all know, this could go on for days! West Catholic Prep has endured many challenges in recent years but we are poised for tremendous growth. This fall, we will welcome the largest freshman class in years. Enriching academic and extra-curricular activities are being created and partnerships with local businesses and universities are helping us grow into our "Preparatory" name. But much work is still

left to be done! Most of our current students, and many of our more recent graduates, are unaware of their own real-life connections to those from the classes of the 40's, 50's and up through the late 90's. Jim Britt ('72), Kate Ward-Gaus ('72) and I spoke at Burrs on the Beach about the importance of bridging that gap. Jim shared a story of a conversation he had with a student about growing up in the same neighborhood, riding the same trolley and playing basketball at the same playgrounds. The boy was surprised to find out how much he had in common with Jim. The success and growth of West Catholic Prep depends on the strength of relationships formed here in these halls, with

our student peers and beyond the school, with our alumni peers. How many of you have had some door opened in your life because of being a "Burr"? Being present for our current students is one of the best ways to keep this legacy alive and I extend an open invitation for you to come back and visit us at any time throughout the year. Our doors are always open to each of you, not just on special occasions. We need each other and the legacy of West Catholic Preparatory High School, which each of you is a proud part of, will only continue if you help keep the spirit alive! Always remember "West IS Best!" May God's peace be with each of you and your families.



## Burr Nation Values: Honor Loyalty Respect *By John Tomosky*

Burrs at the Beach 2015 is behind us and what a great day it was. The latest installment was held on June 28th @ Westy's Pub. A Special thank you goes out to Past alumni President Tom Dorrian, George Light and all the others involved in the planning and operational Committees to make this day a memorable one for all of our Burrs and Lady Burrs attendees. . Especially noteworthy this year was the attendance of 12 special guests. They did not buy tickets . They did not laugh and chatter with each other like the rest of us. They did not hug it out like many of us did. However, for those that did not notice, they were among us in the form of their names on a plaque donated to the West Catholic Community by Burr Photoman Tom McGinn '65. This plaque was donated at the annual Veterans mass that was held back in November 2014 at the school. Brother Richard Kestler agreed that day to honor these Graduates by allowing the permanent hanging of this plaque in the school Library. By his will it was done. The plaque was relocated for the weekend to the front of the stage at Westy's for all to see. These are the Men of West that gave their lives in Vietnam while serving in the United States Military. They

were Killed in Action (KIA). These Honorable Men of West were: Robert Piatkowski '63, John T O'Donnell '64, Victor DiCavallucci '65, Joseph Gallagher '65, Charles Hershey '65, Frank Roth '65, James Scott '65, Austin Gaughan '66, Richard Chubb '67, Joseph Davis '67, Richard Hanley '67, Patrick Ronan '67. For the fourth Consecutive year these men have been recognized, as well as other Veterans affiliated with the West Catholic Community, by the Southwest Football Coaches Association with assistance from members of the West Catholic Alumni Association Veterans Committee. This year's memorial service occurred on Saturday at 10am at the Greater Wildwood Vietnam Wall. Wildwood Mayor Ernie Troiano and American Legion Post 184 Commander Harry Weimar joined in the ceremony as they welcomed West Catholic to the greater Wildwood community for its annual reunion. "These men gave so much" said Immediate Past Commander of Disabled American Veterans Chapter 44 Johnnie Walker '64 "and it is the least we can do to let them and their families know that their sacrifice is not and never will be forgotten". Assisting with Escort service for the plaque placements at the Wall

by family and friends were Vietnam Veterans Thomas Tyrrell '66 Chaplain at VFW Post 7213 in Norwood Pa. and former head baseball coach Franny Kehoe '65. "We served in Nam and believe me it was not fun", said Tyrrell. "We are fortunate and humbled to be able to provide this service for our Fallen Comrades today". Kehoe added "May god bless their Souls". Also members of Post 184 provided Rifle Squad service and John Walker, Jr. '86 along with his sons John and Geof '10, all Marines, provided Honor guard services for the ceremony. On Sunday at Westy's a special remembrance ceremony was conducted for former football player Wayne Sutkus '61 who passed on this year to his eternal rewards. "Wayne was a true and loyal Burr" said his lifelong friend and teammate, former head football coach Nick Cerone. "To honor him today in this tribute is special" said coach Cerone as he handed out Tropical Trophies to all in attendance while hanging at Wayne's favorite Burrs on the Beach spot on the first floor in his traditional Hawaiian shirt. Many dressed accordingly for the occasion in respect to Wayne and his lifetime of achievements as a professional educator and loyalty to the West Catholic program. Honor, Loyalty, Respect; not just 3

words but a part of the West Catholic tradition. We each have the power of 1 within us. Let's make the 2016 reunion another opportunity to make lasting memories. We must always have our eyes on the future but should also always

remember our past. We surely did in 2015 and June 2016 presents yet another Golden opportunity for our annual All Class Reunion in Wildwood: Just Book It! Just Do it! Go Burrs Go!



Pictured are photos of Past alumni president Tommy Dorrian (Center) along with coach Cerone (to his left) and other Fans and friends of Wayne 'The Train' Sutkus at the tropical trophy presentation. Also pictured is the memorial Plaque on location in the West Library and other members of the Burr Nation at the reunion.

## Own a business in Pennsylvania?

Give through your state taxes Pennsylvania offers a rewarding program for businesses to send their states taxes to West Catholic as a donation. Called Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC), you can provide scholarships and financial aid for our students who live in underachieving school districts of which over 95% of our student body qualifies. Your

state business tax dollars can bring young men and women out of these failing schools and offer them a chance to excel here at West Catholic. The process is as simple as filling out a one page form. Contact Andrew Brady '02 to learn more about the program at [abrady@bloccs.org](mailto:abrady@bloccs.org) or call Andrew at 484-704-2309.



# 28<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BURRS AT THE BEACH ALL CLASS REUNION!

Johnnie Walker

There was another invasion this year, a little earlier than usual. However, on Sunday June 28th, none of that seemed to matter as close to a thousand Burrs and Lady Burrs flocked to Westy's Irish Pub in North Wildwood to celebrate the 28th Annual Burrs at the Beach All Class Reunion. After all these years, the West Catholic All Class Reunion is still the best of them all. I want to thank all of our loyal supporters who attend



long. The Burrs at the Beach Committee implemented a focused social media campaign on Facebook and Linked In. The Young Alumni Committee ran a bus trip to Burrs that left from

West Catholic. Thanks to their efforts, the bus was packed. Meanwhile, there was a change to the regular bus that had been leaving from Delaware County.

Jimmy D's was recently sold so Hagerty's on Macdade Blvd in Holmes Pa. stepped in and served as a pick up spot along with O'Leary's on West Chester Pike in Haverford Pa. In addition, First year Burrs at the Beach Committee Co-Chair Peggy Panichelli 65' developed a webpage for Burrs at the Beach. All of these efforts helped to make the event so successful. We were pleased to welcome so many younger Alumni to Burrs at the Beach for the first time. Our older alums remarked repeatedly that they enjoyed the opportunity to share some of their experiences, history, and traditions of West Catholic with our younger alum. Thanks for all who came out this year; your attendance helped us to generate more funds for the current students of West Catholic which is the purpose of the event. The camaraderie and reconnecting with old classmates are just a bonus. Through your generosity, a check for \$20,000 will be presented to Brother Richard Kestler at the September meeting of the West Catholic Alumni Association, West Catholic Preparatory High School President. This money will be used for Catholic Student tuition assistance. Our 50/50 chance drive saw three winners go home with a combined total of \$1,600. The first winner received \$750, the second \$500, and the third \$350. So make sure you get your 50/50 tickets next year. An anonymous member of the Class of 1964 donated the cost associated with Blackthorn again. This was a really nice gesture and helped to make our event extra special but more importantly helped us to raise a whole lot more for West. This Alum has already informed the Committee that they will do so again for next year. So that means Blackthorn is locked in for another year. Next year's Burrs at the Beach is scheduled for June 26. We are hoping the move will make the room rates a little more affordable so we can continue to attract our younger alumni. So make your plans now for the 29th Annual Burrs at the Beach All Class Reunion.

every year and make this event the envy of all the other schools. Once again, the West Catholic Burrs at the Beach Committee did a tremendous job putting the event together. The 2015 Burrs

at the Beach featured Blackthorn and DJ Jerry Smith. Blackthorn is one of the premier cover bands in Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey and DJ Jerry Smith has been a mainstay at Burrs at the Beach for the last 10 years. They certainly did not disappoint. Blackthorn dazzled the Burrs with a versatile mix of traditional Irish music and club mixes that appealed to the many generations of Burrs in attendance. DJ Jerry Smith spun records that covered every era satisfying all musical tastes, and got the Burrs up and dancing. We were forced to dance in the aisles because the dance floor was packed all day



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Once again this year, Peg West and the staff at Westy's were obliging and gracious hosts. Peg couldn't do enough for us. The upstairs deck looked really sharp, there were plenty of bars set up both inside and outside and the food was great. The Burrs at the Beach committee did a spectacular job. They spend a lot of time throughout the year and especially the couple of months preceding Burrs and the day of the event working hard to ensure that the event takes place without issue. Again I would like to thank Tom Dorian, George Light, and Peggy Panichelli and the Entire Burrs at the Beach committee for all of your hard work and helping to KEEP WEST BEST!



**Plenty of time to plan for next year! Mark your calendars...**

**THE 29TH ANNUAL BURRS AT THE BEACH is scheduled for JUNE 26, 2016**



## LET US REMEMBER By: Ed Kerr, '60

West Catholic Prep has a proud history to be valued and treasured. The students of today are focused on their studies and activities, as they should be during the exciting year ahead at West Catholic Prep. Since the fall of 1989 when West Catholic High School opened the school year as a coeducational High School at 45th & Chestnut Street following the closing of both West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys' and West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Girls' after graduation in June of 1989. Both of the original High Schools opened their doors nearly 100 years ago, West Boys' opened in September of 1916 and West Girls' did so in September of 1927. The Boys' were at 49th & Chestnut while the Girls' were only four blocks away at 45th & Chestnut, the current home of West Prep. Since most of my experience connects to the first 75 + years, I hope to help you remember many of those who contributed to the success of BURR LAND during those wonderful years. Father Walter C. Tredtin, S.M. 1916-1921, West Catholic Boys' first Principal, Peter J. Mooney, President, John J. Driscoll, Vice President and William J. Dunn, Secretary, Class Officers Class of 1920. The first year of classes for the young BURRS of West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys' 1916-1917 were completed at the Transfiguration Parish School on Cedar Avenue in

West Philadelphia. Other key contributors to the success of this first year were Brother Joseph Jennings, S.M. and Brother Aloysius Ebert, S.M. The second Principal, Father John Ott, S.M. served from 1921-1926. Not until 1926 did the Christian Brothers begin to make their mark on this outstanding Catholic High School for Boys'. As reported in 1992 in The West Catholic Story, Brother Kevin Stanton, F.S.C., '56 wrote that in September of 1926 a new religious community prepared to assume direction of the school. The Brothers of Mary, who had conducted West Catholic until that time, found it necessary to transfer their Brothers to other assignments. They were succeeded by the Brothers of the Christian Schools, under the leadership of Brother E. Anselm Murphy, F.S.C. Under the direction of the Christian Brothers their student population increased from the opening year of 110 students, until it reached a peak of 2,875 in 1952. This number included freshmen year annexes in several West Philadelphia, and suburban parishes. Brother Kevin also reported that West Catholic Boys' tradition is extraordinary not so much for its length as it is for the quality of its administrators and teachers, along with the unique spirit they fostered. Ask any alumnus from 49th & Chestnut about West Catholic, and he will reminisce about the personal concern of his former teachers as well as the

companionship shared with fellow students in class and extracurricular activities. We are fortunate that Brother Kevin (Principal from 1970-1973) continues today to spread the special spirit of the Christian Brothers. Just as former Principals did during the earlier days at Burr Land. They include Brother E. James, (1932-1937), Brother E. Abdon, 1937-1938, Brother Francis de Sales, 1938-1941, Brother E. Paul, 1947-1950, Brother David Henry, 1950-1954; Brother G. John, 1954-1962. Let us remember them and help the West Catholic of today (West Prep) to continue, flourish and grow. Did you know the Boys' basketball team of 1920-21 was the first West Catholic Boys' team to win a Catholic League Championship? Another first happened in 1943 when the undefeated BURR football team became the first in school history to capture the City of Philadelphia Football Championship outright with a 21-0 victory over the Public school Champ, Northeast High School at Franklin Field. Yes, we all remember the good days when both West Boys' and West Girls' were in their prime. As the 100 year Anniversary of West Boys' nears... Let us remember to support Catholic Education by helping West Prep through the Alumni Association.

St. John Baptist De La Salle... Pray for Us...

Live Jesus In Our Hearts...  
Forever! SUPPORT

### The Gift Of Music

For over 50 years, the violin sat in the Benecke family home in Collingdale, PA waiting for what happened in August of this past year. It sat in a closet in its original case with the bow quietly waiting for a new musician until this week.



Regina has fond memories of her days at West Catholic and a recent conversation with a high school secretary made her smile.

"I called to Thank them for sending me the alumni newsletter and

The violin's chance to be again came August 13th, 2015 when Regina Benecke, age 96, a resident of Sterling Nursing and Rehabilitation center in Media, PA presented the violin to Dave Joslin, Jr., President of the West Catholic Alumni Association. It was Regina's wish that a current student at her alma mater have a chance to make music with her sister's violin.

Regina, a member of the class of 1936, was Regina Hughes when she attended the high school. She played piano but her older sister, Margaret Hughes, who passed away in 1975, played the violin. The sisters grew up in Minersville,

PA and the family moved to Philadelphia in 1928. Regina remembers her parents, Margaret and Arthur Hughes buying the violin in the 1920's.

"We loved to play music. I knew it was somewhere in my house. I was so glad when my granddaughter found the violin," Regina said. "It's in good shape and it will be wonderful to know someone will play it again."

The violin case has fallen apart, the strings and bridge need to be replaced but the instrument is in good condition, she said.

the woman was very nice and she said they are glad to send it," Regina said. "She asked what class I was and when I told her Class of 1936 she was surprised and said 'That would make you 96 years old'." Regina replied, "I told her, 'Yes I knew my age before I called you.'"

The violin is now in the process of being restored prior to its presentation to the school's music program. Regina unfortunately passed away on September 10, 2015 a few weeks after presenting the violin to the Alumni Association.

## SUPPORT YOUR



### HOW CAN YOU HELP...

- \* MAKING A DONATION ONLINE
- \* PURCHASING MERCHANDISE
- \* VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME

Go to our website  
[www.WestCatholicAlumni.org](http://www.WestCatholicAlumni.org)  
to get involved and  
help make a difference!

## THE EMISSARY

is currently issued twice a year by the Alumni Associations Communications Committee. If you would like to contribute please send your ideas, questions, comments, photos, suggestions, updates on family, friends or classmates, etc... along to [westcatholicalumni@gmail.com](mailto:westcatholicalumni@gmail.com)

### A Note from Andrea Sutkus...

I wanted to advise the W.C. alumni association of my husband, Wayne Sutkus, passing. He lost his battle with cancer, passing away on April 4, 2015. He thought the world of his Christian Brother education at West Catholic. He also thought the world of his football coaches of his time, the Mcaneneys, John & Vince. Wayne was an outstanding player on West's football team & in his senior year, he was recruited by the University

of Maryland... which he later attended. He did not graduate University of Maryland, but transferred out to Western Kentucky University & later graduated from there with a B.S. in Health & Physical Education. He taught health & physical education at the Franklin Learning Center H.S. in Phila., PA, as well as a coach & their athletic director. He retired from teaching in 2004. He enjoyed his retirement at his beach home in Brigantine, NJ... where he spent his last days. He is survived by his wife, Andrea, & his son, Adam.

## IN MEMORIAM

### May They Rest In Peace

NAME	CLASS	NAME	CLASS
Joseph F. O'Donnell	1938	Michael J Gardner	1957
Father Phillip Barr	1938	Ernest M Pellicciotti	1957
Francis "Dixie" Dunbar	1940	Walter F Riess Jr.	1958
Elizabeth Cassidy Courter	1941	William Luther	1959
James J Magee	1941	Francis J McManus Jr.	1959
Thomas J Tobin	1941	Gerald Harley	1960
Edward F Lindsay Sr.	1943	John G McMurrough Jr.	1960
John F Mortimer	1947	Robert J Birzes	1962
Robert McKenna	1948	William J Delany	1962
George V Doney	1948	Peter Ward	1964
John F. "Jack" Maguire	1953	Joseph Yanak	1964
James R Teta Jr.	1953	Thomas L Kirk	1965
Frank R Acquarola	1955	Henry J Rodgers	1967
Michel P Fahy	1955	Michael R Padula	1969
Joseph M Flanagan	1956	Janetta Hardy	1972
David J Kelly	1956	Robert J Trasatti	1978
Joseph L Pretzello	1956	Gerard M Schuhl	1983

Please keep the families of our deceased in your prayers