St. Mary's Spirit Newsletter Winter 2023

St. Mary's Catholic School Development Office 301 E. Adams O'Neill NE 68763 402-336-1602 www.stmarysoneill.org

Facebook: /stmarysoneill/ jmwallwey@archomaha.org

President

Father Bernard Starman

Principals

Mrs. Paula Atkeson, '84 Mrs. Jennie Schneider, "84

Guidance Counselor Mrs. Paula Atkeson, '84

Athletic Director Mr. Tony Allen

Development Director Mrs. Jennifer Wallwey

Director of Operations Deacon MJ Kersenbrock, '74

Mission Statement

St. Mary's Catholic School is committed to forming students In the image and likeness of Jesus Christ, through the hands of Mary, fostering the formation of the whole person, body, mind and soul.

Uniting learning with Faith In God, and our Faith In God with daily life, we joyfully proclaim, "May My Soul Magnify the Lord!"

Change of Address

To notify us of address changes or personal updates, please fill out the on-line form stmarysoneill.org under the Alumni Tab or call the Parish Office at 402-336-1602.

Alumni Weekend June 2022



(pictured on left) Class of 1952 —70 years (/ to r) Henry Murphy, Don Donohoe, Joanne (Thoendel) Stump, Bernard Mohr, James Kelly, Suzanne Moss

(pictured on right)

Class of 1962—60 years (/ to r) Front row: Kathy (Jeffers) Breiner, Pat (McKenzie) Drueke Middle row: Kay (Jeffers) Breiner, Jean (Muff) Peter Back row: Jerry Schmitz, Dick Pongratz

Class of 1972- 50 years

(I to r) Front row. Vicky (Holz) Earley, Colleen (Gallagher) Mills, Karen "Becky" (Beck) Scheimechel, Greg Belzer, Patti (Clark) Rogers, Tim Gallagher Middle row: Jean (Pruss) Waldo, Karen (Bosn) Murphy, Jeanne (Donohoe) Hauser, Delores (Tarnish) Stanzel, Bev (Ziska) McConnell, Kevin Mahony, Paul Zakrzekwsi Back row: Pat Cole, Gene Soukup, Bob Stuifbergen, Makayla (Svoboda) Seger, Steve Cavanaugh, Bob Miles





Class of 1997—25 years (/ to r) Front row: Kylie Cole, Jennifer (Morrow) Walton Middle row: Grace (Bahrij) Ross, Laura (Luther) West, Amy (Jeffrey) Scofield, Stacy (Mahony) Jackson, Brad Timmerman. *Back row*: Nicole (Hurley) Tamisiea, Andy Willis, Travis Walnofer, Brian Koenig

Once a Cardinal. . . Always a Cardinal



Greetings from our President!

Dear St. Mary's Alumni, Benefactors and Friends,

Even though I've checked the calendar twice, I find it hard to believe that we here at St. Mary's are halfway through our 122nd academic year. It seems like just yesterday that we welcomed our faculty and staff back to school, and it seems like if I blink a couple more times, we'll be sending them home for the summer.



We were privileged to honor our junior high/high school science teacher Mrs. Erica Winkelbauer in September as the Archdiocesan Rural Secondary Teacher of the Year. It's a great honor for her and for St. Mary's! Congratulations again Mrs. Winkelbauer. The competition for those awards is fierce so getting selected means that the honor is well deserved. We've had several of our elementary and secondary faculty receive the award through the years.

As some of you are aware all parishes and schools in the Archdiocese of Omaha have been involved in an intensive pastoral planning process to restructure parishes and schools throughout the archdiocese. We're nearing the end of the parish portion of the planning and will soon begin in earnest the school portion of the plan. There won't be any major changes in governance or leadership, but we will begin asking and answering some difficult questions about what we at St. Mary's can do to become more mission oriented, and what are things we can build on to make our school shine even more than it already does? We already excel in many areas, but there are also always places we can improve.

We are also beginning to consider ways to celebrate our upcoming 125th Anniversary in 2025. Look forward for more information in upcoming newsletters. It will be here before we know it.

During these days, I am remembering all of our alumni, benefactors and friends (past and present) in gratitude because without you we could not continue to support the primary apostolate of St. Patrick's Parish ...St. Mary's Catholic School. Thank you for all that you've done and will do to keep the mission moving forward!

Ad multos annos!

Fr. Bernard Starman, President

Greetings from our principals!

The temperatures are dropping, indoor recess is becoming more frequent, & the students are currently participating in basketball, wrestling, & the one-act play. It's a busy time at school! Here are some things that have been going on at St. Mary's:

- Mr. Steve Bahrij was honored at the Homecoming pep rally for his 50 years of teaching at St. Mary's!
- Each house is hosting & leading a community rosary in the evening at St. Patrick's once a quarter.
- St. Mary's Athletics had a great fall, with the volleyball team being district champions, the football team getting to state playoffs, and the girls golf team finishing in 6th place at the state meet. We are so proud of our students, and not only their athletic abilities, but how they represent our school at these multiple events.
- Homecoming was held the week of Sept. 26–30. The dance was held on Friday evening following the football game. Congratulations to our royalty: Kyle Pribil & Emma Winkelbauer (King & Queen), Isaac Everitt & Hope Williamson (Prince & Princess), Jacob Popkes & Gracie Williamson (freshman attendants), Trever Reiser & Addy Shald (sophomore attendants), and Aydan Kloppenborg & Paisley Johnson (junior attendants).
- Traci Berg has started a newscast with the grade schoolers. It is posted on Facebook each week & used for the KBRX Radio show every other week. On the other weeks, teachers either go to the radio station to introduce themselves & visit with Scott, or send a digital recording from their students.
- October 24-28 students in the Grade School celebrated Red Ribbon Drug Free Week. Each day was a different dress up theme that went along with the drug-free message. Lower grades held a coloring contest, and upper grades had an essay contest. On Monday, O'Neill Police Department Officer Forker visited with the grade school students.
- Grade school students celebrated their grandparents with bingo & refreshments after Mass on Nov. 16th.
- And of course, the traditions of St. Mary's grade school continue—"The Littlest Pumpkin" play from the first graders, the costume parade for Halloween, the Veteran's Day program, "Lil' Cards" grade school basketball camps, the Thanksgiving Feast, and the upcoming drive-by Living Nativity from the 5th graders.

Have a blessed and holy Christmas season. Thank you for your support of St. Mary's! We have so much to be thankful for.

Jennie Schneider and Paula Atkeson, Principals

You're Invited

Mark your calendars now for the St. Mary's Catholic Schools Red Carpet Gala! The event will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2023 at the O'Neill Community Center. Plans are underway for a fun and lively evening including fine dining, live music, a unique and exclusive live auction and many more surprises! Proceeds from the event will go directly to our schools.



Alumni, St. Mary's families, stakeholders, and parishioners are all encouraged to attend. Spread the word - this event is sure to please! We are looking forward to enjoying a night of fun for our great schools!

More details coming soon on our Facebook page, 'O'Neill St. Mary's Red Carpet Gala,' including how to participate and purchase tickets. Please feel free to contact Molly Krotter at 402-340-9367 with questions or sponsorship opportunities.

The philosophy of education at Saint Mary's School is to provide an opportunity for our youth to grow spiritually, intellectually, culturally, physically and emotionally in order that they may be better prepared to live a life of service as Catholic citizens of their community and country. St. Mary's believes in providing quality education in a Christian setting.

While we can fairly easily quantify how our children are growing through their achievements on the courts or in the classrooms, it can be a little more challenging to determine how their spiritual growth is developing. However, one could argue it is by far the most important thing we do! And at St. Mary's, we are seeing their relationship with Christ and each other grow each day. Let us share some of those moments with you!

- The Our Pep Rallies for our state bound athletics and activities always end with a prayer and a blessing.
- The Once a quarter, a different house at the high school hosts and leads a community rosary at St. Patrick's. Whether there are specific intentions or more general needs, these students are seeing the importance of community and prayer.
- Mrs. Otte, our art teacher, has a "prayer door" in her classroom, which she says is one of her favorite spots in the art studio. A blank white piece of paper with the bible verse from Luke 11:3-13 at the top. "Ask and you shall receive. Seek and you shall find. Knock and the door shall be opened unto you." Since the beginning of the school year, students have filled it with prayers, pictures, and words of inspiration. Their additions to this ongoing piece of collaborative art are all black and white--pure and simple, like our faith in God should be.
- **†** Each week, different classes lead all school mass. Sometimes, it may be a little clumsy or a little loud... but it's always about prayer and worship together. There is something about the voices of children singing out in church and reading the scripture that touches the heart.
- This year, we have had two different parents step up to take the lead with our high schoolers on their faith journeys. Rebecca Gaughenbaugh plans and attends a retreat with each class, 7th-12th grade, once a year. The seniors' retreat this year including an overnight stay at the St. Benedictine Center in Schuyler. '87 Regina (Mudloff) Wiese has spear-headed a once a year student pilgrimage for each grade. These pilgrimages are being financially supported by a grant from the Sisters of St. Francis that Regina has planned and leads. This year's pilgrimages included a trip to "Our Lady of Good Help" in Wisconsin (juniors & seniors), the "Shrine of the Grotto of the Redemption" in Iowa (sophomores), Cloisters on the Platte & the Holy Family Shrine by Gretna (9th grade), St. Cecelia's Cathedral & Boy's Town in Omaha (8th grade), and House of Mary & Sacred Heart Monastery in Yankton (7th graders).

Athletics & Activities



The football team went 6-3 this year, making it to State for the third year in a row. Many boys stepped up this year, after losing six starters to graduation

from last year's 7-2 squad. We had fifteen boys on the team, thirteen letter winners. Isaac Everitt, Dalton Alder, Wyatt Scofield, and Gage Hedstrom all made 1st team All-District, with Carson Dannenbring and Jace Rosenkrans making 2nd team.

Joe Wiese, Risken Dawson, and Ruger Kraft made Honorable Mention. Kyle Pribil and Isaac Everitt made NSAA Academic All-State. Gage Hedstrom was named to the NENextt Super-State Freshman Team. We look forward to more post season honors as football winds down and a successful 2023-24 season.





St. Mary's volleyball team got an early start with skills camp, team camps, open gym, conditioning, and two-a-days before the season even got going! They began their season with an amazing 5-win streak followed by a loss to Summerland, and then an 8-win streak ending with a loss to Stuart. However they finished up their season with a twelve-win streak, including a victory over former opponents Stuart and Summerland. This led us to the State Tournament, where unfortunately we lost against the State Champion Runner-up, Overton, in the first round.

We are so proud of how far these girls have come in the last few years. On and off the court we have encouraged healthy communication, cooperation, and accountability. At the same time we have encouraged them to have fun and not grow up too fast. We celebrated a lot of "Team Tuesdays" and team meals.

Thank you to our seniors Emma Winkelbauer and Hope Williamson for their time and dedication to this team. Though it may not have been easy through the years, their perseverance speaks loudly.

We appreciate any alumni that have supported us by coming to games, watching online, or saying prayers for us. We hope that we can continue making the St. Mary's family proud and pushing these young women to be the best version God created them to be.





The 2022 O'Neill Softball Team finished the year 12-11. The O'Neill Softball team is comprised of girls from O'Neill High and St. Mary's. This year, the players from St. Mary's were senior-Ryanne Pistulka, junior-Sydney Birkel, sophomore-Loretta Scofield, and freshmen-Emerson Minarik & Elle Hoffman. All Conference and 3-year starting pitcher for the Eagles was Ryanne Pistulka. She led her team to the district finals her sophomore and junior year, losing only to the eventual state champions all 3 years. Sydney Birkel's base running efforts helped rest our pitchers and catchers. She also had substantial

playing time on the JV team. Loretta Scofield played in every varsity game as an outfielder and played a lot of JV. Her speed on the bases was an asset to the team. Emerson Mlnarik and Elle Hoffman played a lot of JV and saw time at the varsity level as base runners. Both girls saw action at the plate as well. Keep your eyes on this team as the future looks bright for O'Neill softball!



The O'Neill girls golf team had a very successful season. The team placed within the top 3 at seven of their invites and qualified for the state tournament. Kaylin Gaughenbaugh, Cecelia Mlnarik, and Claire Popkes (all juniors at St. Mary's) each qualified individually, and Kaylin placed 11th at the state tournament. Kaylin Gaughenbaugh ended the season with an average score of 88. She medaled at every meet and placed first at 5 of those invites, including Mid-States Conference. She also set the school record this year with a 79 in Atkinson. Cecelia Mlnarik ended the season with an average score of 97 & many top 10 finishes. Claire Popkes ended the year with an average score of 102, and medaled at a majority of the meets. Another St. Mary's participant was freshman Aubrey Wohlert. She worked hard this year and as a beginner showed great improvement. She

participated in a few JV meets, and was able to medal at one of those. Overall, the O'Neill Girls Golf team had an impressive season and show major potential for next year.

This year's One Act Team performed "Lafayette No. 1", a haunting historical drama. As the yellow fever epidemic ravages the streets of 1816 New Orleans, no one thinks of the orphans known as the Forgotten--except for Lizzie Landry. Lizzie brings bread from her mother's kind employer to the band of homeless youths she's befriended, though local police and politicians consider them nothing but a nuisance. But when the epidemic entangles Lizzie's fate with those of

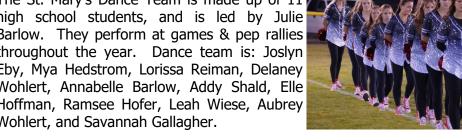


the Forgotten, they all must band together to hold the city accountable for their most vulnerable citizens. They placed runner up at NVC West and at Districts. At NVC West, the team brought home multiple "outstanding actor" awards, and Addy Shald was named Best Actress!



St. Mary's has 10 cheerleaders this year, 7th-12th grade, led by '84 Denise (Dempsey) Pribil. They are: Caitey Ruzicka, Ellie Atkeson, Kendall Parks, Peyton Thompson, Addy Shald, Aubrey Wohlert, Ramsee Hofer, Elle Hoffman, Savannah Gallagher, and Olivia Bauer. They cheer at football & basketball games.

The St. Mary's Dance Team is made up of 11 high school students, and is led by Julie Barlow. They perform at games & pep rallies throughout the year. Dance team is: Joslyn Eby, Mya Hedstrom, Lorissa Reiman, Delaney Wohlert, Annabelle Barlow, Addy Shald, Elle Hoffman, Ramsee Hofer, Leah Wiese, Aubrey Wohlert, and Savannah Gallagher.





awards, including a superior rating & most outstanding colorguard at Pierce Marching Festival, and 1st place class 3 open, best music, best effect, best visual, best percussion, and best color quard at Quad State Regional Champion.





We truly do appreciate the generous year-round support from our alumni and friends of St. Mary's. Without that, we simply could not exist. The tuition we charge for St. Mary's is only a portion of what it actually costs to educate a child at our school so we rely on others to keep things moving forward. Your gifts

make a difference, just as someone else's generosity made a difference to you. You can send a check or even give online at **stmarysoneill.org/support**. If you would like to send it in, please return the form below to the Parish Office with your donation. Listed are several different places or items you can give to:

*St. Mary's Undesignated Expenses *St. Mary's tuition scholarships (merit-based) *St. Mary's Foundation

*Wish list items for St. Mary's *St. Mary's tuition grants (need-based) *St. Patrick Foundation

*Operation Tribute display *St. Patrick's undesignated expenses *St. Patrick repair & restoration

*St. Mary's 12 x 12 (recurring monthly gifts)

(Please see the form on the back page of the newsletter to donate with a check to any of these causes.)

We also have options for you to give St. Mary's shares of your stock, or plan for future giving with your will or living trust, life insurance policies, or a charitable trust. Please see a summary of tax advantaged options & how to make a gift below.

Make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) of Individual Retirement Account (IRA) assets

If you are 70½ or older, a QCD charitable distribution is a way you can support the school or foundation.

- Benefits of a QCD charitable distribution
 - o Avoid taxes on transfers of any amount **up to \$100,000** from your IRA to the school/foundation
 - o Make a gift that is not subject to the deduction limits on charitable gifts
- How a QCD charitable distribution gift works
 - o Contact your IRA plan administrator to make a gift from your IRA to the Church
 - o Your IRA funds will be directly transferred to the school to help continue our important work; they must be directly transferred from your IRA to the charitable organization to count as a Qualified Charitable Distribution
 - o Please note that IRA charitable rollover gifts do not qualify for a charitable deduction, but they can count as all or part of your required minimum distribution

To make a direct bank deposit

Contact the parish office at 402-336-1602/crsholes@archomaha.org for banking information.

Gift of Stock

A gift of long term appreciated publicly traded stock may entitle the donor to an income tax charitable deduction for the fair market value of the stock on the effective date of the gift and also avoid capital gains tax. In many cases it is more advantageous for a donor to donate the securities to a qualified organization than to sell the securities and donate the cash proceeds. If you have stocks that have lost value, but you still wish to use them to make a donation, they should be sold first and then the proceeds donated. However, we recommend that you consult your tax advisor for additional information. To transfer stock to the school/foundation:

1. Instruct your broker to transfer shares of stock to St. Mary's or St. Patrick's using the following information.

Broker: Edward Jones, 415 E. Douglas, O'Neill, NE 68763

Contact: Randy Hupp or Julie Regan (402-336-3336)

Account Name & Federal Tax ID:

St. Mary's Catholic School 47-0413713 St. Mary's Foundation 47-0595726 St. Patrick's Catholic Church 47-0413713 St. Patrick's Foundation 47-0413713

2. Contact me at 402-336-1602/jmwallwey@archomaha.org to ensure that I am aware of your pending stock transfer. Upon receipt of the transfer, we will issue a stock transfer receipt to you. The gift is valued as the average of the high and low market price of the stock on the day of the transfer. Please note that the entire transfer process can take several business days.

Give me a call or drop me an email & we can talk about options! Thank you for all you do!

Jennifer Wallwey, Director of Stewardship & Development 402-336-1602 imwallwey@archomaha.org



Mr. Steve Bahrij is in his 50th year of complations teaching at St. Mary's! The parents of his students, and even a few grandparents, have had Mr. Bahrij as their teacher, and

even some of our current teachers had Mr. Bahrij as their teacher! What a blessing he has been to so many over the years! As you probably know, Mr. Bahrij does not like to be in the spotlight (maybe why he's always behind that camera!) but I encourage you to drop him a note of appreciation and let him know how he made a difference in your life! Cards can be sent to:

Mr. Steve Bahrij, 609 E. Everett St., O'Neill, NE 68763



We are making forward progress on our tribute for our veterans! We are working with '83 alum Joe Ross of "Stick It Vinyl" to create a display for honoring our veterans. It will be in the high school commons, just to the left of the main While we know it will be a work in progress to keep it updated, I do want to make sure that the information we do have is correct. Please take a moment to go to our website at stmarysoneill.org/military and check for your loved one's (or your) name. Let me know if I am missing someone, or if there needs to be a correction. Our hope is that we will be able to dedicate the "wall" at either the Alumni Banquet in June 2023 or Veteran's Day 2023.



As you know, I try to keep the Spirit Newsletter fresh with information both about the school and the alumni, but I need your help! I would love to find a representative from each class (or even

over a few years of classes) that would review the contact information I have for that class, and update me with email addresses, phone numbers, deaths, marriages, etc. After that initial "clean up", I would like to ask that you keep me aware of things that occur on a regular basis. In fact, anyone can visit our website at www.stmarysoneill.org/alumni-updates and fill out updated information there. (Parents-let's get your kids listed at their own addresses!!) Please let me know if you'd be willing to be your class's connector by calling the parish office at 402-336-1602 or email jmwallwey@archomaha.org. Thank you!

Jennifer Wallwey, Director of Development & Stewardship

St. Mary's Development '67 Dale & Glenda Mudloff '93 Micaela (Bauer) Corey Gerald Willis '60 William Shoemaker Don & Delphine Schmidt Endowment '67 Jim & '67 Pat (McKay) Gokie

In memory of Opal Bosn '72 Kevin & Patty Mahony '80 Dana & '80 Val (Hansen) Wecker

'60 Ron & Fran Gilg

'64 Mike & '64 Linda (Stuifbergen) Hammond

In memory of: Duane & Dorothy Gray Clarence & '31 Lois (Sullivan) Donohoe Kave Chohon '52 Maureen Rohde

St. Mary's Foundation In memory of '78 Bridget Ramold Marjorie Tomjack estate '68 Leanne Tomjack

St. Patrick Foundation In memory of '46 Beverly McCarthy

St. Patrick Church Restoration '84 Gary Schaaf Jack & '57 Coni (Bazelman) Hollenbeck '60 Bernard & JoEllen Kamphaus '67 Jim & '67 Pat (McKay) Gokie In memory of Marjorie Tomjack

St. Patrick's Catholic Church

In memory of Opal Bosn Steve Otto '67 Jim & '67 Pat (McKay) Gokie Sharon & Stan Spangler Kevin & Jodi Loecker 53 Anna Marie (Schulte) Moser

'01 Mark & Jacque Mahony

St. Mary's 2022 **Scholarships & Grants** In honor of Fr. Joseph Sund

Sr. Anita Rolenc Anson Insurance Jacob Scott In honor of John & '59 Mary O'Brien '53 Marilyn (Beha) Rinzel '60 Fred & Elaine Snowardt

'43 Leonard Engler Estate '64 Mike & '64 Linda (Stuifbergen) Hammond

'63 Owen Donohoe '08 Amy (Tomjack) Slattery '71 Michael Yantzi In memory of '46 graduate whose emphasis on school, continued learning & Catholic teachings was exercised in her daily life

St. Mary's 2022 Scholarships & Grants

In memory of: '51 John Vitt '47 Sister Regina Boyle Bernard & Vera Pongratz '44 Margaret (Engler) Straka '46 Beverly McCarthy Janice Venquist Andersen 2000 Joe Gray Matt & Lucille Liewer Roman Filips Andy & '64 Marie Ramold Hubert Ramold Baby Casey Ryan '76 Laura Dugan Tom & Rex Drueke '78 Judy (McKenzie) Colfack Don & '91 David Duffy Joyce Kallhoff '95 Nicole Reiser Bennett '97 Emily Reiser

'67 Patsy (Dufek) Wranek

'67 Pat Grutsch '67 Bob "Feather" Donohoe '67 John Dick" Stuifbergen '67 Lynda (Hynes) Coday

'67Patsy (Gillogly) Coventry '67 Raydene (Timmerman) Bacon '60 'Richard "Dick" Cleary passed away March 11, 2020 at Countryside Homes in Madison, NE. He enlisted in the Navy in November of 1960 and was honorably discharged in August of 1966, before moving to Atkinson area with his wife Madge where he worked in farming. Dick enjoyed hunting, playing cards (often accused of cheating), and watching sports and game shows. He loved spending time with his grandkids and great-grandkids. He is survived by his children Steve (Kim), Jeff (Sarah), Lisa (Pat), Troy, and Jenny (Justin), 9 grandkids & 4 great-grandchildren, a brother '58 Larry, & a sister '53 Barb Loock. He was preceded in death by his wife '63







Madeline "Madge" Richards) and infant son Matthew.

`81 Steven Petersen passed away on May 29, 2022 at the age of 59. He is survived by his wife Sondra, son Mason, mother Marge Petersen, and siblings **`73 Deb** (Tom) **Young**, **`74 Cindy** (Allan) **Stone**, **`76 Susan** (Victor) **Youn**g, and **`90 Shawn** (Doug) **Dilly**.



'52 Maureen (Mahony) Rohde passed away on June 8, 2022. Maureen was the oldest of 14 children and mother of 5 children. She took great pride in being a nurse and her nursing career. Maureen kept her family & her faith always at the forefront of her life. She is survived by her husband of 64 years, **'47 Frank Rohde**, five children **'77 Mark** (Tami), **'78 Terri**, **'80 Jerome** (Rob Newcomb), **'82 Peggy**, and **'85 Michelle** (John) **Sgourakis**, as well as 7 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her siblings, **'54 Bette** (**'48 Ed) Boyle**, **'57 Charley**

Boyle, '59 Charles (Diane), '60 Pauline Carr, '63 Rosemary Cooley, '61 Agnes (Paul) Halvorsen, '65 Mike (Kim), '66 Pat (Elva), '72 Kevin (Patty), '74 Theresa (Gary) Parker, and brother in law Jim Gallagher. She was preceded in death by three sisters, '53 Mary Jo Gallagher, '56 Karen Ramold, and '68 Sister Colleen Mahony, and four brothers-in-law, Ron Cooley, Nick Ramold, Jim Carr, and '51 Dick Boyle.



'65 Patrick Carr passed away on June 9, 2022 at the age of 76. He worked for the United Parcel Service for 25 years before retiring & was a member of the Army National Guard of Nebraska from 1965-1971. Patrick is survived by his children, Monti Carr, **'93 Kirk** (Mindy), and **'95 Kimberly** (Patrick) **Morton**, 3 step-children, Mark Smith, Matt (Megan) Smith, and Cam Dauer, 8 grandchildren & 4 step-grandchildren. He is also survived by his special friend Ellen Jo Carlson, sister **'60 Sharon** (Larry) **Roach**, and 2 brothers-in-law & 2 sisters-in-law. He was preceded in death by his wife

Debra, brothers Gene & Jim, & sisters-in law, **'58 Joann** & **'55 Cecelia**.



Sister Maureen Murphy passed away at the age of 90 on June 21, 2022. Her ministry of teaching took her to every school in the Sister's Province beginning in 1952 at St. Mary's. In 1974 through 1977 she would live in Rome, Italy and teach at the Generalate. Following her return to the United States she would come to Alliance. From 1978 until her retirement she served in various Pastoral Ministries in Minot, ND, Alliance, Manderson, SD, and Denver until retiring in 2006 living in both Denver and Alliance. She is survived by her siblings, **'51 Cornelius, '52 Henry**

(Helen), **'53 Sophie Ingraham**, **'56 Jane** (Tom) **LaHood**, **'56 Eileen Denning**, **'58 Dr. James** (Cherie), Rita, & John (Alissandra), numerous nieces & nephews, & her Franciscan Family. She was preceded in death by her siblings, Betty Ann Murphy, Mary Robertcht & Frank Murphy.



'59 Tom Zakrzewski passed away at the age of 80 on June 26, 2022. Tom drove truck for most of his life. He had a love for being on the move and could always be found driving around O'Neill in his green pickup or flying one of his two planes. Tom is survived by his 3 children, Evan, Tucker, and Natalie (Jess) Ethington, and 4 step-children, Deb (Randy) Swanson, Dan (Deb) Nekolite, Dennis (Zula) Nekolite, and Don Nekolite, as well as 18 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren. He is also survived

by his siblings, Pat Petersen, Gary (Sharon), **'67 Eddie** (Beth), Sylvia Frear, and Donnie (Cheryl), and sister in law Sara Zakrzewski. He was preceded in death by his wife Sharron, daughter Dianna, grandson, Michael Nekolite, and brother **'62 Ronnie**.



Reverend James "Father Mac" McCluskey passed away on June 22, 2022. Father Mac served as an associate pastor at St. Patrick's in O'Neill from 1970 to 1977. He retired to Wayne in 2013, and continued to assist many fellow priests in area parishes. Father Mac was a genuine teacher of the Gospel, spiritual leader, & minister of the sacraments. His sense of humor and kindness will always be remembered. He is survived by his brothers William "Bill", Tom (Diane), & Don (Helen), many nieces & nephews, & many parish families.

`68 Francis Musil passed away at the age of 71 on Friday, September 16, 2022, in Phoenix, AZ.



'52 Donald D. Graham passed away on July 4, 2022. Donald was raised in O'Neill & is a descendant of one of the town's founding fathers. Following a two-year stint in the U.S. Army, 82nd Airborne Division, he resumed studies at Creighton University. He entered into the CPA firm of Begley, Herbert & Graham, & he also served as an adjunct faculty member at Creighton. Donald built a group of companies headquartered in Omaha with worldwide operations. He was preceded in death by daughter, Peggy Clark; son-in-law, Dave Phelps; and great-grandson, Maverick Peitz. He is survived by wife, Margery; daughter, Nancy Graham Cagle (Brad) & son Donald Jr. (Karen), 7 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren & sister, Kay Maughan.



'78 Bridget Ramold passed away unexpectedly on July 14, 2022 at her home in Yankton. Bridget was one of 11 children. She loved watching the Nebraska Huskers, reading books, & collecting cardinal figurines. Bridget is survived by seven siblings, '73 Chuck (Connie), '76 Alice (Roger) Starman, '80 Rose Barritt, '83 George (Joan), '84 Tom, Geralyn, Theresa (Chris) Kramer; one brother-in-law, Dennis Barrit & many nieces & nephews. Bridget was

preceded in death by her mother **'51 Bridget (Boyle)** & father Joseph, two brothers, Gerald & **'74 Joe**; one sister, **'78 Ann Barritt**; brother-in-law, Dan Barritt; & sister-in-law, Julie Ramold.



'57 Ellen (Donohoe) Shaw passed away on July 8, 2022. Ellen was born in O'Neill and was the oldest of ten children. She was preceded in death by both of her parents and her youngest sister, **'73 Erin Kelley (aka Anne Donohoe)**. She is survived by sisters, **'61 Kathleen** (Stephen) **Rosenberg, '69 Mary ('69 Dan) Straka, '72 Jeanne** (Joe) **Hauser**, & brothers **'58 Tom** (Sharon), **'63 Owen** (Charlene), **'66 Neil** (Karen), **'68 Bill** (Sandy), & **'71 Pat.** Ellen was a woman of deep devotion to her faith and family. She was a loving mother to seven

children: Julie (Terry) Holz, Mike Shaw, Shelley (Dave) Boyd, **'82 Tony** (Michelle), **'84 Stephanie ('83 Gary) Cuddy, '87 Heidi**, and Andrea (Tim) Driscoll. Ellen was a proud grandmother to fifteen and a great-grandmother to 4.5 children.



'58 Tom Donohoe passed away at the age of 81 on July 15, 2022. Tom was the oldest boy of 10 children, raised on a dairy farm. He was a proud alumnus of St. Mary's and attended every reunion he could. Tom lived his life to the fullest, devoted to his faith and an active member of his parish, active until the end with motorcycle rides, time at the golf course, playing cards, and watching football and basketball. He was a man who dearly loved his family and enjoyed every moment he could with them. Tom was preceded in death by both of

his parents and his sisters '57 Ellen and '73 Erin (Anne). He is survived by his wife Sharon, his five children, Shawn (Kim), Kelly (Jennifer), Colin, Chad (Tiffany), and Kara (JD) Manning, his 11 grandchildren; his brothers '63 Owen (Charlene), '66 Neil (Karen), '68 Bill (Sandy) and '71 Pat; and his sisters: '61 Kathleen (Stephen) Rosenberg, '69 Mary ('69 Dan) Straka, and '72 Jeanne (Joe) Hauser.



'69 Pat Robertson passed away at the age of 71 on July 25, 2022. While in school, Pat developed a love of music, playing guitar and fast cars. After graduation, he attended tech school in Denver, CO. He was a skilled mechanic and could fix anything. Pat always enjoyed spending time outside, and later in life he found a passion for ranching. He was passionate about experiencing new things, including new restaurants and recipes for good food. Pat was also an avid hunter and fisherman. He loved spending time with his children

and grandchildren. Pat will be remembered by his family and friends as a loyal and trustworthy man. He is survived by his wife, '70 Janice (Donohoe), three children Shelly (Edward Frosche Jr), Keith, and Jerri Jo (Hadi) Damavandy, 8 grandchildren, and his sister '71 Nancy (Robertson) Moss.



'73 Kelly Appleby passed away at the age of 67 on August 1, 2022 at his home in Omaha. He enjoyed attending sporting events around the country. His friends in Omaha were like family to him, supporting him during his decade-long battle with cancer. He is survived by his mother, Lavonna Appleby, brother Greg (Kaye) Appleby, sisters **'69 Linda ('69 Mike) Verzal**, Ann Austin, and **'80 Ellen (Mike) Ludemann**. He was preceded in death by his father Fred and brothers **'66 Bruce** and **'70 Chuck**.



Frank Rempp, former dean of students, PE teacher, athletic director, and coach at St. Mary's during the 1990s, passed away on July 25, 2022. He was preceded in death by his wife Irene (former guidance counselor & psychology teacher at St. Mary's) in 2016. He is survived by his children Leo Carol, and Tom, and 3 grandchildren.



`60 Larry Mudloff passed away at the age of 80 on August 21, 2022. Larry farmed and ranched with his father and brother until retiring in 2020. He is survived by his 2 children Lori (Robin), and JD (Harlan) Mudloff, brother **`69 Dale** (Glenda), and special friend Mary Ann Babutzke. He was preceded in death by his wife Kay in 2009 & brother **`63 Norman** in 2014.



Wilma Ollendick, passed away at the age of 79 on November 6, 2022. She attended St. Mary's until 8th grade. Wilma is survived by her children Sherri Paul, Richard (Misty) Ollendick, and Kim Binkerd, 4 grandchildren & 4 great grandchildren.



'68 Joseph Schaaf passed away on November 12, 2022 at the age of 72. He grew up in rural Holt County before his family purchased the tavern in Emmet where they would make their home for the rest of his life. Joe was drafted to serve in the Vietnam War. Joe worked for Emmet Hay before moving on to Grosch Irrigation as a Well Service Technician. During this time he became well known to local farmers and ranchers. He retired from this position in 2016 after 42 years of service. Joe enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, boating and spending time

with his grandchildren. He was thrilled to be chosen as one of the Veterans to be chosen to take one of the first years Patriot Flights which took him to Washington D.C. Joe is survived by his wife Connie, daughters Brenda (Jim) Maloun & Rani Schaaf (Brent), 5 grandchildren, sister Annette Mahoney, brothers John (Linda), Denny (Doris), Vernon ('77 Angie Schaub), sister-in-law Sharon, Roy (Audra), '79 Nick (Alyce), and sister Mary Jo (Brian).



'63 Marvin Peter passed away at the age of 77 on November 24, 2022. Marv attended Creighton University in Omaha for two years before volunteering in the U.S. Army and serving in Vietnam from 1965-67. He lived as a rancher, south of O'Neill, for most of his life and retired from ranching in 2019. He will be remembered for his quick sense of humor, his love for building sheds and helping people whenever they needed something. Marvin was actively involved in the

Knights of Columbus, the American Legion Simonson Post 93, and was a faithful parishioner at St. Patrick's in O'Neill. His survivors include his sister, **'60 Marlene** (Ron) Hoch, 9 nieces and nephews, his sister, **'68 Arlyss** (Robert) **Lasecki**, and Cal's wife, Jane Peter, as well as many cousins, extended cousins, other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, many aunts & uncles, and his double-cousin **'62 Cal Peter.**



'70 Janice (Donohoe) Robertson passed away on December 7, 2022. She is survived by three children Shelly (Edward Frosche Jr), Keith, and Jerri Jo (Hadi) Damavandy, 8 grandchildren; siblings Connie (Gene) Fuchs, Steve (Elise), Andy (Linda), Ed (Lori); sisters-in-law **'71 Nancy (Robertson) Moss** & Jamie (Donohoe) Gaughenbaugh, and 10 nephews & nieces. She was preceded in death by her husband **'69 Pat Robertson.**



'50 Nance (Neva Mae Bauer) Morrow passed away on December 10, 2022. Nance is survived by her siblings; **'54 Pat (Patricia) Donohoe**, Bill (Judy) Bauer, NE, **'66 Dan (Nancy) Bauer**; daughter, **'74 Mary Jane Buis**; son, **'75 Michael "Rudy" (Mardelle) Morrow**; three grandchildren, **2000 Jennifer (Steve) Schamp**, Melanie (Trey) Boothe, & Michaela (Matt) Ibbotson, 5 great grandchildren, and many other friends and relatives. She was preceded in death by her

husband Rudy, and three sisters, **'48 Mick (Maxine) Borg**, **'51 Jo (Joan) Lampert** & Barbie Sue Bauer.



'53 Anna Marie (Schulte) Moser passed away on December 21, 2022. After graduation Anna joined the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity in Denver, Colorado where she received her Bachelor of Science Degree. Anna taught for 2 years at the St. Francis Indian Mission, obtained her Dietary Certification from the University of St. Mary in Leavenworth Kansas, and then transferred to the convent in Scottsbluff, Nebraska until 1972 when she left the convent for medical reasons, and moved to Casper, Wyoming accepting a position as a dietitian. Here she met the joy of her life, Melvin J. Moser, and

they were married in 1979, and made their home in Casper, Wyoming. In 1992 Anna Marie became a clinical dietitian at Banner Wyoming Medical Center and was employed until her retirement on June 5th, 2022, the 50th year anniversary of her career as a dietitian. Anna Marie is survived by three brothers, Joseph (Juanita) Schulte, Leo (Sherry) Schulte, & Jerome (Roberta) Schulte; three sisters, **'56 Louise (Ronald) Johnson, '67 Lucille Hammerlun**, & Margaret (Stephen) Reiser. She was preceded in death by her husband, Melvin J. Moser; her brothers, Herman, John and George Schulte; sister-in-law, Judy Schulte; and brother-in-law, Wilber (Nick) Hammerlun.

Our sympathies to the family of Marv Ziska who passed away on Feb.4, 2021. He is survived by his wife, Blanche, daughters, '72 Beverly McConnell, '73 Doreen (John) Loeffelholz, and son, '76 Dan (Marge) Ziska, 6 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, 3 great-great grandchildren, aunt '49 Sympathy Evelyn (Meusch) Obermire, & sister-in-law Opal Bartos.

Our sympathies to the family of **Opal Bosn** who passed away August 2, 2022. She is survived by her children Charles (Anita), Karen (Don) Murphy, '74 Tony (Chris), & Tom, 11 grandchildren, & 11 great-grandchildren. She is survived by brothers Larry (Hilda) Fox, Gordon (fiancé Vivian Van Buren) Fox, & Raymond (Georgia) Fox; sisters-in-law Patty, Evelyn, Lois, & Kathy Fox, Phyllis Waldo, '48 Rosaline (Bosn) Gallagher, '53 Jean Lucero, & Jean Bosn, & brothers-in-law '45 Bill Kelly, '60 Don (Jackie) Bosn, & Jerry Jefferies. She was preceded in death by her husband, '45 George Bosn: son, '73 Mitch Bosn; 11 siblings, 5 sisters-in-law, & 4 brothers-in-law.

Our sympathies to the family of John Schmit who passed away Nov. 16, 2022. He is survived by his wife **'46 Eileen (Engler),** children, **'68 Melvin** (Patricia), **'69 Tom** (Linda), **'70 Ron** (Patricia), **'77 Roger, '85 Kristi** (Jim) **Schutt**, & **'86 Kevin**, 12 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, & 3 great-great grandchildren, one brother George (Udonna), & one sister Catherine Steinhauser.

Our sympathies to the family of Sharon Reichmuth, wife of our high school social studies teacher, Mike Reichmuth. Sharon passed away on December 20, 2022 after a long battle with cancer.

Our sympathies to the family of Don Chohon who passed away Dec. 23, 2022. Don is survived by his six children, **'73 Ken ('73 Becky Schindler), '74 Mark, '76 Gene ('76 Ellen Walnofer), '82 Pat** (Patty), **'77 Tom** (Lisa), & **'79 Kelly** (Neil) **Martin**, step-children Kim (Joe) Kennedy, Rhonda (Doug) Reusink, Karla (Ray) Colligan, & Richard Scott; 15 grandchildren; 40 great-grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; and brother Leonard (Louise) Chohon.



- '15 Mackenzie (Wecker) married Tanner Gideon on November 12, 2022. They currently Congratulations! reside in Wood River, Nebraska.
 - '12 Miranda (Pribil) and Dalton Schafer were married at St Patrick's on June 11, 2022.
- '18 Taylan & '18 Mariah (Fahrenholz) Reiser were married on June 18, 2022 at St. Patrick's.
- **'17 Andrew Thompson** married Jaclynn (Hixson) on September 24, 2022 at St. Patrick's.
- **'17 Taylor (Colman)** married Aaron Seger at St. Patrick's on October 8, 2022.
- **'92 Lisa (Fuhrer) married** Kent Harte on October 10, 2022.

Scome little

Kayla & '07 Tony Gallagher brought home baby girl Nora Louise on January 6, 2022.

13 Jessica (Pongratz) & Alec Rockford welcomed home a baby girl, Ruby Claire Rockford, on March 4, 2022 in O'Neill.

Abbie & '08 Matthew Wecker welcomed Clara Grace on May 31st, 2022. She joins sister Maisie and brother Corin living in Kearney. Matt is an active member of the KCs and Prince of Peace Parish.

'16 Paige (Gaughenbaugh) & Jake Wilkins welcomed home baby girl Gemma Kay on August 10, 2022. She ioins big brother Matson at home.

Mary & '12 Dave Shields welcomed home Grant Daniel Shields on August 17, 2022. He joins big sister Avery at home in O'Neill.

'12 Tayler (Kelly) & Dan Rentschler, and their children Mikah (5), Layna (4), and Kyah(1), welcomed home little sister Ava Esther on August 25, 2022.

Chasity & '15 Brant Shoemaker brought home baby boy Kayson Eugene on September 8, 2022.

'12 Megan (Schneider) & Keith Jorgensen welcome home their second child, Anna Louise, born on September 22, 2022. She joined Hadley at home in Wayne.



'03 Kiel Neumann and his wife Jayme and children, Jada and Kaden, have recently relocated from Virginia to Olive Branch, Mississippi. Kiel was recruited by Children's Research Hospital in Memphis as a faculty researcher. recruited by Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, as a faculty researcher in the Department of Diagnostic Imaging, and Director of the Molecular

Imaging Hub. In his role, his primary responsibility will be to develop novel molecules that improve diagnosis and treatment of rare disease and study these molecules in pediatric clinical trials.

`18 Katie Pongratz was awarded a Phi Theta Kappa New Century Workforce Scholarship during a national ceremony at the 2022 Association of Community College Trustees Leadership Congress. The scholarship is the first of its kind to support students at associate degree-granting institutions on a national scale as they plan to enter the workforce upon the completion of a degree or certificate. Only one New Century Workforce Scholar was selected from each state.

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Mark your calendar!

Saturday, March 25
Red Carpet Gala
at O'Neill Community Center

Friday-Sunday, March 31-April 2
Alumni Volleyball & Basketball
Tournaments at O'Neill High School

Sunday, May 14

St. Mary's Class of 2023 Graduation at St. Patrick's Church

Friday-Saturday, June 23-24
St. Mary's Alumni Weekend
at St. Mary's High School/Parish Hall