



# ALUMNI SACRED HEART NEWS



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Earl Hartman, SHA '66, Editor

Paulette Andres Green, SHA '64, Newsletter Chairperson

## Pieratts named 2022 Alumni of the Year

They give back because it's important, and, they say, it's "their turn". Over the years at Sacred Heart Academy, **Sarah (Groves '95) & Scott Pieratt '96** saw a lot of people put in a lot of volunteer time and effort and make many donations to keep SHA running smoothly. Since they enrolled their children at the Academy, the Pieratts have been active school and parish volunteers themselves, earning the honor of the **2022 Alumni of the Year** award.

Their award was presented by Alumni Association Director **Earl Hartman '66**, at a home basketball game in March, and will be officially acknowledged at Homecoming on October 7, 2022.

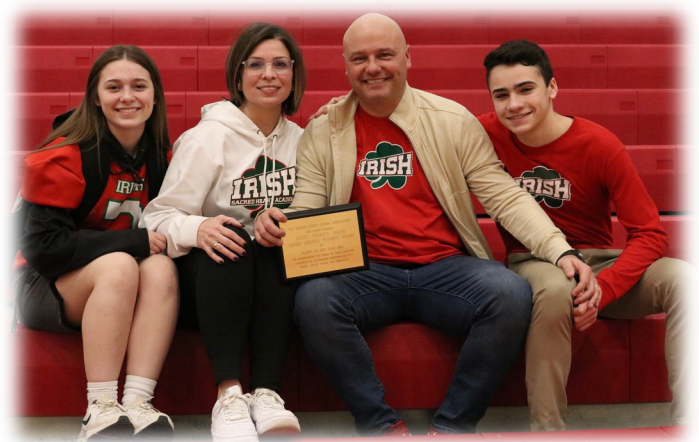
"SHA gave us a strong foundation of service and the school is doing the same for our children," Sarah says. "As teachers, we understand what it takes to provide a solid education for students. As Catholics, we understand what it takes to create a life with God in the center. The SHA staff is amazing and they work tirelessly day in and day out to create a faith-filled, academically-challenging environment for students. Any way Scott and I can support them in their efforts, we are happy to do it."

Sarah is a Eucharistic Minister and a Sacristan at church. She also serves on the Parish Council and the Revitalization Committee. On the school side, she is currently the president of the School Board, works both the gate and concessions at athletic events, and has been a parent volunteer for numerous class field trips. Scott (mom **Kay (Scully) Pieratt '72**, great grandmother **Anna (O'Hara) Scully '15**) is the current Athletic Association vice president, and has coached boys and girls basketball over the years, including his current role as assistant girls varsity basketball coach. He is also an assistant varsity baseball coach, has chaperoned 5th & 6th grade camp, and helps with Christmas decorations at the church each year.

Together, the Pieratts chair the cash raffle for SHAgala, work the Lenten fish fries, serve as parent ambassadors for the Academy, and volunteer for the Warm & Welcoming Committee at the church. To say they are "involved" is an understatement.

"Being involved and active is a great way to socialize and give back at the same time," Scott says. "Getting to coach with Damon Brown and Andrew Doerr has been amazing. To see the passion they exhibit as coaches and see how the girls work as hard as they do on a daily basis is inspiring."

Sarah and Scott both indicated how much they enjoy working the fish fry each year. "The fish fry brings generations of parish members, alumni, parents, and students together to serve the community. It is fast-paced, high-energy, and just plain fun to catch up with friends and parish members who come out to



*Sarah (Groves '95) & Scott Pieratt '96 are pictured with their Sacred Heart Academy students, daughter Eliza (left), a junior, and son Grady (right), who is a freshman.*

support SHA athletics and eat the best fish," Sarah said, adding that she enjoys seeing current students using skills they have learned at the Academy, interacting with and serving community members.

Sarah and Scott both have fond memories of their school years. Sarah says although her favorites, Fr. Don Henkes, Sr. Thaddeus, Mr. Durocher, Mrs. Konwinski, and others are gone, the "Heart of the Academy" has not changed. "It still feels like home when I walk through the doors," she said. "There is a new gym where a parking lot used to be, an incredible new STEM Lab upstairs, and a prayer room near the office which is a great addition."

Scott also gives credit to Fr. Don and Mr. Durocher, and his former coaches **Earl Hartman** and **Dan Simons '72**. "Now my kids are coached by people like Krista Davis, Damon Brown, and Josh Wheaton, who are wonderful, knowledgeable coaches that are passionate about their sport. Grady gets to learn from Justin Sherlock and **Earl Hartman** who have a wealth of knowledge about the sports they coach," he said.

## 100 Years of Champions On & Off The Field

The 2022 football season will be the 100th season of IRISH football.

Join Coach Josh Wheaton and the IRISH for Homecoming

**Friday, October 7, 2022**

Details to come in the August issue.



# Graduate gives back by speaking to students

**Greg Siers '94** says he has a "calling" which compels him to speak to young people from around the globe. "It feels like a personal necessity and is one of the most rewarding things I get to do," he says. "Being allowed to share your story in hopes it helps others rewrite their own is a powerful gift and an opportunity. It is about giving back and addressing the young people who can build a better tomorrow, starting with themselves and their environments, if only they believe that this is something that is possible for them to consider."

By day, Greg is employed by an audio monitoring and broadcast system products company based out of the UK with a U.S. office in California. He also co-owns and actively operates a television production company he founded in 2016 called BG Live. Greg is currently the technical producer for a Paramount (CBS/Viacom) presentation in May at Carnegie Hall and is also in the finishing stages of another CNBC financial series. He was one of the technical producers of the 20th Anniversary of 9/11 from Ground Zero and produced and directed a pilot for Bravo during the holidays, a live interactive show on Instagram, Facebook, Bravo, Peacock, and Comcast Xfinity. When he is not producing or directing, you can find him coaching his sons' hockey team or performing taxi duty for his daughter's competitive gymnastic tournaments. "It's all in a day's work," Greg says from his home in Silver Spring, Maryland, where he resides with his wife, Ashley, daughter Stella, and twin sons, Peter and Elliott.

Constantly in demand, Greg travels frequently for work; overseas, across the nation, or to central Michigan for a visit home or a Master Class at Central Michigan University. It was one of his trips home which created the opportunity for him to speak with middle and high school students at SHA in 2021.

The visit and presentation were planned in advance, in fact, re-scheduled from an October date. When Greg arrived, it was just days after the tragic school shooting happened less than 125 miles from Mt. Pleasant at Oxford High School.

Greg spoke to SHA students in two ses-

sions, first the 6th to 8th graders, then the 9th to 12th graders. The message for younger and older students is a bit different, he said, indicating he could be a little more direct with the teenagers than with the adolescents.

"All violence in schools—and in the world—happens someplace else, someplace far away," Greg told the students. "Until it isn't. Until it is right where you are."

Greg talks to groups about what they are willing to do about someone they know who is hurting because they don't feel safe or don't feel loved, or don't feel like there is any other option beyond hurting themselves or someone else. He asks, "Are other people your responsibility? Should you address someone else's problem? Is this what it means to lead with kindness? What do we owe one another?" At Sacred Heart, he reminded each student that their lives matter. Even if they have times when they feel like they don't fit in, even if nothing seems right, even if social media says something different...the sad, depressed, awkward, tough moments won't last. "They are a blip in time," Greg says. "Young people need to learn now what being strong actually means. They need to have internal confidence and flip from being in pain to using whatever has happened to them to have happened FOR them. The rewriting of your story takes a choice. That rewrite often doesn't happen until college. If you work on your inner confidence, and find someone you can talk to, it can happen earlier."

Greg shared that everyone needs positive reasons to keep going. Teachers in the audience were reminded to look for the students having a tough time, then really reach out and say: I see you, I am here for you, I will listen. And then ac-

tually listen because kids today need it more than ever.

"Teachers might not see it if they aren't really looking, parents don't see all that happens, young people get the most negative messages from social media, and they are getting these messages 24/7," Greg says. "Imagine how this conditions a young soul and a young mind. We should prioritize joy in our lives. Adults are focused on how hard it is to be an adult. We forget how hard it is to be a kid. We cannot look away from people who are hurting."

Greg has been working with a Congressman in his Maryland district on the youth mental health crisis in the country. There has been momentum since they started around increased funding for a three-digit crisis number (rather than the impossible-to-remember 10-digit number) and school mental health programs. "I applaud Sacred Heart Academy for the introduction of Options Hour and the mental health/stress break in the school day," Greg said. "Also, the effort to get daily help from the Academic Resource Center if students need it, that is extremely beneficial and helps relieve pressure if the academic load is overwhelming."

Greg has spoken with thousands of adolescents, teenagers, and college-aged students in his travels. "Working with young people is spiritual for me because I have a story which reverberates with young adults at a critical time," he says. "It allows me to promote friendship and support for youngsters who want to reach out when things aren't going so well at school or at home. I almost didn't make it through that time in my life. Hopefully these young adults can, with a little help when they need it from those around them."



**Greg Siers '94, is pictured at Outer Banks in fall of 2021.**



# Fr. Don Henkes dedicates 34 years to Sacred Heart

Fr. Don Henkes officially retired March 1, after nearly 56 years in the priesthood, and 34 years at Sacred Heart. Fr. Don was born and raised in Chicago. He has a secondary teaching certificate in Biology and was ordained to the priesthood on May 28, 1966. He taught for 30 years at Sacred Heart Academy, was the priest assigned to St. Henry's and St. Charles' Masses in Rosebush and Leaton for many years, and served as the SHA Transportation Supervisor, in addition to his role as our parish priest. Fr. Don was the last religious-order faculty member to teach at Sacred Heart Academy. There have been no others since he stepped away from the classroom in 2015.

Fr. Don was instrumental in leading students on the annual March for Life pilgrimage, encouraging more and more people to get involved, either by attending the March or financially supporting the cause. He has always been known as a strong supporter of life, from conception to natural death. In countless ways, Fr. Don has worked to seek social justice for the marginalized people in our society. One unique way he lived his commitment is by serving in a prison ministry. Sacred Heart has been blessed to have him serve our parish and school community. He was honored as the Grand Marshal of Homecoming in 2008 and will always be considered an Honorary Alumnus.

Co-workers, former students, and parish volunteers have countless "Fr. Don" stories to tell. Here are a few we could not resist sharing as a tribute to his retirement, and to show our appreciation for his involvement at Sacred Heart Academy.

**Rick Roberts** (*Retired Teacher & Coach, former Principal*): "When I was hired as Principal of Sacred Heart Academy in January of 1993, Father Don was the first teacher to come and

visit with me in my office. He told me how lucky I was to be at Sacred Heart and what a fabulous school it was. I could tell then how much he loved being a teacher at SHA. Fr. Don always supported our students during their athletic events. I remember the 2010 trip to the Breslin Center for the Class D State Championship Game. Fr. Don allowed the students to paint the top of his bald head so it looked like a basketball. That was special!"

**Shelli (Lannen '78) Sias** (*Secondary Secretary*):

"Fr. Don had a unique gift which allowed him to connect with his students in a fun, light-hearted way. That is not to say he was afraid to tackle heavy or controversial issues. My daughters really enjoyed having him as a teacher in the early 2000s. Don is the essence of a humble, caring priest and an example of a follower of Christ on Earth during our times. He is also an unconventional priest as well, having adopted

and raised children and grandchildren of his own. Father Don has always been generous with his time and treasure when there was a student in need."

**Michele (Pacholka '84) Reinke** (*Kinder-Prep Aide, former Elementary Teacher*):

"Fr. Don has been part of our Sacred Heart camping group for more than 30 years. Our group loved Fr. Don, and we enjoyed his many Masses under "the big top"—our blue and white tent—on Sunday mornings. Along with my parents and other Sacred Heart families, we filled at least eight campsites and watched each other's children grow as we gathered each July. Many times Fr. Don was introducing another foster child or adopted son, then, in later years, his grandchildren! It was Father Don who told me about an elementary teacher position available at Sacred Heart Academy in 1993. To him, I am greatly indebted."



*"I consider Father Don one of my true friends," said Rick Roberts, former Sacred Heart Academy principal, teacher, and coach.*

**THROUGH THE YEARS**—Photos show Fr. Don Henkes through the years at Sacred Heart. At right, he presided at the 2020 wedding of Anna & Mitch Reetz '10. Far right, he is pictured at the 2021 Christmas Vigil Mass with the Rose & Koons siblings, clockwise from bottom left: Kooper Koons, Kyven Rose, Kaya Rose, Kadenn Rose, and Kyleigh Koons. Below, Fr. Don celebrates a weekly school Mass in 2018.







# ACADEMY NEWS

**Lisa Roach, Admissions Director**



## Positive opportunities

This school year has brought many opportunities which I never expected. In the past few months I've been called to be an emergency-substitute teacher and asked to guest lecture, where I was able to share my faith journey. I have also had the opportunity to accompany our seniors on a trip to the local food pantry, and I've been able to witness our students resume altar serving, as life begins to return to normal. What a tremendous experience!

Of course, while every day has simply been absolutely wonderful, I would have to say my favorite experience has to be a tie between leading a weekly cardio dance class for Options Hour (a short break in the day from our rigorous curriculum) and our student retreats. These experiences take the cake because *this* is where I can really connect with our awesome students and form relationships which I hope will last a lifetime. I believe these opportunities, and the ability to positively impact the life of a student, are why I was called to serve at Sacred Heart Academy.

## Community outreach

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to feed the hungry and clothe the poor, and at Sacred Heart Academy we are doing just that. In October our senior students helped at the local CCN Food Pantry. Food collected during the Spirit Week canned food drive was delivered by the vanload. Once there, several of the students unloaded pallets of canned food donated by food merchants while others jumped right into packing over 200 boxes of food. The CCN Food Pantry had 3,765 pounds of food delivered the day we helped, which served 376 families the during the month of October.

Currently, our focus is caring for the homeless during Lent. Each week we are collecting a different item so we can have the supplies needed to provide our homeless shelter with Ziploc bags filled with socks, toothbrushes, cereal bars, peanut butter crackers, water, and batteries. The generosity of our Sacred Heart community is simply overwhelming! As I submit this article, we are more than halfway through Lent, and I'm excited to see all the items we have to share by our Easter Retreat, scheduled for Good Friday.

## Student retreats

In February our Youth Minister, Abby Jones, planned two outstanding retreats for our Freshman/Sophomore and Junior/Senior high school students. The theme of our Freshman/Sophomore retreat was "Living your life with purpose during Lent." "God, self, others" was the theme for the Junior/Senior retreat. Both retreats focused on building relationships, listening to the Holy Spirit, and ultimately growing closer to God. The motivational speakers shared uplifting stories to

ignite the fire for Jesus in our youth. We mixed large and small group discussions with Mass, meditation, praise, and worship. Many of the students said they especially enjoyed our small group discussions as they were able to connect with each other and the small group leaders.

## Enrollment update

Early in March, Sacred Heart Academy hosted the annual **Inside Look** Open House where over 40 families came to hear about all the wonderful aspects of Sacred Heart Academy! It was a very exciting evening.

Many of the prospective families came seeking a seat in our excellent Kinder-Prep program, and there is also interest in several grades, well into our secondary school. Parents shared the motivation for their interest is split into three main areas: small class sizes, our rigorous curriculum, and the focus on the teaching of our Catholic morals and values. I must say, based on the caliber of students I encounter on a daily basis we certainly have a winning combination.

Our dedicated alumni and current families continue to be the most valuable recruitment tool we have to the tune of 463 students at the present time. Thank you for continuing to recommend Sacred Heart Academy, and thank you for continuing the legacy with your children and grandchildren. Many blessings to you! **Go, Irish!**



**Pictured at a recent Junior/Senior Retreat are: Front, from left: Nicole Olivieri, Alexis Zeien (Danielle Radawski '89 Zeien), and Hilary Kohtz. Back, from left: Admissions Director Lisa Roach, Alexa Wohlscheid (Brian '82), Anna Terwilliger, Gretchen Wilson, Katie McDonald (great grandfather Fred 1919) and Assistant Principal & Academic Advisor Sandy Dubridge.**



# FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Mary Kay Yonker, Principal

## Play like a champion today

Anyone who knows me, even a little, knows that I like Notre Dame. When you enter my office, one of the first things you see is the Notre Dame sign with the mantra: **PLAY LIKE A CHAMPION TODAY**, a reminder to everyone who enters and me. My husband and I have taken our girls to South Bend since they were little to experience different events. I enjoy being on campus, attending Mass, praying at the Grotto, and, of course, cheering for the Fighting Irish football and women's basketball teams. A few years ago, I attended an advancement conference there which, if possible, completely renewed my commitment to the CHAMPION mentality. The Cambridge Dictionary defines a champion as "a person who enthusiastically supports, defends, or fights for a person, belief, right or principle."

Anyone who knows me also knows that my dad, Ed Filhart, was my biggest champion. My whole life he encouraged me, gave me sage advice, and loved me unconditionally. He taught my 11 siblings and me about life by the way he lived his: we learned right from wrong, how to treat others with respect, and, perhaps most importantly, the value of hard work. While he was not Catholic, he supported my mom in her Catholic faith and sent all 12 of us to a Catholic school. My biggest champion passed away March 11. While I know he is in a better place with our Lord and Savior, and he is free from his physical ailments and the dementia which he struggled with the final years of his life, I will miss my champion every day until we meet again.

There are many champions in our lives. On page 3 there is a story about Father Don Henkes. Father Don was the last ordained religious to teach at Sacred Heart Academy. He gave his heart and soul to our students and we are forever indebted to him.

When I speak with alumni, they tell me about teachers who were champions for them. I hear stories about Sister Euphemia and Sister Thaddeus in the '70s and '80s, and in earlier days, Sister Petronilla and Sister Genevieve. These Dominican nuns, along with many dedicated lay teachers, the graduates tell me, prepared them for college, for leadership roles, and for life.

There are champions throughout the Sacred Heart community. Coaches, parent volunteers, donors, and members of the staff who give of themselves every day, many behind the scenes with very little fanfare. There are three specific champions I want to mention in this issue: Marie Richards, Mary Kay Reetz, and **Connie (Veit '81) McCann**.

Alumni and parents who worked with Marie Richards, SHA's Assistant Principal & Academic Advisor from 2012 to 2021, know that Ms. Richards was a champion for students. She could get students to do things that their parents couldn't, she was a fantastic listener, and she always looked for ideas to improve education for our students. Miss Richards created College Application Week activities which will

**PLAY LIKE  
A CHAMPION  
TODAY**

continue for years at Sacred Heart. This week gives students practice interviewing with professionals, opportunities to shadow professionals in their prospective careers, and opportunities to ask a panel of young SHA alums questions about what to expect in college. Her many initiatives created success for the next generation of SHA students.

Mary Kay Reetz (granddaughter of **Mabel (McCormick 1914) Lynch**) worked at the Academy for 15 years as the Director of Admissions & Marketing. As a parent and employee, she proudly represented SHA to prospective parents and was always a champion for selling the school which served her own children so well. Mary Kay had a tireless work ethic, and no job was too big or small for her. She went above and beyond the expectations of an admissions director and would help wherever there was a need. Mary Kay was frequently seen in the kitchen whenever

the opportunity presented itself. Her daughter Grace (SHA '18) coined the phrase, "Mary Kay Café" and that café came in handy for Sacred Heart Academy over and over. Mary Kay's champion mentality kept enrollment stable and growing at Sacred Heart. She was the first person parents and students met, and she was a wonderful representative of SHA.

Connie McCann (mother **Mary (Theisen '55) Veit**, grandfather **Gerald Theisen '26**) gave notice she is departing after nine years in the role of Development Director for Sacred Heart. Representing the Academy, the SHA Foundation, and our parish, she has been a champion for our entire community. I had never worked with a development director before coming to Sacred Heart Academy, and I have been completely impressed and fascinated by Connie's ability to engage donors in projects, large and small. Connie is a champion for all things Sacred Heart, and her passion shines through in everything she does. In the time I've been at Sacred Heart, Connie has raised money for our state-of-the-art STEM lab, the All are Welcome & Dwelling Place campaigns for the church, and has raised an incredible amount of money for the teacher Wish List. Our teachers are so appreciative of the

resources, supplies, and money for technology and field trips she has raised. Every year when it seems impossible, Connie has found a way to increase the amount of money raised at SHAgala. The work she has done for the Sacred Heart Academy Foundation endowment has been amazing! The number of named funds, the money for tuition assistance, the STEM funds, and the incredible amount of money Connie has raised for teacher salaries are all part of the amazing legacy she leaves at Sacred Heart Academy.

Anyone can model Notre Dame's mantra and "Play like a champion today." As Mother Teresa said, "We can all do small things with great love." That's what it takes to be a champion. I am so grateful for my dad and for the many Sacred Heart Academy champions with whom I've had the good fortune to work alongside.

**How will you "Play like a champion today?"**



# Class Notes

**1947**—Rose Marie (Windel) Robinson died December 6, 2021, in Lansing, Michigan. She had worked and retired from her secretarial positions with the Loomis Law Firm of Lansing. Rose was preceded in death by her five sisters, all graduates of Sacred Heart Academy: **Alice D'Hulster '39, Helen Johnson '40, Laura Pohl '43, Leona Halfmann '44, and Anne Halfmann '47.**

**Doris (Landwehr) Kinsman** passed away February 3, 2022, in Saginaw. She was a founding and faithful member of St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Saginaw. Doris was a dear sister to her siblings; the two who predeceased her: **Jeanette Sherman '40 and Gerald Landwehr '44;** and those who remain to cherish her memory: **Donald Landwehr '51, Shirley Reed '53, Ruth Smolinski '58, and Judi Pawloski '61.**

**1948**—Mary Jeanne (Buschle) Lannen passed away December 13, 2021, at Green Acres Assisted Living in Mt. Pleasant. Jeanne is the person credited with naming the school yearbook "Cor Jesu". After graduation, she attended St. Lawrence School of Nursing in Lansing and practiced as a Registered Nurse, retiring from Central Michigan University's Health Services after 25 years in her position. Jeanne married her high school sweetheart, **James P. Lannen '49.** When he died unexpectedly in 1964, their oldest child was just 11. With the help of family like her brother **Bill Buschle '50,** Jeanne found a way to make sure all seven of their children graduated from SHA: **Margi Barnsdale '70, Patrick '72, Thomas '73, Rosemary Baker '75, Bill '76, Shelli Sias '78, and Tim '79.**

**1951**—Classmates might want to know that **Cyril "Cy" Rademacher,** who left Sacred Heart during 11<sup>th</sup> grade (not of his own volition) to work at his father's gas station, died November 25, 2021, in Omaha, Nebraska. He earned his GED while serving in the U.S. Army and insisted each of his children graduate from college. Cy drove a semi-truck across the country for over 60 years and always had a rosary with him. He was proud of the fact that he traveled to all 50 of the United States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

**1954**—It was recently reported that **Thomas Corcoran** passed away March 29, 2020, in Evansville, Indiana.

**1957**—Sonja (McGuirk) Albaugh died March 24, 2022, at her home in Shepherd, Michigan. Sonja's priority was always as a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother to her family, but she also owned multiple rental homes in the central Michigan area. Her daughter-in-law Jill Albaugh currently teaches Science at the Academy, and granddaughter **Lizzie (Albaugh) Antvelink** graduated from SHA in 2013.

**1959**—Mary Jane (Sowle) Fabiano passed away January 22, 2022. She graduated from Central Michigan University and the LaSalle School of Design. She was a gifted interior designer and owned her own design company. Her passion was her family, especially her grandchildren. She married her high school

sweetheart, **Richard Fabiano '59,** and they celebrated 60 years together. Her alumni siblings are **Thomas Sowle '51, David Sowle '54, Jack Sowle '56, Suzanne Fischer '57, Jennifer Sowle '65, and Colleen Wolfe '71.**

**1962**—Jim Hayden died January 26, 2022, at his home in Beverly Hills, CA. Jim was Valedictorian of his Sacred Heart Academy class, then went on to earn his bachelor's degree in Fine Arts at the University of Notre Dame. He worked for advertising firms in New York City and Los Angeles. Jim ended his corporate career as a Vice President at *Ogilvy & Mather*, one of the largest advertising and public relations companies in the world. He earned numerous industry accolades, including two CLIO awards, one of the world's most recognizable—and hardest to win—advertising honors. Jim created two companies of his own, *Stone Soup Productions* and *London Underground*. He wrote 37 screenplays, 2 books, and some music, plus he produced music videos. He volunteered as the weekly voice of sports and national news for the *Braille Institute Network*. Jim is survived by his sister, Eleanor (Hayden) Moeggenberg and 22 nieces and nephews. His funeral Mass is scheduled for 11 a.m. August 5 at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Shepherd, MI.

**Robert (Bob) Heintz Jr.** passed away peacefully on March 30, 2022, at his home surrounded by family. After graduation, Bob attended Central Michigan University where his passion to play football was fulfilled. He had a long and successful career in sales and marketing which allowed him to manage some of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan's largest accounts. Bob ended his career on the provider side of healthcare at Ingham Medical Center (now McLaren Lansing) as the Vice President of Development and at the Michigan State University School of Osteopathic Medicine from which he retired in 2019. His professional success aside, Bob's passion was always his family and if you knew him, you expected him to brag and tell stories about his children and grandchildren, and the children and grandchildren of his seven brothers and sisters, too. Bob was the son of Margaret "Tat" & **Robert Heintz Sr '40,** and the adored brother of **Rochelle Flake '61, Jeff '65, Mike '66, Joe '68, Kathleen Fountain '69, Dan '72, and Pat '73.**

**1965**—Pamela (Pruden) Kesmeyer of Sylvania, Ohio, died March 5, 2022. She was attempting to recover from traumatic injuries after a fall sustained as a result of dementia. Pam attended Central Michigan University and worked over 40 years as an administrative assistant to executives in the banking industry, at Dana Corporation, and HRC Manor Care. She took great pride in her work and did not retire until age 72.

**1968**—Marcia Hall passed away at home September 9, 2021, after a short illness. Marcia was a nurse who worked in a doctor's office. She retired from her medical career and was living near Lansing in Leslie, MI. Her siblings are **Bill Hall '69, Susan Baldwin '73, Jennifer Rasmussen '76, Mark Hall '77, Jennifer Gonzalez '80, and Tom Hall '84.**

**Judy Layfield** went home to her Lord and Savior on Saint Pat-

# Class Notes

rick's Day, March 17, 2022, at Seasons Hospice in Detroit. After graduation from SHA, Judy attended Mid Michigan Community College (now Mid Michigan College) and earned her associates degree in nursing. She worked as an LPN for 31 years. Judy was actively involved in the community with the Mt. Pleasant Garden Club, Community Compassion Network, Isabella Community Soup Kitchen, Art Reach, and many other non-profit organizations.

**1972 REUNION NEWS**—A 50<sup>th</sup> reunion is planned for the Class of 1972 in conjunction with Sacred Heart Academy's 2022 Homecoming festivities. The parade, game, and Alumni reception are scheduled for Friday, October 7. A class gathering is being organized for Saturday, October 8. For information, contact Dan Heintz at [dadrheintz@yahoo.com](mailto:dadrheintz@yahoo.com).

**1981**—**Mary Sue (Francetic) Hall** died February 9, 2022, in Grand Rapids. She worked for many years in the foodservice industry and loved to cook. She also loved taking care of animals and blasting '80s rock music. Mary Sue was the youngest of the Francetic siblings at Sacred Heart, and the little sister of **David '74, Jeff '76, and Mark '78**,

**1982 REUNION NEWS**—It's time to gather for a 40th Class Reunion! The date will be August 6, 2022, and a committee is working on securing a venue. Please email any ideas or suggestions you have for the gathering and let the committee know if you plan to attend. The email is [davidfmcguire@hotmail.com](mailto:davidfmcguire@hotmail.com). Class members can also reach out to Vicki (Theisen) Begres, David Phelps, Brian Wohlscheid, Kelly (Epple) Hansen, Mary (McDonald) Srodulski, or Libby (Pohl) Murch. If you could please respond before the end of April it would be helpful.

**1991 REUNION NEWS**—The Class of 1991 will host a delayed 30th class reunion during Homecoming weekend 2022. Plans include a tour of the Academy and participation in the Alumni Reception after the football game. For information, contact **Stacy (Larrance) Finnerty** at [stafin@aol.com](mailto:stafin@aol.com) or **Wendy (McConnell) Endres** at [wendyendres@hotmail.com](mailto:wendyendres@hotmail.com).

**1997 REUNION NEWS**—The Class of 1997 plans to celebrate their 25-year reunion during Homecoming weekend 2022. Plans are still being worked out and more will be announced later. Questions may be directed to Angie (Long) De La Rosa via email at [thedelarosas06@gmail.com](mailto:thedelarosas06@gmail.com).

**2000 REUNION NEWS**—A class reunion is planned for July 16, 2022. Classmates should reach out to **Kate (Beltinck) Johnson** at [beltinck14@hotmail.com](mailto:beltinck14@hotmail.com) or **Sarah (Spence) Schafer** at [sarahlizzie@gmail.com](mailto:sarahlizzie@gmail.com) for information or with address changes. Invitations will be mailed with specific details.

**2006**—**Dr. Laurel (Bennett) Doherty** and her husband Richard welcomed their second child, a son named Bennett Dean, on February 12 in Wyoming, MI. Baby Bennett joins big brother Leo, age 2, at home. Lauren is an Internist with Metro Health in Grand Rapids.

**Corey Ley** and his fiancé Brittany Buesking welcomed son Lennox Arthur Ley on February 8 in Midland. Baby Lennox's grandma is **Rose (Martin '79) Beebe**.

**John Roberts** is now the QB Coach/Co-Offensive Coordinator at Long Island University in New York. He and his wife Amber, along with three-year-old son Jaxson, will relocate from Pennsylvania to New York in July.

**2007**—**Dr. Monica Zipple** married Terence James on October 23, 2021 at Black Star Farms in Traverse City. She is a colorectal surgeon at St. Joseph's Hospital. The newlyweds reside in Keygo Harbor (near Pontiac).

**2008/10**—**Alexander and Rebecca (Miesch '10) Hammerle** welcomed twin girls on January 28, 2022, in Tega Cay, South Carolina. Quinn Cayce and Zoey Taylor are adored at home by their three older sisters, Harper, age 7, Leighton, age 4, and Reese, who is 1. Alex is employed doing residence renovation work and Rebecca stays home with the girls. "Our family is now complete," she said.

**2010**—**Garrett Schafer** and his wife Abby welcomed baby girl Josie Mae on December 11, 2021 in Zeeland. Garrett is a mechanical engineer with Gentex. The family resides in Zeeland. Josie's grandmother is **Patty (Ahlers '83) Schafer** and her great grandmother is **Phyllis (Theisen '55) Ahlers**. Her great, great grandfather would have been **Clarence Theisen 1923**.

**Mitch Reetz** and his wife Anna were blessed with their first child, a girl they named Norah Mae, on February 1 in Mt. Pleasant. The family of three resides at Lake Isabella.

**Billy Myler** and his wife Amelia welcomed their first child, Emerson Louise, on April 4 in Mt. Pleasant where the family resides. Emmie Lou's grandfather is **Bill Myler Jr '76**.

**2014**—**Justin Cowell** graduated from Central Michigan University in May 2021 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He majored in Sports Management and minored in Marketing & Event Management. Justin is the Sports and Recreation Director at Morey Courts. He resides in Mt. Pleasant.

## Passing of Jill LaChance

Twenty-five year Sacred Heart Elementary teacher Jill LaChance passed away peacefully December 17, 2021, with her family by her side. Teaching was Mrs. LaChance's passion. She left a lasting impact on many former students and colleagues. She truly enjoyed passing knowledge along to students, family, and friends. Her husband, Patrick, and daughter Samantha asked those who wished to remember Mrs. LaChance to consider performing an act of kindness in her honor.

# Get your tickets now!

Alumni often ask how they can get tickets to the SHA Athletic Association annual lottery raffle which runs for 20 weeks from December to April. It's tough to get tickets because prior ticket-holders typically renew their purchase each year, leaving a minimal amount available for sale.

Well, here's your chance! The Athletic Association is introducing an all-new SUMMER SLAM raffle. Only 1,000 tickets will be sold, #000 to #999 at \$25.00 each. Every Monday and Tuesday from June 6 to August 9, **\$500** will be given away—that's \$1,000 each week. If your ticket matches the Michigan Daily 3 afternoon drawing, you are the winner!



(Michigan Raffle License # X06141)



This is a great way to support IRISH student athletes and athletic programs at Sacred Heart Academy. Scan the QR code at left to purchase tickets. Alumni have the first opportunity to purchase before sales are opened to parishioners, parents, and other friends. Tickets are limited, and the first drawing happens Monday, June 6. If you have any questions, or prefer to send a check to purchase your tickets, please email [alumni@sha.net](mailto:alumni@sha.net) or contact raffle chairperson Amy McDonald (married to Pat '88) at (989) 330-5165 or [paskmd@hotmail.com](mailto:paskmd@hotmail.com).

**CHEERS TO TODAY! FROM SECOND GRADE TO THE NBC TODAY SHOW—**Friends since they met in second grade at Sacred Heart Academy, these ladies from the Class of 1979 celebrated their birthdays getting featured on NBC's The Today Show. In a 15-second clip at the top of the 8 o'clock hour Friday, September 10, 2021, the group took Sacred Heart Academy along on their national television debut. The short clip is still available on the SHA web site under the Alumni tab. Pictured, from left, are Judy Murphy Lannen, Caryn Campbell Manning, Cecilia Simons Jerome, Carolyn Strauss Cardon, and Maureen Sheahan Yesmunt.



## ALUMNI SACRED HEART NEWS

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