



### ALUMNI FROM THE 1970'S HONOR JOHN KIRBY

#### ALUMNI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Graduation, May 15, 2016  
2:00pm

All Souls Day Mass  
November 2, 2015  
8:10am

2015 Phone-a-thon  
November 15 & 16

Aquinas Alumni  
Potato Bake  
January 23, 2016



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This year's annual awards banquet at Aquinas had an additional honor given out. Awards Night is usually a night to honor current students of Aquinas High School. However, several Aquinas football players from the 1970's asked if they could pay tribute to one of our own who has already graduated.

John Kirby was a 1960 graduate of St. Mary's High School and a part of a St. Mary's team that recently received the Dominant Dynasty award for their success as a football team. After graduation, John went on to play football for the University of Nebraska, Lincoln where he served as a team captain his senior year. After graduation from UNL, he was drafted by the Minnesota Vikings. Following his time with the pro's, he came back to his roots where he

taught and coached at Aquinas High School.

The alumni football players from Aquinas presented John with a plaque and a replica helmet from the Minnesota Vikings 1960's-70's era. John autographed the helmet and now both the helmet and plaque reside in the trophy cases at Aquinas along side State Championship trophies.



Chris Alt, Class of 1976, presented John Kirby with a plaque and helmet on behalf of the players who John coached at Aquinas.



L to R: Mark Moravec '79, Russ Moravec '77, Chris Alt '76, Tom Zitek '76, Terry Bartunek '76, Tom Soukup '76, John Kirby SM '60, Rick Grubaugh '76, Marty Krafka '76, Jerry Roh '76, Dan Lyons '78, Tom Hilger '77, Ken Hilger '80, Bill Gillespie '78



## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Dear Aquinas Alumni,

Greetings from the Home of the Monarchs! We hope that you are enjoying a beautiful autumn as we are here in Nebraska. This past May we added 36 new graduates to the Aquinas Catholic Alumni list, and please God there will be 36 more in 2016! Those classes will get progressively bigger over the next 3 years, as our current freshmen class boasts 55 students!

We are grateful for the spiritual and financial support that our alumni have provided to us this past year, and we appreciate the communication you provide to us of significant events in your life and your

family. Our Alumni Director, Deb Svec also works very hard to communicate to you the news coming from Aquinas Catholic Schools via this newsletter, our school website, and Facebook. We want you to not only be informed about your alma mater, but also to know how important your relationship is to us at Aquinas.

To that end, I want to announce that Aquinas and St. Mary's Catholic Schools are in the beginning stages of a new Strategic Plan. This pro-active, forward looking planning will help us to navigate the next five years in a variety of areas. A dedicated team of teachers, administrators, parents, benefactors, and

alumni will be assigned the task of evaluating current programs, projects, and the overall funding of Aquinas and St. Mary's. They will identify the areas that are working well, and the areas that could be enhanced or improved. After more than 60 interviews of Aquinas and St. Mary's stakeholders, the consensus was to begin a process to ensure the long-term sustainability of our Catholic schools, including the following areas: Spiritual Ministry, Finance and Development, Academic Programs, Enrollment Enhancement, and Alumni and Benefactor Relationships.

Knowing also that the marketing (especially for recruiting new students) and

communication of our Catholic schools needs to improve, we have hired a part-time marketing assistant, Mrs. Laura Adair, who will oversee the marketing arm of our Development Office. She will also be helping to build and consistently update our brand new website, which will be debuting in December! We will be excited to let you know when we launch the new website, and look forward to helping you be better informed about Aquinas and St. Mary's Catholic Schools.

God Bless you!

*Fr. Sean Timmerman*

Fr. Sean M. Timmerman  
Chief Administrative Officer



## FROM THE DEVELOPMENT / ALUMNI

Dear Alumni,

### **BREAKING NEWS:**

Aquinas is getting a new web page!!! It will be new and improved, and Alumni will be a part of it. On the Alumni page, you will be able to send us address changes, email addresses, cell phones, name changes and news!!! Also once the page is up and running, you will be able to make donations to the school via credit card. This is something that some of you have been asking for numerous times over the years.

From the main page you can download the school calendar to your phone. From this page you will also be able to see St. Mary's Catholic Elementary information and connect to all 13 parishes. We are hopeful that the page will go live sometime in December. The address will be:

[www.aquinas-catholic.com](http://www.aquinas-catholic.com)

Our goal is to make the page more current, user friendly and informative. We began a process of Strategic Planning this past summer and the state of our web page was one thing that our committee

wanted to see taken care of before the Strategic Planning Process was completed. We will continue the Alumni Facebook page as well.

We are also always looking for ways to gather alumni together. It has come to our attention that we have numerous alumni who are in bands and that it might be fun to have a "Battle of the Bands" event for our Alumni, family and benefactors. We have alumni in polka, country and rock bands. Is this

something you would enjoy attending or participating in? Let me know by dropping me an email to: [deb-svec@cdolinc.net](mailto:deb-svec@cdolinc.net) I'd love to hear from you!!!

In Christ,

*Deb Svec*

Alumni Director

# NEWS AND NOTES



**Sr. Mary Markita Kratochvil, T.O.R., '99**, made her perpetual profession of vows with the Franciscan Sisters, Third Order Regular of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother on July 11.



As a religious sister, she made the three vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience, a life lived in close imitation of Jesus. Sr. Mary Markita is the daughter of Lawrence and Suzanne (Fiala) '70 Kratochvil of Ulysses, Nebraska

**THANK YOU to the Class of 2015 for their donation of the new conference banners which now grace the wall of our south gym!**

**Sister Marilyn Geiger '62**, a member of the Sisters of Saint Francis of Rochester, MN, will celebrate her Golden Jubilee with the Congregation on August 2, 2015. Sister Marilyn Geiger, formerly Sister Florian, was born in Seward, NE, and entered the Rochester Franciscan Congregation from the Immaculate Conception parish in Ulysses, NE. She graduated from the College of Saint Teresa in Winona, MN, with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and from the University of Washington in Seattle with a Master of Science in Nursing. She also received a Master of Divinity in Theology from Seattle University. She spent many years working in the Archdiocese of Seattle, WA, as pastoral coordinator of St. Anne's Parish, and as a family nurse practitioner in a community clinic in Seattle. Presently, she serves as the Congregational Minister/President of the Sisters of Saint Francis, Rochester, MN. Sister Marilyn is a member of the Leadership Council of Women Religious (LCWR), serving on LCWR's National Board of Directors as the Chairperson for LCWR Region 11, and as a participant on the LCWR Global Concerns Committee.



**Russ Moravec '77** was awarded the Nebraska Auctioneer of the Year award for 2015 this past summer at the Nebraska Auctioneer Association Convention. In addition to the family busi-



ness, Russ also auctions for Mecum Auto Auctions and numerous charity events throughout the state including our own Gold Rush!

**Doug Densen '78** and **Chad Lyons '82** were honored by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association as top eight coaches in Wrestling and Assistant Boys Sport Coach respectively. Densen went on to take honors as the number one coach in Wrestling. These men were honored in Rochester, MN for their accomplishments.



**Sr. Fiat Marie (Stephanie Eller) '10** took her First Vows as a Christ the King Sister in July. In addition to members of her order, Bishop Conley and her family were there to witness the vows.

**Carol Ann Kobza '75**, is the new Director of Development for the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts in Omaha. Most recently she served as the Director for the Bone Creek Museum of Agrarian Art in David City. **Gabrielle Comte '09** will be helping to fill the role of the vacant director position at the Bone Creek Museum along with the museum's current curator. Gabi is also the Collections Manager.

**Msrgr. Myron Pleskac, DA '52** celebrated his 55th anniversary to the priesthood this past spring and **Msrgr. Robert Roh, SM '57** celebrated his 50th along with retirement.

**Tina Plasek Hitz '89** is a Sergeant with the Seward County Sheriff's Department. She has been with the department 18 years and was in charge of the D.A.R.E program there for 15 years.



**Sister Rose Klein SM '59**, celebrated 50 years as a vowed member of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ (ASC) on Saturday, July 11, 2015, at the Wichita Center in Wichita, Kan.



Sister Rose made her first vows in July 1965 and her final profession on July 4, 1970. She marked her anniversary with a Mass and dinner, and was joined in the celebration by Sisters, family and friends. The Rev. Tom Welk presided at the liturgy. Sister Rose was born in Bellwood, Neb., to Nicholas and Alice Klein. She received her bachelor's degree in education from Sacred Heart College, now Newman University, in Wichita, in 1966 and her master's degree in education administration from the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio, in 1981. She held certificates in elementary teaching and/or administration in New Mexico, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma. Sister Rose's ministry as an elementary teacher in Kansas included St. Mary in Aleppo, St. Nicholas in Kinsley and both Christ the King and St. Anne in Wichita; Christ the King in Oklahoma City, Okla.; St. Mary's in David City, Neb.; and St. Helena in Hobbs, N.M. She served as both principal and teacher in Kinsley and Hobbs. Her community service included working in the treasurer's office and later serving as business office manager at the Wichita Center. She also spent several years as the bookkeeper for Villa Maria in Mulvane, Kan. Sister Rose currently resides at the Wichita Center where she is Living Mission in Later Life with a ministry of prayer.

If you have any interesting news or notes concerning Aquinas alumni, please consider contacting me for inclusion in future newsletters. Please include as much information as you can as well as contact information. If you would like to send me information or if you need to contact me, I can be reached at:  
 E-mail: [deb-svec@cdolinc.net](mailto:deb-svec@cdolinc.net)  
 Phone: (402) 367-3175  
 Address: P.O. Box 149, David City, NE 68632 c/o Deb Svec  
 Please also check us out on the web:  
<http://aquinas.esu7.org/Alumni>

**Facebook: Search for Aquinas High School Alumni**



## B A B Y M O N A R C H S

Renee Vandenberg Howe '92 and Brad, a daughter, Leyton James Howe, October 7, 2014

Karen Topil Miller '10 and Tyler, a daughter, Elizabeth Kay, born April 10, 2015

Shea Hilger Perillo '02 and Mike, a daughter, Chloe Janelle, born April 26, 2015

Andrea Urbanek Svoboda '98 and Eric, a daughter, Sophia Lynn, born May 2, 2015

Jeff Andel '95 and Christy, a daughter, Kalliope Rose, born May 5, 2015

Tony '04 and Lisa Schmit Meister '04, a daughter, Sadie Marie, born May 7, 2015

Corey Ostdiek '05 and Sara, a son, Eli Wayne, born March 22, 2015

Elise Klosterman Brown '04 and Adam a daughter, Eloise Jane, born June 2, 2015

Bryce Urbanek '04 and Corey, twins, Collin Jacob and Cassandra Jade, born June 5, 2015

Brian Birkel '06 and Brianna, a daughter, Emerson Brialla, born June 22, 2015

Todd Meysenburg '05 and Tricia, a son, Graham Wiston, born July 1, 2015

Nick Kobza '95 and Michelle, a daughter, Emily Michelle, Born July 6, 2015

Jeremy Belsky '92 and Bridgett, a son, Josiah Joseph, born July 8, 2015

Ryan Meysenburg '01 and Tricia, a daughter, Leah Rose, born July 11, 2015

Kyle Eller '06 and Carly, a son, Karver Allen, born July 21, 2015

Michelle Rerucha Todd '99 and Cliff, a son, William Jameson, born July 23, 2015

Beth Engel Moulton '07 and Chris, a daughter, Estella Marie, born July 27, 2015

Jennifer Meysenburg Balsille '03 and Aaron, a daughter, Jodelyn Margaret, born August 14, 2015

Chad Juranek '01 and Rebecca, a son, Henry Jonathan, born August 15, 2015

Trev Moravec '06 and Michaela, a son, Jase Russell, born August 20, 2015

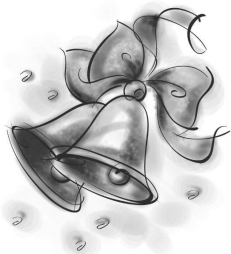
Matt Gruntorad '05 and Laura, twins, a boy, Luke Woodson and a girl, Rose Eleanor, born August 27, 2015

Scott '00 and Connie Pohl '07 Samek, a daughter, Sadie Marie, born September 9, 2015

Chanda Ostdiek Nelson '00 and Chris, a son, Tyler Elwin, born September 19, 2015



## M A R R I A G E S



Jacob Miriovsky '07 to Sara Montag, May 23, 2015

Sarah Smith '04 to David Nedrig, June 20, 2015

Lynsey Kreikemeier '07 to Joel Martenson, July 18, 2015

Nicki Woolsey '01 to J.R. Nelson, August 1, 2015

Valerie Smith '06 to Anton Engel, August 15, 2015

Nick Rech '06 to Kelsey Beiermann, August 22, 2015

Brett Schmit '06 to Alesia Hock, August 29, 2015

Britny Novacek '07 to Nick Brichacek, September 12, 2015

Megan Kucera '06 to Dustin Valenti, September 12, 2015

# 2016 REUNION HONOR YEARS

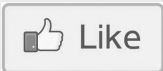
**1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011**

Let us know what your class plans are for reunion. Also, if you have an e-mail address, send it to [deb-svec@cdolinc.net](mailto:deb-svec@cdolinc.net).

It makes it easier and cheaper to send you information on class reunions and updates on classmates. Thank you!

**\*\*\*CLASS OF '66 50<sup>TH</sup> REUNION**

Can you believe it has been nearly 50 years since our days at Aquinas? Well, we will be celebrating that 50 years next June 11 in Lincoln. Len Sloup and Sue Quambusch are graciously opening up their home for our get together. We are hoping for a great turnout so put it on your calendar and tell any classmates that you are in contact with to do the same. We also have a Class of '66 facebook page so if you are a facebook user, please join us to keep in touch. More information will be forthcoming but if you have questions or comments, contact Len Sloup at [lensloup@neb.rr.com](mailto:lensloup@neb.rr.com) or Terry Geiger at [tgeiger@grm.net](mailto:tgeiger@grm.net)



Keep up with what is going on with Aquinas and Aquinas Alumni through our Facebook page.

Look for us at:

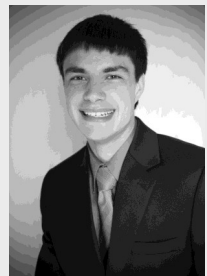
<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Aquinas-High-School-Alumni/134378903298894>

## 2014 ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Mikayla Kadlec is the female recipient of the 2015 Alumni Scholarship. She is the daughter of Mike and Barb Kadlec of David City. Mikayla is attending Southeast Community College/University of Nebraska where she is majoring in Accounting.

The male recipient of the 2015 Alumni Scholarship is Andrew Duke. He is the son of Leslie and Rachel Augustin Duke '92 of David City. Andrew is attending Wayne State College where he is majoring in Computer Information Systems.



Annikka Klement is the female alternate for the 2015 Alumni Scholarship. She is the daughter of Marvin and Jenifer Klement of Ulysses. Annikka is attending Wayne State College where she will be working towards a degree in Physical Therapy.



Nathan Kovar is the male alternate for the 2015 Alumni Scholarship. He is the son of Mark '85 and Julie Kovar of David City. Nathan is attending Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln majoring in Exercise Science.

## IN MEMORY OF...

**John James Vasa** died March 26, 2015, after living a long and full life. John was born in Arthur County, Neb., May 3, 1921, the first child of John E. Vasa and Marie (Sibal) Vasa. John attended a one-room school in Arthur County for eight years, then attended and graduated from **Dwight Assumption School in Dwight, Neb in 1936**. He was drafted into the Army in 1942 and served in Europe with the 99th Infantry Battalion. He received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star.

After being discharged from the Army, he resumed farming in Ogallala, Neb. John married Lillian Johnson Rasmussen in 1952. They moved to Longmont in 1962 and then to Holyoke in 1965.

John was dedicated to giving back to his community and held offices with the Holyoke School Board, Colorado State Ground Water Commission, Frenchman Groundwater Management District, the Western Sugar Beet Growers Association, the Parish Council at St. Patrick's Catholic Church and the 99th Infantry Division Association. John enjoyed reading, traveling and spending time with friends and family.

John is survived by his wife, Lillian; stepdaughter, Carissa Hill and husband Marc of Wichita Falls, Texas; sons, Ken and wife Nancy of Monmouth, Ore., Mike and wife Peggy of Winamac, Ind., Pat and wife Danette of Holyoke, and Phil and wife Susie of Holyoke; daughter, Lisa and husband Ken of Helena, Mont.; 17 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.



**Benedict "Ben" Divis**, 63, of Abie, passed away at his home on April 16, 2015. Ben Divis was born January 13, 1952 to James and Marcella (Kozisek) Divis, in

David City. He graduated from **Aquinas Catholic High School in 1970**. He farmed for most of his life, and on June 17, 1978, he was united in marriage to Barb Trouba, in Dwight, at Assumption Catholic Church. Ben was a member of the Knights of Columbus, S.S. Peter & Paul Parish Board in Abie, and the Linwood Township. He ran a dairy farm for 15 years, and Ben's Repair for 21 years. Ben loved to repair all things, and to spend time outdoors, and with his grandchildren. He is survived by his mother: Marcella Divis; wife of 36 years: Barb Divis; sons: Andrew (Jennifer) Divis, of David City, David (Valerie) Divis, of Appleton, and Daniel (Jacy Schwartz) Divis, of David City; brothers: Dwaine Divis, Bernie (DelAnn) Divis; sisters: Jan Thomas, Teresa (Tim) McMeen; 6 grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**Thomas W. Gannon**, 68, of Omaha, formerly of North Platte and Ulysses, died peacefully at his home on Saturday, May 16, 2015, after living with cancer for nine years.



Thomas W. Gannon was born on June 28, 1946, at David City, Nebraska, to Leonard P. and Margaret (Brym) Gannon. **He graduated from Aquinas High School in 1964**. He entered the Nebraska National Guard in 1965 and was active until 1973. Tom married Kathryn Carlson on April 5, 1975, at Concord, Nebraska. Three children were born to this union. Tom was honored as Farmer of the Year from the Jaycees Farm and Ranch. He coached baseball, played tennis and enjoyed spending time with friends and family. He was a

past member of Immaculate Conception Church, Ulysses, Holy Spirit Parish in North Platte and a current member of St. Stephen the Martyr in Omaha where he was actively involved in the Knights of Columbus, where he enjoyed working the annual Lenten fish fries.

Surviving is his wife, Kathryn, children and grandchildren: Amy Gannon and Kevin Warren, (Anica, and Thomasina) of Ulysses; Jack and Krysia (Julia, Lucy and Ian), and Mark and Megan Gannon both of Omaha. One sister: Mary Margaret (Jerry) Brown of Omaha.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents.

**Frank "Shorty" Eller**, 86, of David City, passed away June 4, 2015 at the Butler County Health Care



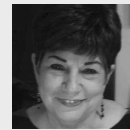
Center in David City. Frank was born February 25, 1929 on the farm near Bellwood, to Frank and Mary (Delahamet) Eller. **He attended Marietta School and graduated in 1947**.

After high school, he farmed with his dad until joining the United States Marine Corps, and served during the Korean War from August 14, 1951, to August 13, 1953. On November 27, 1965, Frank was united in marriage to Eleanor McDonald at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Council Bluffs. Three daughters were born to this union. He grew up on the farm, where he has lived his entire life. Frank farmed and raised cattle with his dad and brother, Alfred. He enjoyed all sports, especially Aquinas and Nebraska Huskers events. Frank liked attending his grandkids' events, and was very proud of his time in the service, and of his

church. He was a member of Presentation Parish, Knights of Columbus, and the Bellwood Legion.

Frank is survived by his wife: Eleanor; daughters: Sue (Michael) Lilly, of Ceresco, Nancy (Jamie) Pearson, of Blair, and Mary (Wayne) Ringer, of Lincoln.

**Barbara J. Brandhorst**, 71, of David City, passed away July 1, 2015, at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, in Omaha.



Barbara was born April 16, 1944 to Joseph and Clara (Puetz) Meysenburg in David City, Nebraska. **She graduated from Aquinas High School in 1962**.

She was a Social Service Director, and worked at David Place, St. Joseph's Villa, and had clients at Region V. Barbara retired in 2010.

She was a member of the Ladies Guild at Redeemer Lutheran Church, the David City Red Hat Club, Ladies BUNCO Card Club, and was on bowling leagues. She was an avid Husker Fan. She is survived by her mother: Clara Meysenburg; husband: Mark Brandhorst; son: Randy Vavra, of Bellwood; daughter: Re'Nee (Pete) Palensky, of Schuyler; siblings: Mary Jo Novak, of David City, Betty (Jerry) Votava, of Columbus, Bev Hain, of David City, Michael (Leslie) Meysenburg, of Lagrange, WY, Carol (Hugh) Johnson, of Omaha, Pat (Carol) Meysenburg, of David City, and Donna (Barry) Waller, of Papillion.

**Larry Meysenburg**, 67, formerly of David City, passed away July 2 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Larry was born on August 9, 1947, to Alfred and Grace Meysenburg. Larry attended St. Mary's Elementary School and graduated from **Aquinas High School in 1965**. He attended Allegheny College in





## IN MEMORY OF...

Meadville, PA and lived and worked in Boston, MA for 10 years before moving to Omaha and receiving his Master's degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He was awarded a grant to study at Louisiana State University and work as a graduate assistant. In 1993, he contracted Legionnaires disease. He subsequently suffered a stroke which left him disabled and unable to continue his career. At the time of his death, he was residing at St. Clare Manor in Baton Rouge.

Survivors include his brother, Bill, and sister-in-law, Mariel; nieces, Kristin Petty (Matt), and Kara Connolly; and grand nieces, Lauren and Paige Petty and Grace and Ella Connolly.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents. His sister, Mary Ann, passed away August 3, 2015.

**Clara Agnes (Bartek) Karpisek**, 85, of Lincoln, passed away on July 10, 2015. Born in Loma to Ralph and Christina Bartek on January 21, 1930. She graduated from **Dwight Assumption in 1948**. She married Thomas Karpisek on June 21, 1949. Clara was a member of Saint Patrick's Catholic Church since 1956. She was also a member of the Altar Society. Retired from Goodyear Tire and Rubber after 31 years of service. Survivors include sons and daughters-in-law Galin Karpisek and Joyce Fledderman of Omaha; Rick and Deanna Karpisek and Kevin Karpisek of Lincoln.

**Marion B. Vanis**, 80, of Rising City, died Saturday, August 22, 2015, at David Place in David City. Marion was born July 30, 1935, in Dwight, Nebraska, to William and



Agnes Vanis. He graduated from **Marietta High School**. On March 2, 1957, he married Marjorie Wondercheck at Presentation Catholic Church in Marietta. They lived in David City for 20 years and then moved to Rising City. Marion was a truck driver and "shade tree" mechanic. He loved tinkering in his shop, reading western books, watching westerns on TV and following the Denver Broncos. Marion is survived by his wife, Marjorie of Rising City, one son, Randy (Susan) Vanis of Elgin, three daughters; Dianna Robertson, David City, Connie (Ron) Foltz, Columbus and Brenda (Mike) Gates of Shelby, two sisters; Wilma (Jerry) Dewispelare, Octavia and Dorothy (Kenny) DeWispelare of David City.

**Michael E. Jarvis**, 53, Butner, N.C., formerly of David City, died from cancer on Wednesday, July 15, 2015 in Butner. Mike was born on February 20, 1962 to Betty and Douglas Jarvis at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha. He attended St. Mary's Elementary School and graduated from **Aquinas High School in 1980**. Mike entered the United States Army in 1980 and served till 1983. He was stationed in Fort Sill, Okla. and in Germany. Mike received a B.S. in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1994. Mike dominated in high school athletics and will be remembered for his fierce play in football and his many tournament championships in wrestling. Mike was passionate about life and at times his over-zealousness got the best of him. In the end, Mike channeled his passions into a deep Christian faith, helping others while making peace with his



past and ultimately with his cancer and death.

Mike Jarvis is survived by his children, Michaela Butler of West Union, Iowa and Joshua Jarvis of Arizona; his mother, Betty (Coufal) Didier of Lincoln; his father, Douglas Jarvis of Montague, Mich.; his brothers, Marty Jarvis of Lincoln, and Monte Jarvis of Portland, Ore.; his sisters, Crystal (Didier) Shriner of Lincoln and Wendy Jarvis Stephens of Pinehurst, N.C.

**Carol K. Palik**, 70, of David City died Thursday, August 27, 2015 at her residence. Carol was born on October 18, 1944 to John and Agnes (Mannlein) Reisdorff at Gothenburg, Nebraska. She was in **the first class to graduate from the new Aquinas High School in 1962**. She married Victor Palik on June 22, 1963, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in David City. Four children were born to this union.

Carol's main focus was God and family. She always made sure her family had what they needed, no matter the sacrifice. Carol helped Vic as bookkeeper at his IGA store. After they sold the store, she also worked in bookkeeping at various jobs, including the Butler County Courthouse and Filter Care. Carol was also very involved in the community. She was on the Friends of the Library Board, Young Homemaker Extension Club, Red Hat Society, St. Mary's PCCW, and Bible study group. She enjoyed sewing, quilting, reading, crocheting, baseball, especially attending baseball games when her grandchildren were involved. She enjoyed taking walks with family and friends.

After the sudden loss of her son, Brian, in 2001, she and Vic took in Brian's son, Brandon

and raised him as their own son. Family meant everything to her and her love, concern, care and compassion will be truly missed.

Survivors: Husband, Vic, sons, Kurt (Shelly) Palik of Brainard and Jeff (Lori) Palik of David City, daughter, Diane (Phil) Swinscoe of Lincoln, 10 grandchildren: Michael and Joseph Swinscoe, Joshua, Kaleb, Brandon, Brittney, Jordan and Kaitlyn Palik, Kennen, and Parker Robinson.

brother: Gene (Linda) Reisdorff of Denver, CO, sister: Judy (Ken) Kerkman of Lincoln, NE.

**Msgr. Raymond Hain**, a retired priest of the Diocese of Lincoln and **founder of Aquinas High School**, died

Aug. 2, 2015. He was 91. Msgr. Raymond Hain grew up in rural Butler County and attended **Assumption High School** in Dwight. He was ordained in 1948 and served parishes in Elmwood, Hastings (St. Cecilia), Lincoln (Sacred Heart and St. Thomas Aquinas Newman Center), Manley, McCook (St. Patrick, St. Ann and Sacred Heart), Tecumseh, Plattsmouth and St. Mary.

In the 1950s, Msgr. Hain was vice rector for student personnel at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He was recalled to Lincoln in 1959 to organize the new Aquinas High School, in David City. During Vatican II, Msgr. Hain was invited to attend the fourth session as an observer, something he called "just a great experience."

He was also a chaplain (reservist) with the U.S. Navy, served the diocese as assistant chancellor, was assistant chaplain at St. Elizabeth Hospital, and was a spiritual director at St. Gregory the Great Seminary in Seward.

Msgr. Hain is survived by one sister and one brother; nieces and nephews.



## AQUINAS SUMMER REUNIONS

### Class of 1965

50 year reunion



**1st Row:** Ron Sypal, Steve Oborny, Tom Morgan, Arthur Augustin, Don Hilger. **2nd Row:** Jane (Birkel) Gibson, Judy (Demuth) Dey, Lucille (Masek) Bennett, Linda (Shorney) Conn, Shirley (Stevens) Kroesing, Constance (Samek) Almgren, Sr. Frances (Joan) Pytlik, Roger Nekl **3rd Row:** Patricia (Depauw) Chloupek, Doris (Rerucha) Jensen, Mary (Gannon) Brown, Mary Ann (Eller) Nelson, Judy (Wilson) Hastings, Mary Ann (Geiger) Marik, (*Hidden*) Judy (Martin) Ekeler, Patricia (Siffring) Wangler, Don Bougger **4th Row:** Gary Puetz, Ron Steiner, Jim Homan, Janet (Lux) Ekeler, Concepcion (Diaz) Morgan, Dolores (Zegers) Cast, Dorothy (Chmelka) Juranek, Delores (Shonka) Stuhr, Kathleen (Kerr) Scholl, Sandra (Brannen) Mahoney, Rosemary (Janak) Hladky, Judy (Kozisek) Puetz **5th Row:** William Krondak, Robert Cockson, Roger Helgoth, Ed Kouma, Gary Helman, Jerry Litjen, Ronald Zegers, William Kosch Not Pictured: Susan (Dolezal) Stanley



### Class of 1975

40 year reunion

The Aquinas class of 1975 gathered on July 18 for their 40th reunion. The evening began with mass at 4pm at the Aquinas chapel, followed by a tour of the school given by Deb Svec. A social and dinner followed at the Bellwood Auditorium. **Front row:** Caroline (Divis) Forstrom, Mary Lou (Hottovy) Goggins, Donna (Podraza) Soukup, Sharon (Bratetic) Aldrich, Luann (Moravec) Zastrow, JuLee (Kuhnel) Kallenbach, Kathy(Novak) Pohl, Sue (Armstrong) Kovar. **2nd row:** Joe Smith, Janelle (Bartunek) Marsh, Cindy (Nickolite) Coan, Patty (Ebel) Dolezal, Terry Hottovy, Tom Pohl, Dave Dehner, John Kula, Denny Kallenbach **3rd Row:** Rick Aerts, Al Hiemer, Steve Stara, Tim Adamy, Kent Longnecker, Tim Hilger, Joe Hain, Doug Romshak, Jack Nickolite, Shorty Hilger **Back Row:** Greg Fiala, Phil Bader, Tom Eller, Steve Benesch, Beth (Hiller) Svoboda. Not pictured but present: Ken Meister



## AQUINAS SUMMER REUNIONS



**Class of 1985**  
30 year reunion

Front row: Neil Lyons, Tarita Hottovy Krafka, Janet Hain Bohaty, Sue Eller Lilly, Scott Andel, Jim Hain, John Yindrick Back row: Pat Phillips, Randy Vavrina, Kenny Janicek, Mark Kovar, Cary Lyons, Kevin Lawson, Monte Jarvis

**Class of 1990**

25 year reunion



First row: Connie Juranek Petersen, Merrily Kyander Schmid, Mary Terrell Miller, Lori Klein Morbach, Chad Rezac, Jim Morbach, Cori Meysenburg Martin, and Kris Pohl Roper. Back row: Andy Romshek, Eric Stara, Julie Oborny Rezac, Jerry Kabourek, Terry Kriz, Mary Beth Lyons Hornung, Jodi Anderson Lakin, Jessie Hilger, Amy Yindrick Nakos, and Galen Meysenburg.

# Class of 1995

20 year reunion



**Front Row (l to r):** Denise (Pflum) Eddy, Sara (Lyons) Semin, Matias Goñe, Sheila (Cihal) Douglas, Kim (Fichtl) Snyder, Jay Pelan, Renee (Kobza) Zwick. **Second Row (l to r):** Wendy Kriz, Jill (Vidlak) Hill, Jenny (Rerucha) Siefkes, Matt Miratsky, Mary Beth (Polivka) Hoiien, Curt Helgoth, Alicia (Kucera) Theilen, Rose (Plasek) Robotham. **Third Row (l to r):** Andy Hough, Nick Kobza, Trevor Kinnett, Justin Semin, Brad Forney. **Fourth Row (l to r):** Kevin Anel, Jeff Jakub, Chris Shipley, Jamie Yindrick, Eric Matulka, Don Polacek.



# Class of 2000

15 year reunion

Mark Polacek, Heath Fiala, Jill (Stewart) Truksa, Kasey (Osborn) Kuhlman, Lee Meysenburg, Ryan Anel, Aaron Krafka, Annika (Romshek) Krafka, Ken Wellman, Brad Meysenburg, Benjamin Forney, Heather (Hein) Oltmer, David Divis, Michelle (Cihal) Anel

# Class of 2010

5 year reunion

**Back Row:** Mick Zegers, Alex Comte, Tanner Kahler, Zach Smith, Evan Kovar, Lee Sabata, Kelby Vandenberg, Brian Prigge.

**Front Row:** Mary Masur, Erin Maguire, Jenna Beringer, Morgan Smith, Shanna Hilger, Cassi Amsler, David Oborny



## BUTLER COUNTY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SUMMER REUNIONS

### Marietta

Marietta High School Alumni celebrated their Quinquennial reunion on Saturday, August 15, 2015 at the Presentation Parish Hall. There were 85 alumni attending the celebration. Since the average age of Marietta alumni is getting older, it was decided to reunite every three years from now on. Mick Demuth '56 was elected vice president and Betty Janovy Schmit '60 was elected treasurer. Jim Kobza '61 moves up to president and Don Semin '56 will be secretary for the next reunion



Oldest Marietta alumni attending, Clara Puetz Meysenburg '37



James Meysenburg '55 came the furthest, all the way from Essex, MD!

**1937:** Clara Puetz Meysenburg—**1944:** Richard Meysenburg—**1947:** Leo Meysenburg, Adolph Stastny—**1948:** Gerald DeWispelare, Marietta Demuth Ricke—**1950:** Wilma Vanis DeWispelare—**1952:** Harlen Lyons, Delphine Sedlacek Stephanek, Bill Kozisek—**1953:** James Meysenburg, Richard Rerucha, Barb Reisdorff Dehner, Marion Vanis, JoAnn Steiner Kovar—**1954:** Don Birkel, Norbert Meysenburg, Pat Rerucha Lyons, Rose Labenz Jarosz—**1955:** Victor Meysenburg, Jean Birkel Pokorny—**1956:** Don Semin, Leander Rerucha, Michael Demuth—**1957:** Mary Ann Voboril Ratkovic, Leon Janovy—**1958:** Bill Anandel, Marland Novacek—**1959:** Michael Budler, Leo Juranek, Robert Schmit—**1960:** Bernard Hain, Robert Reznicek, Jerome Ronkar, Tom Hiller, Betty Janovy Schmit—**1961:** Joe Scholz, Ken Kolezal, Jim Kobza, Dave Beringer, Marion Pavel Bukasky, Margaret Yindrick From, Liz Budler Ashton

### Assumption

The Dwight Assumption Class of 1960 got together on July 25 at the Legion Hall during the Dwight Czech Festival. The Class of 1960 celebrated their 55 year reunion.

## AQUINAS & ST. MARY'S WORKING ON STRATEGIC PLAN

Faculty and Staff from Aquinas and St. Mary's formed a development team this past summer to come up with strengths and weaknesses of the school system that could be addressed by a Strategic Planning Team. The areas of focus include: Spiritual Ministry, Finance & Development, Academic Programs, Enrollment Enhancement and Alumni and Benefactor Relationships. A public forum was held in September to share with parents and benefactors what had been done so far. These forums will

continue throughout the Strategic Planning process to those who aren't on the team a chance to contribute.

Applications were taken to fill six spots on a Strategic Planning team that already includes faculty and staff. Several applications were received and the ones chosen will now begin the Strategic Planning process which will take place from September to December. Many of the new team members are alumni of Aquinas. It is hoped that by Catholic Schools Week in January, a

final plan will be presented to the parents, alumni and benefactors.

The development team that met this summer felt there were a few issues that needed to be dealt with right away including developing a new website for the schools. Work on that has already begun and the new website will go live in December. Alumni will be a part of this website. You will also be able to make donations through the website.

AQUINAS ALUMNI NEWS  
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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

E-mails have become more important than ever when staying in touch with a class regarding class news. Whether it is a request for prayers for a classmate or planning a reunion, having your email address is the best way to go.

PLEASE send us your email address to:

**deb-svec@cdolinc.net**



*You are cordially  
invited to attend the  
All Souls Day Mass*

*Monday, November 2, 2015*

*8:10 a.m., Aquinas Gym  
for the deceased Alumni,  
Faculty, Staff and Students of  
Aquinas Catholic Schools*

The Annual Aquinas Alumni

**Phone-a-thon**  
making an impact



**November 15 & 16**

Local alumni will be calling you to ask for pledges to the annual Alumni Phone-a-thon. This year's appeal will go to the KOTA Fund (Keeping Our Tuition Affordable). This fund helps to bridge the gap between Parish Assessments and Student Tuition. The alumni phone-a-thon is the primary benefactor for this particular Fund. We appreciate the support of our alumni and look forward to visiting with you in November!