



# SAYING GOODBYE

*Paying Homage To Our Founder*



A SEMI ANNUAL NEWSLETTER - FALL 2010 #90

**Latest On The Links**

30th Annual Fr. Sheedy Memorial golf tournament results p 15

**Going To The Reunion?**

Planning is in full gear. Get all the info on page 2

**Fr. Cullen**

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Teach Me Goodness, Discipline and Knowledge

## FR RONALD CULLEN THE PRIEST, THE MAN AND THE CHALLENGE OF HIS LEGACY

We dedicate this issue of the Assumption Newsletter to the honour and accomplishments of Fr Ron. Take the time to read the articles and the testimonials of so many alumni. Please consider how many lives he touched. Take note of how many people respectfully call him "Legendary". Yes, a true legend. A gifted coach, a Hall of Fame member, a teacher and counselor. See how he inspired so many people by action and leadership.

Yet, did you really know him? If there is one thing about The White Elk it is the depth of his love you should remember. His ability to inspire and his good works are truly at the heart of the legend. Did you ever have the chance to hear him speak publicly? There was a theme that permeated each time. "Take the time to listen for what God has planned for you" he would

say in a voice of unexpected tenderness. "Use the gifts that God has given you". The first time I heard him, I was spellbound. He held an auditorium of young people in that same spell. They just knew that someone special had a message to deliver. How many people could connect in such a way? Years later when he is blind ( a burden that so many of us would never want to face ) he doesn't want sympathy but quietly tells you that it has helped his praying. How many of us could truly understand this?

The Assumption Alumni Association is also an extension of his love. It was born out of his desire to help the School to which he dedicated so much of his life's work. He and a small group of volunteers found a way to keep Purple Raiders connected, have fun and keep

the spirit alive. This is the 90th edition of the newsletter that he created. He crafted well and set high standards that we try to maintain today. Here is where he passed one piece of his legacy and we humbly carry it in his memory. Integrity, leadership, action, goodness, discipline and knowledge, are contained in his love of Assumption.

We need your help to keep this part of Fr. Cullen's legacy alive. We will fall by the wayside without it. Please consider what he would want of all of us. Pay homage to his legend but keep his legacy alive and active. Your Alumni Association has pledged to do both.

We all pray for the soul of Fr. Ron to find eternal rest, his role now complete. It is up to us to carry on the legacy of good works. Time will tell how well we have taken up the challenge.

**Memorial Mass for Fr. Cullen: Monday, October 18, 2010 7:00 p.m.**

**at Our Lady of Assumption Church**

**If you would like to share a memory of Fr. Cullen that will be printed in the mass**

**program, please contact us at**

**[achalumni@gmail.ca](mailto:achalumni@gmail.ca)**

## Alumni Homecoming Saturday, November 6th, 2010

All former students, friends of Assumption, their wives, husbands, etc., are invited to this gala evening. Mass at 7:00 p.m. in our very own chapel, then enjoy a cool cocktail in the Armstrong Gym along with incredibly delicious appetizers prepared by the students of the culinary Arts Department (led by Chef Diane Nehmetallah) who specialize in 'high skills' area. The appetizers are going to be a reflection of the multicultural diversity at Assumption. Connect with your classmates, other alumni and former staff members. Class pictures begin at 8:30 p.m. with the class of 1945 and 1950. So far, the class of 1975 has the most volunteers working diligently to contact their fellow grads. Great job, Raiders!

### WE NEED YOU!!

Our reunions have always been crowded with happy people. To continue these successful and memorable events, your help is needed to encourage your classmates to join in the fun. **Though much of the focus is on the 5-year anniversary groups, ALL ALUMNI are welcome to attend.**

### YOU CAN HELP

Volunteer to organize or help organize your class by phone, fax, email or other means. Provide and/or organize the picture displays for your year.

### WHAT TO DO

If you can help in any way, contact the Alumni Office by phone at 519-256-7801 ext. 299.

So far, the following have generously volunteered to be a class contact for the following Grad Years:

1955	Pat McHugh	734-671-9013	
1960	Vic Venegas	313-682-1820	
1965	PLEASE VOLUNTEER		
1970	PLEASE VOLUNTEER		
1975	Peter Hrastovec	519-966-1300 Ext. 421	<a href="mailto:peter@peterlaw.ca">peter@peterlaw.ca</a>
		519-256-2160	Evenings
	Frank latonna	519-969-7933	<a href="mailto:jfsiat@sympatico.ca">jfsiat@sympatico.ca</a>
	Mike Niziolek	519-258-0739	<a href="mailto:lmniz@cogeco.ca">lmniz@cogeco.ca</a>
	Dave Roberts	519-971-9213	<a href="mailto:roberts@wincom.net">roberts@wincom.net</a>
	Tony Russo	519-253-1670	<a href="mailto:drrusso@jet2.net">drrusso@jet2.net</a>
	Lil Dumouchelle	519-969-7419	<a href="mailto:lil.dumouchelle@gmail.com">lil.dumouchelle@gmail.com</a>
1980	Michelle Paterson	519-817-5642	<a href="mailto:michelle_classof80@live.ca">michelle_classof80@live.ca</a>
1985	Alba & Chris Younan	519-967-0175	<a href="mailto:cyounan@cogeco.ca">cyounan@cogeco.ca</a>
	Joe Siddall	519-969-8903	<a href="mailto:jojosed@aol.com">jojosed@aol.com</a>
1990	PLEASE VOLUNTEER		
1995	PLEASE VOLUNTEER		
2000	PLEASE VOLUNTEER! YOUR TIME CAPSULE WILL BE OPENED. COME AND SEE WHAT'S IN IT!!!!!!		

GOOD LUCK and see you on Nov. 6th, 2010!!

### REUNION SCHEDULE

Sat. Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**7:00 P.M.**

**HOLY MASS** (in school CHAPEL)

This will fulfill your Sunday obligation

We invite all Priests in attendance to concelebrate

**7:45 p.m.**

Cocktails in Armstrong Gym featuring International Appetizers

**8:30 p.m.**

Class Pictures in Armstrong Gym  
(Starting with class of '45 & '50)

**7:45 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.**

Good Fellowship in Armstrong Gym

Cover Charge \$10.00 at the door

**NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

## SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL ALUMNI

from Assumption High School's present principal

Dear Alumni,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$4000 for our sound system. We can't wait to entertain the alumni at a reunion with the new system, and actually be able to hear at school masses. What a wonderful example of Goodness, Discipline and Knowledge."

**Sherrilynn Colley-Vegh and students and staff**

THANK YOU TO OUR PROOF READERS: Pauline Kenney, Denis Malette

Attention Class of '85: This year marks your 25 year reunion.

## The Great White Elk: A profile of Rev. Ronald Cullen

By Marty Beneteau, The Windsor Star July 9, 2010

Editor's note: This story first appeared on page D1 of the Nov. 8, 1986 edition of The Windsor Star.

THE Great White Elk eases his tall, sturdy frame into a chair in the alumni office at Assumption High School.

Surrounding his desk are faded team photographs which trace nearly 40 years of winning tradition and evoke a thousand memories: the hockey and baseball titles, the wild-eyed pep talks, the days when a misbehaving player would find himself pushing a peanut down the hall with his nose.

For just an instant, the glory days are forgotten. The Great White Elk is thinking about a cold day in February when Mike Lori, a strapping, tough-as-nails hockey player, died of leukemia at the age of 18.

Theirs had been a stormy four-year relationship. Lori was a scrapper who, in the words of his coach, "was determined to be the toughest, strongest guy on the ice."

Rev. Ronald Cullen, nicknamed the "Great White Elk" or "Clancy" and arguably the most successful high-school coach in Windsor since the Second World War, has never tolerated fighting.

At one point the coach recommended Lori give up hockey for fear a fighting suspension would jeopardize his more promising football career.

"Father would stand his ground and Mike would stand his," recalled Teresa Lori, the boy's mother. "It was kind of a strange relationship because they were always yelling at each other. It wasn't a hateful thing. They just disagreed."

And yet in the winter of 1985, when Lori was diagnosed as terminally ill, he turned to the Basilian priest for spiritual guidance. Cullen acted as liaison between the dying boy and his friends at school. He heard Lori's last confession.

"Michael felt that Father was the only person he could really talk to about death and dying and the life hereafter," said Mrs. Lori. "I think Father made that part of his life . . . I don't know if the word is easier . . . maybe he just reinforced the things Michael had been taught all his life. Fr. Cullen was the rock of the foundation during that period."

"He can be tough as nails and he can be soft as a pussy cat. That's the way he was with Michael near the end."

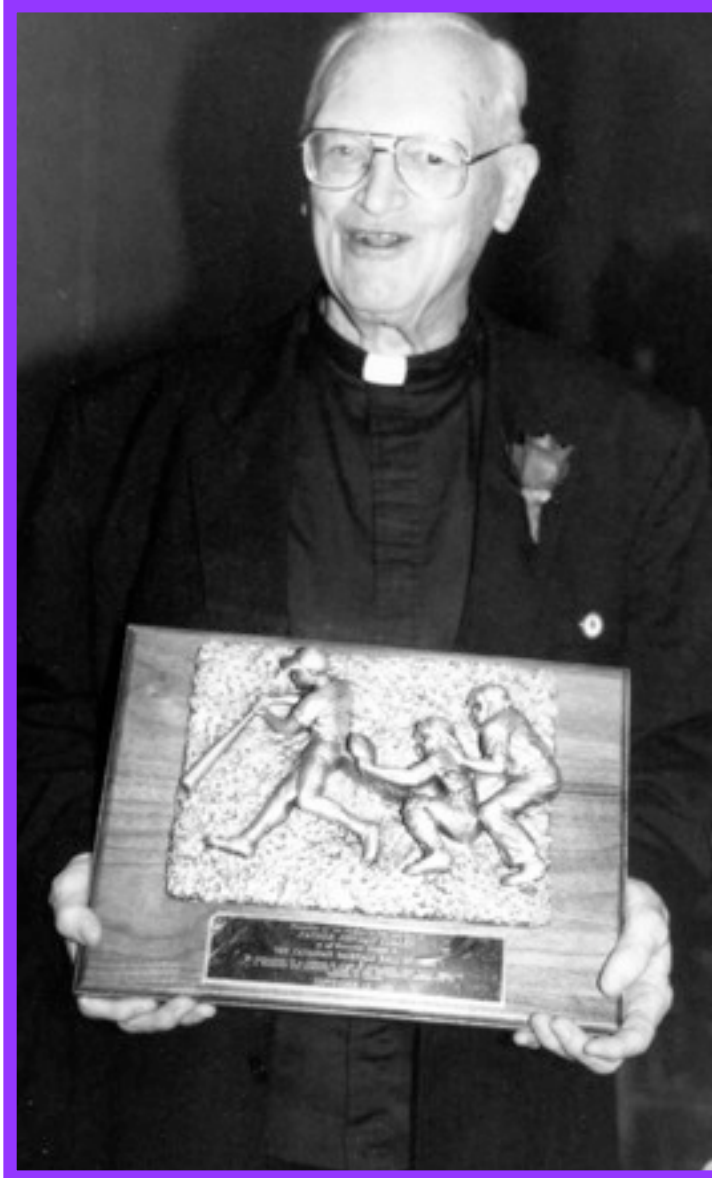
For just one instant, Cullen is neither the Great White Elk nor Clancy. He is a sensitive 71-year-old man who watched as a smart, popular kid, brimming with promise for a bright future in athletics, waged a losing battle with cancer.

"We fought for four years," Cullen recalls. "I loved that kid. He knew that and I used to say, 'Mike, you're a nice kid and just because we don't agree it doesn't mean I don't love you.'"

"These days you can say you love a kid. It's OK. In the old days, you had to say like."

SCOT McFADDEN was about to learn the hard way that romance never takes precedence over the Purple Raider hockey team.

It was the weekend before the 1968 city finals, but instead of staying in Windsor to practice, McFadden, a three-time all-star goaltender, chose to visit his girlfriend in Oshawa. "At that point in the season I figured Cullen had no choice. What was he going to do, bench me?" McFadden recalls. "Well that turned out to be a real no-no to try and pull with Cullen."



When McFadden compounded the blunder by missing Friday afternoon's practice, the Great White Elk saw red. That night, in bitter cold, he had the goaltender stopping pucks on the outdoor rink at Assumption for almost two hours.

"I nearly froze. They just kept firing boomers at me. And you couldn't see very well because it was dark. I remember Cullen telling me I had been pretty irresponsible and had let the team down. I think he did that just to get me really pissed off because he knew I played better when I was angry. After that he didn't say a word to me . . . until I got a shutout the next game."

THE GREAT WHITE ELK, who built his perennial powerhouse hockey teams around goaltending and defense, is positively disgusted about the way Greg Stefan played in the Red Wing nets the night before. What's worse, he did it against Montreal, one of the Elk's favorite teams.

"Detroit lost because of their goalie," he says abruptly. "Stefan is a reflex goalie, he doesn't cover the angles. Terrible. Just awful. A guy's coming around behind the net, you put your stick out and bother him, don't let him come out and shoot at you. Stefan does that, then he flops down and pshhht, the guy puts it upstairs. Terrible."

It wasn't so long ago that the Great White Elk would take his netminders to the concrete tennis court behind Assumption and dress them in pads and running shoes for shooting practice. Eddie Mio, a star of the late 1960s who went on to a professional career, recalls Cullen stretching a rope from the net to various points on the pavement to illustrate how to play the angles - 45 degrees to one side, 90 straight out, 45 to the other side.

The Elk would say: "Give the shooter six inches from each post and down from the crossbar. If he hits that spot, more power to him, nice shot kid. The other five feet are yours."

Cullen would take his goalies to Olympia Stadium in Detroit to watch the greats like Terry Sawchuk and Roger Crozier. He'd have them juggle tennis balls to improve their concentration.

"When he found me I was a little kid with good reflexes who didn't know the first damn thing about net," said Mio. "He taught me about the game and about life. Father was a great motivator who knew how to play with your mind, and by that I mean he knew how to get the best out of you, how to build you up."

In the dressing room between periods, Cullen guffaws at his forwards, telling them to "aim at the goalie next time and maybe you'll hit a corner." He picks one out, shoves him to the ground and tells the other players it was a harder hit than any they made on the ice.

"I look for character first in my players," says the Great White Elk, his broad, cocky smile pushing the cheekbones so high they force his eyes to almost squint. "You talk to the kid, you make friends with him, you talk about different situations. Then you jump on him and see how he reacts. If he backs right off ... argh! You look for the kid who challenges you back. The kid with character wants to develop, he's stubborn. You bawl him out and ooooh boy, look out. If you criticize him unfairly and he doesn't fight back I think, hey, c'mon kid, what are you going to do in a tough moment in life, out on the field or on the rink? You've got to stand up."

"They just hate me for the first year. Then they realize you're trying to make them better, help them find out what it's all about." Coach, teacher, confessor, friend.

For all the brow beatings Cullen has given, for all his aggressive motivational tactics, for every time he cuffed a kid in the head, squeezed hard on his trapezoid muscle and said, "Stupid kid," or "Sit down, junior," the loyalty of his former players and students is unflinching. This summer a group of them chipped in to buy the priest a thank-you billboard at Mic Mac Park during the World Junior Baseball Tournament. On a typical day his cramped office is filled with hockey players working through lunch to pay for their ice time.

The telephone rings and it's a former defenceman, now 30ish and living out west, who wants to assure Father he has kicked a years-old drug habit.

The door opens and a street-wise kid with vise grips for hands walks in, ostensibly to talk hockey. By the time he leaves the conversation has shifted to the 10 scripture verses Cullen asked him to read last night.

The phone rings and it's a former player complaining that his parish priest won't perform his wedding ceremony because he doesn't go to church. "Now he's mad at me, too," says the Elk.

A laugh, then a sigh.

Thirty-eight years at Assumption. Twenty-plus city hockey titles, numerous baseball championships, a trunk-load of special awards (Cullen conceals them) and thousands of young people he ushered into adulthood, whether they liked it or not. An English teacher and long-time dean of the student residence, Cullen took lazy, inattentive students, kicked them in the pants the same way he would a goalie or pitcher, and sent them on to careers in law, psychology, literature and journalism.

Anthony Cusinato is a District Court judge; Pat Ducharme is a successful criminal lawyer; Bill Schiller is an award-winning Toronto journalist who broke the Amway tax scam story while with The Windsor Star; Reno Bertoia played for the Detroit Tigers and now heads the Assumption history department; and McFadden is a widely-quoted sports psychologist who helps National Hockey League players prepare for life after the pros.

At the University of Toronto, McFadden wrote an award-winning doctoral paper on "imagery rehearsal," using Cullen's theories about preparing for competition by imagining yourself successfully handling game situations.

IT'S A COOL, misty Saturday afternoon at Divine Child High School in Dearborn, Mich., circa 1971. Assumption's baseball team is on the field - but not its coach. Incensed at a base running blunder by his squad, Cullen has stormed off to the team van in left field to mark English papers, saying, "You guys are all stupid, you can coach yourselves."

"He sat there in the van, with his feet up on the dash board, marking English papers and flashing the signs to us with the blinkers," recalls Mike Morencie, the target of Cullen's derision. "The right turn signal was bunt, the left signal was steal, the flashers were hit-and-run. And if we didn't look at the van, he'd start honking the horn. I couldn't believe it. Later on he sort of told us he was sorry and that he really had to mark those English papers."

THE OLDEST of five children, Cullen grew up on the playgrounds of Depression-era Toronto because "there was no money" to do anything else. Ordained in 1941, he spent four years at St. Michael's College School in Toronto, his alma mater, and four more at Catholic Central High in Detroit before coming to Assumption.

He can be bribed with a double-chocolate milk shake. Players would gladly stop at Dairy Queen on the way home from a ball game if it meant getting the Great White Elk off the road. He is remembered as a dreadful driver who ran red lights and terrorized Detroit freeways by switching lanes four at a time.

Former players say at the age of 65 he could still execute a running bunt.



Closing in on his 40th year at Assumption and his 50th as a priest, Cullen has not slowed down. He is active in minor baseball, tutors in English, runs the alumni association and assists Raider hockey coach Jack Rosaasen. He stepped down as head coach two years ago and retired from the classroom at age 65 when, as he puts it, "the school board fired me."

Tonight, 600 to 700 grads will return for Assumption's 16th annual alumni banquet and like always, Cullen will be the target of some tall tales. It seems once you've played for the Great White Elk, you never forget him.

Elmore Leonard, one of the hottest crime novelists in North America, played first base for Cullen in his freshman year at Catholic Central in Detroit. That was 40 years ago. Leonard, reached at his suburban Detroit home, didn't hesitate in his recollection of the no-nonsense coach.

"Yeah, he was a pretty tough-looking guy. He had glasses and a big build, kind of bow-legged. He got me a book on how to play first base, you know, the positioning of your feet for various situations.

"He was a good coach, very inspirational and a great motivator. You wanted to play for him. You wanted to excel."

Recalling Leonard over a bowl of soup in the teacher's lounge, Cullen says matter-of-factly: "Yeah, Leonard. I remember him. Good field, no hit."

What is success? the Great White Elk is asked.

"Success is when the kids have fun." "What advice do you give other coaches? "Never coach the way I did. Have your own style."

What qualities do you most admire in a young player?

"I like the kid who keeps coming back, doesn't quit. I admire the kid who, in a key game, plays better than he ever did before."

What do you dislike? "The goons. Who likes the goons?" On a Cullen-coached team, fighting earns you the dressing room key, or worse.

SOMETHING'S BREWING at Gordie Howe Hockeyland and it isn't a 1960s love-in. Bill Schiller, usually a Lady Byng-type defenceman, has fire in his eyes after watching an opponent spear his chum Pat Ducharme in the gut. Schiller chases the offender, crosschecks him in the face and in an instant, the two are a mass of flailing arms and legs.

"I was swinging away when I heard this noise, like a 'chink,'" Schiller, now a Toronto Star reporter, recalls. "It was the dressing room key bouncing off my helmet. Cullen had thrown it all the way from the bench and hit me in the head. Immediately you're powerless. You look up and there he is yelling his head off at you and you realize what a stupid thing that was for you to do."

CULLEN'S FLAIR for the dramatic could manifest itself in a violent act or total, cutting silence - or both. On more than one occasion he marched into a dressing room, paused, wound up with his size-10 boots, kicked a pile of hockey sticks across the room and marched out, without saying a word. Legend has it that he once single-handedly knocked three of his players back to their seats when they tried to attack an opponent who had sworn at Cullen.

What a sight to behold. The Great White Elk lumbering out to his place behind the Assumption bench, a broad-shouldered, bow-legged man with combed back snowy hair and a belly protruding from his floor-length black frock. And all that Roman Catholic tradition following behind him.

Opponents could be forgiven for expecting the priest to spread his arms, part the roof of the arena and summon the angels down to score a goal for the Raiders.

His reputation is international. A U.S. college coach looking for the best high school hockey player in Windsor probably would call Cullen. Jack Adams, former coach and general manager of the Red Wings, would let Assumption practice at the Olympia and helped pay for the team's trip to an all- Ontario tournament.

"Jack just idolized what Fr. Cullen did with the kids," said Jim Skinner, a former Wing GM.

Former NHL players like Red Kelly and Ted Lindsay would drop in on the Assumption practices to help Cullen. Lindsay, the Wing enforcer, had been a boarder at St. Mike's when Cullen ran the residence in the early 1940s.

"Lindsay came to St. Mike's to play hockey, certainly not for an education," recalls The Great White Elk. "He liked to go out a lot at night. He'd bribe me with butter tarts and milk and I'd let him out for a couple of hours."

Although a disciplinarian, Cullen gets a certain pleasure out of kids who know how to bend the rules and get away with it - as long as neither the individual nor the team suffers. One time a behemoth football player came back to the boarder's residence with a swollen hand, claiming he had punched a wall in frustration.

Cullen, suspicious because there was no cut, did a little investigating and found out from the boy's friend that he had been in a bar. The priest's first question was, "Did he win?"

THE GREAT WHITE ELK and his catcher, Morencie, have gone to inspect the newly-completed baseball stadium at Mic Mac Park. Cullen, not averse to showing off despite being in his 50s, decides they will exit the empty diamond by jumping over the centre field fence.

Morencie is leery.

The priest gets one leg over, but as he lifts the second leg his pants get caught in the fence. When he moves the rip gets worse, sending the young Morencie reeling to the ground in laughter.

"Stop laughing, junior, and get me off this fence!" Morencie recalls the Elk bellowing. "But I couldn't stop laughing so he says, 'Get me a garbage can stupid.'"

"I finally get him off the fence and he looks down at me and he says, 'Hey junior, you won't tell anybody about this will you?' I said, 'No father,' then I went home and called about 20 of my friends. He wore those same green pants to the next practice with about 700 stitches in the seat."

MORENCIE, now coach of the AKO Fratmen football team, calls Cullen the "most logical man I ever met in my life," a "master psychologist" who uses athletics to teach kids about life.

A young batter returns to the dugout after swinging at a high pitch for the third strike. The Great White Elk, sitting with his legs crossed and that smirk on his face, beckons the boy with a wag of his finger.

Cullen: "Well, Junior, where was that pitch?" Junior: "Well, Father, it was over my head." Cullen: "Can you hit a pitch over your head?" Junior: "No Father."

Cullen: "Then why did you swing at the pitch?" Junior: "I don't know father." Cullen: "Sit down, please."

Old friends say Cullen was raised on baseball by his druggist father. He excelled in the sport, and also played football and hockey. But it was clear from early on that his talents were as a teacher, motivator and disciplinarian - the guts and glue of a good coach. Many of his tactics, like the shoulder grab, were learned under the tough Basilian priests at St. Mike's.

Cullen is fond of telling players that "if I'm not picking on you, you're either hopeless or perfect." The words are barely spoken when that squinty smile returns, that look of brutal sincerity which allows the man to cut you down and at the same time be your friend.

"Isn't every game mental?" the Great White Elk asks rhetorically. "Silence. I liked that one. I'd say something like, 'There's no use talking to you guys, you don't listen. Last period, you didn't do anything you were told.' Then I'd go out and slam the door. Before the period starts I'd say, 'Well, I've got to stay here behind the bench, but there's not much point, is there, because you guys are playing your own little game. I've got to stay here so I can change the lines, just don't bug me.'"

Concentration, says the Great White Elk, emphasizing the point with a swipe of his hand, will make anyone a good athlete. "When I was younger, I'd skate with the kids and if I could catch them and hit them in the rear with my stick, they weren't skating fast enough. I'd say, 'It's obvious. A 50-year-old should not be able to catch you.'"

MIKE COOPER thinks he's found the perfect excuse for getting out of class. The baseball star, a non-Catholic, tells the teacher he's going to chapel service. The charade works until communion time when, confused and embarrassed as the other kids line up in front of the priest, he decides to give it a try. After all, Cullen, his coach, is giving communion so why not score a few points while I'm at it?

"I get to the front of the line," Cooper recalls, seven years after the fact, "and I'm holding my hands out waiting for the host. Father looks down at me and he says, 'Get lost, Cooper, you're not Catholic.' I was so embarrassed I just pretended to get a host and eat it. But of course he was right. After that, he called me down to his office and took the time to explain the whole religious procedure about communion. I never got out of class that way again."

CULLEN'S TACTICS were unpopular, but no one questioned the results. "He's the kind of guy who just hated to lose and insisted - insisted - in a very demanding way that everybody perform to their potential," said psychologist McFadden. "People knew that and they had a lot of respect for him and I guess that's why he had such a successful coaching career. The bottom line was, he wanted people to recognize their potential and settle for nothing less than that."

Mike Lori enrolled at Assumption just to be coached by Cullen; his brothers and sisters attended arch-rival Brennan. Lori never had a chance to realize his full potential, but in that brief time under the Great White Elk he grew beyond his years.

"I think that's what the two of them had," said Teresa Lori. "This mutual respect for standing up for what you believed in and not giving in to the other guy simply because he put up a bigger front."

"Father loves to see the boy develop into the man." © Copyright (c) The Windsor Star

**From Gary Lamphier, 72** writes: "Thanks for letting us old boys know the sad news. Fr. Cullen had an enormously positive impact on my life, as indeed he had on so many others who passed through the halls at Assumption .... I will mention his passing in my column in the Edmonton Journal on Saturday ...while it's impossible to do justice to the man

and his life in just a few column inches, I felt that I should at least try to convey to our readers what he meant to me and to so many others ...he was one of the greatest men I've ever had the pleasure of knowing."

Values that sustained influential educator worth remembering today

By Gary Lamphier

[edmontonjournal.com](http://edmontonjournal.com)

July 10, 2010 7:42 AM

EDMONTON - His players called him Clancy or the Great White Elk -- never to his face, of course -- but the rest of the world knew him as Father Ronald Cullen. He was a Basilian priest, a career high school teacher, and a legendary hockey and baseball coach in Windsor, Ont.,



where he shaped the lives of generations of students at Assumption College, my old alma mater. Fr. Cullen died Thursday in Toronto, where he lived out his final years at a residence for retired priests near the U of T campus. He was 94 years old and completely blind, but still sharp as a tack. The values he espoused over the course of his lifetime -- self-discipline, dedication, teamwork, service to others, humility, loyalty and sacrifice -- are the values that made his generation the greatest that ever lived, in my books. If the debt-saddled, free-spending Western world hopes to dig itself out of the current economic mess, they're the same values we must learn to embrace again as the age of conspicuous consumption ends, and a new era of austerity begins. We ignore it at our peril. Fr. Cullen never allowed his students or his players to take the easy route. He wouldn't abide shortcuts. You couldn't shrug off your responsibilities or put off today's tough decisions until tomorrow. It's a lesson U.S. politicians, who seem intent on ignoring the implications of the nation's staggering \$13-trillion-US debt load, would do well to learn. Instead, they're ducking the tough decisions and playing politics while the country's future grows bleaker by the day. There will be a price to pay for this, and it's likely to arrive sooner than many people expect. Like my parents, Fr. Cullen was a product of the Great Depression, a tough, old-school disciplinarian who demanded -- and almost invariably got -- the very best out of his students and

athletes. He didn't brook cheaters, slackers or liars, and he had an uncanny ability to flush them out. With his steely, laser-like gaze, he seemed to see right through any miscreant who had the misfortune of being hauled into his office. His hockey practices could be brutal. Any player who didn't hit the ice on time or who goofed off during a drill quickly felt the Elk's thunderous wrath. He wasn't averse to whacking a player's backside with his stick or cuffing him on the helmet, accompanied by such admonitions as: "Hey stupid, I'm talking to you!" He was also physically formidable, a tall, broad-shouldered, bowlegged man with a vice-like grip, a mane of white hair, a protruding pot belly and a penchant for wearing full-length black frocks that made his stout frame loom even larger. For all his apparent toughness, there was another side to Fr. Cullen -- a gentle, caring, witty, intensely spiritual side. It sometimes surfaced in English classes, when his voice would turn soft and passionate as he recited a particular 19th-century poem he loved. Like all great coaches, he was also a student of psychology. He treated every player differently. Those who needed a kick in the behind got it, while those who needed a pat on the back or an encouraging word found a true friend in Fr. Cullen. He wasn't averse to benching star hockey players if they skipped practice or broke curfew. On the other hand, he once ordered a teammate of mine -- a boarder from Michigan who lived in the student residence next to the school -- to take a week off and return home without his textbooks. The reason? Fr. Cullen figured the straight-A student was studying too hard for his own good, and risked lapsing into a serious depression. His health mattered far more than his grades or the success of the school hockey team. Still, Fr. Cullen was an incredibly successful coach who was renowned in local hockey and baseball circles. His teams won more championships than I can count. During the era that I played for Assumption's hockey team in the early 1970s, my teammates included future NHLers Mike Eaves, Eddy Mio and Mark Renaud. All of them count Fr. Cullen as a major influence in their lives and careers. They followed in the footsteps of previous Assumption stars like Al Arbour, who coached the New York Islanders to several Stanley Cup wins before the Gretzky-era Oilers began their big run in the 1980s, and Marc Reaume, who played in the NHL in the 1950s and 1960s. Fr. Cullen's high school baseball teams also produced a string of major leaguers, including Reno Bertoia, who played for the Detroit Tigers in the 1950s, former Montreal Expos catcher Joe Siddall, and John Upham, who played for the Chicago Cubs. Others went on to successful careers in business, academia and the media. Bill Schiller, the Toronto Star's Asian bureau chief in Beijing, is another ex-Assumption hockey star and a former teammate of mine. Ellmore Leonard, one of America's most successful crime novelists, used to play first base on one of Fr. Cullen's ball teams. "Yeah, Leonard. I remember him," the elderly priest told a Windsor Star reporter decades later. "Good field, no hit." Simply put, Fr. Ronald Cullen was the kind of man who put his indelible stamp on the lives of everyone he touched. He influenced future careers -- including my own -- but more importantly, he made us better people. His final message to me on my final day of high school in 1973 still resonates to this day: "Son," he said, "please don't live a mediocre life." Father, I hope I haven't let you down. May you find the peace you so richly deserve. [glamphier@thejournal.canwest.com](mailto:glamphier@thejournal.canwest.com)

Windsor Star, Friday, July 9

Father Ronald Cullen, who taught and coached at Assumption high school for decades and a member of the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame, died Thursday in Toronto. He was 94

### Legend Father Cullen dies

Rev. Ronald Cullen, a mentor to generations of Windsor athletes, died Thursday evening in Toronto at age 94. But even after the former Assumption College high school teacher and coach hung up his skates, said colleague Rev. Quentin Johnson, people sought his ear. "There's always someone on his doorstep talking to him," he said, even after he left the sports field for good. "He was kind of like a counsellor to a lot of people. You'd see them coming to his office. Teachers, students, grads, they'd all be coming to his office all the time. "He was honest and he was forthright, and he never really told anybody to take the easy way." Father Cullen, who by that time was totally blind, was honoured by his former students at a fundraising dinner in 2008. "It's hard being blind, but I'm happy," said Cullen, a member of both the Canadian Baseball and Windsor Essex County sports halls of fame. "I have so many people call me or contact me to tell me how much I influenced them. I didn't influence them. God did." We're just God's instrument." Among Cullen's former students who attended the tribute were retired baseball major leaguers Reno Bertoia, Joe Siddall and John Upham, former NHL goaltender Eddie Mio, University of Windsor football coach Mike Morencie, retired lacrosse star Ron Martinello and orthopedic surgeon Dr. Joe Palazeti. "He was responsible for my sports, my education and my teaching career," added Bertoia, who remembered Cullen as a disciplinarian and a "stickler for fundamentals." Johnson said Cullen "really got a lot out of the kids, but they really responded to him too." The oldest of five children, Cullen grew up in Depression-era Toronto and after being ordained in 1941 spent four years teaching at St. Michael's College School in Toronto, his alma mater, and four more at Catholic Central high school in Detroit before moving to Assumption in 1948. He retired from teaching in the early 1980's. He moved to Toronto several years ago to be closer to family and to live at a retirement facility for Basilian priests.

### CLASS OF '60

Our 50th Anniversary of Graduation,  
Nov. 5th and 6th.

Friday Cocktails at Holiday Inn Select  
Saturday Luncheon at Holiday Inn Select  
Saturday Eve. Reunion at Assumption High  
See contact info on page 2 for details.

Next Issue Look for stories on:

Mark Ceolin '80

Dwight Duncan '76

Mike Eaves '74

Laurie Lauzon Clabo '75

Stan Potvin '83

**Ed Alice '48:** "Deepest sympathy on the passing of Fr Cullen, from the class of '48. He coached the Purple Raiders against our Local Trenton, Mi hockey team. We have fond memories."

**Edward Adamic '47** writes: "Thanks for the current edition of the newsletter-- it's very professionally done, and it contains a great deal of newsworthy information for its readers. I truly appreciate the efforts of all who work so hard to prepare this outstanding publication. I thank you for publishing the obituary that I sent to you of my brother William Adamic. His memorial service was held on February 13th, and we were gratified by the wonderful turnout of so many of Bill's relatives, friends and former school companions who so fondly remembered him, even though he had lived in California for the past 50 years. There were 108 in attendance at the memorial mass that was offered at our parish, St. Louise de Marillac, in Warren, Michigan. A luncheon followed, at which time the guests were able to share in their personal recollections of Bill. Our immediate family was in attendance when my brother's remains were interred at the White Chapel Mausoleum in Troy, Michigan, on February 23. The highlights noted in the obituary of Bernie Hogan in the current newsletter, brought back some very special memories for me. I was fortunate to have attended the two basketball games where the Assumption team was victorious over the great Harlem Globetrotters - memories that will last a lifetime. Another great sports memory among the many that I have, is the football game in 1943 or possibly 1944, when the Purple Raiders defeated the highly rated team from St. Michael's College in Toronto - Bernie Berthiaume was one of the stars that I remember from that game, although there were many others whose names escape me at this time - I returned my year books and Reporter newspapers to the school some years ago, and unfortunately do not have any references to look at for past information. Throughout my lifetime, I have always spoken proudly of my high school years at Assumption, as being the best years spent in any of the schools that I attended. The motto, "Teach me Goodness, Discipline and Knowledge" captures the essence of the focus established and supported by the Basilian Fathers. It was a pleasure and honour for me to have been a part of the Basilian family!"

**Norm Adam '48** writes: "My grandson, Luke Adam plays hockey for Buffalo Sabres in the N.H.L."

**Harold Hanson '54,** writes: "A true 'GIANT' has entered into the Kingdom of Heaven. Hope 'Clancy' and 'Army' have a great reunion. God Bless both their souls."

**Jack Mansfield '50:** "Thank you very much for information about Fr Cullen's passing. He was a great man and a great athletic coach."

**Dann Bouzide '57** on Fr. Cullen's passing: "He's now with Army and surely God will welcome him. Any student of these 2 pillars were especially blessed."

**Bob Kefgen '53.** "The class of '53 will miss Fr. Cullen as he was very important to our class."

**Leonard Quinn '57** - "Father Cullen, you were the epitome of teaching Goodness, Discipline and Knowledge. You were there when I needed you and the values you taught me continue to be a strong influence in my life. Thank you. May you find joy and peace with our loving God."

**Lou Yeager '50** - "Fr. Cullen was the essence of what a Catholic priest, coach and educator should be. He influenced my life more than anyone except my dad who was Father's friend. Without his aid I would never have gone to college. Thanks Father Ron."

**Dwyer Sullivan '55** - "Thank you Father Ron for your commitment to goodness, discipline and knowledge. I benefited from my time being coached, and coaching with you, being a boarder and working with boarders with you, and from our shared conversations and prayers together. May you continue to "coach" from heaven."

**Jerry Horan '51** - "Great priest! Excellent English teacher. RIP, my prayers are with you."

**Robert Ruel '55** writes: "I attended an awesome Detroit Tiger Fantasy camp for a week in January in Lakeland, Florida as a Christmas gift from my daughter, Jodi. It was a great experience putting on a Tiger uniform with your name and number on it. Former Tigers like Willie Horton and Mickey Lolich were great but Al Kaline was very aloof."

**Ken Antaya '53** - "A voice from the far past. I am well and living in Aurora, Ontario with my great wife of 53 years, Josephine Kenny. We have nine grandchildren. My best wishes to Assumption and all my old classmates. Sorry I missed my 50th class anniversary."

**Mike Armstrong '64** on Fr. Cullen: "Thank you for the email. He was a great influence in my life. I was lucky to be able to see on occasion over the last couple of years and to see the other side that I didn't see as a teenager. He was a class act who always did what he thought was right and he usually was. He will be missed but he was ready and content to be part of God's plan. He had absolute faith."

**Jim Carey '68** writes: Thank you for letting me know about Fr. Cullen. He was a very important guiding force for me in my teenage years, and I've maintained a respectful gratitude, and fondness, for him over the decades. As we age, our heroes fall by the wayside and we continue the adventure of life, following their example and teachings. The passing of Fr. Cullen is a major milestone in my life. Prayers and Blessings, Jim Carey, Assumption Resident, Class of '68

**Stan Kukla '60** on Fr. Cullen: "A Principal who was very principled. My years at ACH -- 1960-64 -- as a boarder were greatly enhanced by Fr. Cullen's guidance and humour. May he find joy and peace in the home of our loving God."

**Bill Schiller '69** on Fr. Cullen: "A truly great man -- full of love, understanding and generosity for all of us. As young students we thought we were learning hockey, baseball and essay-writing from him. It was only later that we realized he was teaching us lessons for life -- about how to find our way, how to do our best, how to love one another. I know I'm not the only person who will say it: 'Thank God my life was blessed by his presence and guidance. May God bless Fr. Cullen.'"

We could better serve you if we had your email address so we can get you connected to our on line newsletter. Just email us at [achalumni@gmail.com](mailto:achalumni@gmail.com) and we will do the rest!



**John Joseph Kelly '68** - "As an old Assumption grad, I never had the good fortune to be taught/coached by Father Cullen. I remember him as the priest who ran the Boarders Residence, and kept order over there. As students, in retrospect, we were blessed to have priests like Father Cullen and Father Armstrong at Assumption, who taught us what 'goodness, discipline, and knowledge' were really all about. Their lives were truly lived out 'vocations', not 'vacations'. Thank you Father Cullen, for mentoring us as to how we should live out our lives in service of the Lord."

**Greg Jewell '69** - "Father Cullen shaped the fabric and structure of boys that became better men. He was Dean of Residence, and I was blessed to spend four years under his guidance. He was my first mentor and hero, though it took a number of years for this realization to crystallize. Father Cullen instilled in us a sense of self reliance, independence, responsibility and accountability. He wanted us to succeed, and offered each of us the template for a productive life. Thank you for your many gifts...please be at peace."

**Chris Head '74:** "I heard the news of Fr. Ron's death on CBC radio 89.9 at 7a.m. He was a one of a kind, and the only father who always caught me when I was screwing up. The Windsor Star has a great write up called "The Great White Elk". I hope everyone gets to read that, it had me laughing out loud. I got goose bumps when I listened to the radio yesterday, us boarders were convinced he would out live us all. I feel lucky to have been 'dope slapped' into shape by such a great and wise soul. He will always be with me."

**Mike Chalut '60** - "I was a boarding student from 1956-1960 and have many fond memories of those formative years. I plan on attending my 50th reunion this November. I commend you all for keeping this program alive. I'm looking forward to visiting the old place in the fall."

**Gerry Pocock '71** - "I had the opportunity to attend Father Cullen's funeral mass in Toronto. It was a wonderful celebration for a man who gave so much to numerous generations of not only Windsorites, but youth from across the globe. Father Joe Redican performed the service and spoke not only about Father Cullen, but the priests of his generation like Fr. Armstrong, Fr. Sheedy and many more. They were from different times, but the effects of their efforts will live on and on. The Basilian Fathers were very kind to my family when we faced the tragedy of losing my father Albert, at a very young age. Fathers Cullen, Armstrong, O'Neill, Sheehan, Sheedy, Foley and countless other Basilians were there for my family and gave us the spiritual strength and my mother the material means to carry on. Rest in peace Father Cullen and please say hi to my mom and dad for us."

**Maureen (Power) Hoffman '72,** writes: "Being in the first Co-ed graduating class at Assumption, I heard a lot about Father Cullen...especially about his demands in English class. Looking back, this is crazy,... but when I received an 'A' from him on an essay, I thought I was next in line for a Pulitzer Prize ... such a feeling. I felt so bad when I heard that he lost his eyesight. I do hope his 'Memory Box' was able to provide images of the wonderful events his eyes had recorded. Enjoy the Journey Father Cullen.Regards, Maureen (Power) Hoffman, Class of 72 ...when The Ladies arrived

**Gerry Cooper '73** "To be sure, Fr. Cullen touched many lives. He was a colourful character, larger than life who certainly lived the ACH motto. He'll be missed but he leaves many people with fond and important lasting memories."

**Jim Doolan '77** - "Certainly with great sadness that I learn of Fr. Cullen's passing. He touched a lot of lives during the time he spent with us at Assumption. My thoughts and prayers are with him."

**Sharon Karai '77** writes: "On behalf of my family and our Assumption families, we extend our heartfelt condolences to Fr. Cullen, who was a remarkable and faithful priest who left many enduring memories for the residents and the student body at Assumption. He worked very hard in keeping our alumni informed, and I talked to him often when it came to our reunions. He will be missed by me and I am saddened by his loss, he was a saint in my eyes. Go in Peace, Fr. Ronald Cullen, and May God Be With You Always, My Friend."

**Steve Lucas '74** on Fr. Cullen - "God bless him. He shared so much with us and taught us discipline and team effort. May he rest in peace."



Pauline Kenney & Laurie Browning, Faithful Volunteers

**Jerry Piper '61** - "Fr."Clancey" Cullen: Big man, Big heart, tough man. Fr.Cullen can now see Fr. "Sparky" Armstrong, his friend. Thanks Father. Rest In Peace."

**Bob McGonigal '63** - "Fr. 'Clancy' Cullen, a Man, a Priest, a Teacher, a Disciplinarian, and a Shepherd. Thank you. Class of 1963."

**Bob McCrae '65** on Fr. Cullen - "A great man, but man he could be tough. I thought I knew him, but I was so surprised when I visited him in retirement in Toronto and found out that he was a very nice, very loveable man!"

**Lorenzo Ferrato '66** - "Fr. Cullen was the true definition of PRIEST, TEACHER and COACH as he taught us all the "love of Christ" and the values of "Goodness, Discipline and Knowledge". May he enjoy playing catch with the Lord."

**Bill Reno '66** - "Thank you Father Cullen for giving me a break and letting me into Assumption when things didn't go well at my previous school. You changed my life for the better, more than 40 years ago, and the effects of your faith and generosity continue to echo into successive generations."

**Patrick Costello '63** - "Fr. Cullen had the smile of God and always preached His ways along with his own."

C L A S S O F  
' 8 0

Our 30th Anniversary of Graduation, this Nov. 6th. We are open to offers and suggestions for our celebration. See contact info on page 2.

**Moe Berthiaume '73** on Fr. Cullen - "My sincere condolences to the friends and family of Fr. Ron. Our prayers and thoughts are with him."

**Keith Rivard '76** writes: "Thank you very much for the notification of Fr. Cullen's passing. I was just thinking about him this past weekend as a matter of fact. He was a remarkable mentor."

**Yvonne Pankrac (Durocher) '75** on Fr. Ron: "So sad, his memory will be treasured by the alumni whom he loved and guided for so many years. He was an icon who exemplified goodness, discipline and knowledge. He will be in my prayers. Thank-you for the notification."

**Dave Wright '71** - "Fr. Cullen was a great man who taught me lessons I remember to this day. He taught in the classroom the way he coached hockey and baseball - tough but fair. He will always be in my heart."

**Michael Green '71** - "Father Cullen was a primary influence in my life and in the lives of so many of his students. It was a pleasure to know and learn from this man. I spent eight years at Assumption as a resident student and later as prefect on one of the floors; every day of which was special because of Father Cullen. His legacy can be felt in the actions of the countless young men to whom he taught much more than how to excel in sports or academics."

**Judy Glendenning (George) '78** writes: "Today, I received your Spring Newsletter by e-mail and felt compelled to write you this note. It was so great to see fellow classmates from '78 (Kenny and Nikki (Dennome) Eanser, Joe Cooper, Steve Vollmer, MaryJo Demarco, Catharine Chauvin, Sharon Beausoleil, Tracy Deimer, Mary Mosher, Denise Mailloux), just to name a few, along with my former teachers, Fr. Johnson, Mr. Upham, Mr. Torti, Mr. Auch, and Mr. Hool from "Room 112" (I will remember this room for the rest of of my life)! I was saddened to see Fr. Campbell and Mr. St. Germain passed away. They were two wonderful teachers for me. This newsletter brought back all the great memories of my high school years and I thank you for this. It is too bad I did not attend this reunion, it would have been so nice to see all. Many thanks to all who put together this newsletter. This newsletter was especially magnificent with all stories put together. The hard work of each and every one of your staff members for bringing us this newsletter is greatly appreciated."

**Greg Mailloux '70** on Fr. Cullen: "Toughest English teacher I ever had ... but I learned!! Great mentor and colleague, hockey coach, spiritual advisor. The battle is over .... rest in peace!!"

**Michael Vechell '76** - "Fr. Cullen was dean of the border residence when I spent 4 years at ACH from 72 to 76. He was quite a presence there and made a life long impression on me. I remember him saying things like, "See me now! Hey, junior! Read the board!" Notes on the residence bulletin board that said, "Group beatings in the reading room at 7:10pm for..." I always enjoyed visiting with him during Alumni Nights years after graduation. May he rest in peace."

**Frank Iatonna '75** thanks Hunt Hool and Gary Ulicny. "Thanks again for the great effort in putting the Alumni golf outing together. We finally got some more class of 1975 out, at least we matched the class of '54 in numbers. And Coach Philp, even though we see him around town now & then, great to see him and "his boys" laughing and carrying on, just like they did in the 70's. Now we need to get more grads from the 70's, 80', 90's & 2000's out as well. And all you lady grads (especially from '75) come on, we know you are all competitive, come on out. A fun day for all regardless of the score. Special thanks to Mr. Nish Mascarin, Mr. Dom Depalma, Mr. Lido Sandre and Digger Durocher and their other group (sorry guys, long day on the course..took me two days to remember these 4!), for taking us youngsters under their wing and telling us stories of their days. Next year, we will see you at the "hospitality room" on Friday for sure. Thanks to Joe Ivan, Mike Hogan, John Campigotto, Frank Tramontozzi & Chuck Soulliere for keeping me out late and enabling me to sleep on the couch when I got home. All in all, a great day!" **Danielle Reaume '84** - "Rest in peace, Fr. Cullen. You made our time at Assumption all the better."

**Jeff Mailloux '83** - "Father Cullen taught me tons about life while standing in a rink with him. I will always think of him as a great mentor. Rest in Peace Clancy."

**Gino Parco '87** - Fr. Cullen was a great coach, great teacher, but an even better man. He will be truly missed by many including myself."

**Rod Burns '83** - "These words can not capture the profound gratitude and thankfulness I feel having known Fr. Cullen. As an Assumption College Hight School student, I worked with Fr. Cullen on the Alumni Newsletter to help offset my tuition fees in the early 1980s. We talked often about the trials and success of the boys hockey team in the hours before classes began. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. God Bless."



1984 Grads: Pina Vasko (Vitarelli), Maria DiMenna (Romeo) & Lisa Geremia (Teti)

**Don Iggulden '91** writes: "Rick I did read the related articles on Fr. Cullen online yesterday. I am so proud that I was able to be part of his life for the short time I was at assumption. He took great interest in what I did for the school's football teams providing medical care. I did get a small scholarship from the school to go onto to medical profession related trades and I used it to get into paramedic school. I know he was always happy to talk to alumni even in his last years on the phone. I am sure he is smiling from above on all of us and is ecstatic to see his friends he has lost along the way. I am sure he and Father Armstrong are checking out the baseball stats together."

**Shannon McLinden '94** on Fr. Cullen's passing: "I am very sorry to hear this. I will keep his soul, and all of his family and friends in my prayers. I remember Father Cullen, such a kind hearted man, and always had a beautiful sense of humour."

**Gary Seguin '95** - "Thank you for helping me straighten out my life. You have had a great importance in my life."

**Nicole (Pare) Edwards '90** - "Sorry to hear about the loss of a great man. I never had the pleasure of having Fr. Cullen for a teacher as he retired before I could have the chance."

**The Century Club is comprised of those former students and friends who have contributed \$100.00 or more within a given year to the Alumni Fund to sponsor Alumni activities including the newsletter. Following are the individuals who have contributed in the last twelve months. Thank you for your contribution.**

Antaya, Ken  
Arpin, Donald E  
Birch, Michael A.  
Britton, Robert  
Canil, Dr. Kathryn Anne  
Chalut, Mike  
Cicchini, Julius  
Duchene, Mike  
Dumouchelle, Liliana  
Dumouchelle, Richard  
Dupont, Frank  
Fisher, Richard Joseph  
Hool, Hunt

Hool, Jack  
Hubbard, Albert C.  
Hucker Sr., Patrick C.  
Keils, John Eugene  
Kenney, Tessy  
Kurosky, Alex  
Laethem, Paul C.  
Lori, Elio P.  
Malette, Denis  
Masterson, Kevin  
Meyer, Melissa Jo  
Monforton, Paul R.  
Montello Q. C., Frank J.

Morand, Joe  
Papp, George Peter  
Philp, Mark  
Ruel, Robert G.  
Ruppert, Albert C.  
Ryan, Gary C. & Terry  
Ryan, Thomas A. P.  
Stortz, Fr. J.J., C.S.B.  
Sutter, Norman  
Vanthournout, Gary  
Vincent, Raymond J  
Wilson, Andrew Paul

**WE WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.**

Adam, Norm  
Armaly, James  
Broughton, Sean Allen  
Caira, Pietro  
Ciavaglia, Sabatino  
Colja, Maryann

Cundari, Joseph  
DuPerron, David  
Fathers, Mark  
Goode, James Roy  
Hannan, John L.  
Matz, Joe

Ouellette, Jerry  
Reynolds, Philip  
Souliere, Ray  
Stokes, Louis J. Sr. & Grace

**EACH DONATION LARGE OR SMALL IS VERY MUCH NEEDED AND APPRECIATED.**

**WE MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO ENSURE THE ACCURACY OF OUR LIST. IF WE HAVE MADE ANY ERROR OR OMISSION, PLEASE CONTACT US.**

**From the Assumption Heritage Trust National Foundation**

Dear Friends and colleagues:

The parish of Our Lady of the Assumption is the mother parish of Assumption College School and the oldest parish in Canada west of Montreal. It is undertaking an historic campaign to rebuild and re-invent itself as a centre for the Church in Windsor and it needs our support.

Several years ago assessments determined that the structural soundness of Assumption Church had deteriorated and that extensive retrofitting was needed to enable it to serve the community for the next 100 years. With the support of the diocese of London and the Basilian Fathers an ambitious campaign has been launched to raise \$9.6 million to support this project.

As the last Basilian principal of Assumption College School I have been asked to serve as the honorary chair of the Assumption College School alumni appeal and I am asking for your support.

You will be pleased to know that alums Rocco Tullio, class of '83 and Dr. Joe Palazeti, class of '72 have agreed to Chair the Windsor/Detroit initiative. Jamie Haggarty, class of '83 and Jerry Morse, class of '74 have agreed to Chair the national effort.

We want to make sure that everyone connected with Assumption has an opportunity to support this very worthwhile endeavour. You can make your interest known by contacting me at [info@ahtmail.org](mailto:info@ahtmail.org).

Our website is [www.assumptionheritagetrust.org](http://www.assumptionheritagetrust.org).

We hope to be able to speak with many of you personally as the campaign progresses.

Sincerely,

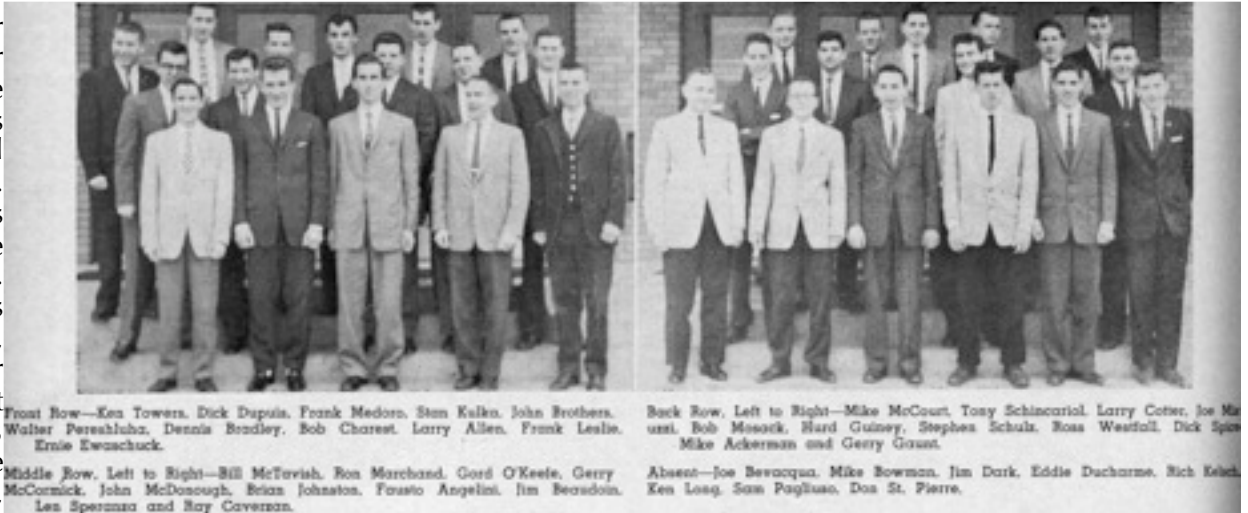
Fr. Joe Redican, CSB  
Principal 1988-1994



1959-1960

The new Principal for the year was Father Frank Sheehan. There were 905 students enrolled at the school for this academic year. Of these, 190 students were living in the boarders residence. Day student tuition was \$145 while tuition, room and board for boarders was set at \$1200. There were 33 Basilians on staff at the school: 21 were priests, while there were 12 scholastics as well. Activities around the school this year included the Canadian and American Mothers' Club, the Dads' Club, the Sodality, the Legion of Mary, the John Bosco Club, the Young Christian Students, the Pep Club, the Band, the Drama Club (which presented the plays "But Not Yet Goodbye" and "You Can't Take It With You"), and the Reporter. Unfortunately, the school went without a yearbook again this year.

The year's sports endeavours were highlighted by several teams. For the third straight year, Assumption captured the Class F baseball title. A football championship came home to Huron Church Road as well. Under the banner headline "Raiders City Champs...45-0", the Reporter wrote: "It was the most humiliating defeat ever to be experienced in playoff action." "The Assumption crew was the best high school playoff team I have ever seen". The above are two quotes from Archie Greene and Ken Fathers respectively. They are typical of the murmurs of amazement that swept through the stands in Windsor Stadium as our Purple Raiders soundly trounced the Kennedy Clippers 45-0. Right from the opening whistle, the Assumption



Front Row—Ken Towers, Dick Dupuis, Frank Medora, Stan Kalke, John Brothers, Walter Peresluba, Dennis Bradley, Bob Charest, Larry Allen, Frank Leslie, Ernie Ewanchuk.

Middle Row, Left to Right—Bill McTavish, Ron Marchand, Gord O'Keefe, Gerry McCormick, John McDonough, Brian Johnston, Fausto Angelini, Jim Beaudoin, Les Speranza and Ray Caveran.

Back Row, Left to Right—Mike McCourt, Tony Schincariol, Larry Cotter, Joe Mazoni, Bob Mosock, Ward Guiney, Stephen Schultz, Ross Westfall, Dick Spivey, Mike Ackerman and Gerry Gosat.

Absent—Joe Bevaqua, Mike Bowman, Jim Dark, Eddie Ducharme, Rich Ketch, Ken Long, Sam Pagliano, Don St. Pierre.

team sparkled; there was no holding them....The Kennedy quarterback, Dennis Leach, commented after the game that [Assumption's] O'Gorman was getting in so fast on the punts that he was afraid that the #\*\*?!\* would pick off the snap and go all the way.... In my mind, the surprising thing about this team is the fact that they went throughout the whole season with such lacklustre performances. It is true that we did not lose any games, but at no time did we even come close to the type of play exhibited in the playoffs... Congratulations are due to the team, the coaches, Fr. Armstrong and Mr. Hool and to the fans who supported the team throughout the season. Going 4-0-1 in the season and outscoring the opposition 116-53, the Raiders defence did not give up a point in the playoffs, ousting Tech 9-0 before the Kennedy shellacking.

There were also some new construction on campus, and it speaks volumes about the difference over the years in teaching foreign languages to students. In room 102, the first "French Language Laboratory" in Canada was established under the direction of Father Fournier. As described in the Reporter: "...the modern laboratory accommodates 42 students. It is used by all five grades

with emphasis on the ninth and tenth grades; each seat in the lab is accompanied by a pair of earphones, enabling each student to assimilate privately the given 'dictée'. One reason Fr. Fournier has established this technique at Assumption is to encourage the speaking of this living language..."



Front Row—Wilt Blandé, Bill Drouillard, Peter Sulist, Frank Fortin, Fred Lawson, Werner Funkschauer, James Dallard, Jerry Beneteau, Uly Bondy, Bernard Dupuis, Jeffery Roach, Mike Smith, Jerry McNeil, Richard Marensette, Elso Martinelo, Mike Marensette, Garry Spratt, Frank Flood, Al Trinca.



Back Row, Left to Right—Larry Duchene, Ralph Laffamme, John Lavallee, John Diglio, John Graham, Wayne Curtin, Paul Beneteau, Peter Cramp, Jim Kenzy, Pat Springstead, Denis Murphy, Jim Squires, Bill Novak, John Amyot, Art Rivard, Dwight Parent, Italo Nespolo.

THE PICTURES OF GRADUATING CLASSES OF 1960 ON THIS PAGE TAKEN FROM THE REPORTER

SOP: P. Cole, MB Lezinski, A. Dillon, R. Iannetta, A. Mazzali, C. Blonde, S. Lurier, C. Montgomery, Liz Jas, T. Scatn, G. Cheng  
 ALT: L. Kulosek, M. Wong, T. Belanger, S. Daudin, D. LaFontaine, T. McManus, AM O'Brien, J. Lamarre, E. Serra, M. Bergeron, L. Labute, B. Daly, D. Hughes, T. Pettinato, K. Mitchell, L. McNeil  
 BAR: James Soiva DIR: Mr. Boon



**A.C.S.  
SINGERS**

**1984-1985**

Enrolment was up by 10% this year, reaching a new all-time high of 1,920 students. Some 498 of these were Grade 9 students, but there were only 96 students in residence. Tuition at the senior level was \$720, with incidental fees of \$30.

A variety of changes were ongoing during the year that would ensure that Assumption would never again reach the level of student population it attained during this academic year. As the Basilian writer noted:

....The greatest change that occurred at Assumption College School happened when Norfolk Campus opened as an annex for the overcrowded conditions as a one year arrangement until the third Catholic high school opened. Fortunately, that is ready to open with Father Hod Marshall being named the first Principal. Assumption's increases in population should end this year. Ten of Assumption's feeder schools have been transferred to the new school. The long-range projection for Assumption is a population of 1100 to 1200 students by 1988 (the original population when the school became co-ed in 1971). Negotiations are also going on with the public Board regarding possible program sharing between Assumption students and those from our neighbouring vocational school, William Hands. It is likely that limited program sharing will be in effect in the 85-86 school year.

Eventually, Assumption will probably have a complete tech/vocational program, offered either on campus or on a shared basis at Hands.

In his third year at the helm of Assumption, Father Don McLeod employed a staff of one hundred and four members. A very large graduating class of 362 members marched out into the waiting world with an Assumption diploma tucked firmly under their arms. Because of the size of



ROW 5: Rocco Marchelletta, Dave Scadden, Greg LeCours, Jeff Corriveau, D. Kaput, Joe Gibala, Jeff Mailloux, G. Johnston, John Ladouceur  
 ROW 4: R. Arskell, Paul Scadden, Sean Shearon, Mike Lori, John Van de Hogen, A. Wilson, Chris Moroun, R. O'Brien, B. Rohrer  
 ROW 3: Mr. Owen, Mr. Morencie, A. Cramp, Dave Janisse, Dave Collins, Joe Siddal, P. Plante, Mr. Limarzi, Mr. Hunt  
 ROW 2: J. Robillard, Chris Clarke, S. Walsh, R. Desantis, A. Sartori, Dave Pellarin, Mike Ventrella, M. Fenchak, M. Pizzutti  
 ROW 1: P. O'Brien, Randall Foo, J. Siddal, J. Lepine, P. Pomponio, Dean Bortolon, Rick Masse, Dave Doyle



the student body and the fact that there were two campuses, there were two starting times. The seniors schedule went from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The junior students went to school from 9:10 a.m. until 3:10 p.m. The Grade 9 and 11 students were bussed to the Norfolk Campus (i.e. the former St. Hubert's School on California Street), brought back for lunch, and then finished the day at Assumption. Only two championship teams graced the school's athletic history in these ten months. The Junior Girls Basketball team of Miss Boretsky and Mr. Fera repeated as City champs, while Mr. Hogan's Freshmen Boys' basketball team garnered a W.S.S.A. title for the fifth consecutive year.

In extra curriculars, the Student Council continued its hard work to develop school spirit. The Assumption Players put on two shows: "Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat", and "David and Lisa". There was the Blood Drive, Grade 9 Retreat, Canned Food Drive, the work of the Assumption musicians: a Senior Band, Stage Band, Quintet and One, a Pep Band, and a Choral Group all combining to provide the school with many auditory treats. There was the E.C.K.O. team, Chess Team, Computer Team, Reach for the Top Team, Prom Committee and the Prom, Italian Club, the Mothers Club Spring Fair and Fashion Show, the Dads' Club, Father Q's Trips, the Grade 13 Dinner Dance, a Playday, an Academic Awards Assembly, the newspaper The Grapevine, and The Crusader, the cheerleaders, and finally, a Grade 13 vs Teachers Basketball Game. The year brought other changes as well. Father Larry Finke became the new Dean of Residence in the Boarders Residence, and began using lay dons to replace priest prefects on the second and third floors. This took the Basilians out of an authority role and they served as advisors/chaplains.

The most far-reaching announcement of the year came from Tory Premier William Davis, who initiated the continuation of funding for Grades 11 and 12, to be inaugurated in September 1985. This would have massive implications for all Catholic high schools in the province, Assumption being one of them....

**"Cullen taught 'life lessons'  
Coaching was about more than sports  
Dave Hall, The Windsor Star  
Published: Saturday, July 10, 2010**

Teaching life's lessons through sports is just one of the many attributes Rev. Ronald Cullen was remembered for Friday, a day after his death at the age of 94.

Fr. Cullen, a mentor to generations of Windsor athletes at Assumption College high school, died Thursday at a retirement facility for Basilian priests in Toronto.

Mike Morencie '74, head football coach at the University of Windsor, said Friday that Cullen is the sole reason he became a coach.

"There's no way I would have gone into coaching if it wasn't for the lessons I learned under Father Cullen," said Morencie, who played at Assumption. "You didn't always understand the lessons at the time they happened but you sure did years later." Morencie said that when Cullen yelled at a player for a mistake on the ball-field, it wasn't because of that mistake, it was because he wanted the player to get other things right in his life.

"At 15, you'd wonder what that tirade was all about," said Morencie, laughing. "At 24, you'd say 'Oh, now I know and when I became a coach, I really knew what it was all about.'" During a tribute dinner to Cullen in 2008, former Detroit Tigers and Montreal Expos catcher Joe Siddall '85, another Assumption graduate, said his former coach was still teaching life lessons years later.

After retiring, Siddall had gone back to Assumption to help out with the baseball team.

"I remember those practices behind Assumption and Father Cullen would pull me aside and point out a player," said Siddall.

"He'd say, 'That shortstop there comes from a tough family background. This is the best two hours of his day.' That always impressed me. He was still teaching me, as a young coach, that it's more than just sports."

"It's always life lessons." Morencie said that not only were all of Cullen's players coached on the fundamentals but "we had a riot playing for him".

"It was always about making you a better person no matter what you did later in life," said Morencie.

"Every single person who ever played for Father Cullen or came into contact with him at Assumption is a better person because of it." Other well-known athletes and Windsorites who played for Cullen include retired

baseball major leaguers Reno Bertoia and John Upham, former NHL goaltender Eddie Mio, retired lacrosse star Ron Martinello, University of Windsor Lancers hockey coach Kevin Hamlin, Judge Tom Fitzgerald of the Michigan State Court of Appeals and orthopedic surgeon Dr. Joe Palazeti.

Cullen, who coached for decades at Assumption high school, was a member of the Canadian Baseball and Windsor/Essex County Sports halls of fame.

**Rev. Ronald Cullen, 94: Teacher/  
coach sent graduates to NHL and  
Major League Baseball July 13, 2010  
Leslie Scrivener, Toronto Star**

"I can't even begin to tell you how many thousands of lives that man has touched," says Edward Ducharme. He's speaking of Rev. Ronald Cullen, coach, mentor, priest and Canadian Baseball Hall of Famer, who was buried on Monday at Holy Cross Cemetery in Thornhill. He was 94. Cullen took sullen, scared, scatter-brained boys and shaped them into capable men. Over four decades —

most at Assumption College School in Windsor — he gave them a gift many lacked: belief in their abilities. "You're not the best and you're not the most naturally gifted team I've ever coached," Ducharme, who attended Assumption in the '60s, recalls Cullen saying. "But you are the finest team I've ever coached." Enough to make skinny boys straighten up and stand tall. "I was this little schmuck from the west end of Windsor," says Ducharme. "He had a powerful impact on me. He didn't teach me a single academic subject, but he was my baseball coach for five years and he would take people such as myself of ordinary talent and turn us into champions."

Under Cullen's tutelage, Reno Bertoia went on to play baseball for the Detroit Tigers in the 1950s and John Upham for the Chicago Cubs in the '60s. Cullen had his eye on Eddie Mio, a goaltender with nice reflexes but not much training and got him into Assumption College. After Cullen was done with him, Mio played goal for the Edmonton Oilers, the New York Rangers and the Detroit Red Wings from 1977 to 1986. "He taught me how to be mentally tough and how to play the games, the angles, the perception of the puck, reading the play ahead of time. He was the conductor. He set the stage for me," says Mio, who works for Wayne Gretzky's winery, No. 99 Wayne Gretzky Estates. "He showed

us with a little bit of pushing, we could go further." Cullen was born in Toronto and raised in Holy Family parish in Parkdale; two of his three brothers were priests. He attended St. Basil's Seminary, did graduate studies in education at Wayne State University and taught at St. Michael's College School. He knew the science of hockey, football and baseball, says Ducharme, who was a second baseman. "Because he was a disciplinarian, he insisted we did our drills until we reached perfection. That's what made us." Cullen was demanding and had no patience for slackers. Five minutes late for practice, you'd be sent back to the dressing room to change and watch workouts from the stands. "He was a tough guy," says Rev. Quentin Johnson, who taught with Cullen for three decades. When Ducharme came to Assumption in Grade 9, he was a weak student. "I didn't think I had any ability whatsoever, but he saw something in me, some value that I myself did not see. I always had to study harder than anyone else and it seemed that nothing came easily. But he interviewed me and put me in the smart class with all the bright students. I said, 'Father, you're setting me up for failure.' "He said, 'quite the contrary.' "He taught us to use our talents and then add to them. The funny thing is, I slowly gained confidence. I was the first in my family to attend university. I thought I'd hang in long enough to tell my grandchildren that I'd actually been to university. But to my shock and surprise I graduated..." Ducharme was also shocked and surprised when he finished his master's degree and a PhD and a law degree. He's now a regional senior judge for the Ontario Superior Court of Justice. "None of this would have happened without the attention he had paid to me." Cullen ran Assumption's alumni association until he was 89. He'd been blind for the last five years, a loss he bore with patience and dignity. He died Thursday in his sleep, at Anglin House, a Toronto infirmary for Basilian priests. "What a powerful and beautiful person," says Ducharme. "He was a priest completely fulfilled by his holy office."



**Joe Younder, friend of ACH** writes: "Although I did not know Fr. Ron personally, we met a few times through Peter Fillman and others, who knew him at Assumption. Born in Windsor, having attended its University and now Editor of The St. Michael's College School Blue Banner, I'll be sure to do a write up of him in the next issue.

Moreover, I taught at St. Mike's for many years with the late Fr. Bud Cullen, who like Ron his brother was a remarkable man. I know Fr. Ron left his mark on many people throughout the educational and sport world.

Prayers to the Assumption Community."



**Another new team!**

**John '73, Mark '75 and dad, Gerry Philp (retired ACH teacher) with friend Bob Bishop '76**

**Note: Gerry Eagled one hole**

**ASSUMPTION COLLEGE HIGH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE**

- President Hunt Hool '79
- Vice-President Lil (Caira) Dumouchelle '75
- Director Fr. J.J. Stortz, C.S.B. '43
- Treasurer Mark Fathers '71
- Legal Rep. Sante Salvador '66
- Secretary M.J. (Coulter) Meyer '90
- Golf Committee Chairpersons Gary Ulicny '66, Hunt Hool
- Reunion Chairperson Lil Dumouchelle
- Information Committee Rick Dumouchelle '74
- & Mike Duchene '76
- Newsletter Committee Hunt Hool, Mike Duchene, Rick & Lil Dumouchelle, Mark Fathers, Denis Malette, Fr. Stortz, Tessy Kenney '75, Leon "Digger" Durocher '54, and M.J. (Coulter) Meyer '90



**Dear Friends of Mark Landry '78:**

When Mark Landry passed away, we lost a dear brother, friend, colleague and mentor. Whenever someone close to us dies we experience grief, sadness and a deep sense of loss. Yet, during this period of mourning we have the opportunity to give hope to others. We are grateful to have had the privilege of calling Mark our friend. Mark (brother of Vince '73) played basketball for the Assumption Purple Raiders ('74-'79), and went on to play with the University of Windsor Lancer Basketball team for four years from 1979 to 1983. Mark left this world doing what he loved to do which was playing basketball. Mark would never want to be defined by what ultimately ended his time

with us, he would want to be remembered for his passions in life. Mark was a well respected member of the Windsor Police Service, enjoying a fulfilling 19 year career. He especially enjoyed Community Services and the V.I.P. Program where he mentored many young students. We believe he would be honoured to be able to lessen the financial burden on a student athlete pursuing a University degree.

It is for these reasons that we are establishing the Mark Landry Men's Basketball Scholarship. This scholarship will give the Lancers the opportunity to recruit another fine student athlete to the Men's Basketball Team.

Here is the link to an on-line donation form: <http://www.uwindsor.ca/donations>. When filling out the form, please ensure to type in the 'Mark Landry Men's Basketball Scholarship Fund' in the 'Other' option of the 'Designation' section. It is our hope to award the first scholarship in September 2010. The goal is to give a \$500 scholarship annually. In order to be able to do this, we will need to raise a minimum of \$10,000 to invest in an endowment fund by August 31, 2010. All donations will receive a tax receipt issued by the University of Windsor. An acknowledgment letter will be sent to the family listing the names of all donors to the Mark Landry Men's Basketball Scholarship fund.

We hope that you will help honour Mark's life and help students by contributing to this scholarship. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Fedela Falkner at the University by email at: [ffalkner@uwindsor.ca](mailto:ffalkner@uwindsor.ca) by phone 519-253-3000 Ext. 4141 or Brian Hogan by email at: [b.hogan@oecta.on.ca](mailto:b.hogan@oecta.on.ca) or by phone: 519-999-4418.

Sincerely,  
Rose Landry and Family



**30th Annual Fr. Sheedy Golf Tournament Winners (again!):**

**Joe Ivan '76,  
Steve Norton '77,  
Frank Iatonna '75  
Absent from photo  
Brad Fahringer '85**



**Welcome to a new team from class of 1975:**

**Dan Tullio  
Frank Tramontozzi  
Vito Ruisi**

**M I S S I N G G R A D S****M I S S I N G G R A D S 2 0 0 0**If you can help us find them, call the Alumni office at 519-256-7801 ext. 299 or email us at [achalumni@gmail.com](mailto:achalumni@gmail.com)

Agostinis, Lindsay	Coker, Temi	Iler, Dwaine	Parker, Joey
Al - Harraq, Hazim	Des Rosiers, John	Jirjis, Rony	Patel, Swetha
Aljannati, Ahmed	Desmarais, Matthew	Keogh, Heather	Pham, Tien
Balani, Jay	Earle, Ryan	Lacombe, Tania	Portillo, Senayda
Berthiaume, Lonnie	Egbo, Rina	Lemire, Gerry	Prosser, Robyn
Bieniewski, Hubert	Ethier, Carlo	Leon, David	Richardson, Tracy
Boldt, Michael	Fuchs, Jeffery	Leung, John	Robles, Denys
Bondy, Pamela	Gallant, Joy	Levis, Dayna	Rupert, Tina
Boufford, Jessica	Gatto, Jim	Long, Bryan	Sbeiti, Wajeb
Bourdeau, Michelle	Gendreau, Brianne	Mc Cann, Renee	Slilac, Anett
Brailean, Angela	Gorissen, April-Dawn	Mc Lachlan, Terry	Stachurski, Daniel
Brown, Ryan	Gravel, Krystal	Meloche, Laura	Stanson, Jesse
Brunelle, Ray	Grummett, Lynn	Mohamoud, Mohamed	Theodory, Basel
Buchanan, Sandy	Harrington, Katie	Mohamoud, Sirad	Vandermotter, Ted
Burke, Greg	Henderson, Melissa	Nguyen, Chau	Weiler, Renee
Campagna, Sandie-Rose	Hernandez, Jiauhara	Nissan, Renia	Westfall, Eric
Chan, Sylvia	Hido, Rana	Ollett, Garth	Yaholnitsky, Dodie
Chehade, Nabil	Hubley, Jessie	Palacio, Rebeca	Yukhana, Sena N

**M I S S I N G G R A D S 1 9 9 5**If you can help us find them, call the Alumni office at 519-256-7801 ext. 299 or email us at [achalumni@gmail.com](mailto:achalumni@gmail.com)

Abdul Razak, Rob	Cullen, Dianne	Li, Juliana	Rene, Melanie
Alfaro, Nelson	Dejoseph, Paul	Li, Terry	Sandirasegaram, Mariana
Allison, Jamie	Djokich, Jen	Lightbody, Quade	Sands, Summer
Amlin, Stacy	Donato, Frank	Lo, Lily	Sarkis, Rachel
Ang, Chari	Douangchantha, Kbhousa	Logan, Jason	Sheehan, Murray
Aqua, Jamie	Doyscher, Carolyn	Lombardi, Michael	Sherbert, Theresa
Ashton, Cassie	Dumonski, Steve	Lopez, Kari	Shields, Thomas
Aston, Darla	Duong, Anna	Macdonald, Ryan	Silva, Mark P
Atkinson, Lana	Foley, Rhonda	Macdonald, Tammy	Small, Mark
Auger, David	Foster, Farah	Mader, Ria	Smith, Scott
Bagley, Shannon	Fuchs, Joey	Malchow, Rob	Soper, Terry
Beale, Kandice	Galla, Ewa	Martell, Salvador	St. Pierre, Colette
Beaulieu, Danah	Gillis, Eleanor	Martell, Xiomara	Stanton, Aaron
Benjamin, Darryl	Goetz, Mike	Mc Candleless, Tina	Stone, Scottie
Bradley, Kristie	Gorges, Kameran	Mc Farlane, Michelle	Suen, Hidi
Brunelle, Lori	Grondin, Ryan	Mc Kenzie, Jacqueline	Tarasick, Chad
Burns, Philip	Hager, Tanya	Minnis, Robert	Therriault, Jennifer
Burton, Robert	Hassen, Amal	Morrison, Megan	Thomas, John
Byrne, Bridget	Holmes, Jonathan	Moses, Faye	Thornton, Kelly
Camposano, Joanne	Hughes, Heather	Nantau, Jennifer	Vasiliou, Elen
Cecile, Michelle	Johnson, Jennifer	Nguyen, Hein	Vinluan, Oliver
Chan, Wing Chau J	Joncas, Greg R.	Nguyen, Le-Thanh	Walls, Andrew
Cheng, Billy	Kenney, Tammy	Nguyen, Loc T	Wilson, Stephanie
Chibani, Gisele	Keogh, Anthony	Nguyen, Long	Wong, Janice
Clark, Marquette	Kerr, Donika	Nguyen, Tai	Yip, Mandy
Cooke, Christopher	Knuckle, Melissa	Novoa, Mauricio	Zanetti, Mark
Coppola, Marina	Lajeunesse, Izzy	Ogonoski, Leette	Zawadzka, Marta
Corbin, Dawn	Lamotte, Anastasia	Paquette, Tara	
Cormier, Derek	Lanigan, Gerry	Pare, Suzanne	
Cruz, Francisco	Lara, Erika	Quigley, Micheal	

**NOTE: OTHER MISSING GRADS IN SPRING '10 EDITION**



**M I S S I N G G R A D S 1 9 7 0**

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Broadley, Joseph T  
Chevrier, Richard  
Csendes, Victory S  
Cummings, Jim  
Dolan, John F  
Flynn, Kevin  
Fortin, Jacques J  
Guedes, Jean-Pierre  
Hackett, Michael D  
Jack, Rooney

Joyce, Patrick J  
Kingsley, Kyle  
Lauzon, Neil L  
Lawrie, David R  
Marentette, Navarre A  
Maxwell, Gord P  
Mc Carney, Pat J  
Mc Lean, Michael D  
Mc Mahon, Giles  
Milligan, Roy O

Murphy, Daniel T  
Nadalin, Gerald A  
Nikita, John  
Noble, Bill  
Pare, John  
Pienta, Paul A  
Reid, Anthony W  
Renaud, Robert L  
Richard, Michael R  
Schofield, Martin J

Scratch, Greg A  
Sheffield Iii, H  
Soler, Dr. Alex  
Taylor, Leigh  
Thornton, Allan  
Tullock, Daniel M  
Vaughan, William N

**M I S S I N G G R A D S 1 9 5 5**

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Anderson, Walter G  
Blaink, William A  
Bolton, Joseph N  
Bosetti, Norman L  
Boutin, Andre  
Calvet, George  
Caparowich, Al  
Carpenter, Jerry  
Chauvin, Thomas J  
Clement, Raymond  
Donohue, Bill  
Dube, Ray  
Durocher, Vincent M  
Fleming, Edward H

Gilhula, Arthur S  
Gillis, Frank  
Graham, William V  
Greenwood, Charles T  
Guiney, Ben  
Herron, Len  
Hill, William J  
Hiller, Ed  
Hogan, John  
Hoganson, Jon J  
Hole, Fredrick  
Horne, Michael R  
Johnson, Dr. James  
Kish, Andrew

Kusluski, Eugene C  
Lemieux, Andre S  
Levis, Laurent F  
Lozano, Salvador  
Mac Cracken, Tom  
Marsh, Marvin K  
Matchett, Alfred  
Mayne, Robert  
Morgan, Robert J  
Myers, Paul R  
Normandeau, Leo  
Pardo, Jose G  
Parent, Jim  
Pearson, Jack

Poulin, Armand  
Ross, Bob  
Smyth, Brian  
Soulliere, Doug  
St. Amand, Don  
Taber, Patrick  
Tines, Nikolaus  
Tremblay, Carl  
Trombley, Carl A  
Warren, Victor  
Weintraub, David M  
Wood, David

**M I S S I N G G R A D S 1 9 5 0**

If you can help us find them, call the Alumni office at 519-256-7801 ext. 299 or email us at [achalumni@gmail.com](mailto:achalumni@gmail.com)

Buften, Gerald  
Carruthers, Gorden A  
Cramp, William R  
De Luca, Al  
Desjarlais, Donald J  
Disser, Milton  
Fleming, James C  
Gaffey, John W  
Ganem, Phil

Giroux, Rene  
Hickey, Charles Ed  
Kelly, Bernard  
Kosty, Richard  
Lawrence, Chas  
Lync, H. John  
Mangold, George  
Marentette, Robert A  
Mc Intosh, Donald K

Meade, Gerald  
Menard, Frank  
Menard, John Paul  
Miller, Hugh Joseph  
Morand, Charles John  
Neal, William George  
Papp, Louis  
Penney, Donald E  
Piccinin, Dino A

Recker, Dr. James B  
Sawchuk, Raymond J  
Smith, Max  
Tersigni, Dino  
Wszeborowski, Edmund  
Yeager, Lou

**N O T E : O T H E R M I S S I N G G R A D S I N S P R I N G ' 1 0 E D I T I O N**

**M A R K Y O U R C A L E N D A R  
ALUMNI REUNION SATURDAY NOV 6th, 2010**

**Bursaries and Awards**

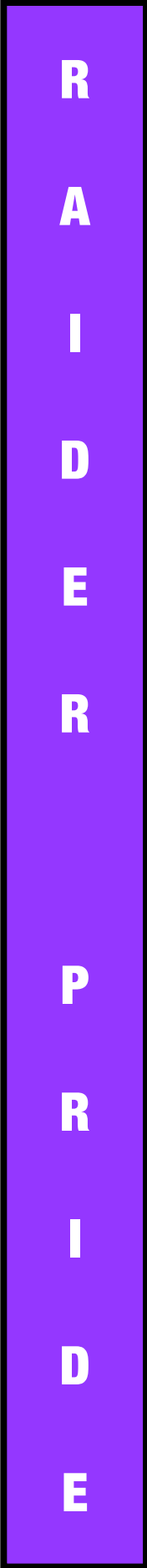
Basilian Fathers of Assumption Bursary	Alexander Presello, Jessica Scheuneman
Fr. Vincent Guinan C.S.B. Bursary	Tobi Bamiro
Fr. Donlon C.S.B. Bursary	Heather Harvie
Sylvia Romano Award	Jamilyn Joncas, Yeochong Ng
W. Fred Jordan Memorial Award	Julia Kulesza, Lisa Ternosky
Mike Lori Memorial Award	Charlotte Marcotte-Toale, Alexander Presello
Frank Mascarin Memorial Award	Mary Ellen Catindig
Frank Mascarin Bursary	Caitlin Moses, Lisa Ternosky
Assumption College School Council Rosemary Limarzi Bursary	Aliya Samsair
Assumption College School Council Patrick Keane Bursary	Serxho Selmani
Assumption College School Council Bursary	Ala El-Baba
Aramark Bursary	Cassandra Beck, Elizabeth Dunston, Emily Harvie, Amelinda Yeryk
Lorraine & Louis Merlo Award	David Merritt
Cliff Krete Memorial Award	Katy Kobersi
Josh Martin Tribute Bursary	Chelsie Stuart
Freed's Bursary	Alexander Gosztom, Brittany Renaud
Camille Reaume Christian Fellowship Bursary	Russel Boglitch
Joe MacMillan Award	Kaitlynn Tidwell
Norbert Armstrong Award	Nils Lau
Fr. Charles Armstrong C.S.B. Award	Alexander Presello
Siddall Family Award	Nancy Diaz, Miriam Hamadani
Sisters of St. Joseph Bursary	Wilson Luo-Wong
Fr. Leon Hart C.S.B. Award	Natasha Nehmetallah
Fr. Vincent Pare C.S.B. Award	Aleksandra Cendecki
Jack Murphy Class of '45 Award	Kayla Adams, Hilda Dao, Charlotte Marcotte-Toale
Fr. Steve O'Neill C.S.B. Award	Margarita Toufeili
Sisters of the Holy Names Bursary	Ryan Chan
Fr. Matt Sheedy Scholarship	Ryan Chan
Assumption Secondary High Skills Major Bursary	Kathleen Burns, Ashley Leclerc
Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program Award	Danny Shawol
Fr. Q. Johnson Award	Jose Delloso
The Crowley Brothers Award for Most Improved Graduating Student	Brennan Penrose
The Crowley Brothers Award for Overall Excellence	Nils Lau
Gerard Hebert Memorial Scholarship	Chelsea Greenwell, Samantha Sedge
James Molnar Bursary	Alexander Tingle
Logan Delisle Community Scholarship	Nancy Diaz, Brennan Penrose
Polonia Centre Academic Award	Monica Banas, Julia Kulesza
Laura Girimonte Memorial Bursary	Jean Xu
Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus & Mary Scholarship	Katy Kobersi, Victoria Morrison
Paul Whelan Prize	Daniela Gvozdenovic
Fr. Cullen & Mr. St. Germain Academic Scholarship	Ryan Chan
Harold Rindlisbacher Award	Kaitlynn Tidwell
Fr. Ronald Cullen, C.S.B. Award	Hilda Dao
Giuseppe Slongo Spirit Award	Lydia Elnar
Corny Caverzan and George McTavish Award	Graeme Tyrrell
Rylie Nantau Bursary	Kaitlynn Tidwell
Joseph Pelletier Scholarship	Monica Banas, Erich Ofner

**St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology Entrance Scholarships**

Patrick Dort,	Jake McAuley,	Breana Meixner,	Chelsea Meixner,
Caitlin Moses,	Melissa Taveirne,	Lisa Ternosky,	Ashley Zahara

**Academic Excellence Awards**

Arts	Kaitlynn Tidwell
Business Studies	Tobi Bamiro
Catholic Studies	Heather Harvie, Neeti Paudel, Danny Shawol
Experiential Learning	Jeremy Girard, Felicia Peleshok
English	Jake McAuley, Mike Paonessa, Alexander Tingle, Kaylyn Tobin
Mathematics	Navid Khan, Allison Lafrance



# A C A D E M I C A W A R D S 2 0 1 0

Modern Languages  
Physical and Health Education  
Science  
Social Science  
Technology Studies  
IB Theory of Knowledge  
IB Creativity, Action and Service  
IB Extended Essay  
IB Learner Profile

Ryan Chan, Alexander Tingle  
Amani Abdul, Angela Beaudry, Lisa Ternosky  
Ryan Chan, Stavro Zura  
Ryan Chan  
Mary Ellen Catindig, Charly Lafleur  
Ryan Chan  
Amelinda Yeryk  
Ala El-Baba  
Aleksandra Cendecki



## **Principal's Scholars:**

Amani Abdul,  
Ala El-Baba,  
Natasha Nehmetallah,  
Alexander Tingle,  
Juliette Rondot,

Aleksandra Cendecki,  
Miriam Hamadani,  
Yeochong Ng,  
Kaylyn Tobin,

Ryan Chan,  
Navid Khan,  
Aliya Samsair,  
Wilson Luo Wong,

Hilda Dao,  
Charlotte Marcotte-Toale,  
Serxho Selmani,  
Jean Xu

College/Workplace Proficiency,

Abbas Haidar

## **Outstanding Achievement Awards**

The Catholic Student Award of the Catholic Education Foundation of Ontario  
Lieutenant Governor's Community Volunteer Award  
Perfect Attendance Award  
Assumption Student Council Award  
Governor General's Academic Medal  
Dr. J. Coyle Award, University Level Proficiency

Nils Lau  
Nils Lau  
Katy Kobersi  
Katy Kobersi  
Ryan Chan  
Ryan Chan



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# A T H L E T I C A W A R D S 2 0 1 0

## ATHLETIC AWARDS - YEAR 2009-2010 STUDENT ATHLETES

The Fr. Armstrong Award (Male Student-Athlete).....	David Merritt
The Fr. Sheedy Award (Female Student-Athlete).....	Mariam Hamadani
The Fr. Pare Award .....	Nancy Diaz
The Mary Kulyk Award .....	John Elliott
Athlete of the Year - Sr. Male (Fr. Cullen).....	Ryan O'Neill
Athlete of the Year - Sr. Female (St Mary's Academy).....	Kasia Frak
Jr. Student Athlete of the Year – Female .....	Quinn Conlon
Jr. Student Athlete of the Year – Male .....	Garrick Loewen, Steven Kulesza
Dennis Palamides Award.....	Jeff Walker



Linda (Lesperance) Presello '81, Lisa Ternosky '10 and Gary Weir '67

### MOST VALUABLE PLAYER - (MVP) GIRLS (Sr)

Volleyball.....	Kasia Frak, Julia Kulesza
Soccer.....	Kasia Frak
Basketball .....	Tanisha Elliott, Mariam Hamadani
Slo-Pitch/Gary Weir Award .....	Lisa Ternosky

### MOST VALUABLE PLAYER - (MVP) BOYS (Sr)

Baseball.....	Dallas Boow
Football (Offence).....	Ryan O'Neill
Football (Defence) .....	David Nykolak
Volleyball.....	David Merritt
Basketball .....	Jeff Walker
Hockey.....	Chris Hebert
Wrestling .....	Ryan O'Neill
Soccer .....	David Merritt

### MOST VALUABLE PLAYER - (MVP) GIRLS (Jr)

Basketball .....	Laura Limarzi
Volleyball .....	Avery Dent, Olivia Merritt

### MOST VALUABLE PLAYER - (MVP) BOYS (Jr)

Basketball .....	Mitchell Baldassi
Football.....	Jonathan Carter, Mitchell Baldassi
Volleyball .....	Steven Kulesza

### Cross Country

Girls .....	Nadia Pizzolitto (Jr), Charlotte Marcotte (Sr)
Boys .....	Reid Mitchell (Sr)

### Swimming

.....	Steven Kulesza, Gabrielle Malette
Badminton .....	Garrick Loewen, Chris Zajner (Jr) Jasmine Toufeili, Katie Zajner (Sr)

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Assumption students, Robin Giacchini, left, John Ennis, teacher Diane Nehmetallah and Dallas Boow.

## Local teacher one of 'world's best'

Now that she has been named one of Ontario's top five teachers, Assumption high school's Diane Nehmetallah can no longer keep her recipe for turning out fresh batches of successful students a secret. TAYLOR WEAVER/The Windsor Star

"I'm shocked and honoured," said the school's food service and hospitality technology teacher after learning of her citation from the Ministry of Education. "If you love what you do, put your heart into it and everything you do should be for your students. These kids can accomplish anything with the right mentoring." Those are the teaching ingredients, mixed and stirred generously throughout the school population, that have earned Nehmetallah her recognition of, not only one of the best teachers in the province, but one of the best in the world, said principal Sherrilynn Colley-Vegh. "I think what really hit me about this recognition is if she's one of the top teachers in Ontario, since Ontario has one of the best education systems in the world, then it's amazing to me that we have one of the best teachers in the world at our school," she said. Speaking on behalf of her notoriously humble employee, Colley-Vegh noted the school even had to convince her to accept the nomination, going so far as to contemplate "forging" Nehmetallah's signature if she wouldn't sign herself. She added the administration had no trouble collecting dozens of letters of support for the nomination. Colley-Vegh said the teacher reaches out to all her students,

spending hours in and out of class helping them acquire their culinary skills while, at the same time, developing their numeracy and literary skills through measurements, budgeting and recipe writing. She said Nehmetallah involves her husband and her own four children in helping organize the myriad projects, contests and special events she gets her students involved with. "These kids want to be here," she said, indicating the cooking class full of academic, applied and special needs students all working as a team to develop and prepare an entire menu from main course to desert. "She's like a mom for the school." Grade 11 student Ashleigh Arca described Nehmetallah teaching method as "quirky and fun," and added that the course is extremely popular with her flour-powdered classmates and said she has been inspired to go into the culinary arts as a cook or pastry chef. "She's fun-loving and makes learning really interesting," she said. "It makes coming here fun. All of the students are very excited and proud of her." The citation from the ministry states that the award is given for teachers who excel at unlocking the potential of Ontario's young people and gives those educators the recognition they deserve. "There was never a doubt at Assumption College that Ms. Nehmetallah is a teacher who transforms student lives and makes a profound impact on their intellectual, social and emotional development. Nehmetallah is nine years into her second career after working for years as a professional chef. "Anything is possible. Kids can accomplish anything with the right mentoring."

**Senior Football:** After a slow start due to installing a new offense and defense and losing a large number of players graduating, the Purple Raiders eventually came around. Although we went 0-6 in regular season, I truly believe we came a long way throughout the season and in the playoffs were one play away from going to the championship. With almost the entire team returning this September, I am looking forward to a great year. Coach Glen Mills

**Junior Football:** We are a team of approximately 35 players. It took the Jr. Raiders only 3 weeks to record their first win of the season against Forster. The Jr. Raiders played some of the top teams and were in every game, losing some heart breakers in the final minute to Brennan, Kennedy and Massey. The boys lost to St. Joe's in the playoffs. Overall, a very good season and the coaches were very proud of all the players.

**Lady Raider Baseball:** The team began their season strongly with a 2 - 0 record and closed out their season with a 3 - 6 standing, losing to the Massey Mustangs in the quarter finals. Our seniors, Lisa, Randi, Chelsea, Hillary and Alicia, displayed leadership, wonderful attitudes and great memories as they played their last games in a Raider uniform. This year the Lady Raider Baseball team learned first hand what it meant to be a TEAM, showing respect and compassion to the Weir Family during a very difficult time. This was life lesson that will never be forgotten. This is what coaching is all about. Together this team proved to their coaches, Ms. Weir, Mr. Weir, Mr. Gravelese, and Mrs. Presello, that they have the biggest hearts and the compassion of a true Raider. We are looking forward to a new lineup next spring, with a lot of great players returning. Don't ever forget ladies, what is important in life. Treasure it. Congratulations Ladies.

**Boys' Baseball:** The coaching staff of Mr. Bauer, Mr. Dufour, Mr. Bracken, and Mr. Byrne were proud of the way the team played all season and how well they represented Assumption. We finished with a 7-3 record qualifying for the playoffs but could not hold off St. Joe's. We had the most dominant pitching staff in the Bertoia Division lead by Dave Nykolak, Dallas Boow and Jeff Walker. They managed to throw 4 no-hit games against General Amherst, Walkerville, Forster and Harrow. It is for this reason that we had 4 players that were recognized by the league by being voted to the all-city team. Dave Nykolak and Jeff Walker were put on the team for their dominance on the mound. These two pitchers have given up a combined 3 earned runs over the course of 10 games. Dallas Boow was voted on for his outstanding play at Short Stop and his work with the bat, finishing with a blistering .390 batting average. Trevor Thompson was also nominated for the all-city team. The coaching staff would especially like to thank all senior players for their hard work and dedication and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavours. Looking forward to next season!



**Raider Wrestling:** The team went through a dynamic change this year. It went from the male wrestling team that always had some females gutsy enough to stick it out, to a team of females that showed the WECSSAA league that we can compete as a female wrestling team. Not to say that the two males that stuck it out all year did not compete. Brandon Urquhart had his best year wrestling in a weight class with many dominant seniors. The females on the team finished fourth at WECSSAA and SWOSSAA with new faces like Heather snow and Quinn Conlon and gritty veterans like Jamilyn Joncus, Caitlyn Moses, Jillian Widjaja, Katie Harris, and Melissa Tavierne. Melissa finished with our first ever Female OFSAA wrestling medal. Congratulations Melissa.

Two individuals that deserve special recognition for their excellent leadership, extreme dedication and solid season, are Ryan O'Neill and Nancy Diaz. Ryan has become a top wrestler in southern Ontario making it to OFSAA several times, facing much larger competitors and finishing well in the top half of the division. Ryan has also grown as a leader and captain. He has learned how to develop his own skills while teaching others to excel. Nancy has improved from an 'ok' wrestler to an excellent athlete and leader. Nancy lost a match because of a missed call by the referee that would have sent her to OFSAA. Nancy accepted her loss with grace and capped a great season that showed determination, improvement, and leadership.

Goodbye to those leaving us: Jamilyn Joncas, Caitlin Moses, Melissa Taveirne, and Nancy Diaz. Good luck in all you do; you will be missed and remembered for your contribution to the team.

**Cross-Country:** The 2009 cross-country season was another great success for our Raider runners. We had outstanding individual performances, great team performances and most importantly, for the third year in a row, our team captured the AA Cross-country title, trouncing the closest competitors by almost 30 points.

Individuals such as graduating senior Charlotte Marcotte won silver at WECSSA, Bronze at SWOSSA and finished in the top 20 at OFSSA. Nadia Pizzolitto won silver at WECSA and led the midget girls team to WECSSA gold, SWOSSA silver and an 11<sup>th</sup> place finish at OFSSA. Reid Mitchell and Garrick Loewen also had great individual performances just missing qualifying for OFSAA individually.

These individual and team accomplishments are wonderful and the accolades are well deserved but it doesn't really tell the story of our team. Our runners became a team by coming out and practicing hard every day, by working together and sharing stories around the fire at the Grand Bend training camp, and by supporting one another through injuries, setbacks, and triumphs. Ask any school which team cheers the loudest and they'll tell you – Assumption.

So on behalf of the coaches Mr. Malloy, Ms. Comiskey, Ms. Gelinis and Mr. Conlon, congratulations to all our runners on a very successful 2009 season and we are looking forward to more of the same next fall.





**Reverend Ronald James Cullen**

The Toronto Star July 10, 2010

REVEREND RONALD JAMES CULLEN CSB. Died peacefully in his sleep July 8, 2010. Father Cullen was born in Toronto, Ontario on October 19, 1915, one of five children of James Patrick Cullen and Gertrude Helen (Cosgrove) Cullen. He was raised in Holy Family Parish in the Parkdale area. After graduating from St. Michael's College School in 1933, he entered St. Basil's Novitiate and was first professed as a Basilian on September 12, 1934. He completed his undergraduate studies in Philosophy, English and History, graduating from St. Michael's College, Toronto, in 1938. Following his studies in Theology at St. Basil's Seminary, Father Ron was ordained August 17, 1941 at St. Basil's Church, Toronto. Graduate studies followed at Wayne State University, Detroit, which led to a Master of Education degree in 1943. For the next 41 years, Father Ron was engaged in the Secondary School apostolate, teaching at St. Michael's College School from 1941-1944, at Catholic Central, Detroit, from 1944-1949 and at Assumption College School, Windsor, from 1949 until retirement in 1982. At Assumption, he served as Principal 1953-1957 and as Dean of Resident Students for twenty years 1957-1977. After retirement from the classroom, Father Cullen became Alumni Director in 1979, publishing the Assumption Newsletter and promoting annual alumni reunions. He continued his life long

involvement in sports by advising coaches who sought his direction and experience as coach. Father Cullen coached football and won numerous high school hockey championships. He became a member of the Windsor/Essex County Sports Hall of Fame and in 1996 he was inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame. One of Father Cullen's players said of him: 'You come to understand that he wasn't just teaching you baseball, he was preparing you for life.' He greatly valued his ministry as a priest and teaching apostolate above all his other accomplishments. In 2005, because of poor health, Father Cullen moved to Anglin House in the Cardinal Flahiff Centre, Toronto where many former students and teachers continued to seek his advice and wisdom. He is predeceased by his parents, his sister Doreen and brother Leonard (Bud) C.S.B. The Basilian Fathers offer their condolences and prayers to his brothers Raymond and Fr. Dermot and his nieces and nephews. There will be a Vigil Service on July 11 at 7:30 p.m. with visitation from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m., at the Cardinal Flahiff Basilian Centre, 95 St. Joseph St., Toronto. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated in the same chapel on July 12 at 10:00 a.m. Burial will be in the Basilian plot at Holy Cross Cemetery, Thornhill. There will be a Memorial Mass in Windsor, ON at Assumption Church on a date to be announced. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Basilian Fathers Retirement Fund, 95 St. Joseph St., Toronto, ON M5S 2R9.



ABBEY, Diane '72 (nee FAVOT). It is with great sadness that we share the death of our mother, daughter, sister and friend on April 4, 2010. Diane loved and was loved by many. She said farewell to her son, "love and treasure" Anthony (Jenn), her mom, "best friend and rock" Joyce Favot (Olivio) (1997), her sister, "forever loved" Donna Gaudreault (Phil), her devoted brother "Beaner" Dean Favot (Bettyann) and her sister, "Keech " Darcia LePage (David). Diane will be greeted with open arms by her dad and "Guardian Angel" Olivio Favot. She was the "most beautiful zia" to Grayson (Emily), Oliver (Kristie), Adam, Devon, Daniel, Joseph, Jonathan, Liam and Lucien. Will be missed by her step-children Hilary and Graham Abbey (Michelle). Dear "Nonni" to Emily. Diane was excited to learn of her first grandchild, whom she will now watch over from above. Cherished by her "adopted sister" Laurie, Monique, and cousins Nancy, Janis, Wendy, and Shelley. Among her many other amazing family and friends, she will be especially missed by Debbie Hogarth (Tom) and the "Euchre Babes". Diane was a respected and accomplished lawyer since 1981. She was currently practicing alongside many supportive friends and colleagues at Shibley Righton LLP.

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DECEASED ALUMNI

Mascaro, Gordon 1949

AND ALL OTHER  
DECEASED OF  
ASSUMPTION ALUMNI

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