

The Perpetual Light

Presented to graduates, friends and supporters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School



Edward Mahoney
1946 ~ 2013

I was with my family, enjoying the last day of my July vacation in Hawaii, when I received an urgent message from my co-principal, Corrine Muscat, to return her call as soon as possible. No, this was not a good sign. When I reached her, she apologized and then gave me the bad news. My co-worker, confidant, and friend, Ed Mahoney, had passed away, suddenly, at his home in Pacifica. Though Ed had encountered some health problems in the last few years and had been awaiting the results of a few tests when I last saw him, we certainly had no indication that God was about to call him to his eternal reward. Eternal reward? How politically correct! How polite! In truth, when Ed and I joked about death—which we did every Tuesday when discussing the Sunday obituaries—we were generally far more irreverent.

“Hey, Mr. Ed” I would greet him as he arrived at school.

“Howdy, Wilbur!” he would answer in his best “talking horse” imitation.

“How you doin’ Ed?”

“Well, my name wasn’t in the death notice.” he wisecracked.

We didn’t mean to be disrespectful, but being in the development (and obituary) business, our weird sense of humor would often surface. As more of our friends and relatives’ names would appear in the death notices, we often broached the subject of our own demise, comparing illnesses and medications foisted upon many of us because of our own “advanced age.”

“How much money could I raise for development if I croaked?” I wisecracked.

“I’ll bet I could beat you,” was his smart-mouthed answer.

We would continue this “dark humor” by arguing over who would go first or who would be missed the most.

When I got that call in Hawaii, I thought of our irreverent joking. For a moment, it no longer seemed funny to me. But a week later, when I saw him lying at peace, in the chapel at Cypress Lawn, I swore he had a grin on his face. Later, I asked my wife if she saw that grin. She nodded a “yes”.

“He was laughing because he thinks he beat me.”

“At what?” she replied.

“Nothing,” I mumbled, realizing not even she would understand that bizarre Ed/Bill irreverent humor.

I knew Ed going back to our college days, and remained casual friends until I called him ten years ago to ask his advice about starting a Development Department at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School. I knew he was an alumnus of OLPH and I knew he had worked in the Alumni department at his high school alma mater, Archbishop Riordan High School. Little did I know, that he would actually be interested in the job at “The Top of the Hill.”

Today, the Development Department has become one of the pillars of the OLPH community. Yes, it is a significant source of scholarship income for our students; but more importantly it is a vehicle of communication between the OLPH of the past and the future. Ed believed strongly in Catholic education and felt positive about the future of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. We would often talk about how OLPH has always been a diversified school—a mixture of Bay Area middle class and immigrant families. The Euros of the forties, fifties and sixties led to the Central and South Americans of the seventies and eighties and the Filipinos and Asians of today. All had one goal in common—Catholic education to better themselves, their local community and their country. Ed Mahoney made this possible through his tireless work, his love and his dedication to OLPH.

With the death of Ed Mahoney, the school lost a wonderful advocate, and all of us at OLPH lost a friend. And yet, his spirit and good nature will continue to live on. One comment that I heard over and over again at his funeral was this: Ed Mahoney was a good guy. Let all of us, in our own way, keep the love, generous nature, and sense of humor of Ed Mahoney alive by continuing his good work at OLPH. That will be my mantra, because good guys like Ed are hard to replace.



A Matter of Principal By Bill Kovacich

The following donations to the Mahoney Family Scholarship Fund totaling over \$6,500 were received in memory of the life of our beloved Ed Mahoney.

We, along with the Mahoney family, thank you for your kind thoughts and prayers.

Over \$999

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\$500 – \$999

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Memory of Willie DeDood ~ Kathleen Drury

Ferrari Improvement Fund ~ Tilmar Properties, Andrew Ferrari & Family

ICA Memorial Masses ~ Staff of Immaculate Conception Academy

MAHONEY FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

An appropriate way of expressing love and respect in memory of a deceased relative or friend is by making a financial contribution towards a worthy cause.

Such a cause is the OLPH Mahoney Family Scholarship, set up to aid the families of OLPH students in making their monthly tuition payments.

We have included a Memorial Card in this edition of "Perpetual Light". Please use it when you wish to remember a loved one. Simply follow these directions:

- 1) Fill out the card with your (donor) name on the first line. Place the name of the loved one on the "in memory of" line. Address and mail this card to the bereaved.
- 2) Send us the donation remit envelope with the name of the deceased along with your donation. We will send you a replacement card upon receipt of this donation.

Class of 1964 Reunion

Saturday, March 1, 2014 at our OLPH Auction Dinner

50 Year Diplomas will be presented to '64 grads in attendance.

Contact:



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Email: bianchik@aol.com
(650) 347-1889



Barb and Rich Hall

Email: bumbbhall@me.com
(650) 345-1920

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The Perpetual Light

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Principals

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olphdc@yahoo.com



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Our Lady of Perpetual Help School

SAVE THE DATE – 10th Annual Auction Dinner
Saturday, March 1, 2014

An Evening In the Orient

Special 50 Year Diplomas awarded to the attending alumni from the
OLPH Class of 1964

Details coming in the Winter/January “Perpetual Light”