



# ALUMNI E-NEWS

Students Four Years  
Brothers & Sisters for Life

NOVEMBER 2024

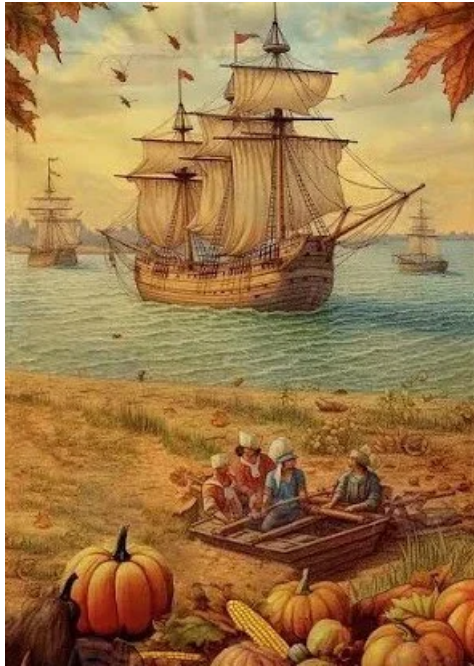
## MARIST HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Happy November, Alumni!

This issue we have some Veterans- Heroes, *every one of them!* A pilgrimage, some new babies, and some alumni are returning to the halls of Marist, in one way or another, to give back. Also, some vibrant young alums we will watch. We can't wait for what is coming from them- Good Stuff for sure!!! Also, just baptized and fresh additions to RedHawk Nation- a few new members of the class of 2043!! This month let us be mindful and thankful of our Vets- (everyday should be Veterans Day), and for all of those who came before us and made this extraordinary country. Let us never forget the leap the pilgrims and Puritans first made, in the name of God, and their desire to worship how they wished. We are blessed to be a part of this wonderful nation and community... The Marist Chicago family is like none other!!!



Thanksgiving Blessings to each of you.

...AND LET US REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR EACH OTHER.




John Guldan '68

VA | #VETERANOFTHEDAY

 **JOHN A. GULDAN** 

#VeteranOfTheDay  
Marine Corps  
Veteran John  
Guldan '68



John A. Guldan was born in May 1950. He was the second of 13 children and the oldest boy in the family. Though coming from a large family, Guldan never failed to stand out. While attending Marist High School in Chicago, Guldan excelled at leadership and academics. He helped found his school's cross-country program

and soon rose to team captain. While leading his team into athletic competitions, he also earned high marks under his school's honors program.

Having strong grades and stellar displays of leadership with the cross-country team, Guldán graduated from High School in 1968 and received an athletic scholarship to attend Defiance College in Ohio. After one semester, Guldán decided to return home and attend college in Chicago. Nonetheless, he continued to run competitively, and cross-country seemed to be his future.

However, Guldán soon saw another future for himself. Nightly newscasts of the Vietnam War and weekly casualty and death counts dominated the media in the late 1960's. As he watched the numbers rise, Guldán knew he could no longer remain idle while other men of his age fought for their country. In 1969, he made the decision to leave school and enlist in the Marine Corps.

Guldán deployed to Vietnam in 1970. Though in a new and dangerous environment, he continued to exhibit his leadership capabilities and was quickly appointed squad leader. With his position, he commanded 21 other Marines in Quang Nam. He served in Operation Lyon Valley and Operation Catawba Falls. On Aug. 3, 1970, an enemy booby-trap killed Guldán while he served at Bich Nam, nearby Hill 55. He was only 20 years old.

Still grappling with his initial decision to enlist in the Marines, his family and fiancée were only shook harder by the news of his death. Guldán's younger sister, Terri Guldán, wrote *The Letter: A Family's Tale Unplugged*, a book which captures the Guldán family's experience coping with the decision of their eldest son to join the Marines and the emotional toll his death had on them.

For his service, Guldán posthumously received a Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart and Combat Action Ribbon.

We honor his service.

## **Wyatt Loethen '21**

Wyatt went to Texas A & M and joined the Air Force about nine months ago. He is done with his technical training and will be stationed in Las Vegas, NV. Godspeed, Wyatt and thank you for your commitment to our country! Keep us posted...



## **Bob Sanchez '98**

Bob joined the Army right after graduating from Marist (only 2% of his classmates joined the service in 1998). His Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) was a 15S, Aviation Helicopter Mechanic working on the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior and the AH/MH-6 Little Bird. During his service, he deployed five times to Operation Iraqi Freedom and one time to Operation Enduring Freedom. While serving in the Army, Bob took the time to complete his associate's degree in general studies and a bachelor's degree in computer science. He retired in 2018 at the rank of Sergeant First Class (SFC). After his service, Bob held the role of Chief Operations Officer of a Martial Arts business teaching Krav Maga, Defense Tactics, and Fitness. He took the time to help the community by providing Women Empowerment Seminars and setting up community events throughout the year. In 2022, Bob completed his master's degree in business administration specializing in Operations Management. In 2023, he changed careers, taking on the call to serve once again as a Department of the Army Civilian in the role of a Contract Specialist at Fort Riley, Kansas. Bob has been married to his wonderful wife, Maria, for seven years and has four daughters, Ilia, Desiree, Jennifer, and Wynter.

They currently reside in a small town in Wamego, Kansas. God Bless you for your service Bob. You are Bold and you are Brave!!

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## Mike Ribich '98

A huge thank you to Michael Ribich '98, SVP of Wealth Management at Merrill Lynch, for sharing valuable insights with the Marist Business Club!

Michael's career journey and real-world perspectives on finance, investing, and career development are truly inspiring for our students. Starting from Marist, he has grown into a respected leader in wealth management, serving as a great role model for the next generation of professionals.

Alumni like Michael play a crucial role in shaping the future of Marist students. Their willingness to give back to the community and offer support is invaluable.

Thank you, Michael, for your time, wisdom, and continued dedication!



## Tim Mulcahy '93

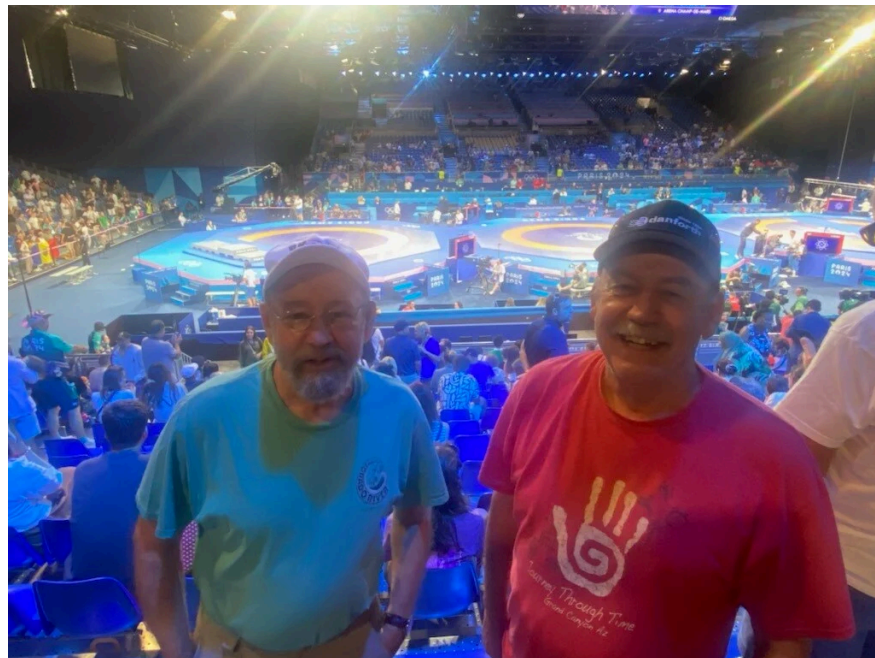
Over the past 25 years, Tim has been in sales and leadership roles for venture-backed software startups. Marist is now excited to have the opportunity to have Tim working with high school students. His time at companies like Captiva

Software, EMC, VELA Systems, Autodesk, SpiderOak, and Castlight Health provided valuable experience in building and growing successful teams and businesses, particularly during early & growth stages, and through exits.

Tim is working with students teaching classes on entrepreneurship and personal finance. He creates an encouraging and collaborative classroom where students can develop problem-solving, communication, adaptability, critical thinking, time management, and interpersonal skills. These soft skills have become increasingly more important to succeed in college and future careers. Way to make a difference and give back, Tim!!

## Jamari Grant '21

Jamari was a recipient of the Lincoln Laureate Award at DePaul University! This award is presented to one senior from each of the four-year degree-granting colleges and universities in Illinois for excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities. Jamari is a Jesse White Tumbler and a Link Unlimited Scholar! We are watching Jamari! We are totally impressed!



## Coach Mark Gervais, Marist Legend

Coach Mark Gervais made a pilgrimage to Paris to see the Olympics this past summer! Note the wrestling mats in the background.... He is quite the traveler. He is pictured here with one of his brothers. Safe travels, Coach.

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## RedHawk Baby Boom!

All these guys – Class of 2043 LET'S GO!

**Kevin '07 and Kirsten Collins**

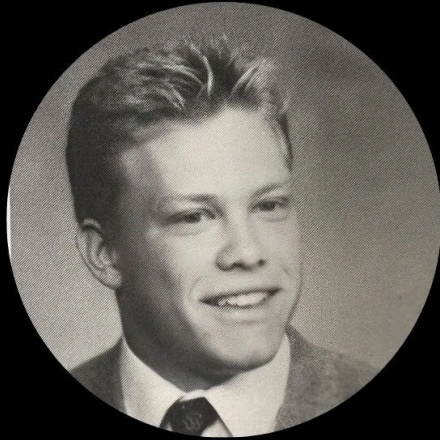
Welcomed son Keegan Philip Collins - this crew looks ready to celebrate!



**Colleen '07 (Hall of Fame Softball Coach) and BJ Phelan** welcomed Conor Patrick Phelan, who will be rooting for his mom and the RedHawk Softball team in their pursuit of *another* State Championship!

**Ms. Stephanie Reilly, Science teacher at Marist**

welcomed son Connor Jack Reilly- a Halloween baby!



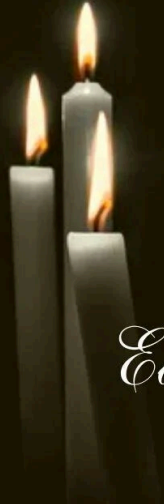
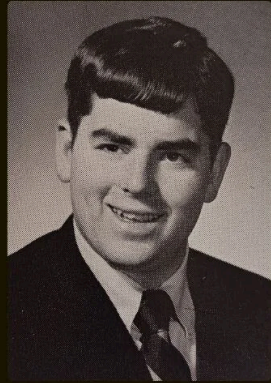
*Rest in Peace*

Scott R. Niemoth Sr. '90  
US Marine Veteran





In loving memory of



*Edward J. O'Connell '70*

*Eternal rest grant unto Ed, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him..*



*Rest in Peace*

*Joshua Gunther '04*

August 1, 1986 - October 14, 2024





2nd Annual

## *A Night of Honor, Glory, and Fame*

All proceeds support student financial aid

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 | 5:30 P.M.**  
LARRY TUCKER MARIST SPORTSPLEX  
12221 S. RIDGELAND

### PRESENTATION OF AWARDS



**Brian Hynes '86**  
**Kevin Hynes '84**  
**Michael Hynes '91**  
Heart of Marist



**Robert Clifford '69**  
Distinguished Alumni Award

SILENT AUCTION - LIVE AUCTION  
- PADDLE RAISE -  
COCKTAILS - SEATED DINNER  
LIVE MUSIC FROM THE SOUL 2 THE BONE

### Get Your Tickets Now!

Have you moved? Do you have a new job? Did you get married? Is there a new addition to your family? Let us know! We want to hear your news!

Class notes may be used in [The Point Magazine](#), which is published twice a year. They may also be used on Marist's social media, including [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

### Update us

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Marist High School, 4200 W. 115th St., Chicago, IL 60655

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