

# The Paduan

Alumni Newsletter for  
St. Anthony of Padua Alumni  
Vol. 9 No. 2, October 2016

## From the Editors Laptop

Tom Malina has played a major part in the success of all the past reunions. However with Tom's passing some doubt may have been cast on whether the reunions would continue. Thanks to the efforts of Joe and Chris Biernat '68, Ed and Barbara Opiola '56, John and Joyce Mielnik '62, John and Carol LaSalle '62 and Barbara Malina and Family '66. For stepping up and making this years reunion a success.

This year's reunion was the second largest in attendance since the inception of the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2003. This serves as a tribute to Tom's legacy for all the work he did for past reunions.

Tom's class of '66 has 12 surviving members and in attendance were seven graduates and one classmate. Five members from the class of '56 celebrating it's 60<sup>th</sup> attended. Fourteen of the eighteen graduating classes were represented from 14 different states.

Our reunions are unique because even though you may have never met alumni, you share similar experiences and stories. It was nice to catch with our classmates and other alumni and share some stories from our days at Padua.

**Reunion 2017** will be held Aug 11<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup>

The class of 1967 will celebrate it's 50<sup>th</sup> while the class of 1957 will celebrate it's 60<sup>th</sup>.

Also celebrating milestones is the class of 62 with its 55<sup>th</sup>.



Class of '66 r to l: Andy Staroscik, Tony Specian, Steve Granacki, Dan Poplawski, Al Costich, Mark Kiefer, Greg Zagloba. Photo by Carol LaSalle



Class of '56 l to r: John Asiello, Tom Kelly, Ed Opiola, Ed Przybysz, Stan Lapczynski. Photo by Carol LaSalle

## Reunion 2016 attendees

### Class of 53

Thomas Colihan - MD

Class of 54

Joseph Kuchinski - PA

### Class of '55

Leonard and MaryAnn Dmuchowski- East Northport NY

John Uss and Anne Stribling – Monroe NY

Ronald Whyte (classmate) – Buffalo NY

### Class of 56

John and Laura Asiello - VA

Thomas Kelly - MD

Stanley Lapczynski and Nancy Kuhn - OH

Ed and Barbara Opiola – New City NY

Edward Przybysz - NC

### Class of 57

Joe and Carmine Barstys - NJ

Class of 58

Fr. Joel Szydlowski - WI

Mike and June Uss - WI

### Class of 59

Robert Swillo and Ricia Rimovics - PA

Tom and Stephanie Uss - AL

Class of 61

George Uss – North Merrick NY

### Class of 62

Walter Kurpiel – Copiague NY

John and Carol LaSalle – Searingtown NY

John and Joyce Mielnik - PA

### Class of 63

Mike and Vivian Asiello – Corning NY

Roland and Delphine Benedek - IL

John and Hedy Grysza - AZ

Richard and Mary Regula – Hamburg NY

### Class of 64

Paul Parzych – Boonville NY

### Class of 66

Alan Costich - Rochester NY

Steve Granacki – Rome NY

Mark Kiefer and Sister Dorian Vanliew - Ronkonkama NY

George (classmate) and Debbie Lowry - PA

Daniel Poplawski - AZ

Tony and Christine Specian - NJ

Andrew and Lorraine Staroscik - PA

Gregory and Sandra Zagloba - MA

Barbara Malina - Montour Falls NY

Dwayne and Theresa Butler

Daine Butler

Malina Butler

### Class of 68

Joe and Chris Biernat - CT

Vince Burcz – Mt Morris NY

August and Linda Kuklinski - KS

### Class of 70

Edward Malina – Burdett NY

To view pictures from the reunion by Carol LaSalle click on link: [Padua 2016 Reunion at Shutterfly](#)

PW is Padua Capital “P”

Paduaprep to [view more Group pictures.](#)



l to r George ('66 classmate) and Debbie Lowry, Dorian (Mark's Sister) Mark Kiefer, Fr Joel Szydlowski '58, Dan Poplawski, Lorraine and Andy Staroscik, Christine and Tony Specian.

Photo by Carol LaSalle

## Class Notes

### Class of '54

J C Campbell and PJ Hartin, editors:  
EXPLORING BIBLICAL KINSHIP: Festschrift in **Honor of John J. Pilch**. The Catholic Biblical Quarterly Monograph Series 55. Washington, DC: The Catholic Biblical Association of America, 2016 (paperback).

### Class of '63

Our Thoughts and Prayers for Mike Asiello for a quick and speedy recovery from a recent stroke.

## Obituaries

### Class of '53

Dr. Joseph F. Malina Jr. Ph.D., P.E.

August 24th, 1935 – June 14, 2016

Joseph (Joe) Malina passed away peacefully on the afternoon of June 14, surrounded by his wife, children, their spouses and grandchildren. He lived a very full and accomplished life of almost 81 years devoted to his family, The University of Texas and his Catholic faith as an active member of the St. Austin Catholic Church community for over 50 years.

Joe was the second of nine children born in Brooklyn, New York on August 24th, 1935 to Joseph F. Malina Sr. and Mary Wesolowski Malina, both first-generation Americans born to Polish and Czechoslovakian immigrants.

Joe began his life-long dedication to his work and education early on, receiving a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Manhattan College followed by M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Civil Engineering (Sanitary Engineering) at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. He moved to Austin in 1961 and began his 53-year career at the University of Texas at the Cockrell School of Engineering. He officially retired in the fall of 2012, and continued to mentor and supervise students until the end of 2014.

Joe leaves a lasting legacy as an educational and industry leader, and a respected professional engineer in the field of wastewater treatment. During his more than half a century at UT Austin as an environmental and water resources engineering professor, he supervised 192 graduate students, including 26 PhD students and consulted with over 70 companies. Many of his graduate students have been instrumental in terms of design and operation of wastewater treatment plants throughout the world, and so have helped the environment and society.

These accomplishments rightfully earned him high honors in his profession, including awards from the Texas Society of Professional Engineers, American Academy of Environmental Engineers, American Water Works Association, Water Environment Association of Texas, Water Environment Federation, American Society of Civil Engineers, and many others.

After moving to Austin, he met his wife Ida and they were married on January 9, 1965. They were blessed with 51 years of marriage and a life centered on children, family and faith.

His younger brother, Tom, preceded Joe in death. Wife Ida, daughter Kristyn and her husband Mark Rankin, son Joe and his wife Marianne Malina, daughter Mary and her husband Jaiden Eaton, daughter Alexandra and her husband William Alfaro and daughter Frances and her husband Abraham Tucker survive him. Joe also leaves his 10 adoring grandchildren, Madilyn and Amanda Biscoe, Isabella Rankin, Milo Malina, Kamdyn, Brinkly and Taitym Eaton, Mia Lucette Alfaro and Emma and Noah Tucker.

[Joe Malina University of Texas obituary.](#)

### Class of '54

John J. Pilch Jr.

On August 27<sup>th</sup> a large crowd of relatives, friends, former friars, and Padua alumni (Ed Opiola, '56, and his wife Barbara, Tom Kelly, '56, and Joe Barstys,'57, and his wife Carmen) gathered in the chapel of St. Ignatius Church in Baltimore, Maryland. From the opening chant of the celebrant ("Suscipiat te Christus, qui vocavit te ...") to the stirring reflections of Dr. Isabelle MacGregor, John's longtime friend, and the supporting choral music of John's colleagues from the Baltimore Choral Arts Society it was a most fitting sendoff for John. Thanks to all for their prayers and support during his illness and final days.



John J. Pilch Jr., a biblical scholar and author who lived in Catonsville, died July 22 at St. Agnes Hospital of heart disease. He was 79.

"He was an extraordinary man and very gifted. He thoroughly knew the Scriptures and loved teaching them" said the Rev. William J. Watters, the pastor of St. Ignatius Roman Catholic Church from 1991 to 2005.

"He led several sessions with our parishioners, and they loved them, because he took the Scriptures and made them live," Father Watters said. "He was a very down-to-earth scholar who liked to engage people. He was not a put-off person."

"Many of his publications reflect his primary interest in biblical anthropology — as he expressed it to me, 'an understanding of the basic Mediterranean concepts [to provide] appropriate scenarios for imagining what one is reading in the Bible,'" said Dr. M. Isabelle Macgregor, a longtime friend and companion who is medical director of Roland Park Place in Baltimore.

The son of John J. Pilch Sr., a blue-collar worker, and Anna Mary Wypych, a New York Bell Telephone Co. clerk, John Joseph Pilch Jr. was born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y.

After graduating in 1954 from St. Anthony of Padua College Preparatory School in Watkins Glen, N.Y., he entered the Franciscan order at Lake Geneva, Wis., and a year later professed his vows.

He began his college studies at St. Francis College in Burlington, Wis., where he majored in medieval philosophy. After graduating summa cum laude in 1959, he began his theological studies at Christ the Theological Seminary in West Chicago, Ill.

Dr. Pilch was ordained a priest in 1963 and remained at the seminary an additional year, writing and conducting research.

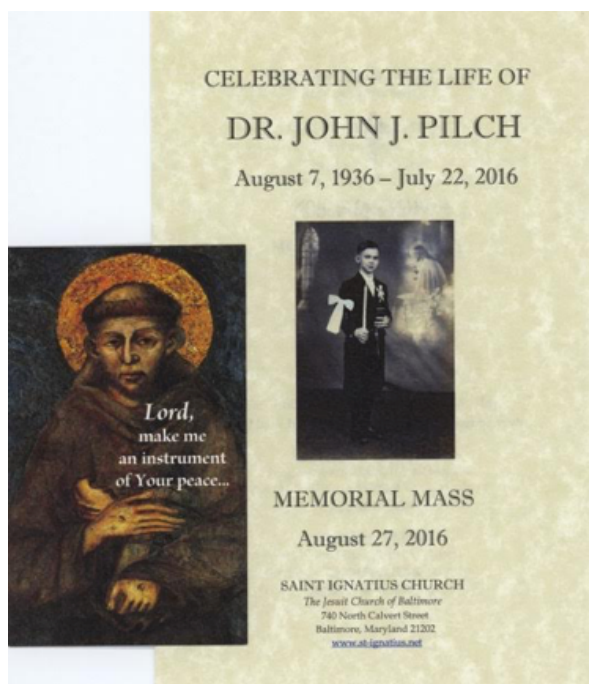
### [John's Bio-obituary](#)

### Class of '60

Robert T. Bahara, 74, of Roaring Brook Twp., died Monday at Geisinger Community Medical Center. His wife, the former Elaine Mawn, survives him.

Born in Scranton, son of the late Stanley and Rose Kobeski Bahara, Robert attended St. Anthony of Padua High School, New York, the University of Scranton and King's College, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. Previously, he was a co-owner of M. Brizer and Co. and more recently worked at Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services as a drug and alcohol specialist and liaison for the Lackawanna County Prison. He was a third-degree member of the Knights of Columbus, former member of the [Elks Club](#), and was also a member of St. Eulalia's Parish, Moscow.

Robert was a true outdoorsman and loved fishing and hunting. Being on the water with his sons and son-in-law brought him much enjoyment. He was an avid baseball fan and coached his sons' youth baseball teams for many years. One of his greatest joys was making memories with family and friends in St. Maarten. Throughout his life, he cherished spending time with his family and embraced the moments he spent with his own. No one who met Bob will forget his generous and welcoming smile. He will be deeply missed, yet his memory will live on through those he loved. We can proudly say that Bob made a lasting impression on everyone he met with his charm, which was only surpassed by the size of his heart.



Edward J. Drozd of Levittown NY passed away on June 15 2016. Beloved husband of the late Maureen. Loving father of Colleen Elizabeth Jackowski. Cherished grandfather of Robert Jackowski. Dear brother of Jane Kulgaga. Also survived by friends, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Ed, was a private classmate and joined in a group or conversation only if he felt his contribution would be helpful. I was always amazed at how much Ed knew and could easily explain or even demonstrate. Ed was very well read and a student's student always willing to answer a "homework" question or help clear up tough assignments.

Although private, if you liked him, he liked you. If you respected him, he respected you.  
John Szutarski

### **Class of '70**

Anthony Lee "Don" Yannetta, age 64, of Alabaster, AL, passed away July 4, 2016. Don was a loving husband and a dear friend. To know Don was to love Don. He never met a stranger. He made every room he entered feel warm and welcome. He had a vibrant soul, and this world is less bright since he has left it. His spirit and love will be sorely missed.

His mother, Verdi Verona Garrison Yannetta, and his wife's daughter, Taylor Jade Rushing, precede him in death. He leaves behind his wife of 10 years, Misty; numerous cousins; and dear friends he called family, Jean D'Amore, Kathy Rodenberg, and Gregg Sipski.

Visit our home website  
[paduaprep.com](http://paduaprep.com).

The site is rich in Padua History. In addition to a bulletin board, picture gallery and blog it has all the Siquaeris yearbooks and back issues of the Paduan.

It is a great source to help you recall those memories of our days spent there.

We are also on Facebook:

[St Anthony Of Padua, Watkins Glen NY](#)

### **Things to do when visiting Watkins Glen**

By [John Mielnik](#)

How far and how much will it cost to Drive to [Watkins Glen](#)?

Yes the [Glen](#) is still there and open.

Museums: [Corning Museum of Glass](#), [Glenn Curtiss Aviation Museum](#)

Cruises: [Captain Bill's Seneca cruises](#)

Shopping: [The Windmill](#) [Waterloo Premium Outlets](#),

[Finger Lakes Connection](#)

Places to Dine: [Montage at Glen Motor Inn](#), [Seneca Harbor Station](#)

Places to Stay: [Villager Motel](#), [Idlwilde Inn](#), [Glen Harbor Hotel](#), [Longhouse Lodge](#)

If you have an interesting hobby, event, or travel you would like to share with your alumni friends please consider submitting an article or a short comment for class

notes. Volunteers or contributors are always

welcome. Please email me at:

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## **The Lady Of The Lake**

By John Grysza '63

A magnificent lady once stood  
overlooking the shores of a lake,  
Ageless she seemed, her classic beauty  
easy to take,  
Gleaming in white, she was like a beacon  
from afar, Like some shimmering  
mythological star.

She stood for decades beside this lake,  
And each September, into her bosom a  
group of young boys she would take.  
This group of unsure, frightened creatures  
she would hold,  
And slowly into men she would mold.

Within her hallowed halls the boys would  
frolic, study and pray,  
Bells would signal them all day,  
No parents were there to console or  
advise,  
Only the Lady's guidance and discipline  
would make them wise.

And so, for four long years the Lady the  
boys did hold, Most stayed, but some did  
not fit the mold,  
Those that did and made it through the  
strife,  
Would be grateful for the rest of their life.

Each June, the Lady would set free some  
of the boys, Seasoned men now, ready to  
leave their toys, New lives they were now  
ready to engage,  
And it was the Lady, that showed them  
how to turn the page.

Then one day the Lady's doors were  
closed within,  
No more boys was she allowed to take in,  
She stood empty, still overlooking the  
lake,  
As if waiting for some boys hand to take.

She stood waiting season after season,  
Still hoping to find the reason,  
Why her doors were closed to the boys she  
could see, But that was not to be.

There came a day when the Lady now gray  
and old, Was torn from her hillside abode,  
And buried in the hills behind the lake,  
Where the boys often their hikes would take.

These former boys, now gray and old men,  
yearly return to the lake,  
Their love to the Lady they take,  
Although she lies in the soil now, torn in  
parts,  
Her spirit and soul lives forever in their  
hearts.



### **Contributors:**

John Grysza '63, John LaSalle '62, John  
Mielnik '62, Edward Opiola '56, Tony  
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