

THE GARCES MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL
ALUMNI BOARD PRESENTS
THE 13TH ANNUAL

HALL OF HONOR



MARK BROWN



VINCE FANUCCHI '67



DONNA JAMES



KEVIN PASCOE '71



GORDON WESTHOFF



THE JAN & TIM
SULLIVAN FAMILY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021
LUIGI'S WAREHOUSE

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to the 13th annual Garces Memorial High School Hall of Honor Awards Banquet. The Hall of Honor was established to publicly recognize and pay tribute to individuals who have demonstrated a continuing commitment to, and promotion of, the values, mission, and philosophy of Garces Memorial High School.

Tonight, the Hall of Honor will recognize and pay tribute to five very deserving individuals and one very special family. The 2021 Hall of Honor inductees are Mark Brown, Vince Fanucchi '67, Donna James, Kevin Pascoe '71, and Gordon Westhoff. The 2021 Garces Alumni Award will be given to The Jan & Tim Sullivan Family.

The inductees and the Sullivan family are long-time supporters of Garces and advocates for Garces Memorial in the local community. It is due to people like them that Garces has a rich history of alumni and families who make Garces possible. We have included a brief biography of each of them on the following pages.

Garces Memorial High School is a very special place, a place that deserves to be ensured of its future and its continuing service to our community. With that in mind, there is a common thread that binds tonight's honorees - they have proudly and courageously upheld the values of our school and have brought pride to the good name of Garces Memorial High School. Their involvement with our school, and with our greater Garces community, has been selfless, generous, and integral to the history and to the future of Garces Memorial High School.

Thank you for joining us this evening as we honor these wonderful people for all they have done and continue to do for Garces Memorial High School.

Gregg Gunner '66

Chairman

Garces Memorial Alumni Board

GARCES MEMORIAL ALUMNI BOARD 2020-2021 BOARD MEMBERS

Gregg Gunner '66
Chairman

Cindy (Duncan) Lynch '68

Mary (Loken) Cornett '68

Tom Swertfager '69

James Sakowski '70

Melissa Fortune '72

Mike Georgino '75

Kathy (Cortopassi) Staugaard '76

George Clerou '76

Kati (Anspach) Whittington '77

Maria (Bernal) Toretta '88

Raji Sanghera '89

Michael Anchochoy '99

John Moore III '07

HALL OF HONOR AGENDA

5:00 - 6:30 pm

No-host Cocktails

6:30 - 6:45 pm

Jim Sakowski '70
Master of Ceremonies

Gregg Gunner '66
Chairman of the Garces Alumni Board

Opening Prayer

6:45 - 7:30 pm

Dinner

7:30 - 7:45 pm

Alumni Scholarship Dessert Dash

7:45 - 9:15 pm

Induction Ceremony

MARK BROWN

Introduction by Alumni Board Member John Moore III '07

VINCE FANUCCHI '67

Introduction by Alumni Board Member Tom Swertfager '69

DONNA JAMES

Introduction by Alumni Board Member Maria Toretta '88

KEVIN PASCOE '71

Introduction by Alumni Board Member George Clerou '76

GORDON WESTHOFF

Introduction by Alumni Board Member Gregg Gunner '66

9:15 - 9:30 pm

**THE 2021 GARCES ALUMNI AWARD
THE JAN & TIM SULLIVAN FAMILY**

Introduction by Alumni Board Member Jim Sakowski '70

9:30 - 9:45 pm

Closing Remarks
Closing Prayer
Garces Alma Mater



Mr. Mark Brown

*Introduction by Alumni Board Member
John Moore III '07*

Mark Brown grew up in the Bay Area and graduated from Irvington High School where he earned nine varsity letters and was Athlete of the Year. He attended California State University, Bakersfield on a basketball scholarship. He graduated from CSUB in 1978 and earned his teaching credential at San Jose State University. At just 22-years-old, Mark joined the Garces family right out of college and never left. During his 42 years at Garces, he taught Art, ASB, Drafting, and Physical Education. He coached numerous sports teams: Football, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball,

Boys Swimming, Girls Swimming, Boys Tennis, Boys Cross Country, and Girls Cross Country. He was named All-Area Coach of the Year for Boys Tennis and Swimming. Mark retired in 2020 and is the longest tenured classroom teacher at Garces. He taught and coached more students than anyone else in the school's history.

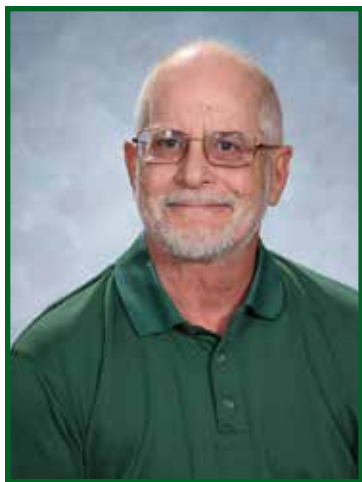
The Garces community fondly knows Mark as the voice of Rams Football. For nearly 40 years, he came out to Sam Tobias Field on Friday nights and announced the football games and kept the crowd engaged and entertained. His signature "Holy Toledo Sports Fans!" has been heard by countless Garces fans under the Friday night lights. He had nicknames for the players and made the game experience fun and exciting for all in attendance.

Mark's love of the students and his fellow teachers was obvious. He barbecued for students and teachers every year. During break and lunch, you could find him outside, usually in a chair he brought from home, smack dab in the middle of the quad talking and joking with students and his fellow teachers. If the students had a dress up day, then Mark had a dress up day. If the students needed some activity to bring up the level of school spirit, Mark was in - from being a judge at a belly flop competition at the pool, the color commentator for the Iron Man volleyball games, to organizing a ping-pong tournament for the students. He always had a pulse on the students and had a way to make them feel special and valued by him. Alumni who had Mr. Brown as a teacher or coach, couldn't wait for their child to have Mr. Brown as they knew their child would have a wonderful experience. For years, he hosted a Sunday basketball game in the Garces gym for anyone in the Garces community who wanted to play.

Mark and his wife Marirose sent four children through Garces. Their son Matt graduated in 2002, followed by Marybeth in 2004, Jason in 2007, and Marc in 2009. Along with being a devoted family man, Mark is an avid outdoors man. He and Marirose retired in the Sacramento area to be close to their children.

Mr. Vince Fanucchi '67

*Introduction by Alumni Board Member
Tom Swertfager '69*



While a student at Garces, Vince Fanucchi played football and was a member of the track and field team. Vince was also involved in ASB. Vince graduated in 1967 and went on to graduate from Fresno State in 1971 with a BS in English and earned a Secondary Teaching Credential in 1972.

In the fall of 1977, Vince was hired as an employee of Garces Memorial. During his many years of service, he served as an instructor in English, Social Studies, Physical Education, Journalism, and Yearbook. He

served as the Library Administrator and coached Football, Cross Country, and the Track and Field Program. Later in his career, he served as an assistant to the Athletic Director and eventually was named the Athletic Director of Garces Memorial High School, a position he held for many years.

Under his direction, the Garces Athletic Department became recognized as one of the most successful and most respected high school athletic programs in the state. During his tenure as AD, Garces was chosen Cal-Hi Sports State Medium School of the year in 1988 and 2003. He initiated, founded, and established the Holy Bowl, the yearly football contest between Garces Memorial and our sister-school San Joaquin Memorial High School. He expanded it culminating in the Thez-Carroll Cup which is presented to the school with the most head-to-head victories throughout the entire year. In honor of Garces alumnus and former coach, Gary Ogilvie '55, Vince established the Ogilvie Trophy, presented to the winner of the annual football game between Garces Memorial and Tehachapi High School. He created, founded, and established the Garces Holiday Soccer Tournament, growing it into one of the largest and most prestigious high school soccer tournaments in the state, if not in the entire nation. He worked closely with local high school athletic directors and with the Central Section CIF to organize various meets and athletic events. It is not an exaggeration to say that during his tenure as Athletic Director, he was one of the most respected and appreciated AD's by his peers and by the high school athletic community because of his professionalism, helpfulness, and support of his fellow athletic directors and peers.

Vince has been recognized and received many honors. Among them are the Garces Memorial Man of the Year, The Bob Carroll Award, Central Section CIF Athletic Director of the Year, KC Official's Danny O'Neill Service Award, and the BC Track Hall-of-Fame Bill Heffernan Service Award. Vince has tirelessly kept statistics for the school and student athletes for years. Because of his dedication, we have school record keeping for every sport and every milestone. His contribution to the history, traditions, and legacy of Garces Memorial High School is unmatched.

Mrs. Donna James

*Introduction by Alumni Board Member
Maria (Bernal) Toretta '88*



The following quote hangs on the refrigerator at Donna James' home: "Our family is a circle of love and strength. With every birth and with every union the circle grows. Every joy share adds more love. Every crisis faced together makes the circle stronger." Family is at the core of Donna James and it shows. When she sent her children to Garces, she became a member of the Garces family and Garces became a member of hers.

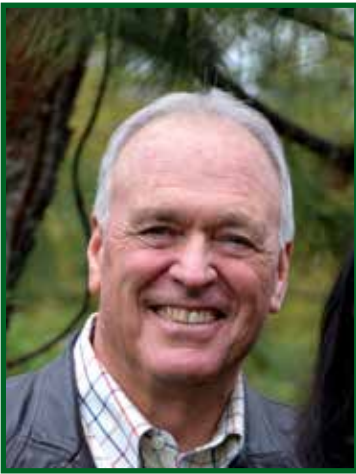
Donna has been a volunteer and a fundraiser her entire life. She began as a teenager as a volunteer at Memorial Hospital alongside her mother and grandmother in the Ladies Auxiliary. She grew up in a philanthropic family and learned by example from her father, Ralph Smith, on the importance of leadership in fundraising. Donna first began as a volunteer in the Garces cafeteria and was asked to co-chair the Garces Gala. Donna took it on and with the help of Marian Bowser and Sally Summers, she was able to make great things happen. Donna was new to the Garces community, but Sally knew everyone and Marian had exceptional bookkeeping skills. The three of them made a great team. The Garces Gala was extremely successful under Donna's leadership and helped to raise funds to cover the expense to build Monsignor Leddy Hall. Donna co-chaired the Gala in 1982 and 1983 and was the sole chair in 1986, 1987 and 1989. She served on the Gala Committee for a total of ten years. One of Donna's ongoing claims to fame is her famous chocolate chip cookies which are auctioned off at the Garces Gala – once going for over \$5,000 in a legendary bidding war between Johnny Etcheverry and Cookie Bianco. Over her ten-year involvement with the Garces Gala, and her ongoing support of Garces Memorial, Donna has helped to raise millions of dollars for Garces.

In addition to being a long-time volunteer at Garces, Donna has also served on the Kern County Tax Appeals Board and served on the boards of CALM and the Bakersfield Memorial Hospital Foundation. Donna is a past-president of Junior League and is a classroom hostess for Kern County Cattle Women.

Donna has been married to Don for over 62 years and they have five children, three of which are Garces alumni: David James '84, Susie (James) Smith '85, and Jenny (James) Waguespack '89. Donna and Don have 11 grandchildren, three of which are also Garces alumni: Maggie Waguespack '18, Jack Waguespack '19, and Ellie Waguespack '21.

Mr. Kevin Pascoe '71

*Introduction by Alumni Board Member
George Clerou '76*



Kevin Pascoe was the second oldest of seven Pascoe siblings that attended Garces Memorial High School. While at Garces Kevin played football as an offensive tight end and defensive end and served as a team captain his senior year. He was proud to play on the team that beat Bakersfield High School 21-0 his junior year which was a stunning upset in the annals of Kern County prep football! He was a gold seal bearer in CSF, and a member of the Letterman Club, the Ski Club, and Student Council his senior year. Kevin attended Bakersfield College where he played football for two seasons under Gerry Collis and then transferred to Cal Poly San Luis

Obispo where he acquired his Bachelor's of Science Degree in Agricultural Business Management. After college he managed a ranch for Buttes Farmland Development then moved to Tri-Fanucchi Farms for 11 years. He was asked to join Rod and Bob Grimm at Grimmway Farms in 1988 from which he retired after 33 wonderful years and served as Vice President of Agriculture. During his career he served on various boards including Kern County Farm Bureau, Western Growers Association, Arvin Edison Water Storage District and the Kern Groundwater Authority.

As a strong proponent of Catholic education Kevin served as a high school CCD teacher at Sacred Heart Church in Greenfield and was also president of the Men's Club and a lector at Mass. He also served on the Garces School Board for 12 years. During his tenure as a board member he helped to shepherd visionary changes for our campus. The Garces 2010 Plan was created as a roadmap for the future of Garces. It provided for the refurbishment of four classroom wings, a Westside athletic field, a new concession stand, a new gymnasium roof, a new administration building and a state-of-the-art library. In 1998 Garces added the Holy Spirit Courtyard and converted the Molly Breen Building to house art and music classes for students. Landscaping and block G were added to the west field hillside. In 2002 a new entrance to Sam Tobias Field was added and in the Fall of 2004 the restoration and relocation of the statue of Father Garces next to the Administration Building where it greets our students and visitors as they come onto our campus. Kevin strongly believes that as long as Garces puts its Catholicity first, God will always bless it in its Mission!

In addition to serving on the school board, Kevin has been a longtime supporter of Garces with his time, talent and treasure. He served on the Annual Fund Drive Committee and has been a go-to person for anything the school needed help with. His wife Laura chaired the Garces Gala for two years in the late nineties. For years Kevin and Laura attended the Garces BBQ and Gala and other events in support of the school. They sent their three children to Garces, Diana (Pascoe) Othart '96, Brian Pascoe '99, and Kathleen (Pascoe) Clerou '04.

Kevin is enjoying his "retirement" years working on the family's Glennville cattle operation with his brothers and nephews and playing with his six grandchildren. He continues to enjoy hunting and fishing and has resumed the sport of Team Roping and competes regularly in roping events around the western United States. He has won each of his grandchildren a belt buckle which they "have" to wear to the annual calf branding in the Spring!



Mr. Gordon Westhoff

*Introduction by Alumni Board Member
Greg Gunner '66*

Gordon Westhoff grew up in Monticello, Iowa. He is a cradle Catholic and attended Catholic schools from K-12. He graduated from Sacred Heart High School and went on to the University of Wyoming where he was a two-sport athlete, playing basketball and baseball. After college and graduate school, he coached

and taught one year at the high school level, and nine years at the collegiate level, finishing his coaching career as the assistant basketball coach at the University of Wyoming. He began his career in marketing and sales in the healthcare industry in 1976, which brought his family to Bakersfield. He and his wife Lynn became members of OLPH parish, and they enrolled their daughters, Kim and Tricia, in OLPH grammar school. While his daughters were at OLPH, Gordon served on the OLPH School Board.

After retiring from corporate America, Reverend Monsignor Michael Braun asked Gordon to come out of retirement and teach and become the Asst. Principal at OLPH school. Gordon agreed and was on staff at OLPH school from 2000-2003. While there, he and Joe Ziemann resurrected the OLPH School Foundation and grew the assets of the Foundation from approximately \$25,000 to over \$1,000,000. In 2009, Gordon came to Garces as a teacher of Economics and Government. He was voted Teacher of the Year by the students in 2012. He was also an Assistant Coach for the Garces Girls and Boys Varsity Basketball Teams. In 2013, he was on the Garces Admin Team as the Director of Admissions. During that time, he had a conversation with the late Doug Wattenbarger, husband of Ellie (Sill) Wattenbarger '73 and father of Abbie (Wattenbarger) Webb '10. Doug shared that one of his customers, Mrs. Jean Leach, mentioned that she and her husband did not have any close family heirs and had decided to leave their estate to Garces. Because of Gordon's love for Garces, he decided to investigate which led him to uncovering a copy of the trust on file at Garces. There were 59 properties listed. As a representative of Garces, Gordon contacted Mrs. Leach. He worked hard to foster a relationship between Garces and Jean Leach. He assured her that Garces was honored to be her beneficiary, that her gift was appreciated and critical for the continued support and survival of the school and, subsequently, cultivated a wonderful friendship with her. Ultimately, he became her close friend, confidant, and the Trustee of the Earl and Jean Leach Family Trust. When Mrs. Leach passed away in 2019, she knew her estate was in good hands with Gordon, the wishes of her and her husband would be honored, and Garces would be a grateful and humble beneficiary. The estate is valued at over \$10 million dollars and all proceeds will go to the Bakersfield Catholic Education Foundation where a needs-based scholarship fund and an endowment fund have been established in support of Garces and its students. Funds from the estate also paid for the PLTW room aptly called The Leach Family Engineering & Robotics Room.

Gordon retired from Garces in 2012 and became a member on the Board of Directors of the Garces Memorial High School Foundation, now called the Bakersfield Catholic Education Foundation. Once he was named the trustee of Mrs. Leach's estate, Gordon stepped off the Foundation board and has worked tirelessly to ensure the estate was well managed and the assets preserved. Since Mrs. Leach's passing in, Gordon has worked diligently over the past three years, as it is no easy task to liquidate 59 properties.

Gordon and his lovely wife Lynn have been married for 55 years. They sent their daughters to Garces, Kim (Westhoff) Carlson '85 and Tricia (Westhoff) Pankrat '88. Gordon's grandson, Dominic Carlson graduated from Garces in 2012 and married Garces alumna, Annie (Berry) Carlson '12.

2021 Garces Alumni Award

The Jan & Tim Sullivan Family

Introduction by Alumni Board Member Jim Sakowski '70



The Jan & Tim Sullivan Family - Frank, Tim Jr., Jan, Tim, & Vinny

If you are a Garces football, soccer, water polo, or swim fan, you have seen firsthand the love and support of Garces Memorial High School by the Jan and Tim Sullivan Family. The scoreboard at Sam Tobias Field and the scoreboard at the Salvucci Aquatics Center were both made possible thanks to their generosity. The scoreboard at Sam Tobias Field was installed in 2006 and the scoreboard at the Salvucci Aquatics Center was installed in 2011. When you look at the scoreboards you will see both “Sullivan Petroleum” and “Sully’s” proudly displayed. In addition to the scoreboards, they have been longtime sponsors of Garces events – Gala, Fall BBQ, and the Monsignor Leddy Golf Tournament. Their family business logo appears on almost everything Garces related in terms of supporting the school’s fundraising efforts. Their ongoing support of our special events allows Garces to continue providing excellence in Catholic education for our students. The Sullivan’s family love for Garces and commitment to Catholic education is evident to the Garces community, and for that we are grateful. In addition to supporting the school, in 2014 Jan established a college scholarship fund through the Bakersfield Catholic Education Foundation in memory of her parents, Jane and Vincent Di Giorgio. The scholarship is exclusively for a Garces senior who is attending college and studying communications, agriculture, liberal arts, or planning on becoming an attorney.

Tim Sullivan graduated from Garces in 1973 and Jan (Di Giorgio) Sullivan graduated from Garces in 1970. They sent their three boys through Garces: Frank Sullivan '00, Tim Sullivan Jr. '03, and Vincent Sullivan '07. Vinny is married to Garces alumna Mia (Jan-nino) Sullivan '12 and they have a baby girl, Sloane Sullivan. Tim Jr. recently became engaged to the love of his life, Kim Piron.

Tim and Jan have recently passed the “Garces” baton to Frank, Tim Jr., and Vinny and the three boys have not missed a beat. They continue to sponsor and attend our events and Tim Jr. is a member of the Monsignor Leddy Golf Tournament Committee. The future of Garces is in good hands with the support of legacy families like the Sullivan’s.

Special Thank You to Tonight's Sponsors

Thank you to tonight's Hall of Honor sponsors. Their generosity allows us to provide a complimentary table and awards to each of our inductees and a printed program for each of our guests.

Inductee Sponsor Level

Melissa Fortune '72 & Bruce Beretta
Shelley & Mike Georgino '75
Robert Grimm Family Foundation
Hail Mary Club
Marianne Laxague '58
LeBeauThelen LLP
Luigi's Restaurant & Delicatessen
Jenny '89 & Robert Waguespack MD

Awards Sponsor Level

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Kathy '69 & John Gargan '69
Mission Bank
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Mary Trichell
Thomas H. Werdel Jr. '53

Program Sponsor Level

Tom Anchordoquy '65
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Clerou Tire Company
Judy & Tom Franconi '52
Fran & Gregg Gunner '66
John-Paul Lake '97
Kenneth M. Peters CLU '50
Debra & Jim Sakowski '70
Wool Grower's Restaurant

*Thank you to **Jim Sakowski '70** for once again agreeing to be the MC for tonight's event and to the **Garces FFA Program** and their advisor, **Mrs. Ashleigh Rossi**, for the lovely flower arrangements.*

Garces Memorial Hall of Honor Past Inductees

2008 Hall of Honor Inductees

The Honorable Robert Anspach '54
The Late Rev. Msgr. Ralph Belluomini '51
The Late Anthony Cornejo '51
Mrs. Helen Reischman Haller '57
The Late Dr. Gerald Haslam '55
Mr. "Jackrabbit" Joe Hernandez '58
The Late Jimmie Icardo
The Late Honorable Larry Kleier '51
The Late Rev. Msgr. Patrick Leddy
The Late Sam Tobias

2009 Hall of Honor Inductees

The Late Bob Carroll
The Late John Etcheverry '53
The Late John Kovacevich
Mrs. Deborah Cerri Leary '67
Mr. Patrick Lencioni '83
The Late Deanna Maraccini McCauley '55
Mrs. Kay Wall
The Late Honorable Art Wallace '56

2010 Hall of Honor Inductees

The Honorable Gary Friedman '61
Mrs. Joan Garibaldi
The Late Justin Meyer '56
The Late Mary Pogon
Dr. Ken Ruettgers '80
The Late Mr. Paul Summers '53
The Late Rev. Msgr. Ronald Swett
Dr. Richard Tucker

2011 Hall of Honor Inductees

Mr. Don Border '50
Mrs. Joanne (Molinaro) Border '58
Sister Sharon Casey OP
Mrs. Katherine (Padilla) Cornejo '55
The Late Honorable Louis Etcheverry '58
Mr. Mike McCaffrey '64
The Late Tom Soliz '65
Mrs. Marianne (Werdel) Witmeyer '85

2012 Hall of Honor Inductees

The Late Gene Garibaldi
Mr. Dan Giordano '66
Mr. Joe Ziemann

2013 Hall of Honor Inductees

Ms. Marianne Laxague '58
Mr. Gary Ogilvie '55
Dr. John Ritter

2014 Hall of Honor Inductees

The Late Stan Antongiovanni '61
The Late Dr. Romain Clerou
The Late Pat Franey
Mr. Tom Werdel '53

2015 Hall of Honor Inductees

Mr. Al Sandrini '57
Mr. Bill Rector '78
Mr. Darrell Feliz '70
Mr. Gino Valpredo '88
Mr. Greg Robinson '70
Mr. Jim Sakowski '70

2016 Hall of Honor Inductees

The Late Charles Anspach '53
Rev. Msgr. Michael Braun
Mrs. Mayie Maitia

2017 Hall of Honor Inductees

Mr. Tom Anchordoquy '65
Mr. Arnold Cattani '64
The Late Yolanda (Papasergia) Griffiths '51
The Late Frank Maitia Jr. '60

2018 Hall of Honor Inductees

Mr. John Fanucchi '68
Mr. Joe Munoz '54
Mr. John Roberts '70
Mr. Leroy Sacchini

2019 Hall of Honor Inductees

Mr. Gene Bonas '57
The Late Greg Boylan '70
Mr. Tom Franconi '52
Mr. Bernie LeBeau
Mr. Ken Peters '50

The 2008 President's Award
The Luigi Antongiovanni Family
The 2009 President's Award
The Louis & Lucie Clerou Family
The 2010 President's Award
The Ben & Catherine Sill Family
The 2011 President's Award
The Robert & Audrey McDermott Family
The 2012 President's Award
The Alice Jett Conley and
Vince & Marie Sakowski Family
The 2014 President's Award
The Jim & BeBe Burke Family
The 2015 President's Award
The Joe & Jana Campbell Family
The 2016 Alumni Award
The Tom & Judy Franconi Family
The 2017 Alumni Award
The Mac & Stella McMurtrey Family
The 2018 Alumni Award
The Shirley & Larry Gargan and
Barbara & Joe Harrison Families
The 2019 Alumni Award
The Mary & David Fanucchi Award

Garces Memorial Alma Mater

All hail to thee, dear Garces
For united we will stand
We always will be loyal
To our brave and mighty Rams!

Our prayers are always for you,
And with guidance from above
Though we win or lose we're with you
For it's Garces High we love!

Garces Memorial High School Mission Statement



Garces Memorial High School is a coeducational, comprehensive Catholic high school. Our school strives to fulfill the mission of Christ by developing students spiritually, academically, and socially.

Our mission commits us to instill in every member of the Garces Memorial community the courage to act with faith, knowledge, compassion, & justice.