The Garces Memorial High School Alumni Board presents the 12th annual Hall of Honor

Gene Bonas ‘57

The Late Gregory Walter Boylan ‘70

Tom Franconi ‘52

Bernie LeBeau

Kenneth M. Peters C.L.U. ‘50

Thursday, September 12, 2019
Monsignor Leddy Hall
Garces Memorial High School
The Garces Alumni Board of Directors would like to thank Jeremy Tobias for his six years of dedication and service. Tonight is his last event as the Chairman and a member of the Board of Directors. His leadership and commitment to Garces Memorial is an inspiration to us all.

The Alumni Board is delighted to announce that Mr. Gregg Gunner ‘66 is the incoming Alumni Board Chairman for 2019-2020. Joining the Garces Alumni Board of Directors for 2019-2020 are Tom Swertfager ‘69 and Raji Sanghera ‘87.
A Message From The Chairman

Welcome to the 12th annual Garces Memorial High School Hall of Honor Awards Banquet. The Hall of Honor was established to 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 2019 Hall of Honor inductees are Gene Bonas ’57, The late Greg Boylan ’70, Tom Franconi ’52, Bernie LeBeau, and Ken Peters ’50.

The 2019 Garces Alumni Award will be given to The Mary and David Fanucchi Family.

The inductees and the Fanucchi 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.

Jeremy Tobias
Jeremy Tobias ‘84
Chairman
Garces Memorial Alumni Board
Hall of Honor Agenda

5:00 - 6:30 pm  No-host Cocktails

6:30 - 6:45 pm  Welcome - Jim Sakowski ‘70
Master of Ceremonies
Opening Prayer

6:45 - 7:30 pm  Dinner

7:30 - 7:45 pm  Dessert Dash

7:45 - 9:15 pm  Awards Ceremony

The Evening’s Honorees:

Mr. Gene Bonas ‘57

The Late Gregory Walter Boylan ‘70

Mr. Tom Franconi ‘52

Mr. Bernie LeBeau

Mr. Kenneth M. Peters C.L.U. ‘50

9:15 - 9:30 pm  The 2019 Garces Alumni Award
The Mary & David Fanucchi Family
Presented by Jeremy Tobias ‘84

9:30 - 9:45 pm  Closing Remarks
Jeremy Tobias ‘84, Chairman
Myka Peck, Principal
Closing Prayer
Garces Alma Mater
Mr. Gene Bonas
Introduction by Al Sandrini ’57
Escorted by Alumni Board Member Cindy Lynch ’68

Gene began his Catholic education at St. Joseph School in the 1st grade. He then came to Garces Junior High and graduated from Garces Memorial High School in 1957. While at Garces, Gene lettered in four sports – football, basketball, baseball and track. He was a class officer all four years and was the President of Our Lady Sodality his senior year along with being a captain on the football team.

After Garces, Gene went to Bakersfield College and then joined the U.S. Navy in 1958. Gene went to sonar school and volunteered for submarine school. He was then assigned to the USS Patrick Henry. He was honorably discharged in 1964 and reentered Bakersfield College. He went on to graduate from Fresno State with a BA in Education and a single subject credential. In 1979 he was selected by Msgr. Leddy to be the principal of St. Francis School. In 1984 he went to work for the Kern County Superintendent of Schools and in 1991 he became the Superintendent for Kit Carson Union School District and earned a California Distinguished School award. He later went to work for the Bakersfield City School District serving as a principal at College Heights School and then Hort School. He retired in 2003.

After retirement, Gene supervised student teachers and interns for Laverne University and CSUB and he taught classes for students who were working towards an Administrative Services Credential.

He is a member of the following military organizations: United States Submarine Veterans, Inc - (USSVI), Wahoo Base Chapter of the USSVI, International Submariners Association/USA, USS Patrick Henry SSB(N)599 Association, USS Nathan Hale SSB(N)623 Association, USS McDermut DD677 Association, National Sonar Association, Tin Can Association, United States Navy Memorial Association, USS Midway Association, and The American Legion. Gene is also a member of the following educational associations: Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), California Retired Teachers Association (CRTA), and Phi Delta Kappa (POK).

Gene married his lovely wife Robbie in 1996 and they recently celebrated their 24th wedding anniversary. Both of Gene’s sons are Garces graduates – Sean Bonas ’88 and Brandon Bonas ’90. Gene served on the Garces Alumni Board from 2014 - 2016.

Gene has always stayed in touch with his Garces classmates and several years ago began a monthly lunch club for the Class of 1957. They met monthly at Noriega’s and eventually included the Class of 1958. The monthly mini-class reunion lunches continue to this day.
Gregory Walter Boylan “Greg” was born and raised in Bakersfield, California. He attended Our Lady of Perpetual Help School and Garces Memorial High School, where he graduated alongside the Class of 1970. Many of Greg’s closest friendships began during these early school years. He continued his Catholic education by attending Loyola Marymount University where he played on the golf team and graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1974.

After college, Greg returned to Bakersfield where he married fellow Garces alumnus Dede Jukes ‘68 on April 7, 1979. They raised three kids, each of whom also graduated from Garces: Christopher Boylan ‘98, Hillary Boylan ‘00, and Andrew Boylan ‘02.

Greg fully embodied Garces Memorial’s mission of always acting with faith, knowledge, compassion, and justice. He worked for his father Jim Boylan, at Jim’s Supply, where he contributed to the success of the company along with his brothers (Bryan Boylan ‘80 and the late Kevin Boylan ‘77), sisters (Jennice (Boylan) Cerrina ‘75 and Jennifer (Boylan) Drake ‘75), and brother-in-law (Dan Drake), helping to continue the family culture that still exists today. In 2017, he continued his dad’s legacy by starting Jim’s Steel Supply along with his daughter Hillary Boylan ‘00, who continues to operate the company with a dedicated group of employees.

Earlier this year, Greg passed away unexpectedly, surrounded by family and close friends. Throughout his life, Greg touched the hearts of many. He was not only an active Garces alumnus, but a devote member of our faith community. He attended daily mass and was an incredibly generous man who always put the needs of others before his own. He never sought credit for any of his good deeds, and preferred to keep them anonymous.

Greg loved the Garces community and could be seen at many sporting and fundraising events throughout the year. He was always surrounded by family, friends, colleagues, golfing/hunting buddies, and neighbors. He has been greatly missed and will always be a part of our lives and the Garces family.
Mr. Tom Franconi ‘52
Introduction by Lauren Franconi Sullivan ‘77
Escorted by Alumni Board Member Al Sandrini ‘57

Tom began his Garces years as an 8th grader in 1947 and went on to play football, basketball and baseball at Garces, graduating with honors in 1952. His senior year, he was voted the MVP of the football team and awarded the Harry Coffee Award. He went on to Saint Mary’s College for a year before enlisting into the US Army. He was stationed in Ft. Hood, Texas. He traveled the state playing on the US Army Baseball Team. After completing his Army career, Tom earned his business degree from San Jose State University. After graduating, Tom went to work for a large farming company. In 1972, he began a partnership with Livio Mazzei and formed Mazzei-Franconi Co. LLC and it is still going strong today.

Tom married his lovely wife Judy in 1958 and they have five children who all graduated from Garces – Lauren (Franconi) Sullivan ’77, Tom Kendall Franconi ’79, Gina (Franconi) De Oca ’80, John Franconi ’82 and Mia (Franconi) Selvidge ’87. His grandson Gino Franconi ‘16 is also a Garces grad. In 1973, Tom joined the Garces School Board. He was elected President of the Board in 1977 where he remained President through 1980. Tom was an innovative Board President and implemented several cost saving and revenue making ideas. He changed the cafeteria from an-outsource food delivery program to an in-house food service cafeteria which increased revenue to the school. He brought Bingo to Garces and recruited the Garibaldi’s to run it. He brought the Gala to Garces by securing information from Brophy High School in Phoenix and presented the information to the board. The rest is history. The in-house cafeteria, Bingo and the Gala have brought in millions of dollars to Garces Memorial. In his final year as President of the Board, he was instrumental in the hiring of Dr. Tucker and transiting the school from being run by a religious order to being run by laity.

In 2009, Tom was elected to the Garces Alumni Board and served as the Chairman of the Board from 2013-2015. Under his leadership as Chairman, the Alumni Board went out and secured funds for the two plaques at the entrance of the school. The first one was the Fallen Heroes Plaque and it honors Garces Alumni who lost their lives while in service of our country. The second is the Founding Heroes plaque and it honors the Christian Brothers and Dominican Sisters who were at Garces when the doors opened in 1947. Often the Alumni Board would discuss why more alumni weren’t sending their children to Garces. Tom decided the board should try to help them and, through his leadership, the Garces Alumni Scholarship Fund was established. The fund has raised almost $100,000 and is presently helping nine Garces alumni families to send their children to Garces this year. Tom continues to support Garces and is a sponsor of many of Garces events and a supporter of the Hail Mary Club. In addition to supporting Garces, Tom has been active with Catholic Charities of Bakersfield; Kern Produce Shippers; US National Potato Board; United Potato Growers of America, Board Director; and President of the Trustees of Historic Union Cemetery. In addition to being a devoted family man, a faithful Catholic, and a true supporter of Garces Memorial, Tom is also an avid bike rider and has ridden all over the country – including a 62 day ride from San Diego, California to St. Augustine, Florida. His favorite ride was a two-week ride around Nova Scotia.
Bernard G. LeBeau, Jr. (“Bernie”) is a long-time supporter of Garces Memorial High School. Bernie was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona, where he graduated from Brophy College Preparatory in 1971. He excelled athletically in basketball and golf. Eager to continue his Jesuit education, he enrolled at Santa Clara University and received a Bachelor of Science in Commerce (accounting) in 1975 and a law degree in 1978. He continued his education at New York University and obtained an LLM (in Taxation) in 1979.

Bernie’s college roommate, Dennis Thelen, convinced Bernie to come to Bakersfield and he joined Dennis as an associate at Borton, Petrini & Conron in July of 1979. With Superior Court Judge David Lampe, they formed the firm of LeBeau, Thelen & Lampe in 1985 which is now known as LeBeau-Thelen, LLP.

Bernie married Garces alumna, Lynn (McCaffrey) LeBeau ’70 and they were blessed with four children, Ben LeBeau ’00, Katie Green ’03, Christy LeBeau ’05, and Kelley Sybesma ’07. Besides his career as an attorney, Bernie had a brief career in amateur golf while his children were young. Bernie won the Bakersfield City Amateur in 1985 and 1987 as well as the SCGA Mid-Amateur championship in 1985. He has been a club champion at Bakersfield Country Club numerous times.

Bernie began supporting the school by participating and sponsoring through LeBeau-Thelen, LLP countless BBQs, Galas, and the Monsignor Leddy Golf Tournaments. Once Bernie’s children enrolled at Garces, Bernie became a more active member of the Garces community. In addition to the special events, he supported and attended many basketball and volleyball games, not to mention swim meets too numerous to count. He “scored” basketball games for Gino Lacava, kept the volleyball stats, and timed many swim lanes over the years. Bernie and Lynn received the Bob Carroll award, although Bernie freely admits that 90% of the work was performed by Lynn.

Bernie served many years on the Garces Foundation Board of Directors, putting his legal skills to work by revising bylaws, changing its tax structure to a supporting organization, and helping to establish policies with his fellow directors that are still in place today. Bernie was appointed as a director of the Garces School Board by Msgr. Michael Braun and served on that Board until Msgr. Braun retired. For years, Bernie has donated his legal services in advising the administration, the School Board, and the Foundation Board on various legal matters. The LeBeau family was a major contributor to the Fund the Future Campaign which helped to build the pool, tennis courts, science building, and school chapel. Bernie was honored as the Garces Man of the Year in 2014. Bernie has helped secure estate planning gifts to the Foundation resulting in some very generous donations.

Bernie believes he has been handsomely compensated by the Garces community through the many friendships he and Lynn have developed through involvement with Garces teachers, administrators, parents, and students. When Bernie isn’t practicing law, he can be found enjoying time with his family, enjoying a good bottle or two of wine, and traveling with friends.
Mr. Kenneth M. Peters C.L.U. ’50

Introduction by Don Border ’50
Escorted by Alumni Board Member Maria Toretta ’88

Ken Peters graduated from Garces Memorial in 1950. While at Garces, Ken lettered in football and baseball and fondly recalls playing football at the Bakersfield Speedway prior to the building of Sam Tobias Field.

After two years at BC, Ken was drafted into the US Army where he became a Tank Commander during the Korean Conflict. In 1954, Ken married his lovely wife Dorothy and they had five children, four of which are Garces graduates – Eric Peters, Ken Peters Jr ’78, Keith Peters ’81, Lisa Peters Kotz ’83, and Stephanie Peters Tobias ’86. In 1957, Ken joined NY Life and began a long and very successful career in the life insurance industry earning a CLU designation and eventually opening his own branch office. Along with life insurance, Ken has been a successful real estate investor. Ken has been a life-long Catholic and an active parishioner of St. Francis. He was the on the board of St. Francis and served as the Chairman of the Finance Committee and served on the Parish Council for several years. He started the Eucharistic Minister Program and the Lecture Program and was an usher for several years. He has also been an active, behind the scenes supporter of Garces Memorial and St. Francis School. He helped to send 13 of his grandchildren to Garces with one in the wings at St. Francis – the late Nick Peters ’96, Jennifer Peters ’97, Erica Peters ’00, Sarah Capdeville, Megan Peters ’01, Michael Peters ’04, Mark Peters ’07, Michele Peters ’09, Morgan Peters ’13, Mekayla Peters ’14, Joseph Tobias ’17, Catherine Tobias ’19, Olivia Tobias ’23, and future Ram Luke Tobias ’25.

Over the years, Ken helped with Garces Bingo, attended Garces BBQ’s and Galas, played in the Monsignor Leddy Golf Tournament and went to numerous activities in support of his children and grandchildren including Grandparent’s Day and the Garces Veteran’s Day Assembly. He served on the Garces Memorial Alumni Board for six years and was honored during Garces’ 70th Year Anniversary Celebration as an honorary football captain as Ken is the last surviving player of the first Garces Rams football team. Ken’s hobbies include hunting, fishing, and playing in a monthly poker game with his Garces buddies. The poker game began in 1950 with fellow classmates Don Border, Bill O’Donnell, Jim Jett, Jim Feliz, Jim Schorr, George Richaud and Les Coffee. The game still continues today.
For the past six decades, Garces Memorial High School has been an important part of the Mary and David Fanucchi Family and this family has unquestionably been an integral part of the school. Deeply committed to Catholic education, Mary and Dave sent all seven children through St. Francis Grammar School and Garces Memorial. While Mary was a stay-at-home mother, she made time to work in the cafeteria, assist at Bingo, and support various clubs and organizations at Garces Memorial. Dave, a full-time realtor, became actively involved in the Garces Barbecue at its inception, and ultimately served as chairperson or co-chairperson of 50 barbecues (originally, the barbecue was held twice yearly, in the Fall and again in the Spring), helping to raise over $1,000,000 for the school. In the early '70s, when Garces Memorial was in danger of having to close its doors, Dave and Mary were instrumental, as were many others, in working tirelessly to ensure that the school remained open. Both Dave and Mary were fixtures over the years at Garces Memorial sporting events, school sponsored activities, and school fund-raisers in support of their children: Vince '67, John '68, Mike '69, Barbara Crear '71, Patty Brown '78, Pam Bell '78, and David '81.

One of the valued lessons that Mary and Dave taught their children was the importance of supporting Catholic education in general and Garces Memorial
particular. Three of their sons - Vince, John, and David - eventually went to work for the school: David as an instructor and football coach; John as an instructor, coach, and administrator; and Vince as an instructor, athletic director, and currently the school historian and archivist. Barbara, Patty, and Pam continued to serve the Catholic community, working as instructors and aides at St. Francis Grammar School at various times, and Mike supported the school by volunteering as a member of the barbecue team at football games. The tradition of service to the school carried down to their spouses. John's wife Rachell, Mike's wife Laura, Barb's husband Tom, Pam's husband Kevin, and David's wife Carrie served in various capacities: as Cheerleading moderators, Board of Directors members, fund raising chairs, parents of Garces students, and as supporters of their spouse's, children's, and relative's athletic and other involvements. Eight third-generation family members went on to attend Garces Memorial: Mike Crear '00, Steve Crear '02, Chris Likins '03, Heather Likins Lawson '04, Katie Crear Carnes '04, Anthony Fanucchi '10, Joe Bell '10, and Gina Bell Romley '11. Mary and Dave's other grandchildren include Jake Fanucchi, Rachel Fanucchi Barela, Molly Fanucchi Tomlinson, Joe Fanucchi, Sammy Brown, Lucy Brown, and Sarah Fanucchi.

The Fanucchi Family members have been and continue to be loyal supporters of Garces Memorial High School and of Catholic education in Bakersfield. The Fanucchi Family legacy will continue proudly at Garces Memorial, with the baseball field dedicated and renamed the "David A. Fanucchi Field" in 2010, and with the induction of the Mary and David Fanucchi Family into the Garces Memorial High School Hall of Honor at tonight's ceremony.
Tonight’s Dessert Dash
Benefitting the
Garces Alumni Scholarship Fund

Tonight we are trying something different that we hope all of you enjoy while raising funds for a worthwhile endeavor. Instead of serving dessert this evening, every table will compete for their dessert of choice! We have desserts displayed on the tables and are asking each of you to make a pledge, write a check, or provide a credit card with a donation for the Garces Alumni Scholarship Fund. It can be for any amount or you can leave the card blank if prefer donating in other ways to Garces Memorial. Once you decide on how much you want to bid, place your pledge card in the envelope and we will collect each table’s envelope during dinner. We will tally up the pledges for each table, and the table that pledges the most will have first choice and so on. The delicious desserts have been provided by members of the Alumni Board.

Why support the Alumni Scholarship Fund?

The Garces Memorial High School Alumni Board established the Alumni Scholarship Fund in March of 2015 to provide financial assistance to deserving children, or grandchildren, of Garces graduates who desire a quality Garces Catholic education but need help with the expense of tuition. To date, the Alumni Board has raised almost $100,000 for the scholarship fund and has already awarded almost half of that amount in scholarships to deserving students.

For the 2019-200 school year, the Alumni Board provided nine partial tuition assistance scholarships. The scholarships were allocated to four freshmen, two sophomores, one junior, and two seniors. When an incoming freshman receives the scholarship, it automatically renews as long as the student continues to meet the minimum criteria: the family meets the financial needs criteria set by the school, the student has a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and the student participates in at least one extra-curricular activity.

It is our hope to continue to grow the scholarship fund, year by year, little by little, so that over time we are able to help provide a Garces education for deserving families for years to come.
Thank you to tonight’s 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**
- LeBeauThelen LLP
- Melissa Fortune & Bruce Beretta
- Mike & Shelley Georgino
- Hail Mary Club

**Awards Sponsor Level**
- Mission Bank
- Mrs. Mary Trichell
- Mr. Tom Werdel ‘53
- Ms. Marianne Laxague ‘58
- Barbara & Al Sandrini ‘57

**Program Sponsor Level**
- Mazzei-Franconi Co., LLC
- Wool Grower’s Restaurant
- Kathy (Harrison) Gargan ‘69 & John Gargan ‘69

Thank you to tonight’s Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Jim Sakowski. We are very grateful and appreciative of Jim as he makes every Garces event even more special with his knowledge of all that is Garces Memorial High School.
Garces Legacy Family Honorees

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
2008 Hall of Honor Inductees
The Honorable Robert Anspach ’54
The Late Rev. Msgr. Ralph Bellumini ‘51
The Late Anthony Cornejo ’51
Mrs. Helen Reischman Haller ‘57
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 Mr. John Etcheverry ‘53
The Late John Kovacevich
Mrs. Deborah Cerri Leary ’67
Mr. Patrick Lencioni ’83
Mrs. 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
Mr. Paul Summers ’53
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 Mr. 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 Mr. Stan Antongiovanni ’61
The Late Dr. Romain Clerou
The Late Mr. 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 Mr. 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
Leroy Sacchini
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.