

Reunion 2010

The following remarks were offered by Pat Cannon Quinlan on behalf of the Class of 1960, our Golden Jubilarians, during Reunion 2010.



Good evening dear Sisters, ladies and gentlemen and a very special hello to the Golden girls, Class of 1960. Would you please smile, stand and be recognized?

Can you believe we are here commemorating something that we started in 1956? It was in lovely early September that we all assembled for the first time. We met Sr. Mary Ellen, and she assured our concerned parents that they need not worry. She had everything under control. Oh my, did we underestimate that statement!

And so it began . . . our journey to womanhood with the dedicated assistance of our mentors, the Daughters of Charity. Most of us were not familiar with the Sisters and totally unaware of how far-reaching their services are to mankind. They are superior educators, caring nurses and inspiring role models with a genuine concern for anyone fortunate enough to cross their paths.

So on that lovely day in September 1956 we arrived and presented ourselves as their current challenge. They must have smiled to each other at our open naiveté. They didn't know the half of it!

It is entertaining to reflect on those four years, and on that majestic campus! Every season held its own uniqueness. Do you remember trudging into town in the snow or rain after classes to go to the bowling alley or Boucher's restaurant? Or even the gas station?

That was socializing and followed by the question: "Who did you see?" And heaven forbid if we didn't sign in by 5:30 p.m. What about the big movie date on Saturday night? Did we really have to be back by 10:30? Today, the kids are still primping at 10:30, and the night is still ahead of them!

All in all, not one of us would give up a day of those four years. Wouldn't it be nice to remember ourselves as perfect Children of Mary? But maturity and honesty rule and we know better. The event we considered heinous, such as the cloak and dagger assault on the cafeteria, was venial in retrospect and quite hilarious now.

How innocent we were. We thoroughly enjoyed and now appreciate our protected society. The Sisters and priest friends saw to it that we formed exceptional values and set a moral standard for ourselves that enabled us to enjoy a Christian way of life. We all recall Msgr. Robert Kline in Ethics class talking **to** us, not **at** us. I'm sure these enlightened conversations still replay in our minds and mean so much more now.

How very lucky we are that our parents and families decided that a Catholic education was superior and just the right avenue for us. Think of the many advantages our all-girl atmosphere bestowed on us. It clearly provided the opportunity to concentrate almost completely on our goal -- acquiring of a well-rounded education that would lead us to personal success.

But let's admit it friends, MSM was a bit of distraction. Nonetheless, we survived, enjoyed and had it all. It's a wonderful testament to all of us to be able to reminiscence and experience the slow smile that willingly creeps across our faces.

I hope you shared many of these times over the weekend and always remember "**All Together, All Together**" and thank you God- "**still, still we meet.**"

Thank you, and enjoy, and God bless us all.