



# Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony



Saturday, April 11, 2015





**HEADMASTER JAMES HICKEY**  
**& ALL OF**  
**AUSTIN PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

Congratulate the 2015 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

**Thomas F. Birmingham '67**

Football - Men's Basketball - Baseball

**Michael J. Ciampa '76**

Baseball

**David E. Nelson '81**

Men's Ice Hockey

**1985/1986 Men's Ice Hockey Team**

**Tara L. Williams-Cahill '96**

Swimming - Cheerleading

**Nathan F. Sherr '07**

Football

**George 'Matt' Miller**

Contributor

# Athletic Hall of Fame

## Evening Program

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6:00 pm      Cocktail Hour

7:00 pm      Welcome: Headmaster James Hickey  
                 Assistant Headmaster Susan Belanger

Invocation: Director of Campus Ministry Susan Vacanti

7:45 pm      2015 Induction Ceremony:  
                 David Gramling, Master of Ceremonies

### Athletic Hall of Fame Committee

Anthony Biscardi '88  
James Dowd '69  
David Gramling  
Jean Gramling  
Robert Hennessy  
John "Jack" MacDonald '74  
David Pasquale '89  
Jonathan Pollard '97, Director of Athletics

### Office of External Affairs

Susan Belanger, Assistant Headmaster for External Affairs  
Julianne Bloise, Director of Communications  
Beth Flynn, Director of Enrollment  
Maureen Crowley, External Affairs Events Coordinator  
Cara Kennedy, Coordinator of Alumni Engagement & Giving  
Meg Shannon, Administrative Assistant for Admissions

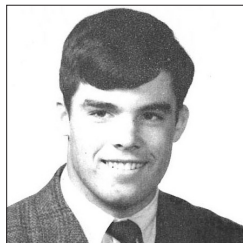
# 2015 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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## **Thomas F. Birmingham '67**

**Football - Men's Basketball - Baseball**

**T**om came to Austin as the school opened in September, 1963. Attracted by the academic offerings, he knew the sports offerings would be a major part of the life. His four-year athletic career helped make the new Cougars a competitive athletics program. He enjoyed the practices just as much as the competitive games. Lacking facilities, his teams almost always were on the road for their varsity contests. Under the coaching of John Pacino, the varsity coach in all three sports, Tom emerged as a natural and competitive performer, excelling in the sport of the season.



Austin's membership in the CYO found the sports assigned to the Catholic District in basketball and baseball, and the Catholic Suburban for football. Elected co-captain for two seasons, the varsity basketball team had an overall winning record at 31-28 with Tom earning league All-Star status in his junior year. He is still in ninth place on the basketball scoring leader with 595 points and over a 10-point per game average.

In football Tom earned his status as a two-way starter at linebacker and fullback. In an era when press coverage was limited, the school newspaper recorded Tom's feats for future Austin students. Their first varsity season was highlighted by a 26-20 win over Don Bosco. Tom scored three rushing touchdowns and a two-point conversion. In senior year the team had no home games, but delighted in their weekly travels. Again Don Bosco was defeated in a home game played in Malden by a 34-0 final and Tom rumbled for two touchdowns.

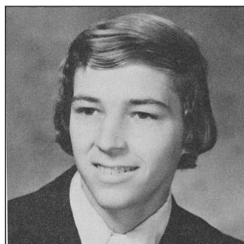
Tom played three varsity seasons of baseball, as the team struggled with an 11-41 overall record. Tom proved to be a reliable hitter. At the end of his career he was evaluated as "deserving of recognition for his achievements on the playing field as a fine player, game after game, playing both sides of the ball. He intends to go to an Ivy League school." Tom was the first athlete to be awarded nine varsity letters. He graduated from Harvard, earned a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford and graduated from Harvard Law School. He still lives in Chelsea with wife, Selma Botman, and daughters Erica and Megan. He was chosen Alumnus of the Month in the March 1992-93 school year.

# 2015 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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## Michael J. Ciampa '76

Baseball



**M**ichael holds several Austin Prep baseball records and was the best baseball player of his three-year varsity career as the starting centerfielder. Nicknamed “Mini-Mike” by classmates, his reply was that “he was not small, just short.” His coach was Richard “Dick” Scanlon in his second term as the varsity head coach. Mike

spent his career playing in the Merrimack Valley Conference against large, powerhouse schools in the area. The three-year record of the varsity was 19-37. Mike earned the respect of his teammates and opponents alike, being chosen twice as a first team, All-League centerfielder, and two-time team Most Valuable Player. In his senior year, his statistics took off, as he set the school record for single season batting average (.582), pounding out 34 hits in 58 at-bats, also a school record that still stands. He scored 22 runs and stole 24 bases, both still the single season standards.

After graduation, Mike went to Westfield State where he set 13 school records in his four-year career, culminating in 1979 when he was a first team All-American with a .399 batting average. He was inducted into their Hall of Fame in the Class of 1994.

After college, he was drafted in the 24<sup>th</sup> round by the Boston Red Sox and started in centerfield in their minor league organization from the summer of 1980 (Elmira, staying to play with Winter Haven [1981 and 1982] and Class AA New Britain [1983]) until a hamstring injury curtailed his promising professional career.

Mike was also a varsity hockey player in his senior year and was the fifth leading scorer (6 goals, 9 assists for 15 points) on a powerful team that finished in second place with a 16-1-1 league record. Mike skated left wing with center Steven Sheldon '78 and right wing John Smith '77. He used that skating skill to become an outstanding high school hockey referee.

His activity profile at school shows that he was a member of “The Balls.” They were two-time intramural softball fall season champions along with faculty member Arthur “Sandy” Ruggles, the assistant varsity hockey coach. Mike lives in Wilmington with his wife, Ginny, and three children, Kim, Mike and Steve.

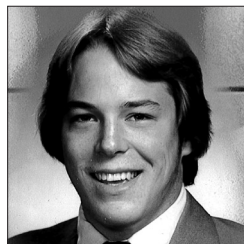
# 2015 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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## David E. Nelson '81

### Men's Ice Hockey

David was the third of the Nelson brothers (Alfred '73, Ronald '75) to play varsity hockey for Austin and they worked to establish their teams as forces to be reckoned with. As the youngest David felt he had to live up to the legacy they established and he did so with pride and the love of his family and his school.



He came to Austin from Burlington Middle School and already had a stellar reputation as a defenseman in hockey. His three-year varsity career as a Cougar saw his teams amass a winning record of 47-12-3. As co-captain in his senior year, he led that team to the school's first ever league championship in ice hockey, taking the Merrimack Valley League East Championship with a 16-1-1 record, and the best in the combined league standings. In that senior year he set the scoring standard for defensemen with 12 goals and 30 assists for 42 points, a mark that has never been broken. His personal trademark, a rink-length rush followed by a snap shot on the goalie or a pinpoint pass to a trailing forward inevitably led to goals being scored.

Awards that followed for Dave were numerous. He was chosen the first team All-Star in that senior year with his defensive partner Blaise MacDonald '81. He was selected as the *Lowell Sun* Player of the Year for the 1980-81 season. He was also selected to the second team All-State by the *Boston Globe*. The 6'2", 185-pound power skater was chosen by his coach Brian Hayes as the Austin Prep Most Valuable Player for the year. He was chosen as a Hockey Night in Boston Catholic All-Scholastic. Coach Hayes reflected that "we could see Dave coming into his own as a junior (3-10-13 scoring). By the end of his senior year he owned the MVL, and had a great season-ending tournament." He earned a well-deserved scholarship to the University of Massachusetts Lowell as a defenseman. David had his jersey, "No. 10" retired by Austin at the start of the 1981-82 season. That uniform hangs in the second floor hall of the MultiPurpose Facility. The new and improved weight room was dedicated to his memory by the fundraising efforts of his friends and classmates from Burlington.

# 2015 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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## Tara L. Williams-Cahill '96

### Cheerleading - Swimming



Tara was a member of the first four-year class in the era of co-education that the school embraced in September, 1992. A Billerica native who came to Austin from Immaculate Conception Grammar School in Malden, she emerged as a natural leader and committed herself to academic excellence and athletic development. Lacking girls' varsity programs she stepped up to help institute the foundation. She spent four years as a cheerleader for football, serving the last two years as their captain.

Her personal best sport was swimming, and her persistence with the athletic director and athletic council paid off when the sport was added as a co-ed offering in the winter of 1993-94. Her personal excellence earned her, in three varsity seasons, nine of the 11 girls' records that lasted until the 2009-10 season. Some events included her record-setting marks in the 100 backstroke (1:09.64), 100 freestyle, as well as the anchor leg for the 4x100 freestyle relay (4:39.45). Her competitions took her to Dartmouth College where she finished 10<sup>th</sup> overall in the Silver Championship meet as a freshman.

Her leadership as captain for the three seasons helped the team with their first dual meet win over rival North Reading, 81-73. They also beat Catholic Memorial 86-77, against whom she won the 200 freestyle, 100 backstroke and anchored the 400 relay. On February 19, 1996 she was chosen by the *Boston Globe* as one of 20 "Good Sports" winners who were cited as "having been an inspiration to others, their school and their community after overcoming personal hurdles along the way." She was honored at the halftime of the Boston Celtics game on March 6, 1996.

Tara also ran spring track, competing in the high jump, 400 meter run and the 4x400 relay team. She was chosen the All-Around Female Athlete in the Class of 1996.

She served as a class secretary for three years and was elected to the National Honor Society as a sophomore. She graduated from Boston College. Tara lives in Reading with her husband, Kevin, and two children, son Jackson and daughter Brooklyn.

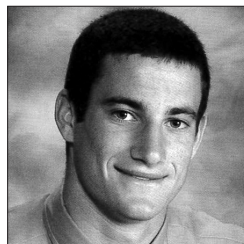
# 2015 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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## Nathan F. Sherr '07

### Football

Nathan was the only three-time All-Scholastic athlete for football as chosen by the Boston newspapers. He is one of three players who have earned four varsity letters. He was also a three-time All-Star in the Catholic Central League Large School Division, and was twice chosen as the League Most Valuable Player. In his four-year varsity career, Nathan set all the rushing, receiving and scoring records for an individual player.



After a stellar first year as a starter, Nathan developed into the statistically best player in Austin football history. He holds no fewer than 17 individual season and career records. Highlights include career scoring (682 points, more than triple the points of the runner-up at 224), career touchdowns (96), and single season touchdowns (32). He led Eastern Massachusetts as a senior, scoring 218 points and set the state record for scoring in a football career (also 682 points at the time).

Rushing from scrimmage, Nathan set the career record (651 carries for 4,354 yards, averaging 6.7 yards per carry, more than double the runner-up at 2,449) and the single season record (1,474 yards). In his junior season (2005) while playing wide receiver, he set records for single game (187 yards) and single season (694 yards). By the end of senior year, he had set the career receiving record (1,474 yards).

Nathan also ran winter track and had a strong three-year career in lacrosse, playing in grades 8-10. Coming from Lynnfield, and the youngest of the three Sherr brothers, Nathan joined senior Alexander '03 playing lacrosse as an eighth-grader, and played two more years with brother Daniel '05 in both football and lacrosse. He also ran indoor track.

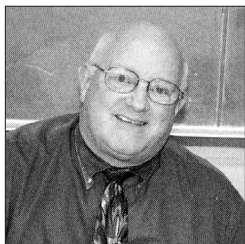
Coach Bill Maradei assessed that "Nathan was a marked man in a tough league." At 5'11" and 195 pounds, Nathan's achievement was even more amazing considering that due to a knee injury (freshman year), high ankle sprain (junior) and a nagging hamstring (senior) he was forced to miss 10 varsity starts, almost a quarter of a normal career. He was honored as the All-Around Athlete in the Class of 2007, and his peers voted him as "the best thing about the Class of 2007."



# 2015 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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## George ‘Matt’ Miller Contributor



**M**att Miller lived the Austin Prep motto – truth, unity, love – each and every day of his life. No group benefitted more from his time and effort than the athletes, coaches and students associated with student activities. Matt came to Austin in the summer of 1969 after two years on the faculty of Merrimack College, from where he graduated.

There are few significant positions at Austin that Matt did not hold and embrace with enthusiasm. His many roles included a most respected teacher of English and theology, official and unofficial college placement counselor, Librarian and several appointments as the Director of Student Activities, and with that role, oversight of the Athletics program. His commitment to expanding both student activities and athletic programs made him appreciated as so much more than a benefactor. His attendance at football games, both home and away, was expected and appreciated. Every on-campus athletic event found him on the sidelines, waiting after to express his personal appreciation for the athletes' efforts, win or lose. His creation of the big window message letters that greeted the community on Monday mornings, none more stunning than "Austin in Boston," the unofficial motto of the hockey teams from 1975 through 1992.

Following those omnipresent early morning practices at Merrimack, the teams would arrive back and head to the library where Matt had prepared breakfast, an act of kindness never forgotten. He made sure he was at nearly every sporting event, always appropriately dressed in Austin green. His advice and insight into the athletics program delivered with his intelligence, wit and occasional sarcasm were usually just the necessary words that were needed. Matt gave 43 years of service and loyalty, resigning in June, 2012, after embodying the essence of the Austin spirit. The George "Matt" Miller Endowed Scholarship was set up by Hall of Fame inductee Matthew Pimentel '01. This serves as a vehicle to help all of us acknowledge Mr. Miller's remarkable teaching ministry. Matt lived those higher ideals of Caritas – acts of kindness too numerous to mention, Unitas – a personal involvement that assured unity within the whole school, and Veritas – a commitment to truth that helped all of Austin Prep define the essence of a Catholic education.

# 2015 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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## 1985-1986 Men's Ice Hockey Team

Compiling an overall record of 21-3-1, the team of 1985-86 would win the Catholic Central League Championship (8-0), the Eastern Massachusetts Division 2 and the Massachusetts Division 2 State Championship. This was the first Ice Hockey State Championship for the school in the 20-year history of the sport.

With a 20-player roster composed of nine different cities and towns from Eastern Mass., nine were from Billerica and that nucleus of six seniors had been at Austin since their freshman year. Coach Ed McColgan and his assistant Steve Arnold were back for a second year. The season had been dedicated to co-captain Robert "Rusty" Jordan '86's dad, Robert, who had passed away the previous year and had been a huge supporter of the team.

The team had a very disappointing start (one win in four games) with losses to Billerica, Matignon and Maine Class A champion St. Dom's. The focus of the team changed from strengthening individual excellence to making a commitment to developing teamwork. The team would then run off 20 wins and a tie to set a school record for an unbeaten streak. They won their league title 8-0-0 and ended with a regular season record of 16-3-1. They entered the Eastern Mass. Division 2 tournament as the No. 1 seed. They had avenged both early losses at the end of the season with a pair of heavy handed wins, 11-6 win over Matignon and 8-0 over Billerica. In their five-game run to the state title they outscored their opponents 39-11, defeating five different league champions.

The Catholic Central League honored the team by selecting a league record nine All-Stars. The League Most Valuable Player Thomas Fitzgerald '86 was also the league's leading scorer (33-40-73). Four other forwards were honored – seniors James Sullivan '86 and Sean Haggerty '86, and juniors Joe Flanagan and William Fitzpatrick '87. Three senior defensemen – Rusty Jordan, A. Stephen Higgins '86 and Daniel Murphy '86 were joined by senior net minder Ronald Overko '86.

Additional New England honors were bestowed by Hockey Night In Boston, which chose Tom Fitzgerald as the Division 2 player of the year, Ron Overko as the Division 2 goalie, Rusty Jordan as the Outstanding Defenseman and Ed McColgan as the Massachusetts Division 2 Coach of the Year.

# 2015 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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## 1985-1986 Men's Ice Hockey Team Roster

No.	Name	Position
1	Nicholas Chingris '87	G
2	Robert Jordan '86	D
3	Robert Talbot '87	D
4	Scott Fitzgerald '88	F
5	David Ferguson '87	F
6	Daniel Murphy '86	D
7	Salvatore Filetti '87	F
8	Frank Hoff '86	D
9	A. Stephen Higgins '86	D
11	Edmond Locke '86	F
12	Thomas Fitzgerald '86	F
14	Joe Flanagan	F
15	James Sullivan '86	F
16	Mark Devine '88	F
17	William Fitzpatrick '87	F
18	Leo Flavin '87	D
20	David Paparo '87	F
21	Scott Bandoni '86	F
22	Sean Haggerty '86	F
30	Ronald Overko '86	G

Co-Captains

Thomas Fitzgerald '86, Sean Haggerty '86, and Robert "Rusty" Jordan '86

Head Coach Ed McColgan  
Assistant Coach Steve Arnold

# Austin Preparatory School

Not including tonight's inductees

The Austin Preparatory School Athletic Hall of Fame recognizes those individuals and teams who have made significant and lasting contributions to Cougar sports, and have achieved a high standard of athletic success.

Through the work of a dedicated committee, the Austin Prep Athletic Hall of Fame preserves records of individuals and teams, and helps to promote the values and tradition of sports as a positive influence on the Austin community.

## 2011 Induction Class

William E. Shakalis '68  
Cross Country - Track

Robert F. Derrah '84  
Cross Country - Track

1974/1975  
Men's Ice Hockey Team

Michelle A.  
(McGonagle) Toothaker '99  
Soccer - Basketball - Softball

Terence M. Burke '75  
Football

Christopher J. Capraro '02  
Men's Ice Hockey

## 2012 Induction Class

Francis J. Dee '67  
Cross Country - Track

Steven Przyjemski '94  
Football

1972 Football Team

Matthew J. Pimentel '01  
Cross Country - Track

Thomas J. Fitzgerald '86  
Men's Ice Hockey

Philip J. Solomon  
Contributor

# Athletic Hall of Fame

## 2013 Induction Class

Thomas G. Carr, Jr. '77  
Men's Ice Hockey

Edward J. "Ted"  
Coppinger, Jr. '77  
Men's Basketball - Baseball

1977 Cross Country Team

Paul M. Shea '88  
Cross Country

Rebecca K. "Kate"  
McHugh '99  
Women's Basketball

Kathryn M. "Katie"  
Powers '04  
Women's Ice Hockey -  
Softball

Fr. Arthur D. Johnson, OSA  
Contributor

## 2014 Induction Class

Daniel J. Kelly '69  
Football - Men's Basketball -  
Baseball

Michael G. McAuliffe '78  
Golf

Antone Laurie '87  
Men's Soccer

Richard F. Callahan '89  
Football - Men's Basketball -  
Baseball

1996 Football Team

Kimberly M.  
(MacElhaney) Bruff '03  
Women's Ice Hockey



David Nelson '81 - You were a very good friend, a great athlete, and you are missed. God Bless.

— *Fr. Arthur Johnson, OSA*

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Nathan Sherr '07 - Congratulations to you on being elected into the Hall of Fame. I am very proud of and happy for you. Great job, NAT!

— *Your Godfather, Jim Fauci*

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Matt Miller - You were a good friend and Austin's greatest fan of all sports teams and student activities. You are an excellent choice for the Hall of Fame.

— *Fr. Arthur Johnson, OSA*

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Congratulations, Nathan, on this achievement - perhaps this proves you are a better athlete than you Aunt Mary.

— *Mary Marengi*

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We watched you excel when you were students, and we are happy to watch you receive this well-deserved recognition. Congratulations to our alumni - we are STILL proud of you!

— *The Austin Prep Teachers Association*

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Congratulations to the fifth Class of Hall of Fame Inductees. You have confirmed your role in achieving the Excellence that is Austin Prep Athletics.

— *Dave & Jean Gramling*

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Congratulations to the Class of 2015 Hall of Fame Inductees!

— *The Dowd Family:*

*Jay '69, Susan, Elizabeth '01 & Philip '05*

# Thomas F. Birmingham '67



To the best

*Athlete*

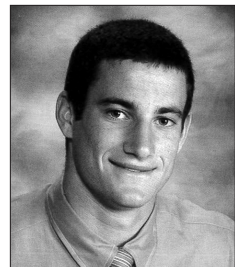
*Husband*

*& Dad*

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

*Selma, Erica, Megan & Stewart*

## *Congratulations Nathan!*



We have  
very much  
enjoyed  
watching  
you grow  
and excel

*Vinnie, Patty & Mary Kate '07 Costello*



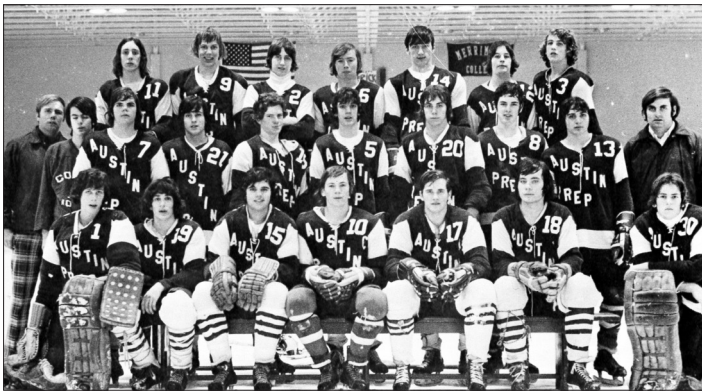
# WELCOME TO THE CLUB



## **1985-1986 MEN'S ICE HOCKEY TEAM**

Austin Prep Athletic Hall of Fame, Class of 2015

To the second ice hockey team  
elected into the Hall of Fame  
from the first - **Congratulations!**



## **1974-1975 MEN'S ICE HOCKEY TEAM**

Austin Prep Athletic Hall of Fame, Class of 2011



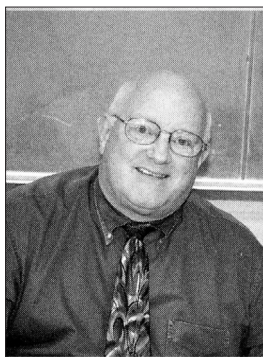


# Mr. Matt Miller

teacher - counselor - friend

You defined and embodied the Austin Prep experience  
for generations of students. Thank you for  
your unconditional support and dedication  
to the athletic program ... you continue to inspire us.

*~ Hockey Alumni*

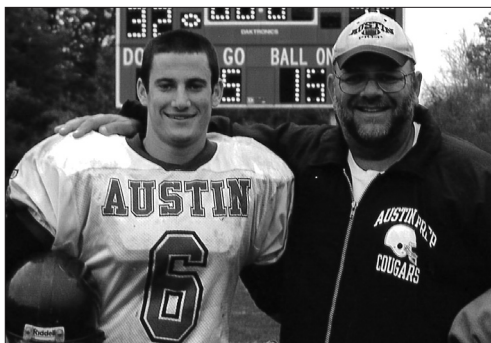


# Congratulations, Nathan!



NATHAN SHERR 2007

With love,  
Dad, Mom,  
Daniel, Danielle,  
Alexander and  
Megan

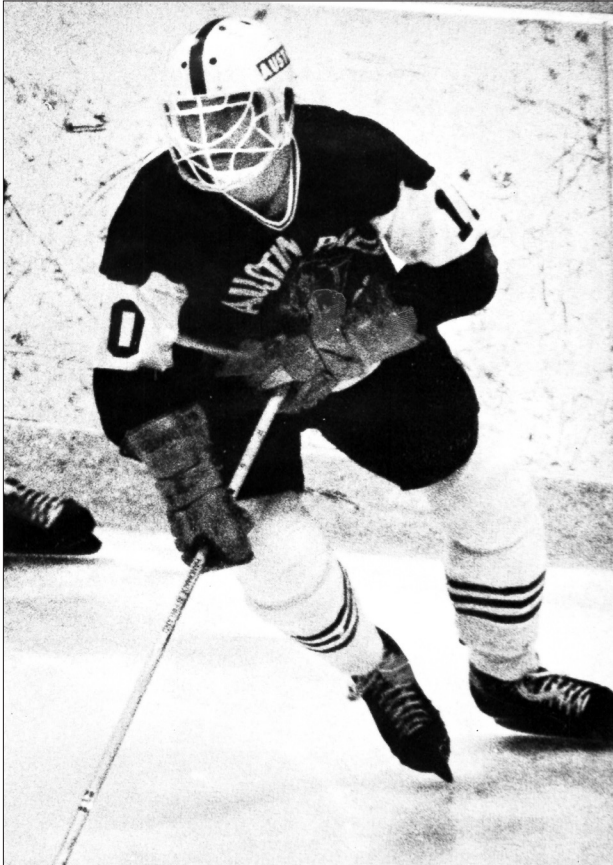
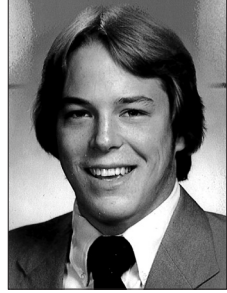


# David E. Nelson

## Class of 1981

You were a shooting star -  
your light left an unforgettable  
impression on those you touched as a  
son, brother, friend, and teammate.

*~ Hockey Alumni*



**The Burke Family  
congratulates this year's  
Athletic Hall of Fame inductees!**



**Steven '77, Francis '71, Terence '75,  
Matthew '79, Anthony '81,  
Patrick '06, Christopher '07, Brendan '10  
Ryan '13 and Sean '17**

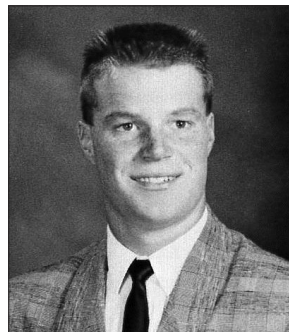


**Congratulations to  
the 2015 inductees  
of the  
Athletic Hall of Fame**

*~ The Callahan Family*

In loving memory of  
Richard F. Callahan '89

Austin Prep  
Athletic Hall of Fame,  
Class of 2014



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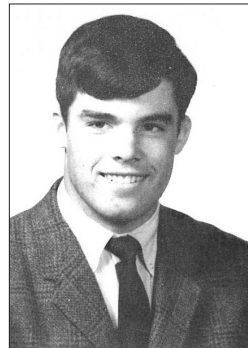
*Congratulations, Tom!*



We were proud  
of you in 1967

We are proud of  
you in 2015

And all the years  
in between!



THOMAS FRANCIS BIRMINGHAM

*Much Love,  
Nancy & Jim*

Coming Fall 2015



[www.austinprep.org](http://www.austinprep.org)

28<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNUAL

# AUSTIN (O)PEN GOLF TOURNAMENT



**Monday, May 18, 2015**

Indian Ridge Country Club

[www.austinprep.org/austinopen](http://www.austinprep.org/austinopen)