

GOLDEN GRADUATE LUNCHEON

It was an incredible pleasure hosting the largest-ever Golden Graduate Luncheon crowd on August 30 at Lake Merced.

The Class of 1953 were our special guests as we celebrated their 70th anniversary as the first four-year class to graduate from Riordan. Having them with us and hearing their stories was a blessing.

More than 125 alumni gathered to reminisce about old times and create new memories. These are the moments Crusaders cherish, as the bonds of old brotherhood remain unbreakable.

Save the date for next year's Golden Graduate Lunch at Lake Merced Golf Course on Wednesday, August 28, 2024!



Class of 1964



Paul Simpson '70 (left), John Shiels '64 (center) Tony Pantaleoni '70 (right)



Class of 1953



Golden Graduates Photo Gallery
Scan or visit:
<https://bit.ly/goldengrad23>

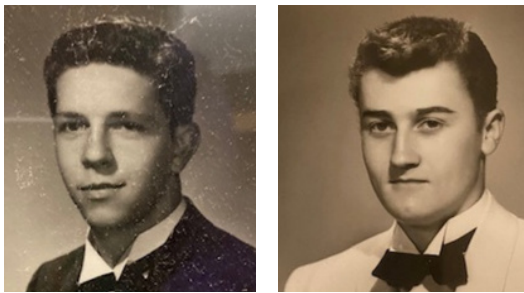
Witnessing Living History

In a delightful surprise during the Golden Grad lunch, Judge Ray Arata '53, and John Bracco '52, who were responsible for the first pass and catch in Riordan football history during the 1951 season against Marin Catholic, recreated the iconic moment with a twist. Instead of a football, they used a dinner roll, leaving everyone in awe.

Arata, the quarterback of that historic play, reflected on the impromptu recreation, saying, "I can't believe we pulled it off. My arm has been frozen for a while, but I just let it go, and it worked out." The surprise throw and catch left alumni and attendees amazed at the accuracy of the throw, even with a dinner roll.

Bracco, the tight end during that memorable pass, shared his sentiments, "It was really something—it landed right in my arm. I'm glad we could make it happen." The room filled with laughter and applause as the two Riordan legends effortlessly recreated their historic accomplishment.

This surprise remake served as a reminder of the strong bonds and cherished memories that Riordan alumni share. It was a heartwarming tribute to the school's football legacy, and it brought back the spirit of *Crusaders for Life* that has defined Riordan throughout our history. The recreated pass and catch will undoubtedly become a treasured memory for all those who witnessed this unique moment.



John Bracco '52 (top left) and Judge Ray Arata '53 (top right) graduation portraits. Arata (foreground) prepares to launch the dinner roll as Bracco (background) gets ready to catch it.



We thank our Alumni & Friends of Riordan for being a part of the incredible success of the 2023 Alumni Golf Tournament. Your presence, enthusiasm, and support truly made this event the biggest ever raising \$45,000.

We were thrilled to welcome both familiar faces and new friends to the tournament. The event sold out in just 48 hours, a testament to the excitement and anticipation that surrounds this annual event.

We are especially proud of the significant alumni presence at the tournament, with half the field of 150 golfers being graduates, as well as the strong representation from the Riordan parent community. It was heartwarming to see alumni and friends travel from all corners of the country to be with us. From Idaho to Chicago, from Wisconsin to all across California, your dedication to this event and your alma mater is truly inspiring.

This year also marked a special moment as we welcomed the first-ever girls golf team to the tournament. Their presence added an exciting dynamic, and we extend our warmest welcome to them as part of our golfing community.

A big round of applause and congratulations to our tournament winners:

WINNING FOURSOME

Marco Innocenti '02
Paolo Giusti '02
Steve Landi
Billy Bright

CLOSEST TO THE PIN

Vinny McEvoy - 4 feet, 4 inches

LONGEST DRIVE

Allen Terrell - Hole 14

We can't wait to see you at next year's tournament on October 28, 2024 at TPC Harding Golf Course.



Golf Tournament Photo Gallery Scan or visit: <https://bit.ly/alumnigolf23>

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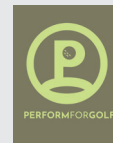


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