



LEGENDA

SERVITE HIGH SCHOOL

WINTER 2015



The Servite Difference-
BROTHERHOOD

Tradition Never Graduates



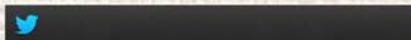
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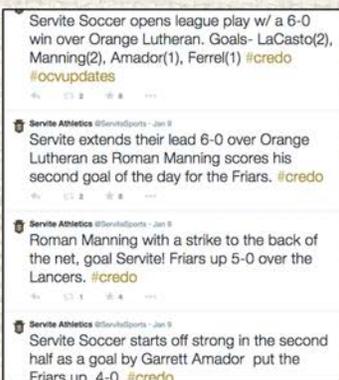
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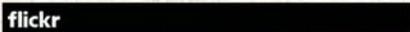
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THE SERVITE DIFFERENCE – MY EXPERIENCE WITH BROTHERHOOD

by Alec 'Bunk' Wurth '88

Brotherhood is waking up in a hospital bed and, upon opening your eyes for the first time in ten days, seeing yourself surrounded by your family and Servite brothers.

I suffered an injury during a routine rugby match, a sport I played for 20 years and still love. I awoke after enduring marathon long surgeries, two different hospitals, and a loss of consciousness for over a week. It was that first awakening of being surrounded by my loving family and those Servite Brothers that I knew "Brotherhood" was more than a wishful platitude or an idealistic phrase, but a living community of support of which I was a part.



Bunk Wurth is a talented artist who presented one of his patriotic paintings to former Ambassador to Chile Craig Kelly '72 at the 2014 Excellence in Leadership Dinner.

I intentionally choose brothers, not friends nor classmates, as it was not just my immediate class of 1988 who were bedside on that day and all the days after, but those from the classes before me '85, '86, '87 and those after '89, '95. The entire Servite community embraced me as I continued to be hospitalized for eighteen months after my injury

to continue to offer support in my recovery and rehabilitation. It was a constant stream of supportive Servite faculty and administration, past faculty members, former football coaches, a Servite priest who provided the Eucharist and who celebrated Mass at my bedside, the parents of classmates, and even visits from Servite students. It was an amazing show of brotherhood.

Upon arriving home after long days and nights in various medical and rehabilitation hospitals, the Servite community continued to support me by launching a host of fundraising campaigns to help with my growing medical bills. The Servite Alumni Association donated a portion of its proceeds to my medical expenses from their golf tournament. The support spread rapidly to the Rosary and Connelly communities as well taking on the moniker of "Team Bunk" which was recognized for its momentous volunteer effort to me by the Orange County chapter of Goodwill Industries.

Alumni from Servite, Rosary and Connelly created fundraising events taking on all types of formats from charity poker nights, garage sales titled "Junk for Bunk", bar and restaurant owners who gave their day's receipts, lemonade stands run by children of alumni, to construction contractors who donated time and materials to build and outfit my custom-sized wheelchair-equipped apartment, and the annual Bunk



Members of the Class of 1988 and others organize an annual fundraising golf tournament on St. Patrick's Day to help with Bunk Wurth's ongoing care.

Wurth St. Patrick's Day Golf Tourney, which is managed by my Servite brothers with 250 plus participants.

Today when I come back to Servite to speak at either career day (I was a special education teacher before my injury) or other events, I often tell those young men that the person sitting to their left or right, whom they may not know well today, could be their closest friend and biggest support system later on in life when needed most. That is the essence of Servite brotherhood.

Ed. Note: On Feb 25, 2006 – Alec "Bunk" Wurth, sustained a C3 –C4 break in his spinal cord playing Rugby for the Orange County Bucks. He remains a quadriplegic today and uses a ventilator to breathe. He continues to inspire his Servite brothers with his strength, courage, his talents as an artist, and his remarkable drive to return back to the classroom as he currently pursues his doctorate in art education.



WHAT YOU DO FOR MY BRETHREN...

by Jim Carter '82, CFO

A common expression used when speaking about the student body at Servite is “the brotherhood.” An uncommon expression of the Brotherhood at Servite is “Her Servants’ Kitchen”. Around 3:30 pm every Thursday, a group of students begin to slowly mingle into the cafeteria, a place usually seen only through a small window. Many of them don’t know exactly what they’re doing or exactly what the whole “HSK” deal is about. To some, it’s nothing more than a service hour requirement.

The truth, however, lies much deeper than that. After walking into the cafeteria, it becomes obvious that the plan is to cook, but what and for how many? Chicken bowls, rice, vegetables, and cookies on the side it is. You brought bread too? We’ll make it work. Improvising is key.

Ovens get fired up, water begins to boil, and tasks are handed out to everyone. Baking sheets get lined with paper. Chicken and vegetables



Servite and Rosary students prepare meals for Anaheim’s homeless in the Servite Kitchen.



More than just serve meals to the homeless at La Palma Park every Thursday, students visit with them and entertain them with the goal to know them as Christ.

are chopped faster than any Iron Chef could dream. Trust me, I’ve seen it. But what’s it all for they ask... why go through this meal-making pandemonium, especially with a group containing people who have never even touched a stirring spoon in their life? The results of our endeavors are the answer to this question, because they alone are justification enough.

The homeless that we feed every Thursday are not just faces with mouths to feed, they’re our friends, our brothers and sisters in Christ. This concept isn’t easy to grasp, but I can tell you that we know almost all of them by name. We’ve heard their stories, seen men and women cry at our feet, watched lives changed by the week. When the homeless are told that the meal they are being served was crafted by the very hands

of the young men and women serving, most of them are shocked.

That surprised response is always followed by a warm thank you and sign of respect. Some are so happy to just have someone listen to them that they forget to eat. When it comes down to it, whether or not you know how to cook really doesn’t matter; it isn’t the reason why we do what we do.

The Servite brother who comes to help on Thursdays, doesn’t at first understand what he truly has done, thinking his actions don’t seem all that miraculous. What does matter, is that he has touched the life of the least of God’s children, brightened their day and given them some hope. The smallest of actions can prove to yield the greatest of results. Whether you call it brotherhood, community, fraternity or simply family; we are all called to be the face and hands of Christ to our brother.

IRON MAN FRANK RIVERA

by Kurt Sardella '79 and Greg Wilfahrt '78

Frank Rivera '79 has always been an inspiration, a motivational masterpiece. Even as a young man at St. Pius V Catholic School in Southern California, Frank aspired to greatness. That desire to achieve led him to enroll at Servite. Exercising a herculean work ethic, he excelled at studies and became a heralded leader of Servite's elite football corps—The Curia.

Following graduation from Servite, Frank attended the University of California at Davis. There, he competed in football and crew, and earned a BA Degree in Economics in 1983.

Entering the business community, Frank Rivera honed his financial acumen at Lloyds Bank and later with Security Pacific Bank, which eventually became Bank of America. Frank was a leader in its corporate banking division.

Frank's professional career prospered, as did his personal life. He

was married in 1990. The following year however, Frank was faced with what would become an epic battle for life. He was diagnosed with lupus, a chronic autoimmune disorder in which the body's immune system mistakenly attacks its own tissues and organs.

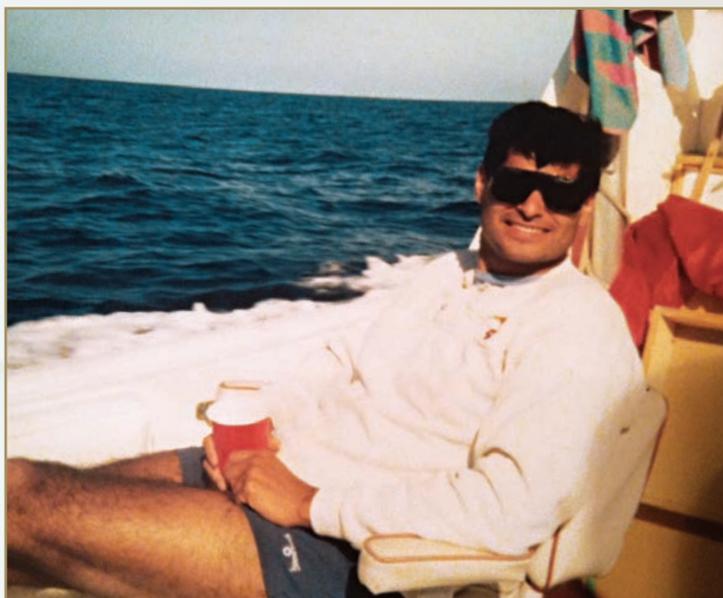
Frank was forced into full-time disability in 2004, as lupus continued to sap his strength. The former star athlete's weight plummeted from 215 pounds to an emaciated 99 pounds. Refusing to surrender, Frank vowed to maintain his struggle, bolstered by support from family, and from Servite friends who have *become* family.

Support materialized in formal fashion in 2012 when the **Frank Rivera Iron Man Trust** was established by members of the Class of 1979. The mission of the Trust is to provide care and life-giving financial support for Frank Rivera and his family, including his three daughters (Natalie 18, Mia 15, and Lucy 13) who have high school and college ahead of them.

Those of us in the Class of 1979 have witnessed the unbelievable *determination* Frank has demonstrated in facing the challenges associated with lupus. Frank has overcome many obstacles while tackling this disease and stands as a monument to one's *desire* to live life to its fullest.

As a family man with three daughters, Frank's *dedication* to his role as a father in their lives is a testament to his traditional family values. Frank has journeyed this far because of his will, spirit and *discipline* to never give up. Servite instilled these qualities in Frank. They are the four "D's" of Servite football.

The fourth Frank River Ironman Trust benefit is being planned for those who share a common bond—devotion, admiration and a passionate love for the inspirational figure fondly known to his friends as "Iron Man."



In spite of suffering the effects of Lupus, Frank Rivera went on to attain an MBA from Columbia University in 1999.



Larry Toner, left, joined Frank and members of the Class of 1979 at the first Frank Rivera Ironman Trust Fundraiser in 2012.



LEADING BEYOND THE

by Karlie
Sports Information

One CIF championship, two Trinity League titles, two CIF semifinal playoff berths, one high school All-American, two OC Register Players of the Year, five All-CIF selections, 11 All-Trinity honorees and three college bound scholarship athletes. These are the statistics Servite's Basketball, Soccer and Wrestling teams posted just one season ago.

With such a long list of accomplishments, it may seem hard to believe it would be possible, but the 2015 squads are determined to live up not only on the court, field and mat, but also off of it.

The Basketball Program has experienced continued growth over the last few years and entered the season as the No. 8 ranked team in Orange County. With the addition of transfer students, some talented freshman players and the existing core group, the future is bright for the Friars who are contenders for a CIF title. Trevor Treinen has led the offense's efforts for the Friars, averaging 21 points per game while scoring a season high 34 points versus St. Paul. The senior captain provides veteran leadership to a young team looking to make their mark in the Trinity League.

Servite Soccer has been in the title hunt for the past couple of seasons and believe they have all the tools necessary to win the ultimate prize in 2015. Ranked No. 2 in



Wrestling Coach Clinton provided guidance to wrestler Gordon Livermore '15 after a match.



Oscar Flores '15 playing soccer with Lincoln Elementary School students as part of the Higher Ground after school program.

the nation and No. 1 in the state entering this season, the Friars will lean on the experience and leadership of the senior class including five players who have already secured college athletic scholarships. Coming off a record-breaking season, four-year lettermen J.T. Cook, Elijah Barajas and Keith Murphy continue to be the defensive staples for the Friars while junior Garrett Amador has emerged as the biggest goal scoring threat, leading the Friars with 16 goals through 18 games this season.

Winning is nothing new for the Fight'n Friars as they are coming off their first CIF championship and third league title. The Servite Wrestling team might be better than ever with 12 varsity wrestlers returning, seven of which are ranked in the polls. The Fight'n Friars have placed in the top three at six tournaments they competed in this season including tallying

FIELD OF COMPETITION

Carlson
on Coordinator

three first place finishes. Dominant wrestling also helped the Friars take down county rival Laguna Hills, 54-3, to open dual competition this season.

While their success is easily measured on the field, the impact these Friars have made off of it is immeasurable.

Servite Basketball has teamed up with the Yorba Linda Challenger Division for the second year in a row with the goal of helping special needs kids learn basic fundamentals of the game. During the season, members of the team volunteer every Saturday at the Thomas Lasorda Jr. Fieldhouse scrimmaging with the kids and seeing the excitement they have being able to just dribble or shoot the ball.

Servite Soccer has also done their part to help out in the local

community partnering with Higher Ground, a program that uses sports to connect with at risk youth in Anaheim. Members of the team act as coaches but more importantly role models to teach the kids how to live faith-filled lives.

With the creation of the Team Credo youth program, Servite Wrestling is also working to better the community while introducing the sport to kids at a young age. Alongside the coaching staff, Servite wrestlers teach the rules of the sport and basic fundamentals while mentoring future wrestlers.

While these stories are unique to Servite's winter teams, the lessons learned apply to student-athletes across all 13 sports who are preparing to lead their families, lead in their profession and community, and lead others to Christ by their example.



Captain Trevor Treinen '15 drives to the hoop against Orange Lutheran.



Not only is the Servite Soccer team physically talented, they are close-knit with good team chemistry.

SAVE THE DATE
LEGENDS GOLF TOURNAMENT
Monday, June 8

Alumni, parents and other friends of Servite are invited to play in the Legends Golf Tournament Monday, June 8 at Yorba Linda Country Club. More details to follow on the Servite website.





THE HART OF SERVITE

Todd Hart '81 was a standout athlete at Servite in football and track. He continues to hold school records for high jump and the 110-meter hurdles. He went on to play college football at Long Beach State, where on September 11, 1982, his life changed dramatically and quite unexpectedly.

Long Beach State was pitted against UCLA in a game at the Rose Bowl. Todd, a sophomore safety, was defending a pass play late in the third quarter. UCLA's Jojo Townsell came streaking down the middle of the field to receive a pass from quarterback Rick Neuheisel. Todd, fellow safety Darrell Pattillo, Townsell and Neuheisel's pass all met at the same moment.

Pattillo intercepted the pass. Todd landed awkwardly on his head. Pattillo and Townsell landed on top of him. Todd thought he had the wind knocked out of him. But he couldn't move.

"They rolled me over and I felt some pretty bad pain," he said. "I knew something was wrong, but I had no idea what was ahead of me."

His football career was over. He would not walk again. He nearly died.

Todd spent the next 10 weeks at Huntington Memorial Hospital. His parents, Wyatt and Susan, stood vigil. Todd was hooked up to a respirator, unable to breathe on his own. The prognosis was not good.

Todd had two fractured vertebrae near the base of his head. He developed pneumonia and other complications. His lungs collapsed.

Doctors told his family he wouldn't survive, but if he did, he'd never breathe on his own. Certainly, he'd never recover any movement.

It took nearly a decade of tedious and painful stretching and exercise, but Todd, aided by his parents, six alumni and many other friends, proved the doctors all wrong.



Todd Hart with sons Steven and Mitchell, daughter Christina, and wife, Polita.

Now 51, Todd and his wife, Polita, are the parents of two sons and a daughter. They celebrated their 27th wedding anniversary last October. Ironically, Todd earned his law degree from UCLA. He is director of government relations for the Orange County district attorney.

The injury left him paralyzed, but his life is an inspiration. "There is nothing I would change about my life," said Todd. "I want my success to help others with disabilities see how much can be done."



One of Todd's favorite father-son activities is participating in the Portola Ride with his father, Wyatt.

For his courage, determination, exemplary will, and strength of character, Todd will be honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award at the Fifth Annual Excellence in Leadership Dinner, March 28th at the Anaheim Marriott. The six alumni who came to his aid, Paul Kelly '81, Brian Molloy '81, Jeff Mook '81, Gene Ramos '81, Kurt Sardella '79 and John Stody '81 will receive the Brotherhood Award for their heroic and inspirational leadership. This will be the first time Servite has bestowed this honor. Coach Toner will introduce the honorees.

To reserve your seat, call the Advancement Office, 714-774-7575 x1150, or go to the Servite website, www.servitehs.org, click Events, click 'Excellence in Leadership Dinner.'



The Brotherhood of alumni friends remain very close with Todd, more than 30 years after his injury.

A REMARKABLE CHALLENGE

by Steven Beird, VP of Advancement

Brotherhood is a distinguishing characteristic that sets Servite apart from other schools. *Servite Brotherhood* shows up in unexpected and sometimes, remarkable ways.

Servite men learn that Brotherhood continues long after graduation. As alumni, they are in weddings together. They support each other through times of personal crisis. Some of their closest friends are guys they went to class with and competed with at Servite.

Recently, two alumni parlayed their friendship and love of their alma mater into something very special for Servite.

Tim Buckley '73 and Jim Belardi '75 were standout swimmers and water polo players at Servite who went on to distinguished athletic careers in college and are successful businessmen today. During their overlapping years on the Servite Swim Team, they developed a friendship that is over 40 years strong.

Both appreciated the foundation Servite provided that has aided them in their family lives and business careers. Both have been active in alumni events and support of the school. Buckley is a member of the Servite Board of Regents.

Recently, they stepped forward to lead the funding for a new Aquatics Center with a challenge pledge of \$1 million. Servite has plans to develop new facilities that include a new 51-meter

Aquatics Center. The projected cost is \$5.3 million for land and construction.

"A swimming center named after Fr. Fitzpatrick. Outstanding," said Larry Toner, Formation Director. "You know he's loving that. And, that two of his many men are willing to lead, to make such a sacrifice and to be the sacrament that inspires the rest of us to finish. This is testament as well to the goodness that Fr. Fitz could see in all of his men. Sometimes he was alone in this vision, but as usual, he was dead on. The Fitzpatrick Aquatics Center. What a great honor!"

By way of the Buckley and Belardi challenge pledge, they will match dollar for dollar all new donations and pledges to the Capital Campaign, up to a total of \$1 million. Servite hopes to meet the challenge during the next few months and already received a \$150,000 grant from the Ganahl Family Foundation (Peter '63 and John '62) toward the challenge goal. Servite has a goal to begin construction on the Aquatics Center by July 2015.

Tim Buckley and Jim Belardi believe in Servite. Do you believe? Make your gift or pledge to the Servite Capital Campaign today. Contact Mr. Steven Beird, VP of Advancement, sbeird@servitehs.org, or 714-774-7575 x1168 for more information.



The late Fr. Kevin Fitzpatrick, OSM, was a beloved Algebra and Religion teacher at Servite from 1970 to the early 1990s who had a special love and care for the Aquatics Program. The new Aquatics Center will be named in his memory.



Jim Belardi '75 is CEO of Athene Holding Ltd. & Asset Management.



Tim Buckley '73 is CEO of Vintage Design, Inc. of Irvine.



Servite plans to construct a 51-meter Aquatics Center that will have a floating bulkhead that enables teams to practice simultaneously. The \$5.3 million project will be built on the west side of the Servite campus and be named in honor of the late beloved Fr. Kevin Fitzpatrick, OSM.



LEAVE YOUR LEGACY FOR FUTURE STUDENTS

by Dr. William C. Wallace '87

When I think of accomplishments in my life, most of the foundations had their beginning at Servite. It was the voices and ideas of the teachers: Gross, Pontarelli, Eccleston, Fitz, Cotton, Quinn, etc. It was the ideals of coaches: Dena, Davis, Smeltzer, Drzanek, Walker, Larry and Tom Toner. It was the influence and support of fellow friars, my best friends: Naval Captain Greg Granieri '87, Tom Nixon '87, Captain Nick Haiduc '87, and Colonel John DiGiambatisa '87. These men inspired me to be a better man. I am grateful.

For many years, I thought about how I can say thank you to Servite for all it has done for me. More than words, I wanted to find a lasting way to show my appreciation in deeds.

Several years ago, John Martin '87 and I talked about a program that provided an opportunity for people to donate through their trust, will, and life insurance policy. We wondered how we might construct a program for Servite.

When we entered Servite, the oldest alumni were just over 40 years old. Now they are in their early 70's. This seemed like the right time for such a program that has evolved into

the *Legacy Society*. Upon inception, Servite had two *Legacy Society* members. Now, we are 38 strong and growing. We are hoping to reach 100 members in the near future.

The Legacy Society is made up of alumni, parents, and other friends who leave a gift to Servite through their trust, will, and/or life insurance. Our goal is to create a sustainable source of donations in the Servite Endowment, keep the Servite tradition strong, and support and influence students for decades to come.

To become a member of the Legacy Society, contact your estate attorney and/or life insurance agent. Let them know you wish to include a provision for: **Servite High School of Anaheim, California**. They will instruct you to make the necessary changes.

Legacy gifts go into the Servite Endowment where they are preserved and invested. A percentage of the principal amount is returned to the school to meet needs, such as providing tuition assistance to students whose families cannot afford the cost of a Servite education.

If you have not created a trust or will, Servite will be happy to refer

you to those who provide these services. **Contact Steve Beard, sbeard@servitehs.org, in the Servite Advancement Office, 714-774-7575 x1168.** There is no binding commitment and changes may be made at any time.

How will you say thank you to Servite for the goodness it inspired in your life? Please join me in making a lasting gift in your estate plan. It's easy. It doesn't cost you anything and may have tax saving consequences for your heirs. The impact of your legacy gift will last for generations.

Credo!



Dr. William Wallace '87 is one of the alumni leading Servite's efforts to encourage parents and alumni to remember the school in their estate plans.



"Giving back is very, very important to promote Servite's goal of education and character development."

Dr. J. Thomas Heywood '71
Director, Heart Failure Recovery & Research Program Scripps Clinic



"I am happy to be part of Servite's Legacy Giving Program. I am grateful for what my years at Servite did for me and want to be there to help future generations have the leadership and formation experiences Servite provides."

John Ganahl '62
CFO, Ganahl Lumber Company

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ON THE MOVE



OFFICERS

Kelly Boulger '73, *President*
Mike Cushing '71, *Vice President*
Fernando Olivares '66, *Secretary*
Jonathan Ekno '00, *Letterman's Club*
Marc Woods '65, *Director of Alumni Relations*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Servite High School has had 53 graduating classes and boasts 8,816 graduates. It is our intention to reach out to all alumni and strengthen the bonds of the Servite brotherhood that began in 1233 AD with the seven founders of the Servite Order.

As an Alumni Association Member you will receive:

- Networking opportunities
- Invitations to Alumni events, tailgates and business socials
- Priority seating at the annual Christmas Carol production
- Legenda Magazine – Tri-annually
- Servite Alumni Newsletter – Monthly
- Reunion notifications

What have we been up to so far this year?

In August, we hosted a reunion of football players from 1979 through 1983 who played for Coach Ron Smeltzer.

In September, we hosted approximately 50 northern California alumni at a pre-game reception at the Renaissance ClubSport Walnut Creek Hotel prior to the Servite football game against Concord De La Salle.

In October, we hosted an Alumni Association Kick-Off Dinner honoring former football coach George Dena and the 1964 football team, memorializing the 50th anniversary of Servite's first varsity football victory over Mater Dei.

In December, all alumni were invited to be Servite's guests at its annual production of *A Christmas Carol*. We hosted a dinner and basketball game for varsity basketball players from the 1960's and '70's.

On December 26th, approximately 70 alumni and current students gathered in the Seven Holy Founders Chapel

for a memorial service for former Servite Teacher Mr. Richard Roach. The memorial was followed by pizza and brotherhood in the Priory.

The following evening, December 27th, alumni gathered at Silky Sullivan's Restaurant & Irish Pub in Fountain Valley, hosted by Dan '68 and Bill '69 Madden.

In January, we hosted a dinner and basketball game for varsity basketball players from the 1980's, '90's and 2000's. On January 31st, we hosted dinner prior to the Servite/Brea Olinda basketball game memorializing the 50th anniversary of Servite's first CIF Basketball Championship in 1965.

During summer and fall, we facilitated class reunions organized by class reunion committees for 1962-66, 1974, 1984, 1989, and 1994.

The Servite Alumni Association has approximately 400 members. We would like to share future opportunities for you to reconnect with your classmates and Servite. You can join the Servite High School Alumni Association online at servitehs.org. Go to the Alumni Home page, select Alumni Association and click on the "Join Now" button. Membership is \$25 per year.

We are men of faith seeking to strengthen our Servite friendships through the Alumni Association.

Credo!



Kelly Boulger '73, President
Servite Alumni Association



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