

O'Dea High School Hall of Fame: Class of 2023

Joselito “Lito” Barber '98



Raised in Seattle, Lito attended St. Paul School and then in 1994 enrolled at O'Dea High School where he was a student leader, and active in Campus Ministry and social service projects. Lito was known for his fun nature and caring personality, evidenced by the way he looked after underclassman. Staff remember him as a wonderful student who was happy and got along with everyone. He graduated from the University of Washington in 2004 with a Bachelor's Degree in Science, Technology and Environment. He then graduated from the Basic Law Enforcement Academy and received his appointment in January of 2006. Lito was assigned to the Seattle East Precinct for the Seattle Police Department following his appointment. He died in the line of duty on August 13, 2006. Friends and family are working towards endowing a scholarship at O'Dea in Lito's name.

Nate Burleson '99



In 2012, during the twilight of his 11-year NFL career, Nate attended a Broadcast Boot Camp put on by the NFL. After retiring from his playing career in 2014, he put that education to work when he accepted a role as an analyst for the *NFL Network*. Thus began a new career for Nate as a TV personality. In 2016 he was the only former player named as one of four co-hosts to *Good Morning Football*, and in 2017 he joined *The NFL on CBS* as a studio analyst for. In 2021 Nate was named co-anchor for *CBS Mornings* and began working with *Nickelodeon*, where he most recently co-hosted the 2023 *Kids' Choice Awards*. He has won two

Sports Emmy Awards for his outstanding work. Nate has had the opportunity to interview several stars including Jennifer Lopez and Rihanna, but as Nate says, "As much as I love sports and entertainment...I also want to be part of those stories that create a better world because... I don't think there's anything more fulfilling than that."

During his broadcasting career, Burleson has continually given on-air love and shout-outs to O'Dea High School and participated in various virtual O'Dea events sharing his time and talents with members of the student body, faculty, and staff. He maintains close relationships with his former O'Dea teachers, coaches, and classmates and has hosted many of them on site at his shows over the years. He is a true man of character, faith and service and represents O'Dea everywhere he goes in life.

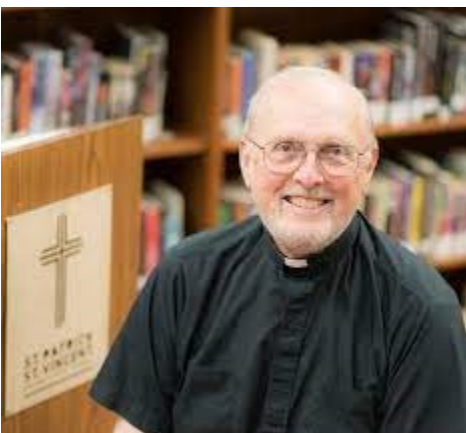
Dr. Jeanne Eulberg



Jeanne was first introduced to the O'Dea experience when her son, Jeff 2000, enrolled. Educated and trained as a pediatrician, Jeanne had taken time off to raise her family of four children, and upon Jeff's graduation, she accepted a fulltime role at O'Dea. Jeanne held several jobs, eventually becoming the Assistant Principal for Student Services and College Admissions Counselor, a job she held until her retirement in 2019. Jeanne excelled in this role and through hard work, collaboration, and a strong work ethic, she significantly enhanced the counseling department and student experience at O'Dea. During Jeanne's tenure, she built relationships with college representatives to ensure our students had access to many colleges and universities. She also dedicated significant time to writing letters of support for countless students' college applications. Jeanne was actively involved in The Pacific Northwest Association for College Admission Counseling, where she not only served as President, but received the *Sister Shawn Marie Barry Distinguished Service to Youth*

Award in recognition of those who have given outstanding and faithful service to youth. Jeanne cared about O'Dea and its students. She was a strong advocate for setting high expectations for students, communicating those expectations clearly, and holding students accountable. Jeanne's work while she was at O'Dea resulted in countless students reaching their full potential as they entered college. Her determination and dedication to enhancing our counseling department and the college admission process, will continue to support our students today and into the future.

Brother D.D. Murray, CFC



Donald Murray attended high school at Brother Rice in Chicago where he led the marching and concert bands. There, he became convinced that his future would be as a member of the Brothers' Congregation that ministered the school. The year after his graduation, he professed his annual vows as Brother Dominic. In his first assignment at O'Dea, he taught Religion and Math, directed a small band, and started a class in choral music. He then moved on to other Christian Brother schools, before eventually returning to O'Dea where he served as Principal from 1993 to 2010 – the longest tenure of any Principal to this day. Brother Murray was known for his compassionate support of the faculty, staff, and students at O'Dea. He was always available for people in

times of need, whether academically or personally. He was a true minister of faith, helping people with humility and grace. He also brought joy to people through his love of music; singing Broadway show tunes and Irish ballads, or playing the electric keyboard he kept in his office. His love of academics, and particularly math, ensured that students were well-educated in the subject throughout his time at O'Dea. Brother Murray is truly an example of Christian commitment and servant leadership. His long involvement at O'Dea meaningfully enhanced the experience of many faculty, staff, and students.

Michael A. Patterson



As a parent of two O'Dea High School graduates, Kristian '01 and Kristopher '05, Mike understood firsthand the impact that O'Dea has on developing boys to men with character, strength, and resolve. Because of his sons' experiences, other O'Dea graduates he saw making a difference in the world, and his love for Catholic education, Mike committed himself to supporting O'Dea in ways that meaningfully impacted the faculty, staff, and students at O'Dea. As a successful attorney, he provided insight and valuable advice to help school leaders make informed decisions. He was also available to assist any faculty or

staff member that needed his help. Although he was extraordinarily busy with his career and family, he always made time for a phone call or meeting, day, night or early in the morning, any time someone at O'Dea needed his guidance. Mike was resolute in his Catholic faith. He advocated for Catholic education and proudly exhibited his faith throughout his life.

Mike also supported O'Dea financially to ensure our students had an exceptional experience. Whether it was to help reinforce the importance of academics or support athletics, Mike's goal was to continually enhance O'Dea to help us be at our best. He had a special love for O'Dea's auction, which he and his wife, Emma, chaired in 2004 and 2005, attending every year with his family and ensuring the bidding was spirited and high. In recognition of Mike's contributions, the Patterson Counseling Center was named for him. Just before Mike passed away in 2018, he called Principal Walker to let him know he had asked his family to continue to support O'Dea in his name. This was a true testament to Mike's commitment to, and love for, O'Dea.

Roy F. Simperman



Roy has fulfilled a variety of roles at O'Dea since his son Roy graduated in 1988. Whether serving as Board Chair, volunteering as the Business Manager on a full-time basis, or financially supporting the school, Roy has been integral to moving O'Dea forward in countless ways. His inspiration to support O'Dea comes from his strong belief in our mission; a belief that is rooted in his own education at an Edmund Rice Christian Brother school in Montana. His profound interest in technology which he believes is vitally important to a young person's education, led him to create O'Dea's first computer lab in the 1990's. Since that time, he has continued to guide and fund O'Dea's technology, ensuring our faculty and students have access to a wide variety of technological tools. Roy also has a deep regard for the historic 1923 building, the heart and soul of O'Dea. His care and

concern for it has ensured O'Dea has been able to conduct significant renovations to help O'Dea provide an enriching environment for our faculty and students. Roy also has a deep commitment to ensuring that O'Dea is accessible to all qualified young men, regardless of their economic circumstance. With Roy's support, countless students and families have received financial aid, emergency tuition assistance, and support for their Surface devices, all to ensure they can receive a Catholic education at O'Dea. Roy received an honorary O'Dea High School diploma in 2019, and the common area on the fourth floor is now known as the Simperman Student Resource Center in recognition for all he has accomplished for O'Dea.