Principal of Christian Brothers dies

Rudolf Schulze recalled as 'the epitome of a Catholic educator.'

By Deb Kollars and Ramon Coronado BEE STAFF WRITERS

The principal of Christian Brothers High School, Rudolf Schulze, died in a solo car accident early Saturday, his 51st birthday

The accident occurred just after 3 a.m. Saturday. Schulze, who was alone in the car, was traveling southbound on Highway 65 near the Pleasant Grove overpass. Witnesses said the car drifted and then crossed the center and rolled into a guardrail, California Highway Patrol Sgt. Dan Fugate said.

The 2002 Volkswagen Jetta had only minor damage, and there was no visible frauma to the driver, indicating Schulze may have had some sort of medical emergency, Fugate said.

► PRINCIPAL, page B3



Rudolf Schulze

The ex-priest, who came to the Oak Park high school in 2002, was known for strong principles and concern for his students.

Principal: Challenged students on values

► FROM PAGE B1

The president of Christian Brothers High School, Lorcan P. Barnes, said it is believed that Schulze had a heart attack while driving.

As word of his death spread, it left a school community stunned and mourning for a man known for his principled stands and commitment to young people.

"He cared deeply for the total well-being of the kids," said Lon Burford, a former Christian Brothers board member who has sent two children to the school,

"He cared not only for the academic development of the students, but also their spiritual development."

At the football stadium at American River College, Saturday night's Christian Brothers football game was dedicated to Schulze's memory. Parents and students had warm words for their princinal

"He was a person who believed in progressive education, family and service," said Vickie Firch, whose son, Bart, is a junior. "He inspired the students to look for places to give back to the community."

Schulze came to the Catholic college preparatory high school in Oak Park in 2002. He was known for writing passionate monthly newsletters to families that challenged the Christian Brothers community and often touched on sensitive subjects, such as drug abuse and teenage health issues.

One spring as prom was approaching, for example, he wrote of his concern about students spending hundreds of dollars on fancy clothing, artificial tans, limousines and other costly expenses. He urged students to consider the less fortunate in the community, and ultimately banned the use of limousines for school dances, Burford said.

"He really challenged the kids," Burford said. "It was all part of his bigger message, about serving and caring for the community." Prior to coming to Christian Brothers, Schulze served at De La Salle High School in Concord in various capacities for 13 years, according to a news release put out by Barnes. Earlier in his life, Schulze had been a priest, Burford said.

Schulze, who was single, is survived by his paternal grandmother, mother, two brothers and a sister.

Saturday afternoon, faculty and staff assembled in the school chapel to pray and share memories. Barnes said the school's administration will gather the students in prayer on Monday and provide grief counselors.

"Mr. Schulze was the epitome of a Catholic educator – religious, compassionate and wise," Barnes said.

Schulze's death was the latest in a string of tragedies to hit the school on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

In December of 2003, Sharmelia Jeffries, a 17-year-old Christian Brothers student, was killed in a hit-andrun accident involving a drunken driver. Less than a month later, another student, 17-year-old Matthew Prentice, died in a single-car accident on Interstate 80.

During Saturday night's game against Galt, Schulze's death weighed heavily on the minds of football players, cheerleaders, teachers and parents. Huddled under raincoats and umbrellas, they spoke of the loss.

Renee Campos, a senior cheerleader, recalled how difficult it was to cope with the deaths of classmates, and how the principal had helped.

"We were all hurting and he helped us through it all," Campos said.

Jerry Raulinaitis, the father of a junior football player, said he heard the news earlier in the day and wondered if the game would be played.

After a moment of silence in Schulze's memory, the varsity game proceeded in the

"He would have wanted the kids to play," Raulinaitis said of Schulze. "We are going to miss him."

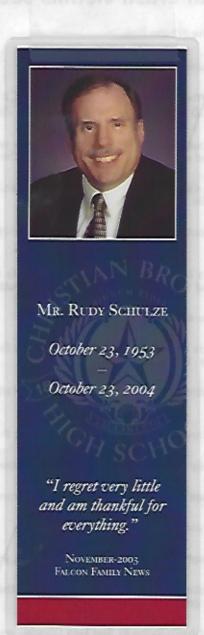
The Bee's Deb Kollars can be reached at (916) 321-1090 or akollars@sacbee.com.



SCHULZE, Rudolf Arthur

(1953-2004)

Passed away on October
23, 2004 - his 51st birthday, Most recently the
Principal of Christian
Brothers High School in
Sacramento, Rudy devoted his life to serving
others. As a member of
the Society of Jesus for
15 years, Rudy was a
dynamic faculty member at both Bellarmine
College Preparatory in
San Jose and St. Ignatius College Preparatory in San Francisco.
Rudy continued his vocation in Catholic education at De La Salle
High School in Concord
for 15 years before arriving at Christian
Brothers in the summer
of 2002. A gentle, loving
man of deep faith and
sparkling wit, Rudy's
humility disguised a
true Renaissance man:
he was an ordained
priest, scholar, actor,
author, linguist, planist, gourmet cook,
world traveler, and
sports fan. He found the
good in all and saw
great possibilities
where others saw only
problems. His accomplishments were many
and exceeded only by
his capacity to love.
Rudy is survived by his
grandmother Georgette
("Achi"), mother Angie,
his siblings Greg, Cindy
and Derek, and aunts,
uncles, cousins, nieces,
nephews, and godchildren. He is also survived by hundreds of
friends, students, parents, and parishioners
whose lives he deeply
touched. He will be
greatly missed. A
Memorial Mass will be
held on Thursday, October 28, at 6:30 PM, in the
Christian Brothers High
School gymnasium in
Sacramento. A Memorial Mass will also be held
on Thursday, October 28, at 6:30 PM, in the
Christian Brothers High
School,
315 Martin Luther
King, Jr., Blvd., Sacramento, 95820.





October 23, 1953 - October 23, 2004

Memorial Mass for Mr. Rudy Schulze

Christian Brothers High School October 28, 2004

Introductory Rites

Welcome & Reflection

Rex Flores and Roxanne Campos

Let us remember ... that we are in the holy presence of God.

Gathering Song: "Be Not Afraid"

Bob Dufford, S.J.

You shall cross the barren desert, but you shall not die of thirst. You shall wander far in safety though you do not know the way. You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all will understand You shall see the face of God and live.

Refrain: Be not afraid, I go before you always. Come follow me, and I will give you rest.

If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown. If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed. If you stand before the pow'r of hell and death is at your side, Know that I am with you through it all. (Refrain)

Blessed are your poor, for the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked tongues insult and hate you all because of me,
Blessed, blessed are you! (Refrain)

Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 25: 6-9 Read by: Francesca Arostegui

Responsorial Psalm: "On Eagle's Wings" - text adapted from Psalm 91

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Who abide in His shadow for life, Say to the Lord: "My refuge, My rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain: And he will raise you up on eagle's wings

Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of his hand.

You need not fear the terror of the night, Nor the arrow that flies by day: Though thousands fall about you, Near you it shall not come. (Refrain)

For to his angels he's given a command To guard you in all of your ways; Upon their hands they will bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 1, 6-10 Read by: Bryan Caselli

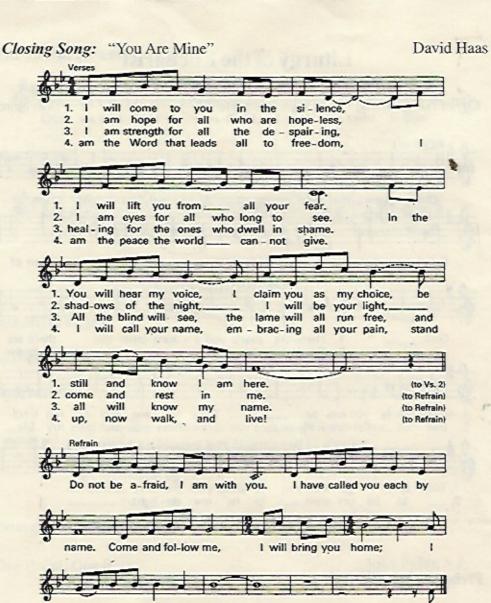


Alleluia Verse: God so loved the world, he gave us his only Son, That all who believe in him might have eternal life

Gospel: Luke 24: 13-16, 28-35

Homily

Prayers of the Faithful



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Acknowledgements

Celebrants: Most Rev. William Weigand, Bishop of Sacramento

mine.

Most Rev. Richard J. Garcia, Auxiliary Bishop of Sacramento

(4. 1)

Rev. Msgr. Albert O'Connor Rev. Brendan McKeefry Rev. Gregory Bonfiglio, S.J. Rev. John McGarry, S.J. Attending Clergy

Ministers: Khazei Bauer, Maile Bauer, Grace Blacksea, Kim Christophersen, Matthew Connors, Stephanie Cotta, Anthony Crisostomo, Jaclyn Gallagher, George Golden, Laine Himmelmann, Midori Iwata, Robert Kossick, Michael Macaluso, Zachary Madewell, McKenzie Meline, Jordan Miller, Spencer Murphy, Paul Wolfing.

Musicians: CB Honors Choir under the direction of Mr. Ron Slabbinck

Cantors: Mr. David Nelson and Br. George Van Grieken, FSC

Accompanist: Mr. Roy Spicer

love

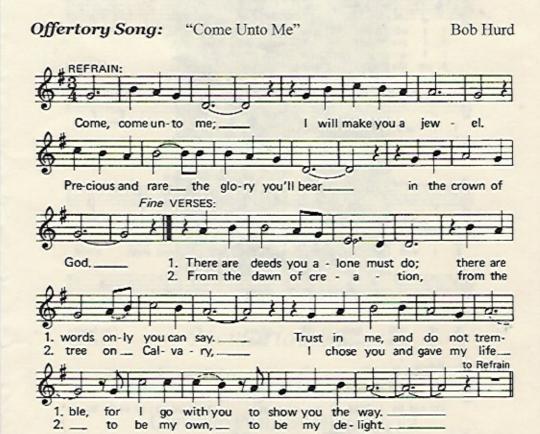
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Technical Support: Mr. Steve Barsanti, Mr. Kevin Haag, CB Maintenance Staff

Program Production: Br. George Van Grieken, FSC and Mr. Michael Gorman, '68

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Liturgy of the Eucharist



Text based on Is 62 and Mt 11:28-30.

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Presentation of the Gifts

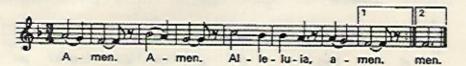
PrefaceAcclamation



Memorial Acclamation:



GreatAmen:



Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

The Sign of Peace

Communion

Those who are not Catholic and who would like to come up to receive a blessing may indicate that by crossing their arms across their chest when they reach the front of the Communion line.

CommunionSong

"One Bread, One Body"

John Foley, S.J.



CommunionSong

"Taste and See"

James Moore



Cantor: I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall always be on my lips; my soul shall glory in the Lord for he has been so good to me. (All: Refrain)

Cantor: Glorify the Lord with me, together let us all praise his name.

I called the Lord and he answered me;
from all my troubles he set me free. (All: Refrain)

Cantor: Worship the Lord, all you people. You'll want for nothing if you ask.

Taste and see that God is good;

In him we need put all our trust. (All: Refrain)

Cantor: Go out and spread the Good News; in word and deed, feed God's people.

Bring bread of redemption to the hungry.

Pour out your justice to the poor.

(All: Refrain)

Communion Reflection: "Cloths of Heaven" arr. Z. Randall Stroope

Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths,
Enwrought with golden and silver light,
The blue and the dim and the dark cloths
Of night and light and the half-light,
I would spread the cloths under your feet.
But I, being poor, have only my dreams;
I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams. [William Butler Yeats]

Prayer After Communion

Reflections: Amanda Plasencia, Joseph Schlosser, Mr. Kevin Haag, Br. George Van Grieken, FSC

FinalBlessing