

CB, in My Own Words...

By Tim Johnston, Class of '68

In the 1950's my parents made the decision to send the four Johnston boys through Catholic education in Sacramento. First at All Hallows Elementary School on 13th Avenue and then continuing at Christian Brothers High School on Broadway and Bishop Armstrong on Sacramento Blvd. I was the last of my parents' boys to go through the School then, and now Max is the last of our four boys to go through. I, my brothers, my nephews and now my sons are part of a tradition that my parents began for our family, beginning in the 1950's.

Tradition is something that a family can share with each other, a feeling that current students and alumni can share with each other. It spans many years and many eras. We as a family are proud to have graduated from a high school with 130 year history of teaching young men and women in Sacramento. I think a lot of mothers and fathers - like my wife, Jackie, and I - and how we all want to start or continue traditions that we see as important, especially family legacies. From only a few schools in Sacramento can one find family legacies: Sacramento High, McClatchy High and (of course) Christian Brothers High School, the oldest continuing teaching institution in Sacramento. When our son William '06 walked down the aisle to graduate at Memorial Auditorium in May he, like his

brothers, cousins and uncles, continued a Johnston family honor. He did not just graduate from high school, he graduated from CB. He became a "Brothers Boy."



The Johnstons: Tim Johnston '68 (seated at far left) with his family. Johnston's son Max '10 (seated in front, middle) is an incoming freshman.

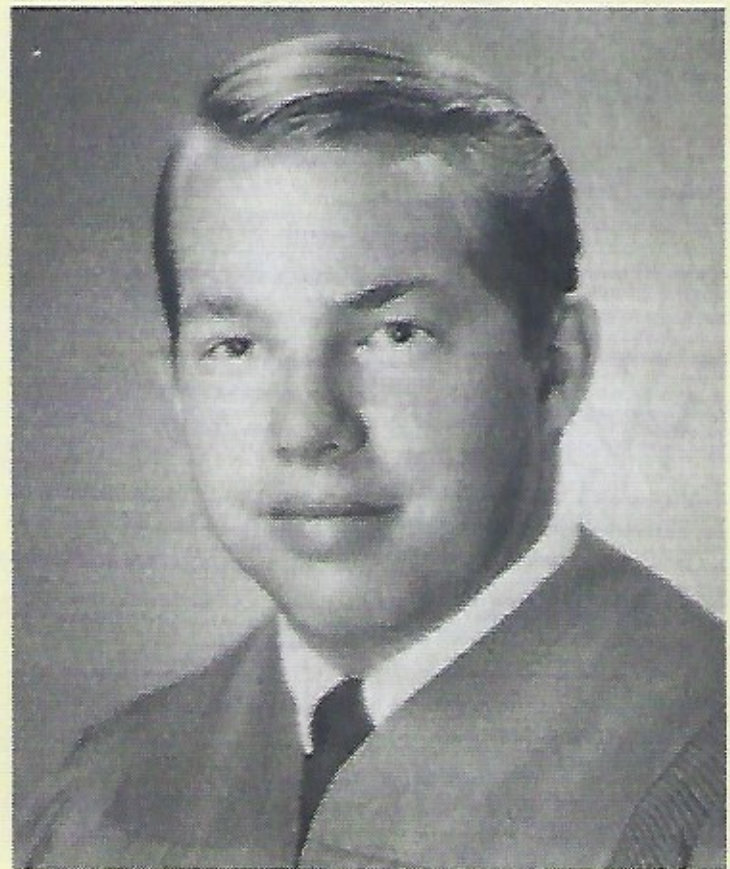
other sons, I reminisced about Mr. Ron Limeberger '53 who taught us all at one time or another. It is comfortable to have teachers that have stayed at CB enough years to have taught multiple decades of our family. At the same time it is encouraging to meet some of the new teachers coming to CB with fresh ideas and enthusiasm. As a parent it is a satisfying feeling to see the commitment the teachers have to educating our sons and daughters at Christian Brothers.

As a member of the Alumni Board at CB I often look with pride around the school campus. I see a high school that is growing with new up-to-date classrooms

In September, CB had Back to School Night for the new school year. What memories rekindled for me while we were walking from classroom to classroom. Jackie and I enjoy going to Back To School Nights. It is a chance to meet our son's new teachers and see if there are any that taught our other sons. We said hello to Mr. English who taught two of our sons history, to Mr. Kirrene '78 who taught two sons English. While sitting in the gym listening to Mr. Bobby Fresques, who also taught our

for Science, Math, Technology, Music and Choir. These are state-of-the-art classrooms that my last two sons were able to enjoy. There are improved baseball and softball fields, a resurfaced football field, a remodeled gym and a newly planted quad for all. I see a campus that is being expanded and refined to give the student body great classes to attend and a great place to attend classes. This is not a stagnant campus. This campus is fun and exciting and evolving. I can see the enthusiasm in the faces of the students as they walk from class to class. And just like in his older brothers' faces, Jackie and I see the excitement in our son Max's freshman face as he begins his first year.

Extra curricular activities are plentiful at CB. This is our first son to play football and we went to the first frosh game in early September. It was fun to sit in the bleachers with all the other parents and relatives watching freshman football at our home field on Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. We felt connected with the school in another aspect: sports. I will admit that I had my alumni hat on and felt proud of "my team" playing on "my home field." I expect to see a lot of alumni this year at the football games and rekindle some of that Falcon Pride we had back in our days during the 60's. Moreover, I hope I can enroll a few more of those alumni who have yet to join the CB Alumni Association and get them connected

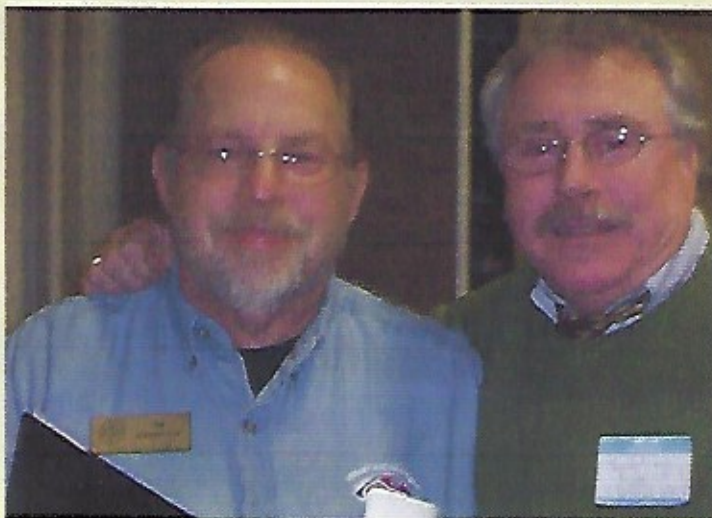


Back in the Day: Tim Johnston '68 in his senior class portrait

back to the school.

I have a feeling the next four years, like the last four years, will pass very quickly for us and for our son Maxwell. He will experience a rigorous curriculum, with lots of solid classes, preparing him for his future education. Max will attend many dances and games and meet many new lifelong friends. He will be creating for himself those memories that his brothers, cousins, uncles and I remember so fondly. And we as proud parents will have continued the tradition of sending The Johnston Boys to Christian Brothers High School.

Tim Johnston '68 is a guest contributor to Connection magazine. He lives in Sacramento with his wife Jacquelyn. They have four children, Jered '04, William '06, Cullen and Maxwell '10.



Always on Hand to Help: Tim Johnston '68 (left) with friend and classmate James Reel '68 while volunteering at the annual alumni dinner.