Tim Sweeney--Our Lady Queen of Peace Class of 1962

Queen of Peace graduate Tim Sweeney (Class of 1962), a member of the Marian & Ray Sweeney Irish clan of nine boys and one girl, that attended Queen of Peace School, passed away on December 8, 2020 of natural causes.

Sweeney was a member of the first Queen of Peace 8th grade graduation class after the school building was expanded in 1960 to make room for the 7th and 8th grades added back to the school after being eliminated after the 1952-1953 school year due to overcrowding. Sweeney was an exceptional junior high athlete participating on the Queen of Peace boys’ 7th and 8th grades touch football, basketball, and softball teams during the first two years of organized boys’ sports teams under the direction of long- time coach Norb Haas. Following graduation from Queen of Peace, Sweeney moved on to Edgewood High School where he again exceled in athletics on the football, basketball, and baseball teams.

Excerpts from an article about Sweeney in the Wisconsin State Journal sports section written by sportswriter Art Kabelowsky, on December 10, 2020, included the following……………

“Known by many as an athlete and attorney, as a volunteer and friend, Sweeney leaves behind a legacy of excellence that carried through the worlds of sports, education, philanthropy and law……..

Sweeney, a three-sport All-City athlete, who briefly played football at the University of Notre Dame in

1966, had a long career as an attorney, most recently at Neider and Boucher, S.C. in Madison……..

Sweeney made his first big mark on Madison as a high school athlete. He was an All-City football, basketball, and baseball player for Edgewood High School during his senior year in 1965-1966………

Edgewood’s 1965 football team went 7-wins, 1-loss, 1-tie. Sweeney led the team in scoring…….He was named the All-City quarterback, a Private School’s All-State quarterback and was the team Most Valuable Player……During the 1965-1966 basketball season, he led the team to a 19-6 record, led the team in scoring and to a runner-up finish in the 1966 Wisconsin Catholic Interscholastic Athletic Association (WCIAA) state tournament. He was team MVP, made the All-State Tournament team and earned Special Mention on the overall All-State Team……...

In baseball, he was the catcher on the 1966 undefeated Catholic state championship team as well as the 1965 state runner-up team. He made the All-City baseball team in 1966 after batting .472 in the regular season and earned team MVP honors………

Sweeney was an inaugural inductee into Edgewood’s Athletic Hall of Fame. As longtime friend Dick Reynolds wrote: “In all three sports, Tim was so gifted as an athlete, in any game he was pretty much always the best player on the field, court or diamond……….

In 2010, a survey by the Wisconsin State Journal sports department identified Sweeney as the 39th-greatest overall male athlete in Madison high school sports history……….

Upon graduation from Notre Dame, Tim and his wife Ann became teachers at the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota, where Tim served as football and basketball coach from 1970 to 1972. In 1973, he earned a degree from the University of South Dakota School of Law and the couple returned to the Madison area not long afterward……….Sweeney was on the first Edgewood High School Board of Trustees and served multiple membership and leadership roles on the board.”

An avid golfer, one of Sweeney’s passions was the First Tee of South-Central Wisconsin (<https://www.firstteescw.org>) program. The program’s mission is to “impact the lives of young people and their families by providing educational programs for youth that build character, instill life-enhancing values and promote healthy choices through the game of golf.”

The Tim Sweeney Memorial Scholarship has been established by the First Tee group to support Madison area middle school students for high school tuition assistance and high school seniors for college/university tuition assistance. Donations to the program in Sweeney’s name can be made to the First Tee at <https://www.firstteescw.org/ways-to-give/> or checks can be made out to First Tee SCW with the memo line of Sweeney Scholarship and mailed to First Tee SCW, 5501 Schroeder Road, Unit #100, Madison, WI 53711.

Editor’s Note: Thanks to sportswriter Art Kabelowsky and the Wisconsin State Journal for permission to

 to reprint portions of the article that appeared in the December 10, 2020 issue of the newspaper.

Tom Martinelli (’63)

Queen of Peace Alumni Organization