

MARY QUIRK



HALL OF FAME

CLASS

OF

2013



Mary Quirk was a lifelong educator committed to serving others, especially high school students. Mary enhanced St. Bonaventure in many ways through academic counseling, tutoring and administrative guidance. Mary's heart was with each St. Bonaventure High School student every day she was on campus.

Mary was born in Lancaster, Ohio, Feb. 23, 1931. She attended high school at St. Mary's High School, Lancaster, Ohio from 1946-1949, then college at Immaculate Heart College, Los Angeles, earning her bachelor's degree in 1960, and finally her Master's from Loyola University. She was married to Chuck Quirk for 62 years. Originally from Ohio, Mary and Chuck came to California in 1957. Mary and Chuck had 2 children, Trisha and Mike. Before her death she had 5 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. She started her teaching career at Our Lady of Lords in Northridge as a first grade teacher in about 1961 then was hired at St. Genevieve's High School as an English teacher then Hueneme High School English teacher then Moorpark High School as Principal. After she retired, and while two of her grandsons were attending SBHS, Mary was asked by former principal, Br. Paulinus Horkan to mentor and tutor students at SBHS in 1999. From there Mary dedicated 3-4 days a week working with students of various ages and strengths until May 2012. She spent time at school counseling and tutoring students, mentoring teachers and administrators, researching better teaching methods, coordinating NCLB title paperwork and sitting in on various meetings curricular or administrative. Mary was a kind and thoughtful person who fully enjoyed her life, family and friends. She had an innate ability of bringing people together, helping the underdog, giving back to community by guiding kids and giving them hope teaching them to believe in themselves. When one needed encouragement or guidance, Mary would often say, "Just take a step back and take a deep breath." Mary truly was every student's cheerleader, and truly believed in each student's ability, seeing Jesus in each and every one of them. Mary is a wonderful inductee into the Hall of Fame for she touched so many lives and so many lives were better because of her.

Mary is being presented by SBHS Vice Principal Christina Castro