Requiescat in Pace
Vita Mutatur, non Tollitur
Life is Changed, not Ended.
Freshman Basketball Team

Front Row: McGregor, Milani, Albers, Mendola, Curley, Sheeran.
Back Row: Mr. Pickett, S.J., Murtagh, Hochstein, Malfitano, Degerenimo, Hanly, Ryan.
Further reflections:

Mike Agresta (sat right in front of Rich for 3 years at Prep):

He sure was a good buddy. What a sad day. The four of us (Mike, Mel & Gene) were close. He'll be missed.

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Mel Logan:

Richie and I go way back to biddy and grammar school basketball days. He was a big star with OLV. We became fast friends at Prep. I used to take a bus to a basketball court at Ege and West Side Avenues to play in pick-up games with Richie, Red Hanley and Joe Kealy. Richie was a deadly shooter. I preferred to play with him than against him. Richie was a great guy and smart too. I understand that he lost a son (age 19) in a car crash and was never the same. I think Ed Gorski told us a few years ago when we were trying to get Richie to meet us at MTH.

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Joe Parkes, S.J.:  
We were in the infamous 1-H homeroom and classes. I think he may have been the beadle. We were awful in intramural basketball and would have been truly dreadful if not for Richie regularly hitting his shots.

Great guy. Will remember him at Mass tonight.

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T. J. Moran:  
I played biddy baskets with Richie. I was the center and 2nd leading scorer for OLV. We used to go to CYO everyday and play hoops. In high school I was playing at St. Aeden’s but often played on Ege Ave. The Wailers played the OLV guys in St. Peter’s lot. We won, but it was a good game in touch football.
Gene Boyle:

His Petrean picture is the one that I have in my yearbook. Rich sat right in front of me for 3 years at Prep. We were great friends and I have absolutely wonderful memories of my years with him! One stand-out memory was our Junior year celebrity interview project. Richie and I were teamed up and he was able to arrange an interview with Phelps Phelps (yes, that’s his first name and last name too). At the time he was about 65 and living in JC. He was formerly the 38th Governor of American Samoa and later the Ambassador to the Dominican Republic.

He looked and talked just like Alfred Hitchcock. One of the questions that Rich asked him about Samoa was so hilarious that I had to excuse myself briefly just to regain my composure!