



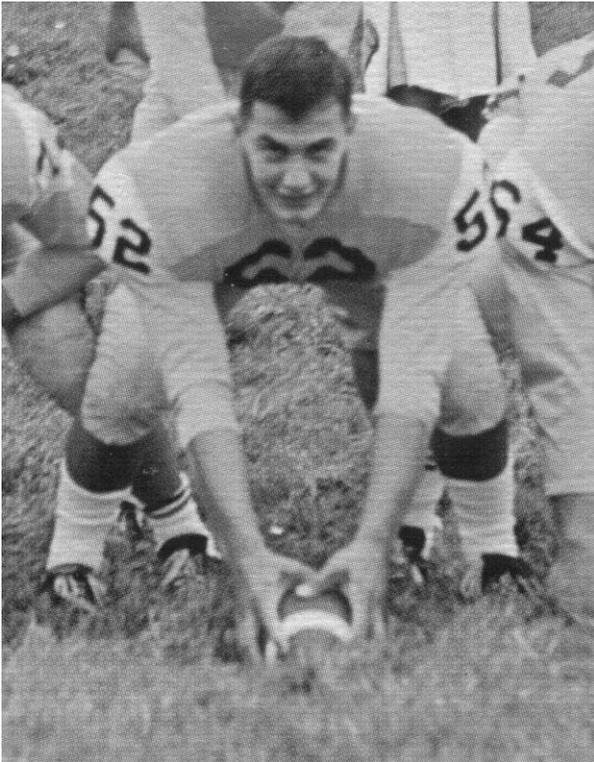
Teammates..... we have just witnessed a group of men that although over sixty years have passed since their last game, still get together and talk about the old times. And no matter how many years there are between reunions, although the details of the games and situations may be faded (or accomplishments exaggerated), the feelings and memories remain as fresh as if they had just been experienced. Unfortunately for our next inductee, his life was tragically cut short so he was not able to take part in events like this, but as you will see, his memory is kept alive by his family and teammates and their feelings for Orrie are as strong as they were five decades ago.

The year was 1963, and CBA was still adjusting to its' new expansive Randall Road Campus. After moving from Willow Street just two years earlier, enrollment was reaching never before imagined numbers and the nearly 160 members of the class of 1967 were welcomed with open arms. JFK and the policies of the New Frontier also helped the Brothers cause because the minimum wage increase to 1.25 made the 250 tuition bill a little bit easier for families to manage.

For Orrie Scaminach, attending CBA was never a question. In fact, as a student at Our Lady of Pompei he actually convinced future teammate Dan Santola to go to CBA because "if we are going to be playing football in high school, why not play for the best"... and he had a point, the Brothers had won three consecutive City league football championships in 60, 61, and 62. So he and a group of his friends decided to go to CBA together and the tremendous bond that they had with each other continued to grow and prosper on Randall Road.

Now Orrie was always a hard worker. Whether it be on the field or in the classroom, he got the most out of his talent. Although he played a little baseball and track in his time at CBA, football was his passion. He would watch his brother Chuck play for North High and dreamt of the day it would be his turn to compete. And it happened rather quickly. Coach Cappelletti saw something that he liked in young Orrie and, even as a sophomore was able to start a couple of games as a backup at center to Rich Cavallaro. The Brothers, or Golden Tornadoes, tied for the city league championship the fourth in five years.

And the bond formed by the group including Sacco, Riccardi, DeJoseph, Storto, and Santola continued to grow stronger. Over the next two years, Orrie continued to get better. As a two way starter in both his junior and



senior years he helped lead the team to two successful seasons. Coach Pete Vercillo called Orrie “the best blocking center that he had ever seen.” Coach Cappelletti also praised his two way performer “He improved considerably and came on real strong as a senior. He was one of our top boys.on the line. He's getting bigger and figures to keep on improving.” Other coaches agreed as Orrie was selected to the All City team his senior year. He was also chosen as a member of the all upstate team. The college offers streamed in. Orrie had attracted attention from several major schools including Purdue and Vanderbilt. The offer from BC eventually proved most appealing and he accepted a full scholarship from the Eagles.

While at BC, Cappelletti’s words came to fruition. Orrie did continue to improve. During his last two seasons, BC compiled a 17 – 4 record..In his junior year he was moved into a starting spot and was considered one of the most valuable members of the offensive line. As a senior he was even better, being named to the All New England and the All East All Star teams.

When Orrie’s career was over he moved to Hilton Head where he became a successful entrepreneur. He was engaged in numerous charitable and community service activities. However, his life was tragically cut short when he was killed by a drunk driver. An award in his name is given to the most outstanding lineman on the varsity football team. But more importantly is the way his teammates remember him. One wrote” Orrie’s talents and knowledge of the game were always recognized by his teammates who repeatedly elected him as our captain “. Another wrote “Orrie worked harder than any athlete I ever competed with or against. He was blessed with imposing physical size and superior athletic skills – gifts that he never took for granted He was always the first player on the practice field and the last to leave, working tirelessly all the while. His work ethic was matched only by his fiercely competitive spirit. He was our leader and inspired all of his teammates to always put forth their best effort.” And still another, “He never sought to be the center of attention, nor to seek glorification for his skills or accomplishments. “Orrie could have a major impact on people’s lives with just a few words, as he did with me” And to sum it up “Orrie truly represents the high ideals, values and traditions of CBA. He always worked hard, was loyal to his school and teammates, and respectful toward his teachers, coaches and fellow students. No one is more deserving of a place in the CBA Athletic Hall of Fame.

Although I did not know Orrie personally, by the way that his former teammates and friends talk about him, some 30 years after his death, it is obvious that he was a very special person. In the hearts of his family and teammates, Orrie’s memory will never fade, Now, with his induction into the LaSallian Athletic Hall of Fame, it will be assured that his memory at CBA will live on forever..

