

**Closing Remarks at Membership Meeting
Class of '59 Cameo Project
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October 17, 2015**

In her opening remarks, Kathy has laid out the map that provides the directions we will take and how we will reach our desired destination. We have come a great distance in the past year - and we are almost at the end. Now I will try to fill in the WHY of this journey.

The idea of a legacy for our class had been a thought in the minds of many classmates. We knew that other college graduates have erected a statue, planted a tree, created a meditation garden, or donated to a scholarship fund - all worthy ideas. However, Joan Heide brought us to the realization that we had a unique gift at our finger tips - OUR STORY. We are the first class and provided the foundation for future classes to build upon. During the next three years, the Classes of '60, '61, and '62 expressed their own identity in many ways and added to the College's evolution. By the time the Class of '59 reached its' fourth year and graduation took place, Molloy College was on its' way!

When we began planning this project, it was pretty chaotic! We went from gathering snapshots and memorabilia to the idea of exhibiting all our materials in a kiosk, to the final idea of presenting our story on a website.

We struggled with the idea of how we could accomplish the task of telling our story in a way that would include all class members that we could contact. It didn't take long for Joan to come up with the idea of having each of us tell our individual experience, thus the cameo format was born.

We began the tedious search for missing classmates, not always fun, but then in a conference call in April of 2015, we were reenergized when we heard the wonderful story about 915, as told by Gerry Burchill.

As the work progressed, we became known as the Cameo Committee. We forged ahead making calls and contacts, and having many conversations.

Joan, Kathy, Angela, Mary Ann, Ro, Judy & Rosemary, Terry, Kay, Margie, and Leone, all stepped up to make it happen - thank you all, and of course, a special thank you to those classmates who have sent in their cameos. We rejoiced in reading every one of them. Some dotted with humor, some with a heartfelt narrative, some recalling lost memories, and all in the unique style of the author. Some are lengthy and engaging, some are short and to the point, but all are special and personal. These are our legacy.

(Joan, would you please come forward.)

It would take a room full of roses to recognize all the people who have brought us to this moment.

Thank you Cathy Muscente, who has always been there for the Class of '59,

Thank you Marion Flomenhaft, who guided our beginning ideas,

Thank you Mary Jane Reilly, who is now our liaison to the College,

Thank you Larissa Woo and Debra Falk, who are working to preserve our legacy in the digital world.

These wonderful women, and their staffs, are truly remarkable!

We are blessed with all of these people, who have brought us to this exciting day, in the journey we hope will be continued by future classes.

We represent the Class of '59 when we say, we have been speaking from our minds. Now in closing, we speak from our hearts. We leave this idea of "legacy through cameos" to the classes that follow.

So tell your stories, sing your songs, raise your voices, and let the College, your family, and all the people you touch in your lives know what it means to you to have The Molloy College Experience!