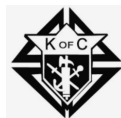


# The Oklahoma Knight

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## Fraternal year's second half

### Brothers

Brothers, at this point, we find ourselves getting going again after the holidays. I hope your Christmas was joyous and hopeful as we welcome our Savior into our world, our lives, and our hearts once again. And I'd like to congratulate each and every one of you for



**Chris Victor**

getting the order in our state off to a great first half of the fraternal year! We got to about the halfway point of where we'd like to be membership-wise. We executed on several of our key programs and activities – Silver Rose, Coats for Kids, State Bowling Tournament e.g. - and we're poised to finish the year strong.

Even though there is much to appreciate, the year has not been without its losses, most recently the unexpected loss of Past State Deputy and Former Vice Supreme Master Dan Hogan. Dan was a good friend to many of us and worked tirelessly for the Knights in our state, the Center of Family Love, Boy Scouts, and other worthwhile causes, too. His loss will be difficult to absorb. And, of course, Dan was preceded by Past State Deputy and Former Vice Supreme Master David Roewe who left us back in early August of last year. These two were chief among those who inspired me to start my state-level service to you all nearly ten years ago. If I am remembered for even a fraction as much as my predecessors, I will consider it a success.

So we have the second half of the year in front of us. I'm sure you've figured out for this year to be successful for us, we're going to have to keep doing more of the

### From the State Deputy

same and then some. The keys to that success haven't changed – membership, programs, Fraternal Benefit Nights, Cor, and even the Eucharistic Revival will all continue to be the vehicles we can use to finish this year strong.

Bringing new members into the order will never not be important. Current members like us will get us through the moment but do you recall this phrase: "Tempus Fugit, Memento Mori"? As we have seen, especially recently, the "Mori" part of that can appear at any moment to any one of us. As has been often said, if your council isn't growing, it's dying. And some councils are just a funeral or two away from closing up shop. Think back to what excited you enough to want to join up – whatever the reason and there are many – and make sure your council offers something to make the men of your parish equally excited. It's up to every Knight in this state to invite a Catholic man to join us – we're all recruiters.

As I mentioned above, men join the Knights for many different reasons. A good chunk of them join because of one or more programs or activities they have seen your council conduct. As well, it should be no secret that conducting enough programs and activities can garner your council a Columbian Award, one of the three awards that combined can earn your council a Star Council award which has several benefits. But perhaps the most compelling reason to strive for council awards, and assuming you prominently display your awards and don't squirrel them away in a

box in the back of a closet, is that awards show your parish and potential members that your council is the type of council that potential members could be proud of joining.

And don't forget Fraternal Benefit Nights. As our state's General Agent Kevin Pierce has been pointing out at recent state leadership meetings, the initial responsibility of making members aware of the insurance and financial benefits the Knights can provide has shifted from the agents to councils. Field Agents will continue to call on our members as usual but it is up to councils to expose its membership and potential members to the benefits available to members. Fraternal Benefit events come up all year long but we are asked to promote only a minimum of two to our members. If your council has not participated yet, there's still time. These events cover a wide variety of topics so they should appeal to a wide range of members and potential members. They are not sales pitches – think of them as short, usually less than one hour, lectures on financial topics. They CAN'T be sales pitches because did I mention that they are not restricted to current members? Any Catholic man 18 or older is welcome to attend. What better way to promote the order to potential members than by inviting them to come listen to talks containing truly useful information?

One of the most exciting messages to come from Supreme as of late has to be Cor Ad Cor (latin tr: Heart Speaks to Heart). The message here is that we as Knights have no problem doing things for

**See Victor, Page 2**

# State Council Leadership

Official State Council Web Page [www.okkofc.org](http://www.okkofc.org)  
Supreme Council Web Page [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)

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**STATE WARDEN**

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Tulsa, OK 74134-7356

**VICE SUP. MASTER 4th Degree**

Pat Conway (Debbie) (972)-824-3432  
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Rowlett, Tx 75088 skpatconway@gmail.com

**DISTRICT MASTER 4th Degree**

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4604 S. Birch Ave.  
Broken Arrow, Okla. 74011 bobmel98@windstream.net

## Editor's Note

**Brother Knights & families**

Hi. Our fall issue was online.  
Please have a wonderful spring and Easter season.

Vivat Jesus  
Steve Gust Okla. Knight editor

## Victor

From Page 1

others but it's time we invest in ourselves and our faith lives. Cor positions us to help our members and other men of the parish to see that we also are serious about sharing our faith and in so doing will inspire other like-minded men to do this same which draws them more closely to their families, the church, and to Christ. Cor is not a program or a recruiting event but there's no way a proper Cor activity cannot demonstrate to non-Knights in your parish that the Knights of Columbus is a bastion of faith formation and evangelization and thus draw men in. Everything you could want to know about Cor is at the Supreme website [kofc.org/cor](http://kofc.org/cor) or our State Evangelization and Faith Formation Director, Joseph Slape, would be happy to talk to you about it. (email: [slape.joseph@gmail.com](mailto:slape.joseph@gmail.com))

And lastly, you should have heard by now of the Eucharistic Revival with processions from all four compass points converging in Indianapolis this summer at the National Eucharistic Congress, July 17-21, 2024. Our involvement in same can help demonstrate our resolve to the one thing that sets us apart from all other Christian denominations – our belief in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Unfortunately, none of the processions are coming through Oklahoma so our involvement will not be quite as direct as once hoped, but there will be things we can do, e.g. attend the National Eucharistic Congress and/or conduct Eucharistically-centered activities during the subsequent “Year of Going Out on Mission” that will begin when the congress concludes and will carry us to the universal Church's jubilee on Pentecost 2025.

So, I know Dan and David and Blessed Michael McGivney are watching over us. Let's ask them to pray for us as we take on the second half of this year. I know I, for one, will need all the help I can get.

Thanks for reading this far, brothers. Vivat Jesus!

Vivat Jesus,  
Chris Victor  
State Deputy

Please remember  
to pray the rosary daily

# State convention this April 26-28

I hope everyone has had a great start to the new year. It is hard to believe that our 119th Oklahoma State Convention is quickly approaching us. This year it will be April 26-28 at the Doubletree-Warren Place Tulsa. Packets have been mailed to all Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries of record. If you have not received a packet, either contact your District Deputy (*he was given extra packets at the Winter Workshops*) or email me with your name, council number, position, and a mailing address. A few reminders:

- You can register and pay online at the state website (<http://www.okkofc.org>). But do not delay – the convention package (all events and meals) discounted rate of \$140.00 is only good through Sunday, April 7. After that, the price goes up to \$155.00.
- If you prefer to mail me your registration, instructions for doing so are in the packet. The discounted convention package rate deadline of Sunday, April 7 applies to this registration/payment method as well. Please do not register/pay online AND mail in registration/payment via snail mail. Do only one or the other.
- The convention hotel room discounted rate of \$129/night is good only through Wednesday, April 10th. You must make your own reservations with the hotel – the State Council does not do this for you, nor is

the cost of the same included in the convention registration price. (Doubletree-Warren Place Tulsa 1-918-497-2180)

- The Report of Delegates is due in my office by Friday, March 1st. Please make sure everything is filled out as completely as possible and that your report is embossed with your council seal. Snail mail it to me at my address in the front of this publication. Any 3rd Degree Knight is allowed and encouraged to attend the State Convention, but only registered delegates will be allowed to vote on business matters.
- Keep in mind that your council must be in good standing with Supreme and the State (i.e., per capita paid up) for your delegates to receive their convention credentials.

These are just a few of the key details regarding this year's State Convention. Your Grand Knight and Financial Secretaries have all the details in the packet that has been provided to them. Please feel free to contact me if you should have any questions. Again, my contact information is on the inside front cover of this publication. Looking forward to seeing you all in Tulsa!

**Vivat Jesus'**

**Philip Stramski - State Secretary**

## More information on upcoming convention

### Brother Knights,

The 2024 State Convention will be April 26th-28th at the DoubleTree – Warren Place in Tulsa, OK.

If you are planning to run for state office:

- Please send your resume and intent to run letter to State Secretary Philip Stramski at [plstramski10@gmail.com](mailto:plstramski10@gmail.com).
- You will also need to be nominated and seconded from the floor at the State Convention.
- You must be a 3rd Degree Knight to run for state office.

Also, any 3rd Degree Knight is eligible to run for delegate to the Supreme Convention, which will be held in Quebec, Canada the first week of August 2024. We will be electing both insurance and associate members as delegates.

If you plan to run as a delegate:

- Please send your letter of intent to run to State Secretary Philip Stramski at [plstramski10@gmail.com](mailto:plstramski10@gmail.com).

- You must be nominated and seconded from the floor at the State Convention.
- NOTE: Passport processing timelines can be as long as 12 weeks. Individuals should consider beginning the passport process prior to the State Convention.

I would also like to remind you about becoming a member of the Oklahoma Heartbeat Club and a Lifetime member of the 365 Club.

- Heartbeat Club: Annual for \$25 or Lifetime for \$350. Please visit [www.okkofc.org](http://www.okkofc.org) to join.
- 365 Club: The donation you would need to make is \$365.00. Please send your check to your Financial Secretary.

Financial Secretaries will need to send funds and a list of those receiving a plaque to State Secretary Philip Stramski by March 15th, 2024.

Address any of the above-mentioned correspondence to:

State Secretary Philip Stramski  
20566 Autumn Trail  
Harrah, OK 73045



**Debbie Espinoza, CFL director, speaks at a past state convention. The CFL's annual Gala — a major benefit for the Okarche home will be June 15 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in OKC.**

# Be enthusiastic about faith & Knights

**My dear fellow Knights, wives, family, and friends,**

Why are you Catholic?  
Why are you a member of the Knights?

These questions, among many other questions, can assist us in taking a good look at ourselves and the reasons we are Catholic and a member of the Knights of Columbus. They are also questions which we can ponder and reflect on the deeper spiritual, intellectual, and emotional components of how each of us answers these questions personally and communally.

In a Zoom meeting with the State officers and other guests recently, we talked about membership growth and its current stagnation in the State. We discussed incentives and other means to work toward increasing our numbers, especially bringing in younger members. The key though was a passionate discussion about the best way to bring new members on board for the Knights. This led to the topic of this column for all of us in a broader context.

Our former Vice Supreme Master suggested that the key to gaining new members is rooted in "enthusiasm." Are you "enthusiastic" about being a member of the Knights? Do you bring your enthusiasm to the meetings each month with an attitude of gratitude for being able to share with other men how exciting it is being a member of the Knights of Columbus? Enthusiasm sells. When we are enthusiastic about a service project or a meal being prepared, this enthusiasm becomes contagious. When we have the bug or seed of enthusiasm, it becomes contagious, it solidifies our intention to serve others well with joy, faith, hope and love. In other words, are we recognizing the flame of joy and enthusiasm



**Fr. Jim Caldwell**

within us as members of the Knights to spark enthusiasm in others and drawing them to be excited for the task at hand? Or are we simply grumpy old men, thinking there is only one way to do something, and nothing else will work? We all must fight the grumpy old men syndrome and realize that being enthusiastic about what we do always draws others to support us in our endeavors. It also means we strive to encourage others to want to step up to the plate and be outstanding members of the Knights of Columbus.

Reaching out beyond the brotherhood of the Knights, are we enthusiastic about being called Catholic? And acting like a Catholic who strives to love others with heart, mind, and soul? Or do we simply go through the motions of worshipping, loving, sharing, and living our faith? Do we go through the motions of receiving the Sacraments half-heartedly, not letting the Eucharist truly set us on fire to love and serve the Lord by loving and serving others? I believe if we have a flame of enthusiasm for the Lord and our faith, our churches will be filled with people who want that same fire in their hearts. We evangelize others because the fire of love is contagious. Others want this enthusiasm because it brings joy, peace, hope and love into our faith, our membership, and our lives.

Being enthusiastic for our Faith and for being a member of the Knights of Columbus means we strive to do more than just going through the motions. This is a mediocre way of living that leaves us stagnant, dry, and unimpressed with ourselves. It leaves us questioning our intentions and why we do what we do. Enthusiasm is having or showing intense and eager enjoyment, interest, or approval in what we do. Why do we do what we do as Knights and as Catholics? We do it for the greater glory of God. I am convinced that if God becomes the reason

we are who we are, we will always be enthusiastic about every endeavor, every group we participate in and in a wonderful way, sell the beauty of the Knights of Columbus, or our Catholic faith to ignite the spark in others.

I encourage each of us to grow in our enthusiasm as Catholics, as Brothers and members of the Knights of Columbus so as to attract new members who strive to keep the gift of faith strong through the fire of love and service of all who are in need. Thinking and being enthusiastic to share why the Knights of Columbus helps you and I to be the best we can be, along with sharing why our Catholic faith means so much to us are just two key selling points to attract others to want the same and be involved.

Lastly, as we enter the great season of Lent, we can be enthusiastic as we ask the Lord to help us grow in holiness and faith to serve Him more sincerely through our prayers, fasting and almsgiving. Remember when we do these pillars of faith with enthusiasm and heart, we grow in faith, hope and love, thus continuing to evangelize in thought, word and deed.

Be Contagious! Be enthusiastic! Be really proud to be a member of the Knights of Columbus and a Catholic and all of us will benefit from the grace and presence of people who continue to ignite our enthusiasm for loving and serving the Lord and each other.

**Vivat Jesus!**

**Fr. Jim Caldwell**

**Fr. Jim Caldwell  
State Chaplain**

# What's involved with convention amendments

**Worthy Grand Knights and District Deputies,**

Provisions exist with the Oklahoma State Council Bylaws whereby recommendations for revisions to said bylaws may be made. Please follow the guidelines listed below:

**ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to these laws or repeal thereof shall only be made by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the State Council present at a regular meeting, unless thirty (30) days written notice has been given to the Grand Knights of each council of such proposed amendment or repeal, when a majority of the members of the State Council present will suffice.

A All resolutions, petitions or recommendations must be submitted in writing by a subordinate council of the Oklahoma State Council or an officer of the Oklahoma State Council.

B. All resolutions, petitions or recommended changes to the bylaws shall be submitted to the State Advocate in triplicate at least forty-five (45) days in advance of the Annual State Council meeting. Copies of

same shall be sent by the State Advocate to the State Secretary for distribution to the Grand Knights of the subordinate councils and all State Officers not later than thirty (30) days prior to the State Council annual convention.

C. All resolutions, petitions or recommendations submitted in accordance with Paragraph B of this section shall require a majority vote of all State Council members in attendance. Those resolutions, petitions or recommendations not submitted in accordance with Paragraph B shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all State Council members in attendance at said meeting.

D All such resolutions, petitions or recommendations will be referred by the State Secretary to the Committee on Laws and Resolutions for presentation at said Annual State Convention.

E. The foregoing does not apply to resolutions of appreciation or condolence.

Please send to:  
Ryan King, State Advocate  
15905 Meadow Rue Ln,  
Edmond, OK 73013



## Please help donate to Tepeyac Hill



Tepeyac Hill is located at the new Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine. The hill features a twelve-foot-high statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe and an eight-foot-high statue of San Juan Diego on his knees looking to Our Lady. These statues were blessed on Dec 11 on top of Tepeyac Hill at Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine.

Here's a quote from Pope St. John Paul II "Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the first and new evangelization of America. To her I entrust the pilgrim Church and I fervently ask her to guide her children, so that they will enter the third millennium with faith and hope"

If you would like to help pay for the hill, please scan the symbol to the left.

<div>Join The Father McGivney Guild</div> <div>If you and your family are not members of the Father McGivney Guild, please complete the coupon and mail to:</div> <div>The Father McGivney Guild Knights of Columbus 1 Columbus Plaza New Haven, Ct. 06510-3328 Register online at <a href="http://www.kofc.org">www.kofc.org</a></div> <div>Guild members receive a bi-monthly newsletter on the status of the sainthood cause, a special prayer card and additional materials as they are developed. Members may also submit prayer and Mass intentions to the director of the Guild. KOC membership does not make one automatically a Guild member. <b>PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY EITHER</b> with this form or online.</div>	<div>Please print in block letters</div> <div>Name _____</div> <div>Address _____</div> <div>City _____</div> <div>ZIP CODE _____</div>
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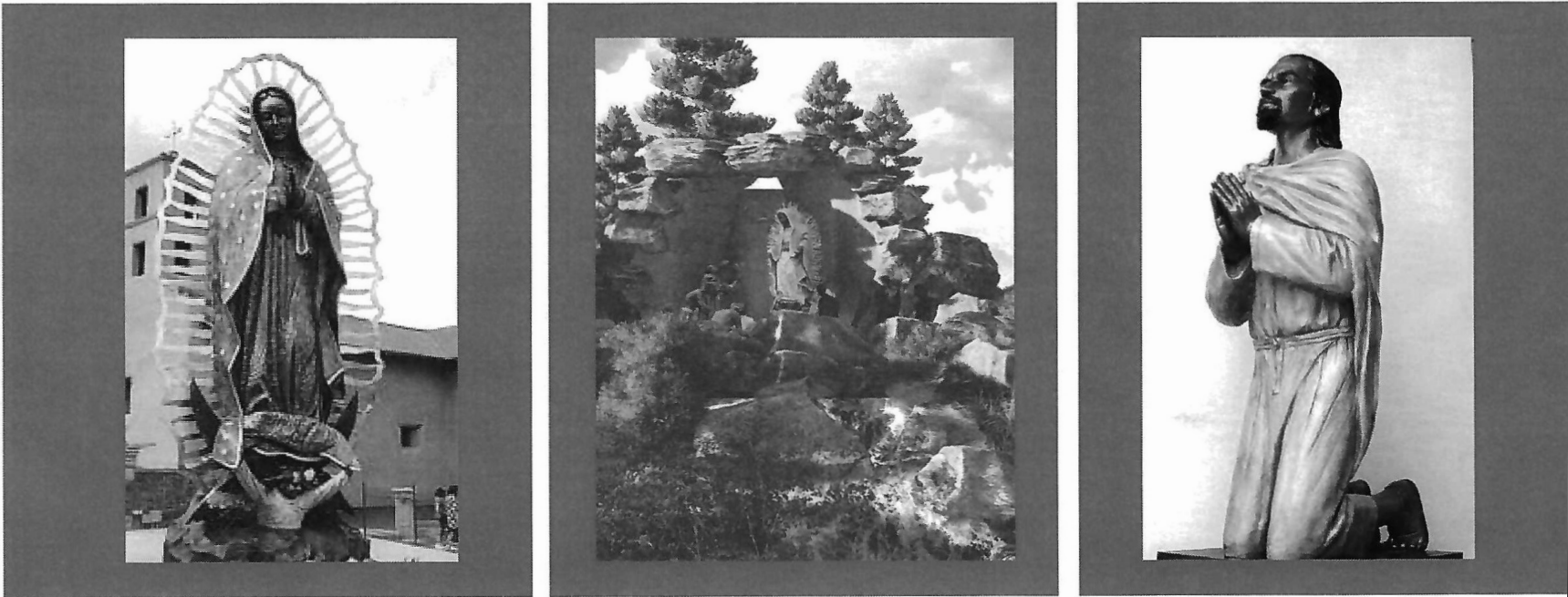
TEPEYAC HILL

How to donate, Page 5

at the BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER SHRINE

*The Knights of Columbus and the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine join in the efforts to spread the gospel and make disciples. This Tepayac Hill and the images of Our Lady of Guadalupe and San Juan Diego will be a sacred place for all.*

*The shrine’s Tepeyac Hill will feature statues of Our Lady of Guadalupe and San Juan Diego. This hill will be a place for all to venerate Our Lady, San Juan Diego and Blessed Stanley Rother, and to ask for intercessions for deepened faith, conversion of heart, the unborn and the Americas.*



“ Just as St. Juan Diego found peace in the tender heart of Our Lady of Guadalupe, so too did the poor and marginalized encounter the love of God in the pastoral charity of Blessed Stanley Rother. The Tepeyac Hill project is a worthy endeavor, and it is fitting that Blessed Stanley Rother be memorialized at his Shrine alongside Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Juan Diego.

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo Archbishop of Galveston-Houston

”



# State Golf Tournament set for June 1

Council 9333 - Sapulpa, Oklahoma

Location: Rock Creek Golf Course

Sapulpa, Oklahoma

Date: June 1st, 2024

Proceeds to benefit: Seminarians and other Council Activities

Registration Deadline is May 25th, 2024

## REGISTRATION FORM

<p>TOURNAMENT TEAM REGISTRATION (\$100.00 per participant)</p> <p>PARTICIPANT 1. _____</p> <p>PARTICIPANT 2. _____</p> <p>PARTICIPANT 3. _____</p> <p>PARTICIPANT 4. _____</p> <p>Please make check for \$ 400.00 (team entry fee – covers green fee, cart, range balls, and lunch)</p> <p>INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION</p> <p>If you don’t have a team and would like to participate, register as an individual and we will get you into a team at the tournament...</p> <p>PARTICIPANT: _____</p> <p>Please make check for \$100.00 (individual entry fee – covers greens fee, cart, range balls, goodie bag, and lunch)</p> <p><b>Make checks to: KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – COUNCIL 9333</b></p> <p><b>Payment must be received by the 25<sup>th</sup> of May to guarantee participation!</b></p> <p>Contact Information:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p>	<p><b>Tournament Format</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Four-person Scramble</li><li>• Registration opens at 8:00 am, Lunch at 1:00 pm</li><li>• Shotgun Start at 9:00 am</li></ul> <p>Prizes:</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Place Team</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> place Team</p> <p>Closest to the Pin</p> <p>All Par 3s’</p> <p>Longest Drive</p> <p>Hole in One</p> <p>Silent Auction</p> <p>Sponsorship Opportunities call Garry Mohs 580-761-4443</p>
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<p>Mail check and registration form to:</p> <p>Dennis Cavenah</p> <p>9106 Eisenhower St. Sapulpa OK 74066</p>	<p>Contact us to inform of your participation:</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:dcavenah@gmail.com">dcavenah@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Cell: 918-906-1710</p>
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## In memory

### Recalling two past state deputies

Editor's Note: We haven't been to press since the passing of two very special brother Knights and past state deputies.

Dan Hogan died in January of this year. David Roewe died late last summer.

They were both great guys who gave back to their families, communities faith and our Order.

May David and Dan continue to rest in God's peace. We have taken the opportunity to print what was said in their obituaries about their Knights membership.

Dan joined the Knights of Columbus as a young man and his association with this fraternal organization brought some of his greatest accomplishments and friendships, as well as relationships with brother Knights across the nation and even the world.

He held various leadership positions including Grand Knight, District Deputy, worked up the State Officer Chairs to become Oklahoma State Deputy, and 4th Degree Vice Supreme Master of Our Lady of Guadalupe Province covering Oklahoma and Texas. He was particularly proud of his involvement with the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Program, which provides funding to purchase and install ultrasound machines in Pro-Life Pregnancy Centers. He considered it an honor to work toward saving the lives of innocent babies.

During his tenure with the Knights of Columbus, Dan was involved in various fundraising efforts; including apple pie production and sales, which was initiated with a brother Knight in Ponca City.

This effort continues today in the communities of Ponca City and Bartlesville. He was also very involved in countless Lenten fish fries and pancake breakfasts. Dan also served as a member of the Board of Directors and on various committees for the Center For Family Love, which



**Dan Hogan 1962-2024**

offers residential and vocational services for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Dan's most recent and current position was Chairman of the Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities for Oklahoma State Council. He was the epitome of "where there's a need, fill it" and inspired many to do the same



**David Roewe 1958-2023**

His devotion to his faith led him to serve at St. Monica Catholic parish in Edmond, and the Knights of Columbus. He held leadership positions at the parish council, district, state and regional level including two years as Oklahoma State Deputy achieving the Circle of Honor during fraternal year 2010-2011. As Immediate Past State Deputy, he led the Oklahoma KofC response to the May 20, 2013 tornado disaster relief efforts. This response included the very successful collaboration with the St. Vincent de Paul Society and Catholic Charities in the House in a Box program. Since the end of his term as Oklahoma KofC State Deputy, he served as State Ceremonials Chairman which involved the implementation of the redesigned formation and knighthood degrees. He served many years on the 4th Degree Exemplification team. Finally, he served four years as Vice Supreme Master of Our Lady of Guadalupe Province over all of Texas and Oklahoma.

David always claimed that the Knights of Columbus made him a better son, a better husband, a better father, and a better Catholic. A very humble man devoted to Christian service, he took to heart the command to "wash the feet of those the Lord places before you." In helping those less fortunate, he sought to do so in ways that allowed the recipient to maintain his or her feelings of self-worth and dignity.