Good morning!

It was a little over five months ago that I was diagnosed with Glioblastoma Multiform. For those of you who don’t know, it is a diagnosis without recovery. So you don’t know how long you have.

When I got the news, I called Roger Ishii and he offered to inform Joe Grace. I didn’t know it was happening, but I was very surprised by the Class of ’80. People that I didn’t know reached out to me in addition to those of you that I do know.

In 1980, I remember thinking that I knew probably 500 people by name here and the others by reputation. But time and distance caused me to move on. Now it is like the opportunity to connect is here. We don’t know how long each of us has, so take these opportunities to phone, email, and text. I certainly have benefitted from them, and I’m sure you have as well.

Joe has been the glue that has held us together all these years. He has always talked about the family at the Academy and I don’t think I ever appreciated that until my diagnosis. He says to reach out and call a classmate. I had started doing that before my diagnosis, but now it has jumped to a different level.

So thank you for supporting me. It is hard to accept but it’s better than facing this alone. Especially thank you that many of you didn’t know me but reached out anyway. Thank you for picking up on conversations that were 40 years in the making. But especially thanks to those closest to me for being part of God’s grace in helping me get through this.