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# George Moscone

## *COP graduate ('53), S.F. Mayor, dead at 49*

### Editor's note:

San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and city supervisor Harvey Milk were gunned down in their offices Monday morning.

The alleged assailant, Dan White, is a former supervisor currently involved in a job dispute with the Board of Supervisors.

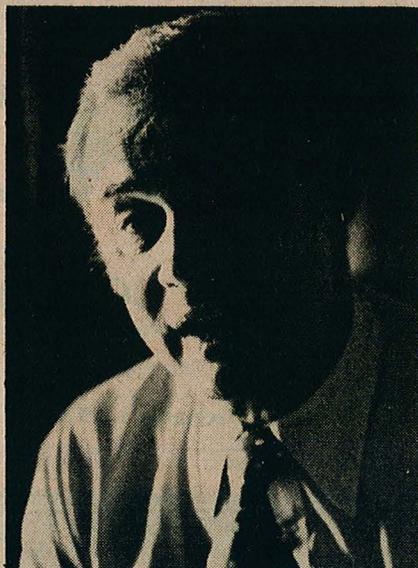
Moscone, a prominent Bay Area figurehead for many years, was a distinguished alumnus (College of the Pacific 1953) and will be sadly missed. The following tribute was originally published in the Pacific Review, November 1977, and is reprinted with permission.

BY RICHARD DOTY  
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"I wanted to go away from home for college, but not too far away from San Francisco," George Moscone once said. "I loved San Francisco but knew that to grow as a person I would have to leave and see a different part of life."

Moscone was raised in San Francisco and graduated from St. Ignatius High School. His desire for competition, which would surface later and lead him into government service, was channeled into sports. He was named the "Outstanding Prep Basketball Player" in San Francisco and was an All-City selection in 1946-47.

He received a basketball scholarship to come to Pacific, but that wasn't the only factor that influenced him to come to Stockton. "I had several friends who spoke highly of Paci-



**George Moscone: "the school (COP) was small enough to eliminate my fears of becoming just a number at a large university."**

fic, and in visiting the campus I was impressed by the beauty, the people, and the general atmosphere. The school was small enough to eliminate my fears of becoming just a number at a large university."

Like many students today, he was uncertain about his career, yet he recognized the value of a basic liberal arts education while majoring in sociology. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1953.

"Whether or not you have a career goal determines the intensity of your study; at least it did for me," said Moscone, gesturing frequently with his hands and arms to emphasize a point. "Everything I did was set at my own pace. When I decided on law school later on, my studies there (he graduated near the top of his class from Hastings College of Law in 1956) reflected this."

He also enjoyed the social life that comes with college—"they don't give grades for socializing, but it is an important part of college"—and was president of the Rhizomia fraternity while attending Pacific.

Because Moscone had served in the Navy before enrolling at Pacific, he was somewhat older than many of the students in his class, and this influenced him greatly in defining his values. "It was an unusual time to be on campus in many respects. There was the interaction between the veterans and younger students, the fact that it was a coed campus and I was coming out of the Navy after going to an all boys high school, plus I was from a very urban area and many of the students I met were not."

He remembers Dr. Harold Jacoby among his professors as a person "who took interest and knew me as an individual." Jacoby also remembers Moscone: "Everybody who knew him recognized him as a person of considerable ability," said Jacoby. "He was an able student

and very affable person. Although I would not have predicted that he would enter politics, it doesn't surprise me that he did, and I have followed his career with interest."

In sports at Pacific Moscone played two years of varsity basketball for Coach Chris Kjeldsen, who the mayor referred to as "a marvelous human being." Moscone served mostly

as a playmaker on the court, averaging about five points per game and leading the team in assists one year. "The floor leader of the team, George has a nice long shot, and is the team boss, directing all of the plays," said the basketball press guide in referring to him as "the colorful San Francisco player."

Through his years in college, service on the Education Committee in the Senate, and as mayor of San Francisco, Moscone continued to be involved in the educational process. He had some definite feelings on how college students have changed since he was on campus.

He once said: "Young people today are lovelier than they used to be, but they also are sometimes more evil. I think you could say that they love more and they hate more than when I was in college. By this I mean that they are more concerned than we were about humanitarian causes, yet they also are less tolerant of the imperfections in our society. The world is a lot clearer to them because of the many technological advances...We were not a very well informed era because we didn't have things, for example, like television or the degree of investigative reporting that many newspapers have today. The young people today simply have more to hate and more to love."

George Moscone is dead at 49.