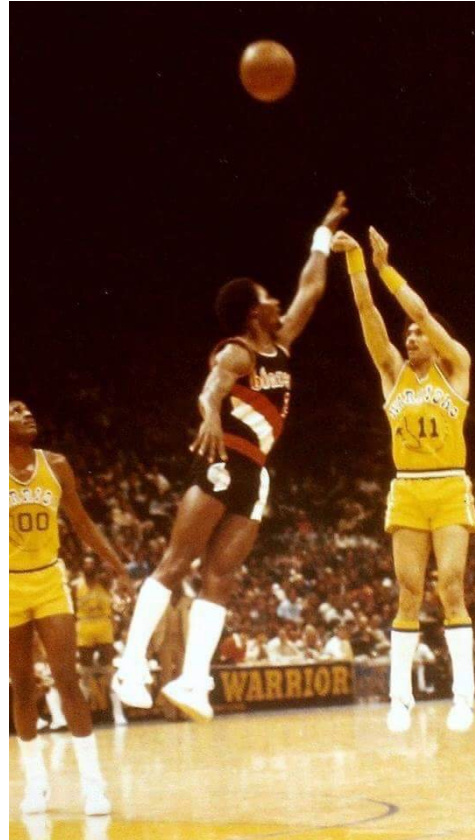


ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT: RAYMOND TOWNSEND, NBA (& PRICE MIDDLE SCHOOL) GREAT



Which Cambrian Schools did you attend?

I attended Metzler Elementary School while living on Bernice Way, one block from school. After Metzler Elementary School, I attended **Ida Price Junior High School**. I was at Metzler from 1962–1967, **Ida Price** from 1968–1970, and went to Archbishop Mitty HS from 1970–1973 and graduated from Camden HS in 1974.

Favorite times at Metzler were talking Mr. Foglia into allowing me to start a lunchtime basketball game in 6th grade playing against our very talented 5th grade team. Other favorite memories besides my wonderful relationship with my Principal, Ed Foglia, was the great teachers, Ms Brandt, Ms Hopkins, Ms Baron–Mudge, who all made learning so creative, thought provoking and fun. One of my favorite field trips was to the Capitol in Sacramento where I met and spoke to Norm Mineta. One important decision I made was to help in the forefront of his campaign, my Principal Ed Foglia, to become the Calif. Teachers Association President after I retired from Pro Basketball....

My life at Ida Price was very important in my journey. My favorite teachers back in the day were Guy Troedson, my PE Teacher, my Baseball Coach and mentor. I owe a huge thank you to Mrs. Keeler, my Spanish teacher, for making me excel and become bi-lingual in Junior High. Today I am fluent in 5 languages and have lived overseas in 4 different countries. My love for languages came from her.

I must admit not being good enough for the 8th grade “A” School Basketball team and getting cut inspired me to be the greatest Basketball player to ever come out of Ida Price. I ended up embracing the situation and played for the “B” team and both the “A” and “B” teams win Championships. My life in College (at UCLA) was amazing, getting my degree in communications, playing 4 years of Varsity Basketball for John Wooden, becoming an All American, **being drafted in the 1st round for the Golden State Warriors** and also playing 3 years of Varsity Baseball at UCLA and **being drafted by the Cincinnati Reds**, with opportunity to play both professional baseball and basketball.

I chose basketball and became the **first Filipino American to ever play in the NBA** and helped my mom and dad purchase a house right behind Ida Price where my brother, Kurtis, who Coaches at KU, and all my sisters, Michelle, Patrice and Wendy all attended. Coach Wooden always told us that **“Living your life for others, giving of your time, knowledge and resources in helping them succeed, expecting nothing in return, will bring about a joy experienced that nothing in life can match.”**

So I have done this, in my community here in San Jose, in brief, through God’s guidance, and my faith in Jesus. **Over 30,000 children have been served around the Bay Area since my retirement in 1990 from the NBA and professional basketball.** I have been a teacher, principal, coach, director and vice-president for three major organizations, ARUSD, a special needs Educational Academy, Pinnacle Academy and my current basketball organization, RT Basketball. Over 20,000 children have been served in basketball services and over 10,000 students have been served academically and educationally.

Since 1990, grateful, honored and humbled to have received Community Service Awards from the San Jose City Council, **UCLA Alumnus of the Year award for Community Service** and just recently was honored in my induction to the **San Jose Hall of Fame**. I am now retired from education but still active in basketball as an NBA Ambassador, and a High End Shooting and Skills Coach for players who are on high school, college, NBA and overseas pro basketball journeys. I reside both in Willow Glen and Santa Barbara. **I have lived a blessed life in making other’s lives bigger and better.**

My word to Teachers: "Teach, educate and give your knowledge with all your heart, to all who come across your life path, for in your passion you will ignite a future."