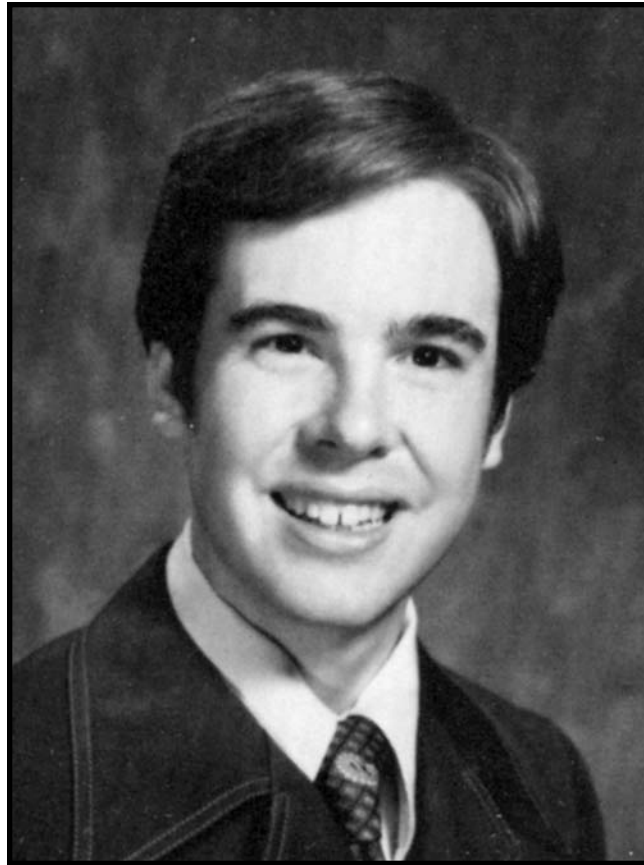


# *Watchung Hills Regional High School Hall of Fame*



Paul Grzella  
Journalist, Newspaper Editor  
*Class of 1979*

Paul Grzella, a distinguished member of the Class of 1979, charter member of the National Honor Society, and stalwart of "Arrowhead," the student newspaper, followed his passion for journalism at Northwestern University, and, upon receiving his Master's degree in Journalism at the same institution in 1983, began his professional life as a "town beat reporter" for the Courier News.

His ascent to his present position, that of General Manager/Editor of the Courier News and the Home News Tribune (both Gannett-owned), was a steady one, encompassing such way-stations as Assistant City Editor, Special Sections Editor, Features Editor, Special Projects Manager, Associate Editor, Managing Editor/News. At each juncture he introduced innovations and improvements and coordinated collaborative efforts among editors, photographers and free-lancers to create community information centers serving Somerset, Middlesex and Union Counties.

Paul has become deeply involved in, and committed to, community organizations. Since 1998, he has served on the Somerset County United Way Board of Trustees, has worked with the Somerset County Business Partnership Executive Committee, with EmPOWeR (which targets the dangers of binge drinking and drunken driving in the 18-25 year age group), and with efforts to encourage reading through summer and round-the-year projects.

He has been honored with a 2009 Better Newspaper Contest First Place Award for Reporting & Writing, News/Business Column, by the N.J. Press Association ; by the Somerset County United Way Carlyle Caldwell Award; by the Regina Nostra Award by the Diocese of Metuchen for volunteerism, and by the Gannett Company for special sections.