

# ORANGE & BLACK



NO 6 WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, CLASS of 1954, SIOUX FALLS, SD 2009

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Your photos & Stories Are Both Requested & Encouraged. Please Send To Jack Phillips: [jackmp@me.com](mailto:jackmp@me.com)

## REUNION SPECIAL EDITION

Co-Chairmen Wayne Mitchell and Roger Malcomb have asked me to advise you that there are only 12 rooms left at the Holiday Inn City Centre for our reunion. For reservations you should call 1-605-339-2000 and ask for **"HOUSE RESERVATIONS FOR THE WHS 55th REUNION"** If you are not given our \$89.00 room rate just let Roger, Wayne or myself know.

Don't forget to get your reservations for our 55th Reunion into Wayne Mitchell by Sept. 10th. That is only 12 days away! Send your check for \$30.00 per person to 102 East 7th Street, Dell Rapids, SD 57022. His phone number is 1-605-428-3657 or cell 1-605-201-3546. He does not have Internet service.

You will pick up your registration packet at The Westward Ho Country Club during **"check in"** at 4:30 PM on Friday, Sept. 25th. **Cocktail Hour** will follow from 5 PM to 6:30 and then **Dinner** at 6:30.

### PAVILION (Old Washington High School) TOUR

Wayne Mitchell also asked that I announce that a tour of The Pavilion has been arranged for at 2 PM on Saturday. He does need a count of those planning on attending so The Pavilion has enough tour guides available. You can RSVP to either Wayne or myself. To reach The Pavilion I would suggest you consider utilizing "The Trolley". Its Free, sounds like fun and runs from the Holiday Inn all up and down both Main Ave. and Phillips Ave. about every half hour. It will also take you to The Falls Park. You can board and/or disembark The Trolley anywhere along its route. See "Sioux Falls Trolley" web site.

# 3 'Unofficial' Events Added

When my parents were alive and lived in Sioux Falls I never experienced any of the strange feelings that I do now when I step off the plane or pass the "Welcome To Sioux Falls" signs as I drive into town. It used to be that my Mom and Dad would meet me at the airport or their driveway with so much love, excitement and joy, there was never any room for sadness or loneliness at any time during my visits home. My parents always totally filled my greatly anticipated visits home with warm and wonderful feelings of love and happiness.

But sadly when I lost my parents all of that changed, at least for me. Many of you have told me that you understand and experience some of those same feelings. I still so love "coming home". Sioux Falls will always be my home and I will always return at every chance I get. The one thing that makes me want to continue returning now that my parents are gone is the opportunity of seeing my cherished friends and classmates.

Our reunions are always so much fun, but the free time we always have can be rather difficult for me. Therefore, I have made the following arrangements for some "**unofficial**" get-togethers during some of our free time. I really hope many of you will join me at some or all of these meals.

Since I need to provide the restaurants with a count, I would appreciate an RSVP from you as soon as possible for the particular meals you would like to enjoy with us.

**Thursday Dinner** - 7 PM, Sept. 24th - Minerva's 301 S. Phillips Ave.  
We will be seated in their semi-private dining room.

**Friday & Saturday Breakfasts** - 9:30 AM - Holiday Inn City Centre.  
*Note: A buffet is served until 9:30 so if you wish the buffet, you need to arrive a little before 9:30. Both before and after 9:30 you may order off the menu.*  
We will be seated in the semi private "Terrace" area.

I sincerely hope **ALL** of you local Sioux Falls people will join us.

**PLEASE EMAIL ME YOUR RSVP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**  
**Be sure and include which meals & the number of people in your party.**

## SHOULD WE ADD A SUNDAY FAREWELL BREAKFAST?

At past reunions we have always had a Sunday morning breakfast as sort of a farewell event. Some of them have been referred to as "A Prayer Breakfast". After obtaining both Wayne and Rogers' approval and support, I would like for us to add a Sunday morning breakfast again this year. I feel a "private" dining room is necessary so we can have a short informal program. Of course in order to obtain a private dining room a minimum attendance figure is needed by the restaurant. So first of all I need to know how many of you will attend such a breakfast on Sunday morning at 10 AM?

If you will attend then I need your preference between the two options outlined below. The Holiday Inn City Centre will give us a private room, but their requirement is that everyone would be served their Breakfast Brunch, which I am told is a very nice brunch. Our price would be the seniors price of \$10.95 per person plus tax and tip for a total of \$14.00 per person. Holding the event at the Holiday Inn has several advantages such as convenience for those staying there and having to check out that morning.

The other option is holding the breakfast at The Sheraton Inn located maybe 2 miles from The Holiday Inn. They will provide a private room for us and everyone would be allowed to order off the menu since they no longer offer a buffet. The advantage to the Sheraton Inn is that you can order whatever you want and your price would depend on what you order. The disadvantage is the distance from the headquarter hotel.

Please give me your answers to the following questions as soon as possible.

MY NAME IS \_\_\_\_\_

1. I WILL \_\_\_\_ WILL NOT \_\_\_\_ ATTEND THE SUNDAY FAREWELL BREAKFAST.
2. YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_ I PREFER THE HOLIDAY INN AT \$14.00.
3. YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_ I PREFER THE SHERATON INN so I can order from menu.
4. I WILL \_\_\_\_ WILL NOT \_\_\_\_ JOIN YOU IF IT IS NOT AT MY CHOICE OF HOTELS.
5. \_\_\_\_ I WILL ATTEND AND I DON'T CARE WHERE IT IS HELD.

Receiving your opinion promptly is very important so the necessary decisions can be made. Of course just hitting "reply" to this email is the easiest way for you to respond, but if you have questions, my home phone is 702-735-4111.

Jack Phillips

*If you are not planning on attending our 55th Reunion, you are going to miss a great reunion.  
It is NOT too late to make plans to join us.*

## **PHOTOGRAPHY HELP NEEDED**

I have been taking both still and video pictures of our reunions since 1974 (Unfortunately I have been unable to find the 1974 reunion pictures), but I am just completing a rather amateur "movie" from everything I have shot since 1984 and it will be available for viewing by anyone interested at the 55th Reunion. I have titled the film,

*"The Good The Bad and The Beautiful Class of '54"*.

I have found that one person trying to take both still and video pictures is unwise. I would like to find someone who would be willing to use my digital camera and take lots of still pictures both Friday and Saturday nights during our 55th Reunion. I am wondering if maybe there is a classmate's spouse who sometimes becomes a bit bored with all of our reminiscing and would be willing to take on this job for me. Please be assured you do not need to be an expert. Digital cameras are so simple, you just aim and shoot. Everything is automatic. Anyone interested please contact me. Please either email me or my home phone number in Las Vegas is 702-735-4111 and my cell number is 702-496-3667.



**Harry  
Hoiland**

Home Rm. 4??  
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**Harry Hoiland Biography**

Well, here is a short summary of what I did after leaving Washington High. I am sorry that it is not as exciting and interesting as a lot of our classmates but I found that I had a very interesting and rewarding career. Actually, it was 2 careers – one in aerospace and one in the engineering/construction field. I started out at Augustana but found that I was going behind financially faster than I

was going ahead scholastically so I went to radar school at Lowry Air Force Base for the South Dakota Air National Guard where I got paid for going to school. Upon returning to Sioux Falls, I found the job market was not all that great so I moved to Seattle where I went to work for Boeing as an electronics flight line inspector on the B-52 bombers, KC-135 tankers and the 707 airliners. From there, I moved to California where I worked for TRW Space Technologies, Aeronutronics Division of Ford and North American Aviation doing electronics design on various missiles, spacecraft and also designed the electrical package for the Apollo Lunar Excursion Module (LEM) Descent Engine so I have 6

packages still on the moon. During this time, I managed to squeeze in a fantastic trip to Tahiti and Bora Bora. As a result of this trip, I met a my wife, Fran Kollefrath, who was working for the US Air Force in Los Angeles having just returned from 3 years as Secretary to the Air Attaché in the US Embassy in London and in the Air Force OSI in Germany. We had 35 ½ wonderful years before she died from diabetes. I have two wonderful children, Erin who has her doctorate in education and Tim who is a pilot for Alaska Air Lines and one very smart 6 year old grandson, Jordan.

I finally got my BS degree signed by Gov. Richard Nixon from California State  
Continued next page.



University in 1967 and left California. I continued in aerospace and served as Electrical Power Systems Flight Controller at Mission Control in Houston for Apollo 13 thru Apollo 16 plus the Skylab program. I wrote the handbooks for the astronauts and was awarded the coveted NASA Snoopy Award by Astronaut, Charles Conrad from the Astronaut Corps. It was very interesting, exciting and an honor working with the



***Harry and grandson Jordan.***

astronauts that walked on the moon. The astronauts and flight controllers become very close friends so it was not just three men up there – it was three of our friends. From there, Aeronutronic Division of Ford Motor Co. called me back to do some engineering evaluation on a laser guided smart bombs so I spent 4 months on the aircraft

carrier, USS Ranger, in the Tonkin Gulf in Viet Nam as the evaluation was being done in combat. It was a booming success to say the least. The squadron of A-6 Intruders, VA-145, gained a reputation in the fleet of “one bomb- one bridge”.

I then took a few years out of the aerospace industry and worked as Project Controls Manager for Bechtel building pipelines in Saudi Arabia and nuclear power plants in the US. This was OK, but I liked the challenges of aerospace and came back to Boeing where I was Subcontracts Manager on the B-2 Stealth Bomber and the F-22 Raptor Stealth Fighter where I finally hung it up when they offered us the “golden handshake” and retired in 1995. This was great as it allowed me to have three good years of retirement with my wonderful wife, Fran, before she died in 1998. I left out a lot of programs I worked on that are still highly classified so I can’t talk about them.

I have been enjoying retirement and now live in a



***Harry and his son, Tim, in Tim's "office" with Alaska Airlines, a Boeing 737.***

quaint little seaport town of Gig Harbor, WA in a nice, gated senior community. I have taken a dozen or more cruises to Alaska, the Caribbean, Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand. I even have a certificate that says I was stepping across the Arctic Circle on 9/11/2001. It took me an extra week and a nice long bus ride from Fairbanks, AK down through Canada on the Alcan Highway that I hadn’t really planned on since all airlines were grounded. It was a real adventure and I would not trade it for anything but it did give me a good appreciation for what refugees go through!

End

## **WHS FOOTBALL** **WEB SITE;**

[www.whswarriorfootball.com](http://www.whswarriorfootball.com)

Jack,

My daughter just forwarded this on to me. I briefly checked it out and it is awesome. We took a quick look and you can go back into WHS football to 1905. I have a grandson playing on the Sophomore team. We have a scrimmage this Saturday. His older brother played the last 4 years and is now off to Brookings. I really have lots of fun at these games. Maybe while you are here you can take in a game. I don't have the schedule right now but they play every weekend.



**Beverly  
Caesar  
Baartman**

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Thanks Beverly, I checked it out and it is really a well done site. There is a game in Sioux Falls the weekend of our reunion, but unfortunately it is at 5 PM on Friday night. Jack



No one guessed who our "Great White Hunter" was and I didn't think anyone would. He is, of all people, Ron Veenker.



Ron Veenker also sent this great photo showing that "Mark Twain Has Talent" in Sonja Oyan Gedstad and Robert Berdahl, WHS '55



**READY or NOT, our  
classmates from  
Texas are on their  
way to the Reunion!**



***Why is it that at class  
reunions you feel younger  
than everyone else looks?***