

ORANGE & BLACK

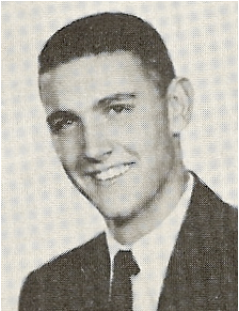
WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, CLASS of 1954, SIOUX FALLS, SD

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Your Photos & Stories Are Both Requested & Encouraged. Please Send to Jack Phillips: jackmp@me.com



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"Blessed" is the one word I feel best describes my life. I truly feel God has watched over me and blessed me in so many ways including a happy & healthy life, wonderful family and friends and numerous fun and exciting careers that have kept so much life in my life.

One of my favorite highs in life has been starting new business ventures and I have been so fortunate to have had a great many of those opportunities. Here are just a few:

After WHS I attended the University of SD where I was so fortunate to meet & marry Marilyn Frandsen from Watertown, SD. We had 3 wonderful children and 4 precious grandchildren. For 27 years Marilyn fought a most difficult and courageous battle with Multiple Sclerosis.

OUT OF STORIES!

Note: I am completely out of classmate stories, thus you get me this issue. I never planned on running anything on myself but I am hard up & have nothing else.

So,,,, PLEASE....

Send me YOUR STORIES!

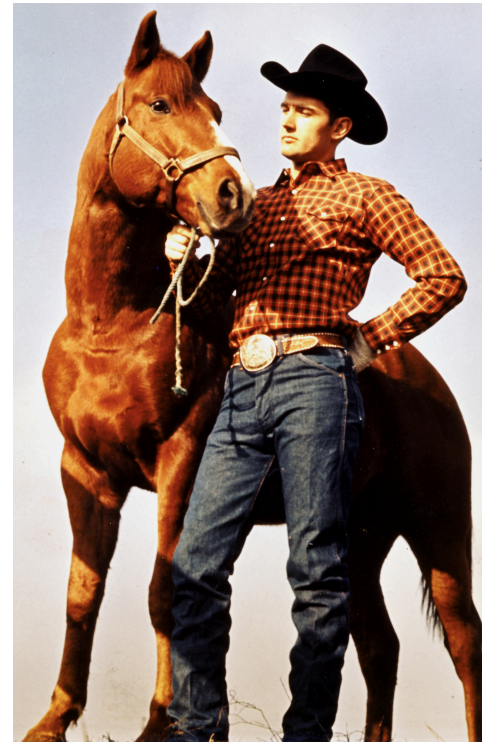
If you don't, you might get more on me next issue!!!!!!

Since the Orange & Black has now expanded it's coverage to include classes other than just the class of '54, I welcome stories from other classes BUT,,, be sure to include photos.

She spent the last 11 years of her life in a convalescent hospital but lost that awful battle in 1998.

As the result of a fraternity brother's dare at USD I discovered the sport of rodeo and it totally changed my life. For the next 16 years I competed in every rodeo I could get to. During the first two years I tried competing in every event, but discovered that my only talent was in Steer Wrestling (or Bulldogging) so I ended up specializing in Bulldogging for the next 14 years.

The year of 1965 was an especially good year for me in the sport of rodeo. That year I



"Rodeo USA" publicity photo of Jack and his bulldogging horse, "Tom". Note broken left arm.

won the WAR, West coast bulldogging championship, I was voted "Rodeo Man of the Year" and created, produced and hosted, **"Rodeo USA"**, a half hour syndicated television series.

Even though most of my 67 broken bones occurred during my rodeo career, I feel the sport was very good to me and I dearly loved the life and freedom of a rodeo cowboy.

In 1972 I was hired by the "**Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association**" as their first "**Director of Promotional Development**". With offices in Denver, my main responsibilities included developing and overseeing all television coverage of professional rodeo, developing

Worland, WY C. of C. I created and operated "**Ketch-A-Big-Wam**", a dude ranch in the beautiful Big Horn Mountains of Wyoming offering trout fishing, horse back riding, Sioux Indian dancing and lodging in



Beautiful "Ketch-A-Big-Wam" ranch with original ranch home as it looks today near Ten Sleep, WY.



Jack bulldogging at the California State Fair.

a new "**Products Division**" and a new "**Associate Membership Program**". While with the PRCA I enjoyed announcing rodeos on **CBS's, "Sports Spectacular"** with Brent Musberger and Walt Garrison .

Immediately after college, and while competing in about 75 rodeos each year, I also served 14 years as Executive Manager of 3 different Chambers of Commerce.

In 1961, while serving as Executive Manager of the

authentic Sioux Wigwams & Shoshoni Teepees.

Chief Edgar Red Cloud was the leader of the 7 Sioux dancers I hired from the Rose Bud Reservation in South Dakota to dance daily on the ranch. Edgar was the great grandson of the legendary Sioux leader, Chief Red Cloud.

One of my most favorite memories from my time on the ranch was

Marilyn and I sitting almost every evening on the front porch of our ranch house listening to Edgar telling stories of his life as a young boy and his memories of his great grandfather. Edgar was 9 years old when Custer was massacred and he vividly remembered the Sioux warriors returning triumphantly to his village after the Battle of The Big Horn. He spoke so glowingly of how joyous and proud his people were of the victory and

how the celebration in his village lasted for days.

By 1968 Marilyn had started competing in rodeos in barrel racing, the only event for women in professional rodeo. She was such a natural athlete and finished in 2nd place in the WAR barrel race standings in 1971. I am confident she would have won the championship that year had she not been diagnosed with MS just before the season's end. That diagnosis not only ended her season and her championship run, it also sadly ended her really bright rodeo career. She never rode a horse again.

Another side business was born in 1968 when Marilyn and I saw the need for a line of colorful western hats for women that would color coordinate their hats with the brightly colored western wear. After considerable experimentation and research we began importing a straw braid from Switzerland in every color in the

rainbow. Through a manufacturing force of about 50 women and a national sales crew calling on every western store in the country, "Candy Straw Hats" became a huge and instant success. We sold the company in 1976.



A special red, white & blue Candy Straw Hat created especially for Disneyland for America's 1976, 200th year birthday.

In 1974 the giant Denver based corporation, "Outdoor Sports Industries", offered me the position of President of two of their saddle companies, "Big Horn Saddle Co." and "Devonshire Saddle Co". Both companies were located in Chattanooga, TN. Big Horn Saddlery was a "Western" type saddle company that was the largest saddle manufacturing company in the world. Twelve football fields would fit in the manufacturing plant. Devonshire was a much smaller, "English" type saddle company.

Because Marilyn and I still owned Candy Straw Hats in California and our children were still in school there my family never moved to Chattanooga and I commuted back to Calif. every two weeks.

In 1975 I accidentally ran across a bankrupted nightclub in Turlock, CA that was for sale. Throughout my life I have never been much of a drinker and I

knew absolutely nothing about the bar business but I ended up buying the club which necessitated me ending my Chattanooga career and the terrible commute. I completely gutted the building and opened "The Sports Page", the area's



Billboard Magazine featured "Sports Page II" as Calif's. newest and largest disco with a story & this photo in 1978. Amazingly, it is still going strong in 2010.

1st discotheque holding 450 people.

That was in 1976 and it was an instant success. Immediately after the opening I decided to build a brand new and larger nightclub in the much bigger city of Modesto, CA. Two years later and the week that the blockbuster movie, "Saturday Night Fever" was released, I opened "Sports Page II" with a capacity of 1,450 people. The timing could not have been better. Disco Fever was upon us. We were full and had to stop admitting people by 9:30 every night.

I ran both clubs for about 3 years before selling the Turlock club and keeping the larger Modesto club. Now,



Some of the 1,000 plus Crocodile customers celebrating last New Year's Eve in Modesto, CA. Crocodile's now offers 12 large screen TVs up to 12 foot in size to add to everyone's dancing enjoyment.

34 years later, my son, Guy, very ably runs the nightclub and it is now called "**Crocodiles**". We still offer music by a DJ but the music format has changed several times to remain the most popular dance club in Northern CA.

In 1990 I decided to enter into another business venture, and opened, "**Instant Signs & Engraving**". This time I opened two stores within a month of each other, one in Modesto and

Las Vegas, NV and truly love living here.

In 2001 I met Debra Davey. She grew up in Calgary, Canada where she began her dance career at the age of 8 in the world famous "**Calgary Stampede Grandstand Show**". Immediately after high school she moved to Montreal, Canada and joined the Montreal Jazz Ballet Co. After a few years dancing and teaching dance in Montreal she left to

plus having several long term dance contracts in Acapulco, Mexico City, Puerto Rico, Thailand and multiple contracts to Japan. Debra also was chosen to tour with the NATO version of our USO tours entertaining NATO troops in Egypt, Israel and Cyprus.

Debra no longer dances but has not lost her passion and love for the theater. She is now Master Magician, Lance Burton's, personal back stage assistant. Lance has been the headliner at the Monte Carlo Hotel on the Strip here in Las Vegas for 14 years and Debra has been with him since his very first show.

I don't think she will ever want to stop working in the theater and I guess that is not so bad since we both enjoy Las Vegas and all it has to offer. Neither of us gamble at all but we both love the great entertainment Las Vegas offers. A tremendous perk from her lifetime in show business that we both appreciate and enjoy is her frequent gifts of great complimentary show tickets from her many, many friends that work in almost every major show on the strip.

As I say, I feel very blessed and I do thank God every day for **It's** truly been **A Wonderful Life**. END



Debra dancing on the S. S. Norway sailing the Caribbean mid 1980s.

one in Stockton, CA. I have since sold the Stockton store, but still own the Modesto store.

I retired quite a few years ago leaving my son, Guy, managing my Modesto businesses. In 2000 I settled in

become a "**Copa Girl**" at the Sands Hotel in Atlantic City. Since Atlantic City she has literally danced around the world. She danced and served as show manager on many major cruise ships for 8 years

PLEASE SEND ME YOUR STORY!!!!!!



**Glen
Jamtgaard**
Class of '55,
sent these
wonderful
memories for
us all to enjoy!

Close your eyes... And go back.
....Go way back... way...way... way
back.....

I'm talkin' bout hide and seek at
dusk - Red Light, Green Light -
Red Rover....Red Rover.
Playing kickball & dodgeball until
the street lights came on.
Ring Around the Rosie - London
Bridge - Hot Potato - Jump Rope -
YOUR'RE IT!!

Parents stood on the front porch
and yelled (or whistled) for you to
come home - no pagers or cell
phones.

Take One Giant Step.... May I?
Seeing shapes in the clouds.
Endless summer days and hot
summer nights (no A/C) with the
windows open. The sound of
crickets.

Running through the sprinkler.
Cereal boxes with that GREAT
prize in the bottom.
Cracker Jacks with the same thing.
Ice Pops with 2 sticks you could
break and share with a friend.

Watchin' Saturday morning
cartoons
Tom & Jerry, serial adventures.
Captain Midnight, Cisco Kid, The
Lone Ranger, Boston Blackie.
Catchin' lightning bugs in a jar.
Christmas morning.
Your first day of school
Bedtime prayers and goodnight
kisses. Climbing trees. Swinging as
high as you could in those long
swings to try and reach the sky.
A million mosquito bites and sticky
fingers.

Jumpin' down the steps.
Jumpin' on the bed.
Pillow fights.
Running' home from the western
movie you just saw 'til you were out
of breath.
Lauging so hard that your stomach
hurt.

Being tired from PLAYING.
WORK: meant taking out the
garbage, cutting the grass,
washing the car, or doing the
dishes.

Your first crush. Your first kiss (the
one that you kept your mouth
CLOSED and your eyes OPEN)
Rainy days at school and the smell
of damp concrete and chalk
erasers.

OH THERES MORE!
Kool-Aid was the drink of the
summer. So was a swig from the
hose. Giving your friends a ride on
your handlebars.
Attaching pieces of cardboard to
your bike frame to rub against your
spokes.
Wearing your new shoes on the 1st
day of school.
Class Field Trips with soggy
sandwiches.

When nearly everyone's mom was
at home when the kids got there
from school.
When a quarter seemed like a fair
allowance, and another quarter a
MIRACLE.
When ANY parent could discipline
ANY kid, or feed
him, or use him to carry groceries...
And nobody, not
even the kid, thought a thing of it.
When being sent to the principal's
office was nothing

compared to the fate that awaited
you at home.
Basically, we were in fear for our
lives but it wasn't
because of drive by shootings,
drugs, gangs, etc.
We simply did not want our parents
to get mad at us.

Let's go back to the time when...
Decisions were made by going
"eeny-meeny-miney-mo"
Mistakes were corrected by simply
exclaiming "do over!"
"Race issues" meant arguing about
who ran the fastest.
Catching fireflies could happily
occupy an entire evening
It wasn't odd to have two or three
"best" friends.
Nobody was prettier than Mom.
Scrapes and bruises were kissed
away by Mom and
made better.
Getting a foot of snow was a
dream come true.
Abilities were discovered because
of a "double-dog-
dare".
Spinning around, getting dizzy and
falling down was cause for giggles.
The worst embarrassment was
being picked last for a team.
Water balloons were the ultimate,
ultimate weapon.

If you can remember most or all
these, then you have lived during a
more pleasant simpler time!
Those of you who remember will
have lived in an era that no one
else will ever experience.
The era has passed and slowly
and sadly those of us who lived it
are passing also.

*Great memories,
thanks Glen.*



Kay Otten Romans

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Thanks Kay, for sending
all of these great old
pics. Sure doesn't seem
like almost 56 years ago.



Mary Lee Posz Altman, Deede Woods Meyers, Sandy Taylor Bauman, Bonnie Dubbe Nadeau. Kay Otten Romans. Lorraine Fremmina Forslin. Jovce McFarland Howes.



left: Senior
Skip Day.
Mary Lee
Posz Altman
& Jack
Phillips
playing in
Lake
Madison.



above: Kay Otten Romans &
Helen Eggers Olson on Senior
Skip Day at Jeannie Redfield
Kracht's Lake Madison Cabin.



The McGuire Sisters? No, its Kay Otten Romans,
Mary Kay Houston Moen, Helen Eggers Olson.
They sure looked good, but how did they sound???



Rain or Shine,
home room
227's
homecoming
float had to be
built. In wet
clothes but
great spirits at
Kay's home,
Wayne Mitchell,
little sister,
Mary Otten '57,
Kay Otten
Romans,
Jim Nordby,
Gary Kant,
Nafe Alick.



Dave Dedrick Died 1-22-10 at Age 81.
From the early days of South Dakota television, Sioux Falls TV Icon, Dave Dedrick's legacy still binds generations. He signed KELO on the air in 1953 and starred from 1955 until 1996, as Captain 11 and worked as a weatherman on the nightly news. His 42 years as Captain 11 makes Dave the longest running host of a children's show in the history of TV. Dave attended Longfellow and WHS.

Class of '54 and Class of '55, don't forget you each have a class party in Sioux Falls on Thursday evening, 6-24-10 prior to the All School Reunion.

Lavonne Bonnie Omer Larson

Has Been Found! She makes her home at 5123 Russell Ave No, Minneapolis, Mn 55430 with her retired firefighter husband, Richard. Their phone numbers are; Home: 612-521-3462 Cell: 763-742-5293 boncharlie36@gmail.com



ONLY 5 CLASS OF '54 CLASSMATES STILL MISSING!

At the 55th reunion it was reported that out of more than 100 missing classmates as of a year ago, there were only 7 still missing. I am happy to report that we now only have 5 still on the missing list.

From a lead received at the reunion we were able to sadly learn that Robert A Young had passed away in 1987. But thanks to Floy Brown Newman's diligent search for classmate Lavonne Bonnie Omer Larson we had much happier results. Bonnie is alive, well and glad to be found. For contact info, see above.

62 Deceased Members of WHS 1955 Class

As of February 15, 2010

Denny Adler
Dale Almont
Roger Axlund
Gary Bahr
Audrey Bakke
Kay Barnum
Beverly Barton
Gloria Berg
Edward Bourne
Marlene Brown
Barbara Bruce
Gene Bullis
Nile Berger
Dan Chesshir
Fanny Clark
Julie Dinsmore
Blackie Craig
Richard Donnelly
Carolyn Downard
Buddy Edelen
Stephanie Fantle
Dennis Farstead
Rena French
Gary Grav



Bill Grevios
Richard Hansen
LeRoy Hanson
Beverly Harkema
Don Harriman
Raoul Hechenbothan
Carl Henning
Duane Herrick
Harriet Hilton
Melva Huemoeller
Kenny Ingalls
Jerry Iseman
Barbara Johnson
Charles Kepford

Lynne Kersten
Sally Knight
Roger Larson
Jim Lease
Carol Lemke
Bob Martin,
Everett Martinson
Stanley Martinson
Valerie Minden
Ron Moon
Connie Rames
Rob Redfield
Rosalie Reeves
Voy Scheinost
Owen Smidt
Gail Smith
Jerry Smith
Stanley Stearns
Don Steensma
Bob Story
Ray Syverson
Harlan Terwee
Bob Trouten
Don Wood