

THE ALUMNI ORANGE & BLACK NEWSLETTER

Happy 4th of July

7-3-22 4th of July Issue #7-22

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, SIOUX FALLS, SD

Serving the Classes of The Great '50's Decade. Photos and Stories Requested!

Published by Jack M. Phillips '54. jackmp@me.com

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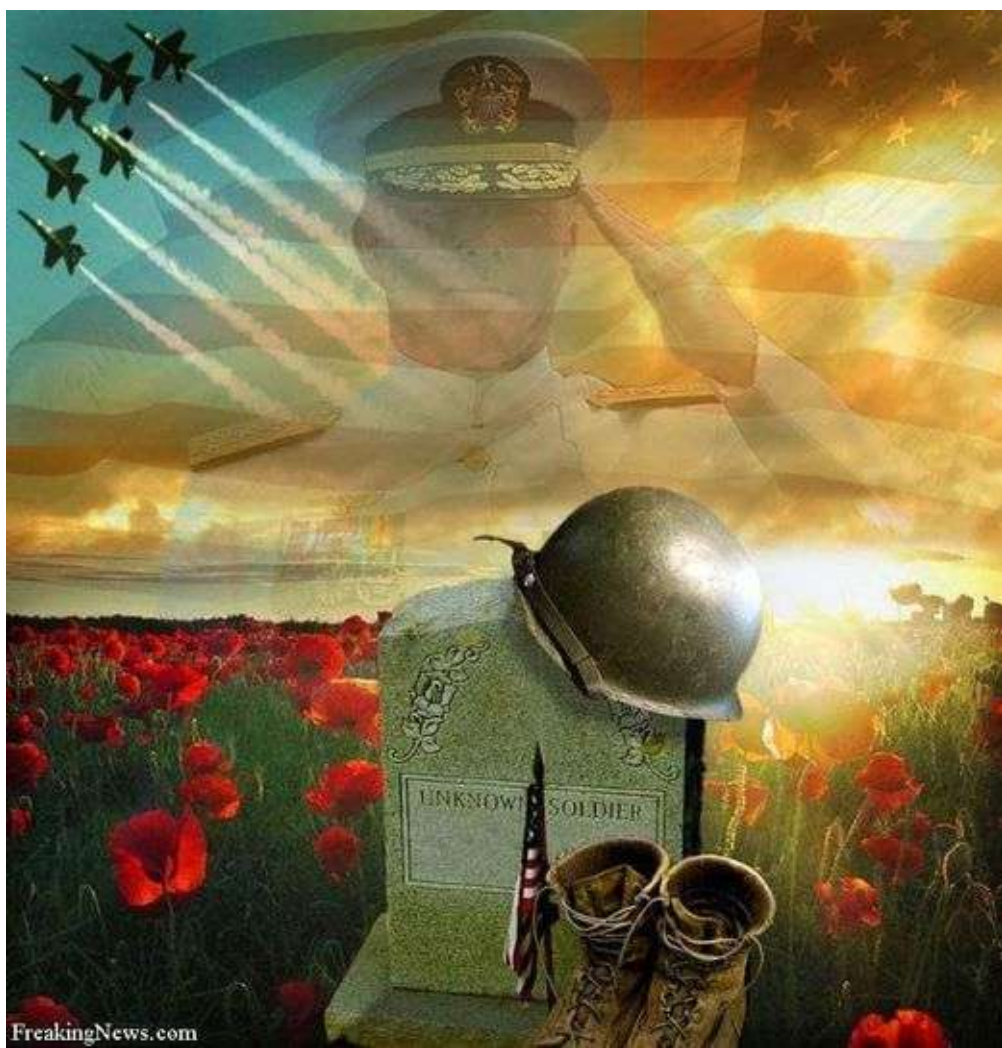
Independence Day, also called Fourth of July, or July 4th, in the United States, the annual celebration of nationhood. It **commemorates the passage of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776.**

Thanks to Peggy Servold Teslow '57 for submitting this beautiful and poignant montage of what price America has paid for our 246 years of independence and freedom.



Peggy Servold Teslow '57
WHS Senior Photo

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GREAT NEWS!

CLASS OF 1955

67TH REUNION

SEPT. 25, 26 & 27, 2022

ORGANIZERS



Jervin Wait '55



Dolly Tague Wait '55



Mavis Larson Carl '55



Ron Green '55

Sorry no
photo
available.

Christy Green

On Jun 8, 2022, **jervin wait '55** <jervinanddolly@live.com> wrote:

Greetings Jack, a little something for your next edition. Please help us as we try to organize a reunion for the class of '55.

Dates: Sept. 25, 26 & 27th.

Place: Sioux Falls. More information forthcoming when you reply.

Because of the Covid 19 outbreak the Class of '55 missed its 65th class reunion. We have decided to hold a 67½ year get-together.

To help us plan and get a count of who might come, please email your response to one of the follow:

Mavis Carl at maviscarl@gmail.com

Ron and Christy Green at thegreenhouse122@gmail.org or 605-351-8737

Jervin and Dolly Wait at jervinanddolly@live.com

We know that at this time with inflation that transportation and other costs will be up.

We hope you will join us and see what a thriving, sprawling, wonderful community this once small town has become.

We'll catch up on the kids, grand kids, great grand kids, all our medical procedures and just life in general.

Hope to see you in September! **Jervin Wait '55**

The ALUMNI O&B excitedly congratulates the WHS Class of '55 on their plans for a 67th reunion! It seems that all of the other classes from the fifties decade have decided that they are too old to have any more reunions and I find that such a sad fallacy.

The O&B is proud of the class of '55 for not giving into the aging calendar as it seems all of the other classes from our decade have done.

The O&B will enthusiastically support the 1955 Class Reunion in every way it can, and urges each and every member of the class of '55 to make every effort to attend. You of course will be setting a wonderfully positive example to all other '50s classes. If you make your 67th reunion a success it will hopefully motivate other 1950 classes into rethinking their past decisions that time had passed them by.

GO WHS CLASS OF '55!!!!

The Promise Kept

Copyright © 2001 Bruce Obermeyer

Their son was only two weeks old; their daughter's years were three

When duty called this pilot to the war across the sea. "Let's just pretend you're only going on a business trip.

Each day we'll write about the things we've done and then we'll slip a note into an envelope and put it in the mail.

You send me yours; I'll send you mine, I promise, without fail."

He walked away with pounding heart while fighting back the tears with "Come home soon, I love you, Daddy" ringing in his ears.

They kept that promise, sealed with love some 30 years ago. They sent him tapes and photographs so he could watch them grow.

They're married now with children of their own who, at the Wall, ask "Was my Grandpa brave?" and Grandma says, "Bravest of all."

WHS ATHLETE HALL OF FAME BANQUET

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

501 NORTH SYCAMORE AVE.

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. 57110

(605) 367-7968



6-17-22

WHS ATHLETIC
HALL-of-FAME

CLASS OF 2022
INDUCTEES

ATHLETES

Matt Hermanson
Brandon Mohr
Devon O'Farrell
Sami Smith
Mercede Stotesbery
Rachel Walters
Alex Holm

COACH

Marc Murren

In 1995 Washington High School initiated an Athletic Hall-of-Fame with the expressed purpose to recognize athletes, coaches, administrators, and contributors who have made an impact on the tradition of Washington High School Athletics. Washington High School has had a long and rich athletic tradition and the WHS Athletic Hall-of-Fame is giving us an opportunity to recognize deserving individuals and their accomplishments. *The 2022 Hall-of-Fame Banquet will be held at the Great Hall in the Washington Pavilion on Friday, October 28, 2022 (5:30 PM Social Hour, 6:30 PM Dinner, 7:30 PM Induction Ceremony).* Please complete RSVP and make reservations by September 19, 2022.

We have had outstanding attendance at all of our banquets. The warm response of the inductees and their families has been inspiring to all of us in attendance. An impressive display of past honorees adorns the wall in the Washington High School Commons.

We will continue to have annual expenses of approximately \$6000 to continue this excellent program. *Plaque and pin costs have risen dramatically over the past few years, and this is an area we can use financial assistance.* For those of you who have not yet had the opportunity to contribute, we are asking you along with many former athletes, coaches, and friends of Washington High School to consider contributing to the Washington High School Athletic Hall-of-Fame. For those of you who have so generously contributed in the past, we, on behalf of the WHS Athletic Hall-of-Fame Committee, would like to send a special thank you for your financial contribution. We would hope that you would consider contributing again to this outstanding project. We can continue this program only through the contributions of individuals such as you who are interested in recognizing Washington High School's great athletic tradition.

Please make your contributions payable to the WHS Athletic Hall-of-Fame and mail to:

Nate Malchow, Activities Director
Washington High School
501 North Sycamore Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57110

On behalf of the entire WHS Athletic Hall-of-Fame Committee, we thank you for your support.

Jeff Kayl
Chairman

Jim Trett
Vice-Chairman

Nate Malchow
Activities Director

**Washington High School Athletic Hall-of-Fame
RSVP**

Name _____

Please make the following banquet reservation:

Number planning to attend at \$50.00 per person _____

Name on ticket(s) _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to:

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL-OF-FAME

Mail to:

**Nate Malchow, Activities Director
Washington High School
501 N. Sycamore Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57110**

Your name tags will be placed on a table and may be picked up at the banquet hall the evening of the induction ceremony. Please circle the inductee that you are honoring with your presence.

**WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL-OF-FAME CLASS OF 2022
FRIDAY OCTOBER 28th, 2022 – 5:30 PM – GREAT HALL IN WASHINGTON PAVILION**

WHS ATHLETIC HALL-of-FAME

CLASS OF 2022 INDUCTEES

ATHLETES

Matt Hermanson

Brandon Mohr

Devon O'Farrell

Alex Holm

Mercede Stotesbery

Sami Smith

Rachel Walters

COACHES

Marc Murren

Another Exciting WHS Event!

“OLD” - ORANGE LETTER DAY

WHS's Homecoming is 100 years old!!!



Jeff Herbert '74
WHS Senior Photo
28 years WHS
Teacher and Coach

From: Jeffrey Herbert <herbertj@sio.midco.net>
Subject: 100 years of OLD

This is a note connecting us---Principal Kari Papke and Assistant Principal Heidi Jorgensen are planning (WHS Homecoming Sept. 16th) a 100 celebration of WHS OLD (ORANGE LETTER DAYS). Many plans are being made, but specifically at this point, we will be inviting past Royalty (not only King and Queens) but all their Court. There will be celebration at the Football Game along with introductions (possibly before but at half-time also).

Both buildings will be honored---Brett Cooper, the liaison to the WHS Alumni Hall will be our communicator with the Pavilion (tours/visits to Alumni Hall), Mick Zerr is the Chairperson of the WHS Alumni Hall <https://www.whshc.org/> (please view the website as it offers many details of Washington High School's history).

Jack Phillips publishes the *ORANGE AND BLACK*, a publication for, but certainly not limited to, the 50's generation of Washington Warriors!!!! Jack, please add Kari Papke and Heidi Jorgensen to your mailing, and the 100 Committee (principals can forward their emails). We would love to have as many 50's Warriors as we can---and any that were Homecoming Candidates and Royalty will be especially recognized!

This is the first of many emails, but I wanted to get this out---we have a wonderful opportunity---and the chance to tailgate before the Homecoming Game is encouraged---there will be an area available to set up for your class/decade, etc. The Class of '74 has done this twice and loved experience---

Please send any questions to me---and I will connect---or feel free to directly contact the Principals---best wishes---Onward Sioux Falls, Onward Sioux Falls, you're the best of all.....all the happy days we spent here....."

Jeff Herbert '74
By Lura Roti

**THESE ARE
THREE BIG WHS EVENTS
IN SEPT. & OCT. 2022
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**



On Jun 28, 2022, **Peggy Servold Teslow '57**
pwolset@sio.midco.net wrote:

Thanks Peggy for sending this wonderful, well deserved and long over due story on **Gary Conradi '57** written by Lura Roti

Peggy Servold Teslow '57
WHS Senior Photo



Gary Conradi '57
WHS Senior Photo



Sioux Falls retiree Gary Conradi has made it his mission to capture elements of South Dakota history through photographs.

History is all around us. And for more than two decades Sioux Falls retiree Gary Conradi has made it his mission to capture elements of South Dakota history through photographs.

For more than two decades retired Raven Industries Chief Administrative Officer Gary Conradi has been on a mission to preserve South Dakota history one photograph at a time.

"I think it is important because I don't know anyone else who has done this and these things disappear. They don't last forever. I'm trying to preserve what we have," Conradi said.

This mission has taken him to every South Dakota County and nearly every community in the state. It has also led him to a Sun Dance on the Pine Ridge Reservation, President Lincoln's hometown, inner city Detroit and a commune in California.

His collection includes numerous photo series featuring prominent buildings like county courthouses, Episcopal churches, Carnegie Libraries and Odd Fellow's Halls. As well as less respectable structures like clotheslines and outhouses. There's even a series of headstones of deceased South Dakota Governors and a series of Dakota Territory Governors' grave sites.

"I have always had a strong interest in South Dakota history. I was born and raised here," Conradi said.

Other than the South Dakota connection, he does not limit himself to one subject or era. Conradi has photographed all the round barns in South Dakota as well as all the WPA murals found in South Dakota Post Offices. One photo series focuses on turn of the century buildings featuring cast iron Mesker facades and another series includes all 39 enameled stainless steel Lustron prefabricated homes located in South Dakota.

"Something just clicks... I try to pick subjects that I can complete. Not like all the beautiful sunrises and sunsets, I take those too, but I focus on something I can complete, that have historical significance to South Dakota," Conradi said.

Conradi often works on more than one series at a time. Right now, he is photographing water tower art, hometown bakeries and vintage railroad depots.

"I found one yesterday. In the town of Harold. I knew a railroad had gone through Harold; I went to where the railroad tracks came through looking for a depot. I didn't see any. I thought well, it's been so long ago, it is gone. And then I stopped at a gas station before I left, just for the heck of it, and I went in and said, "by chance do you know whatever happened to your depot. And he said, "yeah, it's about a mile or over there. My dad and I moved it 50 years ago." I just thought, I am lucky today. Fortune helps me find things. So many have been like that," Conradi said.

As he travels the state hunting for the next photo for a series he is working on, Conradi says he has met a lot of helpful South Dakotans along the way.

"What I have found is if you have an interest in something and if the person you are talking to knows a little bit about it, they will do anything to help you," Conradi said.

These photo series have also led Conradi to other projects. While completing a series of photos featuring the graves of South Dakotans who received the Medal of Honor, Conradi realized the University of South Dakota did not have a memorial to remember the three alumni who received the high honor given for extraordinary valor during

"I went to see our President and he said, "Gary, all it takes is money. I got together with Ted Munster, Ted helped me form a committee and we began a project with the university's approval. Three years later we dedicated Patriots Plaza. I am most proud of that accomplishment," Conradi said.

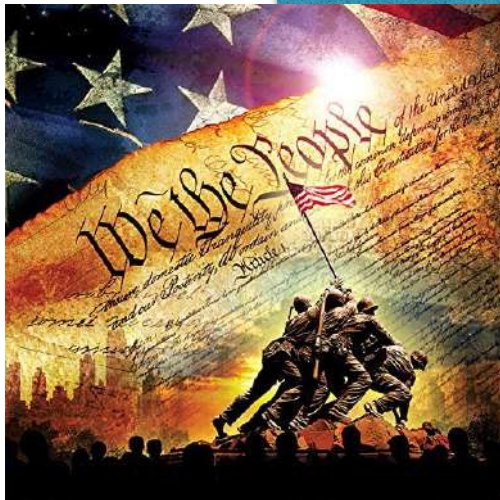
Once a collection is complete Conradi organizes the photos in an album, including handwritten descriptions of each image. Then he donates the series to Augustana's Center for Western Studies.

"I feel a sense of achievement when I accomplish one of these missions. I really enjoy doing them. I used to hunt quite a bit, like yesterday, finding this old depot out in the country that no one knew about except a couple people, that was more fulfilling than getting a limit of pheasants," Conradi said.

In 2011, Gary Conradi was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of fame, in 2019 Conradi was recognized for his contribution to South Dakota History with the Governor's Award and in 2021 Conradi received the DAR certificate of excellence.

Lura Roti

Congratulation Gary! Great story on the mostly silent work you have been devoted to for so many years! It is definitely time stories like this on you are being written. All of South Dakota owes you such a great deal! Jack Phillips



Continental Congress, July 4, 1776



A Viet Nam Story Worth Your Time.

Richard, (my husband), never really talked a lot about his time in Viet Nam, other than he had been shot by a sniper. However, he had a rather grainy, 8 x 10 black and white photo he had taken at a USO show of Ann Margret with Bob Hope in the background that was one of his treasures.

A few years ago, Ann Margret was doing a book signing at a local bookstore. Richard wanted to see if he could get her to Sign the treasured photo so he arrived at the bookstore at 12 o'clock for the 7:30 signing.

When I got there after work, the line went all the way around the bookstore, circled the parking lot, and disappeared behind a parking garage. Before her appearance, bookstore employees announced that she would sign only her book and no memorabilia would be permitted.

Richard was disappointed, but wanted to show her the photo and let her know how much those shows meant to lonely GI's so far from home.. Ann Margret came out



Ann Margret

**Ann Margret
entertaining
thousands of
American service
personnel in
Viet Nam.**



looking as beautiful as ever and, as second in line, it was soon Richard's turn. He presented the book for her signature and then took out the photo. When he did, there were many shouts from the employees that she would not sign it. Richard said, "I understand. I just wanted her to see it."



She took one look at the photo, tears welled up in her eyes and she said, "This is one of my gentlemen from Viet Nam and I most certainly will sign his photo. I know what these men did for their country and I always have time for 'my gentlemen.'"

With that, she pulled Richard across the table and planted a big kiss on him. She then made quite a to-do about the bravery of the young men she met over the years, how much she admired them, and how much she appreciated them. There weren't too many dry eyes among those close enough to hear. She then posed for pictures and acted as if he were the only one there.

That night was a turning point for him. He walked a little straighter and, for the first time in years, was proud to have been a Vet. I'll never forget Ann Margaret for her graciousness and how much that small act of kindness meant to my husband.

Later at dinner, Richard was very quiet. When I asked if he'd like to talk about it, my big, strong husband broke down in tears.. "That's the first time anyone ever thanked me for my time in the Army," he said.

I now make it a point to say 'Thank you' to every person I come across who served in our Armed Forces. Freedom does not come cheap and I am grateful for all those who have served their country.

If you'd like to pass on this story, feel free to do so. Perhaps it will help others to become aware of how important it is to acknowledge the contribution our service people make.

A True Patriot Will Pass This On. A Foreigner In This Country Might Not.
Don't be too busy today.. Share this inspiring message with friends and family.



O&B EDITOR'S NOTES:

Throughout the Vietnam War, Ann-Margret **toured three times with the USO, twice traveling with the organization to Southeast Asia to perform for American service members.** To this day, those who saw her performances in Vietnam tell her how much it meant to them when they were stationed an ocean away from home.

The Vietnam War (also known by other names) was a conflict in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia from 1 November 1955 to the fall of Saigon on 30 April 1975.

In 1995 Vietnam released its official estimate of the number of people killed during the Vietnam War: **as many as 2,000,000 civilians on both sides and some 1,100,000 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong fighters.** The U.S. military has estimated that between 200,000 and 250,000 South Vietnamese soldiers died.

The Vietnam Conflict Extract Data File of the Defense Casualty Analysis System (DCAS) Extract Files contains records of **58,220** U.S. military fatal casualties of the Vietnam War. These records were transferred into the custody of the National Archives and Records Administration in 2008.

For your information South Dakota lost 1,426 military personnel in World War II, 130 in Korea and 134 in Viet Nam.

From the fifties decade Washington High School lost the following three men in Viet Nam.



Ronald Van Regenmorter
WHS '54 Senior Photo.





Gene Kimmel

*WHS Class of '56
(Photo: Sophomore,
University S.D., 1961)*

In Memory of U.S. Marine Corps Captain

Eugene William Kimmel

Washington High School 1956

Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Minnehaha County

August 20, 1938 -- October 22, 1968

Died When an Aircraft He Was Flying Crashed in Combat in
Quang Nam Province, Vietnam



Sam Fantle

*1956 High School
Football Student Manager*

In Memory of U.S. Air Force Captain

Samuel Fantle III

Washington High School 1957

Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Minnehaha County

November 19, 1939 -- January 5, 1968
Killed in Action n North Vietnam.

The O&B's research indicates that thirteen young men from the
1960's Washington High School decade were lost in Viet Nam.

May they all rest in peace!

Subject: Fwd: NIXON LIBRARY: Vietnam Prisoners Reunion

AS A VIETNAM VETERAN I HOPE WE NEVER FORGET THE SACRIFICES OF SO MANY LIVING AND NOW GONE!

A truly great video.....to my friends who served in the military, thank you for your service to our country! We don't show enough gratitude and respect to those who have served this country for us!!

GOD BLESS AMERICA

This is a great video of our guys in North Vietnam prisons. I have never seen this before and I had no idea how these guys felt all these years about Nixon.

You probably recognize some of the people you may have known. This may be duplicate of what you have seen before but I don't recall anyone sending this outstanding video out on the net.

VN POWs - 40 years later

No matter what one may think of Nixon now - watch this!"

[Prisoners' Reunion](#)

Please double click.



Tribute to America's Veterans: 'Those Honored Dead'



Thank You For Your Service

