

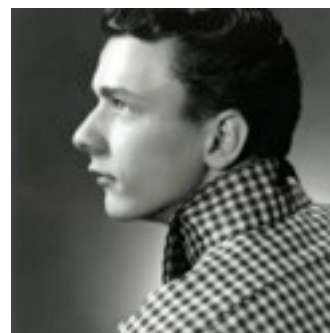
**WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, SIOUX FALLS, SD**  
Serving The Classes of the Great '50's Decade. Photos & Stories Welcome!  
Published by Jack M. Phillips, Class of '54: [jack@jackmphilips.com](mailto:jack@jackmphilips.com)



**Myron Wachendorf '59**  
**WHS Senior Photo**

## **Myron Lee and The Caddies** **Part Three**

**By Myron Lee**



Returning home to Sioux Falls after spending three months in Canada in 1961 was a good feeling and it was nice to get back to a more normal life playing our Midwest music dates. We gained a lot of

experience working with some big stars in the business and got to see how they acted and dressed. If you look at a before and after photo, we made quite a change in the way we dressed and the way we looked after watching the professionals. Our first stop was *Crawford's Men's Wear* (See *Crawford's Warrior Ad on page 2.*), in Sioux Falls to buy mohair custom made suites with purple linings (\$200.00 each!). As far as my hair, I copied Buddy Knox who used a hair dryer to get the puffed up big hair look with the pompadour in front. Previous to that I was still doing the wet look with the part on the left side and (a little dab will do ya) Brylcreem or some Cranks hair oil to get the greasy look.

It is now the spring of 1962 and a song we recorded in Minneapolis called *Peter Rabbit* is getting a lot of radio play all over the Midwest and requests for us to play are rolling in. Coming from a poor Midwestern family (although we didn't know that), if someone in the neighborhood bought a new Chevy, now that was a BIG deal and everyone had to go look at it. If you bought an Olds or Buick, now that's a bigger deal yet, but if you bought a Cadillac, that was the ultimate. I don't recall any of our family

or relatives ever owning a Cadillac. It was a real status symbol to me then and it still is today. I was

21 years old and I had to have one, so I bought a new white 1962 Cadillac Deville for \$6,000.00. My dear sweet Mom came home from working at Fantles that evening and saw it parked in the driveway. When she found out it was mine, she asked me how I was ever going to be able to pay for it. I said "Don't worry, Mom, it's only a \$250.00 a month payment." At that age I didn't think the money would ever stop rolling in.

The band and I played for a lot of WHS Class Reunions over the years. We not only played for our own class of 1959, but were often hired for reunions from classes that graduated years before us and years after us. At our 10<sup>th</sup> Reunion at the downtown Holiday Inn, I recall a lot of drinking going on and I think that Jerry Crider from our class was pitching for the Minnesota Twins at that time. I think that a lot of my classmates had not yet figured out what they were going to do with their lives because when we got to the 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> year reunions, people were much more settled in and had a lot more fun. Just an observation I made not only with our class but other classes too.

During this time period our booking agent had expanded his business and was bringing a lot of talent to the Midwest and would have us as the backup band for many of them. Some names that I recall were Ray Stevens, Dale and Grace, Neil Sadeka, the Everly Brothers, Bobby Vinton, Tommy Roe and many more. Most of these smaller tours would last two weeks and would include a lot of the ballrooms in the five-state area. In those days, people thought nothing of driving 50 miles to go to a dance. We had our favorite ballrooms to play like Hatfield, Minnesota, Dell Rapids Ballroom, Ruskin Park near Mitchell and The Pavillion in Spearfish. We would often drive to Spearfish, play the four hour dance job, then drive back to Sioux Falls getting home around 9:00 a.m. the next day. We'd get a few hours sleep and get on the road again and do it all over the next night.

In the summer we played at a lot of the ballroom resorts in Minnesota and on a Saturday evening at around 7:00



**Myron Lee &  
The Caddies**

p.m. we pulled up to the ballroom near a lake at Henning, Minnesota about 200 miles northeast of Sioux Falls. I was surprised to see another band unloading their equipment to play the dance and after I checked my date book, I found that I had made a huge mistake. I had read my date book wrong and we were suppose to be at Ruskin Park on that night – about 250 miles west of where we were. I found a phone and was lucky to get Jimmy Thomas, our booking agent, and I told him the situation. Jimmy then called the Ballroom owner at Ruskin and told him what happened. He said they would wait for us if we would make the trip. We drove as fast as we could and arrived at Ruskin Park around midnight. Several hundred people had waited for us and instead of playing 9:30 to 1:30, we played 12:30 to 4:30 a.m. Needless to say, it was a LONG DAY.

One day I got a call from Bobby Vee and that conversation opened up another chapter in our musical career. We'll talk about that another time. **Myron Lee Story Part Four Next Issue.**

LET US HELP YOU SAY  
*MERRY CHRISTMAS!*  
To The MEN In Your Life



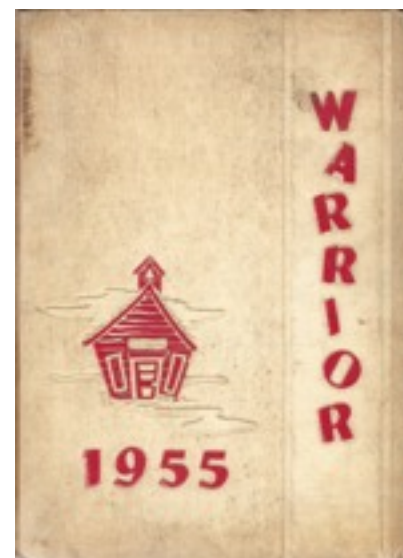
**Crawford's**  
MEN'S WEAR

214 S. Phillips Ave.

**Editors note: In the 1950s, the men's stores of Crawford's, Weatherwax's, Hecker's and E. C. Olson's made the young men of the era probably as well dressed as any decade that ever came out of WHS. All four stores advertised regularly in the O&B.**

The Crawford ad on the left appeared in the O&B on December 16, 1955. Thanks to Royce Adams '58 for providing the O&B Ad.

I had the privilege of working at Crawford's after school and on Saturdays during my senior year. I truly enjoyed working there. It was not only a fun job but also a great learning experience for me. Everyone from the owner himself, Mr. Andy Crawford, to Norm, Keith Brown (WHS '51) and all the other employees were such class men to get to know and work with. I have so many pleasurable memories from my job at Crawford's. Jack Phillips







**Loren Little '59  
WHS Senior Photo**

# The Dr. Loren Little '59 Story

## Continued From Issue #5-14

The heroic story of Dr. Loren Little's brave, distinguished and humanitarian service in the U. S. Army in Vietnam appeared in Issue #5-14 of the Orange & Black on May 22, 2014. While gathering information on Dr. Little for that story I learned so much more about how interesting and talented he is. Here is the rest of the rest of the Dr. Loren Little story.

It seems that Loren has always been an extremely busy man and it also seems that he has always excelled in everything he undertook. While at WHS he excelled in both music and sports and served WHS as a member of the Junior and Senior Student Council. Loren is not a large man, but he so obviously has a huge heart and an unlimited amount of heart, talent and try. He earned monograms in football and track in both his junior and senior years. He played right halfback in football and was an iron man in track, competing successfully in the 100 and 220 yard dashes, the 440 & 880 yard relays, the sprint medley, the broad jump and the pole vault. Regardless of how talented an athlete Loren was, I don't think there is any doubt that music was and is still his first love. And, from his impressive musical resume below it is clear that he is an extremely gifted and talented musician.

After Graduating from WHS in 1959, Dr. Little obtained his MD at the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington. After obtaining his M.D., Dr. Little entered the U.S. Army in 1968 and was the recipient of several awards including: Silver Star, Purple Heart, Bronze Stars, Air Medals, CMB, Parachutist Badge, ARCOM, VSM, VTSM, VCM, V. Cross of Gallantry, JCSC Medal and NDM. After seven and a half years of service in the Army, he retired with the rank of Lt. Colonel. Loren completed his residency in Ophthalmology at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC. (See full military story in O&B Issue #5-14)

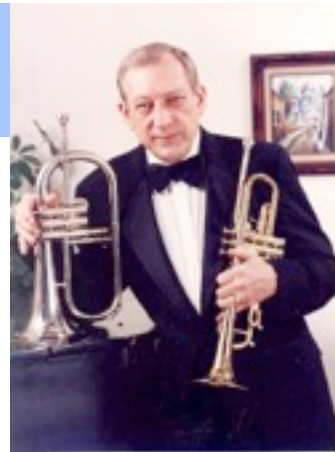
Dr. Little has had a private ophthalmology practice in Las Vegas for 36 years. He is a published researcher and a Fellow with the American Academy of Ophthalmology and American College of Surgeons.

"My mother Maxine (WHS 1928?) taught classical piano for 40 years, she and my Dad, Ev, met in the 1930s when he was playing sax and she was singing in a trio. She also played piano for dances, wrote award winning choral arrangements, and everything I know about music theory and chord structure she taught me. Her Dad was a country fiddler from Canistota and would play "Turkey in the Straw" every Thanksgiving. Her sister, Margaret, had a well know dance studio in Sioux Falls where my brother Tom (WHS '61) sister Debbie (WHS '73) and myself took regular dance lessons. Both Tom and Debbie had dual careers, Tom in music playing all the reeds is a retired Professor Emeritus living in S.C. and Deb in drama/theater lives in CO.

My dad's cousin was Big Tiny Little who had a famous territory band in the Midwest, and his son was Big Tiny Little Jr. who played honky tonk piano on the Lawrence Welk show. As kids growing up in Sioux Falls Ev played in the Municipal band so that was a big deal to us every summer. We never thought we would be good enough to play with a band like that. As it turned out and as I discovered later in life, that was a very good band with excellent professional musicians. There were a lot of things growing up in Sioux Falls that turned out to be an exceptional back ground for what was to come later. The band program in Sioux Falls was excellent and the lessons learned from teachers McCabe and Foss were invaluable.

Myron Lee '59, story great - I have his book. The first time I truly found out about an "electric" guitar was in the basement of Barry Andrews '58, house and I was playing with Myron and his band to see if a trumpet would work. (it didn't, but Barry certainly did) I picked up Myron's guitar while standing in a puddle of water from the washing machine - - ZING !!~!!.

When in grade school at Emerson I used to watch you "big guys" - you and Paul Anderson etc play on the softball field, couldn't understand how to hit the ball as far.



**Loren with  
Flugelhorn & Trumpet**

I first played with the Municipal band in 1956 but didn't become a regular member until I was 16. Monday night rehearsals were year round. In the summer there were two concerts on Sunday and one Thursday evening and all concerts were different, which meant a lot of sight reading. Little time to rehearse. And a huge variety of music, overtures, marches, pop, Broadway, vocals. A lot of classical music, all excellent training for what was to come later. Simple invaluable. And the pay, for the time certainly helped save up for college and pay other summer expenses, along with working at Morrells and the Street Dept.

Away at college I played football in the fall for Macalester and in the spring I had a band that played for all the local college parties and dances. I had money saved by the time I went to Medical school. While in Seattle attending the U of Washington Medical School I worked mostly at the Edgewater Inn playing shows, not steady, but enough to defray expenses. The first show was a diner show and every night when I left I locked my horn inside the piano and filled my horn case with left over food to take home.



**Thanks to Paul Anderson '56 for arranging the three of us to have lunch recently here in Las Vegas. I to r; Jack Phillips '54, Dr. Loren Little '59 and Paul.**



**The talented Little family dressing in 1963 for a performance of The Sioux Falls Municipal Band. I to r: Loren's father, Ev Little, his younger brother, Tom Little '61 and Loren. What a priceless photo!**

professional level." Besides that, an officer in the military is not allowed to play an instrument professionally. So, in order to keep playing and play for really good money, no one knew what I did at my day job so I got to work some super good gigs -for the President, Vice-President parties, shows, glamorous embassy parties etc. Eventually it got to the point that it was not the money any longer, it was the excellence of the product, the better the band/musicians, the more satisfying it was.

When living in El Paso at my last duty station I realized there were three places I could go to play with the best at the highest level. Los Angeles and New York were too big and the travel time to do both medicine and music were prohibitive. Here in Vegas I could get anyplace in five minutes.(1976) The music for the Vegas shows could vary greatly, from classical to rock, jazz to Broadway and because of that diverse training growing up in Sioux Falls it was easy for me.

After internship I was drafted and while in Vietnam there was very little chance to play, so upon return to the states after a lot of trauma, a good part of my therapy was playing night and day with a 6-piece group in Sioux Falls called the Jazz Tet. All great musicians from Sioux Falls, Mark Miller, Ralph and Greg Olsen, Bob Naylor and Gene White from Texas. Sometimes we started at 8 in the morning and went until 2 AM. We were sponsored in part by the arts council to educate and give school concerts from Kindergarten through college.

By 1971 I was living in the Washington DC area stationed at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and had discovered the wrong thing to do was let any one know I was a doctor. Doctors "aren't good enough to play at a





**Loren as soloist with Army band led by Loren's son, Rich, standing to the right.**

Coming to Las Vegas I was never a high note player and the town was full of them. But I could sight read any type of music and play some jazz, which means making up or improvising your own melody using only provided chord symbols. The latter is what opened many doors and by 1977 I was working mainly the star rooms. The other rooms had "production" shows -like the Lido at the Stardust. (see "Casino" the movie) The production shows were the same show, same notes two shows a night every night

year after year. A lot of guys didn't even use the music after awhile and that could mean 200+ pages of music as each show was about 2 hours long. Although I subbed at these shows on occasion I was fortunate to play mainly the Star room shows which changed every week or two at the most. In those days there always two shows, 8-10 PM and midnight-2AM. When playing a steady stretch, office hours would sometimes begin at noon and end @ 6:30, just in time to be in my chair for an 8PM down beat. I made more money on the strip the first year of playing than I did doing Ophthalmology.



**Trumpet section of a recent gig. Loren is in middle and his 15 year old grandson, Brian Little on right.**

The busy days of that life style started to change @ 1983 and by the time of the big strike in 1989 all musicians were locked out and replaced with taped music. It's been slow to return. During the 1990's there were only @ three full time employed trumpet players compared to @ 200 when I came to town. One of those was my son, Rich. He also plays trumpet, has toured Europe and played Carnegie hall when in High school. Rich has a Masters degree in Environmental Science and works doing ? in a concrete building with no windows on a secure post in Washington. And has the Army Guard for his music. [see photo] Seems like all of us from our parents down have had the music for secondary gain, as a supplement to daily life.

Live music today on the strip usually means a small group, maybe 4 horns total. I still play an average of once a week, sometimes twice - usually a one night show with a big band or a jazz concert or jazz venue. An occasional one or two week tour out of country. There are still plenty of the old guard around, retired musicians who still play fantastic. But the interest and audience crowd now dwindles, as those raised to



Loren and his beautiful Texas wife, Christy.

appreciate the "live" performance dwindles. I Still practice ophthalmology 3 days/week to support the playing habit, but doing no major surgery.

Now I have my two grandchildren living with us. Brian was first chair trumpet All-State band as a 15 year old this year, and 18 year old Jennifer plays sax and flute in the jazz band at UNLV. She and her own group *Minor Society* are in the process of making their first CD. [[soundcloud.com/minor-society](https://soundcloud.com/minor-society)]

Music and life have always been intertwined. It looks like that may continue for awhile.  
Loren

Recounting some of the many acts and stars Loren has played for includes:

Abbe Lane, Anthony Newly, Don Rickles, Buddy Hackett, Buddy Greco, Joe Williams, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr, Jerry Lewis, Mancini, Lisa Manelli, Ella Fitzgerald, Dianne Ross, Johnny Carson, Pearl Bailey, George Carlin, Joey Heatherton, Eddie Fischer, Bobby Vinton, Smothers Bros, Victor Borge, Arethra Franklin, Michelle LeGrand, Mel Torme, Doc Severenson, Steve Allen, Rita Moreno, Linda Carter, Spinners, 4 TOPS, Temptations, Tina Turner, Pia Zadora, the Muppets, Gregory Hines, Debbie Reynolds - -

He has been featured as a soloist with:

Tony Bennett, Cleo Lane, Jack Jones, Sammy Davis Jr, Burt Bacharach, Louie Bellson, Suzzan Sommers, Henri Mancini, Jerry Lewis Telethon

TV Recordings include the very first HBO shows from Las Vegas starring Rich Little, and Don Rickles from the MGM Hotel. Live shows included awards shows and several Jerry Lewis telethons which brought musicians together from New York, Los Angeles, and Vegas to form the band.

In addition to work on the strip he was a member of the CCSN Faculty Sextet 1994-2005 and a Trustee of the Nevada School of the Arts 1983-2008. He is listed in Who's Who in Entertainment.

There were Two International tours with Paul Anka and one video "Live from Mexico."

Two recent tours to Canada and South America with the show "Sinatra Forever"

As a producer he formed SNL Records and in 1996 his first release *Out of the Blue* became the first and only album ever awarded 5 stars by the International Trumpet Guild. The second release *Eclecticism* was orchestral in content. Both albums were recorded in LA and featured his long time friend trumpeter Carl Saunders and are still available as downloads or whole album through most Internet outlets such as Amazon or CD Baby.

**Editors Recommendation:** Click on <http://youtu.be/Msjxl8lveNE> to enjoy Loren's beautiful, "Tenderly" tribute, to his mother, Maxine, at a recent Las Vegas Smith Center concert.

**Interesting final note:** Danny Falcone is the son of Vincent Falcone who was Sinatra's conductor for years. Danny was recently the subject of an International Trumpet Guild story Vol 38 #2 2014. He currently is the principle trumpet and travels with Celine Dion, does the Jersey Boys show and the Sante Fe Horns. He writes;

*"I have known Loren "Doc" Little for 31 years. His son and I are best friends and grew up playing trumpet together. Doc Little was always an inspiration to me, he was on every gig on the strip in Las Vegas and was very versatile. He played every part needed, from the jazz/solo chair to the lead trumpet chair and was also an expert as a "section" trumpet player. He was probably one of the most in demand trumpet players in town for many, many years. Even now I have the great privilege of playing with him in a trumpet section from time to time and am always humbled by his incredible ability and deep knowledge of the instrument."* Daniel Falcone

*Again, thanks to Bill Lobe '59, for originally alerting me to the Loren Little Story and thanks to you Loren for allowing me the privilege of trying to tell your wonderful story.*

*See Addendum's on Dr. Loren Little's story on page 13.*



# Can You Help Solve The Mystery of Our Homecoming Coronation Chairs?

On Apr 5, 2014, at 8:10 AM, **Pat Jorgensen Palagi '56** <[pjpgalagi@gmail.com](mailto:pjpgalagi@gmail.com)> wrote:



**Pat Jorgensen '56**  
WHS Senior Photo

My father, Donald K. Jorgensen, began teaching at WHS in 1941 and became a member of the OLD organizing committee sometime in the early 1940's. For the crowning of the Queen and Marshal at homecoming the school needed some special throne chairs. My father remembered that there were some very nice but old chairs in his father's barn in Viborg, SD. In 1927 the Methodist Church in Viborg burned down. Among the furnishings saved from the church were two chairs which were then stored in my grandfather's barn. Don brought them to the high school and Mr. Wilson in the shop department stripped, refinished and reupholstered them in red material. These chairs were used for the coronation ceremony from the 1940's through at least the 1970's when my father retired. I have wondered if the chairs are



**Mr. Donald Jorgensen**  
Biology Teacher  
From 1956 Warrior

still used since the high school moved to the new building. I emailed the school this story and asked about the chairs several years ago but received no reply. In the 1956 annual these chairs can be seen in the background of the photos on page 174. Other annuals from the 1940's onward probably have photographs of them also.

**Pat Jorgensen Palagi Class of '56**



left: Both of "THE CHAIRS" were used for the 1941 Homecoming by Queen Phyllis Harum and Marshall

right: Only one "CHAIR" was used for the 1958 Homecoming by Marshall John Hegg while a shorter chair was used by Queen Shirley White. Over the years two of the taller "CHAIRS" were sometimes used and some years only one taller "CHAIR" was used with a shorter chair. It seems that in most years the Queen sat in the taller "CHAIR".



**From: Pat Palagi To: Dale Hart Sent: Saturday, April 05, 2014 10:18 AM**

Dale, You and the WHS history committee may be interested in this little story. I would hope that the chairs are in your museum if they are not still being used. If you hear anything about the current place of the chairs I would be very interested in what happened to them.

**Pat Jorgensen Palagi '56**

On Sat, Apr 5, 2014 at 11:11 AM, Dale & Linda Hart <[drhart@midco.net](mailto:drhart@midco.net)> wrote:

Pat: This is a very interesting story on the Homecoming chairs... The Historical Committee is meeting on Monday, and I will check page 174 of the 1956 yearbook to see if they are the same chairs that I remember being used at Homecoming during my years at WHS--1968 to 1991, and I will be back in touch with you.  
Dale

From: **Dale & Linda Hart** <[drhart@midco.net](mailto:drhart@midco.net)> Date: Mon, Apr 7, 2014 at 4:58 PM

To: Pat Palagi <[pgpalagi@gmail.com](mailto:pgpalagi@gmail.com)>

Pat, at our monthly meeting today, one member said that he knew in fact what happened to the chairs in question... They were bought by Tom and Mary Hanson, WHS grads(we don't know of what year), presumably when old WHS closed to move to the new school. So, we might assume that the chairs were used through all the years until its closing in 1992. Your father would be proud to know of his contribution to the annual celebration, as well as to know of his influence to so many young people.

Dale

From: **Dale & Linda Hart** <[drhart@midco.net](mailto:drhart@midco.net)> Date: Tue, Apr 8, 2014 at 7:05 AM

To: Pat Palagi <[pgpalagi@gmail.com](mailto:pgpalagi@gmail.com)>

Pat, as a follow-up to the information on the chairs I gave you last night, this morning I was in touch again with the committee member who gave me the knowledge that Tom Hanson purchased the chairs, as I wanted to clarify if they were ever used at the new WHS. Now he said he thought they were used there for a short time, but he couldn't quite remember when or under what circumstance they came into the possession of Tom Hanson. Maybe Jack Phillips can do some "sleuthing"?

Dale

O&B Readers: Do you have any additional information on these very special chairs?

## Jim Parker '55

### Nothing can stop him! Retiree keeps active on the ice

Argus Leader story By Dorene Weinstein, [dweinste@argusleader.com](mailto:dweinste@argusleader.com); February 22, 2014



Jim Parker '55  
WHS Senior Photo

Jim Parker is 77, has played hockey for 37 years and still has all of his teeth. His motto "Never stop!" has worked pretty well for him. Parker has played hockey twice a week since he began at age 40 and plans to keep it up until he can't anymore.

Exercise is one part of a well-rounded life, and it enhances your quality of life, Parker says. He plays hockey for a couple of reasons: "Part of it is to be with the guys, and the other part is to stay in shape." "There's no reason not to be active when you retire," Parker says. When it's not hockey season, Parker works out at the downtown YMCA three times a week for an hour and a half.

He became interested in hockey as a father. "My son wanted to play, then the adults got together and started to play, and I've been playing ever since," Parker says. The twice-a-week pick-up games he participates in at the Sioux Falls Ice and Rec Center are pretty casual, Parker says. "We don't even keep score." Everyone wears a jersey, pads and a helmet, but the playing is deliberately not rough. "The guys are pretty nice to me," Parker says.

His teammates grew up playing the game and have a lot more experience than him, Parker says. "I learned to skate at Campus Park in Sioux Falls." Furthermore, "most of the guys are considerably younger than him," says his wife, Sue. "If he falls, they get worried." "He's gotten a few bumps





and bruises now and then, but nothing serious," she adds.

Parker has thought about the time when he will be forced to hang up his skates, but that won't stop him entirely. "Sooner or later, something's not going to work right," he says. "Once that happens, I'll do whatever I can."

Thanks to Mavis Larson Carl '55 for sending Jim's story to the O&B. End of Jim Parker story.

---

## 3 WHS Reunions Scheduled!

### Class of '59 - 55th Reunion

Sept 5, 6 & 7, 2014

Register NOW!

See Orange & Black Issue #4-14 for all details.

Contact Shirley Kittelson Bock '59

605-290-3345 [Shirleybock@gmail.com](mailto:Shirleybock@gmail.com)

### Class of '54 - 60th Reunion

Sept. 19, 20 & 21, 2014

Register NOW!

See Orange & Black Issue #4-14 for all details.

Contact John Kittelson '54

[kittelson@prodigy.net](mailto:kittelson@prodigy.net)

## 2015 ALL SCHOOL REUNION

Sept. 18, 19 & 20, 2015

Reserve these dates on your 2015 calendar. More information will be forthcoming. Mick Zerr, ex WHS teacher and Chairman of the WHS Historical Committee, has reported *that there are efforts under way to organize an "All School Staff Reunion" in Sept. 2015. I think everyone is hoping the two reunions can be held simultaneously.*

Contact Marlys Ahrendt Hohman at [marlysanna@aol.com](mailto:marlysanna@aol.com) for more information on the All School Reunion, or to help on the organizing committee. More help is needed.

## Thanks To Jill Callison, WHS Class of '73



Jill Callison '73

Argus Leader reporter, Jill Callison, wrote the following story on the 2015 All School Reunion that appeared in the Argus Leader on May 26, 2014. Yes, Jill graduated from WHS in 1973. The O&B truly appreciates Jill's continued support of WHS Alumni events.

What if they gave a reunion, and no one came?

As Marlys Hohman '57 and Sharon Johnson '53 begin planning an all-school reunion for Washington High in September 2015, they aren't worried about that. Since 1992, almost every reunion has drawn a good turnout.

What they do worry about, however, is selecting activities that will draw the most Washington graduates and whether enough volunteers will come forward to serve on the various planning committees.

That's why, 15 months before the expected gathering, they want to gauge interest and start involving others.

Since 1992, when the downtown high school closed and moved to a building in northeast Sioux Falls, five reunions have been scheduled. The upcoming reunion is open to all graduates but will focus in particular on alumni from the 1950s and '60s. Washington graduated 32,767 students from 1908 when records were first kept to its closing at the original location.

"We're at a place where we don't think the younger graduates will be interested," said Sharon (Frank) Johnson, Class of 1953.

Hohman's class has agreed to the all-school reunion instead of planning something for their 60th anniversary as the Class of 1957.

The reunions are a chance to renew "wonderful friendships" from more than six decades ago, Johnson said. "The older I get, the more I enjoy reconnecting," she said.

"The facility was amazing," said Hohman, who attended the old high school as Marlys Ahrendt. "We had great, great teachers. Most kids don't like their high school years, but I liked mine."

Former Washington principal Bob Caselli suggested the first reunion in 1992, and Hohman has helped with every reunion since, except for 2010 when the Washington Pavilion took it over. What is needed, she said, is for alumni from the classes behind hers to offer assistance.

"We need younger people to take it over," Hohman said. "Each class has someone who tries to keep a list (of addresses) up and keeps track of people."

The best advice the reunion planners ever received was to keep it simple, she said.

"People want to interact with each other," Johnson said.

Activities might include tours of the Washington Pavilion, city tours and golf outings. Holding it in the fall, after school has started, means a contact with current Washington students.

"We want the cheerleaders to come and lead us in the school song," Hohman said.

After the 1992 reunion, money raised was used to start a scholarship fund through the Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation. It awards a \$1,000 scholarship annually to a Washington graduate. Hohman and Johnson would like to see additional funds added to the scholarship so the program can expand.

**Washington reunion:** If you are interested in attending an all-school reunion for Washington High School in September 2015, are willing to serve on a planning committee or have a suggestion for an activity, contact Marlys Hohman at [marlysanna@aol.com](mailto:marlysanna@aol.com) or Sharon Johnson at [shrnfaye@sio.midco.net](mailto:shrnfaye@sio.midco.net).



# Mike Rich's '57, Annual Report On "The Boys of '57" Annual Meeting At Pete Hegg's Ranch



Mike Rich '57  
WHS Senior Photo

Jack: This year's "Boys of '57" get-together started off with a bang, to wit: a tornado warning and golf ball size hail Thursday afternoon, which found Mark Line, Roger Wangsness, John Simko and me hunkered in the basement of the federal courthouse (the old post office at 12<sup>th</sup> and Phillips) awaiting the storm's passage. It did, and so later we moved to the verandah of the new and luxurious Hilton Garden Inn Hotel overlooking the River Walk and the Big Sioux River where we met up with this year's contingent along with several wives for dinner and drinks. The hotel, which is Pete Hegg's latest erection, is on the east side of the river at 8<sup>th</sup> Street, where, if I'm not mistaken, Zabel's Junk Yard once stood and where the late Sheldon Zabel and I spent many happy hours playing among the junked cars without a single tetanus shot between us.

Friday and on to the Circle H: Following dinner that night, Mark Line emceed audience participation festivities soliciting Sioux Falls icons of the 50's. In no particular order here are some that were nominated: Coach Bob Burns, The Idle Hour pool hall, the Hamburger Inn and nickel hamburgers (in both price and size), The 20<sup>th</sup> Century Club, highschool teachers Annie Kleinsasser and Mrs. Skaff, The Barrel, Cottage and Cutlers drive-ins, Jack O'Connor, Smitty's Popcorn Wagon, the Falls, the Orpheum Theatre (94 double features!), the Starlight and East Side drive-in theaters, J.C. Penny's escalator, the Arkota Ballroom, High Pockets, the YMCA (where many of us, sans suits, learned to swim and some of us later played basketball in the Hi-Y League) and, of course, venerable Washington High School. Our hats were off to Larry Gleeson, who recorded (after a fashion) the nominations notwithstanding that they were coming at him fast and furiously and he was operating in a noticeably impaired state. One he inscribed, as best we could tell, looked like, "Ghuzerblephlaff" [sic]. We're not sure what Larry meant by that, but we're working on it. Jack, maybe your vast readership can figure it out. Among Saturday's highlights were Gary Conradi's leading of a daylight tour (strictly educational) of several low-life bars in the surrounding environs (notably: Dallas, South Dakota) and Pete's chaperoning of a group to tour the Fort Randall Dam power house and on to Corsica (not the island) where



we get to stand on the corner of Park Avenue and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and count Chevrolets passing through on State Highway 47. Unfortunately, the not-quite-annual trip to the Outhouse Museum in Gregory was off the schedule as that institution has closed its lids. I intend to keep an eye on the Smithsonian here in Washington in case it has moved east.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, John Simko, armed with a \$35 fly rod and reel purchased from Lewis Drugstore, and accompanied by yours truly (on hand to capture the action packed visual record of this sure to be historic occasion) tried his hand at fly fishing on "Lake Hegg," and he caught and released four good size bass. Actually, I believe John caught the same fish four times as I distinctly heard the "fourth" one address him by name. Among the many photos I took, this one suggests that actual movement was involved:

Respectively submitted by Mike Rich '57



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## October 11, 2014 WHS Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction

This years Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner and Induction Ceremony will be held Saturday evening, October 11, 2014 in Sioux Falls at the Washington Pavilion. More information will be forthcoming. The 2014 inductees from our decade of the fifties are Mike Gibson '56, in the, "Athlete" category, and Jack Phillips '54, in the, "Contributor" category. This is a most prestigious event. Make plans now to attend.



Mike Gibson '56  
WHS Senior Photo  
"Athlete"



Jack Phillips '54  
WHS Senior Photo  
"Contributor"

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## Old Warrior Yearbooks Needed!

Almost every single day I refer to the old WHS yearbooks that you have helped me obtain. But I have a growing need for additional editions. If you have a WHS Warrior from any of the following years I would truly appreciate having them. Please send them to

**Jack M. Phillips 2261 Lauren Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89134.** *Thank you, Jack*

**I need 1941, 1943, 1944, 1947, 1948, 1949 and any edition from 1961 and later.**



## Addendum's On the Dr. Loren Little's '59 Story

**Editor's Note:** Loren sent this funny story on the WHS Band and Mr. Ardeen Foss and since I receive stories on the WHS Band, and/or Orchestra so seldom I wanted to be sure and add it. Especially since so many of my well meaning readers have been promising to send a story on the musical side of WHS for several years now but have failed to deliver as yet.

Having had Mr. Foss for 4 years of band at WHS plus private lessons, I am sure he would NOT be surprised about his name appearing. He was a graduate of the Eastman school of music and as fine a legit clarinet player found in any city. His youngest son attended West Point and played double reeds. His wife was @ 4'10" and Mexican? - he was 6' and @300lbs. When the band performed the 1812 Overture he used live shotgun blasts into barrels of sand to achieve the sound of canon. Which it did - plus shook loose a whole lot of dirt and dust from the rafters falling over the band and music. Sometimes we spent a whole hour in band playing maybe only one or two notes, concentrating on perceptions, combining thought process into unified result, 4 kids lifting him and the chair he sat in up in the air using only 2 fingers each, and when one individual decided to hold his own court he was taken out into the hallway lined with lockers adjacent to the band room where we all hear his head beating a pattern along the row of lockers thanks to Mr. Foss. (try that today) Musician, educator, disciplinarian with a band no more than 180 strong (the overflow made up the other bands) and gave packed concerts of the highest quality.

Loren

**Another addendum from Loren:** Don't know if you know or not, so FYI: My 1st wife was a '59 WHS grad, also lives in Vegas. When I was in med school she and our then 10 week old baby disappeared on a small plane flight from Seattle to L.A. Her dad was flying them to LA when the engine quit and they crash landed on Mt. St Helens, skidded to a stop, then fell over the snout of the glacier 2000 ft down where her dad and stepmom were killed. She was missing 2+ days, finally army search chopper spotted the wreckage etc. Story in Readers Digest July 1967. It was the top news story of that day - they were about to give up the search.

Loren

**Responses to Ed. Q.** Karla K. Erickson. Goes by the name of Karla Kay now. She was in the University hospital for @ 9 mos - my entire senior year of med school, with broken back, skull fracture etc.. I was working nights at the Edgewater Inn playing shows and would take home the leftovers from the diner show each night. No food stamps in those days. Baby was OK. When it came time to graduate the University of Washington said no diploma until I paid them what I owed = @ \$280,000 in University hospital expense. How could I earn money to pay them back without the diploma? Luckily the asst. Dean of Med school was a clarinet player, called a lawyer friend - - etc. I now am raising that baby's 2 children, age 15 and 18.



Karla Erickson '59  
WHS Senior Photo

Loren

Laurie was the daughter in the accident born 4/18/66 and Rich age 45 is my (wonderful) son b.1/3/1969 two days before I left for Nam.

Loren

End of Dr. Loren Little Story.

**Editor's Note:** I was not aware of the fascinating story of Karla's plane accident, but after learning of it from Loren, I called Karla and requested her approval for me to run the entire Readers Digest story in a future issue of the O&B. Karla has kindly granted me her approval and Loren has provided me with the July 1967 issue so her harrowing story will be appearing in an upcoming edition of the O&B.

### Dating Ads For Seniors. Found In A Florida Newspaper

#### FOXY LADY

Sexy, fashion-conscious blue-haired beauty, 80's, slim, 5 '4' (used to be 5'6'), searching for sharp-looking, sharp-dressing companion. Matching white shoes and belt a plus.

#### LONG-TERM COMMITMENT

Recent widow who has just buried fourth husband, looking for someone to round out a six-unit plot. Dizziness, Fainting, shortness of breath not a problem.

# Letters to the & B

Because no Letters to the Editor were published in the three Memorial Day issues of the Orange & Black there is an unusually large number of letters waiting to be published. To avoid this issue becoming too large, only a portion of the unprinted letters will be included in this issue with the remainder appearing in the next issue.



Sheldon Songstad '56  
WHS Senior Photo

On Jun 21, 2014, at 1:09 PM, **Sheldon R. Songstad '56** <[SRSongstad@msn.com](mailto:SRSongstad@msn.com)> wrote:

F Y I. Sheldon

## WHERE'S THE LEAST EXPENSIVE STATE TO LIVE IN AMERICA

HERE'S SOMETHING INTERESTING  
SOUTH DAKOTA IS NUMBER ONE AND NORTH DAKOTA IS NUMBER TWO.

<http://wallstcheatsheet.com/stocks/the-8-least-expensive-states-to-live-in-the-u-s.html/>



[a=viewall&ref=OB&utm\\_content=buffer4f1a2&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer](#)

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On May 3, 2014, at 4:25 PM, Conrad Egge <[conradegge@cox.net](mailto:conradegge@cox.net)> wrote:

Hi Jack, What a great edition to the O&B. Thank you! I found all of Myron Lee's story fascinating. Who knew!?! We did live in a special time...and in a real sense, still do. Having our first 100 degree day of 2014, you probably are too. Bob and I are busy with various activities and doing quite a bit of traveling. We are checking off a 5-year travel plan. Did a NYC week followed by a cruise on the Breakaway to the Bahamas. Book of Mormon was amazing. A Midwest trip is coming up but it will not include Sioux Falls this time. Later we'll spend some time at our digs in the Rockies and in the Fall a trip to Australia and New Zealand. Next year promises a Viking Long Boat cruise from Budapest to Nuremberg. We have developed a pattern of renting an apartment for a week or so before we embark on a cruise, wherever that might be. Discovered Rome to be one of my favorite cities. Stay active and stay well! Best, Conrad



Conrad (Jim) Egge '54  
WHS Senior Photo

On May 3, 2014, at 6:18 PM, **Laurel Pierce Hampel '55** <[laufred@att.net](mailto:laufred@att.net)> wrote:

Hi Jack,

Just wanted to let you know the latest issue came through without a hitch, easy to open up & read, & looks like the problems are behind you for now anyway. Amen to that! I especially liked the piece about the old Arkota Ballroom....lots of good memories from there, plus that is where I met my husband all those years ago. We celebrated our 58th wedding anniversary on April 21 of this year. Very nice issue as always & thank you ever so much for your continued dedication & diligence to our '50's cause. You shine!

God Bless,

**Laurel Pierce Hampel '55**



Laurel Pierce '55  
WHS Senior Photo



## Loren Little '59 & Shirley Ahnberg Widman '54

The following request from Merlyn "Chris" Christensen '54 was printed in WHS O&B #4-14 and I am happy to report the following great success thanks to Loren Little '59 of Las Vegas, NV.

*Jack, "I have a letter my step brother (Ralph Olsen Sr.) wrote when in Germany in WWII and would like to get it to his family. He had two sons, Ralph Jr. and Greg who I believe graduated WHS late 50's or early 60's. I lost track of the Olsen family and have not been able to find them. They had a cousin, Janet Lorenzen, WHS Class of '56, I don't know her married name, who may know Ralph or Greg's whereabouts. I was hoping the maybe Janet is on your O&B list so that I could contact her. Any help you can provide will be appreciated."*



**Merlyn Christensen '54**  
WHS Junior Photo



**Janet Lorenzen '56**  
WHS Senior Photo



**Loren Little '59**  
WHS Senior Photo

On May 3, 2014, at 6:36 PM, **Loren Little '59** [tpts1@aol.com](mailto:tpts1@aol.com) wrote:

Christenson: inquires @ Greg and Ralph Olsen. They are Pipestone MN. graduates. Know both well -Ralph is in New York-wonderful musician on Broadway and Greg in S.F I can put him in contact if needed.

What next?

**Loren Little '59**

On May 4, 2014, at 10:16 AM, Chris and Bev <[chrisbev2@myfairpoint.net](mailto:chrisbev2@myfairpoint.net)> wrote:

Hi Jack. Thanks so much for the e-mail from Loren Little. I sent him an e-mail at [tpts1@aol.com](mailto:tpts1@aol.com) but it was returned undeliverable. Maybe the tpts1 should be tpts1? In any case I was surprised by a call from Greg Olsen this morning so apparently Loren contacted Greg.

It was so nice finally being in contact with Greg and catching up on things. I will be able to send Greg the letter his father wrote from Germany and finally get that into the right family.

I want to thank you and Loren so much for your efforts in this. Please pass my thanks on to Loren as I am not able to get an e-mail through to him. I appreciate your help so very much!

I will try to get the Irving School picture I have that was taken in the sixth grade, I think, scanned and sent to you in case you want to run it in the next O&B. I received the O&B Issue 4-14 and thank you for running my story in it. I enjoyed all the articles and do remember the Arkota from the 'old' days. Thanks again for all your efforts in keeping WHS alive and well in our memories.

Regards,

**M.J. 'Chris' Christensen '54**

On May 4, 2014, at 7:32 PM, **Shirley Ahnberg Widmann '54**

<[sawcalltom@aol.com](mailto:sawcalltom@aol.com)> wrote:

I saw the article written by Merlyn Christensen in the Orange & Black newsletter dated May 3, 2014 about trying to find Janet Lorenzen. She lives in Watertown, SD and her e mail address is [jkeenanhauck@gmail.com](mailto:jkeenanhauck@gmail.com) . Her name is now Janet Hauck and her husbands name is Don. **Shirley Ahnberg Widmann '54**



**Shirley Ahnberg '54**  
WHS Senior Photo

On May 5, 2014, at 8:32 AM, Chris and Bev <[chrisbev2@myfairpoint.net](mailto:chrisbev2@myfairpoint.net)> wrote:

Jack. Yes, your readers are super. My thanks to Shirley for the info on Janet Lorenzen. Nice to know she is doing well. I did get a call from Greg Olsen and we are now in touch with each other. I can finally get his Dad's letter back to the Olsen family.

Thanks to Shirley for your reply and information. Nice to have WHS grads looking out for each other. I appreciate all the help.

**Merlyn Christensen '54**

On May 4, 2014, at 9:54 AM, Home computer <[gregbeth@sio.midco.net](mailto:gregbeth@sio.midco.net)> wrote:  
Greg O. did not attend WHS. This letter was sent to Loren Little with a copy to the O&B.  
Thanks for the info. I was able to contact Merlin Christensen. My grandmother (Dad's Mom) remarried after Ralph Olsen Sr. died. She married a guy by the name of Leonard Christensen, whose son is Merlin. Ralphie and I knew Merlin when he was in high school and the last time we saw him was when he came home on leave from the Air Force. He is 78 and lives in New Hampshire. The letter from Ralph Jr.(Dad) is addressed to the Bouton funeral home thanking them for taking care of Ralph Sr's funeral arrangements. It is dated Feb. 1945. This was before he was shot and taken prisoner. Stay in touch  
Love to you and your's  
Greg O. (Count Flash)

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Dick Erickson '54  
WHS Senior Photo

May 3, 2014, **Richard D. Erickson '54** <[richarddeforest@msn.com](mailto:richarddeforest@msn.com)> wrote:  
Jack..Thanks so much for all your diligent work in updating us on WHS over the time. I look forward to getting back for the 60th this Fall. I'll now print this great piece. It's a good book!  
I know at least Chuck Bailin, Kittelson, and I think Paul Winden will make it. we've seen Jack and Marcia a coupe of times back home.  
Regards.....Dick Erickson

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On May 4, 2014, at 2:31 PM, **Carl Turco '58** <[mmparadise@suddenlink.net](mailto:mmparadise@suddenlink.net)> wrote:  
Hello Again, Jack, I ran across this joke, and I thought ,you may use it for the O&B  
Thanks,I had sent it to you before.

**Carl Turco '58**

*Hello Jack, Someone submitted a good joke: Here is a good one.*

*It is a cold, windy, nasty rain storm, and has been raining for some time, There is a knock, at this elderly couple door; it is 1:30 in the morning. The elder gentleman's wife tells him "get down stairs and see who is at the door" The gentleman says, it's been raining all night, she said get down there now, And find out who keeps knocking on the door.*

*Finally the man goes down to the door and yells "what do you want" the answer from outside was "I need a push" The old man tells him it too cold, it's raining, and I'm going to bed.*

*The old man gets back in bed, and his wife say's, "who's at the door"? Oh some old man needs a push. The wife jumps out of bed, and starts telling her husband:" do remember, all the times, we needed Help and someone always helped us? You get dressed right now, and get down there and help him, With what ever he needs.*

*So the old man gets dressed, goes outside and starts looking, for the guy that was knocking on the door. He is no where to be seen, so the old man hollers "Hey where are you, you wanted a push, tell me where you are"? A quiet, soft spoken man answers:" over here in the swing".*

**Carl Turco '58**

Carl, To the right is another funny!  
Jack





On May 5, 2014, at 10:57 AM, **Harry Hoiland '54** <[paveknife@hotmail.com](mailto:paveknife@hotmail.com)> wrote:

**Jack - I just thought you might like to see this item on the internet today!! Harry Hoiland '54**

## **The best states to retire in are a little surprising**

Forget sunny Florida or California, retirees are better off heading to colder climates, according to Bankrate's latest ranking of best states to retire. South Dakota topped Bankrate's list. Its low taxes, lack of crime and easy access to quality healthcare make it the country's best state for retirees, according to Bankrate's rankings, which equally weighted weather, cost of living, crime, quality of health care, state and local taxes and general well-being. Overall, Midwestern and Mountain states dominated the list, with Colorado, Utah, North Dakota and Wyoming rounding out the top five. All of these states tend to have excellent healthcare and some of the lowest state and local tax rates in the country, which can make a big difference for retirees living on fixed incomes, said Chris Kahn, research and statistics editor at Bankrate.

"Yes you are still going to need a snow shovel... but you're getting a lot in return for that cold weather," Kahn said. And while sunny Florida is popular among many retirees, it ranked near the bottom of the list -- in 39th place -- in part because of higher crime and living costs and lower quality healthcare. Meanwhile, California ranked 28th, weighed down by high state taxes and living costs.

### Related: Best places to retire

Here are the 10 states offering the best mix of affordability and lifestyle, according to Bankrate.

**1. South Dakota:** Yes, the temperatures dip below freezing (a lot), but South Dakota boasts low crime, quality healthcare and no state income tax.

And beyond the Badlands and Black Hills, there is plenty to do. In the small town of [Aberdeen, S.D.](#), for example, retirees can enjoy its historical downtown, home to farmers markets and holiday events, and easy access to both local arts and outdoor activities, like cross-country skiing.

**2. Colorado:** Not only does Colorado offer much milder winters, but its residents also benefit from high quality healthcare and a lower-than-average tax burden. Plus, its residents are among the most content in the country, according to an annual survey by Gallup of general well-being.

One downside: The cost of living is higher than in 28 other states.

Less congested and cheaper than nearby Denver, [Colorado Springs, Colo.](#) has access to one of the country's leading cardiovascular hospitals as well as parks, trails and the Rocky Mountains.

**3. Utah:** Utah offers up plenty of options for both nature lovers and city dwellers. And, for retirees, its low cost of living and high quality healthcare make it even more attractive, Bankrate said.

[Salt Lake City](#) offers a bustling downtown, with arts and cultural events and a light rail that makes getting around town easy. It's also just a half hour drive away from hiking, skiing and other outdoor activities.

**4. North Dakota:** Residents here have to deal with some of the coldest weather in the country.

But North Dakota has its advantages: extremely low crime and even better healthcare. Plus, its residents report the highest level of general well-being in the country.

**5. Wyoming:** For a tax-conscious retiree, there is no state better than Wyoming, Bankrate found. The "Cowboy State" also has low crime and moderate living costs, although the quality of its healthcare is far below that of the top ten states, according to government statistics.

**6. Nebraska:** It's not just about wide open spaces. Nebraska is one of the most affordable states in the country, has relatively low crime and residents enjoy a high level of general well-being.

**7. Montana:** Retirees have plenty of room to roam in Montana. Even though it's one of the largest states in the nation, the state has one of the smallest populations.

The cost of living isn't as low here as it is in some of the other Mountain states, but Montana's lack of a sales tax helps to offset some of the extra cost.

The resort area of [Kalispell, Mont.](#), has the largest freshwater lake west of the Mississippi, as well as a regional medical center that ranks as one of the country's top hospitals.

**8. Idaho:** Idaho not only has the lowest crime rate in the country, but it's also one of the most affordable states. Residents do pay higher taxes here than in other Mountain states, though the tax burden remains below the national average.

In [Boise, Idaho](#), retirees can find access to arts and outdoor activities, and a massive new cultural center is set to open there next year.

**9. Iowa:** Another cold state to make Bankrate's list, Iowa boasts low crime and living costs and high-quality healthcare.

In the college town of [Iowa City, Iowa](#), retirees can take up a class at the University of Iowa or enjoy free concerts and outdoor movie nights in the summer.

**10. Virginia:** One of the warmest spots on the list, Virginia has one of the lowest crime rates in the country.

For seniors looking for a coastal lifestyle, [Norfolk, Va.](#) is home to miles of beaches and sailing and kayaking in the Chesapeake Bay. The city is also home to an art museum, theater company and opera house.



On May 5, 2014, **Margie Rossow Nelsen '59**

[<margienelsen@mchsi.com>](mailto:margienelsen@mchsi.com) wrote:

Thanks for the picture of my Dad, Ben Rossow in this wonderful edition of the O&B. **Margie Rossow Nelsen, '59**

Ed. Note: I truly respected your Dad and thought he was a fine man. Jack

left: Margie Rossow '59  
WHS Senior Photo

right: Mr. Ben Rossow  
WHS Ass't Principal  
and Principal



Preston Smith '63  
WHS Senior Photo

On May 8, 2014, **Preston E. Smith '63**

[<prestonesmith@midco.net>](mailto:prestonesmith@midco.net) wrote:

Jack, I failed to tell you, that about 10 years ago I ran across a painting while antiquing which was of the WSHS Monogram, which was in a glass frame ..... So I bought it and hung it in my den .... Years later I bought the Sioux Falls Washington High School, Sports Heritage book with the monogram on the cover, 1899 – 1989, by Ken Kessinger .....While reading it, I found on page 6, a story about the first competitive track team being formed in 1906. Track competition was enthusiastically received as a

large number of boys reported out for the team. Couched by O. R. Davis, the team won 1st place in the 1st State sponsored track meet held in Sioux May 6th 1906, and also won the Yankton Relays by scoring 63 points. One of the team members, was a senior by the name of Edmund Schwarz, who was the artist who designed the Sioux Falls High School monogram in 1906, which is also the letter award for varsity athletics at both Washington and Sioux Falls Lincoln High Schools. When read this, I took the picture from the wall, and it found that it is SIGNED BY Edmund Schwarz and dated 1906, so it is the original painting in black & Gold ..... Jack I will have my brother take a picture of it and e – mail it to you!

Respectfully, **Preston Smith '63** Ed. Note: Great story Preston. Thank you for sharing it with us. Jack



On May 22, 2014, **Kenny Halbritter '55** [<pappakenny@yahoo.com>](mailto:pappakenny@yahoo.com) wrote:

Jack, My brother Wesley Halbritter graduated in 1946 I think, I was class of 1955.

**Kenny Halbritter Sioux Falls, SD '55**

[Wesley Eugene Halbritter's Obituary on Argus Leader](#)



Kenny Halbritter '55  
WHS Senior Photo



Wesley Halbritter '46  
1927 - 2014





# IRVING GRADE SCHOOL

On May 20, 2014, at 8:30 AM, Chris and Bev <[chrisbev2@myfairpoint.net](mailto:chrisbev2@myfairpoint.net)> wrote:

Hi Jack. Hope all is well with you and you are enjoying spring weather. I have been 'playing with' the Irving School picture and I think finally have gotten it so I can send it to you. Please let me know if you receive it. I believe this was 6th grade, Irving School, Sioux Falls, maybe 1948?

Mrs. Jones was the teacher; I am in front of her to her left. I have some signatures of classmates on the back of the pic which I will send separately. Maybe some WHS grads will recognize themselves.

I remember Jerry Braa quite well (he is the second one back in the middle row); sadly I found his name on the deceased list. He was the "Carny Kid" even back then; loved everything Carnival. He had come up with long nicknames for some of us; Braazerairios was his and his he said his longest was my nickname Christophermontersen. He did have an imagination! Good memories of times past. I look forward to the next O&B and news from WHS grads. Thanks again for all your efforts in this.

Regards, **Merlyn (Chris) Christensen, WHS '54** Photo Irving School



On May 20, 2014, at 2:44 PM, Chris and Bev <[chrisbev2@myfairpoint.net](mailto:chrisbev2@myfairpoint.net)> wrote:

OK, I'll go down the columns as best as I can make out the names;

Janice Schmidt	Kathryn B.
Ronald Salem	Mary Lou M.
Jeanette Auvit	Shirley Lemke
Joedean Miller	Keith Morrill
Shirley B.	Joy Hassler
Darlene Aukes	Shirley H.
Julee Gibson	Karen M.

**Chris Christensen '54**

**Can you help ID the grade, year or names?**

Jean Crowther  
Joan Crowther  
Darlene Jensen  
Colleen \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald A.....  
Mrs. Jones

Donna Lee DeZotell  
Raymond Geiger  
Mary Jean  
Hermeling  
Marlene Froelich  
Marilyn Hansen  
Bobbie O.  
Merlyn C.  
Jerome Braa



# EMERSON MEMORIES.

Dr. Loren Little '59 sent me a wonderful surprise when he sent me these photos of two really great Emerson icons. They will mean something to only those of you who were fortunate enough to attend Emerson Grade School. Left is Mrs. Lintner, who served as Principal during the three years I attended Emerson; 1947/48, 1948/49 and 1949/50. I always felt she was extremely strict but a truly warm, fair and compassionate lady. Even though she always scared me, I really liked and respected her.

The second photo is of our kind, beloved and always friendly janitor, Chester. Again, Chester served Emerson for the three years I attended. Seeing both of these kind and loving people brought back such wonderful old memories. Thanks Loren. Seeing them both again brought back more great memories than I think you probably realize.

Jack Phillips,  
Emerson Class of '50



**As Suspected, There Were  
Too Many Letters To The Editor For This Issue.  
The Remainder Will Appear In The Next O&B**