

THE ALUMNI ORANGE & BLACK

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, SIOUX FALLS, SD

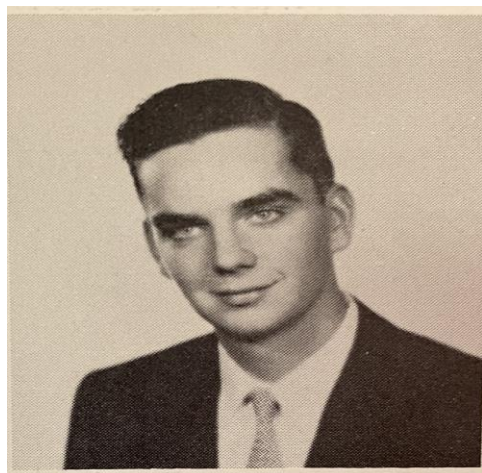
Serving the Classes of The Great '50's Decade. Photos and Stories Requested!

Published in memory of Jack M. Phillips '54.

orangeandblackonline@gmail.com 2261 Lauren Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89134

Dear O & B Subscribers,
Many thanks to all of you for the outpouring of love &
support. Thank you for the emails, cards & calls.
Debra & the Phillips Family

Letters to the & B



Dick Sweetman '54
WHS Senior Photo

On March 25, 2024, Richard Sweetman '54
<rcsweetman@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Debra The repair of the Washington High School roof and replacement of the corbels has been a slow process, but they are showing progress! (See below) The work began about a year ago and to my unpracticed eye I would guess it is 50% done. The old WHS should be good to go for many more years when this work is complete.

Dick Sweetman '54

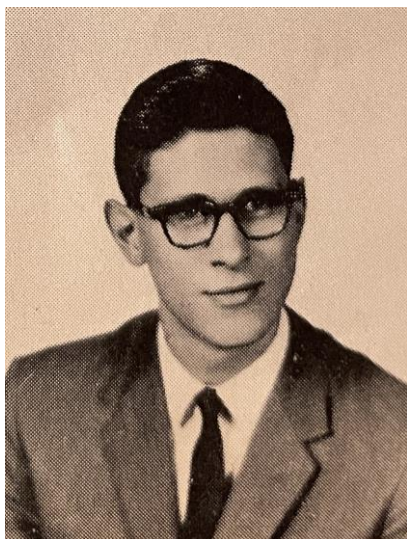


Permella Kielman
WHS Senior Photo

On February 27, 2024, Perm Kielman '56
4perm.roger@gmail.com> wrote:

Debra it was nice meeting you at Marilyn
Rush Simmons's '56 Celebration of Life.
Here you are with the girls of the class of
'56. Carla Thaelke Gibson, Permella
Bedford Kielman, Marlys Rush Newcomb
and Ruth Carter Enjoy your Spring!
Perm Kielman '56





Stephen Veenker '59
WHS Senior Photo

Dear Subscribers:

We are working to get the online O&B Newsletter back up to speed. Debra has published Special Editions for her husband and our founder, Jack Phillips, and three other deceased alumni: Wayne Gustafson '54, Marilyn Rush Simmons '56 and Marilyn Jacobson Parham '59. Subscribers like you have notified us of **Classmates who have passed away:** (in class order)

Roger Alan Schiager '50
William (Bill) Frank '52
Raymond Geiger '54,
Donald Amundson '54,
Mary Kathleen Moen '54
Judy Allen Portice '55
Karlyn Hendricks Painter '57
Susan Manderscheid Beck '59

We rely on subscribers to notify us of other classmates' passing. If anyone is missing, please let us know. Debra and I live miles apart and most of you have more connections with your own classmates or live near Sioux Falls and see the obituaries when they are published. When we receive those, we will post them in Special Editions. As time goes by, we will develop a network of informants and sources, but we rely on the O&B subscribers to notify us. My brother Ron was Jack's classmate, so read the Orange and Black printed between 1950-54, and I was at WHS from 1955-1959. Together we span most of the decade. The Fifties were a dynamic decade and like you we will always feel a tie to the school and the city of Sioux Falls. Jack devised and created the online Orange and Black over several years, and its production is enormously complicated. There is a long learning curve, and it takes hours to develop each step of the process and adapt to Constant Contact. Jack passed unexpectedly so there was no apprenticeship or set of guidelines. We are committed to keeping this enterprise going, in Jack's honor, as long as we can. And we rely on your readership and support as we do so. When I tell friends in person or online about this online Orange and Black, they cannot believe that so many of us have this internet version to keep us in touch for half a century or more. It is the way we grew up. We put down roots, even when we settled all around the country and the world, we stayed in touch! With your patience and help, Debra and I are committed to keeping the tradition thriving.

Stephen Veenker '59



Jack & daughter Laurie Phillips Ciglar

Dear Washington High School alumni and families of the alumni of the 1950s decade,

My name is Laurie Phillips Ciglar, and I am the second child of Jack M. Phillips, and the late Marilyn Jane Frandsen Phillips. Our family is heartbroken by the loss of our husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather, Jack M. Phillips, class of '54.

Besides being an eloquent writer, as you all well know, my dad was a great friend, a devoted family man, an accomplished entrepreneur, a legendary cowboy, a man of integrity, as well as generous, kind, and handsome. He was an exceptional human being that did exceptional things. As many of you who were fortunate to know him knew, he has been bigger than life, his entire life. He gave 100 percent effort to everything he did and everything he did was impressive.

He lived his life making a difference and doing things for others; one of which being the founder, editor, and publisher of your Washington High School, Orange & Black Alumni Newsletter. His first issue was sent out on May 1, 2009! He was a classmate and a friend to many of you. He knew how important his newsletter was to you, and he spent years sharing news with the students in his four years of high school and then extended that audience to include the entire 1950s decade of students and their families. He shared both good news and sad news. He often expressed to us, his family, the importance of keeping classmates connected through the Orange & Black newsletter. This newsletter was a pleasure, a responsibility, and a priority to him. I know you all will miss him as he will miss you and this labor of love he enjoyed doing for so many years.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you personally for the many letters and messages you sent to him over the years expressing your appreciation for his dedication to you and the O&B. The day my dad died, my husband David said something to me that I already knew but was so perfect for me to hear at that moment. He said, "Your dad had the best life of anyone I know". He was right. My dad had the best life because he did the right things, for the right reasons, and in the right way. Everyone who knew him loved and admired him. It doesn't matter how young you are or how long you knew him, we are all better people for knowing Jack Phillips. I have said since I was old enough to understand the true meaning of wealth, that my dad was the wealthiest person I knew. Not wealthy monetarily, but wealthy based on the sheer number of friends he had, friends from every stage of his life, grade school, high school, college, rodeo, in business, personally and professionally. Dad was a leader and continued to lead by leaving us on his own terms, healthy and self-sufficient. I expected him to live to be at least 100. I thought we might have to change his diapers someday, as he did ours. I thought we might need to help him by feeding him, dressing him, or reading to him, but we didn't. I expected him to be somewhat of a nuisance at some point but instead, he continued to teach us, guide us, and parent us to his very last day on earth. He gave me a friend in his second wife and love of his life, Debra Davey Phillips and he gave me the best sister, Jackie Phillips, and brother, Guy Phillips, a girl could ask for. Throughout our lives, he educated us, he fed us, he advised us, he lectured us, he instilled values in us, and he loved us. He taught us the value of hard work and honesty, to always do the right thing, and to be the best people we can be. He prepared us for everything we might face in life, except of course, this. I will forever be grateful to him for the values he instilled in me and for the pride I have always felt in having him as my dad. Our family will continue to live a life that he would be proud of, and I know that he will continue to watch over us, and all of you, from heaven. I send my love and appreciation to all of you on behalf and in honor of, my dad, Jack M. Phillips.

-Laurie Phillips Ciglar



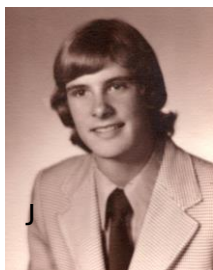
**The Phillips Family surrounding Jack's prized 1986 Excalibur
At his Celebration of Life January '24**



Many thanks to those O & B Subscribers who sent memorials in Jack's memory to the WHS Athletic Hall of Fame which Jack was a member of. The donations help senior students in the Athletic Dept that excel. The next induction banquet will be held this fall on November 1, 2024 at the Washington Pavilion. Anyone wishing to donate in Jack's honor may send to: WHS Hall of Fame c/o Nate Malchow, Activities Director Sioux Falls, WHS 501 N Sycamore Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57110



Don Erickson inducting Jack into the WHS Athletic Hall of Fame in 2014



Jeff Herbert '74
WHS Senior
Photo

On April 5, 2024, Jeffrey Herbert '74
<herbertj@sio.midco.net> wrote:

Debra it is nice to hear from you and again my condolences. I think of Jack often!!!! Here is Nate's Email with regards to the WHS Athletic Dept Hall of Fame nate.malchow@k12.sd.us.

Please feel free to ask either of us of anything you may need in Jack's memory and anything else I can do. My best wishes,

Jeff Herbert "74

Memories 1992

The Last School Year of OLD WHS





Jack & Debra Phillips January '23
Please send your news, stories & photos
to keep the O & B alive to the
New Address
orangeandblackonline@gmail.com