

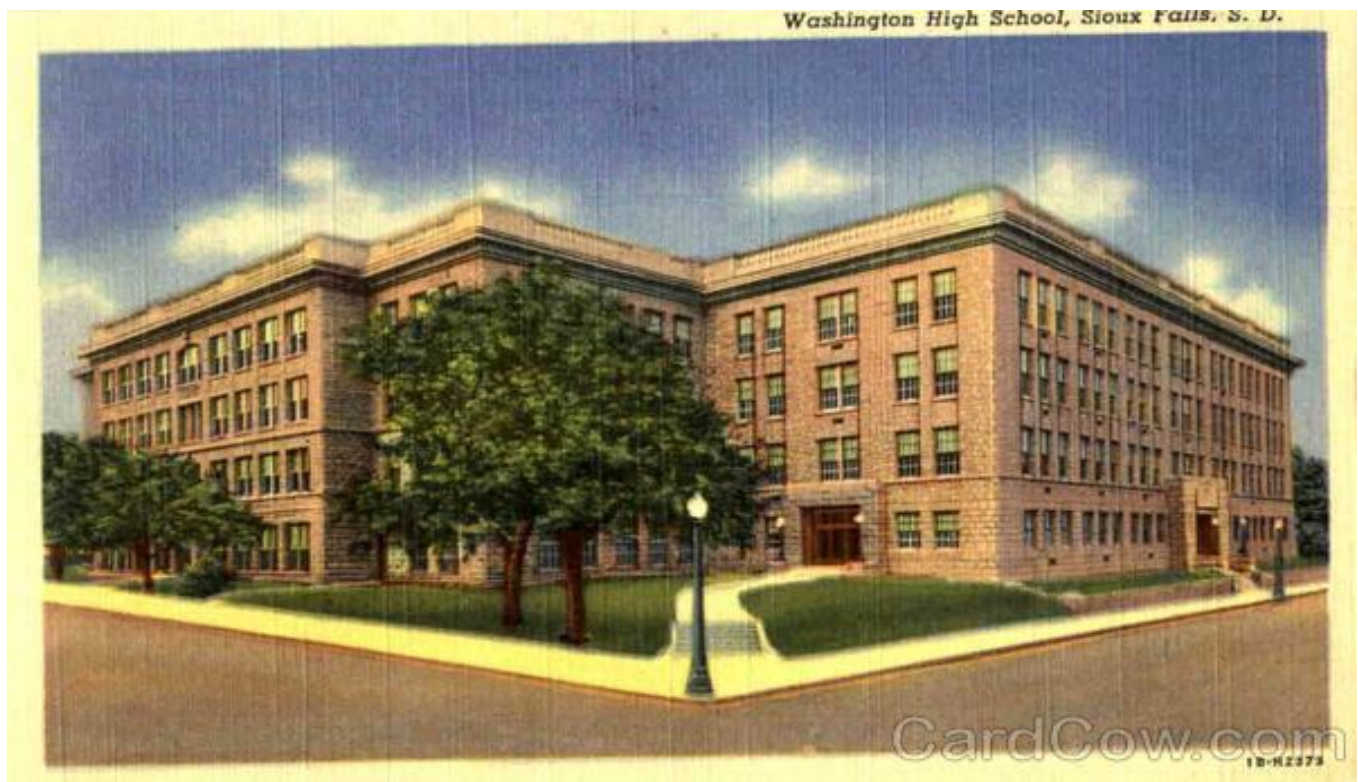
THE ALUMNI ORANGE & BLACK

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, SIOUX FALLS, SD

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

Published in memory of our Founder Jack M. Phillips '54. **Issue #05-26**

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



Thank you to dedicated Classmates that are reporting to the O & B!
Mary Montoya '59, Jim Carlson '58, Eric Gustafson '58, Peg Teslow '57
& Virtual Executive Assistant Bill Lobe '59

Please [CLICK HERE](#)

to send your news, stories & photos plus Letters to The Editor to Keep the O & B ALIVE!

Jack & Debra Phillips

Letters to the O & B



Paul Morrell < paulmorrell@shaw.ca > wrote on May 22, 2026

I enjoyed reading this issue especially Peg's Page! She showed two pictures –

The first was clip on Earrings which reminded me of my Mom who owned a few pairs that she wore on very special occasions! The second picture depicted what I believe to be Lobster Picks - growing up on the East Coast in Sydney Forks, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia we enjoyed lobster all the time. The picks were used to pick lobster meat out of the claws and legs! Both great memories of my childhood! As a "Caper" we would sit and watch tourists trying to eat lobster and they would flick food all over the place trying to use them. On second thought, I rode my Harley Davidson across America and I remember the southern states had these on the tables at the Crab Shacks for the same purpose!

Great issue and a very important endeavor that really does take a person back in time, some say the Best of Times! I miss Jack as I can still feel his love of doing the Newsletter as I read thru the pages. Your audience are very rich people not in monetary ways however, in ways of being loved during their lifetime and meaning so much to each other that walked the halls of days gone by! Great job folks!

Paul Morrell

"A friend of Jack & Deb Phillips"

WE ARE A GENERATION THAT WILL NEVER COME BACK.

A generation that walked to school and then walked back.

A generation that did their homework alone to get out asap to play in the street.

A generation that spent all their free time in the streets with their Friends.

A generation that found, collected and washed & Returned empty coke bottles to the local grocery store for 5 cents each, then bought a Mountain Dew and candy bar with the money.

A generation that collected photos and albums of clippings of their life experiences as a Kid. A generation that played board games and cards on rainy days.

A generation that had parents who were there. A generation that laughed under the covers in bed so parents didn't know we were still awake.

A generation that is passing and unfortunately it will never return no matter how hard we try. I loved Growing up when I did. it was the best of times.

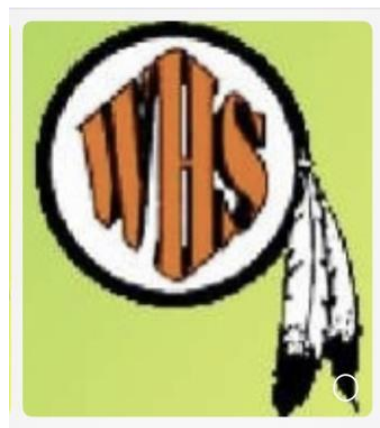
Thomas Little thomasleelittle@comcast.net wrote on May 22, 2026

Hey Gang & Bill Lobe,

A BIG THANKS goes out to you for the terrific article on brother Loren Little's golfing success. His golfing ability is even magnified by the very serious life-affecting injuries he received in the Viet Nam war as an airborne battalion surgeon. Also to his credit he just recently retired at age 84+ from his position as a physician in Las Vegas.

THANKS TO ALL who publish this 50s' WHS newsletter, and who allow it to be sent to us "much younger folks" as WSHS graduates.
Again, thanks for all you do!

Tom Little
WSHS, Class of 61
Mt. Pleasant, SC



Karol Kittleson kittelson@iw.net wrote on May 21, 2026 In response:

From the Editor a Special Mention

Karol,

Please accept my sincere apologies for my oversight. Your wife Joan Nason Kittleson, Class of '54, was a very dear friend to Jack. Since Joan will be listed under the 2025 memorial section of our website, I wanted to let our readers know of her passing on December 20, 2025.

<https://www.okfhc.com/obituaries/joan-kittelson>

This is a link to watch the funeral vial this link.

<https://server.attend.live/static/event/qxA2D>

Honestly, managing these obituary records is quite a daunting task, and I often find myself wondering how Jack handled it all so eloquently.

TELL US YOUR THOUGHTS BY WRITING TO LETTERS to the EDITOR!

E-mail to: orangeandblackonline@gmail.com



PEG'S PAGE

By Peg Teslow
Class of '57

What is the purpose of these tools?

ANSWER:

Getting nut meats out of shells after cracking nuts.

There was a time when music wasn't just something you heard, it was something you truly felt deep within. In the mid-1950s, as the world slowly recovered from difficult years, unforgettable songs emerged melodies that still live on in our shared memory.

These tunes became the backdrop for first loves, youthful hopes, and moments that linger forever.

Which of these hit No. 1:

1. Great Balls of Fire - Jerry Lee Lewis

2. Unforgettable - Nat King Cole

3. Jailhouse Rock - Elvis Presley **ANSWER**



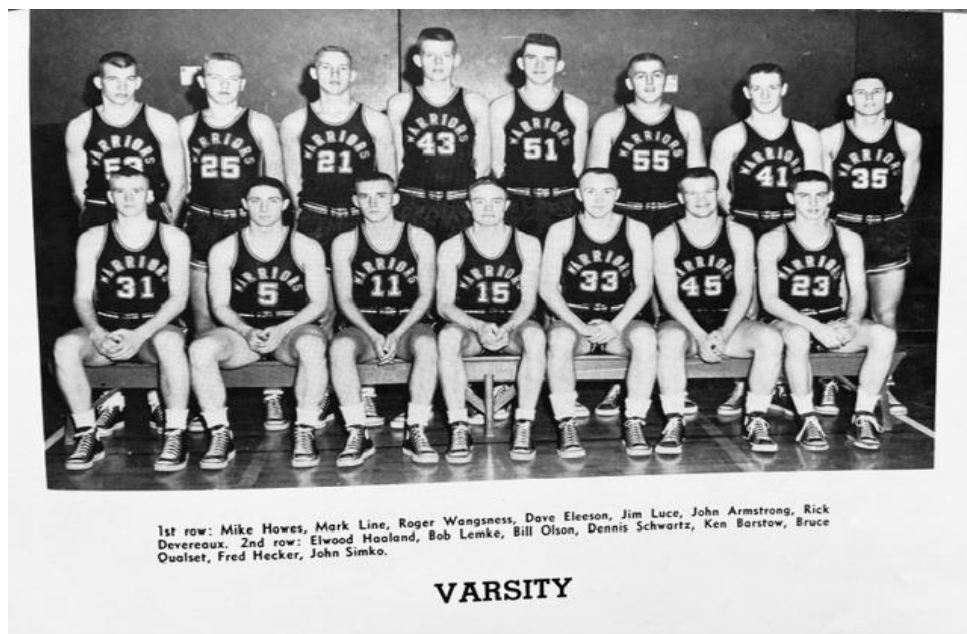
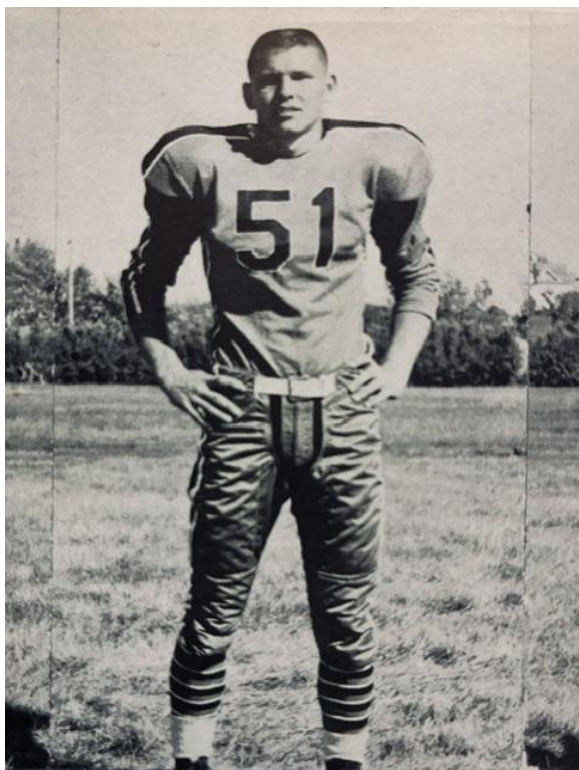
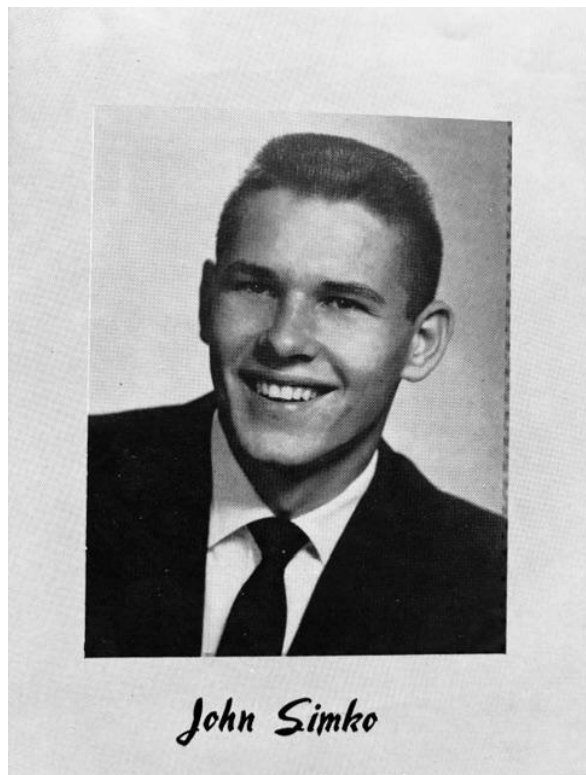
NEW PUZZLE
What are these?



John Simko, Class of '57

was in the Hall of Fame for Washington High. He passed peacefully on June 6, 2026.

The 1957 Annual shows him to be included in these clubs: College Club, IRC, Science Club, OLD Royalty, Hi-Y, Boy's State, Monitor Board, Chorus, Monogram, President Student's Council, Football, Basketball, Track, Junior Kiwanian, All State Chorus, **VERY IMPRESSIVE!!!**



This photo was taken at the funeral visitation at Miller Funeral Home for John on June 10, 2026



Left to right: Class of '57 Classmates: Frank Alvine, Robert Miller, Gary Conradi and Peter Hegg.

Obit for John Simko <https://www.millerfh.com/obituary/john-simko>

Thanks to **Peggy Servold Teslow, Class of '57** for reporting.



The Letter Your Loved Ones Will Treasure by Craig Parker

Contributed by Debra Phillips

Have you ever considered writing a letter to give your loved ones after you are gone?

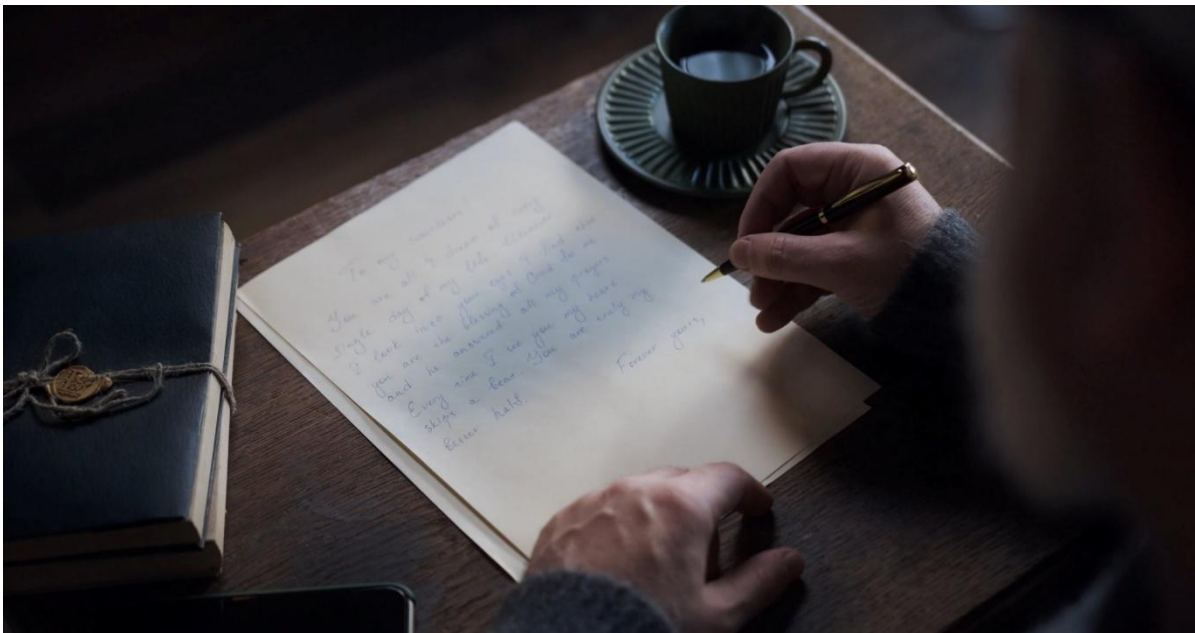
A legacy letter, is a personal note to your loved ones, where you can share your values, life lessons, cherished memories, hopes and guidance. It is a letter straight from the heart!

A legacy letter gives your family something to hold onto – your stories, your traditions, and the experiences that shaped who you are. Children and grandchildren often return to these letters for comfort, guidance, or inspiration long after you are gone. It is an emotional last will and testament. While a will handles legal and financial details, a legacy letter adds context – why you made certain decisions or what you hope your loved ones will do with what you leave behind.

The letter should be personal and sincere. You could write one letter or several for different family members. If writing isn't your thing, consider creating a legacy video. Speaking directly to your loved ones, sharing stories and guidance. Most smartphones now record video and sound making it easy to create. A video captures your voice, expressions, and surroundings in a way that a letter simply can't. The letters or video can be stored in an easy to find place. You can share them now or after you are gone. Be sure to include in your will where they can be found.

Written with generosity, empathy, and positivity a few pages or video can create an emotional imprint that money alone cannot provide.

<https://trustandwill.com/learn/legacy-letter-writing-guide>



Orange & Black Class of '57



Editors, 1st semester, l. to r.: Karen Grove and Sharron Stokes

Advisor: Miss Norman



Orange and Black

Washington High School is well represented by its school paper, the Orange and Black, which has consistently rated All-State Honors and has won six All-American ratings to date. Besides the weekly publication, the staff publishes the Buzz Book and OLD bulletin. The staffers also participate in "WHS on the Air."

These journalists are efficiently advised by Lorraine Norman.

Staffmen, front row, l. to r.: Connie Warren, Diane Daggett, Sharon Carlson, Sara Hart, Connie Papas, Jane Thompson. 2nd row: Cynthia Hoffman, Susan Larson, Kay Cottitt, Jeanne Hurwitz, Peggy Polzin, Joyce Anderson and Janet Herman.



Submission by



**Marlys Ahrendt Hohman '57
WHS Senior Photo**



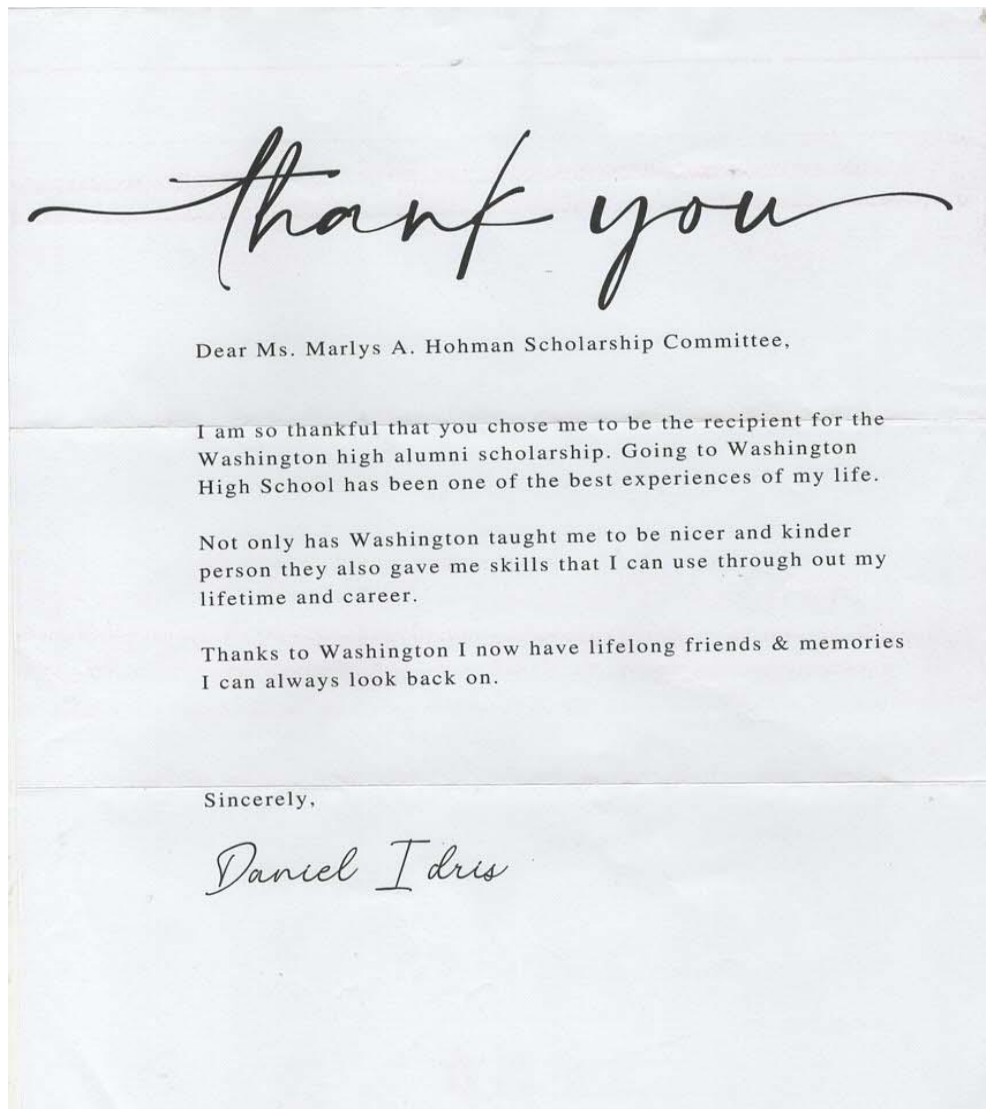
Daniel Idris Class of '26

Big Future

Daniel Idris is a recent graduate of Washington High School in Sioux Falls, where he was a standout student-athlete and a member of the boys' soccer team. A recognized scholar within the Sioux Falls community, he graduated in the Class of 2026. His recent accomplishments and background include:

- **High School Soccer:** He played as a defender for the Washington Warriors.
- **Academic Honors:** He was awarded scholarships by the Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation including the Washington High Alumni Scholarship.
- **Future Plans:** Idris plans to continue his academic and athletic journey at Mount Marty University with an anticipated major in Business Admin with a career goal to become a Financial Advisor!

The Washington High Alumni Scholarship is available to graduating seniors from WHS who demonstrate financial need to pursue degrees. Daniel Idris, graduate of Class of 2026, is the recent recipient of the award and sent this thank you letter to Marlys Hohman.





Debra & Jack Phillips

Orangeandblackonline@gmail.com

Editor's Page

AH...SUMMER! As spring fades into summer, longer days and warmer evenings remind us why this season is such a favorite. The first official day of summer is called summer solstice. This year it arrives on June 21 and marks the day with the most daylight hours of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. It honors the sun. An added plus is it is Father's Day also! Happy Father's Day to all you Dad's out there!

Summer can improve our mood as increased sunlight may boost serotonin levels, helping people feel happier and more energetic. Summer traditions vary across America. Families celebrate with road trips (remember those days when your folks loaded up the car and off you went!) gardening, baseball games, fishing or simply enjoying a cool drink on the porch at sunset.

Whether you are travelling, spending time with grandchildren or relaxing at home, summer is a reminder to slow down and enjoy life's simple pleasures.

Here is to sunshine, fresh air and warm memories all summer long!

Debra Phillips

[Link to Argus Leader Article about Jack](#)

["Newsletter connects classmates from the 1950's" published Sept 18, 2015](#)



WHS DECEASED LIST for 2026

as of 6/18/2026

FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	LAST NAME	Class	OBITUARY LINK Red denotes NEW since last Newsletter	DOD
Vivian	Helen	Wehling	50	https://www.georgeboom.com/obituary/vivian-wehling	01/12/26
Richard	A.	Kinsley	50	https://www.heritagesfsd.com/obituary/richard-kinsley	01/13/26
Tom		Amburn	50	https://www.skrochfc.com/obituaries/thomas-amburn	05/01/26
Barbara	Joanne	Hine	50	https://www.millerfh.com/obituary/barbara-hines	03/17/26
Joan	Mabee	Tate	51	https://www.chapelhillfuneralhome.com/obituaries/joan-tate	01/20/26
Clinton	Gerald	Philips	51	https://www.georgeboom.com/obituary/clinton-philips	01/30/26
Lois	Stevens	Brown	51	https://www.millerfh.com/obituary/lois-brown	04/02/26
Marianne	Hauge	Vatne	52	Legacy.com/obituaries/name/marianne-vatne-obituary?pid=211191344	01/22/26
James	H	Page	53	https://www.georgeboom.com/obituary/james-page	
Luann Kay	Loge	Grear	53	https://www.heritagesfsd.com/obituary/luann-loge-grear	01/14/26
Myrtice	McAlpin	Jellis	53	https://heartlandfunerals.com/obituaries/page/2/	03/05/26
Joyce	Barthel	Kemp	54	https://www.chapelhillfuneralhome.com/obituaries/joyce-kemp	02/10/26
Carolyn	Rae	Vollan	54	https://www.millerfh.com/obituary/carolyn-vollan	03/14/26
Mary Ann	Thormodsgaard	Leafstedt	54	https://www.heritagesfsd.com/obituary/mary-ann-leafstedt	04/07/26
Helen	Gildemeister	Van Liere	55	https://www.millerfh.com/obituary/helen-vanliere	02/08/26
Sharon	R	Jolivette	56	https://www.heritagesfsd.com/obituary/sharon-jolivette	02/05/26
Doris	Matthies	Tate	57	Barnett Lewis Funeral Home	02/11/26
Marlynne	Portz	Gustafson	57	https://www.georgeboom.com/obituary/marlynne-gustafson	02/12/26
Judy	L	Schmuck	57	https://www.georgeboom.com/obituary/judith-judy-schmuck	04/08/26

FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	LAST NAME	Class	OBITUARY LINK Red denotes NEW since last Newsletter	DOD
Archie	Lee	Stutenroth	57	<u>Unavailable</u>	06/15/1993
John		Simko	57	https://www.millerfh.com/obituary/john-simko	06/06/26
Judy		Harvey	58	https://www.isburgfuneralchapels.com/obituaries/Judy-Harvey?obId=48026525	04/02/26
Mary	Lemke	Thornburg	58	https://www.drinkwinemortuary.com/obituary/Mary-Lemke	04/17/26
Joyce	Briggs	Tornow	58	https://everloved.com/life-of/joyce-elaine-briggs/?flow=201	04/24/26
Nell	Luce	Williams	58	https://www.millerfh.com/obituary/nell-luce	04/30/26
Glenn		Gravelle	58	https://www.crematesimply.com/obituaries/glen-n-gravelle	05/29/26
Wayne	Carl	Wieczorek	59	https://www.georgeboom.com/obituary/wayne-wieczorek	04/28/26
Oriette	Dorene	Scheinost	59	https://www.brenny.com/obituaries/oriette-dorene-scheinost	05/27/26

[Click here to view our website's historical deceased lists](#)

To all the WHS Alumni Subscribers Keep the Stories Coming!

Many thanks to

Peg Teslow '57 & Mary Montoya '59,
Jim Carlson '58 & Eric Gustafson '58
for keeping the O & B informed!
and Bill Lobe'59 as Executive Editor

Please send your news, stories, photos & Letters to the Editor to our address

orangeandblackonline@gmail.com

Jack Phillips & The WHS Alumni Staff

