

# THE ALUMNI ORANGE & BLACK NEWSLETTER

Issue #1-17 March 20, 2017

**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@jackmohillips.com](mailto:jack@jackmohillips.com)



**Laurel Pierce '55**  
WHS Senior Photo

**Thanks to  
Laurel Pierce Hampel and Peggy Servold Teslow '57  
for sending,  
“*Children of the Greatest Generation*”, to the O&B.**

Born in the 1930s and '40s, we exist as a very special age cohort. We are the Silent Generation. We are the smallest number of children born since the early 1900s. We are the “last ones.”

We are the last generation, climbing out of the depression, who can remember the winds of war and the impact of a world at war which rattled the structure of our daily lives for years.

We are the last to remember ration books for everything from **gas to sugar to shoes to meat from the butcher**. We saved tin foil and poured fat into tin cans to be used to make ammunition. We hand mixed white stuff with yellow stuff to make fake butter. We stood in line at the grocery store when it was learned a tub of real butter had just arrived, and as kids holding a place in line to await a mother in trail, we learned after being pushed aside by an adult stranger who was also in line, to push ourselves back in line. We saw cars up on blocks because tires weren't available. We can remember milk being delivered to our house early in the morning and placed in the milk box on the porch.

We are the last to hear Roosevelt's radio assurances and to see gold stars in the front windows of our grieving neighbors. We can also remember the parades on August 15, 1945, VJ Day. We saw the “boys” home from the war build their Cape Cod style houses, pouring the cellar, tar papering it over and living there until they could afford the time and money to build it out.

We are the last generation who spent childhood without television. Instead we imagined what we heard on the radio. As we all like to brag, with no TV, we spent our childhood “playing outside until the street lights came on.”

We did play outside and we did play on our own. There was no Little League. Ball games were “pick-up” and played on vacant lots sharing baseball mitts because only the few had them. No kid had a two-wheeler bike until about 1946 when “Victory Bikes” were sold (no chrome, flimsy frame, very thin wheels). There was no city playground for kids. To play in the water, we turned the fire hydrants on and ran through the spray.

The lack of television in our early years meant, for most of us, that we had little real understanding of what the world was like. Our Saturday afternoons, if at the movies, gave us newsreels of the war and the Holocaust sandwiched in between westerns and cartoons.

Telephones were one to a house, often shared and hung on the wall. Computers were called calculators and were hand cranked. Typewriters were driven by pounding fingers, throwing the carriage, and changing the ribbon. The



**Peggy Servold '57**  
WHS Senior Photo

Internet and Google were words that didn't exist. Newspapers and magazines were written for adults. We are the last group who had to find out for ourselves.

As we grew up, the country was exploding with growth. The G.I. Bill gave returning veterans the means to get an education and spurred colleges to grow. VA loans fanned a housing boom. Pent-up demand coupled with new installment payment plans put factories to work.

New highways would bring jobs and mobility. The veterans joined civic clubs and became active in politics. In the late '40s and early '50s the country seemed to lie in the embrace of brisk but quiet order as it gave birth to its new middle class (which became known as Baby Boomers).

The radio network expanded from 3 stations (NBC, ABC, CBS) to thousands of stations. The telephone started to become a common method of communications and "Faxes" sent hard copy around the world. A neighborhood television set was a rare phenomenon (circular B&W 10" screen). Most families could not afford such a luxury, so as kids, we'd head to the closest TV appliance store, which always had a TV in the sidewalk display window, where we would watch Milton Berle and his Texaco Comedy Hour and, sometimes, even a major league ball game from New York City.

Our parents were suddenly free from the confines of the depression and the war and they threw themselves into exploring opportunities they had never imagined.

We weren't neglected but we weren't today's all-consuming family focus. They were glad we played by ourselves "until the street lights came on." They were busy discovering the post war world.

Most of us had no life plan, but with the unexpected virtue of ignorance and an economic rising tide we simply stepped into the world and started to find out what the world was about.

We entered a world of overflowing plenty and opportunity, a world where we were welcomed. Based on our naïve belief that there was more where this came from, we shaped life as we went.

We enjoyed a luxury. We felt secure in our future. Of course, just as today, not all Americans shared in this experience. Depression poverty was deep rooted. Polio was still acrippler. The Korean War was a dark presage in the early '50s, and by mid-decade, school children were ducking under desks. Russia built the Iron Curtain and China became Red China. Eisenhower sent the first "advisors" to Vietnam, and years later, Johnson invented a war there. Castro set up camp in Cuba and Khrushchev came to power.

We are the last generation to experience an interlude when there were no existential threats to our homeland. We came of age in the '40s and early '50s. The war was over and the Cold War, terrorism, civil rights, technological upheaval, global warming, and perpetual economic insecurity had yet to haunt life with insistent unease.

Only our generation can remember both a time of apocalyptic war and a time when our world was secure and full of bright promise and plenty. We have lived through both. We grew up at the best possible time, a time when the world was getting better, not worse.

We are the Silent Generation, "the last ones." The last of us was born in 1945, more than 99.9% of us are either retired or dead, and all of us believe we grew up in the best of times!

Author unknown.





On Dec 7, 2016, **Don Noordsy '58** <heythere63@comcast.net> wrote:

Jack,

You might want to consider this as the basis for an O&B article. Evan is a 1959 WHS Grad, and has been a community leader in SF for many years.

I recall Evan from Emerson School and when he lived on Glendale Avenue, near 18th street. His mother, Maxine, was friends with my Mom, and I suspect your Mom as well.

**Don Noordsy '58**

**Don Noordsy '58**  
WHS Senior Photo

Don, As always, I thank you for thinking of the O&B and sending so many great stories like this one on Evan Nolte's '59, outstanding career and retirement. Your comment about his mother, Maxine, being friends with your Mom, Elenor and my Mom, Mildred, brought back so many warm and wonderful memories. The three ladies were indeed great friends, but also great bridge partners. They all loved playing bridge, especially duplicate bridge, and spent many, many hours enjoying each other's company. Because you and Evan did not attend WHS until after I had graduated in '54 I only knew of each of you from hearing your Mother's speak of you. You were both just little tykes still in grade school.

However, I have always followed Evan's most successful Chamber of Commerce management career with great personal interest since for my first 12 years out of college I served as Executive Manager of three Chamber of Commerces'. Prior to my Mother's death she frequently sent me news on Evan.

**Jack Phillips '54. O&B Editor**

**The following story on Evan Nolte was written by Rob Swenson, For the Sioux Falls Business Journal** Published Dec. 6, 2016



**Evan Nolte '59**  
WHS Senior Photo

Few civic leaders, if any, have helped lead Sioux Falls through more years of prosperity and turmoil than Evan Nolte. And few people in any position of community leadership have done as much to prepare the city for continued growth, according to his associates and friends.

Nolte is finishing his 37th and final year in the top staff position of the Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. He announced plans to retire last spring and officially will step down Feb. 1, 2017. His recently hired successor, Jason Ball, a Chamber executive from Hutchinson, Kan., will take over then.

Nolte is ending nearly four decades of work for an appreciative business community in the same friendly, low-key way that he has led what is arguably the city's most powerful civic organization. He said he wouldn't trade his experience for anything.

"It was just a phenomenal period of time to be involved with the organization and the community. I can't think of a more ideal circumstance or opportunity that I could have had," he said. "As I've said repeatedly, it's the best Chamber leadership position in the country."

Nolte, 75, began working as the executive vice president of the Sioux Falls Chamber in 1979. His job title changed in 1992, when the position was renamed president and CEO to more closely reflect the job structure in the business world.

He was born in Hampton, Iowa, but he grew up in Sioux Falls and considers the city home. Sioux Falls will remain his home after he retires.

After graduating from Washington High School '59, he thought about becoming a veterinarian and attended Iowa State University. However, he changed his mind and transferred to Augustana University, where he earned a degree in political science and business administration.



**Evan Nolte, President and CEO**  
**Sioux Falls, Chamber of Commerce**  
Photo: Jay Pickthorn/Argus Leader Media

Nolte started with the Sioux Falls Chamber after stints with Chamber organizations in Nebraska City, Neb.; Yankton, S.D.; and Mason City, Iowa. He also served in the National Guard.

Jimmy Carter was the president of the United States when he moved back to Sioux Falls to take the Chamber job. When he steps down, Donald Trump will be president.

"Anybody that can survive as the head of a Chamber of Commerce for that long is just plain remarkable," said Dan Scott, former president of the Sioux Falls Development Foundation.

Because of the complementary and sometimes overlapping nature of the Chamber and Development Foundation, Scott worked closely with Nolte for 21 years before retiring in 2008. In all those years, Scott doesn't recall Nolte saying a bad word about anyone.

Nolte had an uncanny ability to get along with anyone, regardless of whether the person agreed with him, Scott said. "It's just amazing," he said. "In that amount of time, you're bound to get on the wrong side of somebody. But I don't think Evan ever did. He is a special kind of guy."

Bernie DeWald held the Chamber's top, volunteer leadership position – now called chair – when Nolte was hired to head the staff. DeWald, the chairman of McKinnyOlson Insurance, remains active in the Chamber today.

DeWald recalls that Nolte stood out among applicants for the Sioux Falls job because of his knowledge of the community and the region. Since being hired, Nolte has survived 37 chairs and annual changes in the membership of the Chamber Board of Directors, DeWald points out. "Evan is the Iron Man. He's truly an amazing person," he said.

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Typically, Nolte worked behind the scenes, bringing information to board members and not seeking credit, DeWald said.

"In all the years, I've been involved in the Chamber, I've never heard one person say a negative word about him. Everyone likes him," DeWald said.

Nolte succeeded the late Bart Bailey as the chamber's top staffer. After about nine years with the Chamber, Bailey had gone into private business.

When Nolte started work in Sioux Falls, the upbeat attitude generally evident today in the business community didn't exist, said longtime friend Larry Fuller, a strategic planning consultant and former president and publisher of Argus Leader Media. The Chamber and its partners helped improve the community outlook, and Nolte was a key contributor, Fuller said.

"He was rarely out there advocating for an issue. He was a master of working with other people and through other people, and setting an agenda and getting it done," Fuller said. "His secret sauce was collaboration and the ability to build a consensus with Chamber volunteers and also the staff."

The irony is that for a person who has worked in the public spotlight for so long, Nolte is a fairly private person, Fuller said. He is dedicated to his family, which includes his wife, Lesley, who retired from her job as an administrative assistant at Ethan Allen, and four sons who are scattered around the country. Nolte also has eight grandchildren who he expects to see more often in retirement. His other relatives include the actor Nick Nolte, a first cousin.

Fuller also said that Nolte is highly competitive – a trait that comes out in activities such as fishing. Nolte, Fuller and others go on annual fishing trips to Canada. According to Fuller, Nolte always brings twice as much fishing tackle as anyone else, loves casting for northern pike and catching walleye, and is an excellent fisherman.

Nolte said he also enjoys hunting and playing golf, but he hasn't had much time for those activities in recent years. He and his wife have their fourth Golden Retriever, a 6-year-old named Annie. The dog hasn't had the opportunity to hunt, but she gets walked regularly.

## **Civic challenges, milestones**

The 1980s presented a variety of challenges for the community. Sioux Falls voters initially rejected a ballot proposal to build a convention center. Even plans to build a parking ramp in the downtown area were hotly contested in a city election.

Economic issues included concerns about the future of the city's then-largest employer, the John Morrell & Co. meat-processing plant, which is now Smithfield Foods.

"It was really a tremendously challenging time, but it also was a tremendously important time. Without a doubt, it unified the business community in Sioux Falls," Nolte said.

The 1980s were also a period when positive developments that would blossom in the future began to take hold. For example, Citibank decided to flee New York's harsh interest-rate restrictions and move its credit card operations to a more business friendly state. South Dakota made Citibank's short list of regulatory friendly states, and the company created a national business stir in the early 1980s by deciding to move to Sioux Falls.

Other banking businesses also moved to Sioux Falls or expanded services in the city, which helped turn financial services into one of the community's economic cornerstones. Healthcare also would grow into a major economic cornerstone for the city during Nolte's years with the Chamber.

One of the most significant, long-lasting milestones for the Chamber and the Development Foundation came in 1987, when the two organizations jointly launched the first, multi-year phase of the Forward Sioux Falls program. FSF is a community-development program now in its seventh phase. Through the years, the program has raised millions of dollars in donations and launched services such as the Sioux Empire Housing Partnership and the South Dakota Technology Business Center, which recently was renamed the Zeal Center for Entrepreneurship. Forward Sioux Falls also works on pro-business initiatives in areas such as workforce development.

Former and current Chamber leaders said that assisting with the development and implementation of the program probably will be Nolte's most enduring legacy.

Current Chamber chair Dave Kapaska said that Nolte also was a key force behind the annual Sioux Empire Farm Show. Nolte didn't want people to forget the importance of agriculture to the region, Kapaska said.

With Nolte at the Chamber, Sioux Falls has enjoyed 37 years of unprecedented growth and progress, Kapaska added.

"Evan has brought together key leaders in banking, healthcare, agriculture, government and more to enhance the potential for this area," he said. "He is the ultimate collaborator and has built an amazingly dedicated staff and volunteer leadership to guide Sioux Falls toward being one of the finest cities in the nation to live, work, and play."

The community's economic strength and vibrancy started attracting national attention during the 1990s. In 1992, Money magazine named Sioux Falls the best place to live in America. The turnaround in community attitude was evident in 1993, when city voters approved plans to build a convention center and turn the former Washington High School building into a community pavilion for arts and sciences.

Generally, community expectations have remained high since then, and the city has continued to achieve at a high level. From 1979 to 2016, the city's population grew from about 90,000 to 173,300. Meanwhile, membership in the Chamber has grown from about 1,000 businesses and individuals to nearly 2,300.

Nolte credits Chamber growth to the organization's tradition of attracting strong volunteer leaders who set a clear course and trust staff members to do their jobs.

Amy Smolik, former marketing and communications manager for the Chamber, said Nolte constantly sought improvements. "When times are good, you don't just sit on your laurels and let things happen. He continued to push for progress. He continued to push for new facilities and quality-of-life programs," said

Smolik, who recently became the assistant vice president for marketing and communications at Augustana University.

Also, whether he was working with staff or with volunteers, he always tried to be inclusive, Smolik said. "He was the epitome of collaboration."

Former chairs of the organization said Nolte had great patience and knew how to achieve results. He didn't get derailed by short-term problems and kept long-term goals in focus, they said.

"There just wasn't a better guy who could sit and listen to issues and then really think three steps ahead about what should be done and could be done. He's very strategic in his thinking," said Michael Bender, a former Chamber chair and the founder and president of the Bender Companies.

Although the Chamber often takes positions on issues, it avoids taking positions on personalities, Bender said. Even so, disagreements would surface from time to time, and Nolte showed respect for diversity in opinions.

"Evan had a way that even though the Chamber was divided, it could take a stand for the overall good," said past chair Dana Dykhouse, the CEO of First Premier Bank. "Those are the true marks of a leader - when he can bring people together even when they don't agree."

Nolte's consistency as a steady voice for the business community was one of his strongest attributes, Dykhouse said. "The community went through lots of ups and downs, but he was always a solid and consistent voice for us."

Nolte's love of the community was always evident and that helped him command the respect of business leaders, said Tom Van Wyhe, the retired general manager of Trane and a former chair of the Chamber.

"Working with him is just a pleasure and a delight because he's so communicative. He just has the knack and the ability to get people to work together so well," Van Wyhe said. "He's one of those guys that you're just very fortunate to know in life."

Nolte's big concern now is helping with the transition in staff leadership. However, he remains interested in the future of the community. He retains a special interest in issues such as workforce development and education.

He's also excited about the entrepreneurial spirit that has been developing in Sioux Falls. He sees that as a key part of the city's economic future. He also supports the community's growing diversity. He plans to stay involved in community affairs. He's joined the Chamber as an individual, and civic organizations already are asking for his help. "I want to selectively do that and continue to have an impact but on the volunteer side," he said.

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## Thanks again to Don Noordsy '58 for another O&B story suggestion.

On Dec 26, Don Noordsy '58 <heythere63@comcast.net> wrote:

Jack.....Dick was a member of the WHS Class of 1958. Perhaps worth a mention or reprint in the O&B at some point ?

**Don Noordsy '58**

I agree Don! Thanks again for sending it.  
Jack

**This story on Dick Kelly '58 written by, Mark Walker ,  
mwalker@argusleader.com 8:04 a.m. CT Dec. 25, 2016.**

County Commissioner Dick Kelly '58, is calling it a career. After spending nearly two decades serving at

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**County Commissioner Dick Kelly '58.**  
*Photo: Joe Ahlquist / Argus Leader Media)*



every level of local government in South Dakota, Kelly's last day as a public servant will be this week.

Kelly sought a third term as Minnehaha County commissioner but was narrowly defeated. At Tuesday's County Commission meeting, Sioux Falls Mayor Mike Huether and Commission Chair Cindy Heiberger read a decree deeming Dec. 20 "Dick Kelly Day."

Kelly was first elected to the County Commission in 2008. He is a board member on the South Dakota Associations of Counties, and he serves on the Safe Home and Metro 911 board of trustees.

He was Sioux Falls Central District's representative on the City Council from 1997 to 2002 and the Legislative District 13's senator from 2002 to 2006. Before he retired, Kelly worked in real estate and hospitality.

Argus Leader Media asked Kelly a few questions about his career as a public servant.

**Question:** What are some of the toughest calls you had to make during your career?

**Answer:** The right-to-life issue was a big one when I was up in Pierre. That was a pretty divisive area. The (lien) waivers we do almost every week at the (county commission) meetings are not always easy. People run into a lot of situations where we do have to provide them housing assistance or medical care. I've always been very reluctant to give waivers on public defender costs because I felt like that was created by a crime, and people have an obligation there. But as you know, I'm on a short end of that one.



**Dick Kelly '58  
WHS Senior Photo**

**Q:** What do you consider your greatest career accomplishment?

**A:** I keep getting asked that question. I'm more of a macro guy. One of the things we did in the last three years was the ability to get the Legislature to give us a couple more revenue sources. When we finally got part of the alcohol tax I thought that was a big deal for us.

**Q:** What are your retirement plans?

**A:** Well, right now nothing. I'm going to be doing something, though. I thought I would just work part time. No definite plans though. That probably won't last long because I'll probably go nuts. (laughing)

**Q:** How long have you served in public office?

**A:** I was sworn in in December of 1994 to the (Sioux Falls) City Council and Tuesday (Dec. 27) would be my last day.

**Q:** Do you have any regrets?

**A:** No.

**Q:** What made you so successful during your time in office?

**A:** I guess I just tried to represent those people who elected me. I tried to do the best job I could. At times you make a lot of people mad, and at times you make a lot of people happy. I've kept very involved, no matter which position I was in, in outside meetings and I tried to attend as many as I could.

**Q:** How have you seen Sioux Falls grow over the years?

**A:** That's 20 years. I think we've almost doubled the land size of the city of Sioux Falls during that time. Things have changed a lot. Police work is an awful lot more dangerous. In some areas, like building code and fire protection, we've improved. But with growth of population, you bring in some new elements, and some of them have been a problem. But I see no reason why we can't continue reasonable growth, though. It's a great city and a great area. I don't know if there's any place I would rather live in.

**Q:** How do you feel about (Tuesday) being Dick Kelly Day?

**A:** It was kind of fun. It was a great day. There was a reception at the county building after the meeting, and a lot people showed up who I hadn't seen in a while. I remember turning to my wife and saying it was a good day, but it was bittersweet.

**Q:** How would you like to be remembered during your time serving in government?

- A:** I kind of want the well-done deal. I was there, I served and I did the best job I could. I'm conservative, and I've tried to stay to those fiscally conservative principals.
- Q:** How do you feel about, after all these years, finally getting the jail expansion moving forward?
- A:** I was delighted. (laughing) I was afraid that it wasn't going to get done before my time was done, but I was happy to see it get done. Nobody wants to build a jail, but on the other hand you have to have it. I think we will be building it right, and it will serve us well into the future.
- Q:** While we are discussing the jail, you've been part of some of the county alternatives to incarceration efforts. What was that like?
- A:** That's interesting. Any time you find someone has a problem, whether it be alcohol or drugs, and you can find a path to sobriety for them, a path to get them in better shape, that is important. To recognize you have a problem and jump to solve it is important. Jail isn't a place for treatment. It's a place for punishment. With some of these programs, we've tried to direct them to rehabilitative services. If they are rehabilitated, then the likelihood of them committing crimes goes significantly down.
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## A Story of Kindness:

### The True 7 Wonders Of The World

Junior high school students in Chicago were studying the Seven Wonders of the World. At the end of the lesson, the students were asked to list what they considered to be the Seven Wonders of the World. Though there was some disagreement, the following received the most votes:

1. Egypt's Great Pyramids
2. The Taj Mahal in India
3. The Grand Canyon in Arizona
4. The Panama Canal
5. The Empire State Building
6. St. Peter's Basilica
7. China's Great Wall

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one student, a quiet girl, hadn't turned in her paper yet. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The quiet girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many." The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help."

The girl hesitated, then read, "I think the Seven Wonders of the World are:

1. to touch...
2. to taste...
3. to see...
4. to hear... (She hesitated a little, and then added...)
5. to feel...
6. to laugh...
7. and to love.

The room was so quiet; you could have heard a pin drop. May this story serve as a gentle reminder to all of us that the things we overlook as simple and ordinary are often the most wonderful - and we don't have to travel anywhere special to experience them. Enjoy your gifts!

# WASHINGTON HIGH CLASS OF '57

## 60<sup>TH</sup> REUNION

Registration for the June 10, 2017 60th Reunion

Registration Deadline - April 15, 2017

Plans have been made for a one-day 60<sup>th</sup> reunion of the Class of '57 on June 10, 2017 at the American Legion, Burnside & Western Avenue from 10 AM to 7:30 PM.

We are in the process of preparing a Buzz Book with addresses, phone number and email addresses. **PLEASE, EVEN IF YOU DO NOT PLAN TO ATTEND, SEND YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER AND E-MAIL FOR INCLUSION IN THE BUZZ BOOK.**

Cost: \$35.00 per person in advance covering lunch and dinner. No exceptions.  
\$40 per person at the door.

Lunch: Make your own sandwich with 3 assorted coldcuts, coleslaw, chips and dip included.

Dinner: Buffet with broasted chicken and prime rib, salad, mashed potatoes, gravy, California mix vegetables, bread and butter.

Coffee available with lunch and dinner. Cash bar only.

Traveling microphone for sharing memories. Bring pictures.

Any questions: Call Peggy Voss Merrow, [605-941-1401](tel:605-941-1401) Or Peg Teslow [605-334-0078](tel:605-334-0078)

You are welcome to stay for live music dancing after 7:30 PM.

### Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Check made out to: Peggy Teslow Reunion

Address: 2904 West 33<sup>rd</sup> St., Apt. 327, Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Deadline: April 15, 2017

# Your Editor's Most Recent Las Vegas House Guests.

Debra and I most thoroughly enjoyed having Wayne Gustafson '54 and Bev Kaiser as our most recent house guests. We all enjoyed some of what Las Vegas has to offer, from our patio lunch on the Strip at *Mon Ami Gabi* at Paris, to visiting Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area about 8 miles from our home, to dinner at *Hugo's Cellar* for a magnificent, "old Las Vegas dinning experience".



Left: After lunch at Paris Casino.  
Right: Touring the famous and beautiful Las Vegas Strip.  
Below: Visiting Red Rock Canyon.  
Below right: Dinner at Hugo's Cellar.



l. to r. Wayne Gustafson '54, Bev Kaiser, Debra Phillips, Jack Phillips '54



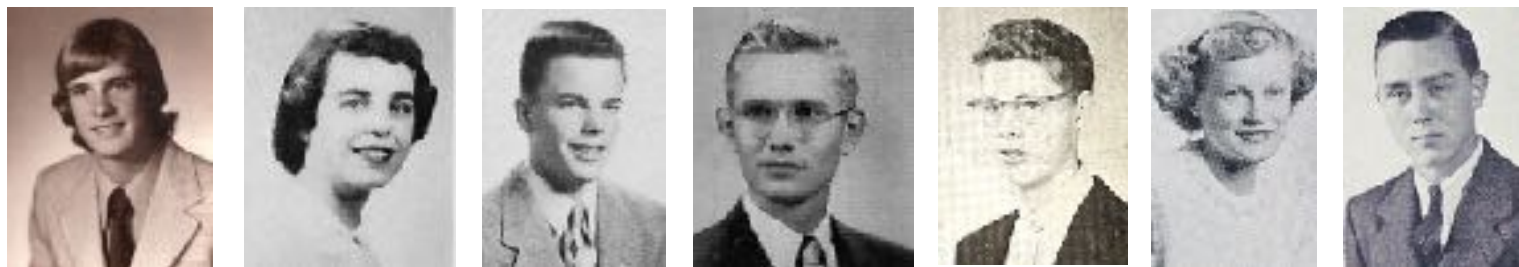
## Washington High Historical Committee - <http://www.whshc.org/>

If you have not checked the above link to the WHS Historical Committee I urge you to do so. The all volunteer committee does such a great job in preserving the records and memories of our beloved Alma Mater. In publishing the Alumni Orange and Black, I am always in need of expanding my library of old WHS Yearbooks and the Historical Committee recently generously donated 6 more books to my collection. I appreciate it so very much and thank Jeff Herbert '74 in particular for boxing and sending them to me. I now have every WHS yearbook from 1940 to 1960, with the one exception of the 1948 Warrior, and thanks to the Historical Committee I also now have the 1929, 1930, 1935 and 1991 books. Did you know that the early WHS yearbooks were called the, "Monogram"? The name was changed to the, "Warrior", sometime between 1935 and 1940. I will buy a drink at our next All School Reunion for the first person that can tell me what year the name changed to the "Warrior".

Continued next page.

The hard working members of the WHS Historical Committee are: **Jeff Herbert '74**, **Betty Holmoe Pfeifle '52**, **Charles Rogers** (Social Studies Teacher at WSHS), **Charles Holmstrom**, **John Norberg '51** (English/Speech Teacher at WSHS), **Ken Schafer** (Industrial Arts Instructor at WSHS), **Tom Lemonds '52**, (Business Law/Social Studies Teacher at WSHS), **Don Erickson '54** (Social Studies Teacher, Head Basketball Coach, and Assistant Principal at WSHS), **Jan Nelson Klawiter** (Mrs. Wally Klawiter '52 - English Teacher at WSHS), **Barb Harding Hines '50**, **Brett Cooper** (Liaison to the Committee/Staff at the Pavilion), **Mick Zerr** (WHS faculty '67 to '09 - Sociology/Social Science Teacher and Dept. Chair/Social Studies at WSHS), **Dale Hart** (Speech, English, Drama Teacher and Dept. Chair at WSHS), **Linda Hart** (Dale's wife), **Bob Caselli** (Teacher/Coach and later Principal at WSHS), **Kenny Kessinger '43**. If you know any of these hard working people please thank them.

Or, better than a thank you, please consider making a financial contribution to the Historical Committee. They do so much with the small amount funds they are able to raise in assorted ways. Your financial help would mean such a great deal to their tireless efforts.



All 7 of the above Historical Committee members graduated from WHS. They are l to r: Jeff Herbert '74, Betty Holmoe Pfeifle '52, John Norbert '51, Tom Lemonds '52, Don Erickson '54, Barbara Harding Hines '50 & Ken Kessinger '43



Pictured at left is Mick Zerr and Janet Nelson Klawiter. Janet's photo is her junior year photo at USD and from the 1958 Coyote.



Pictured at left of Ken Schafer and Dale Hart are their faculty photos taken my the 1991 WHS Warrior.

Apologies to the other committee members but no photos were available.



**Jeff Herbert '74 Long Time WHS Teacher**

On Mar 5, 2017, **jeff herbert '74** <herbertj@sio.midco.net> wrote:

Dear Jack...greetings! I finally have been at the Pavilion and have these yearbooks available: 1929, 1930, 1941, 1944, 1947, and 1991. I will keep my eyes out for the others you requested---my hope is that all is well with you and your family! Yes, I might take you up on a visit next year as my wife is taking the SFSDistrict's Early opt out---and our youngest is graduating from Washington High School this spring---

I am sending the books tomorrow. Best wishes---and be in touch---Jeff Herbert '74

(ps...I found a completed undisturbed hallway as it was in the wonderful old building!!! It is located in the sw part of the building by the biology rooms. The hallway (in use, but only by staff of the Pavilion) in the photo, would have been from the northwest side, near the biology office and rooms (it is where I came up to when leaving the basement area where the yearbooks are stored). We have maps in each hallway, and I need to revisit and look again. I will let you know - my guess is this hallway lead to the girls' locker room by the gym area - not far from the cafeteria.



# Thank Heaven For Our Mothers

A few months ago, **Dick Sweetman '54**, sent me a package of goodies that his Mom had saved for him from his WHS years. Now, **Jim Adams '54**, has sent me goodies that his Mom had saved for him. In the package Jim sent me were two old O&Bs. Here is an interesting clipping from, Tom Howes '53 and Jim Dalton's '53, popular 1953 weekly sports column. Hope you enjoy it. As a died in the wool Okie and Sooner fan, those guys should have gone to OU. Jim, thanks for sending everything.

## Senior Photos of All The Following.



Three prominent Warrior athletes are presently enjoying a get-acquainted tour at the campus of the University of Oklahoma. Jack Neuroth, Dick Wold and mid-year graduate Bob Berguin are currently eyeing the Sooner institution as a possible site to continue their athletic careers while grasping a college education.

The boys are being chaperoned by Ben Taylor, former track and football great at Oklahoma, who lives here in Sioux Falls. This brawny group left town Wednesday noon and spent the evening in Omaha before completing the 700 mile trek to Norman, Oklahoma. Neuroth and Wold are strangers at this Big Seven school, while Berguin has made one previous visit.



**Dick Sweetman '54**



**Jim Adams '54**



**Tom Howes '53**



**Jim Dalton '53**



**Jack Neuroth '53**



**Dick Wold '53**



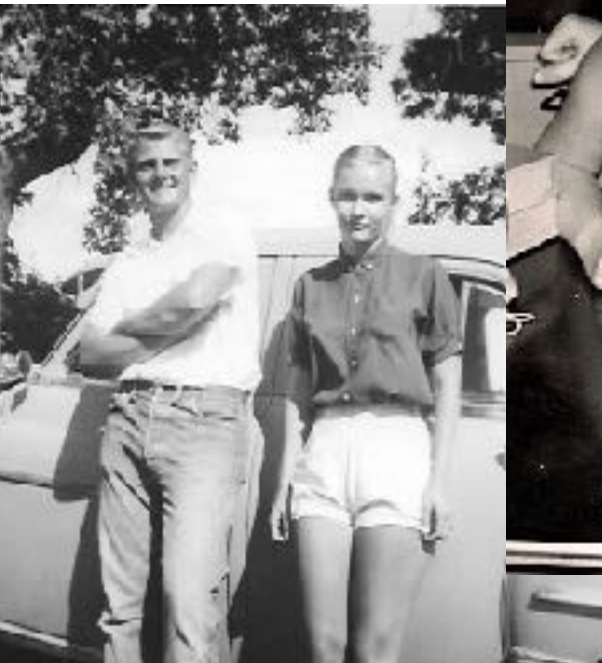
**Bob Berguin '53**

## Another Goody From Jim Adam's '54 Goody Bag.

This one, **"PROM PARTNERS"**, from the May 26, 1954 Orange & Black.

In case you don't recall who you went to the 1954 Prom with, this will help refresh your memory. (And your spouse's memory.)

Your editor dug through his more than 31,000 photos and found these two photos of "**Prom Partners**". The first photo is of Bob Amburn '54 deceased and Timmy Peaker '54 deceased at our '54 Skip Day. The 2nd couple is **Lorraine Fremming '54** and **Kent Morstad '54** actually attending the '54 Senior Prom together. So many wonderful memories & happy times!  
Jack Phillips '54



# PROM PARTNERS

Students who will be seen dancing at the Senior Prom at the Arkota ballroom June 1 are Barb Denbow, Norm Westby; Mary Freeburn, Fred Klawiter; Joyce McFarland, George Aker; Nancy Perrenoud, Wally Boersma; Nila Stadheim, Dan Stoltenberg; Mary Lee Posz, Tom Robertson; Kay Otten, Bob Sætre; Lorraine Fremming, Kent Morstad; Ev Kisecker, Warner Brown; Shirley Lemke, Pat Smith; Ann Fuller, Dave Palmer;

Karen McManus, Jim Moc; Karen Gurley, Nafe Alick; Ann Ledyard, Wayne Burk; Bev Young, Dick Sweetman; Diane Stoakes, Jack Heimanison and Kathy Engen and Bob Myklebust.

Steadies attending the senior prom will be Lois Rossow, Ron Veenker; Muriel Messing, Jim Riemann; Connie Hammit, Jerry Schleicher; Marcia Jones, Larry Hartshorn; Marilyn Rush, Keith Hodge; Sandy Taylor, Whitey Varson; Marietta Hanson, Bob Shreves; Mary Kay Houston, Lenny Blue; Timmy Peaker, Bob Amburn; Helen Eggers, Bud Olson; Janice Johnson, Hal Erickson; Connie Bjerk,

Gayle Hoover; Rosie Hunter, Les Larson; Shirley Dworak, Dick Erickson; Pat Rohlfes, Jim Sorenson; Carol Lemke, Lee Hayden; Connie Shank, Jerry Nelson; Carmen Nessum, Mike Myers; Sonnie Anderson, Bob Zimmerman; Mavis Lubbinge, Dar Sweeney and Nila Colwill and Ross Billings.

Others dancing to the music of Don Fjefar are Jody Severson, Bill Stanton; Ann Nachel, Dick Beck; Jan Batchellar, George Miller; Marcia Bishop, Du Fletcher; Deede Woods, Jack Philips; Sharon Moeen, Ed Pennock; Marlys Rush, Jerry Reedy; Linda Dudley, Larry DeSanto (Deadwood); Carolyn Robson, Paul Freeburn; Sandy Sona, Paul Winden; Jeannie Redfield, Wayne Gustafson; Betty Viesia, Tom Rich; Bev Ordal,

Steve Beckman; Dorothy Walhaun, Wayne Mitchell; Carla Thelke, Don Erickson; Jo Gill, Gary Nerison; Bonnie Assam, Skeeter Johnson; Mary Brown, Dick Viehweg; Jo Determan, Bill Kuekle; Jeannie Weiscasee (Cathedral), Gary Wheelage; Joan Nason and Dick Hopewell.



# NEWS FLASH!

## Wall Street Journal Story on Sioux Falls.

March 17, 2017

### “As Many Midwest Cities Slump, Sioux Falls Soars”

Jim Adams '54 and Don Noordsy '58 made the O&B aware of the above story, "**As Many Midwest Cities Slump, Sioux Falls Soars**", that appeared in the Wall Street Journal on March 17, 2017.

Space does not allow for reprinting the entire article here, but if you are interested in reading the article simple Google, "**As Many Midwest Cities Slump, Sioux Falls Soars**", and then select the, "[MSN.com](http://MSN.com)" site for the entire article.

It is nice that the rest of the world is learning what we who grew up in Sioux Falls have known all along, that it is a pretty cool city that has so much to offer.



Judy Jacobson '52  
WHS Senior Photo

### Peggy Servold Teslow '57 has written a 2 part series on Al Jacobson.

Al, was **Judy Jacobson Hamilton's '52** father that owned the ice cream store, "The Dairy Maid", located on the corner of 13th & Phillips Ave. (Where KELO now stands.) Peggy wrote the two part series for publication in the, "Sioux Valley Genealogical Society's", quarterly newsletter, "*The Pioneer Pathfinder*". Because of the total length of the story, 11 pages, it is not possible to print the entire story in the O&B. However, after reading the entire story on Mr. Jacobson, who was known as a "giver of fatherly advice, guidance, and inspiration to local men that went to war in World War II," I felt many of my readers from the '40s would be interested in reading Peggy's article. Unfortunately, the only way one can access *The Pathfinder* is by

becoming a member. There's an application form on the web site and once a member, they can access *The Pathfinder*. The web site is: [siouxvalleygenealogicalsociety.org](http://siouxvalleygenealogicalsociety.org) If any of you wish to become a member, the cost is \$22 annually and the address is: SVGS, 200 West 6th St. Sioux Falls, SD 57104

*Algot S. Jacobson was born August 8, 1898 at Glenwood City, Wisconsin. He was a graduate of Iowa State College in 1926 with a B.S. Degree in dairy sciences. While working as a foreman at a creamery in Manning, Iowa he met and married Helen M. Wise on May 29, 1928.*

*Eventually the family moved to Sioux Falls where in 1935 he opened up the Dairy Maid Ice Cream shop, on the corner of 13th & Phillips, where KELO now stands. The Dairy Maid was a favorite gathering place for the younger generation, not only for the frozen treat and refreshments but for fatherly advice of its proprietor. It was here Al formed lasting friendships with the local young men who eventually went off to war to fight Germany and Japan*

*after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941, "a day that will live in infamy".*

*Perhaps it was his service in World War I that precipitated his interest in servicemen and wanting to make a difference, the Dairy Maid was a definite stop each serviceman made while on leave.*

*Al kept in touch with the local servicemen by writing to them in longhand, enlightening them of current events and about other servicemen until his mailing list grew to 40, at which time he mimeographed his letters sending them out in bulk.*

# Letters to the



**Jim Adams '54**  
**WHS Senior Photo**

On Dec 27, 2016, **Jim Adams '54** <adamswest@earthlink.net> wrote:  
Good Morning, Jack.

A belated Merry Christmas! I hope you had a pleasant Christmas and now have a chance to recover from the holidays. We had a quiet couple of days and enjoyed relaxing and not doing anything of note.

I'm writing to send you a picture of our Mark Twain class, attached, but don't know the date. It must have been taken a couple of years before 1950, since we appear to be too young to be in 8th grade. Perhaps a few of your readers will be able to figure it out.

This picture I found in a box of memorabilia that my wife and I have been moving with us since time immemorial. It was apparently packed by my mother who gave it to me when I left college for my first job (at Boeing.) Having some spare time over the holidays I finally opened it. It's like a 60 year-old time capsule. I should add that my mother never threw anything away. When she died we discovered *Life* and *Saturday Evening Post* magazines in the attic going back to the first issue.



With Gary Norbraten's help, I was able to identify quite a number of fellow classmates in the Mark Twain picture: 1st Row from the left: 1.Chuck Bailin, 2. Bob Sacre, 3. Richard Gary Norbraten, 4. Marilyn  
Page 15 of 24

Hill, 8. Nancy Perrenoud, 10. Bill Zabel, 11. Bob Zimmerman. 2nd Row from the left: 1. Wally Boersma, 2. Joe Bednorz, 5. Beverly Ordahl, 10. Carol Capen, 13. Stanley Thoeke, 15. Roger Neubert. 3rd Row from left: 1. Jim Adams, 2. Roger Malcomb, 3. Jack Hermanson(?), 4. Kent Morstad, 5. Pete Eide, 6. Jerry Schleicher(?), 7. Bud Olson, 8. Steve Beckman, 9. Wayne Gustafson. Disclaimer: I would not represent that these identifications are error free!

Also in this box I found an unopened invitation to our WHS Commencement, a Commencement program, *WHS Orange and Black* newspapers for April 10, 1953 and May 26, 1954, and an (undated) *Argus Leader* newspaper clipping about 70 WHS seniors taking part in Legion Government Day. Of course we know that the article appeared in 1953 or '54. (For that Government Day, I was Asst. Superintendent of Schools and you were the Coroner.)

It's a kick to go through this stuff and I'm only about half finished. If you would like to have these O & B's, etc. described above, just send me your address and I will mail these to you. If I uncover anything else bearing on those wonderful WHS years, I will send those too.

Jack, your Christmas Issue was a fantastic piece of work. At our age, at least speaking for myself, it's a joy and blessing to be able to keep informed about classmates we had during a critical time in our development. Of course many experiences we had in high school we remember, but the newsletters open for us another dimension . . . a heartfelt "thank you" for your talent and effort.

Here's wishing you and your family a prosperous New Year, a year which appears to be full of promise. Let's hope so.

**Jim Adams '54**

**Ed Note:** Hi Jim, An even more belated Merry Christmas to you too. Thanks for sending so much good stuff. What a great photo of your Mark Twain class of '50. I am thinking that #8 in the first row might be Joyce McFarland instead of Nancy Perrenoud? But then I don't see Nancy and I think she should be there? I think it is Jack Mortrude next to Stan Thoeke in the 2nd row and I think it is Darwin Sweeney next to Wayne Gustafson in the back row. Could #4 in the 2nd row be Carolyn Robson? Could #6 in the 2nd row be Gloria Lundstrom? I am sure someone will know more names. Jack



**Mavis Larson '55  
WHS Senior Photo**

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On Jan 8, 2017, **Mavis Larson Carl '55** MCarl47071@aol.com wrote:

Happy New Year,

The holiday season came and went without me participating. I appreciated the greetings I received from many friends and relatives.

Some unexpected health problems arose and put me in the hospital twice during the month of December. I ended up in the hospital the first time because of a fluid build up around my heart. The second trip to Avera McKennan was because of the side effects from the medication for my heart. I ended up with acute kidney injury caused by loss of potassium and dehydration. I am now at home and getting stronger every day. The fluid is gone and I will see the cardiac doctor the end of January. Needless to say, my winter plans are on hold.

I feel very lucky to have my comfortable apartment in downtown Sioux Falls. With a bakery and winery in the ground level of my building, I can enjoy food and friends without leaving the building. I enjoyed breakfast at the bakery yesterday with Stan (Stumpy) Cadwell, his wife Mary and Jim Parker and his wife Sue. (Class of 55 ), and I am happy to say they are all healthy. Stan had knee replacement in October and is almost ready to run a marathon.

Have a joyous 2017

**Mavis Carl '55**



**Left:  
Stan Cadwell'55  
WHS Senior Photo**



**Left:  
Jim Parker '55  
WHS Senior Photo**



**Jim Wylie '51**  
WHS Senior Photo



**Myrna Irwin '53**  
WHS Senior Photo

On Jan 13, 2017, **James Wylie '51** <jimwylie@sbcglobal.net> wrote:  
Thanks...

Myrna and I thank you for the news re Dan Robar & his wife. To say Dan "was one of a kind" (your copy) is putting it mildly. He grew up down the street from Myrn and her brother Monte who in turn was into "this and that" with Dan in those wonderful growing up days is SFSD days. Monte (Irv as we call him) described himself as "hell on wheels" in that period and since Dan was a pal may well have been guilty by reason of association. 😊 Although I was a Lincoln kid Dan was well known and I have told my kids and grandchildren some of the fun stories from those early days and just to show them we all eventually grow up, his accomplishments in the Service or our country..  
Yes indeed !. Carry on General Robar Sir.  
**Jim Wylie '51**



**Dan Robar '52**  
WHS Senior Photo  
Deceased



**Don Irwin '52**  
WHS Senior Photo  
Deceased

On Jan 21, 2017, **Janet Herman Frey '58** <janetfrey@comcast.net> wrote:

Hi Jack - this morning a group of WHS grads gathered for breakfast in Minneapolis. A smaller group of us in the Twin Cities, mostly from the class of 1958, has been getting together regularly for at least 40 years. Today we had a couple of out-of-towners join us. What fun, talking about everything, including a few great grandchildren!





Annette Hillgren '58  
WHS Senior Photo



Connie Henline '59  
WHS Senior Photo



Deanna Henline '58  
WHS Senior Photo



Sharon Carlson '58  
WHS Senior Photo



Ann Lippert '58  
WHS Senior Photo



Janet Campbell '58  
WHS Senior Photo



Susan Skarda '62  
WHS Soph. Photo



Janet Herman '58  
WHS Senior Photo



Bev Hewlett '58  
WHS Senior Photo



Joyce Tornow '58  
Was Senior Photo

L to R: Annette Hillgren Bray, Connie Henline Nelson (from Sioux Falls, '59), Deanna Henline Henriksen, Sharon Carlson Goodrie, Ann Lippert Flanagan, Janet Campbell Line (from Orlando, FL), Susan Skarda Nielsen, '62, Janet Herman Frey, Bev Hewlett Campbell, Joyce Tornow Briggs.

(Jack - let me know if this format doesn't work. I adjusted the borders and hope it copies without cutting anyone off!)

And thanks for the newsletter! It is a treasure us readers, and a real labor of love on your part.

**Janet Herman Frey, '58**



Jim Brown '56  
WHS Senior



Jerry Savold '56  
WHS Senior Photo



Lloyd Greiner '56  
WHS Senior Photo

On Jan 28, 2017, **Jim Brown '56**

<[gidocjb@gmail.com](mailto:gidocjb@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Jack,

Jerry Savold, Lloyd Greiner and I , Jim Brown, WHS class of 56 are living this winter in SunCity Grand in Surprise , AZ. It has been so much fun getting together including our wives, going out to dinner together, playing pickleball and reminiscing. It is truly amazing to reconnect with someone from 60 years ago, who we last saw when we were 18 and now have such a great time together. Words can't do it justice.

**Jim Brown '56**





Martha Tyler '61  
WHS Junior Photo

On Jan 25, 2017, **Martha Tyler Pasco '61** <[mipasco@msn.com](mailto:mipasco@msn.com)> wrote:  
Hi Jack

The Class of '61 is wondering if you would know when the next All Class Reunion for WSHS is or if you know a contact person? Thanks for your time and still love the O & B's you email out.

**Martha Tyler Pasco, WSHS Class of '61**

**Editor's Response:** Hi Martha, Sorry for not getting back to you sooner, but Debra and I have just returned from a 2 week Caribbean cruise.

As of this moment there is no WHS All School Reunion planned. They were started in 1992 by Marlys Ahrendt Hohman '57 and because that first one was so popular and so well attended it was decided to hold them every five years, on five year increments, '95, 2000, '05, '10 and '15. Marlys chaired five of the six, but she has said she has retired and won't do any more. Her retirement in my opinion is a huge loss to all of us.

At this time no one has stepped forward and volunteered to take over the chairmanship and I fear without the right person volunteering, there may not be any more All School Reunions. That would be very sad and I am still hoping someone will agree to undertake the 2020 reunion. Of course it will be big news when and if someone does volunteer and it will certainly be front page headlines in the O&B Newsletter that I publish. Since you are a subscriber you will be one of the first to know.

Jack Phillips '54, Editor



Marlys Ahrendt '57  
WHS Senior Photo



Mavis Larson '55  
WHS Senior Photo

On Feb 6, 2017, **Mavis Larson Carl '55**  
MCarl47071@aol.com wrote:

Hi Jack....Hope this works. Let me know if the pictures are not clear. These pictures were taken in 1948 right behind my house on 29th and Norton . The city came around with their water trucks and would flood empty lots for neighborhood skating ponds. This pond was on the corner of 29th and Summit. In your last O & B you talked about the air base. In the background of these pictures is Our Saviors Lutheran Church which was moved from the Air Base. My family was a charter member..Their were other chursches in Sioux Falls that also started up in air base chapels. I think St Lamberts and St Marys are two of them. In the pictures are Orva Fehrenz (class of 53 ) and standing over her is Ruth Robertson (class of 53). In the other picture is Keith Wikle (Class of 55) with Ruth Robertson. Our garage was the warming house where we put on our skates or if we had runner covers we put them on at home...

I have had some health problems so I am a little late in sending this.; Thanks for all you do!!!

**Mavis Larson Carl '55**



Keith Wikle '55  
WHS Senior Photo



Orva Fehrenz '53  
WHS Senior Photo



Ruth Robinson '53  
WHS Senior Photo



On Feb 15, 2017, **Peggy Servold Teslow '57** pwolset@sio.midco.net wrote:  
Researching the whereabouts of Bruce (Qualset '57), I discovered he passed away October 4, 2016 of Parkinson's.  
**Peggy Servold Teslow '57**

Thanks Peggy, I have added Bruce's name to the Master Decease List for the Class of '57. Jack



**Bruce Qualset '57**  
WHS Senior Photo



**Sandy Brix '59**  
WHS Senior Photo

On Feb 27, 2017, **Sandy Brix Hembd '59** <sandyhembd@comcast.net> wrote:

Thanks, Jack. Latest obit came today. Jimmy Bell used to hunt pheasants with my father and my uncles. They called him "the kid" because they were about 20 years older. J My brother, who passed away last year, had a great picture of "the hunters" and I can't find it or I would send it.....I'll look in the basement.

I really appreciate all the hard work you are doing. My husband and I have founded an assisted living, private, nonprofit for adults with developmental disabilities (in our retirement years). We have worked on Glory Community for 15 years now. We are slowing down though.....there IS an age factor afterall. J But, work keeps you young. You just have to pace yourself. I know how thankless this type of work can be.

While everyone appreciates it, not many let you know how grateful they are. I have been grateful for the work you are doing because I cherished my life in Sioux Falls and your news is always welcome. We stay connected to how lucky we were, growing up in a wonderful place and time. Solid and staying friendships were formed in those first 17 years of our lives and the "50s" were the best years to grow up. THANKS!

**Sandy Brix Hembd '59**

On Mar 3, 2017, **Joe Alick '56** <jkalick@sio.midco.net> wrote:

Our sister, Fatima, has passed away. I am sending the obituary and photo to you for your publication. They will be sent in two different e-mails. Thank you for doing this.

**Joe '56 and Rich '58 Alick**



**Joe Alick '56**  
WHS Senior Photo



**Rich Alick '58**  
WHS Senior Photo

Dear Joe and Rich,

Please except my most sincere condolences to you both and to your entire family for the loss of your dear sister, Fatima.

From Fatima's obituary I learned that Fatima (Alick) Mohamed was born in Machghara, Lebanon, on January 7, 1928, to Joe and Mary (Younis) Alick. She passed away on Wednesday, February 22, 2017, When Faye was 5 years old, the family came to the United States, settling in Sioux Falls, SD. Faye attended school in Sioux Falls and graduated from Washington High School.



**Nafe Alick '54**  
WHS Senior Photo

Joe and Mary owned and operated, Alick's Grocery, on the corner of 18th and Grange for many years. The entire family, which consisted of Fatima '46 (deceased), Sam '53 (deceased), Nafe '54, Joe '56 and Rich '58, all worked hard in the store while growing up. They all attended Emerson Grade School. The entire family has always been such a hard working and highly respected family.



**Fatima Alick '46**  
WHS Senior Photo  
Deceased



**Sam Alick '53**  
WHS Senior Photo  
Deceased



**Elliot Miller '50**  
**WHS Senior Photo**

On Mar 4, 2017, **Elliot Miller '50** <evmiller@massmed.org> wrote:

Dear Jack,

Thank you so much for your continuing notes on WHS. My class of 1950 is rapidly diminishing in numbers. I see Gene Nesheim and Don Buxton now in the past few days. Many times I wish I were not so far from Sioux Falls for I live in Maine now, but then my class is scattered over the many states and all in our mid 80's with decreasing mobility. Thanks again, Jack, for all you do for I am truly grateful. Cordially, Elliott  
Elliott V Miller '50, 14 Red Maple Lane, Topsham, ME 04086-1770 207-721-0310



On Mar 4, 2017, **Elliott miller '50** <evmiller@massmed.org> wrote:

Dear Jack,

You are most welcome. I am fortunate have generally good health. The arthritis is a major problem especially in the spine - - I have lost 7 inches in height. The brain still seems to work well. I enjoy working as a volunteer with now only two foundations. I go to Newfoundland every year to work on one - medical and education. Trying to learn watercolor which is a huge challenge. I have taught etymology courses on several occasions. It became a life long hobby after a special course in etymology in WHS. I can't remember the teacher's name, but I do remember the course well. I still have my HS text. Take good care of yourself. You only get one body issued for your lifetime.

Cordially,  
Elliott

On Mar 12, 2017, **Elliot Miller '50** <evmiller@massmed.org> wrote:

Dear Jack,

Thanks for your note. Indeed, you may print my letters. I am proud to be a member of the WHS class of 1950. There were many wonderful classmates who have achieved much in the USA for which I am very proud.

I was pleased to learn that you were a friend of my brother, Bruce (Miller '53). He did love playing football. I believe he was a fullback. He used to describe his pleasure in running into the opponents line and then run **over** the line. He died a tragic death from diffuse metastatic prostate cancer about 10 years ago. His tragic disease benefited me as a warning for a few years after his diagnosis, I developed prostate cancer having been on the lookout for it. I am now 22 years after the diagnosis but with two episodes of invasive treatments and doing well. Sometime, you might tell about yourself. You have been very generous to all of us fellow WHS alumni.

Cordially,  
Elliott



**Bruce Miller '53**  
**WHS Senior Photo**  
**Deceased**

On Mar 10, 2017, at 11:29 PM, **Jeffery Kayl Jr. '87** <jkayl@ombudsman.com> wrote:

Rose Dean died on Thursday. She was a WHS '68 grad (she was my mother-in-law). Thought you might want to maybe add that to the next newsletter. **Jeff Kayl Jr. '87**

Dear Jeff, My most sincere condolences to you and your entire family. I regret not having photos of either you or your mother in law to publish with your email. It is at times like this that I wish I had all of the Warriors from 1961 to 1969. I have a need for them so frequently.

Sincerely,  
Jack Phillips '54



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Sheldon R. Songstad" <srsongstad@msn.com>

**Subject:** Fwd: Today In History - March 7, 1955 history, SDNG Air Guard founder Joe Foss honored in Sioux Falls (UNCLASSIFIED)

**Date:** March 9, 2017 at 12:06:44 AM EST

**To:** Jack Phillips <jack@jackphillips.com>

**Sheldon Songstad '56**  
**WHS Senior Photo**

Jack, The next time I am in Las Vegas remind me to tell you the story about the SPECIAL MEAL I made for Gen. Joe and three other Generals when we were at the Air Force base in Alpena Mich.

"S O S" Sweet Oh Sheldon

**From:** "Frank Owens"

**Date:** March 7, 2017

**To:** <SRSongstad@msn.com>

Sheldon, as the General's special cook, I thought you would enjoy this.

Frank



Today In History -

March 7, 1955 this date in SDNG history, Joe Foss Field dedication

On March 7, 1955 a huge ceremony was conducted for the dedication of Joe Foss Field in Sioux Falls, SD. The air field was named for Brig. Gen. Joseph J. Foss, a World War II ace, former Governor of South Dakota and founder of South Dakota Air National Guard. Joe Foss had successful careers in the military, political and business environments.

Foss was the driving force in starting the South Dakota Air National Guard in 1946. His efforts did not go unrecognized.

Engaging in almost daily combat with the enemy from 9 October to 19 November 1942, Capt. Foss personally shot down 23 Japanese planes at Guadalcanal. He shot down a total of 26 enemy planes in 63 days to equal the World War I record of fellow Medal of Honor recipient Eddie Rickenbacker.

His remarkable flying skill, inspiring leadership, and indomitable fighting spirit were distinctive factors in the defense of strategic American positions on Guadalcanal.

In 1954, Foss was overwhelmingly elected Governor of South Dakota and two years later was elected to a second term. After that, he was elected the first commissioner of the American Football League until 1966. The National Rifle Association (NRA) also elected Foss as their President.

A Citizen Memorial plaque is mounted on the wall of the entry foyer at the Sioux Falls Regional Airport located at 2801 Jaycee Lane in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



Joe Foss, front left walks with flying legend Charles Lindbergh on an island in the South Pacific, 1944.



Thanks Sheldon. Your story about Joe Foss aroused my curiosity about when Mr. Foss attended WHS. It is clearly established that he graduated from WHS, but I have been unable to establish the year he graduated. Does anyone know the year Joe Foss graduated from WHS?  
Jack



On Mar 13, 2017, **Royce Adams '58** Litljump@aol.com wrote:

Memories from the days that preceded the wonderful experiences of WHS:

AROUND 1950 - 53 a few of us from the area of Longfellow grade school would muster up a dime or two with the purpose of going to the State Theater to attend a movie. Our group couldn't ever, by ourselves, have enough money for all to buy a ticket to the movies. Since there were usually 4 or 5 of us we had to be creative in order to all attend the show. We'd pool the money we had and then one of us would buy the single ticket, go into the hall and up the carpeted steps to the balcony area. When up there the guy in the theater would slip down the narrow stairway, the designated the fire escape route, and open the door to the south of the main Phillips Ave. theater doors.

When that door opened the rest of us would quietly slip up that stairwell and into the balcony, which most of the time was roped off for lack of movie goers. Now it is here that I must say that we never caused damage and of course we were obviously very quiet and well behaved because we surely did not want to get kicked out. Amazingly we were never

made to leave. No one ever "found" us. It was as if we were invisible. We could not all go downstairs to buy any refreshments but if we had some money left, the kid that bought the ticket would go buy a box of candies that we would share. So there we sat, in the balcony which was very plush, chewing a Jujub candy, and enjoying the movie.

I know we did feel we were a little dishonest but in our half cooked kid brains it wasn't an overriding guilt.

Now we come to the manager at that time, Mr. Cliff Knowles. A kinder man you could not have met. Years later, after returning from the Marines, I saw Cliff and I mentioned what we did and apologized for all of us.

After confessing all our little sins, Cliff said "Don't worry about that Royce. I always knew you guys did that." He then informed me that he knew we had no money and as we never caused any ruckus he let us stay in the balcony. I loved growing up in Sioux Falls!!!

**Royce Adams '58**



**Royce Adams '58**  
**WHS Senior Photo**

## WHS and World War II

Since I began publishing the Alumni O&B and studying my growing collection of WHS Yearbooks I have wondered how much impact the war years had on the WHS student body. Now, thanks to the WHS Historical Society's generosity, I have all of our yearbooks from those tumultuous war years. Surprisingly, even though the world was in absolute chaos, I found very little evidence of the war's existence within those Warrior pages. It seems the students either choose to ignore the horror and devastation that was going on through-out the world, or the administration and faculty did an excellent job of shielding their young charges.

One of the very few acknowledgements of the war that I found in the WHS yearbook's in those years of 1940 through 1945 was found on the very first page of the 1945 Warrior. It is the poem below entitled, "*Morning Snow*". It was written in 1940 by a young man, 17 years old, by the name of, "John Baillie Davis". He was killed in action in the European Area, May 19, 1944.



John Davis '41  
WHS Senior Photo  
Deceased

Wrote the poem,  
"*Morning Snow*"  
at 17 years old in  
1940.

He was killed in  
action in Europe  
on May 19, 1944 at  
the age of 21.

### MORNING SNOW

One morning when I awoke, I gazed upon one of the most inspirational scenes I have ever witnessed. So beautiful and entrancing it was that I dared not stir lest it depart from me.

The snow was falling. Nothing was moving, nothing was living, but the falling, falling snow. Futile man with all his guile and cleverness could nowhere be seen; he dare not be seen, for this was the time of the snow.

The world is wicked, plagued with the spreading fungi of war. Peaceful, security-loving nations are being swallowed by the unquenchable thirst for power. But here the heavens with all the patience of the ages were obliterating the crooked paths of man and spreading for him a new and untrodden day.

How dare they call it a "white and trackless waste"! White and trackless—true, but never a waste! It is our future throwing to us a challenge: Track me clean and straight and I shall be all you could desire me to be; but track me, yet again, crooked and foul, and then truly shall I be a waste.

That was the vision that came to me that early morning hour as I lay in my bed, contemplating the snow from my window—just the falling snow in an oppressive silence that was in itself symbolic of the deed that was being done. Somehow the snow became to me the silent tears of a mother seeking to erase the hopeless follies of her mad sons.

The slate lies clean before us, waiting to be decorated as we choose. Shall it be covered, as our ancestors defiled their slates before us, with the repetitious errors of time, with strife, with prejudice and blind adherence to foolish causes, or shall we decorate it with a new order of things—a design cleansed of the evils of the past? The choice rests wholly in our hands; the challenge has been thrown. How shall we track the snow today?

—Written by John Baillie Davis—1940—seventeen years old.  
Killed in action in the European Area, May 19, 1944.