

THE ALUMNI

Note New Address jackmp@me.com

ORANGE & BLACK

NEWSLETTER

Issue #11-19 December 5, 2019

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: **NOTE NEW ADDRESS** jackmp@me.com



Carl Turco '58
WHS Senior

Thanks to Carl Turco '58, for sharing this walk down memory lane that we all should now share with our descendants who might otherwise never know or understand the early life we had. This recap is just a teaser when compared with things we all can remember growing up.

“Children of the Greatest Generation The 30s & 40s”

Born in the 1930s and early 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 stoves.

We saved tin foil and poured fat into tin cans.

We hand-mixed ‘white stuff’ with ‘yellow stuff’ to make fake butter.

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. [A friend’s mother delivered milk in a horse drawn cart.] We sometimes fed the horse.

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, tarpapering it over and living there until they could afford the time and money to build it out.

We remember trying to buy a new car after the war. The new cars were coming through with wooden bumpers.

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.

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 sandwiched in between westerns and cartoons.

Telephones were one to a house, often shared and hung on the wall.

Computers were called calculators, only added and were hand cranked; typewriters were driven by pounding fingers, throwing the carriage, and changing the ribbon.

The 'internet' and 'GOOGLE' were words that didn't exist.

Newspapers and magazines were written for adults and the news was broadcast on our table radio in the evening by H.V Kaltenborne and Gabriel Heatter.

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 40's and early 50's 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 to thousands of stations.

The telephone started to become a common method of communications and "Faxes" sent hard copy around the world.

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, Martin Luther King, 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".

More than 99.9% of us are either retired or deceased, and feel privileged to have "lived in the best of times"!

How to Write an Obituary

Obituaries are used in several ways, and the length and content of each may vary. The three most common are:

1. Newspaper: abbreviated version
2. Website: a longer version
3. Printed: longer version

Note: most newspapers will print longer versions. However, this can be very costly, so most people choose an abbreviated version for the general public and use the longer version on the funeral home website, family history sites, and other locations that can accommodate the additional content.

Abbreviated content

The purpose of the abbreviated obituary is to inform the general public of a death, with pertinent information about (1) identity to confirm who has passed away and (2) arrangements for those who wish to attend or contribute a memorial.

Basic information:

- Full name of deceased, including maiden name
- Age
- Date of death
- City and state of residence at time of death [note: if death occurred in another location, use the place of residence, not place of death]
- Name of spouse/partner/significant other, whether alive or deceased
- Date, time and location of service to which the public is invited
- Requested memorials

Extended information, if desired:

- Date of birth
- City and state of birth
- Parents and family of origin:
 - If deceased, use "the late" or "pre-deceased by": "Mary and the late John Smith"
 - For siblings and other family members, use first name, last name (spouse): "Jane Smith (Bob)"
- Immediate family: children and spouses, grandchildren, great-grandchildren
 - If too many to list, you may state "10 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren"
 - If unsure of quantity, you may state "many grandchildren and great-grandchildren"
- Extended family: nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, etc. are not usually named
- Brief career
- Education
- Military service
- Brief mention of hobbies or special interests

Extended content

The funeral home website or other online sources offer a place to provide an extended obituary. When this is available to you, additional content may include:

- Date of marriage or how long married
- Special events, hobbies, travels, or interests
- Awards and achievements
- Leadership roles
- Involvement in charitable, religious, business or community organizations
- Extended career
- Places of residence
- Acknowledgement of thanks to caregivers or special friends

Special circumstances

- Cause of death: most people do not include it, though it is your choice
- Divorce: ex-spouses are usually not included

Funeral Etiquette

"How-tos" for supporting loved ones during their time of grief

Do you have questions about what to wear to a funeral or memorial service? Or wonder what to say to someone who has just lost a loved one? The information below may help guide you through unfamiliar circumstances.

What to wear to a funeral or memorial service

The appropriate attire for a funeral or memorial service is simple: dress to show respect for the person whose life you are remembering. This means selecting clothes that are more conservative, not flashy or brightly colored. Darker dresses, suits, pants, jackets and sweaters are appropriate. Flip-flops, tank tops, shorts, sundresses, casual tennis shoes and cleavage are not appropriate. Even though the service may be a celebration of life, many of those attending will be mourning. Your goal is to blend in, not be conspicuous. A special note to teenagers or young adults: You live in a very casual world where jeans and casual shirts are appropriate in most settings. A funeral is not one of those. If this is your first time attending a service, talk to your parents or a trusted friend to help you select what to wear. This is the kindest way to show the family you care.

What to expect at a funeral or memorial service

Depending on where the service is held and the wishes of the family, services today vary widely.

Regardless, there are some common guidelines to know:

1. A guestbook will be outside the service for you to sign. Please do sign it and make your signature legible – the family will treasure reviewing the names of those who attend, and this will be the best way for them to remember you were there.
2. Be on time or early. It is rude to enter a service after it has started. If you are late, enter from one side and be seated as unobtrusively as possible. If the family is processing, wait until they have finished and reached their seats, then enter after them.
3. Seating: the family will have a designated seating area, usually at the front or the side of the room. This area will be marked, so look for “Reserved” signs and avoid sitting in these seats.
4. If an usher is present, you will be shown to a seat. If an usher is not present, it is courteous to enter a row from a side aisle to avoid climbing over people already seated. Much as at any event, seating is “first come, first served” so if you want a “good” seat, arrive early and do not expect people to move for you. The aisle seats are the ones most preferred.
5. Enter the room and sit quietly. Turn off your cell phone and put it away. Your behavior should allow those around you to mourn without distraction.
6. There may be an open casket. At most services, you are welcomed to walk forward prior to the service to pay respects at the casket. Do not touch the body or any of the surrounding items or flowers. However, it is not mandatory to go forward if you prefer not to.
7. When the family enters, you will be instructed to stand until they have entered and taken their seats. Then you will be seated.
8. When the service ends, you will be instructed to stand while the family exits. This recessional will vary depending on the service and the presence of an open vs. closed casket.
9. After the service, the attendees may be ushered out by walking past an open casket. It is most courteous to follow the group. If you prefer not to view the open casket, just walk past without looking.
10. If you are not escorted past the casket, watch for direction on how to exit the service: at-will or by escort row by row.
11. If you are going to the burial and will be driving, you will form a queue behind the vehicles carrying the casket and family members. Turn on your lights and follow the car in front of you. If your group is escorted to the cemetery, follow the directions of the officers; generally you will be waved through stoplights and stop signs, and out of courtesy other drivers may pull over to let you pass.

12. At the gravesite, stand away from the site to allow the family to be seated before approaching. Then gather close so you can hear the brief service.
13. Following the interment, you are free to leave as you wish. The family often lingers to speak to guests, and they will be your cue as to whether or not you should approach to express your condolences.

How to express sympathy following death

One of the most frequent questions we hear is, “What do I say to someone who has just lost a loved one?” There may be special circumstances surrounding the death—an accident, a suicide, unexpected death during surgery—that make the question even more difficult to answer. Here are some simple suggestions:

1. Please do speak to the family. They will hear eloquent messages and bumbling messages. But the most important thing is that their grief is acknowledged.
2. If you knew the person casually or only slightly, stick with a short statement: “I am so sorry for your loss.”
3. If you have something positive to add, make the statement a little longer: “I am so sorry for your loss. John was the best teacher I ever had.”
4. If you won’t see the family, send a card or a note. The same message you would say in person can be written on the card.
5. Make a donation in the person’s memory. Most people designate a place of worship, charity or other organization that was important to them. The recipient will notify the family of your donation (but not the amount that was given).
6. Offer concrete assistance: a guestroom for family attending the service, grocery shopping or other errands, even staying at the family’s home during the service so the house isn’t unattended.
7. Reach out later, when the flush of attention has ended and the days of grieving may be long and lonely. A simple phone call that says “thinking of you” can mean so much.
8. Share stories that reflect the goodness of the life you’re remembering.
9. Listen. And listen some more.

What NOT to say following a death

Most families can relate head-shaking stories of inappropriate comments made following a death—many of them well intended but offensive. Here is what to avoid:

1. Do not probe for details. It is not your business.
2. Don’t add value judgments: “It’s for the best,” “This is a blessing in disguise.”
3. Don’t assume the family’s beliefs are the same as yours. Avoid comments such as, “He’s in a better place now,” “Everything happens for a reason,” “It was God’s will.”
4. Don’t minimize the family’s loss: “Aren’t you glad it’s over?” “She wouldn’t want you to be sad.”
5. Don’t assume you understand what the family is feeling. Everyone grieves uniquely.

WHS All School Reunion Future In Doubt

Unless a miraculous savior steps forward VERY soon volunteering to chair the 2020 All School Reunion there will NOT be one. Needless to say I regret that all of my efforts over the past two years to find a chairperson have failed. I did have a few individuals contact me that were considering taking the job, but when they learned there was no money available to cover the substantial start up expenses they seemed to lose any further interest.

In each case I explained a plan I had to overcome the zero start up budget. My plan was simply that I was sure I could get 40 or 50 people to invest \$100.00 up front to finance the reunion. That would have provided a \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 working budget. Each of those initial investors would have then be given a \$100.00 credit toward their Reunion tickets. But for whatever reason, we still ended up with no chairperson. Time is obviously now very short, but there is still time if you are interested in the job. I strongly suspect that if we do not have a 2020 All School Reunion we will probably never have another All School Reunion. **Very sad!!!!** Jack Phillips

The Future of The Alumni O&B?

In O&B Issue #9-19, dated Sept. 9, 2019 I wrote the following:

THE END OF THE ALUMNI ORANGE & BLACK

Sadly it seems that there will be few, if anymore at all, WHS Class Reunions from the Fifties Decade. Thus, this seems to be the logical time to retire the Alumni Orange & Black that I have been publishing for almost 11 years.

I think we all agree that the '50s were a very special time and we were so very fortunate to have grown up and come-of-age during those magical years. But our numbers are dwindling and I see evidence that our intense interest and reader contributions of those truly special and wonderful years are diminishing .

Therefore, after a great deal of consideration I announced last week at the 65th Reunion of my Class of '54 that the last issue of the O&B would be printed within the next few months.

I sincerely wish to thank each of you for the support and the contributions you have made to the O&B. Just saying "thank you" is totally inadequate to express the deep appreciation I feel inside. I have never professed to being a journalist and have fully realized from the very beginning probably more than anyone of my limitations as a writer. But not one of you have ever pointed out my journalistic short comings. You have always accepted my limited writing skills and I have always greatly appreciated that more than you will ever know. I now thank you for your immense tolerance, acceptance and support.

Jack Phillips '54

12-4-19 Update:

First of all I just can't begin to express how touched I was at receiving the over 200 truly wonderful thank you letters and letters of understanding and support regarding my intention of retiring from publishing the Alumni O&B. I assure you that making my decision to retire was difficult and one that I am still wrestling with.

I also assure you that I don't wish to belabor the subject with you, but since so many of you wrote I would like to share a letter with you that I wrote to a dear friend on the subject. It is the first time I have ever really explained what all has been involved in publishing the O&B for almost eleven years now. If you are bored with this subject I understand and you certainly can now just skip reading any further.

Dear _____

I am just writing to thank you for your phone call and for expressing your opinions regarding the future of the O&B. I truly, TRULY, appreciate your call as well as all of the letters of thanks and support I have received from so many of my subscribers.

I assure you it is an extremely difficult decision for me to make and I am now constantly wrestling with it daily. The two main reasons I have for retiring is simply how much time is increasingly required and the fact that I am receiving fewer and fewer stories submitted by our classmates. Of course that simply requires more work for me to generate stories that I hope will interest my subscribers.

When I add those first two pretty strong arguments for me to retire to the several additional factors that I didn't mention to you, it just provides more factors for me to consider. I hope you don't mind, but I would like to share with you some additional factors that I must weigh in making my decision.

Several years ago the "business, or administrative part of publishing the O&B" reached the point where it takes more time than the actual publishing of the newsletters and the Special Editions. That is, assisting and servicing the needs and problems of my large number of subscribers.

The financial burden of publishing the O&B is a consideration I feel I need to start considering. The monthly charge from the distribution company alone is \$45.00 per month, or \$540.00 per year. It doesn't matter how many mailings I send out per month, the cost remains the same.

There are also other direct costs I incur each year with the mailing such as the annual "domain" cost and the annual expense of maintaining my email address. Those costs are also absolute and unavoidable each year. (Since writing this letter I have calculated that the current actual cost of just publishing the O&B is \$615.88 per year and I am prepaid through March of 2020.)

My subscribers have always been most generous in voicing their appreciation of my efforts and commenting on how much work they know the O&B requires. Without any doubt I have always truly appreciated their generous thanks and acknowledgements, but I have always been certain that no one has ever fully realized how much time and work the O&B actually requires. Please don't misunderstand, I am not complaining. The O&B has always been an act of love and a job that I have fully and gladly volunteered to accept. And I have never had any regrets!

I hope you don't mind my sharing this description of what all is involved with publishing the O&B to the huge number of subscribers I have had for several years now.

I seriously doubt that any of my wonderful subscribers have any idea how much work and time it takes just to try and maintain my records in an accurate and up to date status

Here is a partial list of the necessary on-going and never ending administrative duties:

It is always surprising to me how many dozens and dozens of email address changes I receive each year. Each email address change requires a minimum of 3 rather time consuming steps. And every time I get a new subscriber it takes even more time (5 rather time consuming steps), to get them into my system plus into the mailing companies system.

The most time consuming on-going job is getting people re-subscribed after they accidentally un-subscribed. The rules, (or law), that tries to control, "Spam" on the Internet, forbids me, the sender, from re-subscribing some one that has un-subscribed, even if it was done accidentally and un-intentionally. Getting someone re-subscribed almost always takes an hour or more and occasionally it has taken as long as an entire 8 hour day. It just took me 4 months of on and off- again time to get someone from our class re-subscribed. I estimate that I get 4 to 8 **accidental** "re-subscribe" problems per month. In the almost 11 years of publishing the O&B, other than families of a deceased subscriber, I can only recall one person un-subscribing intentionally. Intentional un-subscriber's only takes about 5 minutes to just remove them from my records.

Over the years I have received hundreds and hundreds of requests for contact info. on someone, or to try and find someone's long lost classmate or friend. I get so many requests to try and find lost classmates, I have paid fees to multiple search engines that assist in finding lost people. You will probably recall an example of this when I was asked to try and find lost members from our '54 class for our recent '65th Reunion.

Helping to find lost classmates has always been part of the O&B service. And PLEASE don't misunderstand my mentioning this service as complaining on my part. I have never complained about trying to help, and I get huge satisfaction when I am successful in putting two old friends back in contact with each other.

An example of this was just last week when a female classmate wrote and asked if I could help find her very best girlfriend from WHS. I was lucky on that request as I had information in my files and it only took about 20 to 30 minutes to find the friend who was sadly now deceased, and write my response. But then the lady

was so pleased to find info on her 1st friend she wrote again asking me to find another lost friend. I was not so lucky on this one and it took between 2 and 3 hours since I had to correspond with the inquiring lady 2 or 3 times trying to get more information to help me find her 2nd friend. Needless to say the lady was extremely happy and appreciative that I have always offered that service.

Once a month one, or more of my subscribers contacts me to tell me that for some unknown reason they are no longer receiving the O&B, or they are unable to open my mailings. This, of course can be the result of many reasons and can take anywhere from a half hour to several days to remedy. When it takes more than an hour it is always because I am just not super computer literate, especially with computers that are not Apple computers and it is much more difficult to figure out the problem.

Back to the expense of the O&B for a moment. My largest expense has always been a discretionary purchase of updating my Apple Computer that I have deemed necessary.

When I first begin publishing the newsletter for just our class of '54 I did considerable research on which computer on the market would be best for such a project. In my judgement at the time I felt the Apple Computer was the best choice by far and that was what I purchased. Almost 11 years later I am more convinced than ever that I made the right choice. I am now on my 3rd Apple Lap Top Computer.

The surprising thing I learned pretty quickly was what a very large amount of memory I was going to need. As an example, right now I have the following volume of items saved in my current computer.

32,657 letters and documents. .

33,070 photos.

23 videos of past reunions.

2,796 names and addresses plus background notes and information on those 2,796 people in my "Address Book".

By the time I purchased my 2nd Apple Computer I knew I needed as much memory as I could get and the same with my current model which is number 3. In that same period of time I have worn out about 6 printers. (I believe 3 of them were replaced under warranty.)

Of course all of that memory stored in my computer is not a result of the O&B, but I would guess that at least 75% of it is.

Please don't take any of the above as complaining, or as regrets on my part because that is absolutely not my intention. In fact at least 99.99% of my years as editor have been super rewarding, positive and gratifying and I totally cherished the entire experience.

There have only been a handful of negative experiences and because they have made up such an infinitesimal portion of the entire O&B experience I am soon afterward able to just kind of chuckle about each one. Below, in red, is a letter I received regarding one of those negative instances that were stressful, embarrassing and I felt bad about.

Jack Phillips...

My name is Xxx Xxx Xxx Class of 195X.

I am listed as deceased. I wonder who told you that! I am very much alive and live in Sioux Falls. I am married to Xxx Xxx, Class of 195X. Please remove my name from that list and send a notification to all the subscribers.

Xxx Xxx Xxx

(This P. S. was from the husband.) P. S. Jack, this is XxxXxx again. In my e-mail of today I told you she was "upset". I should have said, "quite upset!" Please correct this error.

Again, I am weighing all of the above in trying to make my decision. I am hoping I can do so by March of next year. I don't feel any hurry to quit something I love so much. The only thing I feel I can safely say now is that I don't feel I could drop coverage of the other 9 class years (as you have suggested), and just continue with our class of '54. To do that I would just feel like a traitor to so many such unbelievably supporting people.

I hope this has enlightened you a bit, but didn't bore you too much.

Jack

Under my current contract I am paid up for the actual mailing costs until, I think March of 2020, so that is the date I am now looking at to retire. I hope all of the above hasn't bored you too badly.

Jack Philllips

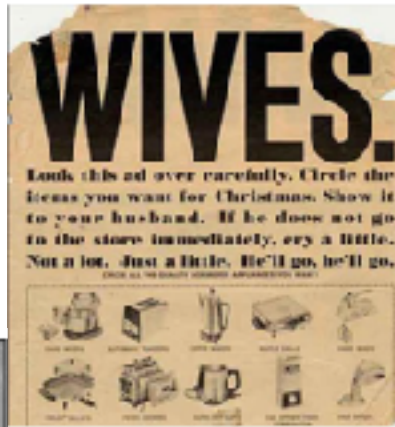
Editor: Alumni Orange & Black.

P.S. My on-going personal address is jackmp@me.com



Gary Norbraten '54
WHS Senior Photo

Samples of by-gone advertising, thanks to Gary Norbraten '54. norbraten@twc.com



Harry Hoiland '54
WHS Senior Photo

Sex after surgery

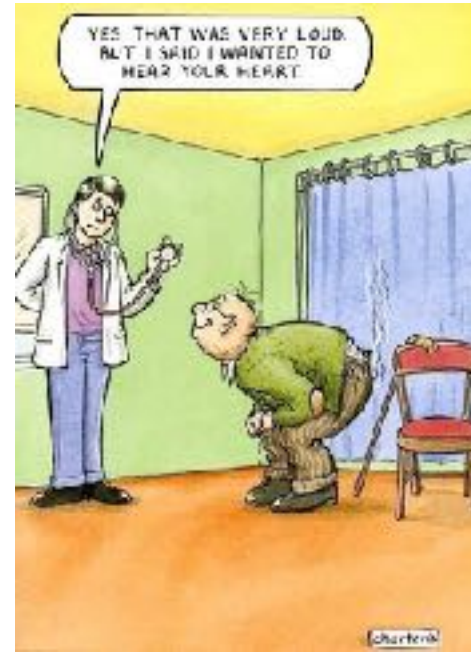
A recent article in the Daily Post reported that a man, Dave Harper, has sued St Paul's Hospital, saying that after his wife had surgery there, she lost all interest in sex.

A hospital spokesman replied:

"Mrs Harper was admitted for cataract surgery. All we did was correct her eyesight."

Therapist: Your wife says you never buy her flowers is that true?

Him: To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers.

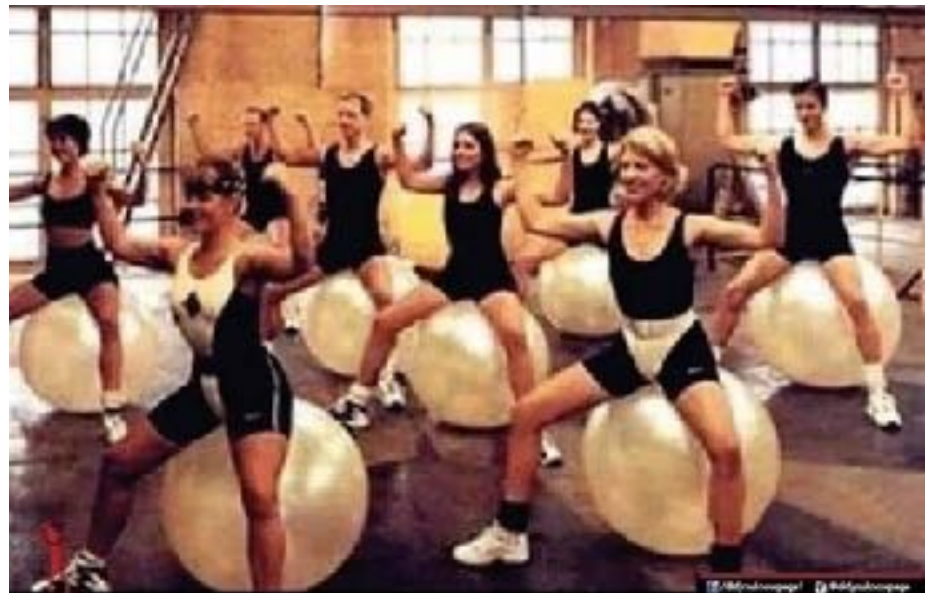


I ASKED MY GRANDPA, "AFTER 65 YEARS, YOU STILL CALL GRANDMA DARLING, BEAUTIFUL, AND HONEY. WHAT'S THE SECRET?" HE SAID, "I FORGOT HER NAME 5 YEARS AGO AND I'M SCARED TO ASK HER."



Me: (sobbing my heart out, eyes swollen, nose red)...I can't see you anymore... I am not going to let you hurt me like this again!

Trainer: It was a sit up. You did one sit up.



This picture was given to Class II Children and they were asked to suggest a headline. The winning entry was:

'Never swallow your chewing gum'.

I have been told that the above "chewing gum" joke is terrible and should be removed. I think it is funny, so for my future guidance do you think it is funny or not??? Jack



Class of '56 Reunion

On Nov 13, 2019, **Georgia Severson Johnson '56** gjtn7odsf@aol.com wrote:

Jack,

I hope to get this in before you shut down the O&B. Our class of '56 sixty-fifth reunion would be in 2021,. We need to have feed-back from any who are interested in attending an event. Possible timeline would be Sept. 2021. We have a little money in our account but really need to see if there is any interest. Email me at gjtn7odsf@aol.com whether interested or not. We had 70 attendees for dinner in 2016 and would hope to have that

many again.

Thanks, Jack, for all that you do and have done to keep all of us informed. We always looked forward to hearing from you whether O&B reports or deceased notices.

Georgia Severson Johnson '56

Letters to the & B

Sorry for the huge back log of Letters To The Editor. Just been super busy.



On Sep 2, 2019, at 9:57 AM, dick waggoner <dickwaggoner@hotmail.com> wrote:

From: dick waggoner '58

Sent: Monday, September 2, 2019 4:39 PM

To: JACK@JACKMPHILLIPS.COM <JACK@JACKMPHILLIPS.COM>

Subject: WHS

JACK" I RECEIVED YOUR STUDENT DECEASED PROJECT INFO FROM A FRIEND AND WANTED TO THANK YOU AND POSSIBLY ADD MY PERSONAL GOD GIVEN LIFE OF GROWING OLD IN SIOUX FALLS , AND GODS COUNTRY S.D.

BORN IN 1940, WITH A GREAT EDUCATION AT WHS CLASS OF 1958. SPENDING 1944 TO 1954 IN THE SOUTHERN WILDS AT 41ST AND WESTERN. ALL GRAVEL RDS. STILL REMEMBER COVERING THE WINOWS AT NITE DURING THE WAR YRS.

AFTER GRADUATION I WENT ON TO ACTIVE NAVAL DUTY ABOARD THE USS TOLEDO CA-133 IN THE PACIFIC FROM 1958 TO 1960 , AND 4 YEARS OF RESERVE COMMITMENT.

RETURNING HOME I SPENT NEARLY 40 YEARS WITH JOHN MORRELL, RETIRING IN 1999 AS MGR. OF THE LAMB DIVISION.

I MARRIED ROXIE HEUN IN JUNE 1961, AND WE HAD THREE GREAT CHILDREN, JIMMY, MARK, AND TERESA. 4 GRAND CHILDREN, AND TO DATE 6 BEAUTIFL GREAT GRAND CHILDREN

IN 1957 I PLAYED ON THE S.F. AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL PROGAM, AND WERE STATE CHAMPIONS

I WENT ON TO PLAY FAST PITCH SOFTBALL FOR 10 YEARS AND THREE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

OVER THE MANY YEARS WE HUNTED AND FISHED THE MISSOURI RIVER, THE SISSETON HILLS LAKES, AND THE GREAT COUNTRY AROUND WEBSTER, S.D.

ONE OF MY GREATES CALLING WAS TWO TERMS, 6 YEARS ON THE S.F BOARD OF EDUCATION, SERVIN 18,000 CHILDREN AND SUPT DR. JACK KEEGAN. FROM 1994 THRU 2000. MOST PROUD OF INSTITUTING ALL DAY EVERY DAY KINDERGARTEN, INCREASING CARNIGE

CREDITS FOR GRADUATION; AND A \$30 MILLION BOND ISSUE, REQUIRING A TAX PAYER VOTE NEEDING 60% TO PASS (RECEIVED 63%), WHICH WENT TO REPLACE BANCROFT ELEMENTARY WITH TERRY REDLIN ELEMENTARY AND PROVIDED DOLLARS FOR UPGRADES IN ALL THE SCHOOLS WITH IN THE DISTRICT.

IN ADDITION TO VOTING FOR THE BOND ISSUE, WE ALSO PROMISSED WE WOULD NOT INCREASE TAXES FOR 5 YRS. WHEN DR. KEEGAN LEFT THE DISTRICT 7 YRS LATER, NO ADDITIONAL TAXES HAD BEEN LEVIED.

DURING RETIREMENT WE SPENT 11 YRS. MOTOR HOMING FROM ALASKA TO FLORIDA, AND WINTERS IN MESA, AZ. THEN MOVING PERMANETLY TO THE PHOENIX, AZ. AREA IN 2013. NOW WE ARE DOWN TO GRANDMA BATTLING ACUTE ARTHRITIS AND MYSELF MULTIPLE MYELOMA CANCER.

BUT WE HAVE HAD A GREAT LIFE. THANK YOU JESUS.
PEACE TO ALL.

DICK WAGGONER '58
7350 WEST SILVER SPRINGS WAY
FLORENCE, AZ 85135
DICK WAGGONER @HOTMAIL.COM



On Sep 3, 2019, Dennis York '55 <yorkota.dy@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello Jack,

This is DeVee Dietz, Juli Odegaard, Amy Kainz Denny's daughter's. Dad had a fall on Thursday and broke his left hip and four ribs. He had surgery on Saturday, which went well. He is not responding to us and is in chronic kidney failure. We wanted you to know he is at Rapid City Regional Hospital.

Editor's note: Thank you ladies for letting me know about your Dad. I am truly sorry I am just now getting your nice email published. Knowing Denny he is no doubt either dead or fully recovered by now. Knowing how tough he is I am betting he is fully recovered. At least I sure hope so. He is lucky to have such thoughtful daughters. Jack



Doug Aldrich '57
WHS Senior Photo

On Sep 5, 2019, **Doug Aldrich '57**

<Doug.Aldrich@comcast.net> wrote:

Jack,

I was so sorry to see Jim Adams' passing, as he was one of my key life mentors. I was a green freshman at Mines and he was an accomplished senior. As a fraternity brother, he tutored me how to solve engineering problems, guided me from chemistry to chemical engineering, and influenced my decision to take advanced ROTC. (It is ironic that I also ended up in the Corps Engineers and Chemical Corps as he did.) Jim also nurtured me in college life which was

invaluable the year before he graduated. It was a pleasant surprise to meet accidentally in the Mines alumni office 12 years ago. We had a great catch-up time and I met Sheri too. We talked about our respective careers, and he was interested in my goals as alumni association President. I shared with him then that his mentoring was most meaningful and thanked him for shaping up this poor freshman. What a wonderful person and a life-influential guide!

Doug Aldrich '57



Jim Adams '54
WHS Senior Photo
Deceased



Marlys Ahrendt '57
WHS Senior Photo

On Sep 6, 2019, **Marlys Ahrendt Hohman '57**

<marlysanna@aol.com> wrote:

Hi Jack,

Did anyone inform you that Claude Hone had died? He was the older gentlemen that was dancing the hours away at the last all school reunion with his daughter. One of the TV stations did a great segment on him. He was 99. Probably was our oldest living alumni.

I had emailed you awhile back that Paul has pancreatic cancer so our life has become one big roller coaster. He is still pain free and has a good appetite. Has lost 25-30 pounds because of the cancer

and looks very frail. We met with hospice yesterday to see what his options will be when he needs it. Another big bump in the road of life.

Marlys Ahrendt Hohman '57



Claude Hone '38
Pictured At 2015
All School Reunion
Deceased



Merlyn Christensen "54
WHS Junior Photo

On Sep 23, 2019, **Merlyn "Chris" Christensen '54**

chrisnbev2@myfairpoint.net wrote:

Hi Jack,

I have thought of writing you many times but never seem to get to it; probably could find a reason but certainly not an excuse!

Sadness, disappointment, thanks, gratitude! So many emotions upon hearing that you will be ending the publication of the Washington High School Orange & Black Newsletter. I was a late comer in finding your wonderful tribute to the decade of the 50's at WHS but want to take this opportunity to thank you so very much for your untiring dedication to keeping us WHS graduates informed.

I wasn't able to participate in a lot of school activities because of the need to hold several jobs while attending High School. I worked for the Argus Leader seven days a week as well as delivering Jo's Donuts early mornings. Most of my 'spare' time was spent riding my trusty (?) Triumph motorcycle. I was fortunate enough to spend a short time as sports writer on the school newspaper which was about the extent of my contributions to our great school.

I have been unable to attend any of the reunions in the past few years as I was full time care giver to my beautiful wife Beverly who suffered many years with the horrible disease Multiple Sclerosis. She passed away this past February and is now free from pain and suffering and I know we will be together again.

I didn't have a large circle of friends while in high school and many of those are no longer with us. Thanks to your Newsletter I was at least able to find their obituaries and come to a closure on their lives. In the pictures in the latest Newsletter there were pictures of some of the classmates that I did get to know a little and it was nice seeing them. I have thoroughly enjoyed all the Newsletters and have looked forward to each one. It is wonderful reminiscing and recalling the good times we had while attending WHS. Thanks to you those memories will remain with us always. Words aren't adequate enough to express my gratitude to you, so I trust a sincere Well Done, Thank You will do.

If I remember correctly our school song starts "Onward Sioux Falls, onward Sioux Falls, you're the best of all..."; well Jack, you are the 'best of the best'! My thanks and deepest appreciation for your tireless efforts in keeping the greatest generation of graduates from Washington High School informed. You are the BEST and your Newsletter will be greatly missed.

With warm regards,

Merlyn "Chris" Christensen
Hudson, NH
WHS Class of '54



Don Brown '53
WHS Junior Photo

On Oct 9, 2019, **Donald Brown '53** <don@chubrown.com> wrote:

Don Brown writing on the passing of his dear friend, Arden "Flip" Fjellanger on 9-28-19 Jack,

I did not attend it, but have been told it drew close to 300 people. Jet fighters flew overhead in the missing man formation. Military gun salutes at the cemetery. He had retired from the Air Guard as a Lt. Colonel, and had for decades generously donated his time and electrician skills to support his church and help his friends. He will be missed by many.

I did not know that he had been going downhill for two years. He wasn't very good at emailing personal messages, though he forwarded all sorts of amusing or interesting items of one sort or another right up to the end.

Thanks again for notifying me of his passing.

Hoping all is well with you,

Don Brown '53



Arden "Flip" Fjellanger '53
WHS Senior Photo
Deceased

On Oct 21, 2019, **John Matthius '76** <jmatthius@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Jack, WSHS Class of 1976 & Sioux Falls resident guy here. I wanted to thank you again for your continuing dedication to emails like this one, concerning Harlan Linton, WSHS Class of 1956. I've discontinued my home delivery of the Argus (too unreliable), and don't subscribe to the Argus online edition (relentless pop-ups make access slow). Consequently, I don't see the obits the way I used to. I never met Mr. Linton, but it was easy for me to cross reference that his son Randy was a good friend and classmate (who now lives in KS) . If I'd not seen your message, I'd have missed the opportunity to express my condolences in person at the visitation in Sioux Falls.

Unexpected condolences from classmates were very meaningful and memorable to me when my parents passed, so I'm honored to pay that gesture forward with other classmates. Thanks again for your part in helping us honor traditions which make us a civilized and caring people.

Sincerely,

John Matthius

Sioux Falls

Editors Note: Dear John, What a nice note. I always especially enjoy and appreciate receiving emails from WHS Alumni from outside the fifties decade. Thank you for writing. Of course I am glad to hear that you enjoy the O&B. I totally understand and agree how "very meaningful and memorable" unexpected condolences from classmates can be when our parents pass away. They certainly were to me when my parents died. Jack



Jane Hackett '53
WHS Senior Photo

On Oct 27, 2019, **Jane Hackett Harris '53** <janeharris914@icloud.com> wrote:

Good Morning, Jack,

WOW!!! Is right. You have made an ole' gal very happy and brought a few tears to her eyes today. What a lovely tribute to our hometown. I have not been back to Sioux Falls since I attended my 50th Washington High School reunion. After reading your wonderful article , I think I really should make the trip.

Thank you so much. The pictures are fantastic and I love the bit about the sculptures along what I remember as Phillips Avenue.

Can't thank you enough.

Jane Hackett Harris
Class of 1953

See more from Jane on following page.

On Oct 27, 2019, **Jane Hackett Harris '53** <janeharris914@icloud.com> wrote:
Hi Jack,

So pleasant to hear back from you. Yes, three long years and I think of him (**HUSBAND, Wayne Harris '51**) every moment .We had a wonderful life together.

I live in Massachusetts, about 20 miles outside Boston. my address is Jane A. Harris, 1 Avebury Lane, Marlborough, Ma 01752.

A couple years before Wayne passed we "downsized", sold our large home and bought a condo in a 55 + community of just 69 condos. The place is wonderful, I have so many new friends and we keep each other busy and I'm very happy here. I am very active on the Social Committee where we plan monthly coffees, luncheons, condo to condo dinners and cocktail parties. When we have a winning year

(Patriots) there are Super Bowl parties and holiday cocktail parties. We can party with most any occasion!

My daughter Janie lives in Natick, Ma about 30 minutes from me and my daughter Susan lives in Northborough about 10 minutes from me. I have three grandchildren, James graduated last spring from Northeastern University in Boston and now works for Apple in Cupertino, Ca, lives in San Francisco. Grandson Ben also graduated last June from U.of Colorado, Bolder. He lives in Virginia Beach, Va, works for a large commercial developer and is getting married in September. We are all very excited about the wedding!. My granddaughter Kate is a senior at University of South Carolina. Also excited about making the trip to see Kate graduate in May.

I so love the Orange and Black that you so beautifully write for all of us. I read every one of the updates and obits. Funny how many people I remember form the classes before 1953 and the class of 1954. I know it is a big job and I understand your wanting to retire but we will truly miss all that you bring to us.

I look at myself and you after the loss of your first wife as real survivors. When Wayne first passed and I was learning to do so many of the things that I took for granted because Wayne always did them for us, my daughter, Jane bought me a memo pad that says "Just put on your big girl panties and get it done"!!! I keep it here in my kitchen where I can see it everyday and BOY am I ever learning SO many things!!

Thanks for listening, Jack. Loved hearing from you.

Jane

On Oct 27, 2019, Jack Phillips '54 jackmp@me.com wrote:

Hi Jane,

What a nice note! Thank you for taking the time to write, and of course I am glad to hear that you enjoyed my, "WOW", tribute to Sioux Falls. I just discovered that I don't have a home address for you in my records so I don't know where you live, but I hope you don't live too far from Sioux Falls so you can get back home. It sounds like it has been 16 years since you were last home. S.F. has really grown up. I know you would enjoy a visit back. Would you please give me your home address for my records.

It has now been over 3 years since you lost Wayne. I sincerely hope you are doing well and enjoying good health. I lost my first wife to MS 21 years ago but I, as I am sure you do, will always love the wonderful cherished memories. But now I feel I have now been so blessed and fortunate to have found, Debra, my 2nd wonderful wife.

Warmly,

Jack Phillips
Class of '54



Wayne Harris '51
WHS Senior Photo
Deceased



I to r: Jane's sister, Edie Hackett '45
and Jane Hackett Harris '53 taken
last July in Portland, OR.



Jim Carlson '58
WHS Senior Photo

On Oct 27, 2019, **Jim Carlson '58** <pegandjim@sio.midco.net> wrote:

Thanks Jack, a great tribute to SF.

I have organized a whoever can come, Boys of 58 get together.
Every Wednesday 2 PM at Hardies 37th and Minnesota Ave SF, senior soda or coffee .74
sliders \$1.25 after 2

We want to keep this a going, hopefully if one of our out of town classmates is in SF, they
can connect with on a Wednesday afternoon. Call 605-366-8403 to verify though.

Thanks **Jim A Carlson '58**



Nona Wumkes '50
WHS Senior Photo

On Oct 31, 2019, **Nona Wumkes Dubbe '50** <dubbe7215@nc.rr.com> wrote:

What a wonderful article. Thanks so much for keeping us informed. There is another
WOW I was made aware of recently. The State approved land northeast of Sioux Falls for
a State Veterans Cemetery. Ground has been broken! My husband is a retired AF officer
and we are thrilled about this project. The National Cemetery at Sturgis is quickly filling up.
Best Wishes. **Nona Wumkes Dubbe '50**



Sara Hart '58
WHS Senior Photo

On Nov 1, 2019, Sara Blizzard '58 <sara.j.blizzard@att.net> wrote:

Jack, I just managed to find the time to read this and WOW! A thousand WOWs. You
definitely hit the nail on the head about our HOME TOWN. It is a truly special place, full of
memories that just never die. I think one of the most shocking of the WOWs is the art walk
downtown. I do not know anyplace else such a wonderful experience could survive. In
most large cities they would be full of graffiti in no time. Every time we were home Bob and
I walked that whole exhibit area. We thoroughly enjoyed it and told everyone here about it.
And of course THE FALLS area is another amazing transformation I am so very thrilled
about. It was a place we often went when I was little, especially during flood season as
Mom loved to see the water roaring all over. She also loved to go to Sherman Hill at the
same season and for the same reasons. One thing I remember and you didn't mention,
and maybe they are all gone, are the band shells in Terrace and McKenna Parks. We

were regulars at Terrace Park for the Sunday concerts for years. And thanks for the picture of the

auditorium in the Pavilion. It
truly is beautiful. I shall be
sending this on to several
people to show them why we
WHS grads love our Home
Town so much. Thanks, **Sara
Hart Blizzard, '58**

Dear Sara, Yes, the band shells in
Terrace Park and McKenna Park
are still going strong. Here are
recent photos of both. You are
right, they should always be part
of the "WOWs" of Sioux Falls.
Thanks for reminding me. Such
good memories! Jack



Terrace Park Band Shell in Sioux Falls, SD



McKenna Park Band Shell in Sioux Falls, SD



Marlys Ahrendt '57
WHS Senior Photo

On Nov 2, 2019, **Marlys Ahrendt Hohman '57**
<marlysanna@aol.com> wrote:

Hi Jack,

Just thought you would like to know that
Gene Abdallah died last night. As you know
he attended Cathedral, but his wife, Judy
Hansen, was in my class of '57.

Marlys Ahrendt Hohman '57

Thanks Marlys. Jack



Judy Hansen '57
WHS Senior Photo



Gene Abdallah
Cathedral High School
7-16-36 - 11-2-19



Dean Mann '50
WHS Senior Photo

On Nov 3, 2019, **Dean Mann '50**, dlmann@sio.midco.net wrote:
Bob Krenos, class of 49, passed away recently. You will find his obit at
Hansen- Onion-Martell Funeral.com. Bob associated with many in the
class of 1950.

Dean Mann, Class of 1950

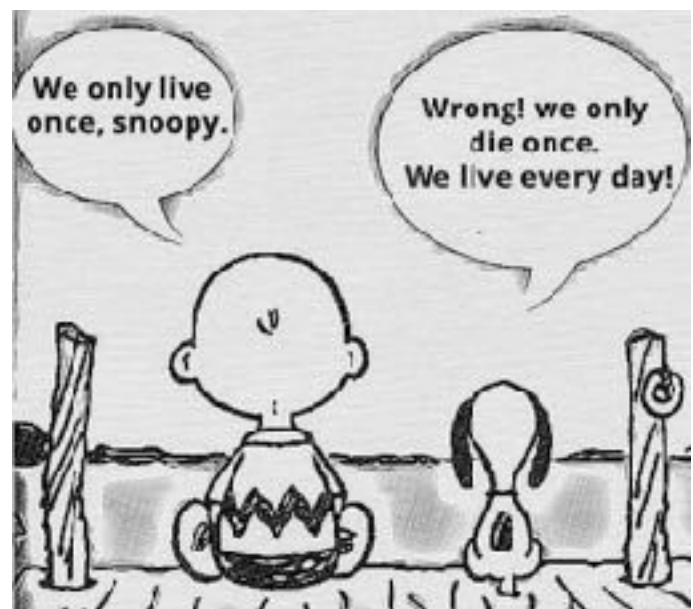
Editors Note: Dear Dean, thanks for alerting the O&B of Bob's
passing. However, as you know since he was not in a class from
the 1950's, I can not publish a "Special Edition" on him, but as always been the
O&B's policy I will publish the news of someone's passing in the "letters To The Editor."



Bob Krenos '49
WHS Senior Photo
Deceased

NEW O&B Email Address - jackmp@me.com

Another contribution to the O&B from my wife, Debra. Thank you dear.



From: Pat Smith '54 <patsmithculligan@gmail.com>

Subject: A general hello

Date: November 11, 2019 at 3:25:43 PM EST

To: jack@jackphillips.com

Jack, sorry we didn't make the reunion this past September, but we had many conflicts in that one of our grand daughters was being married in Baniff, Alberta the week b/4 and my brother Jim was being honored by the prep academy he coached at for 36 years by the naming of a new 56 million dollar sports complex after him. He is still alive and hale and hearty at 88 years old. Shirley and I are both enjoying great health and enjoying our Nisswa, Mn home and still hunt and fish and enjoy chasing after our 16 grand children and all their involvements in sports activities. 4 of our 6 children live here in the same area and the other 2 are only 1 and 2 hours away and come about every other weekend. Lots of hay and sleigh rides and bon fires by the lake. Sorry to have missed the get together but these old bones can only stand so much sitting.



Pat Smith '54
WHS Senior Photo



Shirley Lemke '54
WHS Senior Photo

Pat '54 and Shirley Lemke '54 Smith

Dear Pat and Shirley, Thanks for the nice note and brief update on your busy life in beautiful Northern Minnesota. Congratulations to your brother Jim. That sounds like a super significant and a truly deserved honor. 36 years, WOW!!! I am so glad to read that you both are enjoying great health and all of your young family. It sounds like a blessed and wonderful life.

I assure you that you both were missed at our 65th reunion. It was really a fun weekend and I am sorry you couldn't make it. I kept hoping that you might show up as the weekend progressed.

Love to you both and continued good health.

Jack



Marlys Ahrendt '57
WHS Senior Photo

On Nov 30, 2019, **Marlys Ahrendt Hohman '57** <marlysanna@aol.com> wrote:

On November 30, 2019, my dear friend, **Marlys Ahrendt Hohman '57**, wrote to tell me that her beloved husband, Paul Dean Hohman passed away on November 18, 2019.

Paul graduated from Larchwood High School in 1949 and from Iowa State University in 1956. Paul's large animal veterinary career began when he moved to Canton, SD in 1959.

My most sincere condolences to Marlys and Paul's family.
Jack Phillips '54



Paul Hohman
12-12-31 ~ 11-18-19



Royce Adams '58
WHS Senior Photo

On Dec 2, 2019, **Royce Adams '58** <Litljump@aol.com> wrote:

A great suggestion from Royce Adams '58, for when you just can't be bothered to put in the effort.

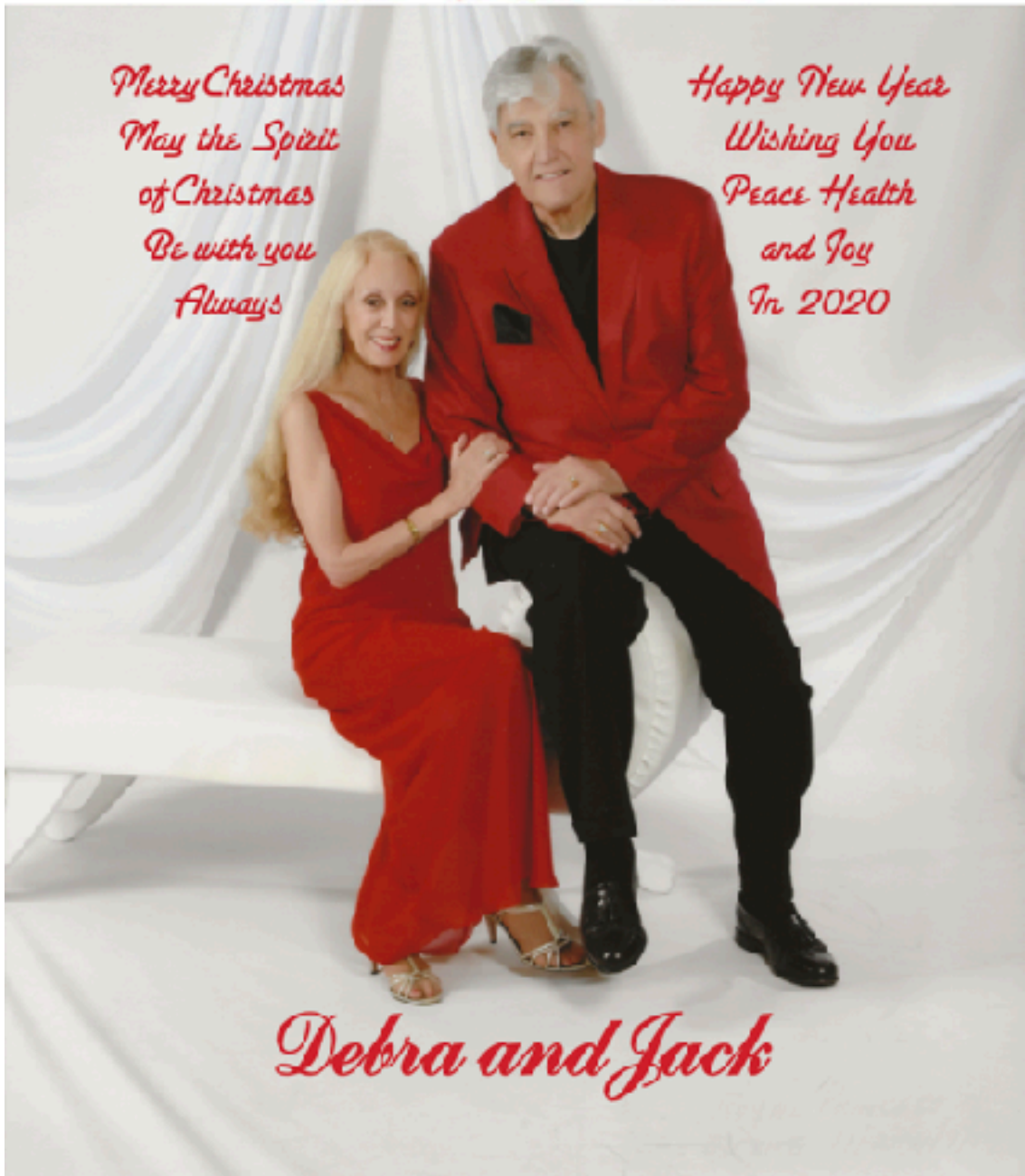


Happy Holidays



*Merry Christmas
May the Spirit
of Christmas
Be with you
Always*

*Happy New Year
Wishing You
Peace Health
and Joy
In 2020*



Debra and Jack