

Our lives today...



~ Rod Basham ~

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1963 – 2013 Family: 1 wife – Joyce 2 children - Brian & Elysi -1 grandson - Caleb
I am currently retired and working part time doing electronics for a self-employed engineer. Previous employment includes: Fair Isaac, Allina Health System, NCR Comten. We have a cabin near Webster, WI and I enjoy spending time doing some woodworking projects.



~ Mary Carol (Bajari) Behrends ~

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After graduating from Vocational in 1963 I attended St. Cloud State for one year, the school year of 63-64. My major was to be a Physical Ed teacher. I met my husband the spring quarter of 64 and was then married August of 1966. We moved to Detroit, Michigan for six years where I received my accounting, business and payroll experience on the job. From there we moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan we were there six more years. We bought dirt/motor cross bikes. I probably had as many air miles as dirt miles, on and off the bikes. Ouch!! We moved back to Minneapolis in the fall of 1978. I took a job with the Hopkins School District and retired after 29 years in their payroll department. During that time we both had motorcycles; my motorcycle was a 900 Honda road bike. We biked and tented many states all over the Western, Midwest and Southern parts of the country. Moving along at a slower pace we sold the motorcycles and bought a houseboat and vacationed on the Mississippi River. After 24½ years my marriage ended. I then met and married again to my current husband, Jim Behrends. We have been married 21 years as of July 2013. Jim has three girls and we now have nine grandchildren. Jim and I also traveled with a timeshare all over the United States. I help co-facilitate the divorce care program at our church in Prior Lake. God has blessed me throughout my life in so many ways.



~ Kathy (Bishop) Hall ~

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I have been married to my husband Terry for 47 years. We have two sons and four grandchildren.



~ **Patrick J. Boerboon** ~
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The past 50 years have been very gratifying. 6 years in the Navy nuclear power program which led to a 31-year career with Northern States Power Co. I held a different job every 5 years including power plant operator, computer programmer and several other positions. I retired in 2002. Karen and I spent the next two years snow birding to Arizona. Too young to sit around playing I began a new career; starting Law School in 2004 graduating in 2008 practicing law for the past 5 years.

Karen and I are now living on the shore of Lake Superior. We have a 34ft Hunter Sail boat we take out whenever possible, we go out fishing and enjoying family visits. We are both in good health and enjoy life. We travel to visit our exchange student in Finland.



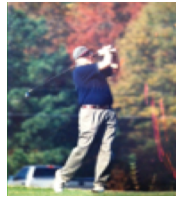
~ **Donald D Campbell** ~
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After retiring from the US Army, following service in Okinawa, Panama Canal Zone and Fort Meade, MD I've been a resident of Brooklyn Park, MN since 1999. I am currently employed by United Health Group, working at the Elk River facility. I have a daughter Samantha Campbell, son and daughter-in-law Ethan and Mary Campbell and granddaughter Daphne Campbell.



~ **Charles (Chuck) Donatelle** ~
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 612-802-2539 ~ cdonatelle@msn.com

I've been married to Barb for 47 years. Raised two daughters. Built a business...and the love of our lives, "Twin Grand Daughters".



~ **Dale Greene** ~

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I have been employed by BAE Sytems (formerly FMC of Fridley), as a manufacturing engineer, for 47 years and continue to work full time. We continue to make naval ordinance, parts for the Bradley tanks and now the MRAPS. We moved to North Augusta, South Carolina 14 years ago in order to continue employment. Even though we now live approximately 12 miles across the Savannah River from the Augusta National Golf Course, my golf game seems to continue to decline some. But I have had 2 holes in one over the years, in honor of the Vocational Golf team. Margaret and I have been married 41 years. Margaret is an RN at the VA in Augusta, Georgia. We have 3 children and 5 grandchildren. They are all in South Dakota. My brothers and sisters are still in Mpls, so we do continue to trek north at least once or twice a year.



~ **Valentina Hachow (Lund)** ~

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I have stayed in Cosmetology and added Home Health Care to my life. After my husband, Chuck, of 30 years passed away, I moved to Las Vegas to be close to my daughter. I met, fell in love, and married Terry Harmes. He also passed away after only 4 years of marriage, just this past December. So God has taken me through a number of ups and downs. I am still in Las Vegas, until God puts me elsewhere. I have 4 great children – my oldest daughter won the title of Miss Minnesota (America) in 1999, competing in Atlantic City. Her father was able to be there and was so proud.

~ **Judy (Hamann) Cruikshank** ~

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I married Dave in 1963 and moved to California. Dave worked for a custom car/upholstery shop. We had 2 boys – Gary and Jimmy. We opened our own auto upholstery shop in 1969 in Auburn, CA. Sold it 10 years later and moved to a ranch in Montana. Raised cattle and horses living the cowboy lifestyle. Dave and the boys rodeo'ed and still do at times! We moved back to Minnesota in 1988 to be near family. We opened an upholstery shop near Brainerd. Both boys moved to the Brainerd area and married Minnesota girls. We now have 9 grandchildren and 2 great-granddaughters. We still work a 6-day week at the shop, but have turned it over to our oldest son Gary. Best school memory? Flag twirling, fun lunchtime dances & riding the city bus everyday!



~ **Jeanne (Horazuk) Nicholson** ~

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I am married and have three children. We've lived in Montana, Oregon and Washington and I am now retired. Nick and I will also be celebrating our 50th anniversary next year. What wonderful memories we have of High School!!!!!!



~ **Carole (Jacobson) Hansen** ~

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Fifty years. Doesn't seem possible, does it? The skills I learned at Vocational were invaluable. The friends I made at Vocational I still have. And through all the reunions over the years, I have made more friends. Friends I treasure. I worked as a legal secretary for 49 years and have now retired. I have been married 47 years and we have three children (two sons and one daughter) and two granddaughters. I love road trips, even though I don't enjoy driving. I am looking forward to an Alaskan cruise and land trip. Anyone want to go with me?



~ **Dianne (Dee) (Kay) Seither**~

Double D Ranch

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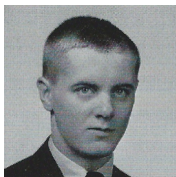
It's hard to condense 50 years of life into a few paragraphs. To start with, I stayed in my trade of pre-nursing, went onto nursing school & am still nursing taking care of my 94 yr old mother. Although OB was always my favorite department, I've worked in all phases of nursing. In 1968 I married my 1st husband. After 16 yrs. of marriage we divorced. The two blessings that became of our marriage were our daughter & son, who've blessed us with 4 of our 6 grandchildren & 3 1/2 great-grandchildren. In 1984 I met the love of my life, David. We were married in 1986 at the Renaissance Festival & we'll be celebrating our 28th anniversary there, as we do every year. When I married David I gained 2 more daughters & am now blessed with another grandchild. God has blessed us in so many ways. Blending two families wasn't always easy but with God's help, we did it & are blessed that everyone is healthy. I was reminded recently of a dream I'd had for my life since I was little. I'd always said that all I wanted out of life was 10 acres of land, 2 horses, 2 dogs, 2 kids & a husband who worked & who loved me & farm life. I didn't care if we lived in a tarpaper shack. Well, be careful what you pray for. God out did Himself, for He's blessed me with the 10 acres of land, 4 horses, 5 dogs, 4 children, 6 grandchildren, 3 1/2 great grandchildren, 2 cats, a few goats in the past & a beautiful husband who loves me & our farm life, works very hard & is making every dream of mine come true. It's called "the bucket list" Oh, although our house is very old, it's not a tarpaper shack. It's being remodeled slowly as we can afford it. It's a work in progress & a labor of love.

~ Helen (Leonhardi) Distad ~

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I was fortunate to enjoy my profession of Cosmetology for 50+ years. Even though like most of us - what did we know making a life decision at age 14? I was married for 38 years, had 2 children and divorced. That marriage brought 6 grandchildren ages 14 to 4. In 2011 I married Dave, adding 3 children and 4 grandchildren to my life...life is busy! Along with working in my salon, I pursued a degree in art history from the University of St Thomas. That gave me the privilege of working with many local artists in formal and informal venues. I'm a traveler and still have a large bucket list. I intend to live like I'm 25, whatever journey the body decides to take.... Vocational was a wonderful beginning and served me well! I still enjoy many moments with some of the Cos girls who know absolutely EVERYTHING about me ☺



~ Ron Lerohl ~

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I cannot make the reunion, wish I could but it's not in the cards. I'm still working, in good health and enjoying life in general. I'm planning on working for another two years and then calling it quits...for the second time! I actually retired from federal service in 2000 after 38 years (counting my service time). I'm presently an assistant chief engineer at a hospital in San Francisco - been there for 12 years taking care of maintenance of utility systems and so forth. I live in the Linda Mar area of Pacifica, CA a suburb about 10 miles down the Pacific coast from San Francisco.



~ Georgianna (Merriam) Winter ~

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I worked as a critical care nurse for 37 yrs. I retired in 2009. I married my wonderful husband Scott in 1976. We were married for 35yrs. Scott passed away in 2011 after a brief illness. We raised 5 children - four sons and one daughter. (no grandchildren yet) Travels include Canada, Mexico, England and many of our great states. We have lived in MN, CA and Oregon, where I still live. I volunteer 2 days a week @ the Madonna's Center which supports pregnant teens. I also go to the gym 2 days a week. I have a cute little Yorkie mix that is my constant companion. He actually runs the house. And that is it!

~ **Gloria (Motzko) Cox** ~
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Trade: Men's Alterations – Only worked trade during high school but I still enjoy sewing for house, family, friends. I married April 1964 John Cox (VHS class of 62), had 3 children. Now have 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Most of my work after high school was in food service first as a cashier, then as a salad technician. The best part of my job was being trained by my 56 year-old Grandmother. On November 22, 1963 I was just getting off the bus on Lyndale & Lake to transfer to another bus when I heard President Kennedy was shot. What were you doing on that date? I was a stay-at-home mom until our youngest daughter was in first grade, working only during the school year in the restaurant field. Looking back memories include a month long trip to out west visiting relatives in Arizona, California, passing through many states. Along with visiting the Grand Canyon & Lake Tahoe, our girls celebrated their birthday's riding horses. In 1977 we welcomed a baby boy into the family & 2 months later moved into our home in Chan, where we continue to live. In 2011 John & I traveled to Hawaii touring all 4 islands. This next year we have plans to go to Australia to visit friends. Computers are a great way to stay in touch. In 2007 I retired and have been involved in neighborhood & church activities. I enjoy walking, swimming, bicycling, as well as scrap booking, sewing, cooking, reading & choir. I also work on the Vocational reunion committee. A little trivia: I am the oldest child with 3 sisters & 4 brothers. Along with that come a lot of nieces & nephews, great nieces & nephews...and even a great-great niece.



~ **Mary Lou (Ojeda) Burke** ~
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My work experience after high school began with Peavey Grain Company, Dayton's Department Store (part-time) and the US Post Office. After graduation from St Cloud University I taught kindergarten for Minneapolis Public Schools. My husband's career took us to Dallas, Texas. I taught Kindergarten ESL (English as a Second Language) for Dallas I.S.D. until my retirement three years ago. Today, my husband and I live in Florida to be near our son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren. Some of my favorite Florida experiences happen when I am volunteering for my grandchildren's school.



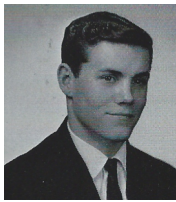
Thought for the day:
I don't want to brag or make
anyone jealous or anything,
but I can still fit into the
earrings I wore in high
school.

~ Dale Olson ~

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~odaleandkathy@yahoo.com



I worked for Thermo King Corp as a corporate photographer for 41 years and retired in 2005. I've been married for 47-years, have 2 daughters and 4 grandchildren. I have coached both soccer and hockey for 25 years and am still coaching hockey. In our spare time we attend sporting events and spend time at our lake cabin in Wisconsin. We also enjoy traveling.



~ Randy Purchase ~

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Became a machinist, had three kids, played in a band, wrote songs, made albums, wrote a book, became a blacksmith and now I'm into stocks. Retired, but I still go back to work when they need me. Ran grandma's marathon at age 60. I finished. Life is good and all our troubles are little ones. Bucket list= Climb first camp Mount Everest. See the pyramids, Eat rattle snake. Diane and I have been married 48 years now.



~ Mary Redgrave ~

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I've stayed in my vocation choice – nursing – and worked for 41 years until “job elimination”. For the past 34 years I've been divorced. I now live closer to my daughter and family, seeing my grandsons frequently.

I very quietly confided to my best friend that I was having an affair. She turned to me and asked, 'Are you having it catered'? And that, my friend, is the definition of 'OLD'!



~ **Janet (Smith) Myles** ~
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After graduating from Vocational in 1963 I took a job with Minneapolis Honeywell for 3 months, saving for airfare to move to Southern California. I left Minneapolis the following January, married and produced a beautiful daughter. I took a job with Pacific Telephone Company, learned to love traveling and retired in 1987. I then moved back to Minneapolis as Janet Myles, a single person working for the University of Minnesota, Ag campus. In 1990 I took a position with the City of Minneapolis as Executive Secretary to the City Coordinator. I moved around the City in various positions and remarried in 2002. I retired from the City in 2004 and moved to Tucson, Arizona where I currently reside. I divorced in 2012 and still treasure traveling with memories of Fuji, Aruba, South American and Antarctica, along with many other destinations. However much I've slowed, I'm not done yet!

~ **Nancy (Ternquist) Bydlon** ~
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Fifty years is a long time! My best memories of high school include the many great friends, plus meeting my future husband was a highlight. We have lived various places in Mpls, Iowa and Dallas areas over the years. I worked in the computer and telecom industries, real estate and most recently for a Dallas home builder before retiring. My mother moved from MN to live with us, and I was her caretaker for many years before her death. My husband will retire in 2014. We are in excellent health and currently involved in real estate investment and property rentals, active in our church and love to travel. We are unable to attend the reunion due to cataract surgery scheduled at that time. I will miss seeing friends at the reunion, send greetings to everyone and look forward to seeing you at the 55th reunion!



~ **Barbara (Vessey) Polaczyk** ~
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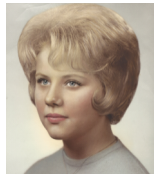
After graduation I worked in the field of Cosmetology for 7 years. I was married in 1967 to my husband Bruce. We have 2 daughters and 4 granddaughters. When our kids were older I started a new career working in an elementary school for 21 years. I am now enjoying retirement spending most of the winter in sunny Florida and the summer at our cabin near Webb Lake, WI.



~ **Arlene (Walberg) Stromberg** ~
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Fridley, MN 55421-2158
arstromberg@gmail.com

I've been married to Ron Stromberg for 48 years. Have a daughter Jami and a son Benjamin, along with 7 grandchildren. I live in Fridley, summer in McGregor, MN and winter in Lake Havasu, AZ.

~ **Sue (Wekkin) Halvorson** ~
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Richfield MN 55423
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I married in 1971 and after 35 years divorced. My daughter Jodi was born in 1975. It wasn't long before I became a professional spectator, as she was an athlete throughout high school and college. I began working in the field of cosmetology before graduation at Dayton's in Southdale, later opening my own shop. I worked a combined total of 47 years in the trade. Not quite ready to settle in I became a flight attendant and worked for a year and a half for a charter company flying D.O.D boys, until 911 occurred. It was not fun anymore so I've moved on to enjoying the freedom of retirement. I've been in my home for 42 years and have an active life of socializing and volunteering. Life is good!

