

# *Owatonna High School Class of 1963*

## **Happenings & Highlights**

### *August 2016*

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*Please share this newsletter with our classmates that are not on our e-mail list. About 100 classmates have provided us with e-mail information and are receiving this information electronically. That means that there are many who do not have e-mail or have not shared their information with us. We would like to share this newsletter with all classmates. Please help us. Thank You.*

#### **50TH REUNION PICTURES**

*You can view pictures of the  
Class of 1963 50th Reunion and  
previous yearly updates  
on Ron Eustice's website:  
<http://www.roneustice.com>*

**Click on:**

**Owatonna High School 50th Reunion Class of 1963**



#### **Twenty-four classmates and spouses gathered August 20th at the Steele County Free Fair.**

*Pictured (Front Row -L-R) Marie Nelson Kedziora, Bev Simon, Jon Simon, Kathy Johnson Lembke, Nancy Schmanski Newgard, Mary Stibal Carstensen. Back Row: Gladys Schroht, Darlene Truhlar Polesky, Margaret Eustice, Sabra Whiting Ottesen, Bill Ottesen, Judy Stanton, Dave Stanton, Helmer Lembke, Joel Knippel, Ralph Schroht, Tom Kuntz, Jerry Carstensen, Ron Eustice, Roger Rehman and Chuck Newgard. Missing from the picture is Janice Krampitz and husband Jerry Lewison who came after their grandson won Reserve Champion Showmanship in the 4-H Dairy Cattle Show. Diane Rehman (Roger's wife) was also at the luncheon but had to leave early.*



## Owatonna High School Class of 1963 Update for 2016



*The Aurora Diner at the Steele County Fairgrounds was an excellent place for our classmates to meet for a late lunch on August 20th.*



*Candid photos taken by Jerry Carstensen at the 1st OHS Class of 63 Steele County Free Fair Great Get Together on August 20, 2015.*







*Melissa McClintock Carlson's grandfather owned a farm implement dealership in Owatonna. The original building is preserved at the Village of Yesteryear at the Steele County Fairgrounds.*



*McIntock Mercantile, Old West Museum, Tucson, Arizona with Jerry Carstensen and Rick Nelson. To the best of our knowledge, Melissa's grandfather did not own this one.*

## Mayor Kuntz goes to Washington



*Owatonna Mayor Tom Kuntz, third from left, and other representatives from Minnesota Municipal Utilities meet with Sen. Al Franken's staff in Washington. WASHINGTON, D.C. — Before he was mayor of Owatonna, Tom Kuntz spent a long career at Owatonna Public Utilities, retiring in 2003 as general manager. This week, he's donning that hat again for a trip to the nation's capital.*

*"This week is the rally for American Public Power Association," he said Tuesday. "APPA is all the municipal utilities throughout the state, and they've come to Washington, D.C., to lobby for utility issues." Kuntz is the chairperson of APPA's public policy committee, and he and representatives of municipal utilities from around the state are meeting with legislators and their staff in Washington to educate them about municipal utility needs. By WILLIAM MORRIS. Owatonna People's Press, March 10, 2016*

## OHS Ladies Gather in Owatonna



*Front L-R: Julie Klemmer Knapp, Janet Klemmer Hoberg;  
Back: Judy Kjos Drevlow, Carole Soukop Nordlie, Nancy Schmanski Newgard*

## FLASHBACKS TO THE PAST 25th Reunion





**Owatonna High School Class of 1963 Update for 2016**  
**An Amazing Trip on the Legendary Route 66**  
*with Jerry & Mary Carstensen & Rick & Kathy Nelson*



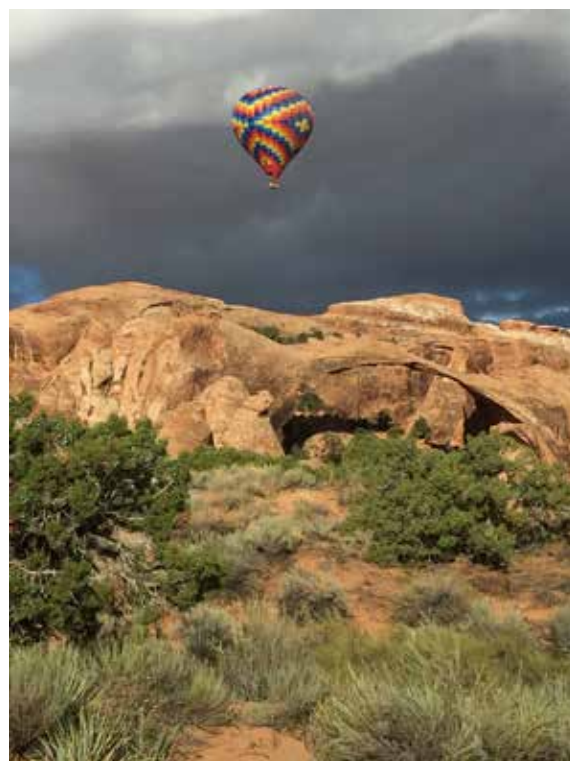
*Kathy Nelson, Nina Knippel, Mary & Jerry Carstensen, Rick Nelson, Joel Knippel  
Franklin Hotel - Deadwood, SD*

What started out as a “Route 66” road trip this past September turned out to be much more than that. About a year ago Rick & Kathy Nelson and Jerry & Mary Carstensen talked about taking a Route 66 trip in Corvettes. The original Route 66 ran from Chicago, IL to Santa Monica, CA. They decided on an abbreviated trip and started by meeting up in Deadwood, SD and from there they would head south to pick up Route 66 in Flagstaff, AZ. It happened that Joel and Nina Knippel were celebrating their wedding anniversary in Deadwood so they all met and had a great couple of days together. That part of the trip also included a visit to Sturgis, Mount Rushmore as well as a beautiful drive through Spearfish Canyon.



*Arches National Park, Moab, UT*

Driving south through Wyoming they spent the night in Frisco, CO. The next morning they left for Aspen, CO via Independence Pass then on to the Arches National Park outside of Moab, UT. Wow, was that ever spectacular! From Moab, UT they continued south to Williams, AZ (just west of Flagstaff, AZ).



*Just happened to catch a hot air balloon flying over  
the arches near Moab, Utah.*



## Owatonna High School Class of 1963 Update for 2016



The next morning they took the Grand Canyon Railway to the south rim of the Grand Canyon. If anyone is planning a trip to the Grand Canyon taking the train would be highly recommended – what a fantastic adventure.



*Kathy Nelson and Mary Carstensen at the Rusty Bolt*



*The Birthplace of Historic Route 66 - Seligman, AZ*



The Route 66 trip officially began in Williams, AZ going on to Victorville, CA with a side trip to Laughlin, NV where the local economy was helped by spending time in the casinos. This route took them through Seligman and Kingman, AZ and Needles, CA. The U.S. Marine Base in Barstow, CA is where Rick was stationed before his military discharge and warranted a brief stop. Lunch at Peggy Sue's Diner was the "oasis" in the desert before departing for Victorville, CA. This is where the Route 66 part of the journey ended.

Mary Carstensen's brother and his family live just outside Victorville, CA. Everybody got together for a nice dinner and a great visit before departing the next morning for San Luis Obispo, CA for a couple of days. This was where Rick and Kathy lived for five years while Rick was completing his degree from Cal Poly State University. Rick and Kathy located the house they rented while living there and the current owner was kind enough to invite them in. They also surprised one of Rick and Kathy's long time friends at a local restaurant that his friend owns in San Luis Obispo.

Then it was off to Santa Clara, CA via Hiway One which follows the coast up to Monterey, CA. That was a beautiful trip following the Pacific Coast Hiway.



## Owatonna High School Class of 1963 Update for 2016



*Aggie & James Lull*

The last evening of the trip together James and Aggie Lull invited them over for a fantastic Mexican dinner at their home in San Jose, CA. It was great visiting with both of them and getting caught up on the last 50 years.



The next morning Jim and Mary Jo Colton drove from their home in Palo Alto, CA to meet at the Hyatt Hotel in Santa Clara for breakfast. While they tried to get a little more information from Jim about the projects he was involved in at Stanford Research Institute, he would only say that it was classified and he'd have to kill everyone if he told them – so they let that go. Quite an amazing background! That was a very enjoyable time together.



### *The correct way to park a Corvette*

After breakfast with Jim and Mary Jo the couples parted ways in Santa Clara, CA with Rick and Kathy heading north on Interstate 5 back to Port Townsend, WA and Jerry and Mary heading east on Interstate 80 back to Owatonna, MN.

The trip lasted about 2 weeks and was just under 5,000 miles. The scenery was amazing but what made the trip special was spending time with friends. That was priceless!





## Owatonna High School Class of 1963 Update for 2016



*Jerry Carstensen, Mary Helen Hamilton Pelton, Ron Eustice & Rick Nelson  
(Tubac, Arizona in January 2016)*



*Wonderful Spouses: Mary Carstensen, Kathy Nelson, Ray Pelton & Margaret Eustice  
(Tubac, Arizona in January 2016)*



Paul Lian continues to hike several of his favorite trails in and around Scottsdale, Arizona. He's also an avid fan of Arizona State sports teams, especially the ASU baseball program.

This past year included trips to New Orleans, the Mississippi Gulf Coast, the Panhandle area of Florida, San Francisco and Minneapolis. ALWAYS fun to keep the network alive.

A recent round of golf with a few golf buddies from Minnesota, at the Sedona (Arizona) Golf Resort, brought another fun year to a close.

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***Party on friends, let's continue to take good care of ourselves.***

***OHS FOREVER !!***





Mary Helen Hamilton Pelton has developed an impressive group of friends in Oro Valley (Tucson), Arizona. Included in her “social” circle is a family of javelinas who regularly come to her door for a handout of carrots especially when she has guests with Owatonna roots. So what is a javelina (pronounced Hav-a-leena)? The javelina is a dark grey peccary which is not a pig although it looks like a pig and smells somewhat like a pig and has a white collar. Javelinas live in semi desert areas of Mexico and Southwestern U.S. and grow to be up to 19 inches tall and weigh 40-60 pounds. They are found in rural and semi-urban areas and are primarily herbivores dining on cacti, succulent plants, bulbs, tubers, beans, seeds and carrots. They can tear up your garden big time and are known to eat your other pets.



At left: Bob Bennett (Class of 62), with Melissa McClintock Carlson (center right), Nancy Bennett Peterson (on right) and Nancy's daughter Sara at Coconut Jack's in Bonita Springs, FL.



*From Mary Helen Hamilton Pelton:*

First of all good friends, a thousand thanks to Ron, Jerry, Jim, Kathy many others who have created a special world for us.

Not a world of high school, but a world of good folks who have shared a time, a place, and experiences and have come together either in shared meetings or through Ron's communications, to reconnect and remember the very best of who we were but much more importantly, to celebrate who we have become.

Wow gang!!! We are ALIVE and 70 +and though we are little more worn than when we were 16 we are also a WHOLE LOT SMARTER. It seems like a good trade to me. I'd love to hear how everyone celebrated their 70th year.

Husband Ray knew that 70 was going to hard for me ( I hate it that mirror doesn't lie and my knees have fallen) and he knows my life's goal is to race around til' I'm all used up, slip into my grave just in time to say, "It has been a hell of a ride."

I might call the 70th year adventure, love, connection and family. So off we went to Mexico, New York, and a cruise in the Baltics with friends/family; a fabulous visit with three young women we've adopted as daughters many years ago who live in Scotland, England and The Netherlands respectively. (and got to meet and spend time with their "first families"); two surprises- sister Jackie who lives in Alaska knocked on my Arizona door in mid May and said Happy Birthday ( then new adventures in Tucson ); and as we were driving to Minnesota from Arizona, our children surprised us in Kansas City for a long weekend. ( oops-Mr. Bennett is this a run on sentence or Mh trying to be Faulkner?? ) When I got home and checked out the mirror my knees had fallen at least a quarter of an inch more. But man I felt smart!

Every class should be blessed with a "Blue Heeler" like Ron Eustice who circles our little class of 63' herd and won't let us get too far a stray from each other. Not only does he keep us in touch through communications but I guarantee that if you come to Tucson we will show you a good time with Ron and his wife Margaret in the lead. And I'll make you a promise. If you won't bring up any of the dumb things I did in high school, I won't bring up yours.

A thousand hugs to you all,

*Mary Helen*



*Mary Helen is seen here with one of her artistic pieces made from gourds, turquoise and other Arizona material.*

## ***FLASHBACKS TO THE PAST 35th Reunion***





## *From Joel Knippel*

I like to attend the City Council Meetings in my home town of Crosslake, MN. During one of the City Council meetings early this year the city was informed that an island in Cross Lake that's been used as the fireworks launch site for many years will not be available. The owner of the island thought it would be a good idea if the city purchased the island from him but the asking price was unreasonable. This is a 40 year tradition and the Council thought they would have to forgo the fireworks this year. That's when I raised my hand and said I'd find a way for this tradition to continue.

My thought was to gang a number of old pontoons together to form a "barge" that would float out on Cross Lake – in a sense we'd have our own island. I put out the word and was able to locate nine pontoons that people donated for the cause. These boats had sound under structures but were pretty worn out on top of the deck. I removed the railings and control consoles and then lagged all nine of them together to form one structure. Steel rods were attached to connect and stabilize the pontoons and then chains were connected to tie it all together.

There were two other friends that helped along with my son, Jeremy, and many other volunteers including our local marina. Time was getting close to get it all accomplished, but we were able to finish the project in time.

The fireworks were loaded on shore and then the "barge" was pulled out onto the lake for the evening fireworks display. After the event was over it was pulled back to shore, the pontoon platforms disconnected and then fork lifted on top of each other and put into storage for the event next year.

It was one of our biggest fireworks display ever and I was glad that I was able to be a part of this project and continue this July 4th celebration tradition.

*Joel*



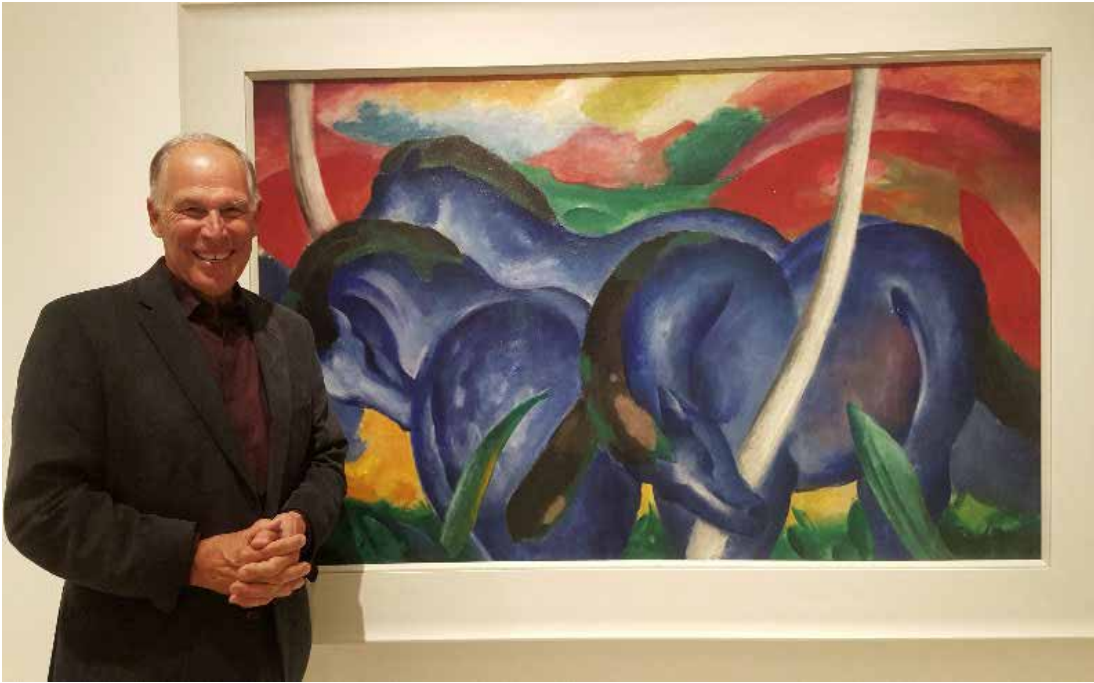
*Pyrotechnicians on the barge doing fireworks set up and getting ready for the fireworks event*



*Preparing to launch our "floating island" and set up for fireworks display*







*At left: Marc Reigel at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis in front of Franz Marc's "Blue Horses." So there are a couple of "Marcs" in the picture!*

***From Marc Reigel:***

Greetings fellow time-travelers from the Owatonna High School Class of 1963. Since our 50th reunion three summers ago, I've been busy playing Poppy to my four grand children here in Minneapolis.

***Found on Facebook***



*Marc Reigel*

Much of that consists of "exploring our surroundings" like hiking the nature trails in the area, helping with homework (I'm much better at the writing assignments than I am at the math ones: who can remember what cosigne is?), and checking out local ice cream stores. I've also kept active via biking, hiking, golfing, and Harley riding—when the weather is warm enough. I've been lucky to visit friends in Florida in February and March, so that has helped me get through the Minnesota winters. I still perform a sing-along show in Northfield every June, and occasionally I'll pound piano at a party for people like us who can remember the melody to "Peggy Sue," even if we need song books to help with the lyrics. And the summers in Minnesota really are wonderful with both Twins and Saints baseball games, outdoor dining on the riverfront, and walking around Lakes Harriet, Calhoun, and Isles—although not all at once. I feel pretty lucky at this point in the proceedings, and I hope you do, too! And thanks, Ron, for pulling this newsletter together. That is really special. *Marc*

Marc Reigel can be reached at: [marc\\_r1945@yahoo.com](mailto:marc_r1945@yahoo.com)

***Found on Facebook***



*Jeanette Hugill Cox (on right) having lunch with her siblings.*



## Members of The Night Crawlers reunite for sing-a-long event *By Kevin Krein kkrein@northfieldnews.com*



For Marc Reigel, keyboardist from the 1960s-era Carleton College band The Night Crawlers, sometimes it's just "fun to sing old songs."

Reigel, along with original Night Crawlers vocalist Barry Gillespie and other area musicians, will lead the annual "Marc Reigel and Friends Oldies Sing-A-Long." The event, in conjunction with Carleton's reunion weekend, is scheduled for tomorrow (Thursday) evening at Froggy Bottoms in Northfield.

Reigel has led these events for the last six years.

During the group's active years in the 1960s, The Night Crawlers recorded and pressed a single for a song called "You Say," which is now highly collectible among garage rock aficionados worldwide, as well as an additional single for "Want Me," which is still available from the Swiss imprint Feathered Apple Records.

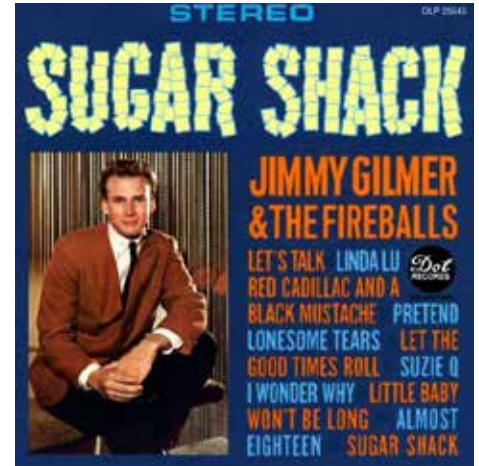
It is the worldwide interest in the garage rock movement that led to the rejuvenation of The Night Crawlers.

Erika Van Buren, a fan from the Netherlands, discovered the band's single for "You Say" a number of years ago and posted it to YouTube, along with launching the band's Facebook fan page in 2010.

Reigel now moderates the Night Crawlers' Facebook page and uses it to update fans on the group's sing-a-long events.

When not performing with his bandmate Reigel during these reunion events, singer Barry Gillespie remains busy working in Owatonna and occasionally lending his vocals to other groups like The Fabulous Love Handles. Gillespie said the sing-a-long performances are a great source of nostalgia for those that attend.

"With these shows, they are typically coupled with a Carleton College reunion," he said. "For the people who come back to Northfield, we want to take them back to when they were in college and make sure they have a good time." Since the event is a sing-a-long, music books for those in attendance will be provided.



**The Most Popular Song in 1963  
Song: "Sugar Shack"**

**Artist:**

**Jimmy Gilmer And The Fireballs  
Consecutive Weeks at No. 1 on  
Chart in 1963: 5**

### The Year Was 1963

The biggest news from 1963 was the assassination of the US President Kennedy on November 22nd which thrust Lyndon Johnson into the role of president and the murder two days later of Lee Harvey Oswald by nightclub owner Jack Ruby. This was a difficult time to become president with the mounting troubles in Vietnam where the Viet Cong Guerrillas had now killed 80 American Advisers and the continued campaign for civil rights by the black community caused violent reactions from whites including Mississippi, Virginia and Alabama where the black civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr was arrested. Films included "The Birds" and "The Great Escape" and popular TV programmes "The Virginian" and "Lassie". ladies fashion clothes and hairstyles included fur boots and towering hair do's for evening wear. In music the beginning of Beatlemania after they release "I Want To Hold Your Hand/I Saw Her Standing There" and "Meet the Beatles".



## Owatonna High School Class of 1963 Update for 2016



*Judy Kjos Drevlow*



*Carol Jo Jensen*



*Curtis Utpadel*



Joel Knippel and Jerry Carstensen met at the MN State Fair Grounds on June 17th for the annual "Back to the 50's" weekend. This gathering, sponsored by the Minnesota Street Rod Association, draws over 12,000 cars, and has been going on for over 40 years. It's the largest car show in the country and draws rods, customs, and originals that are 1964 and older from states as far away as Texas and even Canada.





## Owatonna High School Class of 1963 Update for 2016



*Florice Nelson Lietzke, Ron Eustice, Sabra Whiting Ottesen and Mary Helen Hamilton Pelton at the Eustice home in Tucson, Arizona on April 12, 2016. The classmates and spouses met for lunch and conversation at Ron and Margaret's home and then were guests of Mary Helen and Ray at their home in Oro Valley. Mary Helen and Ray and Margaret and Ron live about ten minutes apart just north of Tucson.*



*Memories: Roxy Theater at Owatonna (Date unknown)*



**Remember When?**



## *From Ron Eustice*

Margaret and I continue to divide our time between Tucson, Arizona and Burnsville, Minnesota. We spend about eight months in Tucson and the rest in Minnesota when we aren't traveling.

We enjoyed meeting many of our classmates at the Aurora Diner lunch during the Steele County Fair in August 2015. We hope that event can become an annual affair.

In October, we traveled from Minnesota to Seattle to visit our son Kevin, daughter-in-law Alison and granddaughter Sabine. Kevin is with Google, Alison is with Amazon and Sabine is a 4 year-old and going on 16. While in Washington state, we enjoyed our visit with Rick and Kathy Nelson for the second year. From Port Townsend we headed south and east toward Tucson. We found our Tucson home as beautiful as ever and our plants seemed to thrive in the Arizona summer heat.

In January, we had a visit from Jerry and Mary Carstensen and Rick and Kathy Nelson. This was their second trip to see us in Arizona. The Carstensens and the Nelson seem to like Tucson very much; we enjoy their visits and expect to see them again in January 2017. Mary Helen Hamilton and husband Ray Pelton live near us and we see them often, especially when Owatonna guests show up.



*Our backyard in Tucson. We have about 2000 desert plants including 80 Suharo cacti and 70 Ocotillo and well over 1500 other native plants including imports from South Africa, Madagascar and Australia. Nearly all of the plants have been rescued from construction sites, mining projects, nursery close-outs and private homes wanting to get rid of plants.*

***You will be welcomed at  
7040 North Via Assisi  
Tucson, Arizona***



*In April, we hosted the annual Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society Garden Tour. We had over 200 "cactus and succulent fans" visit our gardens.*

In mid-April, Sabra and Bill Ottesen and Florice and John Lietzke came to Tucson for an enjoyable visit with the Peltons and Eustices. We hope to make that an annual event and are hopeful that other classmates from OHS Class of 1963 now living in Arizona will join us. We believe that Arizona is home to the largest number of our classmates after Minnesota.

In June, Margaret and I celebrated our 41st wedding anniversary by going on a Viking River Cruise to Eastern Europe. We traveled down the Danube and visited Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Croatia and Hungary. I visited these same countries many times on business during the 1970s when they were part of the Soviet Bloc. Much has changed, mostly for the better.

In late July I traveled to the Maritime provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island with my long-time friends Joe Stransky (Marian Class of 1964) and his wife Evelyn. We attended a purebred Holstein cattle sale in Vermont and traveled through New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine and the Canadian provinces of Quebec and Ontario. We traveled over 5000 miles and returned August 1st via Michigan's Upper Peninsula and northern Wisconsin.

In early October, I will work for the third year as a translator at the World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin. Each year visitors from nearly 100 countries attend the event. Then it's back to Tucson to see how my garden is growing.

We are very blessed and life is good.

***Thanks to all who have contributed articles  
and helped to make this newsletter a success.***

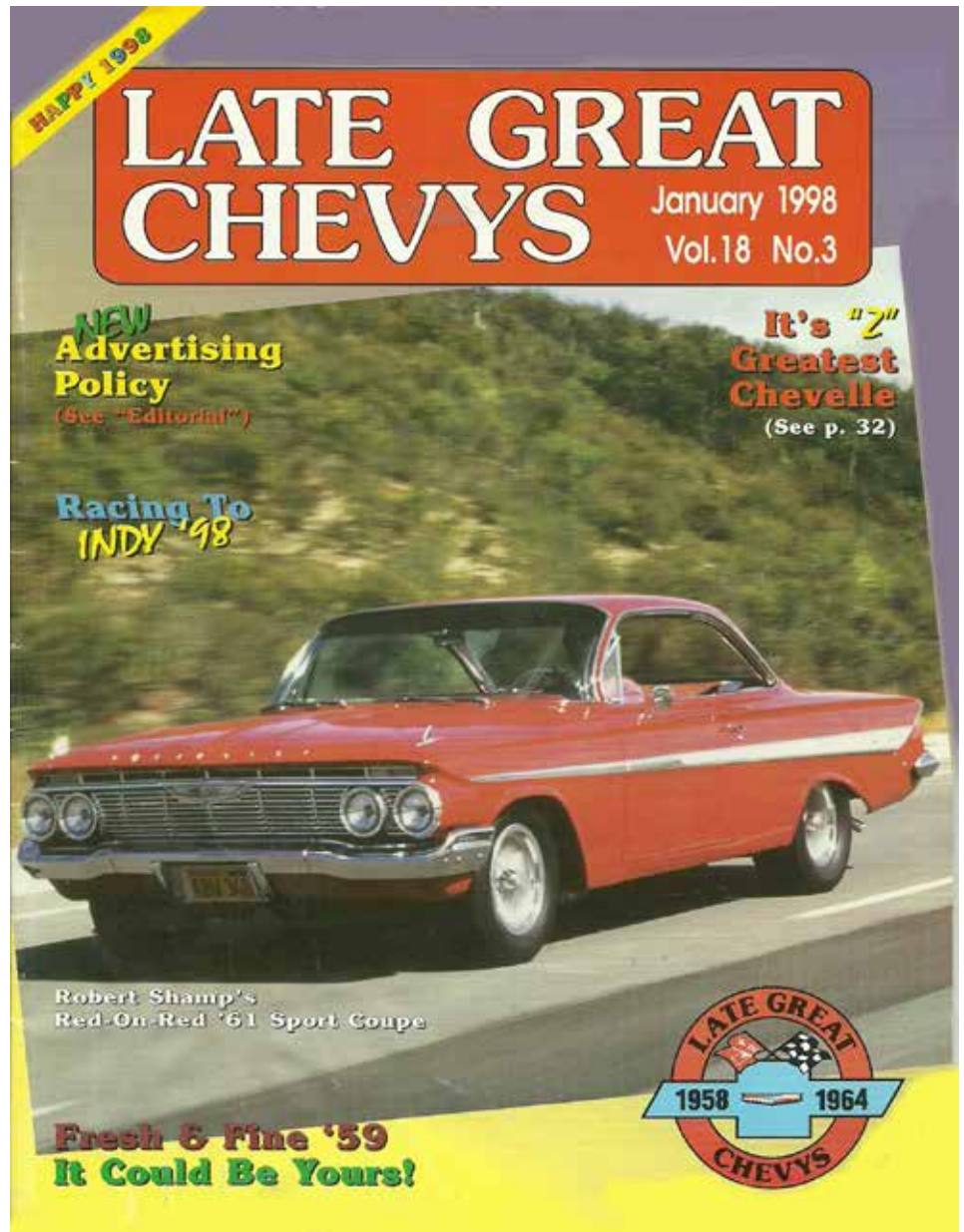
***Ron Eustice***





Paul Lian and Paul Coufal (Marian High School 1963). Photo taken in 1976.

The two Pauls share a wonderful friendship going back to the 1950s. Paul Coufal introduced Paul Lian to Winter and Associates in St Paul and a thirty-three year career in the Life Insurance/Pension business with Minnesota Life ensued.



Bob Shamp's Classic 1961 Chevy featured on cover of "Late Great Chevys" magazine



"Those Lazy-Hazy-Crazy Days of Summer." Remember outdoor movie theaters? Wonderful memories!

Bob Shamp owned the A&A Muffler Shop in Poway, California which is just a little north of San Diego. Bob was a real car nut and he always admired a 61 Chevy that Steve Gleason (OHS Class of 1964) owned in high school. Bob found a car like that in 1990 and started the restoration. Originally the car was green and white with a 6 cylinder engine and automatic transmission.

During the restoration Bob changed it to look like Steve's car and then installed a high performance engine and 4-speed transmission. The car came out so nice that it was featured on the cover of the "Late Great Chevys" magazine in 1998. The picture shows Bob driving the car. Curt Abraham (OHS Class of 1964) was a good friend of Bob and has saved that magazine.

In 2009 Curt attended a special birthday party for Bob in Poway, California. Bob had already been diagnosed with cancer and it was about 6 weeks after the party that Bob passed away.



## From Jim Randers:



*Jim Randers on the 125 BSA 1959 in the Randers family back yard in Owatonna. Sold a long long time ago.*

I'm feeling a bit down today, struggling with a life shift. This might seem trite to some but for me it's more than that. I sold my FXDL Harley Low rider eight hours ago, I only have my Harley V-Rod left. You may ask, "What's the big deal?" I'll tell you. My father gave me my first motorcycle when I was twelve years old in Owatonna, a 125cc BSA, I was hooked ... for life, and I've had many bikes since then. Rarely have I had less than two in my garage at any given time, my entire life, I now have one left in my garage and I am struggling. This isn't about getting rid of rides; this is about *change of life*.



*My grand daughter Autumn Elizabeth Arndt, Yeah!!!*



*FXDL Harley Low Rider, Just sold, ahhhh!*

Last year in June, while sitting on our deck eating, I told my wife I had lost the vision in my right eye, it must be a fluke, I thought? To cut to the quick, I had what is called an eye stroke. The Minneapolis area has a population of around three million people and they get about one of these a month. Nothing else was or is affected, at least in my case, I feel great. It was from a misfire of my heart and because of it I am now on a blood thinner.

For the first time in my life I feel vulnerable, anxious and worried about my well being while riding a motorcycle. I'm old enough to say "That's OK," however I'm well enough to not feel old enough to say "That's OK."

It is frustrating yet it is what it is, I know the smart thing to do is let go but it's so darn hard to let go! I'll get over it, but the whole point of this is that it all started in Owatonna with a small English bike, and then at sixteen I graduated to a 250cc Zundapp from Germany. I felt like, "this must be heaven," total joy, freedom and independence. Now I will be just another guy walking on the earth, oh my. I know this won't mean much to most of you but for me it's a symbol of change that I didn't ask for and a glimpse at my longevity, scary.

On a happy note, I am reminded that life does go on through us, if not with us. I say this because my forty-four year old daughter had a beautiful baby girl eight months ago. This is her only child and a surprise to both her and her husband. I know people often say how smart their baby is but this one truly is gifted, well really smart, well she is just really swell! I think she is special and maybe that's enough. Autumn Elizabeth Arndt is a wonderful surprise and although I may be letting go of my motorcycles I'm gaining a grand daughter so that's a pretty good exchange that I can live with, and the word *live* is the key factor here.

Other than that life has been good, my wife and I are happy and doing our thing. I still practice at guitar, write my articles, and am now the chairperson for the Historic Preservation Committee in historic Afton, Minnesota.

Oh I forgot, Jan and I went to Norway and Denmark in the spring of 2015 to trace our ancestor's flight from the old country in 1894. It was a humbling experience to visit all the towns, villages and farms they came from.

A few tears were shed to see the names on the gravestones past, relatives we never met or knew about and they probably never dreamed that their children's children would end up in America, but some did in 1894. What an incredible

journey life is. Peace to all, *Jim Randers*

Jim Randers can be reached at: [jimmiducati@me.com](mailto:jimmiducati@me.com)



### *From Dave Stanton:*

After graduating from high school, I started with Josten's in Owatonna in the hand engraving department. With ten years experience I was able to move into the Military Cut Out Department and stayed there until 1980 when Josten's closed the Owatonna operation.

In 1994, I started working for Owatonna Recognition making corporate award rings, etc. There I learned polishing, stone setting including diamonds, and torch work, soldering, and flushing. In 1997, I began working for Black Forest doing corporate award rings and was with them for another 3 years. In 2000, I connected with Grant Cassem at Mastercraft Awards and learned vacuum castings which completed my list as a goldsmith.

In 1997, I also started my own company subcontracting for three companies. My largest order was 1000 rings for United House of Prayer, a church group out of Washington, D.C. Attached are a few examples. What I really enjoy and appreciate are the customer comments and compliments when they receive their finished product.

*Following are a few examples of my work.*



**Alabama State Trooper Ring**

*"I wanted to tell you that the last two Alabama Trooper rings you produced were to "tough" customers; in that they are always very critical of any product (I have known them both for a while). When they received their rings, the father called me and RAVED about the rings. I mean he went on and on and on. As usual, you have produced another artifact which will be around for generations...I am SO glad I found you!" Frank*



**President's Club Ring**

*"The ring has arrived safely and it looks fantastic! I will let you know when we are ready to order the next one - hopefully soon!" Steven Michaels*



**West Virginia Athletic Ring**

*"We had our ring ceremony on Sunday. The rings are awesome - Absolutely beautiful! The players loved them and so do I. I really appreciate all the work you have done for us with our sometimes ridiculous time lines. Thanks so much and we want to continue working with you." Sean Loyd, WV State University*

Dave Stanton can be reached at:  
goldsmithy@charter.net

### **1963 Popular Films**

Cleopatra  
The Longest Day  
Lawrence of Arabia  
Mutiny on the Bounty  
To Kill a Mockingbird

### **How Much things cost in 1963**

Yearly Inflation Rate was 1.24%  
Year End Close Dow Jones Industrial Average was 762  
Average Cost of new house was \$12,650.00  
Average Income per year was \$5,807.00  
Gas per Gallon was 29 cents  
Average Cost of a new car was \$3,233.00  
Loaf of bread cost 22 cents  
Bedroom Air Conditioner cost \$149.95





Michael Hanson built a pedal airplane for kids to ride during airshows at the Anoka County Airport. The airplane is complete with motorized propeller and radial engine sound effects. Zoom, zoom! Thanks Mike for sharing this with us and helping to give kids an exciting time at the airport.



The finished pedal plane.  
Mike Hanson is on the left and his pilot friend Dave is on the right.

*From Michael Hanson:*

I have breakfast a couple times a week with some pilot friends who belong to the Experimental Aircraft Association. They asked me if I wanted to build a pedal plane that could be used by kids that come to the local airshows. I thought it would be a good winter project so I took it on. I am happy to show you the results.

*Mike*



A neighbor boy and his brother are test pilots.



## Popular Culture 1963

This was the year an insurance firm State Mutual Life Insurance invented the Smiley Face found on anything and everything around the world including T Shirts , it's popularity was at it's peak in the 1960's

The Beatles release their first album *Please Please Me*.

The first episode of the BBC television series Doctor Who is broadcast

Bob Dylan walks off the Ed Sullivan show

Beatles Release *I Want To Hold Your Hand/I Saw Her Standing There and Meet the Beatles* which is the beginning of Beatlemania.

Beatle's Release "She Loves You" in UK which goes to Number 1 for 4 weeks.



*From Paul Pirkel*

On my 70th birthday my son give me a Quad Copter, partly intended as a gag gift. I now have three of them. These copters are lightweight, gyro balanced, easy to fly and very durable. I accidentally flew one into the salt water. It sank with the lights continuing to blink under three feet of water. We retrieved it, rinsed it off with fresh water, replaced one of the four motors and put it back into the air. Because of its small size and weight it does not require a drone license to operate. These Quads provide great entertainment when retirement gets a bit slow



*One of Paul Pirkel's three Quad Copters*

To make our Villa cozier, my incredibly beautiful and talented wife came up with a design to upgrade our entire home to 2016 retiree standards. This included a new kitchen with granite countertops, all new stainless steel computerized appliances and long life Led lighting. Of course, like on HGTV, a wall had to be taken out to get that open look. Our Master Bath had a nice Jacuzzi soaker tub and small shower which worked well in 2003 but was not senior friendly in 2016. We now have a Spa shower with a bench and three showerheads -rain, standard and handheld. Kudos to Sharon.

In February 2016, we took a seven day cruise aboard the Vision of the Seas from the port of Tampa to Roatan Honduras, Belize, Cosa Mesa and Cozumel Mexico. The cruise itself was smooth with excellent weather for the duration. The only downside was the concern about the Zika virus. We came prepared with a couple cans of DEET and kept our on shore excursions close to the port. Fortunately, we had no problem with mosquito bites.

My sister and her husband from Minnesota came to visit us at the beach in November. They wanted to go on one of those half day deep sea fishing trips in the Gulf. We arrived early at dockside and were directed to an area to hear a message from the Captain. Just before boarding, our Captain came out to introduce himself and suggests that we might improve our experience by purchasing hand rags and some live shrimp for those "special" fish. I was elected to line up and make the purchase. While I was in one line to get the shrimp, another line was forming for boarding. By the time I had the rags and shrimp we were last in the boarding line, which meant we had to sit on the very bow of the ship (Like DiCaprio and Winslet in the movie scene from the Titanic). For four hours it was like riding a bucking bull in a slow drizzle. My wife and sister didn't fish for fear of falling overboard. They were also seasick. Altogether we caught six fish that we wound up giving away. Needless to say, we will not be going deep sea fishing any time soon.

*Paul*



*In February 2016, we took a seven day cruise aboard the Vision of the Seas from the port of Tampa to Roatan Honduras, Belize, Cosa Mesa and Cozumel Mexico.*

**Contact Information:**

**Paul Pirkel**

**Wesley Chapel, Florida**

**813-774-1284**

**PMPirkel@aol.com**

## OHS Marching Band performs in Owatonna 2016 Memorial Day Parade



# WAL★MART®

### ***From Roger Rehman:***

In September it will be 5 years that I have been retired and am still enjoying everything about it.

We are doing some traveling with friends and this last year we went to Florida, Door County, Mackinac Island and Historic New England & the Canadian Maritime cruise.

I was in the Owatonna Volunteer Fire Department for 26 years and after retiring from the department I am volunteering for the fire department at the Village of Yesteryear.

We spend a lot of time going to our grandsons sports. This season we saw hockey, basketball, lacrosse, tennis, baseball & softball. One of our grandsons that plays hockey for the Owatonna Huskies made all conference and was voted most improved player on his team.

We had a grandson graduate this spring from high school with honors and is going to the University of Minnesota for mechanical engineering.

I guess my hobby is cutting and splitting wood with our son. Our son and family live in the country so we have access to wood and on an average we split around 15 cords of wood in a year. Our son burns wood in his furnace and we have a fireplace so there is a need for this amount of wood.

So far we are both in good health which is the main thing and look forward to seeing everyone at the next reunion.

*Roger Rehman*

### ***Did you know...***

***The Owatonna Walmart store opened in 1986 and was the first Walmart to open in Minnesota.***

Speaking of Walmart, here's an interesting tidbit... While still working at Wenger Corporation we had field sales people throughout the United States. One of the sales people lived with her family in Nashville, TN. During a sales trip with Sharon she was telling me about her father-in-law that had a good friend that was going to start some general merchandise stores in several cities with plans to expand and move into many states. He asked Sharon's father-in-law if he'd like to go in with him and be a partner. He didn't think it was a very good idea so he declined the offer. The friend's name was Sam Walton.

As if that wasn't enough, prior to this he was teaching a young man how to play and master some techniques on the guitar. Sharon's father-in-law was also a musician and pretty good with a guitar. This person would call him at night while he was on the road doing performances and ask for advice on certain things. This person asked Sharon's father-in-law if he'd join him and be a part of his group but he didn't think this performer would amount to much. That young musician was Elvis Presley.

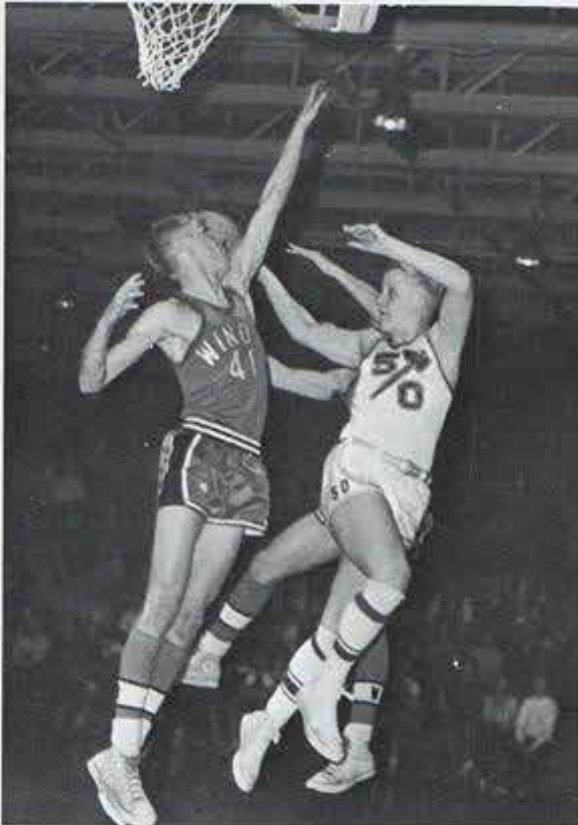
I did have a chance to meet Sharon's father-in-law during a trip to Memphis and at that time he was in his middle 90's. He was a very hospitable person and we had an enjoyable visit. I did ask him, though, if he ever got anymore offers that he was going to decline to please let me know.

*Jerry Carstensen*





Mr. Davis looks on as Mr. Bey hands the trademark of a basketball game to M. Grulke. Other members of the team are: **STANDING**, D. Halverson, G. Vaith, T. Braaten, N. Jenke, M. Reigel, B. Bedney, L. Schrom, W. Hyland, T. Russell, D. Panzer, G. Stoltz, Managers O. Haberman and R. Hanson. **KNEELING** are S. Williams, M. Johnson, N. Nelson, N. Bartsch, P. Lian, J. Luedtke, T. Uecker.



**RIGHT:** If there were time in the frenzy of a game to think such thoughts, M. Reigel is probably thinking, "I dare you to take this ball away!" Teammate P. Lian is ready to give him assistance. **ABOVE:** Ballet or basketball? T. Braaten is using this technique for one of the many jumps needed to make that extra score.

## Indian Cagers Lose

The OHS Indians' last game against the Faribault Falcons was typical of their season-long frustration of being unable to overcome their close scores. In spite of the season's disheartening record of three wins and thirteen losses Coach Bey's quintet maintained their spirit and determination. Leading the Owatonna Cagers was three-year regular center, senior, Glen Stoltz, who finished second in Big Nine conference scoring. Promoted from the B squad early in the season, sophomore, Noel Jenke, proved his worth on the team, as well as gaining experience for next year's basketball season. Others carrying the bulk of the cager load were seniors Dale Halverson, Paul Lian, Gary Vaith, Marc Reigel, and Noel Bartsch, and juniors Tim Braaten and Jim Luedtke. In tournament play the Indians upset Northfield but lost to District Four Champions, the Medford Tigers.



## Owatonna High School Class of 1963 Update for 2016



*Jim and Mary O. (Roberts) Horn celebrate their 49th wedding anniversary*

### *From Mary O Roberts Horn*

Happy to report that all is well at the Horn household. We have been blessed with good health and all family members doing well. The exciting news for us is our son (Major Jim Horn) returned from Italy last year and while home got reacquainted with a girl he has known since the 5th grade - long story short they are engaged to be married at the end of October. Funny how this young man has been all over the world (literally) and finds his true love right here at home.

We are excited, happy and very much look forward to the wedding! During the last year Major Horn had a 6 month tour in Qatar. He is in the Army but working with the Air Force picking out Isis targets. We don't hear much about it in the USA but I can tell you we are bombing Isis like crazy. Over Christmas Jim was on the French aircraft carrier the Charles de Gaulle for 6 weeks and his job was to gather intelligence from those on the ground in Iraq & Afghanistan, plan missions and then brief the B-1 Bomber pilots before they went on the bombing missions 4 times a day.

He actually wrote a message on a 2,000 lb. bomb that said "Merry Christmas Isis- The Horn Family." I have a picture of that - Great Christmas present!

Jim and I are driving up to Wisconsin soon to visit my brother and spend some quality time at his lake cabin. We look forward to eating lots of fish and really good corn on the cob and MUCH cooler weather. I never have adapted to these 100 degree days!

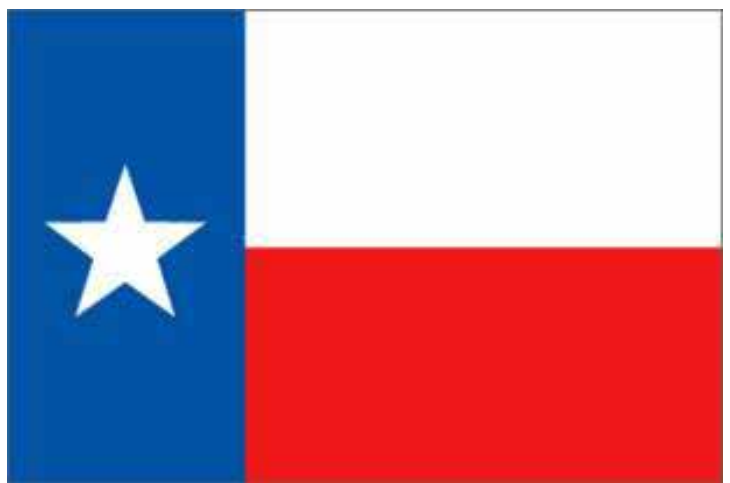
Attached picture is a little old but it's not too often we are all together cleaned up and in the same spot at the same time!

Love to all!

*Mary O*



*Mary O & Jim Horn Family*



***Greetings  
from the great state of Texas***



# HOW TO ENJOY RETIREMENT AND LIFE AFTER SEVENTY

*By Jon Simon*

Yup you guessed it, I built a new custom home. Last August Bev and I decided to build a home that would accommodate our present and future needs and hopefully prevent us from going into an assisted living or nursing home environment. After researching the real-estate market and finding nothing that remotely would accommodate our needs, we decided to custom build.

Several years back when Bev was walking with some of her friends she noticed a couple of lots on Mosher Ave. in Owatonna that she admired because they were in a quiet setting, treed, with woods in the back. They were spacious and in an established neighborhood. We investigated their ownership and found they were owned by Kathy Mulenmaster. We were able to negotiate the purchase of one of the two lots that would best accommodate our building requirements. The next objective was to select a builder so naturally I called my buddy Rick Nelson and asked if he would accept the task and he turned me down flat, crying that it was too cold in Minnesota and that he no longer owned any gloves.

## **What a wimp!**

The next call was to Joel Knippel and he also turned me down, but for legitimate reasons. He was currently in the process of building a model home in a development that he was championing in northern MN in or near Cross Lake. Man you should see the hunting (he refers to it as a shack) lodge/paradise that he built with every option known to man.

So we had to step outside of the class of 63 to find our builder and discovered one while roaming some of the exhibits at the Steele County Free Fair last year. We shared our plans with the builder and architect. Now armed with all the modifications and several bids the build was about to begin, however the Owatonna building inspectors had different ideas, they single handedly do more to discourage building in Owatonna than you could possibly imagine. Seriously, many builders avoid Owatonna like



*Jon & Bev Simon's Retirement Home*

the plague and prefer to build anywhere in southern MN but Owatonna. They play God as though they possess degrees in engineering, project management of both commercial and residential construction as well as act like they are licensed plumbers and electricians. In actuality while engaging in a correspondence course they majored in home economics and minored in sanitary maintenance. When they pass on and have to face old St. Peter they may find their final resting place somewhere warmer than South Florida and Arizona during the summer! Regardless, we began construction in Nov. of 2015 and finished in May of 2016. I've been accused of designing a garage and building a house around it. Our build consisted of several goals. 1st: build a rambler style home with a one story floor plan. 2nd: have a zero degree entry from both the front door and the garage entrances. 3rd : down size the first floor to just under 1650 sq.ft. and include the laundry room. And 4th : build a heated oversized three car garage complete with multiple floor drains, hot and cold water and have a stairway access to the basement. Well we're in! Notice I didn't say finished, but the sod has been laid, most of the shrubs are planted and the sprinkler system is also installed, so life in that vein is somewhat good!

## **As Paul Harvey would say "Now for the rest of the story".**

Our health! Bev for decades has suffered at the hands of asthma, but for the last two or three years has also been diagnosed with emphysema. Recently she was told by her

pulmonary specialist that her recent tests showed a 23% reduction in her lung functions over a year ago. This is scarier than hell, she uses fixed and portable nebulizers and every rescue inhaler known to man, your prayers for her would be much appreciated. My health is nothing like Bev's, but life hasn't been the kindest to me either. Over the last several years my RSD (nerve disorder) has traveled down my back and into my right leg somehow recently causing motor nerve problems and extreme swelling in the leg and foot, while also causing the inability to lift or move my right foot or to move it in certain directions. This past year I've seen a number of specialists at the Mayo Clinic in search of a way that would once again allow me the opportunity to stand and walk nearly straight.

I've been told that it would require several lengthy operations of the spine, possibly as many as six. But after many different injections, etc. It was decided that they would try performing a procedure on me to determine what part muscle versus spine was playing as it relates to my not being able to stand up. So about four weeks ago I entered St. Mary's Hospital for a procedure to be performed on me while being chemically induced as if I were having surgery. While under the specialist manned with a team of four attempted to push me flat on the table while also pulling, pushing and twisting all four extremities. Once I awoke in recovery, I immediately asked what happened to my left ankle.

**The response was ...  
"we really worked you  
over."**

## LIFE AFTER SEVENTY

*By Jon Simon*

After sharing with me that part of the problem is that the hips also have a role in the equation as my hip flexors, I was told, were as if they were set in concrete and wouldn't move an inch. So we left the hospital and returned to Owatonna with another date to return to Mayo to discuss the findings after the surgeon had time to confer with his colleagues. By early Saturday morning I could no longer stand the pain in my left leg and ankle so out we go to the emergency room. After a full day of pain administration, I was admitted to the hospital. After testing for four days they took a CAT scan and found that I had suffered a fractured ankle and a torn alkalize tendon. Now are you getting the picture, yes they fractured my ankle on my good leg, my left leg!

### YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

So now here I sit with major spine problems, coupled with two bad legs. I can't drive and have very limited walking ability without a walker, etc. We're putting to use the amenities of this house much earlier than I had ever anticipated, i.e. 3 foot wheel chair access doorways, showers with built in seats and handicap grab rails, etc. Thank God for friends, Jerry Carstensen has been in charge of lawn care and has mowed for us weekly... says he's trying to screw it up so that I will fire him!

### FAT CHANCE!!

I returned to Mayo this past week only to find out that a new specialist has been added to the growing list - a professor of orthopedics. Guess what great news he had for me, he showed us X-Rays, MRI'S and CAT scans all showing that I need both hips replaced. They thought I should do it soon and said that the second replacement would follow the first by four to six weeks...like I said earlier you can't make this stuff up! SOOOO... how's your day?

In spite of our health issues we have much to be thankful for, good friends and wonderful kids and grand kids. Our oldest daughter, Tammy, still lives out East in MA with her husband Brad, a son-in-law anyone would want. Their daughters are both RN's, one at Mass General and the other at Boston Children's Hospital. Tyler, their son, is an accountant in Newport, RI. Jeff, our second oldest is an assistant Manager at Hy-Vee and lives in Faribault, MN and our youngest daughter, Kelly, works at Maple Grove Hospital as a unit coordinator for medicine/surgery and lives in Maple Grove, MN.

We are so proud of our kids and grand kids and love them so much. I hope that most of you have had a better year than us and if you are in good health, get out exploring and enjoying your families and life because without good health these so called golden years aren't for the weak!  
God Bless all of you!

*Jon Simon*

## A busy year!

*By John Hudrlik*

This has been a very busy year. I got remarried Oct 24, and went on a honeymoon cruise to Mexico.

I had my right knee replaced and I liked it so much I went back and had them replace the left one.

Then I replaced all the flooring in the house with bamboo after repainting the walls & ceiling

Now I'm working in the shop trying to get it up and running again after 5 years of non-use but when it is 120 degrees outside it kind of slows things down.

We went to Texas to visit the new wife's daughter and family and while I was there I met with Phil Haaland

Hoping for a reunion that I can attend.

*John Hudrlik*

## FLASHBACKS TO THE PAST 35th Reunion





## *From Jim Colton*

Dear Classmates,  
I hope you're all doing well and fighting the good fight against aging as we all get older!

Last September a couple of fancy Corvettes rolled into Northern California and guess who was driving—Jerry Carstensen and Rick Nelson. With their wives in tow, they drove a good part of Route 66 but also managed to stop in Santa Clara, CA where Mary Jo I and met them for breakfast a stone's throw from the new 49er stadium. That was a great get together—so glad they stopped to see us! If any of you are in Northern California, please stop by and see us also.



### *The Big News at the Colton House*

Our big news this year is that our older son Eric got married at age 39! He and his now wife Melissa had a beautiful wedding in New York City on June 4. Their friends came to their wedding from far and wide. Mary Jo and I were hoping to have several grandchildren by now. Now we would be happy to see even one! For some reason we don't get any reports on how that's going so we just keep our fingers crossed!

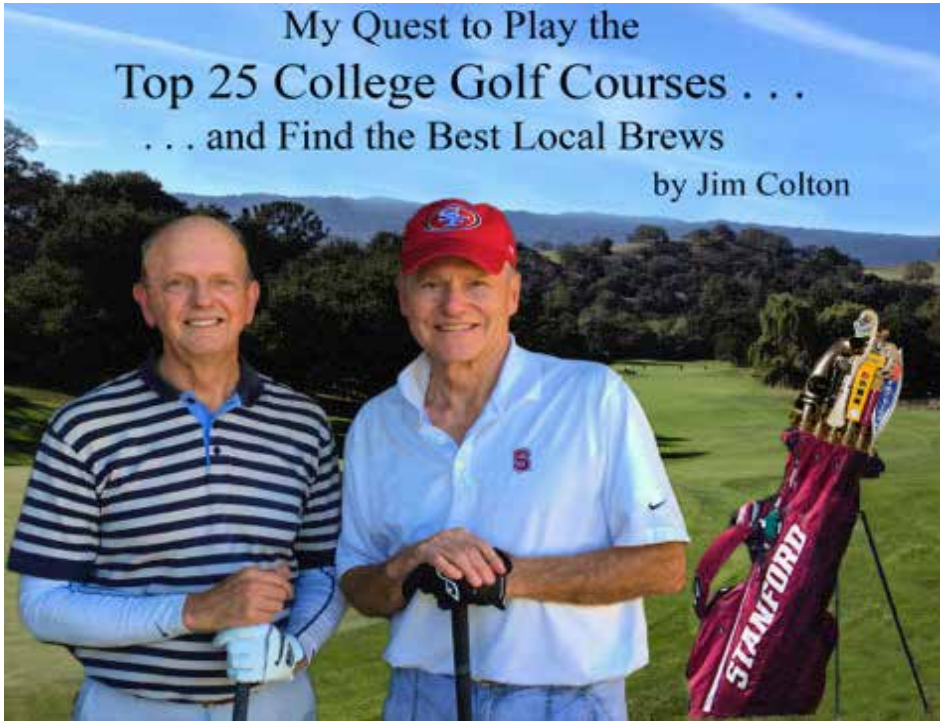
I find that these annual class newsletters cause me to reflect on life in Owatonna and how it has influenced, or even determined, later events. For example, I remember inheriting a Voigtlander 120 film camera, one of those old cameras with a bellows that folds out when you want to take a picture. The bellows leaked, which is probably why I inherited the camera. I was able to stop the leaks by patching the bellows with duct tape. Of course then the bellows wouldn't close so I ran around with the camera with the bellows open and started taking pictures. I set up a dark-room in the only bathroom in our family's home of seven. That led to some interesting developments! I have been a

photographer ever since. I was a casual photographer until about 10 years ago when I took up photography seriously in anticipation of retirement. Seriously means I joined the Palo Alto Camera Club whose members are excellent photographers. I quickly learned who the best mentors were and glommed unto them so I could learn faster. It has been a great learning experience. Some people think I'm now a real photographer but I see lots of room for improvement. Of course that's what makes it fun.



### *What It's Like to be stranded on an island with Fidel Castro?*

In 2015 my photography took me to Cuba as a visiting artist. I was most fascinated by the people and how they have been living under the Castro regime. Virtually all my time in Cuba was spent visiting with average Cuba citizens, often in their homes. This led me to develop a talk about Cuba that I call "What It's Like to be Stranded on an Island with Fidel Castro." I have given the talk numerous times at senior living centers, rotary clubs and the like. You can see some of my Cuba photographs, and photographs from other places, at [jimcolton.zenfolio.com](http://jimcolton.zenfolio.com).



I had other Owatonna experiences that have shaped my later life. When the Owatonna Muni Golf Course opened in the early 60's, I dragged some of my dad's old rusty golf clubs out from our basement and played with Lee Harra and Denny Yule at the Muni for \$2 a round. I wasn't very good at golf but we had great fun fishing our golf balls, and other's golf balls, out of the creek! I didn't play golf regularly after that but I loved the game and knew I would play when I got older. I got older at age 45. I have been playing golf regularly for the past 26 years.

In 2010 Golf Week magazine ran an article about the Top 25 College Golf courses. That's when I was struck by a truly awesome idea—to put on the top of my bucket list to play all of the Top 25 College Golf Courses! Several of my golf buddies accompanied me on parts of the trips. And you won't believe what happened. After every round of golf I was thirsty. So I asked around about the best local microbrewery and sampled enough to identify the best beer in the place.

I wrote a book about playing the Top 25. Besides golf, I talk about other experiences like watching out for alligators at the University of Florida golf course, getting paired with an army sniper at the Air Force Academy course and dodging a tornado outside of Oklahoma City. Each chapter ends with a beer recommendation like this one after I played the Ohio State Course:

Beer recommended after this course: 21st Amendment Lower Da Boom at World of Beer.

Those are not golf club head covers sticking out of the golf bag—those are beer pull handles. You can get a preview of my book for free, or buy the ebook, at <http://www.amazon.com/dp/B01IYFUU0C>

Until next year,

*Jim Colton*

## **For Judy (Reese) and Elde Kretlow, it has been quite a journey!**

It started in February 2014 on a cold blizzard day (one of the worst storms in Minnesota that winter) when Elde was rushed to Abbott Hospital in Mpls because he had a heart attack. I remember Judy said it took over 4 hours to get there. He ended up having a triple by-pass and all went well but also meant a recovery period. Having this heart attack triggered a kidney disease which prior to this happening was something he was aware of having. More specialists had to be seen with dealing with the kidney problem plus many trips to Rochester Mayo but the good news was he was able to have a kidney transplant providing he had a donor that matched. Good news! Judy was a match and this past January 2016 Judy donated her kidney to Elde. A happy ending in spite of "some bumps" along the way as both are doing fine.

Judy gave me permission to write this and when I asked for her thoughts, she said to stress how important it is to be a donor. They spent a lot of time in Rochester with people like themselves and more than ever realize the importance of a donor. I remind Judy how special this was for her to do this.....After all, they were high school sweethearts since she was a freshman and Elde a sophomore. Yes, it has been a journey.....but life is good.

*Kathy Johnson Lembke*



Owatonna High School Class of 1963 Update for 2016



“Then and Now” .....

The Lembkes joined the Newgards to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



*Scenes from the OHS Class of 1963 15th Year Reunion*





**Back in the Day: Prom 1962**

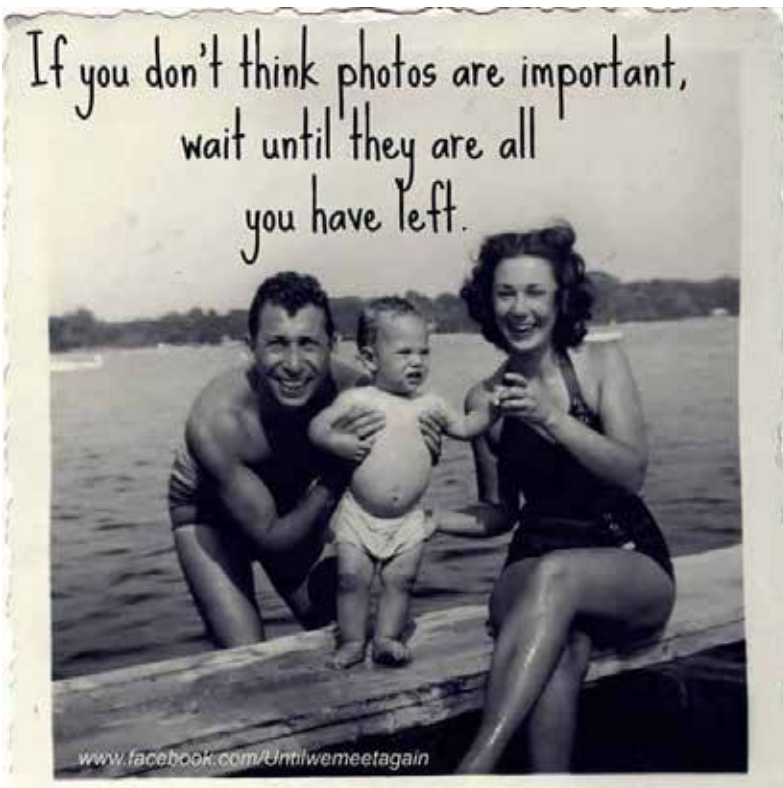
*Left to right: Marie Nelson Kedziora, Phyllis Eggers Stransky, Kathy Johnson Lembke, Judy Reese Kretlow, Darlene Truhlar Polesky, Rita Underland Bedney, Dee Broulik Johnson, Doris Beshman Hauser*



*The National Farmers' Bank of Owatonna, Minnesota is a historic bank building at Broadway and Cedar Streets. It was designed by Louis Sullivan with decorative elements by George Elmslie. It was built in 1908, and was the first of Sullivan's "jewel boxes". The building is clad in red brick with green terra cotta bands, and features two large arches on its street-facing facades. Louis Sullivan and his team of craftsmen built the National Farmers' Bank of Owatonna building for \$125,000 — more than \$3 million in today's dollars.*



**Scenes from the OHS Class of 1963  
15th Year Reunion (above & below)**





## 1963 FLASHBACK

### A NOSTALGIC LOOK BACK IN TIME

THE RICHNESS OF LIFE LIVES ON IN MEMORIES WE HAVE FORGOTTEN

#### 1963 Cost of Living

New House	\$12,650.00
Average Income	\$5,807/Year
New Car	\$3,233.00
Average Rent	\$110/Month
Harvard University Tuition	\$1,520/Year
Movie Ticket	\$1.25 each
Gasoline	29 cents/Gallon
First-Class Postage Stamp	5 cents each

#### 1963 Food/Beverage Costs

Granulated Sugar	90 Cents/10 Lbs.
Vitamin-D Enriched Milk	\$1.04/Gallon
Ground Coffee	85 Cents/Pound
Bacon	69 Cents/Pound
Eggs	32 Cents/Dozen
Fresh Ground Hamburger	40 Cents/Pound
Fresh Baked Bread	22 Cents/Loaf
Bottle of Coca Cola	5 Cents

#### A Few Facts

US President	John F. Kennedy & Then Lyndon B. Johnson
Vice-President	Lyndon B. Johnson & Then None
Speaker of the House	Sam Rayburn, Then John McCormack
Life Expectancy	69.7 Years

#### Music

Surf City - Jan & Dean  
Walk Like A Man - The Four Seasons  
Walk Right In - The Rooftop Singers  
Finger Tip - Stevie Wonder  
It's My Party - Lesley Gore  
Go Away Little Girl - Steve Lawrence  
He's So Fine - The Chiffons  
Hey Paula - Paul & Paula  
Blue Velvet - Bobby Vinton  
If You Wanna Be Happy - Jimmy Soul



#### Movies

Tom Jones (Academy Award Winner)  
The Birds  
The Great Escape  
It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World  
The Pink Panther  
Jason & The Argonauts

# FLASHBACKS TO THE PAST 20th Reunion



**Steele County Historical Society**  
Yesterday at 4:14 PM · 4P

The Steele County Historical Society Announces Large Gift from the Don Tuerk Estate

The Steele County Historical Society announced today it has received an amazing gift of \$390,600 from the estate of Don Tuerk. Don Tuerk, 72, passed away in December following a brief illness.

On February 5th, board members and staff met with family members, where they shared memories of Don, of how he attended the SCHS events over the years, and how he was always found in the Village Fire Station during the Steele County Free Fair.

"We are truly honored and humbled by this gift," said Kim Pursell, Executive Director of the Steele County Historical Society. "Don cared deeply for the work of the Historical Society, and it is through his generosity, our work will continue to bless others for years to come. His gift underscores the assurance our donors and their professional advisors place in the Steele County Historical Society as responsible, knowledgeable stewards of charitable assets."

*Thankful*



## TODD HALE: Remembering the grand old days of The Emperors *Owatonna People's Press (February 13, 2016)*

Those were the great days...the late 1950s and the '60s... when Owatonna-born rock bands entertained not only the local folks, but traveled around southern Minnesota and Iowa. The photo included with today's column, taken in 1965, should spur the memories of many of you. Just look at the adoring fans as they listened intently to the band playing "I'm Telling You Now" by Freddie and the Dreamers. The performance was taking place at the old Armory on Broadway as part of the Heart Fundraiser in February organized by Luther Hanson, owner of the Hanson Music Studios.

From left to right are Ken Wagner (bass), Mike Travaglio (vocal), Greg Northrop (lead guitar), Randy Schmidt (drums) and Tom Grunwald (rhythm guitar). We were apparently broadcasting from the event on KRFO as yours truly and my engineer, Jerry Boos were in the rear.

The Emperors formed in August of 1963 before anyone had ever heard of the Beatles. Northrop told me, "I was 12 years old and had just finished 6th grade. I remember one of our first gigs was the stage at the Elks Club for a teen dance. We played for the grand opening of the Warzinski building in Morehouse Park. After five years playing the five-state area, we disbanded in favor of college." Northrop taught guitar lessons at Hanson Music, teaching 35 to 40 students a week for the next four years

Luther Hanson and his Hanson Music Studio, which was located on Main Street next to the fire hall, promoted local bands. Northrop showed me an ad from the Daily People's Press from about 1965 promoting a "Rock 'N' Roll Blast-Off" sponsored by Hanson Music which was held at the old Owatonna Armory on Sunday, April 26. Two stages were set up to feature the bands including local bands, The Emperors, The Lynchmen (David Wagner, Wayne Johnson, Jim Heller and Kent Jirele), The Castaways (Bernie Moe, Mike Travaglio, Greg Hammel and Mike Dalland), The Night Crawlers (Marc Reigel, Mark Headington, Mike Jines and Bill Redeker), and Little Caesar and the Conspirators (Jim Barnholdt, Gary Sorenson, Mike Colvin, John Putnam and Marv Huntington). Other local bands that were popular at the time included The US Band, (Barry Gillespie, Monte Kristo, Sid Gasner, Dan Utpadel, Greg Hammel and Tom Krause). Then there was a popular all-girl rock band called The Exotics (Carol Moe, Linda Knutson, Susie Mork and Sue Green). At the time this band was one of just two all-girl bands in the state.



# Lives Remembered

## FOR 'GALLANTRY IN ACTION'

### PFC Kelm, Killed In Action, Is Awarded Silver Star

THE SILVER STAR was awarded posthumously here last Friday to PFC Larry Kelm of Owatonna for gallantry in action in Vietnam.

PFC Kelm was killed in action last Aug. 23, and the nation's third highest military award was presented to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Kelm of Route 4, Owatonna, by Lt. Col. Clyde Cooper of Menasha, assistant adjutant general of the XIV U. S. Army Corps in Minneapolis. Awarding of the high military honor had been approved in November. The Owatonna soldier was a member of Co. B, 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry, at the time of his death.

The citation accompanying the medal read:

"On this date PFC Kelm's company was participating in a multi-battalion road clearance operation along Highway 15 near Binh Duong province. Suddenly his unit was called to the assistance of a friendly element which had become heavily engaged with the long sought insurgent Phu Loi Battalion. As the company approached the elaborate Viet Cong trench and bunker system, its forward movement was halted by a barrage of intense mortar, small arms and automatic weapons fire. PFC Kelm, serving as rifleman and ammunition bearer, began advancing with his squad which was employing fire and movement techniques

in assaulting the insurgents. After taking several objectives, the company was instructed to redeploy so that a battalion perimeter could be established.

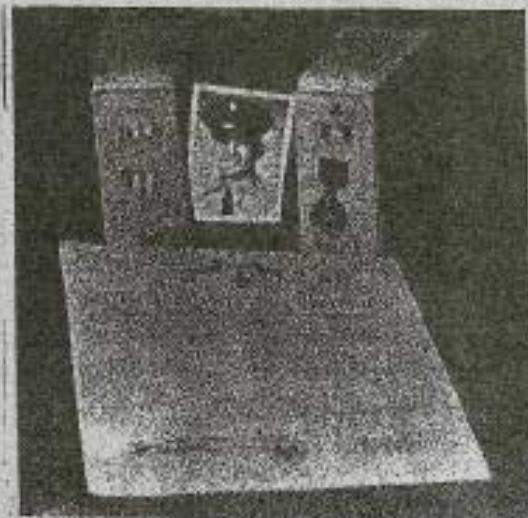
"Noticing several wounded comrades who lay exposed to the intense Viet Cong fire, PFC Kelm completely disregarded his personal safety, and in full view of the insurgent positions, courageously made his way to the wounded and brought them back one by one to a point of safety. Although painfully wounded in the process of aiding the casualties, PFC Kelm remained in the area and continued to fight. Noticing all the members of a machine gun crew covering the company's movement had been seriously wounded, PFC Kelm started toward the distressed crew. After reaching them with a supply of ammunition, he began directing the devastating fire of the weapon and continued until he was mortally wounded.

"Pfc Kelm not only saved the lives of many of his comrades but also held off the insurgents until the American force reorganized and overran them. PFC Kelm's unquestionable valor in close combat against numerically superior hostile forces is in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the 1st Inf. Div., and the U. S. Army."



A SAD REMINDER that the United States is at war was brought home to Owatonna Tuesday when military funeral services were held for Private First Class Larry Kelm of Owatonna, who was killed in action Aug. 23 in Viet Nam while fighting the Viet Cong Communists. He was the second local victim of the Vietnamese war and the first to die from direct enemy action. Pictured here are the final rites at St. John's Lutheran cemetery with units of the local American Legion and VFW at left conducting the military burial ceremonies. Rev.

Elmer Ackermann (under the canopy at left), pastor of St. John's Lutheran church, conducted the services at both the church and cemetery. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Kelm of Route 4, Owatonna, Larry was 21 years old at the time of his death. He graduated from Owatonna high school in 1963 and entered military service July 30, 1965. Previous victim from here was S/Sgt. Walter Tramel, M, an air force crew member who died when his plane crashed in a storm near Viet Nam last Sept. 18. He was a 1950 graduate of OHS. (PN Photo)



26 Jan 1967



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## Lives Remembered



**Kathlynn "Kathy" Gayle Deviny Miller**  
**1945–2015**

### **Kathlynn Gayle Deviny Miller**

CHARLOTTE, NC - Kathy Miller, age 70, passed away at her son's home in Raleigh, NC on August 5th, 2015, following a strong battle against brain cancer.

Kathy was born March 17, 1945 in Owatonna, Minnesota to the late Edward John Deviny and Gayle Roberts Deviny. She is survived by her son Ian David Miller and his wife Kristi Miller, five grandchildren Kylie, Caleb, Darcy, Daniel and Natalie as well as two honorary grandchildren Pierson and Maylin. Other survivors include her two brothers Edward John (Jack) Deviny and Robert Michael (Mike) Deviny.

Kathy graduated from Hamline University and went on to earn advanced degrees at the University of Chicago and Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania. She worked in the Washington DC area as a research analyst and a database programmer for over 30 years before retiring and moving to Charlotte, NC to be closer to family. Kathy took great joy in her family and was quick to share stories and pictures of her son, daughter-in-law, and grandkids. Kathy loved to travel and enjoyed recounting her tales of trips to China, England, Greece, Ireland, and many more.

Kathy was devoted to serving her community and volunteered regularly at the Charlotte Community Health Clinic and in her church. She was an avid reader, rarely without a small collection of books she was currently reading at her side and a devoted member of book clubs. She greatly enjoyed the performing arts, attending plays, musicals and the symphony with friends. On Friday nights she would often be found enjoying ethnic foods, coffee and dessert (she never skipped dessert) with friends. *Published in Charlotte, NC Observer on Aug. 8, 2015*



**Donald C. Tuerk**  
**1943–2015**

### **Donald C. Tuerk**

Owatonna—Donald Charles Tuerk, 72, of Owatonna, died Sunday, December 20, 2015 at Koda Living Community.

He was born September 29, 1943 in Owatonna the son of John and Elizabeth (Vavra) Tuerk. Don graduated from Owatonna High School. After a brief service time with the National Guard, he worked for King Company for many years. He was a firefighter for the Owatonna Fire Department for 21 years. Don also worked for Forest Hill Cemetery.

Don was an active member of St. John Lutheran Church and the Eagles Club. He enjoyed trips to New Ulm and gardening. He was known for his unique varieties of tomatoes.

He is survived by his companion of over 25 years, Judy Tetloff of Faribault; her children, Angie (and Gregory) Sartor of Faribault, Amy (and Mathias) Gregor of Waseca; Judy's grandchildren, Emma, Ella, Isaac and a cousin, Adrienne Rothgarn. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be at Michaelson Funeral Home on Sunday from 2pm to 5pm and at St. John Lutheran Church on Monday from 9:30am to 10:30am. Funeral services will be held Monday, December 28, 2015 at 10:30am at St. John Lutheran Church with Pastor Dave Klawiter officiating. Interment will be in the Forest Hill Cemetery in Owatonna. Memorials are preferred to St. John Lutheran Church or to the donor's choice.

*Published in the Owatonna People's Press  
on December 21, 2015*



## Lives Remembered



**Herman William Eisen**  
1944–2016

Herman William Eisen, 71, of Owatonna, died March 25, 2016, at Methodist Campus in Rochester, Minnesota, surrounded by family. A celebration of his life was held at Aurora Lutheran Church on April 9, 2016. Survivors included his brother Dennis and a sister.

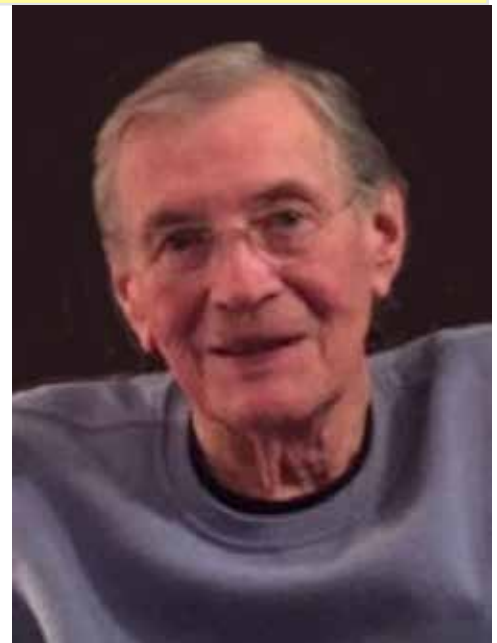
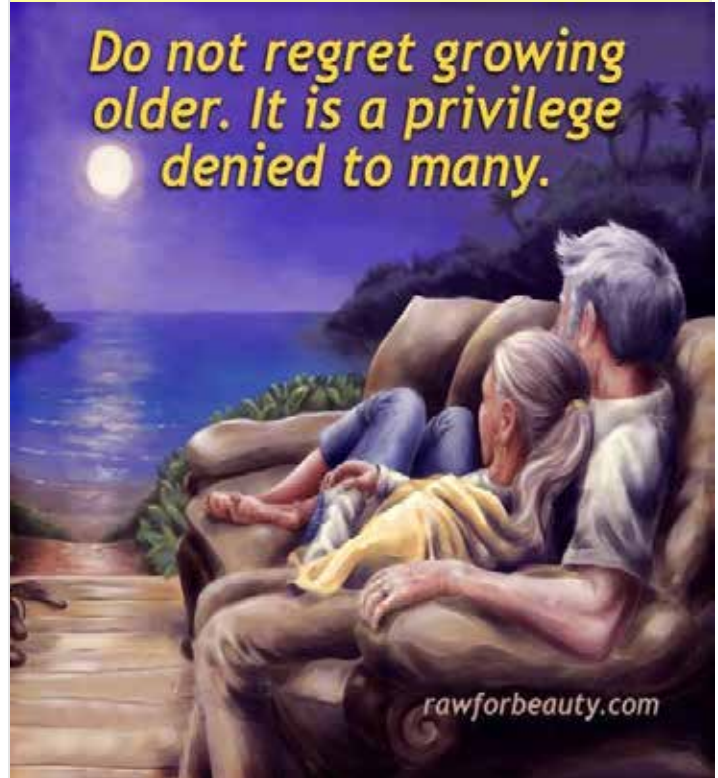
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**John Kroke** (nicknamed *Toupee*) was born August 4, 1936 in Stephen, MN, the son of Elmer and Maxine (Elliott) Kroke. He grew up in Stephen and graduated from Stephen High School in 1954 and UND in 1959 with an education degree. He married Jean Bye in 1956 in Grand Forks, ND and they had three children, Jill, Jack and Joni.

In 1960, John began his teaching career in Owatonna, MN, teaching junior high social studies. He was named “Teacher of the Year” in 1967 in Owatonna. John took a career change and sold life insurance for a while, but his true passion was teaching.

John was also a member of the Owatonna Elks Club and held the office of Exalted Ruler from 1969 – 1970. In 1977 he married Judy Hagedorn. John enjoyed cooking, traveling, winters in Arizona and spending time with his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. In 2014, John moved to Grand Forks, ND to be near his children. John is survived by his children, Jill (Tim) Nies, Jack Kroke and Joni (Don) Newmann, all of Grand Forks; grandchildren, Alyssa Nies (Fiancé A.J. Hammen), Kelsey (Tim) Lindquist, Bryan Nies, Mikayla Nies, Hannah Kroke (Fiancé, B. J. Hangsleben), Collin Kroke; great grandchildren, Zayne Lindquist, Carter Hangsleben; sister, Marilyn (Richard) Hanson, Stephen, MN; and several nieces, nephews and cousins. John was preceded in death by his parents and by a sister, Kathy Seinfeld. A family memorial service was held at Amundson Funeral Home of Grand Forks on Monday, May 23, 2016.

*Published in the Owatonna People's Press*



**JOHN KROKE**  
(1936-2016)

John Elliot Kroke Grand Forks — John Elliott Kroke, 79, of Grand Forks, ND and formerly of Owatonna, MN, passed away on May 19, 2016 at home surrounded by his children.

## Lives Remembered



**EARL BRUHN**  
(1923-2015)

Earl Wayne Bruhn, age 92, of Owatonna, died November 28, 2015 in Owatonna. He was born August 12, 1923, in St. Bonifacius the third son of Charles and Emma (Maas) Bruhn.

Earl Bruhn was a 1941 graduate of Mound High School and a four-sport letterman. Following a year at Deerfield Academy in Massachusetts, Earl enrolled at the University of Minnesota. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in December of 1942. For officer training, he was sent to Penn State and Northwestern University where he lettered in several sports. Earl returned to the U of M and earned five letters while competing in football and baseball. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in the spring of 1947 and remained a devoted Golden Gopher fan to the end.

Earl met his future wife, Elaine Marie Eide, when he came to watch a women's softball game coached by his brother Milt. After Earl accepted a job as the Park and Recreation Director in Owatonna, the two were married in July of 1947. Elaine preceded him in death on October 19, 2015.

Most of Earl's career was spent as the Athletic Director at Owatonna High School. Earl served on the board of the Minnesota State High School League, was President of the Minnesota State Coaches Association and named the Minnesota Athletic Director of the Year in 1976. After retirement, Earl and Elaine enjoyed traveling with friends and spent many winters in Gulf Shores, AL and Sun City, AZ. They also hosted annual summer reunions near Brainerd for their growing family. These memories are cherished by their children and grandchildren.

Earl is survived by his children: Tari Garnaas, Lori (Dale) Johnson, Joni (Darrel) Mulholland and Tom (Kristine) Bruhn. Also surviving are ten grandchildren: Matt Garnaas, Chris Garnaas (Mira Cho), Justin (Sara) Johnson, Brandon (Paula) Johnson, Kelsey (Jeff) Marks, Emily Bruhn, Tim Bruhn, Carrie (Matt) Graff, Cassie Mulholland, and Clint Mulholland. Earl is further survived by 8 great-grandchildren. In addition to his wife and parents, his brothers Milt and Vern and their wives also preceded Earl in death.

Private family funeral services were held with interment following in the Ft. Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis. Memorials are preferred to Owatonna High School Hall of Fame and St. Bonifacius Historical Society.



**CLAIR PETERSON**  
(1927-2016)

Clair Allen Peterson, 88, of Owatonna, died Monday, February 15, 2016 at the Owatonna Hospital.

Clair was born August 1, 1927 in Litchville, North Dakota the son of M.J. and Hazel (Olson) Peterson.

He graduated from Hannah High School in Hannah, North Dakota. Clair served in the United States Navy during WWII and was stationed in Portland, Oregon. After the service, Clair earned his teaching degree from Concordia College in Moorhead. He married Shirlee Mae Bergesen on August 27, 1950. They lived in North Dakota where he taught and coached. They moved to Montana and Clair continued his education earned a master's degree in counseling. In 1960, they moved to Owatonna. Clair worked as a Guidance Counselor at Owatonna High School for over 30 years.

Clair traveled with his wife and friends to destinations throughout the United States and several foreign countries. Clair loved golf and sports of all kinds. He enjoyed woodworking, yardwork, and casinos. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and served on church committees, VFW, Elks, and past president of Owatonna Park and Recreation.

He is survived by his three children, Ellen (Guy) Lanphere of Columbia, MO, Barry (Sue) Peterson of Owatonna, and Andrea (Brian) Hild of West Des Moines, IA; six grandchildren, Guy (Stacey) Lanphere, Andrew (Katherine) Lanphere, Sarah (David) Falcon, Jared Peterson, Kristie Peterson, and Meredith Hild; four great grandchildren, Nolan and Ella Falcon, Jaycie Jacobson, and Austin Aul; and special friend, Joyce Golberg of Owatonna.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Echzine Alfson; and infant daughter.

Funeral services were held Thursday, February 18, 2016 at Trinity Lutheran Church with The Reverend Amanda Weinkauff officiating. Interment was in the Forest Hill Cemetery in Owatonna with military honors conducted by the Steele County Military Funeral Unit.