



# "JHS Class of '64"

Issue 19

Class Newsletter October 31, 2014

## Here Is Our 19th Edition

### Joplin Eagles

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**"Welcome to the fall 2014 edition of the JHS Class of 1964 newsletter."**

By now summer tans and our 50th reunion are beginning to fade into memory.

For some reason, as the landscape here in the Midwest begins to reflect a new season—and holiday visits with family and friends loom just ahead—thoughts of times spent decades ago with my grandparents began to surface.

The Joplin Globe column that follows captures the differences—and similarities—in grand-parenting styles and our experience of them.

I hope it will trigger memories of the people who were pivotal in creating love and safety for you—and that the season ahead is chock-full of gratitude and time with the people in your life for whom YOU have made a difference!

*Jeanne Looper Smith*



**"The best baby-sitters, of course, are the baby's grandparents. You feel completely comfortable entrusting your baby to them for long periods, which is why most grandparents flee to Florida."—Dave Barry "**

I didn't flee to Florida to escape my grandchildren but visit there often to enjoy them. I've moved to the Midwest—they all live in the sunshine state—and this is testosterone territory.

I'm the grandmother of five rambunctious grandsons: Anthony, 22; Vincent, 13; Jack, 10; Luke, 8; and Patrick, 6. (And I have two bonus grandsons, Peyton, 6 and Nolan, 4.) With this group of seven, there's not a tiara or a Barbie to be found. (Although if there was, that would be ok too, but that's for another column!)

What I've found in the experience of being their grandmother is an unconditional love like nothing I've ever know.

I can't help but notice that there's been a quantum leap taken in the world of grand-parenting.

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The memories of my grandmother that run like a slide show through my mind are very different from the ones I imagine my grandsons will carry of me. Grand-parenting was different in the 1950s and in some ways grandparents, themselves, seemed to be very different people, too.

There was no talk then of 60 being the new 40. Grandparents at 60 looked every minute of it and then some! Nipping and tucking was something grandmothers did while darning old socks. (For the record, I haven't nipped or tucked anything, nor do I darn old socks.)

My maternal grandmother, called Mum, wore her long hair piled high on her head, held in place with beautiful tortoise-shell combs. She smelled of lilac perfume and baked bread. She wore sensible shoes—something I've never been sensible enough to do—and colorful cotton dresses.

I never saw her in "casual" clothing and once (in that more formal time) when my grandfather ventured into their living room in slacks and just his undershirt, she admonished him with "B.G., there are children present!"

The times we spent together were colored with a different hue. There were no afternoons, like the ones I spend with my younger grandsons, propped up on the couch eating lunch on TV trays while laughing out loud at "SpongeBob Square Pants." No running headlong onto the "Slip 'N Slide" in our bathing suits. (I can't imagine my grandmother slipping or sliding, or showing up anywhere in a bathing suit for that matter!)

Nor can I picture her, like me, straddling the footboard of the bed pretending the train is leaving the station and we are engineers and passengers heading to some unknown city.

Mum was not present in the delivery room when I made my entrance as I've been with all of my grandsons, but her presence in my life was just as significant.

Our times together were populated with evening drives in the Muskogee, OK countryside to pick wildflowers and watch the sun set and with lazy afternoons poring over a stereopticon that transported me to the pyramids of Egypt and the African desert.

She taught me how to curl my doll's hair with rags cut into strips, make a Dr. Pepper float in a Mason jar and to feel like the most prized person in her world.

When my grandparents came to visit me in Joplin, they were not laden down with the latest gifts and gadgets but were accompanied only by their little terrier dog, Traffic—named for his harrowing rescue from a busy street—and a pigeon in a cage named Jimmy.

And yet it was enough. They were there unloading the special love they had for me.

You know, no matter how different our styles, when viewed through the lens of love, the grand-parenting leap hasn't been that quantum after all.

***Joplin Globe article by Jeanne Looper Smith, who grew up in Joplin and now lives in Kansas City, MO. You may share memories of Joplin with her at [wistfulwordsmith@gmail.com](mailto:wistfulwordsmith@gmail.com)***

Men can read smaller print than women can; women can hear better.

Coca-Cola was originally green. It is impossible to lick your elbow.

The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28% (now get this...)

The percentage of North America that is wilderness: 38%

The first novel ever written on

a typewriter, Tom Sawyer.

The San Francisco Cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments.

What is the only food that doesn't spoil? Honey

The colorful fall weather reminds me I wanted to share the beautiful and tranquil Joplin Butterfly Garden & Overlook located in Cunningham Park with you. Designed by Drury University's architectural students and staff, it is an "open, sacred place" for all to visit. The interdisciplinary team also included communication and humanities majors. Their goal was to promote some of the key elements of healing after a tragedy: remembrance, renewal, and resilience. How masterfully this was done! Funded by \$585,000 from the TKF Foundation (had to Google that one to learn about its amazing support and special nature scapes nationwide) and \$100,000 from Wal-Mart, the project includes storyboards with messages from victims, a butterfly pavilion with plants to attract butterflies, and water features. Arched above are three to-scale structures of houses destroyed during the tornado. Because the tornado turned from an EF4 to an EF5 at the park, this area is considered the "ground zero" of the storm and was chosen by the team to become a location offering peace and hope. I had wondered what these large framed outlines of former homes which once stood near the park pool were. An article in Drury's newsletter answered that question. Speaking to 2,000 attending the dedication, Traci Sooter, associate professor of architecture said "the tornado erased the homes and we penciled them back in." Sooter explained that "it is a space of healing for anyone who is struggling – be it illness, loss of a loved one, or simply a bad day." We are surely fortunate to have been given such a meaningful gift, one that will span the generations.

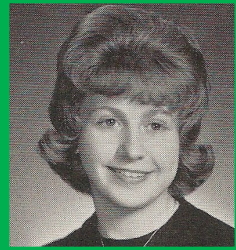
<http://wearejoplin.com/joplin-butterfly-garden-overlook/>

### **Moving East Down 26th from Cunningham Park to JHS**

You may have recently noticed in the national news: Joplin High School is now operational and was dedicated this month! Vice-President Biden and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan were featured speakers. The Class of 2015 has a home, after spending three years between the 9th/10th grade center at the former Memorial High School and the 11th/12th grade campus at a redesigned storefront at the mall. A burgundy ribbon six and a half miles long was used at the ceremony to represent the length of the 2011 tornado when the high school we knew was destroyed. The goal of making history in the Guinness Book of Records was accomplished when students and staff strung the printed ribbon reading "Mission Accomplished" about the exterior of the building and wove it around orange construction cones placed on the grounds to complete the display. Afterwards, the ribbon was cut into one foot lengths, each with an eagle and mission phrase, and distributed to those present then later taken to the district's schools for students not attending. Each middle and elementary school bussed thirty random students as it would have been difficult to send the entire student population. Money raised to print and purchase the ribbon was donated by area businesses and not tax funds.

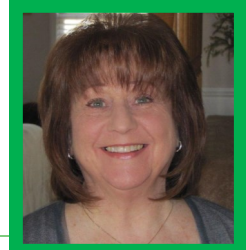
While I have not yet toured the new schools, I plan to do so in the next weeks. I thought it would be more interesting to wait and visit when classes were in session and one could see how the buildings are serving our students. East Middle School with adjacent Soaring Heights Elementary and Irving Elementary have also returned students to their new buildings. As the ribbon says . . . "Mission Accomplished" was quite a project. We can only try to imagine the thousands of hours and participants who made it all happen. YouTube carries several coverage segments for those interested. Just type in the school you want to view and "dedication". From what I'm hearing, Joplin High School's design is far beyond a basic educational building. Students will have a host of opportunities to be well prepared to enter the work force or higher education facilities.

*Phyllis Payne Sapp*



## Sharon Harrison - Bio

**"Most of us can remember life-changing moments, and I remember one of those moments"**



Does high school prepare you for real life? That question continues to be a topic of debate. Because of economics, I knew early on that I was not going to go to college after graduation, so I enrolled in secretarial practice. According to my mother, a woman could always support herself if she was proficient in basic office skills, typing and shorthand. If Mom was correct, I was now prepared for real life and ready to go out into the world, steno pad in hand.

Steve and I married after I graduated in September 1964 and moved to Fort Worth, Texas. I was ready and anxious to be the perfect wife – after all, the wives on television made it look glamorous and effortless. Even with the pearls, I was no June Cleaver. I did not know how to cook, clean house, or wash clothes, and the concept of time management was something foreign to me. I worked as a secretary (yes, my mother was correct) at the Tarrant County United Fund until our daughter, Susan, was born in the summer of 1966. By this time, I had mastered a few homemaking skills and was ready to take on the job of being a stay-at-home mother. I was excited and completely devoted myself to this new chapter in my life and set out to be a wonderful wife and perfect mother, complete with dinner at 6:00 pm.

Steve, Susan and I had our routine down pat and I was almost living the dream when our twins, Staci and Stephen, arrived in August of 1970. Life took a nosedive and all the skills I worked so hard to develop for the coveted award as homemaker and mother of the year seemed to vanish instantly. Most of us can remember life-changing moments, and I remember one of those moments as if it were yesterday. The twins were three weeks old (longest three weeks in my life), it was 2:00 pm, none of us were dressed for the day, the twins were crying because they were hungry, Susan was crying because she wanted my attention, and I was crying just because. I remember thinking, and probably saying, that I did not sign up for this. We all had a therapeutic group cry and after sufficiently recovering, I took a deep breath and made the commitment to being a good mother to the three crying children who depended on me. Our children are now wonderful adults and each have characteristics I admire and desire – intelligence, artistic talent, athletic ability, love of nature and animals, and one in particular is not afraid to dance to the beat of her own drum.

Steve's career afforded our family the opportunity to live in Fort Worth, Houston and Brownsville, Texas, before moving in 1977 to the Kansas City area, where we still reside. I enjoyed the role of stay-at-home mother and all the activities associated with our active children. I had outside interests -- a leader in the PTA, Twins Club, school sponsor, etc., but I was ready for a new challenge and the kids did not seem to appreciate my being with them 24/7. In order to boost my self-worth, Steve hired me to enter data when his company was in the process of installing a new computer system. I worked the perfect hours, 10:00 am until 2:00 pm, and discovered I liked having adult conversations and was thrilled to earn extra money. Steve left that company for a

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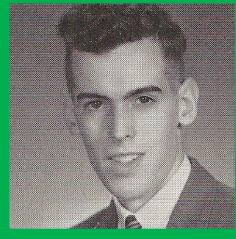
better position, but the owner asked me to stay on as his secretary. Since Steve worked for a competitor, I decided to leave after a year and went to work for a small family-owned machine tool company. After four years, the owner passed away and the company was liquidated. In 1991, I answered a classified ad and was fortunate to be hired as an administrator (new term for secretary) by a relatively unknown information technology company, Cerner Corporation. Today, Cerner is a multi-billion dollar company and the largest standalone healthcare IT company in the world with what will soon be 20,000 associates worldwide. I have been at Cerner 23 years and am currently the longtime Executive Assistant supporting the Vice Chairman and Co-founder Cliff Illig, as well as the Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer Julie Wilson. I am so proud to be included with the caliber of executives and associates at Cerner -- intelligent, innovative, energetic, high performing, results-driven, working to change global healthcare for the better.

I love my job and cannot imagine not being able to see my Cerner family daily, but I will probably begin a new chapter in a year or two. Steve retired as Senior Vice President from Blish-Mize three years ago and rapidly settled into a more relaxed routine. He enjoys playing golf and taking care of our five acres, two horses and two dogs. Well, he does enjoy playing golf; however, I am not so sure about the yard work and caring for the animals. Last month for our 50th anniversary, we took a UniWorld River Cruise -- Vienna to Nuremburg sailing on the Danube and ending by spending a few days in Prague. Since I do not play golf or do yard work, I may need to cultivate a passion for travel in order that we can enjoy together time.

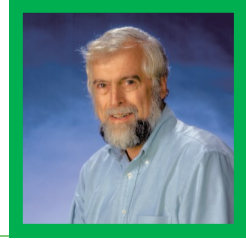
I realize reading this has not kept you on the edge of your seat waiting for something sensational to happen, but it has been challenging and personally rewarding. Sometimes it is good to take time to think about the past, appreciate the luck and good fortune, and look forward to the future. Thank you, Steve, Susan, Staci (Marty) and Stephen (Dana, Zoey and Abby) for being my most precious blessings, sharing my life, and helping me to succeed and become the person I am. I realize there is opportunity for continued improvement, so look at the task as job security. 🐾

### ***Cute Parenting Moment In The Animal Kingdom***





## Tom Williams - Bio



**"I went off to Germany to work for the brother of a friend of my father's."**

I came to Joplin in 1959 when my father, who was working for Atlas Powder Company, was transferred from company headquarters in Wilmington, Delaware. I was just entering the 9th grade and started that fall in South Junior High School. Life got to be very comfortable as we lived in a nice house on Iowa not far from the high school. I soon got to like visits to Shoal Creek and became friends with the brothers Bill and David Hamm. David is also a Class of '64 member and visited me and my wife, Joy, here in California in the spring of 2011. He introduced me to hunting squirrels and rabbits and we did a lot of that on his Grandmother's farm near Freistatt.

Then following year, of course, I started at Joplin Senior High as a sophomore and enrolled in ROTC. Some of my most memorable teachers of the three years at Joplin Senior were Mr. Johnston for Geometry, Mr. Anderson for Trigonometry, Mr. Spear for Biology, Mrs. Daniels, who was just wacky enough to make Latin interesting, and Mr. Anderson for American History and the Civics. And of course, my most beloved teacher was Senior English Mary Wieman. Her class featured a weekly "Show and Tell" where we had to read original works to the class.

I was definitely on track for college and after graduating from high school, I started at the University of Missouri in Columbia, initially majoring in zoology because of my deep interest in reptiles. By my sophomore year, however, I found that I had a definite talent for languages and changed my major to German. That meant that I would probably pursue an academic career and I would have to plan for graduate school aiming for a PhD.

A great opportunity presented itself that year and that was the chance to take part in the Junior Year Abroad program run by the University of Kansas. The head of my department helped me get into the program and the summer of 1966. I went off to Germany to work for the brother of a friend of my father's. I worked that summer in of all places, a gravestone factory in the Odenwald forest in western Germany. That greatly helped me improve my language skills in preparation for a year of study at the University of Bonn. At the end of that summer, I went up to Bonn, which was the capital of West Germany at the time, and started a full program of study including German literature, political science and the Romanian language. I had to quit the latter when the professor left suddenly.

While at the University of Bonn, I was invited to join a German student fraternity called the Burschenschaft Allemania. These fraternities have their origin in the struggles against Napoleon and include dueling with sharp sabers (with protection for vital parts like the throat) and can sometimes result in scars on the cheek. I was lucky that my youthful folly did not have that result. All in all, it was a huge learning experience, living in a house directly on the bank of the Rhine and built on the corner of the old Roman military camp called Castra Bonnensia. There is still a well from that camp in the living room of the fraternity house.

I returned to the University of Missouri for my senior year graduating Phi Beta Kappa and I

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I received a fellowship to attend graduate school at Washington University in St. Louis. As I continued my studies of German literature including Old Icelandic, Middle High German and the classics, I also became an ordained priest in a Pagan religion called the Church of All Worlds. That led to many adventures as well.

Once again during my studies I got the opportunity to get a job as a teacher in a German Gymnasium, which is the closest thing to our high school, and spent a year teaching English grades 6 through 12 in a small farming town in northern Germany. During that time, I got well established living in the small town and made many lasting friendships. I also went on a class field trip with my 12th grade class to Prague in what was then Czechoslovakia and while it was still under communist rule—that was in 1974. I still remember walking down the main avenue in Prague and seeing a lot of stores and restaurants in this communist country advertising that they accepted American Express. I thought that was really funny.

I decided to discontinue my teaching job in Germany after one year because I would have had to decide if I wanted to live in Germany permanently, which I did not. I wanted to get home, so I returned to St. Louis. But life was leading me away from the academic career I had planned.

I decided for a complete break so I bought and fixed up a VW bus to live and travel in and headed for California where some of my other friends had moved several years before. I got to the Bay Area and it wasn't long before I had a job as—of all things—the assistant editor of an early personal computing magazine called "Dr. Dobbs Journal." This gave me a good introduction and entry into the booming computer industry that was taking off in Silicon Valley. I have kept to this career for over the last 30 years and am now the Editor-in-Chief of a magazine in the embedded computing industry.

But life hasn't been all work and computers. I got together with some friends and we formed a co-operative and purchased a 32-acre ranch in the hills outside of Santa Cruz, California where I live with my wife, Joy, to this day. I met Joy through our church and we were married in 1993 on this ranch. Since then we have gardened and raised chickens and alpacas.

Also during that time (before getting married) I had the opportunity to go on a cryptozoology expedition that included underwater filming and scuba diving in search of legends of mermaids that were reported by the Chairman of the Anthropology Department of the University of Virginia. He came back with blurred photos and stories from the natives about people called the Ilkai who lived under the sea. This was a serious scientist and he took these legends seriously as well. At the time, I was also a member of the International Society of Cryptozoology, which was dedicated to the investigation of claims and mysteries about unknown animals. With their encouragement, we started to put together plans for an expedition to the South Pacific and the islands of New Guinea.

A good friend of mine who is also interested in strange legends agreed to finance the expedition with funds he had made raising unicorns (really!!) and leasing them to Ringling Brothers Circus for several years. Yes, he really had discovered one of the threads behind the centuries-old stories about unicorns and was able to recreate them as happy, intelligent animals. The circus became interested and agreed to craft an act featuring them that lasted for several years. It seemed natural to use that to leverage an effort to discover the truth behind stories of mermaids.

We hired a 65-foot boat with diving station and brought along a film crew and travelled to Papua New Guinea and from there to a remote island called New Ireland.

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On the way, we visited the Trobriand Islands where Margaret Meade had done her research in the 1920s. We got to see a number of native ceremonies and talk to them about their stories about the merfolk. They all seemed very certain that these creatures existed.

When we got to New Ireland, we met the natives who told us the stories and even pointed to a tail coming out of the water and shouted "Ilkai! Ilkai!" We naturally went into the water with scuba gear and cameras and found that what they were claiming were mermaids were actually dugongs, which are related to the manatee. The stories of just how these legends came about would make an anthropology dissertation too long to tell here but were almost as fascinating as if there had really been mermaids. Basically, the legend arose from ancient cannibalistic rituals where a human sacrifice was devoured, but that practice had been forbidden by the Australians. So the natives substituted a dugong and convince themselves that they were sacrificing one of the people who lived under the sea. Later, when the Japanese occupied the island during World War II, some Japanese soldiers wound up being sacrificed. But when Australia took over after the war, they completely outlawed the ritual. However, the legends of the merfolk remained and remain to this day. We took underwater footage of dugongs and are satisfied that we solved the mystery.

A couple of years after that I also made a trek up the slopes of Mount Everest (not to the top) in Nepal and heard plenty of yarns about the Yeti, but never saw one or its tracks. I had been taking lessons in the Tibetan language and was able to communicate some with the local Sherpas and learn about some of their legends and philosophy, which is also heavily Buddhist.

So now I continue to live in the beautiful Santa Cruz Mountains of coastal California with my wife, our dog, two cats and some very fine neighbors who are also part of this cooperative that we have named Eclectia. We now concentrate on natural foods that we grow here, as well as sausages and cheeses that we make at home and, of course, I am also a home beer brewer—at least that part of German influence had stuck with me. So a good wish to all former classmates whom I have not seen for some 50 years. I hope to attend the reunion but will definitely follow all the news that comes my way. 📧

### **Holy Humor**

While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign... "Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust."

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk. "Only the Ten Commandments." answered the lady.

There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."

A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, "Boys and girls, what do we know about God?" A hand shot up in the air. "He is an artist!" said the kindergarten boy. "Really? How do you know?" the teacher asked. "You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven.."



***Remembrances and sympathy of our classmates and family:***

To the family of our Classmate Robert "Bob" Broadwater, who passed on October 16th in Texarkana, TX, we extend our sympathy to Bob's family and friends.

<http://texasobits.tributes.com/obituary/show/Robert-D.-Broadwater-101791671>

Also to the family of our classmate Marlin Allen, who passed on October 10th and his wife Joyce who passed on September 3rd. Our condolences and prayers go out to their family.

[http://www.masonwoodard.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o\\_id=2741457&fh\\_id=10713](http://www.masonwoodard.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=2741457&fh_id=10713)

Our sympathy to classmate Connie Keeton Demery, in the loss of her husband Billy Mack Demery.

[http://www.clarkfuneralhomes.com/sitemaker/sites/clarkf0/obit.cgi?page=profile&section=tree&user\\_id=1423064](http://www.clarkfuneralhomes.com/sitemaker/sites/clarkf0/obit.cgi?page=profile&section=tree&user_id=1423064)

To our classmate Pat Aggus Noe, we extend sympathy for the loss of her husband Don Noe.

[http://www.meaningfulfunerals.net/home/index.cfm/obituaries/view/fh\\_id/11054/id/2749547](http://www.meaningfulfunerals.net/home/index.cfm/obituaries/view/fh_id/11054/id/2749547)

Condolences to our classmate Joyce Tillman Frye, in the loss of her brother in Bolivar, MO.

[http://bolivarmonews.com/obituaries/robert-paul-st-clair/article\\_9edf3fea-6124-11e4-9af5-4f08ca61d837.html?mode=story](http://bolivarmonews.com/obituaries/robert-paul-st-clair/article_9edf3fea-6124-11e4-9af5-4f08ca61d837.html?mode=story)

**"Anything you want to add to our class website?"**

Part of our website has been updated, not only the home page, but if you click on the classmates tab and then reunions and then 50th, you will see 70 + pictures that were taken at the event.

Check us out at: [www.joplinmo64.com](http://www.joplinmo64.com).

We really appreciate suggestions and even more, we really would like to have material that may be in your possession. What materials do we need, you may ask. Well, anything from old class pictures and that includes K through college or early adult life. Old or new vacation pictures that one may have taken to some interesting place or places with family, friends or classmates. Comments are always a welcome addition for the newsletter as well as for the websites comment section. How about your thoughts or feelings you had about the reunion?

The website should be a team effort, containing input, ideas & suggestions from all classmates. We value your input, so feel free to make suggestions or share tidbits of interest that we can place on our website and keep it fresh, enjoyable and most of all up to date.

***The editorial team for content consists of Jeanne Looper Smith, Phyllis Payne Sapp and Dave Knisley. Please feel free to comment & contribute to the newsletter at [joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com](mailto:joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com)***

We still have classmates that we've classified as missing. If you have any idea where these classmates are, feel free to share with us so we can update our class directory. Please help us locate the following 32 classmates:

**"Please check these names and help find our missing classmates"**

*Linda Baugh (Robards)*

*Patricia Kay Belk*

*Richard Burns*

*Ed Carey*

*Gary M Colvin*

*Larry Conboy (Phoenix, AZ area)*

*Johnie Coots (Seguin, TX area)*

*Rayma Coy*

*Merlene Garrison (Burris)*

*James "Jim" Hilton*

*Clair Howard*

*Robert "Bob" Jordan*

*James "Jim" Lamb*

*La Donna Miller*

*Merlin "Butch" Mitchell*

*Carol Munson (Wrench)*

*Emma Nunn*

*Mitchell "Pat" O'Brien*

*Judy Osborne (Gardner)*

*Richard Lee Pearson*

*Patty Riley (Brewer) (Joplin, MO)*

*Naomi June Shelton*

*Drucilla Short*

*Connie Smith*

*Robert James "Bob" Smith*

*Jack Sneed*

*William "Bill" Ray Stow*

*Shirley Teague*

*Mary Thornton (Reed)*

*Linda Vails*

*Thomas Warren (Chicago, IL area)*

*Paula Weinacht*

### **"If You Change Your Contact Information"**

Please help us out. Don't forget to include us on any changes in your contact information. If you should move or change telephone, snail mail address or email address please let us know. It's very easy and you may do so by clicking on the following link [joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com](mailto:joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com), and enter your information, then click on the "Send" tab, that's it folks.

### **Continuing to Follow the Chapman's**

**Taking that infamous 3 hour tour, not.**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cfR7qxtqCqY>. Mike & Twyla Chapman leased their home in Joplin, bought a boat and hit the waters around North America. They also have a blog set up and post their adventures on it almost daily.

<http://yw8t.blogspot.com/>

# 1958 COST OF LIVING

## LIVING

New House	\$11,975.00
Average Income	\$4,650.00 per year
New Car	\$2,155.00
Average Rent	\$95.00 per month
Tuition to Harvard University	\$1,000.00 per year
Movie Ticket	\$1.00 each
Gasoline	24¢ per gallon
United States Postage Stamp	4¢ each

## FOOD

Granulated Sugar	89¢ for 10 pounds
Vitamin D Milk	\$1.01 per gallon
Ground Coffee	93¢ per pound
Bacon	62¢ per pound
Eggs	28¢ per dozen
Fresh Ground Hamburger	57¢ per pound
Fresh Baked Bread	19¢ per loaf

***Things That Will Disappear In Our Lifetime***

This is USA oriented, but Canada & the rest will not be far behind. Whether these changes are good or bad depends in part on how we adapt to them. But, ready or not, here they come.

**1. The Post Office**

Get ready to imagine a world without the post office. They are so deeply in financial trouble that there is probably no way to sustain it long term. Email, Fed Ex, and UPS have just about wiped out the minimum revenue needed to keep the post office alive. Most of your mail every day is junk mail and bills.

**2. The Check**

Britain is already laying the groundwork to do away with check by 2018. It costs the financial system billions of dollars a year to process checks. Plastic cards and online transactions will lead to the eventual demise of the check. This plays right into the death of the post office. If you never paid your bills by mail and never received them by mail, the post office would absolutely go out of business.

**3. The Newspaper**

The younger generation simply doesn't read the newspaper. They certainly don't subscribe to a daily delivered print edition. That may go the way of the milkman and the laundry man. As for reading the paper online, get ready to pay for it. The rise in mobile Internet devices and e-readers has caused all the newspaper and magazine publishers to form an alliance. They have met with Apple, Amazon, and the major cell phone companies to develop a model for paid subscription services.

**4. The Book**

You say you will never give up the physical book that you hold in your hand and turn the literal pages I said the same thing about downloading music from iTunes. I wanted my hard copy CD. But I quickly changed my mind when I discovered that I could get albums for half the price without ever leaving home to get the latest music. The same thing will happen with books. You can browse a bookstore online and even read a preview chapter before you buy. And the price is less than half that of a real book. And think of the convenience! Once you start flicking your fingers on the screen instead of the book, you find that you are lost in the story, can't wait to see what happens next, and you forget that you're holding a gadget instead of a book.

**5. The Land Line Telephone**

Unless you have a large family and make a lot of local calls, you don't need it anymore. Most people keep it simply because they've always had it. But you are paying double charges for that extra service. All the cell phone companies will let you call customers using the same cell provider for no charge against your minutes.

**6. Music**

This is one of the saddest parts of the change story. The music industry is dying a slow death. Not just because of illegal downloading. It's the lack of innovative new music being given a

**(Continued on Next Page)**

chance to get to the people who would like to hear it. Greed, and corruption is the problem. The record labels and the radio conglomerates are simply self-destructing. Over 40% of the music purchased today is "catalogue items," meaning traditional music that the public is familiar with; Older established artists. This is also true on the live concert circuit. To explore this fascinating and disturbing topic further, check out the book, "Appetite for Self-Destruction" by Steve Knopper, and the video documentary, "Before the Music Dies."

### **7. Television Revenues**

To the networks are down dramatically. Not just because of the economy. People are watching TV and movies streamed from their computers. And they're playing games and doing lots of other things that take up the time that used to be spent watching TV. Prime time shows have degenerated down to lower than the lowest common denominator. Cable rates are skyrocketing and commercials run about every 4 minutes and 30 seconds. I say good riddance to most of it. It's time for the cable companies to be put out of our misery. Let the people choose what they want to watch online and through Netflix.

### **8. The "Things" That You Own**

Many of the very possessions that we used to own are still in our lives, but we may not actually own them in the future. They may simply reside in "the cloud." Today your computer has a hard drive and you store your pictures, music, movies, and documents. Your software is on a CD or DVD, and you can always re-install it if need be. But all of that is changing. Apple, Microsoft, and Google are all finishing up their latest "cloud services." That means that when you turn on a computer, the Internet will be built into the operating system. So, Windows, Google, and the Mac OS will be tied straight into the Internet. If you click an icon, it will open something in the Internet cloud. If you save something, it will be saved to the cloud. And you may pay a monthly subscription fee to the cloud provider. In this virtual world, you can access your music or your books, or your whatever from any laptop or handheld device. That's the good news. But, will you actually own any of this "stuff" or will it all be able to disappear at any moment in a big "Poof?" Will most of the things in our lives be disposable and whimsical? It makes you want to run to the closet and pull out that photo album, grab a book from the shelf, or open up a CD case and pull out the insert.

### **9. Joined Handwriting (Cursive Writing)**

Already gone in some schools who no longer teach "joined handwriting" because nearly everything is done now on computers or keyboards of some type (pun not intended)

### **10. Privacy**

If there ever was a concept that we can look back on nostalgically, it would be privacy. That's gone. It's been gone for a long time anyway. There are cameras on the street, in most of the buildings, and even built into your computer and cell phone. But you can be sure that 24/7, "They" know who you are and where you are, right down to the GPS coordinates, and the Google Street View. If you buy something, your habit is put into a zillion profiles, and your ads will change to reflect those habits. "They" will try to get you to buy something else. Again and again and again.

All we will have left that which can't be changed are our "Memories"

It was just a little over 4 months ago that we celebrated our 50th high school class reunion. I'm still reliving those moments as I know some of you are also. We get emails at our class email address, classmates talking about what a great time they had and even emails from those that couldn't make it and saying they wish they could've been there with us, especially after viewing the DVD of the event.

So where do we go from here? It's a simple wish, just stay in touch. Some of us have known each other since grade school and that's 60 plus years, and for us that connected in our sophomore year, try 53 plus years. With social media being as hot as all get out, it's a blessing to connect and keep in touch with classmates. For me, reconnecting with friends after 30, 40 or even 50 years was heartwarming. As some of you know, several classmates in Joplin are up for mini-reunions and even have a monthly gatherings with classmates. The first one was spearheaded sometime back by classmate Jeanne Lind McAferty, when she returned to Joplin, after living in the Kansas City area for several years. The group is attended by area classmates as well as some that may be visiting at the time. So if you plan on being in the area, let someone know and I'm sure a little get together can be arranged to reminisce with some of the gang.

With two of the newsletter editors living in Kansas City, Jeanne Looper Smith and myself, we've had some classmate gatherings in the past and are way overdue for another, hopefully before the holidays kick in and we will have another one. We have around 24 classmates that in or around the KC area and have even had some from Joplin drive up to be with us as we enjoy the camaraderie in being together and catching up on today's happenings. Some have even suggested that a class get together before the holiday could be beneficial for the Joplin gang and they could come up early and do some Christmas shopping or better yet, stay over and take the next day to shop.

As always, we love to have feedback at the class email so do us a favor, send a little something to [joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com](mailto:joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com) and let us see if it works.

Keep in mind that the DVD of the 50th reunion has been placed on YouTube and can be viewed by clicking on the link below.

**Dave Knisley**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qVrrCjy9GI>

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Attention    *Classmate Gathering from Carol Corbin Buck*    Announcement

Joplin High School '64 Classmates the first Tuesday of the November "Get Together" has been changed to Monday, November 3rd as our classmate Joyce Tillman Frey will be in Joplin. This Monday event as well as the 3rd Wednesday of the month event, on November 19th will be held at Granny Shaffer's on Range Line at 6 PM. We hope to see you there and to see you Tuesday the 3rd & Wednesday the 19th.

Granny Shaffer's has 3 meeting rooms, 2 small ones & a large one. I would like to have a count of who's coming. That includes K.C. classmates, and guests that plan to join us.

Please Contact:

Carol Corbin Buck @ 417-483-3285 or [csbuck64@aol.com](mailto:csbuck64@aol.com)

For all classmates growing up in Joplin, the icon for donuts is Dude and his lovely wife Carolyn Pendergraft. In an earlier issue of our class newsletter, Phyllis Payne Sapp interviewed Miss Carolyn and wrote a very nice article on the history the donut shop and took pictures. Phyllis took that article back to Dude's and gave it to them, which was framed and hung on the wall in the bakery shop.

I would always try to stop in and say hi to them on my trips down to Joplin. You see, Miss Carolyn would babysit my first two children in their growing up years and she would always ask me about them and how Shawn is doing in St. Louis and Sherry in San Antonio. Shawn & Sherry would always drop in to say hi when in Joplin and to make sure they got their fill of Dude's maple bars.

The following article and pictures were sent to us by classmate Sallie Schofield and we thank you so much Sallie.

One of the owners of a Joplin landmark has died. Carolyn Pendergraft, who owned Dude's Donuts with her husband, Dude, passed away Tuesday. Wednesday afternoon, people had left flowers at the door of Dude's Donuts....which pleased Dude and Carolyn's son, Jay Pendergraft...and showed him the value of social media.

"My family didn't tell hardly anybody. It got out, I guess, through Facebook and other media and propagated and propagated (ED: spread widely) and lots of people just started feeling, evidently, that they needed to do something."

Jay Pendergraft also told News Talk KZRG there's something interesting about the timing of his mother's death. "This week is the week they met 60 years ago. And the shop was started September, I think, 21st, 1954."

Dude's Donuts has been in business for 60 years, minus a few months after their shop was destroyed in the May 2011 tornado. A memorial service for Carolyn Pendergraft will be held Friday at 1pm at the Church of Christ at 26th and Connecticut in Joplin.



Cruising Main Street was part of the teenage culture in Joplin, Missouri. On the weekends in the early 1960s, cruising was our weekend ritual. You remember the drill—we'd pile in a car, put in a dollars worth of gas and spend every Friday and Saturday night driving up and down that long expanse of asphalt with occasional stops at the C&A, El Rancho or Keller's.

You can't cruise Main Street in Joplin now—I've seen the "no cruising" signs—and let's face it, even if we could, it doesn't have the same pull.

So, there's been some talk about having a different cruise experience some 50 years later.

Here's what's being kicked around and thrown out for your consideration. Since most of us will be 70 years old in 2016, there was talk at one of our post-reunion committee meetings about taking a cruise to celebrate that milestone.

At this point, we're just testing the waters (pun intended) to see if you'd be interested in going as a group to blow out 70 candles—cause it'll take a bunch of us to do that. It's way too early to make reservations and make hard plans but not too soon to see if there's genuine interest.

Classmate Stephanie White Everitt has done some preliminary research and here's what she's found:

January 17, 2016

Holland America's MS Nieuw Amsterdam departing Ft. Lauderdale, FL

7 day Eastern Caribbean Cruise with the following ports of call:

Grand Turk, San Juan/St. Thomas and Holland America's private island, Half-moon Cay

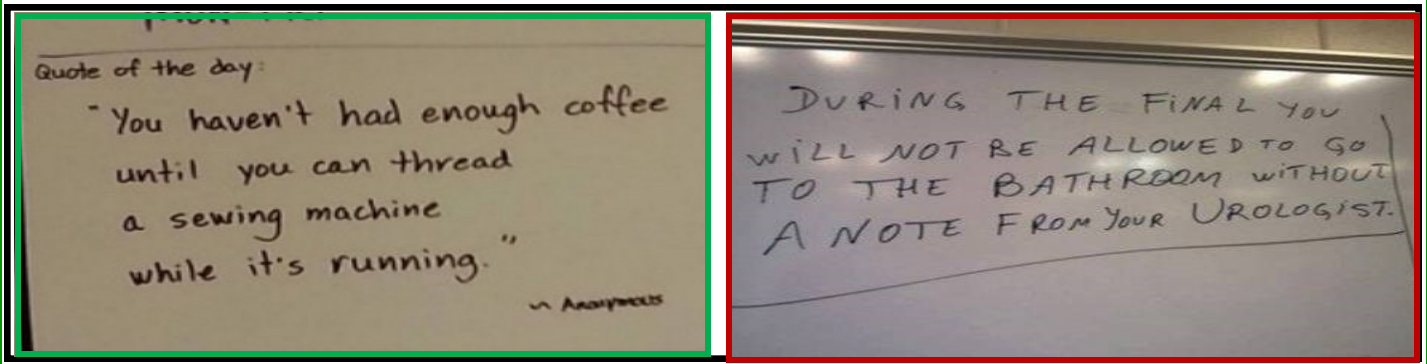
The price range for this cruise in Jan. 2015 is about \$699-\$1999 per person depending on accommodations. (This amount will probably not vary significantly for the 2016 sailing.) There is also about \$130 taxes, fees and port expenses (subject to change)

This trip will not be handled by anyone in the JHS class of 1964. We will each be responsible for booking the cruise with Holland America, arranging transportation to Ft. Lauderdale, etc.

Right now, Stephanie would like to know how many classmates have a serious interest in taking a cruise. Please contact Stephanie at [d56cic@joplin.com](mailto:d56cic@joplin.com) if you think you'd like to be part of the fun. If enough of us want to go, we may be able to negotiate a group rate.

There's lots of time to save for this floating 70th birthday party. We'll keep you posted in future newsletters.

**Jeanne Looper Smith**





*We thank these classmates,  
our bio contributors*

