

Joplin Eagles

Inside this Edition

Introduction	1
Thanks Jeanne Looper	2
Greg & Beverly Moore	6
Thanks Connie Cox	5
Tidbits	13
Mishmash Medley	14
Hodgepodge	15
Remembrances	16
It's a Wrap	19





"JHS Class of '64"

Issue 42

Class Newsletter March, 2023

Welcome to 2023 and waiting for spring

"Hello JHS Class of '64 Classmates & Friends!

Being a planner and hoping all i's are dotted and the t's crossed your class reunion committee are tops about planning ahead for the class reunions. The 50th was a good example of that as we started planning our special reunion 4 years out. Two and a half years out we had already placed a deposit to the Holiday Inn and then we really got the wheels turning and had one fantastic reunion that was received with much fanfare afterward. Sadly, Joplin is very limited in facilities that one can party, eat, have a banquet and a place to sleep and still keep it at a price that is more than reasonable so all may attend.

We announced in the last newsletter that the next reunion will be held in 2025 on the 6th, 7th & 8th. That's 2 years & 4 months and it will fly by at a Mach-3 and be upon us sooner than we expect.

Where will we hold this gem you are asking, well, that's where the infamous TBD comes in. Our powers of positive thinking are hoping that a larger hotel that will offer what we want at the price we may afford to pay comes to Joplin.

We've checked out Downstream, and the Quapaw Nation as well as Buffalo Run, of the Peoria Tribe and neither come close to the cost that we've had which is \$25 a person for the 3-day event.

In all probability we'll be back at the Holiday Inn and after all they have been great to work with and the food has been a delight. And the price is unmatched.

So mark your 2025 calendar for June 6th, 7th & 8th and plan on having a very nice time.

The following is an essay that Jeanne Looper Smith wrote about a reality that we all are experiencing as we age—and one we are confronting more and more in the losses of our JHS Class of '64 classmates.

I like arrivals better than departures.

Arrivals are often full of anticipation: Waiting excitedly and sleeplessly for Santa as a child; walking down the aisle to dive into new, uncharted waters of love and connection; welcoming a precious baby who has been a constant companion inside my body; waiting at an airport to greet loved ones; heading out for a trip that opens up a beautiful new experience; now waiting for grown-up children to arrive with their own children and to, once again, have young ones light up a room.

Departures are often tinged with the heavy energy of endings. Bittersweet realizations that nothing, no matter how sweet or how longed for, is permanent.

Death is the mother of endings—the end of an earthly experience of love and connection in its most tangible form. The ultimate departure.

There are times I've railed against death when it came too close. I found myself saying "Whose idea was this?" Death seemed cruel and random. When I was given a cancer diagnosis more than a dozen years ago, I faced it head-on. I managed to make some peace with my mortality then. And, the wellness journey I began seemed to keep death from creeping too close.

But today, as I mark off each day on the calendar—with its joys and challenges—the specter of its reality is ever more present.

Math was not my strong suit in school but I'm in my 76th year and I can manage to do a simple equation. I've spent more time on the planet than I have left. It's a sobering reminder that my life will, as will yours, at some point, cease to exist.

We're not a culture that has wanted to reckon with death and departure. We honor and celebrate youth. Our denial of death has somehow fostered the feeling that death will happen for others, but we may, somehow, get a pass.

(Continued on the Next Page)

The awareness of our mortality has been the catalyst for the extremely satisfying work I am doing in the last act of my life on the planet by facilitating "Death Over Dessert"—a very real conversation about death and dying that almost no one is having. And, when we come to terms with our mortality, it informs have we chose to *live!*

This isn't a discussion about doctrine or theology, about where we go when we die or what that might look like. It's about creating as a culture, a space for authentic, vulnerable, gut-level conversation about the fact that we do die and how we feel about that.

It's a rich exchange around a table, while sharing dessert, about how to prepare for its reality, to make sure we have medical directives and financial plans in place. It's about communicating what we want at the end of life and having our wishes honored.

Arrivals and departures are two sides of the same coin. So let's live full-out and celebrate the joyous arrivals that make life so rich and, when we lose someone who has been important in our lives, acknowledging that it's devastating, whether it's a parent, a partner or a spouse, a child or a friend from high school.

And, to be gentle with ourselves as it's a reminder of our own mortality.

To be able to acknowledge these primordial feelings of grief and sadness and to share them without hearing the platitudes that often go along with the most profound losses and departures in our lives is truly spiritual growth.

We don't need to talk ourselves out of our grief. Death hurts when we lose those we love—and it's okay to say it—and more importantly, to feel it.

Jeanne Looper Smith

We very much appreciate those that contribute to our newsletter

Ten Things That Will Disappear in Our Lifetime:

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 Cheque

Britain is already laying the groundwork to do away with in 2023. 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 cheque. 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 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.

Continued on the Next Page

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

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".

Logic is dead.

Excellence is punished.

Mediocrity is rewarded.

And dependency is to be revered.

Our classmates Greg Moore and Beverly Horton Moore are moving to Wichita Falls, TX as they will be leaving Holiday Island, AR and the many friends and classmate like Jill Longenecker Sawyer and hubby Jim. Greg was named Elk of the Year by the Holiday Island Elks Club and the picture shows them at the awards gathering.

Here is Beverly's post on her Facebook timeline:

I just want to say goodbye to all of the wonderful friends we have here! We have never loved living anywhere as much as we have loved living here! It is going to be so hard to leave! I am crying as I write this! I have a huge lump in my throat!

I hope some of you will come and see us! Maybe we will make it back here sometime soon! Since neither Greg nor I can drive now, not very sure we will!

We are very blessed to have lived here! We owe a great big thanks to Jim and Jill Sawyer for telling us about this place, we had never heard of it! We came to visit them, fell in love with it, bought our home and never looked back!

We found the best Church we had ever known, joined and immediately loved the minister and his wife!





The best murder weapon would be a tupperware lid because no one would ever find it.



COFFEE AND JELLY BEANS

One big difference between men and women is that if a woman says "Smell this", it usually smells nice.

STARTING YOUR

DAY WITH AN

EARLY MORNING

RUN IS A GREAT

WAY TO MAKE SURE

YOUR DAY CAN'T

GET ANY WORSE

THAN IT STARTED

Every time we try to eat healthy, along comes Christmas, Easter, summer, Friday or Tuesday and ruins it for us.

REMODELahelu

- 1. The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have begun asking humans to prove they aren't a robot.
- 2. When a kid says "Daddy, I want Mommy", that's the kid version of "I'd like to speak to vour supervisor."
- 3. I don't mean to interrupt people but I just randomly remember things and get really excited.
- 4. I thought growing old would take longer.
- 5. It's weird being the same age as old people.
- 6. I'm at that delusional age where I think everyone my age looks way older than I do.
- 7. Just once I want a username and password prompt to say CLOSE ENOUGH.
- 8. If I am ever on life support, please unplug me and plug me back in and see if that works.
- 9. Do you ever wake up in the morning and look in the mirror and think... "That can't be accurate.?!
- 10. I see people out there zip lining and mountain climbing, and here I am feeling good about myself because I got my leg through my underwear without losing my balance.
- 11. Last night the internet stopped working, so I spent a few hours with my family. They seem like good people.
- 12. If Adam and Eve were Cajuns, they would have eaten the snake instead of the apple and saved us all a lot of trouble...
- 13. We celebrated last night with a couple of adult beverages, Metamucil and Ensure.
- 14. You know you are getting old when friends with benefits means having someone who can drive at night.
- 15. Weight loss goal: To be able to clip my toenails and breathe at the same time.
- 16. After watching how some people wear their masks, I understand why contraception fails.
- 17. Some of my friends exercise every day; meanwhile, I am watching a show I don't like because the remote control fell on the floor.
- 18. For those of you that don't want Alexa listening in on your conversation, they are making a male version; it doesn't listen to anything.
- 19. I just got a present labeled, "From Mom and Dad", and you know damn well Dad has no idea what's inside".
- 20. Now that I have lived through a plague, I totally understand why Italian Renaissance paintings are full of fat people lying on couches.
- 21. Now that we have everyone washing their hands correctly...next week.....Turn Signals.

A "lexophile" is one who has a love for words, such as "You can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish", and "To write with a broken pencil is pointless".

An annual competition is held by the New York Times to see who can create the best. And the winners are:

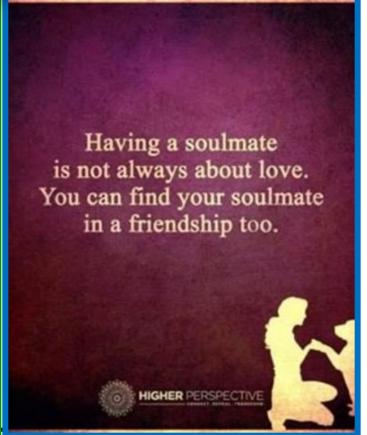
- -I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.
- -England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.
- -Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
- -This girl today said she recognized me from the Vegetarians Club, but I'd swear I've never met herbivore.
- -I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.
- -I got some batteries that were given out free of charge.
- -A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
- -A will is a dead giveaway.
- -Police were summoned to a daycare center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.
- -Did you hear about the fellow whose entire left side was cut off? He's all right now.
- -A bicycle can't stand alone; it's just two tired.
- -A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
- -The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered.
- -He had a photographic memory, but it was never fully developed.
- -When she saw her first strands of gray hair, she thought she'd dye.
- -Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.
- -I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
- -Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?
- -When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.
- -I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- -I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.
- -Aspire to inspire before you expire





You may not feel strong but in someone's eyes you are their comfort and strength.





One day I actually will be 90, but alas, I'm just 66. of the Cleveland Plain Dealer

"To celebrate growing older, I once wrote the 45 lessons life taught me. It is the most-requested column I've ever written. My odometer rolled over to 66 last August, so here is the column once more:

- 1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
- 2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
- 3. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.
- 4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and parents will. Stay in touch.
- 5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
- 6. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
- 7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
- 8. It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.
- 9. Save for retirement starting with your first paycheck.
- 10. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
- 11. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
- 12. It's OK to let your children see you cry.
- 13. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
- 14. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
- 15. Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks.
- 16. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
- 17. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
- 18. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
- 19. It's never too late to have a happy childhood. But the second one is up to you and no one else.
- 20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
- 21. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
- 22. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
- 23. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
- 24. The most important sex organ is the brain.

"Continued on the next page"

"Written by Regina Brett, 90 years old"

"JHS Class of '64"

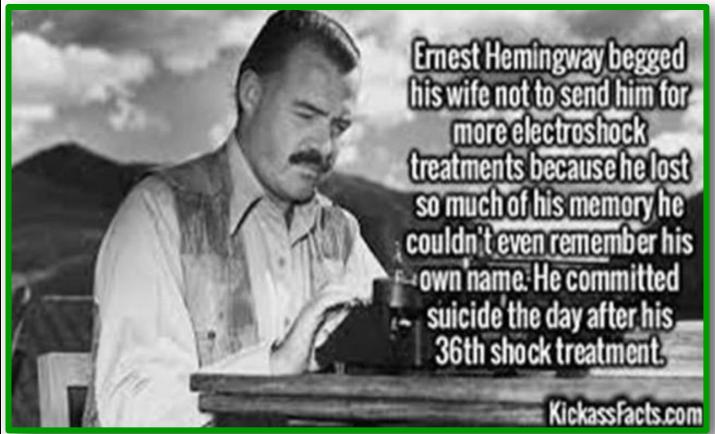
- 25. No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
- 26. Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five years, will this matter?'
- 27. Always choose life.
- 28. Forgive everyone everything.
- 29. What other people think of you is none of your business.
- 30. Time heals almost everything. Give time.. time.
- 31. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
- 32. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
- 33. Believe in miracles.
- 34. God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.
- 35. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
- 36. Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.
- 37. Your children get only one childhood.
- 38. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
- 39. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.
- 40. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
- 41. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
- 42. The best is yet to come...
- 43. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
- 44. Yield.
- 45. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift."

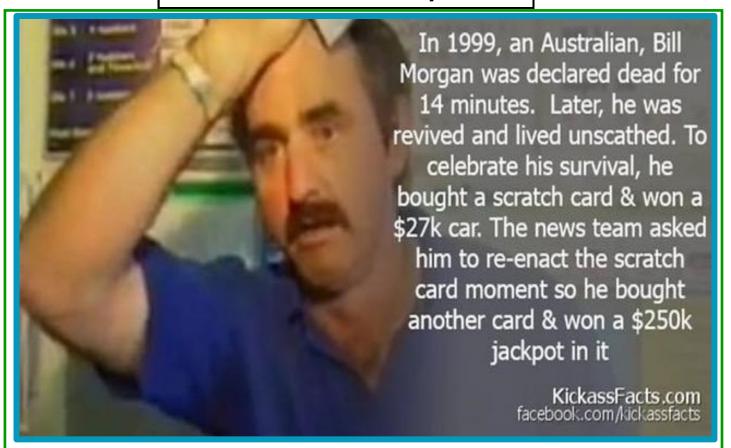


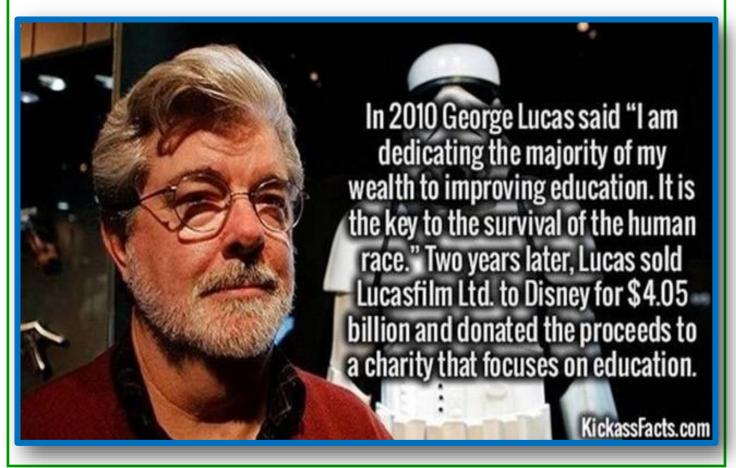


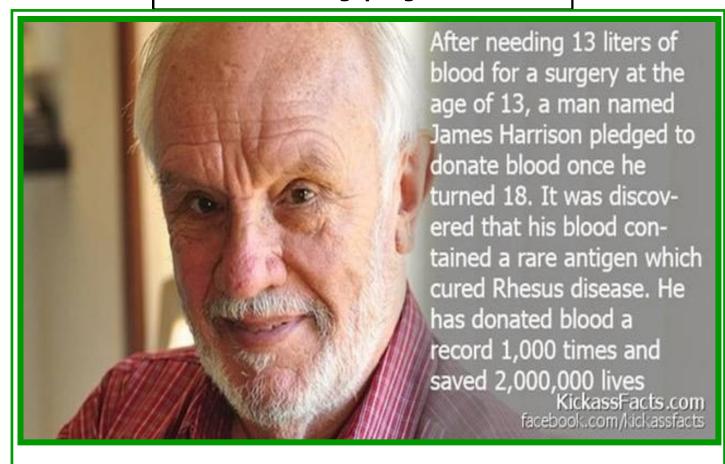
Fact Check says: CORRECTLY ATTRIBUTED

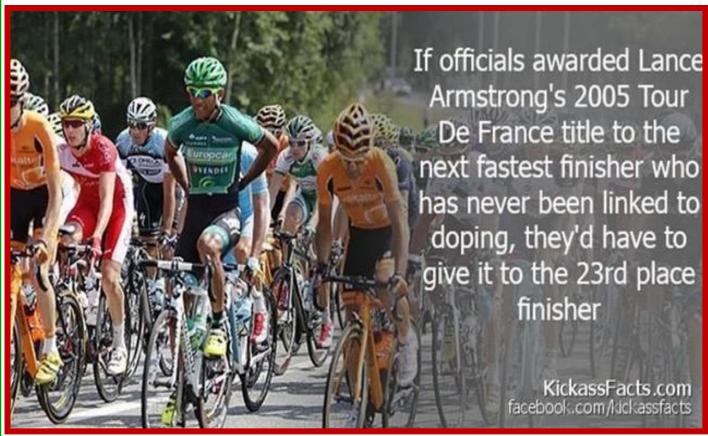












Remembrances and Sympathy to our Classmates and Family:

Prayers are extended to the family on the passing of our classmate Joe Hughlett https://www.vermeulenfh.com/obituaries/Joseph-Hughlett/#!/TributeWall

We extend sympathy to the family of our classmate Anita Van Pelt Henson's passing.

https://www.parkermortuary.com/obituary/anita-henson

Compassion and prayers to the family of our classmate Harold Lingo's passing. https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/23433809/harold-raymond-lingo

May the family and friends find comfort to ease the passing of our classmate Forrest "Gene" Pearish

https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/27250864/forrest-pearish

Sympathy to the family of our classmate Gordon "Mickey" "Griz" Moore's passing. https://obituaries.joplinglobe.com/obituary/gordon-moore-1087065960

Craig Harris No Obit

Francine Cambron Moldt No Obit

Life's short. Make sure you spend as much time as possible on the Internet arguing with strangers about politics.

"Help Us Find Our Missing Classmates"

We still have 15 classmates unaccounted for. If you have any idea where these classmates could be, feel free to share with us so we can update our class directory. The blue font is where they were living when we lost contact with them.

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

Gary M Colvin

Rayma Jean Coy (Tulsa, OK area)

James "Jim" Hilton

Clair Howard

La Donna Miller

Carol Munson (Wrench) (Bell, MO)

Emma Nunn

Judy Osborne (Gardner) (Joplin)

Richard Lee Pearson

Patty Riley (Brewer) (Joplin)

Naomi June Shelton (Possibly De-

ceased but cannot verify)

Drucilla Short

Robert Joe "Bob" Smith

Jack Sneed

William "Bill" Ray Stow

"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.com, and enter your information, then click "Send".

The older I get the tighter companies are putting the lids on jars



Bio Contributors to our Bio Wall of Fame

"JHS Class of '64"



There is plenty of room to add folks to the bio section, how about joining in?

Issue 42

"It's A Wrap"

I've pretty much said all I can think of to say for this edition of the newsletter. Just want to say that contributions are very much appreciated and would be a blessing if you were to offer a few. Even though I was hired by Yellow Freight System in 1970, I went to work for them in January of '71 and was there through June of 2008 spending 38 years with them. I left Joplin 52 years ago and still consider my youth there and the times and friends that I had. Many are a part of my life, although some are just a thought as they have gone on ahead of us. I'm sure others in the same boat also enjoy hearing about the old home town.

We thank you Connie Culton Cox for the J-town update on the new dental school and the medical school that is already in place, what a nice edition to the home place. I would insert the link but that was a Joplin Globe article and one would have to pay to read the article, BUMMER.

Also, thank you for the clip on the population growth taking place. Joplin was 40,000 people for many years, now check it out.

https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/joplin-mo-population#

I don't like dwelling on those that have left us, but it's a fact, it happens, we have lost 11 classmates since the last reunion. Two classmates we have just found that had passed before the last reunion so that makes 13 we have added to the passing list of 156 classmates who have passed and we still have 15 on the missing list.

On another note, it's very important to keep your contact info up to snuff. We had several and in this case several is 3 that get the newsletter and when their email kicks back as doesn't exist I do not go hunting down like I used to, as the ball is in your court to let us know. Usually it's because they had a work email and then retired or moved on and some just change emails, but their old wasn't canceled, guess what? It's still a good email and is just adding to your old email inbox. So, if you care to still receive class info, please let me know, if you do not care to hear about the class, please let me know that too as I do not need the practice at sending out 200 plus emails for the class newsletter. We do have some classmates that have said they are not interested and we just add a DNC (Do Not Contact) next the their name in the class directory and their email is deleted.

So, remember, input is welcome and thank you for those that respond to the newsletter, your kudos are all that is expected as there is no salary doing this every 4 months.

Take care, stay safe and we'll see you on June 6th, 7th & 8th of 2025, if not before.

Dave Knisley