



**Joplin Eagles**

# "JHS Class of '64"

**Issue 44**

**Class Newsletter March 2024**

## **Welcome to The Home of the KC Chiefs**

### **"Hello JHS Class of '64 Classmates & Friends!"**

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A great Football fall as we wrapped up 2023 now we are in 2024. I started thinking back to the senior year and the starting of college and came to the realization that we most likely never gave 2024 a thought and what we would be doing then.

We or at least most of us never gave 60 years a nanosecond thought what we would be doing or what the world would be like if one was thinking about the future.

Hopefully, most enjoyed living in the now regardless of the strife and I hope that is still on our itinerary, living in the now and not dwelling on the past but just accepting the now from day to day hoping for health and happiness.

I get up every morning and thank the lord for giving me one more day. I'm not a super religious man and have respect for those that are and are being guiding by the lord. I have had moments that I have turned to him and it can be refreshing. I have been very fortunate in my life and do volunteer work with non-profit organizations at times and try treating my fellow man with kindness and respect as that was how I was raised. I try leading my life so I may be judged worthy of my next life.

I say all this to let you know I'm having second thoughts about doing the newsletter every four months. When we started 44 issues ago, we were doing a newsletter every quarter, that's 4 a year. We had some articles coming in from classmates and bios were many and we were doing 2 bios at a time. We had three classmates involved and as life does, it carries on in a different path and now it's just me to see that it happens. This issue is two months behind.



I bow from the waist for being tardy. I could say I had tons going on and this happened or that happened and I did, but the fact is I am late in getting this out.

You see, I'm the messenger I ride a big horse and carry a big gun but I very seldom have any bullets for my gun. In plain English, that articles, information, pictures, stories and things you may feel are superfluous, but in reality, there are classmates out there that would love to hear and read something that you may think is trivial.

Several of us and I'm one is very fortunate for what health I have and thank God daily for that. In my younger days when I was bullet proof my body was never thought of as a temple. In 2021, when I developed tendinitis and it ate my left Achilles and I ended up severing what they call a mop tear, that's where the edges are like a stringy wet mop and they cut behind that and stretch it like a rubber band and sew it together. I couldn't walk for six weeks, I crawled a lot, then I followed that up with my left knee giving way and went down and broke my left hip. I thought man, I didn't hit that carpet floor that hard as I've had worse before, it was then that the nurse said, "You're not 25 anymore either." I was fortunate, I bounced back and lost 60 pounds and took somewhat control of my health. I know we have several classmates that have done what I did and overcame obstacle's spending 4 days in ICU loaded with blood clots but doing well today and thank God for that.

I believe it's those folks that are rebuilding their health that enjoy the class newsletter and I do have classmates that routinely tell me how much they enjoy hearing about the other classmates and what is going on in the hometown. It's those folks that trigger my desire to keep the newsletter alive.

Some have told me they would do a bio and I'm still waiting. I have had requests about redoing a former submitted bio. John Keeling sent me an email saying most of the bios we have were from people still working and had a busy life, what about doing a bio saying what you are doing now or what are you involved with or maybe an article on after you retired you moved to a warmer climate or maybe to a ski resort as one of my friends just did. Go figure that one out. Bring on the snow.

Now we have our 61st class reunion just around the corner, June 6th thru the 8th of 2025. We hope to have our first committee meeting in a few weeks to get everything lined out and place deposits down so we can keep the price as low as we possibly can. When the committee that was in charge of planning the 50th started that baby over three years out and the folks at the Holiday Inn looked at us like we had two heads. But what a fantastic event that was and the 55th was also, as was the 58th. All have received kudos from those attending. Our goal has been from day one to keep the cost down so anyone is able to attend, and if for some reason that is a problem, you contact me and I will get with Stephanie White Everitt our class treasurer and notify the committee and that will be all that will know as we would love to make sure you join us and never let the cost to attend be a drawback, we would honestly love to see all attend. Well, I guess I best see if I can come up with making this newsletter a worthwhile read without turning to fake news about our one classmate that hit the Powerball Jackpot last month.

Well, we're 15 months away from our 61st class reunion. We are proud of where we are and what we've accomplished as a class. Looking back before the 50th Reunion rolled in on us and the committee members came to me and asked if I would help in planning for the 50th. I was involved in the 45th getting the class directory printed. I felt we needed to start the planning early because we knew it was going to be an event to remember.

So, classmates Jeanne Looper Smith, Phyllis Payne Sapp and class Treasurer Stephanie White Everitt asked if I could help handle the planning. We were about 4 years out and the planning started. We met with the Holiday Inn folks and blindly booked a block of rooms, picked out what type of banquet we were wanting, not the selections but the type and got the nightly cost for the rooms and the per person cost for the buffet. When asked when we were having this and we said June of 2015 and the look on their faces was indescribable. Here it was 2011 and we asked what our deposit was to guarantee the person cost for the banquet and the nightly room cost for the rooms we had blocked and they told us \$250. Steph told me we didn't have that much in the class bank account, so I just put it on my card and the price was locked in.

We then planned on ways to add money to the class account as our goal was to make sure every classmate that wanted to be a part of the 50th, got to be. We had people donate items that we sold via raffle tickets, we did a couple of car shows and with the blessings of classmates that donated money we did what we planned and had a Meet & Greet with hors d'oeuvres and a Saturday night banquet for \$25 a person. Then we added, thanks to classmate Larry Don Williams and Ole Friends we wrapped up the night with live music and became the envy of other JHS classes all for \$25. The committee then consisted of Connie Culton Cox, Jeanne Looper Smith, Jim Christiansen, Phyllis Payne Sapp, Sharon Peters Arnold, Carol Corbin Buck, Stephanie White Everitt, Jeanne Lind Roach, Ross Smith and myself. The results were kudos galore and a video of the event is on the class website to give proof.

As life has a tendency to do, things change. Phyllis does a lot of volunteering at Mercy Hospital and had a neighbor that was failing and Phyllis was on that in a heartbeat helping her. Then Jeanne & Ross moved to Florida. Jeanne Lind married and moved to Grove OK and that put us down to six members which isn't good when something comes to a vote. We asked Mike Shipley to join, he did, so that puts us at 7, good for voting. Mike drives up from Arkansas and I drive from Kansas City.

We will be having a class committee meeting coming soon and since we are old hands, we do not need 3 years out to plan. We'd love to see you then, don't miss it.

Here is what we know at the moment. Mark your calendars for June 6th, 7th & 8th of next year. In all probability it will be held at the Holiday Inn again and for several reasons. It's fairly new, compared to others and the rooms are very nice, the food we've had has been very good and the cost for room and meals cannot be beat. We did our due diligence checking out other places and none can come close to the cost at the Holiday Inn and cost is our priority. Those travelers love the fact of eating, sleeping and enjoying what's happening all in one place. After 30 years of traveling, I can appreciate that also.

I would imagine some of the past events will remain. The Friday event will be the Meet & Greet from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Those that want to reunite with friends over dinner may do so that evening.

As of now we will plan on a Saturday morning golf outing and please let us know early so we won't drop the ball in registering and making sure that whatever course is ready for us will be. I'm thinking Jim Christiansen will still head this up but will finalize that at our first-class reunion meeting.

Saturday night from 6:00 until 10:00 will be the 3-Meat banquet and a limbo contest. For those that travel in on Thursday we will try to see what's cooking in J-Town on Thursday and Friday before our Meet & Greet and you may want to add whatever that is on your To-Do List. The same holds true for Saturday before the 6:00 O'clock banquet.

I guess now is the time to relay what the committee has decided on. You will have plenty of heads up to when this all will take place and that is 15 months away on June 6th thru the 8th. For those that just show up and have not registered and paid ahead of time, shame on you. You see, we have to pay Holiday Inn in full two weeks prior to the event and they prepare the meal for that number of people we have registered and paid. In other words, May 27th will be the cut off for registration and that's the day after Memorial Day.

I'm sure we will be discussing and planning on ways to add to our funds to keep the many offerings alive that we have now. At one time when I first came on board, we had \$120 in the class account and that was it. We never sent flowers to classmates when that's called for, we never presented a scholarship to our alma mater to present to the person who earned it. We didn't have a website or a class email and those aren't free. We do and have all that now thanks to the classmates that volunteer and donate. That's why we plan ways to raise money. That's also why we ask for donations \$5 to \$?? that may be mailed to Stephanie Everitt, 2821 Wisconsin, Joplin, MO 64804. Any amount is very much appreciated. We praise those that do.

**MY KIDS LAUGH**  
\*You Rock\*  
**BECAUSE THEY**  
**THINK I'M CRAZY.**

**I LAUGH BECAUSE**  
**THEY DON'T KNOW**  
**IT'S HEREDITARY.**

**LET'S HAVE A MOMENT  
OF SILENCE FOR ALL  
THOSE WHO ARE STUCK IN  
TRAFFIC ON THEIR WAY TO  
THE GYM TO RIDE  
STATIONARY BICYCLES.**

**I'm fat but I identify  
as skinny**



**I'm trans-slender**

**MY WIFE MADE ME  
COFFEE THIS MORNING AND  
WINKED AT ME WHEN SHE  
HANDED ME THE CUP.**

**I'VE NEVER BEEN MORE  
SCARED OF A DRINK IN ALL  
OF MY LIFE.**

**I'm best man at my  
buddy's second ~You Rock~  
wedding... Is it  
appropriate to open my  
dinner speech with  
"Welcome back  
everyone"**

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 Deceased 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@joplinmo64.com](mailto:joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com), and enter your information, then click "Send".

### **PROOF THAT MEN HAVE BETTER FRIENDS**

#### **FRIENDSHIP AMONG WOMEN:**

A woman didn't come home one night. The next morning, she told her husband that she had slept over at a friend's house. The man called his wife's 10 best friends. None of them knew anything about it.

#### **FRIENDSHIP AMONG MEN:**

A man didn't come home one night. The next morning, he told his wife that he had slept over at a friend's house. The woman called her husband's 10 best friends. Eight confirmed that he had slept over, and two said he was still there.



**Remembrances and Sympathy to our Classmates and Family:**

Our sympathy is extended to the family of our classmate Walt "Mouse" Meador for his passing.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/walter-meador-obituary?id=53280792>

Condolences go out to the family of our classmate Gary Flenner for his passing.

<https://joplinozarkmemorialcrematory.com/tag/gary-flenner/>

We extend our condolences to the family of our classmate Harry Boyd for his passing.

<https://masonwoodard.com/book-of-memories/5377582/Boyd-Harry/index.php>

Prayers and sympathy are given to our classmate Chery Dines Burke for the passing of her mother.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/mercedsunstar/name/rayma-martin-obituary?id=53683748>

We send sympathy to our classmate Dick Smith for the passing of his father.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/richard-smith-obituary?id=54317303>

We extend our condolences to our classmate Carol Yeakey Walker for the passing of her mother.

<https://www.parkermortuary.com/obituaries/Doris-Jean-Yeakey?obId=30889505>

**Don't confuse my  
PERSONALITY  
with my ATTITUDE...**  
— My **PERSONALITY** is who I am. —  
My **ATTITUDE** depends on who you are!

Due to my time alone, I finished three books yesterday. And believe me, that's a lot of coloring.

What did our parents do to kill boredom before the internet? I asked my 26 brothers and sisters and they didn't know either.

I tried donating blood today...NEVER AGAIN! Too many stupid questions: Whose blood, is it? Where did you get it from? Why is it in a bucket.

There's nothing scarier than that split second when you lose your balance in the shower and you think, "They are going to find me naked."

Today, I melted an ice cube with my mind just by staring at it. It took a lot longer than I thought it would.

Struggling to get your wife's attention? Just sit down and look comfortable.

Just sold my homing pigeon on eBay for the 22nd time.

I grew up with Steve Jobs, Johnny Cash and Bob Hope. Now there's no jobs, no cash, and no hope. Please don't let anything happen to Kevin Bacon.

Shout-out to everyone who can still remember their childhood phone number but can't remember the password they created yesterday. You are my people. One minute you're young and fun. And next, you're turning down the stereo in your car to see better.

Think you're old and you will be old. Think you are young, and you will be delusional.

When I offer to wash your back in the shower, all you have to say is 'yes' or 'no'.

Not all this "Who are you and how did you get in here?" nonsense.

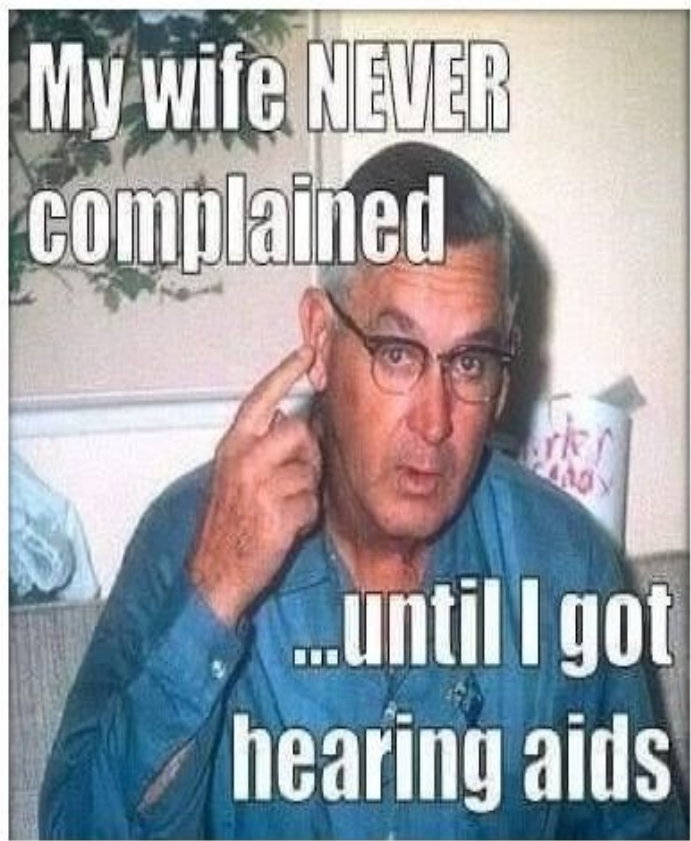
Not in jail, not in a mental hospital, not in a grave—I'd say I'm having a good day.

**SURVIVAL TIP:**

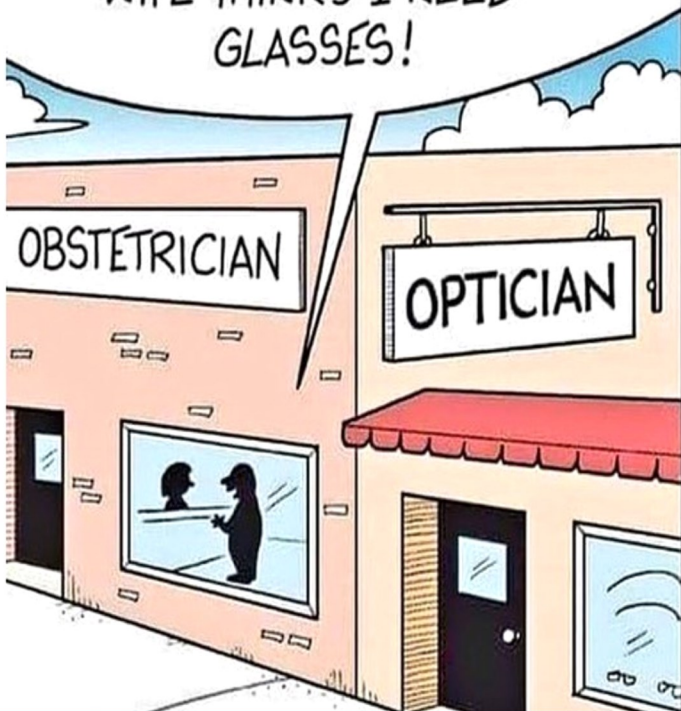
If you get lost  
in the woods  
start talking  
about politics  
and someone  
will show up  
to argue with  
you.



**My wife NEVER  
complained  
...until I got  
hearing aids**



I'M ONLY HERE BECAUSE MY  
WIFE THINKS I NEED  
GLASSES!



I was watching a show  
for about 10 minutes,  
and this lady was  
listing all of these great  
things to do for fun.  
Then I realized that it's  
one of the religious  
channels, and she was  
reading a list of sins.

**Me:** "I'm still tired from all the crossfit this morning."

**My co-worker:** "It's pronounced 'croissant' and you ate 4 of them."

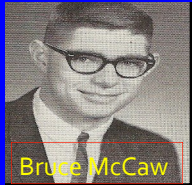
Just sitting here....eating popcorn....cell phone in hand with 9-1-....already punched in...



**My wife just stopped and said, "You weren't even listening, were you?"**

**I thought to myself...  
"That's a pretty strange way to start off a conversation."**

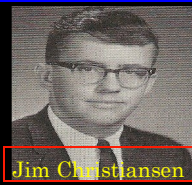
**Once you understand why the pizza is made round,  
Packed in a square box,  
And eaten as a triangle..  
Then you will understand women**



Bruce McCaw



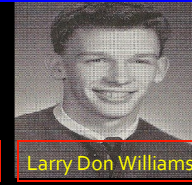
Mardell Thomas



Jim Christiansen



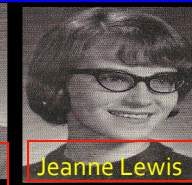
Sharon Peters



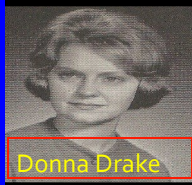
Larry Don Williams



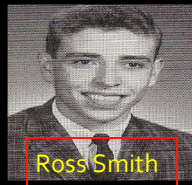
Stephanie White



Jeanne Lewis



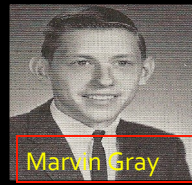
Donna Drake



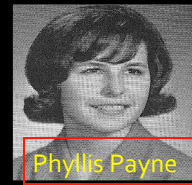
Ross Smith



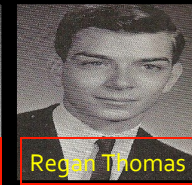
Janet Hale



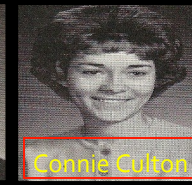
Marvin Gray



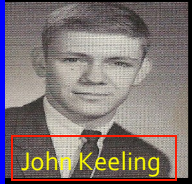
Phyllis Payne



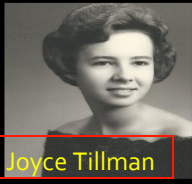
Regan Thomas



Connie Clifton



John Keeling



Joyce Tillman



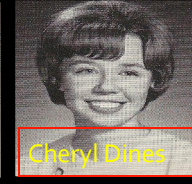
Mitch Sunnett



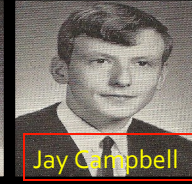
Sheryl Reese



Mike Mullenix



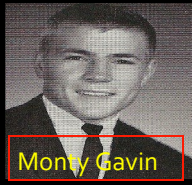
Cheryl Dines



Jay Campbell



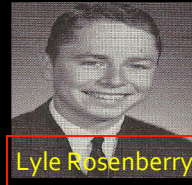
Jeanne Looper



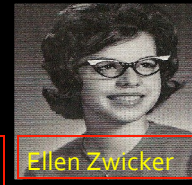
Monty Gavin



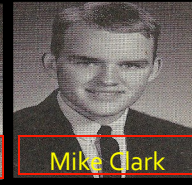
Carol Corbin



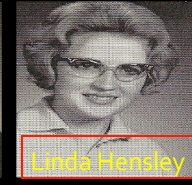
Lyle Rosenberry



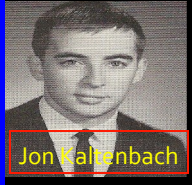
Ellen Zwicker



Mike Clark



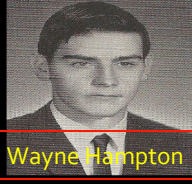
Linda Hendley



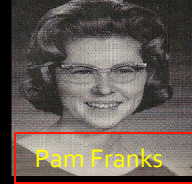
Jon Waltzbach



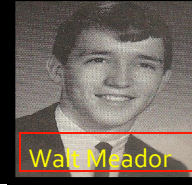
Jeanne Lind



Wayne Hampton



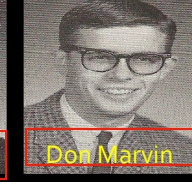
Pam Franks



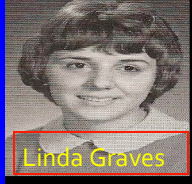
Walt Meador



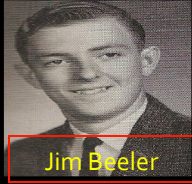
Karen Trenary



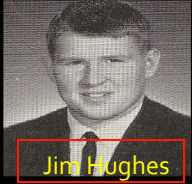
Don Marvin



Linda Graves



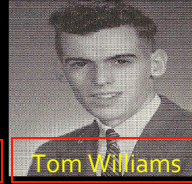
Jim Beeler



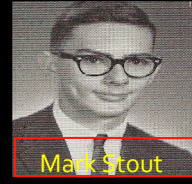
Jim Hughes



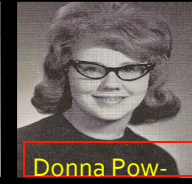
Sharon Harrison



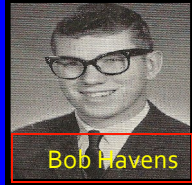
Tom Williams



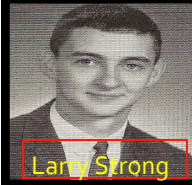
Mark Stout



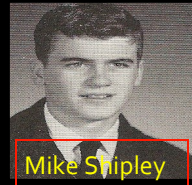
Donna Pow-



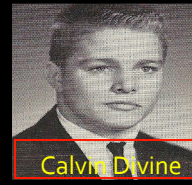
Bob Havens



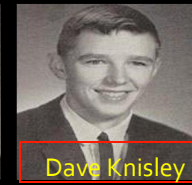
Larry Strong



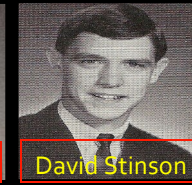
Mike Shipley



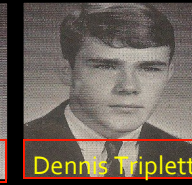
Calvin Divine



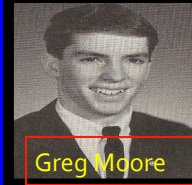
Dave Knisley



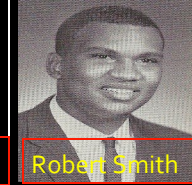
David Stinson



Dennis Triplett



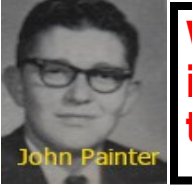
Greg Moore



Robert Smith



Billie Lenger



John Painter

**We are still patiently waiting for your bio to be added to the wall of fame.**

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

Putting a pen to this wrap is not coming easy. I look back at what has been posted and think that a flashback may hit the spot. There we're a few stories I was wanting to capitalize on about the old home town that my dear classmate Connie Culton Cox had taken pictures of from the wafer paper aka Joplin Globe and was looking forward to inserting those for the many that may want to see what's going on in the old hometown. Connie I'm sure took pics with her cell phone and sent, so when I transferred to Microsoft Publisher and cropped into a story box it would cut off parts of the picture. I was back doing some preplanning. I did appreciate her effort and time she spent giving me ammo for my gun here.

I mentioned in the opening about doing the newsletter every 4 months and needing some input for publication and that's a big must in my book. If I get enough, I will just put together a class newsletter regardless of every 4-month schedule.

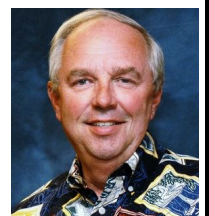
With the class reunion 15 months out it's a great time to put that on your calendar and not wait until the last minute and ask yourself, when is the class reunion going to be? The answer is June 6, 7 & 8 of 2025. So, jot that puppy down.

We are certainly open to suggestions about what might be interesting to bring to the attention of those coming in. Some will arrive Thursday, then free time for Friday will be before the Meet and Greet at 2:00 through 5:00 and free time after that. Then Saturday morning will be for the golfers to partake and that creates free time for the non-golfers. So, you locals feel free to offer suggestions and we will share that information before the event takes place.

The number one priority and I can't state this enough is pre-register and pay our class treasurer Stephanie White Everitt at 2821 Wisconsin, Joplin, MO 64804. I cannot express how important this is to not only us when it comes to picking out the food for the Meet & Great and the Banquet but also the place where we have the event and their ordering groceries to feed the amount of people we turn into them.

Yes, we are accepting donations of any amount and keep in mind that your donation is not just for the reunion. Our class has an email [joplinmo63@joplinmo64.com](mailto:joplinmo63@joplinmo64.com), and a class website that is loaded with all the past newsletter, the past pictures of reunions, videos of the 50th and 55th and many still shots of those events and we plan on doing it again, so stills will be in abundance on the website, All that needs financial support and the email and website are renewed yearly. You may visit the site it's just a click away <https://joplinmo64.com/>.

We are also accepting donations for the Brent Horton, Jon Rippee & Clark Henson scholarship fund where our class awards a scholarship to a JHS senior and is presented by a classmate veteran. That too may be sent to Stephanie. Well, that's it until the next one. Please take care.



**Dave Knisley**