



Donald Ball

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Georgetown, TX 78633-5307
512-868-1686
ball7325@msn.com

Graduated from Iowa State University in 1967 with Chemical Engineering degree.

Worked for Diamond Shamrock Corporation's agricultural chemicals division. I had various engineering and production positions and was Environmental and Quality Mgr when I retired.

I married in 1969 and have one daughter who lives in Austin Texas.

My first wife died of breast cancer in 1994.

I remarried in 2000

We currently live in Sun City, a retirement community in Georgetown, TX.

I play golf a couple of time per week. There are 3 courses in the community.



Evelyn Bush

631 West Clark Street
Davis City, IA 50065
lewisl@grm.net

Betty Capps

1011 Redfield Street
Redfield, IA 50233



Work:

Menard's as a stocker. Mostly all the goodies around the registers, candy etc. It's all good for you.

Family:

Curtis (son) and Val live in Springfield, Nebraska.

Kim (daughter) and children, Ashlin (22) and Ayrin (20) all live in Des Moines.

Kelly (daughter) and husband Dave Moffitt and daughter Tayler(4) live in Creston.

Jennifer (daughter) and husband Shawn from Adair and three sons Colby (13), Cale (8), and Cooper (3) live in West Des Moines.

Claudia Capps

P.O. Box 8126
Des Moines, IA 50301



I retired from the janitor job at the O-M school after 37 years and moved to Des Moines to work part-time jobs.

I now work full-time at Maurices D. C. in Johnston. We pack clothes to go to the Maurices stores. I run the box maker and put them on the trolley for the packers.

I love my job. The people are great. But . . . in two years we will be closing. All work goes to Ohio or Indiana, but I will be staying in Iowa. I may try for a CDL or maybe just retire.

My best friend, Jackson, a Rat Terrier, died last year, but I found a new best friend, Buddy, a Blue Heeler/Rat Terrier mix. He keeps me hopping!



Terry Chadwick

612 Grand Ave. Apt. L2
Creston , IA 50801



Milton Chapman

1727 Lark Ave.
Creston, IA 50801
641-344-5333
milton29@lyrixl2s.net

Have been married 26 years to Nancy Woods.

Have six children.

Have eight grandchildren.

Worked at Green Valley Chemical for over 40 years.

Nancy taught Elementary and Middle School for 20 years.

Both retired. full time job helping kids!

Live on 12 Mile Lake, across from the water plant.



Gary Crawford

9488 County Road 130
Carthage, MO 64836

Larry Dahl

2791 290th Street
Orient , IA 50858
641-337-5348
ledahl@windstream.net



Joined Air Force 1962.

Married Connie Young November 1962.

Stationed in Minnesota for 18 months. Left for the Philippines July 1964.

Son Daniel was born January 1965.

Got out of Air Force November 1965.

Daughter Kathryn born 1967

Worked for Schildberg Construction 45 years. Retired 2011.

Enjoying Retirement.

Traveled through 48 States with my wife.

John Davis

309 North Ave. P.O. Box 12
Springville, IA 52336-4709
319-854-6950



Dear Class of 1962

After high school, I graduated from Peru State College in Nebraska and went to graduate school at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

I taught Social Studies for 30 years at Springville High School, which is 15 miles northeast of Cedar Rapids in Linn County. I also coached Girl's Track for 25 years and was an assistant Softball coach in the 1980's. We had the opportunity to be at the State Softball Tournament at the same time as Orient-Macksburg twice.

This May, I retired as an instructor in Computer Science at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids after 15 years. Kirkwood is a community college with 18,000 students.

I am married to Treva Thrailkill originally from Dexter (Earlham High School) we have been married for 39 years. We do not have children, but enjoy traveling, sports and cultural events.

I am sorry I cannot attend the reunion but wish you all well.



Betty Draman

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Bend, OR 97701
541-318-8148
obetty27@aol.com

After graduation, I went to CA to live with my sister for the summer, and I found a job as a dental assistant and then decided to stay for a year of experience.

I met my future husband, Grover D. Omyer, who was stationed at Castle Air Force Base, married him in June of 1965 and remained in CA until 2005.

We moved to Bend, OR in 2005 where we currently reside.

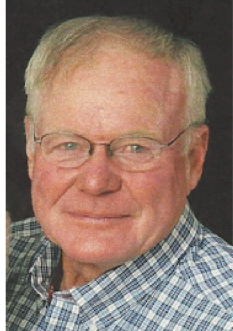
We have two wonderful children-our son Dwaine, married to Tina and father of our 3 fantastic grandchildren: Grant, Paige and Erin. They live in Washington state.

Our daughter Marsa, married to Chris Johnson lives in OR.

I taught regular education, special education and directed a Healthy Start Program at my school of employment before retiring in 2002.

My husband retired as Director of the Human Services Agency the same year as I and we decided to travel and see the United States. Our motor home stays on the highways for several months out of the year!

We enjoy retirement and keep busy with family, travel, biking, hiking, well, just about anything outdoors! Our goal is to stretch our wings and tour Europe next!



Marvin Eivens

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Winterset, IA 50273
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mleivins@rocketmail.com

My wife Lillian and I farm northwest of Macksburg. We have three children.

David is a carpenter. Sue is an agronomist and Jan is a registered nurse. We have 6 grandchildren ranging in ages from 2 - 12 years.

I served 6 years in the Iowa National Guard from 1965 to 1971.

I have been involved in church and other organizations.

We are square dancers and enjoy traveling.

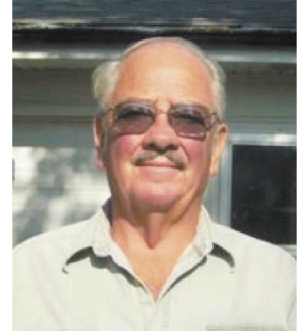
Marjorie Eyerly

Marjorie Eyerly
4532 Emerald View Ct.
Eureka, MO 63025



Gary Ferber

527 SW 2nd Street
Greenfield, IA 50849
641-743-2836
mulemomma@msn.com



After dropping out of school (half-way through my senior year because I could not take enough classes to graduate) I joined the Navy. When you were graduating, I was in Japan.

I was discharged in 1969 after 7 years of Active Duty.

I lugged meat in Packing Plants for 2 years. I tried farming, but that didn't work. In 1976, I went to work for G & H Motor Freight, as a Truck Driver.

I received my GED, and joined the US Army Reserves, so I could complete my 20 years Military Service and draw Military Retirement.

I retired in April of 2010, after 34 years with G & H and logging over 4 Million Miles.

I now raise horses and mules and enjoy camping.



Dixie Fils

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Creston, IA 50801
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My life has been blessed with three beautiful girls. The oldest lives in Dallas, Texas, and has two children of her own, 20 and 24.

The middle girl lives in St. Robert, Missouri, and teaches school to sixth grade.

My youngest, is the Dean of Criminal Justice Department for Kaplan University in Des Moines . She also has an eight year old boy, which keeps Grandma and Grandpa busy.

I work on the family farm, where I have lived for 48 years with my husband, Scott Moore. Our farm has been registered as a National Federation Wildlife Farm.

Besides caring for the wildlife and upkeep around the farm, I spend time as a Master Gardener. I am part of the local Green Thumbs, which cares for the Orient Peony Lane beautification project.

We also help support the Orient Public Library and Resource Center.

Along with spending time with family and friends, I am a Deacon at First Presbyterian Church of Creston: where I actively engage in the HUSH Program.



Johnny Joe Ford

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Maryville, MO 64468
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arford@hamilton.net

1. Graduated from OM High School.
2. Graduated from Iowa State University, twice.
3. Got married, twice.
4. Parented 2 daughters, twice. All 4 daughters graduated from college and have embarked upon productive careers. Three of the 4 are married and have given me 5 grandchildren.
5. Served in the U.S. Army as a veterinary technician at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research training veterinary technicians and overseeing the care and health of animals used in research. A minor component of the unit was providing health care for the President's dogs (Johnson and Nixon).
6. Spent 2 years in Boston as a postdoctoral fellow (an underpaid internship) at Harvard Medical School – worked

with some outstanding individuals who taught me to have fun in research.

7. Spent 35 years conducting research on swine with the USDA, Agricultural Research Service in Clay Center, NE – an enjoyable career that furnished opportunities to meet many interesting people and to travel to a number of countries. I was blessed to have happened upon research as a profession.

8. In retirement, Habitat for Humanity and mission trips aligned with the Methodist Church are my interests outside of children and grandchildren.

9. My late wife Ann, who gave much needed structure to my life, was truly a blessing. She greatly enjoyed traveling wherever the destination.

Sharon Garrett

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Colorado Springs, CO 80909
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sherden@q.com



You might recall that I was engaged the last 1/2 of my senior year to Ronnie Schutz. We were married Oct. 21, 1962 at Macksburg Methodist Church, then on to CA with the Marine Corps.

Robyn Rene' was born March 18, 1965 at Camp Pendleton, CA. We've been in Colorado since 1965 – a long time! Kevin Ray was born April 21, 1968, and Debbie Raejean, March 26, 1970.

My dream was fulfilled of being a wife and mother. I also worked part-time as church secretary, babysat, cleaned houses, and visited newcomers to town.

After 28 1/2 years I could no longer live the lifestyle my husband had chosen, and we parted ways.

A Principal Financial Group office opened here in 1991, and I began my secretarial career, working 5 1/2 years before that office moved back to Grand Island. I worked 5 years at Fairlane Credit in that same building before it closed. I have now worked 8 years as receptionist for a real estate company. It's great! I'm off Fridays, work with lovely people, and enjoy great benefits! I never had a desire to be a "career woman", but now don't know when to quit.

While going through the "Big D" and those many months of anguish, I met Jim Cook at a church-sponsored Divorce Recovery weekend in November 1990. We didn't marry, but he was a special man in my life 7 1/2 years. Sadly, he passed away with cancer.

After 21 1/2 years I returned to round dancing, and met Dennis Laurantano in October of 2000. After Dennis' retirement from a career in financial planning in Texas, he and his wife moved to Colorado Springs. Before they had lived here a year, his wife went on her usual walk, had a heart attack, and passed away.

In God's providence Dennis and I returned to round dancing in the same time-frame. We have now been married 10 years.

We rarely watch TV, but enjoy the old classical movies. I enjoy knitting and gardening (this former girl has some black raspberry bushes, and grows a few tomatoes, and flowers, plus vegetable gardening at Robyn's). Our life together is enjoyable and busy with square dancing, round dancing, spending time at our little ole trailer in the mountains (awesome view of the back of Pikes Peak), hiking, fishing, serving the Lord at Vista Grande Baptist Church (in the Griefshare ministry and Dennis teaching Sunday School at times and playing his trumpet in the orchestra), spending as much time as possible with Robyn & Bobby (& Ziggy) here in COS, Kevin, Mary Kathryn, Mackynzie, Matthew, Michael, & Mitchell in Ft. Collins, and Debbie, Troy, Tristan & Calista also in COS.

The Lord has truly blessed me!

(Although I am unable to be at our 50th class reunion, I hope there will be another milestone for our class, and I'll be able to go "back home" and attend!)



Connie Gissible

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Corning, IA 50841
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50 years, where have they gone?

Well, we are in Corning, IA. Chuck and I retired 12 years ago when we sold our business. We love it, that Chuck has many part time jobs. I don't work; I do volunteer work for our church and community.

We have four daughters. Cindy lives in Ankeny, IA. Carrie lives in Pine Bluff, AR. Charity lives in Johnson, IA. Carla lives in Corning, IA.

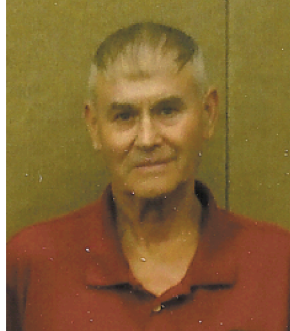
We have one great-granddaughter who lives in AR.

We love to spend time with all our kids and grand-kids.

We enjoy traveling when we can. I love to quilt and we both like to golf. I have had a few health problems.

We have had our 50 wedding anniversary in June.

We are looking forward to seeing my old classmates again.



William Gissible

William Gissible
5365 200th Avenue
Carlisle, IA 50047
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After high school I served in the Army for two years. One year of that was spent in Vietnam.

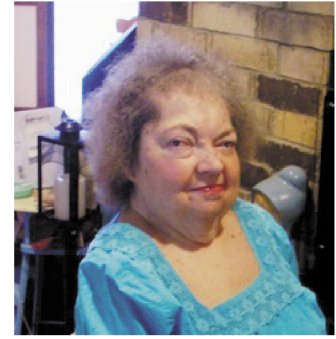
I have two kids: Neal Gissible and Kathy Storm (Grandkids - Mian and Gannon Storm).

I have worked at Doors, Inc. for 28 years.

I enjoy drag racing at Eddyville Race Park - a 1973 Chevy Nova.

Mildred Henry

1701 E. Lark St.
Springfield, MO 65801
417-885-1211
countrycowgirl43@gmail.com



To the senior class of 62,

I wish I could be with you but things didn't go right.

I want to thank especially the guys for making it possible for me to be a part of the class of 62. A big thank you to every class mate.

I married in 66 and I lost him in 2008 to cancer.

I have a son and daughter both married.

I have lived in Germany and Hawaii, what a blessing.

I now live in Springfield, MO.

I loved the joining of schools, it gave me more people to find and love.

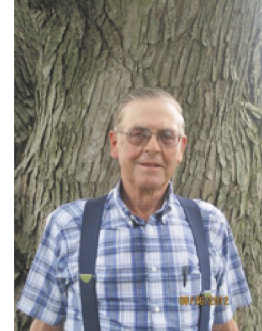
Remember the senior trip to Colorado? I would like to relive that trip.

God is number one in my life and the rest of my life will be doing whatever he leads me to do.

I love you and God bless every one of you. Millie

Marvin Hopf

1879 300th Street
Orient, IA 50858
641-345-2271



After graduation I joined the Army Reserves from July 1965 to June 1971. I also farmed with my folks as well as on my own.

On January 24, 1971 I married Evelyn Krauss. We had 2 children, Denise and Brian, both graduates of Orient-Macksburg.

August 1990-July 1991 we were a host family to a young woman from East Germany, now Germany.

Denise was married to Aaron Ackerlund in June 2007 and has one child, Anthony. They live in Madrid, Iowa.

Brian was married to Crystal Miller in August 2003 and has 3 children, Evan, Corinne and Logan. They live in Stanton, Iowa.

My hobbies include spending time with the grandkids, hunting and old John Deere tractors.



Charles Huddleson

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Orient, IA 50858
641-337-5580
huddcrest@dishmail.net

After graduation I continued to farm.

I got married Oct. 28, 1962 and have four children—Peni, Joann, John, and Traci. I have 9 grandkids and 9 step-grandkids; 2 great granddaughters and a great grandson due in November: 2 step great granddaughters, 1 step great grandson and another one due in Nov.

In 1967 we moved east and north of Orient. We are still here.

I drove a truck over the road coast to coast and border to border—delivered to all 48 states—from Oct. 2000 till April of 2011.

I am now retired on the farm. On Oct. 27, 2012 we are celebrating 50 years of marriage. Come help us celebrate!

We are both so looking forward to the reunion! See you then.

Dennis Jensen

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Duluth, MN 55811
218-343-5350
dej5544@hotmail.com



I graduated from Creston Community College in 1965 and Drake University in 1967 with a BFA. I completed Aviation Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida in 1968 and served as an Officer in the US Navy, stationed in Washington, D.C., where I met my wife, Susan.

We have been married for 42 years, and reside in Duluth, MN. She works at Essentia Health as an RN. We have three children, First Sgt. Kyle Jensen, the oldest, who is currently on his 4th active duty deployment with the Minnesota National Guard in Afghanistan. He is married and has two children, ages 6 and 4. His family also lives in Duluth.

Our daughter, Kara is married, lives and works in Minneapolis and has two children ages 7 and 5.

Our youngest son, Kevin recently moved to Green Bay, WI from Minneapolis. He is not married.

I have been with my employer, First Transit, Inc. for 39 years and am currently the Area Vice President for the Great Lakes region. First Transit is a division of First Group, Inc. an international transportation logistics and management company headquartered in the UK and operates passenger rail services and bus transportation in Scotland, and Great Britain. The US division is headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio and the components of our U.S. Company include First Student (80,000 school buses)

Greyhound, and many transportation management contracts throughout the country. I have been responsible for the daily management of the Duluth Transit Authority since 1979. I also provide management oversight for our contracts at Davenport, IA, Rock Island, IL., Sioux Falls, S.D. and Laredo, TX. Prior to moving to Duluth, I was the General Manager of El Metro in Laredo, TX, and previous to that managed the ground transportation operations at Baltimore/Washington International Airport, all under contract with First Transit.

I travel frequently, and thus don't have much time for hobbies, though I do intend to get back into art, my college major, with watercolor painting if I ever get to retire.

Our family did do the Minnesota thing about 25 years ago, and bought the mandatory lake cabin. We enjoy spending time there with the grandkids. I have also accumulated a couple of old cars over the years and a Harley that I like to unwind with. I enjoyed long distance running and completed several marathons until a mishap with the bike in 2005 ended my running career.

We spent this year's vacation at Disneyworld with the kids and grandkids prior to my son's deployment are planning another family trip upon his return.



Mary Ann Kinyon

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Milwaukee, WI 53210
414-258-4759
tmrussom@yahoo.com

HUSBAND: Thomas

2 Stepdaughters and husbands

2 Grandsons

In 1967 I moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin and began teaching for Milwaukee Public Schools. During my years of teaching, I taught kindergarten and some years first and second grades.

In 1980 Tom and I were married. At that time we were both teachers. Later Tom started a Home Maintenance & Repair Business. In 1999 I retired from teaching. I enjoy time for road trips around the Midwest and Southeastern states. Some of the trips are for Tom's hobby which has turned into a business: buying and selling antique automobile parts.

We spend February each year in Florida.

I enjoy reading, walking, Bible study, service opportunities with our church, and making new friends.



David Lauer

605 Lincoln Ct
Prosser, WA 99350
509 781-0147
dlmleq@embarqmail.com

In the fall after graduating at OM, we both attended Creston Community College for 1 year (1962-63).

Marj transferred to the Institute of Medical Technology in Minneapolis and has worked in medical labs and agricultural research labs until retirement in 2011.

Dave graduated from Iowa State University, Ames (1966); MS and PhD from Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO (1969/1971); Post doctorate at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (1971-75); held research positions at Univ. of GA in Tifton, GA (1975-1976); then with USDA-ARS in Prosser, WA (1976-1990). He was Executive Director of Benton Clean Air Agency in Tri-Cities, WA from 1992

until retirement in 2010. All told 14 years in academia plus 14 years in federal research in soil chemistry, plant nutrition, and water quality, topped by 18 years in public service as a regulator of air quality with an agricultural flavor.

We married in November 1964. Our family is daughters: Jenifer (b.1970) with husband Anthony and son AJ(7) who are living in Tacoma WA and Alisa (b.1974) with husband John and sons Josiah(3) and Jonah(1) who are living in Lincoln NE.

We are presently living as retirees in Prosser, WA where we have been from 1976 to present.

Linda Lett

1554 Klamath Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94087
408-732-8177
llhaver@earthlink.net

After graduating from high school, I attended cosmetology school in Des Moines, passed the state board and practiced for four years in Des Moines.

In 1967 I moved to CA (San Francisco Bay area) for a year then off to CO for ten months, at which time I moved back to CA.

My husband (Jerry) and I were working for the same company in Palo Alto and we were married in October 1970.

My husband's work enabled us to live in England for a year before returning to CA we toured the continent for two months.

In the spring of 1973 we moved to Columbia, MD for three months and that fall our son was born. Gregg (son) is married, has one son (four years old), Gregg is a mechanical engineer for Michelin Tire Company and lives in Simpsonville, SC.



I received a business degree before returning to the workforce (stayed at home until our son was a freshman in high school). I was an administrative assistant for VP's in marketing for a couple start-up medical device companies.

I retired in 2000 and since then my husband and I have done a great deal of traveling in Europe, Hawaii, Alaska, New Zealand, Antarctica and South America.

My hobbies are needlework (especially quilting), hiking, backpacking in the High Sierras, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, attending SF Giant as well as the Stanford Women Basketball games. I volunteer once a week at the Stanford Blood Center in Palo Alto.

We have lived in Sunnyvale, CA for over 40 years except for the time we were in England and/or MD

Susan Lovely

222 Oak Tree Dr.
Winterset, IA 50273
515-462-2336
suchenry904@yahoo.com

Graduated from Orient-Macksburg, then ISU in 1966, degree in elementary education.

Married Chuck Henry (from Dubuque) in 1966.

Spent 2 years in Germany while Chuck was in the Army.

From 1968-2008 we lived in TX, MS, LA, & MO. We moved to the South as Chuck was a forester working for timber companies. I was an elementary teacher for 20 years in LA and MO. We also owned motels in MO.



In 2008 moved to Winterset to semi-retire. I work part-time at the public library, which is more like a hobby than work.

Have 2 children: Brad of Waukee will be getting married Sept. 29. He and Jessica are actuaries for different insurance companies in Des Moines.

Jenny and Mac Rice of Bettendorf. He is an engineer at a nuclear power plant.

2 grandchildren: Mackenzie, 12, and Stephanie, 9.



Donna Faye Lyall

10260 Country Road 424
Savannah, MO 64485

1962 - Graduated from Orient-Macksburg School.

1966 - Married in Macksburg Methodist Church. As of April 24, we have 46 years together.

We had three sons, Jeffery, Brian and Kevin, who passed away at birth. We have two grandchildren, Brennen 17 and Brianna 13.

Lived in Murray, Iowa from 1970 to 1988. The boys went through school there. After the boys completed school, I left Murray IA, and daycare business to travel with my husband in our 5th wheel. He worked for Herzog Construction Company of St. Joseph where he was supervisor in charge of two men and a machine that clipped the ties to rails. We traveled

from job to job from the Mississippi River to the West Coast and saw a lot of beautiful sites in America.

I kept busy embroidering and doing small quilt projects. I made LOTS and LOTS of cookies for the railroad workers. I also enjoy NASCAR.

2010 - We completed 23 years.

2011 - We retired and built our senior home outside of Savannah, MO.

We've had a wonderful and interesting life and are now looking forward to our senior years in Missouri.

Good Luck to all classmates.



Marjorie (Marj) Marckmann

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Prosser, WA 99350
509-781-0414
dlmleq@embarqmail.com

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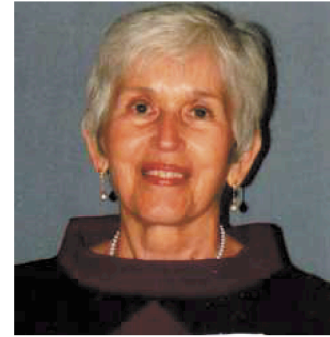
until retirement in 2010. All told 14 years in academia plus 14 years in federal research in soil chemistry, plant nutrition, and water quality, topped by 18 years in public service as a regulator of air quality with an agricultural flavor.

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We are presently living as retirees in Prosser, WA where we have been from 1976 to present.

Norma McBride

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Indianola, IA 50125
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cnpullen@msn.com



In the fall of 1962, I came to Indianola to Simpson College. I met my husband Carl Pullen from Sac City right away. We were married in June 1964 and have made our home in Indianola ever since except for a year away while Carl studied in Germany.

We have two daughters and two granddaughters. Kirsten and her husband Josh teach at Texas A&M University. Their daughter Ivy just started kindergarten.

Heidi and her husband Clark teach in Hong Kong and have a home in the Pyrenees in France. We spent six summers and Christmases renovating what was just a pile of rocks when we started. They have a four-year-old daughter Maisie whom they adopted in Cambodia two years ago. We thought we never would have grandchildren like so many of you have, but we are overjoyed with both of them.

Both our careers were teaching in the Indianola system. I taught high school English for twenty-five years, and Carl taught German for thirty-two years. He is an adjunct

German professor at Simpson now, teaching one or two courses per semester while I play.

Spending a lot of time at the computer, reading, walking, doing yoga, volunteering at Methodist Hospital in Des Moines, and participating in several organizations is my play.

We love to travel. In the last few years, we have mostly traveled to see our family. Kirsten taught in Calgary, Canada and now is in Texas; Heidi has taught in Egypt; the Ivory Coast; Bombay, India; Burma/Myanmar; and Hong Kong. We have traveled to those places except for the Ivory Coast as well as several countries in Europe and to the British Isles and Mexico. We like to travel in the states, too, when there is time.

I am thankful for our lives and grateful for the solid foundation my years growing up in the Orient community gave me.



Donald McIlravy

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701 952-1407
dons@daktel.com

A time line of highlights since high school? Is this another assignment for Mrs. Overmeyer's class? Mr. Don McIlravy writing about myself . . . where shall I begin? O, . . . I know . . .

May 1962 - Graduated from Orient-Macksburg High School.

May 1964 - Graduated from Creston Community College.

October 1965 - October 1969

Served in the United States Air Force

Lackland Air Force Base - Texas

Minot Air Force Base - North Dakota

September 1967 - Married Carol Clayton, Class of '62' Creston.

February 1969 - Birth of son Curtis.

April 1972 - Purchased flower shop/greenhouse in Jamestown, ND. Changed the name to Don's House of Flowers.

April 1974 - Birth of son Christopher.

August 1990 - Purchased land and built a garden center/nursery, Don's Garden Center.

January 2000 - Did the Wedding and reception flowers for California Angel, Darin Erstad. Now head baseball coach at University of Nebraska.

2002- 2007 Births of 5 grandchildren - two girls and a boy in South Dakota, two boys in Minnesota.

July 2009 - A tour and Cruise in Alaska.

December 2010 - Sold the flower shop, but still own the building.

January 2011 - Cruise through the Panama Canal.

September 2012 - Still working the garden center.

Would love to sell and retire completely, do some traveling and spend time with our grandchildren.

I did it - hope she goes easy on my grammar and spelling. It's been 50 years since I've done this and I'm a bit rusty.

Linda Monagon

Linda Monagon
813 N. Lincoln ST. Apt 5.
Creston, IA 50801
lkj4462@yahoo.com



I really don't know what to say in a biography. Fifty years have gone by so quickly and I am still not sure what I want to do when I grow up.

I am married, we have one daughter. With her husband and three grandchildren we have a family. My grandchildren are Tyler, who will be 21 soon; Tayler, who is 16; and Logan (girl) who is 13. Family has been great for me--love them dearly and am glad that we are near them.

I worked in office positions early in the work history and then worked in manufacturing the last 25 years or so. I really like the hands on work and we did a lot of quality control and I appreciated trying to provide quality products.

We lived in Lorimor, Iowa most of our married life, and moved to Creston about 4 years ago, just before I retired. Now I enjoy apartment life (no snow or grass removal). In retirement I rediscovered knitting and enjoyment of cooking. I like to travel but don't like being away from home, so figure that one out if you can.

I am glad each day for my family and my health.



Shirley Murray

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Orient, IA 50858
641-337-5576
orient62@hotmail.com

A little girl was born and raised on a little farm two and one half miles west of Orient. She started to school five years later, September 1949. About nine years later, she stole the heart and a silver ID bracelet with the name Ron Ross on it. After a lot of "love notes" (as lovey as Ron Ross could be), bus rides to ball games and phone calls, they had our their first date. It was the end of her sophomore year and she went to Orv's Drive Inn after a program at the school. Several bracelets and necklaces later, she traded them in for a diamond ring. This was Christmas, 1961, she was 17 years old and Ron had graduated in May of 1961.

As you all know, the class of 62 graduated at a ceremony in the gym at the Richland High School. This school was a part of the reorganization to create the Orient-Macksburg Community Schools. Lots of excitement that night: we were grads, adults and it was the 60's. (I love that writing "Remember When" coke was a Coke, weed was a weed, skates had keys and on and on). Great time to grow up. We had a lot of that to do and very little time to do it.

Shirley Lee Murray graduated on May 18th, 1962 and was married to Ronald James Ross on Father's Day, June 17th 1962. I went with my grandma to babysit and then babysat on my own with almost every little kid in Orient. It was like playing house, and I wanted a home and little kids of my own. I was well on my way.

We have three children, Wayde Andrew born 8-14-1964, Tracy James born 8-11-67 and Ronna Lee born 10-5-1977. We bought a farm one and one half miles east of Orient, about a mile from the Ross family farms. I had married a Farmer. We settled in to raise our family and teach them what good, hard work is.

After TJ started to school in 1973, I accepted the appointment of City Clerk for Orient and each year after that for 33

years. Never a dull moment or did the same thing any day. I had flexible hours so could enjoy kids activities and volunteer at the school.

I retired in July of 2006. So ready. Had grandkids and just wanted to do as I please. That hasn't really happened, but that way I always have something to look forward to. We can be gone for a few days when ever farming allows, especially with the boys both farming. (Wayde part time). We enjoy short trips: Branson, checking out casinos, and the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, watching horse shows, and playing bridge as partners. We belong to a Bridge Marathon Club in Greenfield and have finished in the top four every year. With Ron that has been quite a challenge. He really has his own set of rules. It is a good challenge for us. Years ago, we played three table party bridge with neighbors and other O-M grads for lots of years.

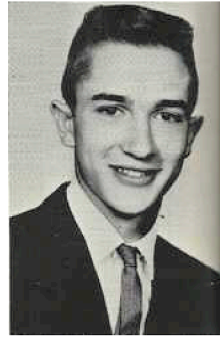
I really love spending time with our grandkids. We play ball games and water games for lots of fun in the summer and board and card games and pool in the basement in the winter. I enjoy writing poetry. A poem I wrote after my Mother passed was published in a book Quiet Memories.

I wrote a "story" about Orient, the churches, and the school and more about our family. It has been placed at the end of this book. Hope you enjoy reading it. I mentioned my love of writing. You may have assumed that. Sorry you are the victims of my ramblings. This has been a great chance for me to share my "knowledge."

We have had good times planning our 50 year class reunion. Hope you enjoy our planned events and just being together.

Larry Pettigrew

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I moved to Colorado and lived there for about 30 years. I was a residential and commercial builder.

I then went to CA for about 3 years and did some contract work in Palm Springs, Palmdale and Chino. I really enjoyed the CA weather and the people. I met a lot of people who became good friends.

I did a lot of fishing and big game hunting in CO and enjoyed trips to Canada, Alaska, Hawaii, Mexico and the Carribbean on other fishing trips and vacations.

I have moved back to Iowa now and am living in Nodaway.

I enjoy spending time with my son and granddaughters, who live in Newton.

I still enjoy fishing and hunting as well as riding my bike. I am helping a friend with his farming operation.



Nile Ramsbottom

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nileandterry@yahoo.com

Nile grew up on a farm in SW Iowa where corn, soybeans, cattle, hogs, bluegrass seed harvesting and custom crop harvesting were the norms.

He had a loving family: Mom, Dad, brother and sister. He learned quickly it's all about helping the family and the farm be successful.

Nile played football and basketball, and participated in music. However, no spring or summer sports were on the agenda because "we have to tend to the farm". He learned early lessons about business when he was given his first horse at age 10. She was an unbroken 2-year-old Buckskin mare. After getting thrown off a lot and reading books, he became a fairly good rider and, eventually, a good trainer. By raising, training, selling and trading horses, he turned the initial gift of 1 horse into 7 by the time he started college.

Nile graduated with a double major in Business and Economics at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. He received the prestigious Wall Street Journal Award, which is given to the student with the highest grade point average in the School of Business. He borrowed one-third of the cost of college and worked full time for the rest to graduate in 4 years.

Nile went to work for Ralston Purina and moved 10 times throughout the United States to eventually come to St. Louis as the youngest executive officer of the Company up to that time. After 33 years at Purina, Nile wanted to try his hand at creating something new again. He went to work for a smaller company back in Iowa and proceeded to double their volume in the dairy food business, the feed company business and the soybean processing business.

Trying to create a new business in 2000, he converted an old methyl ester plant the Company had into a biodiesel plant. Although it was a difficult struggle getting diesel customers to believe in biodiesel, he had enough success to convince the Board of Directors to fund building a new, stainless steel biodiesel plant with capacity of 4 times the entire United States industry at that time. He was aided by 2 very talented engineers in designing and installing this new technology.

After several years of growth, he was able to sell, construct, and operate 7 new, large biodiesel facilities for investors throughout the United States. Renewable Energy Group (REG) in 2011 is the largest biodiesel company in the Country with 210 million gallons of annual capacity spread among 6 bio-refineries.

However, Nile wasn't satisfied with business success. He wanted to help people in need have success. Having a passion for those who serve in the military, he and his wife, Terry, started God Cares, a 501(c)(3) Missouri Corporation that helps Veterans returning from Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and elsewhere become reoriented to civilian society. The main mission of the organization is to find employment for these veterans. Nile and Terry feel there is dignity in employment. They focus on "helping others help themselves". This help sometimes, for those in need, includes temporary shelter, clothing, and food, as well as training and counseling on how to get and keep a job. This ministry has proven to be very essential and, at the same time, very humbling.

Nile has a devoted, loving wife, Terry, as well as 6 great sons, 8 very entertaining grandchildren, and 2 beautiful Appaloosa horses. He also enjoys golf, tennis and lives on a lake in Innsbrook, Missouri.

Norman Rohrig

1824 Sequoia Ave
Richland, WA 99352
509-628-0306
nrohrig1@frontier.com



Married: Cathy Schwab in 1967

Attended: Simpson College, Iowa State University, University of Wisconsin - PhD in Nuclear Physics

Worked at: Brookhaven National Lab, Long Island, NY; Idaho National Engineering Lab, Idaho Falls, ID;

Health Physics Consultant; Retired, Richland, WA

Children:

Christy - Engineer for Hewlett Packard - San Jose, CA (two children)

David - Senior Engineer for Vista Engineering - Richland, WA (two children)

Current Activities:

Volunteer in Mission trips to Nicaragua, Chile (4x), Brazil (3x), Mexico, Alaska (2x) and Yakima Indian Nation

Stills sings in the church choir and praise team. Volunteer handyman.

Enjoys hiking and travel.

Carl Schroder

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Macksburg, IA 50155
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cwschroder@gmail.com



After graduation from Orient-Macksburg, I attended mechanic school in Omaha and received a certificate. I worked a year as a mechanic in Greenfield. I started farming in 1964 on a farm near Nevinville.

I married Ruth Asay on June 28, 1964. We have three children: Todd lives in Des Moines, Greg lives near Indianola, and Jenifer lives in Des Moines. Ruth and I have two grandchildren: Jenifer's daughters Emily, 9 and Elizabeth, 6.

In 1984, I went back school taking Drafting at South West Community College. I graduated, went to work for PDM steel in Des Moines.

We moved to a farm near Macksburg in 1985. This seemed to be the best spot with Ruth teaching in Creston, and

children wanting to finish school at Orient-Macksburg. I enjoyed my years at PDM steel making a lot of life long friends there.

In 2002 PDM steel moved the Industry part to Houston, TX. I was offered the move, but the family wanted to stay in Iowa. So I took early retirement, working several more years as a Drafter, before going back to school. This time to become a truck driver. I drove until reaching the age of 65.

Now I am retired enjoying grandkids, fishing, hunting, and digging in the dirt.



Duane Schrod

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Parker, TX 75002
972-727-3417
duane.schrodtsbcglobal.net

Family:

wife of 45 years - Marsha
sons - Keith & James

6 years NSA
3 years Northern Telecom
14 years DSC Communication Corp

Education:

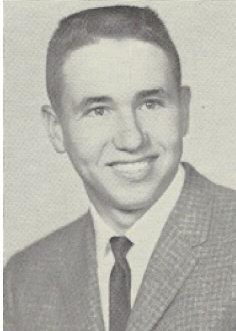
Orient Kindergarten-9th excluding 4th
Creston 10th - 12th
NAU Bachelor of Science - Computer Management

Co-founder - MultiMedia Development Corp (MMD)
Merged with Efficient Networks, Inc
Sold to Siemens USA

Work History:

4 years USAF

Hobbies:
Boating



Darwin Scott

2975 Queen's Avenue
Orient, IA 50858
641-337-5456

After graduation Darwin farmed with his dad, Ralph.

He married Marjorie Huss, now retired.

Darwin and Marjorie had two sons. Curtis works as an accountant for Gavlin Grain in Kansas City. His wife, Tricia, is a computer consultant for North Kansas City Schools. They have two children, Makaela, 8, in third grade and Drew, 4, in preschool.

Son Clint now farms with Darwin. His wife, Jana, works in the Business Office at Southwestern College in Creston. They have one son, Craig Darwin, 3, in preschool.

Roselyn Shean

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Dunnellon, FL 34433



Richard Wallace

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Orient, IA 50858
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rewallace44@gmail.com



I served in the Army Reserve from 1965 to 1971. My wife, Donna (Scott) and I were married on March 31, 1968 in Orient. We farmed one mile south of Zion (same house where Dale and Carolyn Dillenburg lived when the bus load of kids spent the night because of the blizzard) until 1974 when we moved to our present home. We have row-crops (corn and soybeans), hay, and cow-calf herd. A farrow-to-finish swine operation was in the mix until about 6 years ago.

We have two children – Dennell (January 19, 1969) and Doug (October 27, 1980). Dennell and her husband, Randy Hensley and their two boys, Wyatt (junior at O-M) and Owen (8th grader at O-M) live northeast of Zion where I grew up. Dennell has her own cleaning service and Randy operates his own Natural Equine Hoof Care Service.

Doug and his wife, Julie, daughter Halee (7th grader at Lenox junior high), and sons Davin (4 years) and Dylan (1 year) live on their farm northwest of Creston. Julie is secretary for the nursing instructors at Southwestern Community College in Creston. Doug has row crops, cow-calf herd, sells hay (small square bales), and enjoys his family and living on their farm. Doug and I help each other with

our individual farming operations.

Donna and I have enjoyed traveling in recent years – Smokey Mountains in Tennessee; Door County Wisconsin and Green Bay Packers stadium; Gaylord Texan Resort in Dallas, Texas; Yellowstone National Park; the Black Hills; San Diego, California; and our most recent vacation to Washington State where we visited Dave and Marj Lauer at their home and then traveled together enjoying many beautiful sights including Mount St. Helens, Mount Rainier, Glacier National Park, Waterton National Park in Alberta, Canada; Cascade Mountains, Puget Sound, and on to Seattle.

The latest change on our farm is the addition of two wind turbines – Bulldog Wind and Cumberland Rose. These turbines are locally owned and provide electricity to the surrounding area. Doug has said that he knew there would be changes on the home farm, but he didn't expect wind turbines to be one of the changes.

Donna works with youth and the 4-H program at the Adair County Extension office in Greenfield. We both enjoy our farming operation; spending time with the grandchildren; and attending their school events.



Connie Young

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Orient, IA 50858
641-337-5348
ledahl@windstream.net

Worked at Bell Telephone in Des Moines until married Larry Dahl November 1962..

Gave birth to son Daniel January 1965.

Gave birth to daughter Kathryn October 1967.

Started working at Bunn-O-Matic in Creston March 1977. Retired after 33 years.

Larry and I garden and enjoy traveling.

Enjoy our grandchildren and their sports.

In Memoriam

James Dueling

d. May 26, 2003



Gary Kinyon

d. May 23 1977



Jeanette Morey Connett

d. October 15, 2007



Phillip Sychra

d. August 5, 2011



Keep the Home Fires Burning

Greetings 1962 Classmates!

Celebrating 50 years of Freedom!??

or

(Boy did we have a lot to learn and probably still do.) - or
Freedom? 50 Years - Really. How can that be, we just turned 40?? - or
I guess when you are younger than your kids - Reality. - or
And if you do the math, what do they say: "It's Only a Number".

At this beautiful time in our lives, I think we reflect, and wonder about our past and the future. So, I had to write to you about Orient, your hometown, your community. A little past, a little future and a lot about our community now. I think sometimes people who have moved away and around the world, might wonder why would we want to be stuck here all our lives.

Life in the Orient, Iowa area. It is a good life. And we Want to "Keep The Home Fires Burning". As I look around, I don't think we have done a very good job. Then as I start thinking over the years, we have supported Orient area schools, businesses, churches and organizations and the area communities. All of these things are still here, maybe a little smaller scale but just as viable. We visit with our neighbors and local classmates when we see them and maybe catch up on some family news, and gossip (nooo) if there is time. We always know if there is ever anything we would need there would be one of us or several of us there in a minute.

We are so much more than meets the eye. And this is just the highlights.

We have a Women's Club, Men's Club, large 4H club, very active FFA group, reading clubs, prayer groups, excellent and dedicated library board, and several just plain get-together groups for all ages. All of these groups help with community activities and fund raisers. Amazing amounts of funds raised for families with illnesses, scholarships for graduates and local people who might have an emergency and need help and people passing thru having trouble. The latest is around \$10,000 dollars has been raised for two of our O-M High School students with cancer. And we still have Punkin Days and also as they say, It Is What It Is. A time for classes like us to get together and celebrate milestones or just being alive. And to be in a parade so people can wave at us and say "OH My Gosh" Anyway, not so bad for just a Small Town.

For business, we still have ag businesses, many home businesses, day cares, Johnson's Welding and Services, Angie's Sewing Service, The Bar??, a new restaurant being built and a Donut Cafe opening?? Then there is the Orient Express--gas, car wash, deli, groceries, lottery cards, ice, air, loafing area (farmers old and young), and aid for Damsels or anyone or thing else in distress. Now What More Could You Ask For in Small Town Iowa? We Have A Big Heart. Oh, yes, there is the Old Timers Rec Hall at the old legion building--you can play cards, shoot the breeze, read the newspaper and have refreshments all at the same place and at the same time if you are still that alert. We have some unique restaurants like The Barn at the Henry Wallace Farm and the Olive Branch in the old hotel/Free Press building. And when you come back to visit, you can buy me lunch at the new eatery and I will share even more highlights of our community. I won't wait at the curb, but think about it.

Now Our School. We have lost so many students in our school due to "Open Enrollment" and I feel this is mainly because parents are looking for better sports opportunities for their potential All Star Athletes. It has not a lot to do with academics. Our school is doing everything they can to provide every opportunity for a good education, including a safe place to learn and play. Also, access to a junior college and Creston School offering classes and sports which our small schools cannot afford. This has given our high school of 51 students access to such a wide variety of educational tools. We have seen an increase in involvement and enthusiasm among the students. For the last two years, each student has been provided a lap top computer, something many of the kids would never have had. This has been a huge boost for our

kids in so many ways, as you can only imagine. I have seen a few games being played during our O-M Blood Drives and library study halls when I'm there. (I bet none of us would have done that, had we the opportunity.) Anyway, the teachers are always monitoring the use. We are working on sharing agreements with Prescott. We have gained some in the last few years. There are 26 students in 6th, 7th, and 8th (Middle School), 81 students K thru 5th and 29 in Pre-School. 158 students in our 13 grades and I hope we can stay there or grow. We passed our taxation issues September 10th at the Special Election. That is \$1.00 per 1000 dollar valuation and .135 cents per 1000 dollar valuation for school operations and maintenance expenses. This will totally help keep our school operating as a viable educational institution.

I must speak of our combined School/City Library. We had a small city library in the old legion building. A wonderful group of ladies who wanted to provide a very needed service for our community put their heads together. They gathered books, they held fund raisers, and they bought books but just weren't satisfied with their limited resources. But they never gave up. I, as City Clerk, (Yes, Larry D. CITY Clerk), worked with them on budgets and bills, especially heat and maintenance of the old building, and one day in talking, mentioned contacting the school about combining libraries. The school was having trouble providing the need for a full time librarian and other man power issues. Well, we had man power! So, meetings were held with School Board, City Council and Library Board. They were able to come to a very workable agreement if everyone would cooperate. And Cooperate we did. The word spread and it has been the talk of many other libraries in the state. I answered several surveys about just how this happened and how it works. We were and still are very proud of our Orient Community Library. Lillian Eivens (Mrs. Marv) is a member of the very active, dedicated Board. There are members representing all the school communities. This is so great for all of our area.

Another amazing project is the Volunteer Red Cross Blood Drive. I am the volunteer sponsor for the Orient area. We had held some of our drives at the school, and the students were becoming more and more involved. When they finally hired an all-school principal, Teresa Thompson, a super graduate from O-M (She should have been hired instead of the previous "Sargent from the Juvenile Academy"). Teresa had applied before and was excited to be offered the position. Anyway, our new Principal Teresa was very compassionate about and interested in the RC Blood Drives. All drives are held at the school now and totally manned by the high school juniors and seniors and their sponsor. At least 75 percent of the donors are students and faculty. Their hard work and dedication have saved the Orient Area Blood Drive. I am very proud to be a part of this service project and work with the students and school.

Last but far from least, our churches. Our Catholic Church closed maybe 10 years ago. That was a very sad day for the parish and the town. As many of you might remember, it was a beautiful, old church. So many treasures and those stained glass windows. Anyway, we still have the Orient United Methodist Church and the Plymouth Congregational Church. Both are very active in the community. The two churches provide Wednesday Church School for K-6th grades (New name-Jesus and Me-JAM) and a 7th-12th Youth Group with around 20 youth twice a month. These groups are so very near and dear to my heart and I have been sharing in it for over 40 years. We will be working with area youth leaders on youth suicide awareness and prevention for this year's outreach. We have had an alarming number of suicides in our adjacent communities. We hope to help where we can.

So Home Fires Burning, yes they are. We have many good families and people who care about the community so things keep on keep on happening. My story just touches on life in the Orient Community. There are not a lot of big, exciting activities going on. But seeing so many people supporting and working together to make our community a good, solid, caring place; a place to raise families, retire, commute from and relax and feel the warmth of kids playing, families going for walks, playing in the park, and neighbors bringing food when a family member passes or someone is ill is what we are all about. There are definitely warm, welcoming community feelings that you can't miss in our little corner of the world.

As little corners of the world go, my family and I are still in ours where there are lots of wide open spaces and happy farmers. Wayne is still Ringold County Soil Conservationist and built a nice bungalow just a mile west of us. He and Peggy love living in the country. TJ has 3 kids--Adam lives with his wife Sheila and four kids in Mt Ayr and works in construction. Adam has a son Tyson who is 7 and loves baseball, and 3 step kids, Kendra, Kaden and Karah who all love sports and 4H. (This makes TJ a Grandpa and Ron and me Great Grandparents). TJ also has 2 girls who are in school in

Creston. Becca is 14, driving--scary. She will be playing Freshman Basketball. Breanna is in 6th grade and a pretty good little softball catcher. We were given an old mare horse, who is beautiful and well broke. The kids are learning to ride and having lots of fun. Now I have big cowboy boots sitting at the door to stumble over. Ronna and her husband Justin Thomas live in Pleasant Hill. They have two little girls, Taylor 2 and a half and Lyla Lee 1. I go and stay every chance I can and help change pants and feed them. Only a Gramma. We have great tea parties and chase games. The wonderful world of pretend! Ronna is still at Principal since graduating from Iowa State. She is Asst. Director of Human Resources and busy. As much as I have fought computer communications, it is wonderful to keep in touch with Skype and pics. Who would have thought? Oh, yes, Dad, the husband. He does work, most of the time as we kid him. He has taken over the family solid waste company and takes care of a lot of businesses, churches and homes. So he is self employed and does put in very long hours some days. But he is flexible, and that is great for his girls.

Now, Ron and I. As most of you know, we have been hitched for 50 years and they haven't all been roses. The first 10, I did most of the chores and a lot of the farming. Well, maybe just the bailing hay. I can't see how our marriage survived that. He yelled at me just cause I would "drop the clutch" and almost mind you, almost throw him off the hay rack! He never did hit the ground! I was always going too fast and he wouldn't let me shut off the baler when it got too dirty. Lots of things, but it must have been my wonderful patient and loving self that kept us going. I only walked home once when I didn't pull up to the gate right and he yelled. I got off the tractor and forgot to set the brake. So the tractor proceeded to roll backwards and I just kept walking. I didn't do that again. But during that time, God gave us two beautiful baby boys. They didn't come full grown, but it wasn't long before they took over all my jobs. Ron and his boys all farm together. Wayde and TJ have bought some land together close by. TJ farms with Grandma Ross and does some custom farming that bought his wife and kids a new home and pays the child support. And we are just one big happy family most of the time. I love having them all close most of the time. Wayde has ridden motorcycles since he was 3, not quite, maybe 8, and has a big Harley. He and Peggy love to take short and long motorcycle trips. He never did ask if he could. His dad and I spent a lot of time on a motorcycle and still have the Harley Sprint. I guess it was just in his blood.

All thru the years, I have volunteered for every kids' thing I could possibly help with. With my work at City Hall and the kids in sports, high school, junior high and elementary all at the same time. (That was great Family Planning). Plus 4H and all the other activities, Ron decided if he was going to see anything of me, he would have to join Girl Scouts or 4H. He chose 4H and was a leader for a lot of years with the boys and neighbors.

Okay, this is really last. Our travels, I love to travel, but I like to get back home. Ron likes to travel and return home the next day. So we compromise, we stay home a lot. We do enjoy Branson: lots of shows, restaurants, SHOPPING, go carts, yes, I said go carts and I haven't wrecked anyone or myself yet. Miniature Golf is my specialty. I usually win, but don't ask Ron about it. Lots of things to do, beautiful country, lakes and small mountains. Ride the Ducks, once, never again. I could not feel the fun of driving a truck, even though, it looked like a duck, it was not a duck, off into a lake and not, expect at some point it was going to sink. I avoid the ducks, but the kids and Ron love the ducks. The shows! We have favorite shows we go to every time we are there and always see new ones. Beautiful River Walk, gardens and light shows and music! We stayed 5 days last year; it was fun. We take short trips around Iowa, love the rivers all seasons. and it is close to home, a two-nighter. But, we did take a couple of long trips out west and the last one was a Trip, in more ways than one. Ron almost killed me, but he didn't. We went to Idaho to see my logger cousin and bring back our Mormon ancestry collection from my great aunt who we were going to visit before she died but she died too soon. The cousin had lost most of the papers or his daughter might still have them. Who knows? He lived on a little ledge in the side of a mountain almost at the top, it seemed like when we started up the tiny path. I am still wondering what we would have done if we met someone coming down. When we finally got there, by way of Washington State, he met us down town: a tavern and Porta-Potty.

I'm sorry, I must explain because it was not all my fault. Ron didn't have to listen to me; I would have gotten over it. This way he never lets me forget the Trip.

We left Cor De Lain and the Lake early so we could meet my cousin around 2:00. We started out going north, I think, and I had the map, but the "Town" wasn't on the map, but we thought we could get close. Well, I think I must have gotten turned around because I insisted we turn Left. Ron said no, but I was persistent. This road proceeded to get

narrower and narrower and then we were trespassing. Couldn't see any sort of a building or place to ask. I'm not sure we would have wanted to ask, let alone get out of our vehicle. So I think amidst the smoke in our truck, Ron turned around. I'm not sure just how, I was trying not to laugh or cry. It was not good and it was getting late, probably after 2:00. Somewhere along the road we saw an arrow and sign, pointing to the Washington Border so we had been in Washington State, not DC. We weren't quite that lost. If I would only have thought, I could have gone to see Dave and Marge; only thing is, I would have been walking, which might have been better. I could have stayed the night and they could have put me on a plane the next morn. Lots more peaceful. Well, Ron "took the reins." I was very quiet, outside of making all of the excuses, like, that map must have been all wrong. He didn't hear a word anyway. Well, anyway, my cell phone started working and we called my cousin and he sort of helped us get back on the track. I don't think he ever did figure out where in the world we were, literally. But Ron kept driving around and around, and we found a highway and kissed it. My cousin met us in the "Town" with no name. With a tavern and a Porta-Potty, who needs a name? I think you are supposed to use the potty before you head up the mountain in case you never make it. That's enough. My cousin and his wife were so nice and gracious. We had a short visit. We arrived about 5:00 and we really needed to get headed back down the mountain. You couldn't get lost, cause you couldn't get off the road, but Ron was sure he was going to get eaten by a bear. I did get to write down a lot of stuff about my mother's family. It was all so worth it. Don't ask Ron; he just totally lost his sense of humor. Now I want to go back and see if they ever found any of the ancestry records. But I'm not sure I will get Ron convinced. Though you know, never say never. We went out west with the Buckmillers one year. That is a whole other Trip. I won't tell you about it this time. Maybe I could email the story to you all sometime. So much for travel, one thing about every trip Ron and I have taken, there has always been an "event." I could write a book. I guess I almost did.

In closing, I promise. I retired in 2006 and am really enjoying it. I am way too busy, but I must enjoy it or I would say no. Just one more thing. The school has started a new program with adults listening to children read. I love to do this; I call it my reading buddies and hope to do 2 sessions a week. I listen to three 2nd and 3rd grade children per 1 hour session (This is not long enough). I have seen such an improvement in their reading skills over the school year. It is very rewarding. I am looking forward to another year of reading. Ron is farming and more farming. He does quit earlier the slack times of year. We still have 90 head of stalk cows with 91 baby calves. (We always have 1 or 2 sets of twins). This year he cut back from 100. Why bother? Still lots of hours, but, Wayne is very interested in Cow/Calf herd so I am hoping we can work something out there and go on more Trips. That might be why he keeps the cows.

I'm done. One thing about reading, you don't have to stand and listen to me. You can just throw it down and hopefully read a little another day. This has been so fun, even with Norma jumping up and down waiting for my "bio." I will help put them together and pay for the extra paper and added cost of publishing this tome. If this is more that 3 pages long - Norma used the wrong font?!!

Till Later. - Shirley Murray Ross