



AHS 50TH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

SANDIE SPIRIT

AHS 50th Alumni Association, P.O. Box 7146, Amarillo, TX 79114

WEB SITE - 50THAHS.ORG - E-mail – AHS50thalumniassociation@gmail.com

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Karen Caldwell '67 1st Vice-President

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Rita Benton Bryant '55, Class Rep

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Daphne Adkins '73, Class Rep

APRIL 2024 ISSUE

REUNION SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 25-26, 2024

**RESERVATION FORMS FOR THE AHS 50TH ALUMNI REUNION ARE IN
THIS ISSUE**

OCTOBER 25 & 26, 2024

HOLIDAY INN AMARILLO WEST MEDICAL CENTER

8231 West Amarillo Boulevard – Amarillo TX 79124

CALL 806-322-4777,

CODE: AHS 50th Alumni Assoc, Amarillo

Rooms \$109 a night plus taxes, Incl. voucher for free breakfast

CAROLYN'S COMMENTS----As spring is upon us, we are ready for the warmer temperatures. AHS Spring sports teams are ready to start and continue their activities. We are so proud of our Sandies and all they have accomplished this year.

Our 2024 Reunion is scheduled for October 25-26, 2024, and details are in this issue. Needless to say, planning is still in progress, and we will keep you informed. We sincerely hope you will consider joining us this year. It has been six years since we have been able to host the Reunion. It will be a time of celebrating, and visiting with old and new friends from years past and present. Mainly, just enjoying seeing Amarillo again and enjoying a few days of precious memories.

The Nominating Committee is busy selecting officers to continue serving our 50th Alumni Association. We are looking forward to voting on their selections at the General Meeting in October during the reunion.

Our Scholarship Committee is beginning the selection of recipients. We will be meeting in April with the AHS counselor. The Scholarships will be announced in May at the AHS assembly. It is such a pleasure to be able to help several students with their continuing education. It is because of your generosity we are able to provide this help to a few students. We greatly appreciate your contributions.

We are still in need of an Editor for the *Sandie Spirit*, an Historian and a Treasurer. The Editor does not need to be from the Amarillo Area, while the Historian and the Treasurer must be. If anyone is interested, we will be happy to speak with you. Please let us know if you might be interested in learning what would be involved. No commitments would be expected. It is just always good to know what these positions would entail.

Our next General Meeting will be June 20, 2024. We will send out the information as soon as the location is finalized. Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

As your President, I greatly appreciate all comments and suggestions. This is your association, and we want to make it better for everyone. You may contact me at the following: phone number 806-640-4642, email, cmahs58@yahoo.com, or you can contact me through the association email address, which is ahs50thalumniassociation@gmail.com. I would love to hear from you.

Carolyn Kilpatrick Maas '58, President

REUNION! October 25-26, 2024

SIGN UP NOW ON THE FORM IN THIS ISSUE

**IF YOU NEED HOTEL RESERVATIONS
CALL AND GET THE RESERVATIONS NOW!**

**HOLIDAY INN WEST MEDICAL CENTER
8231 West Amarillo Blvd, Amarillo, TX 79124
(806)322-4777, Use Code: AHS 50th ALUMNI ASSOC, AMARILLO**

**Rooms may be reserved for Oct 24th, 25th & 26th for \$109.00 per night and includes
voucher for free breakfast**

REUNION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024

**Holiday Inn Amarillo West Medical Center
Ranchhouse Ballroom
8231 West Amarillo Blvd
Amarillo, TX 79124 (Just East of the old Regal UA Theater)**

10:00 AM to 4:30 PM REGISTRATION
(Room open for visitation 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM on Friday)

**6:00 PM to 8:00 PM Free Party Hosted By Jack Sisemore for all Classes at his home,
3003 S LIPSCOMB
AMARILLO, TX 79109.**

**Drinks and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be provided
Free valet parking available (pull up in the driveway)**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2024

**9:00 AM to 12 NOON –Registration & Visitation Holiday Inn West Amarillo
Medical Center Ball Room
Coffee, Tea, water, candy & mints will be available during this time**

**10:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. Business Meeting and Remembrance, Holiday Inn West
Medical Center Ballroom
Coffee, Tea, water, candy & mints will be available during this time**

**2:00 P.M. Guided Tour of AHS – Art Collection, Hall of Honor, & Hall of
Fame Time**

**5:00 P.M. Dinner/Dance –AMARILLO CLUB,
600 S TYLER, 30th FLOOR
AMARILLO, TX 79101**

**W Wayne Williams will DJ the event, playing 50's, 60's, & 70's
music. If you have a favorite tune you want him to play, email the song
name and the artist name to Karen Caldwell at kcreredrose4@gmail.com (form on page 6)
by September 15, 2024 and we will add it to the playlist.**

To volunteer for the event please contact Karen Caldwell at 806-670-7433 or email, kcreredrose4@gmail.com . Volunteer opportunities include:

- Registration/Greeters – Fri., all day and Sat. Morning (1-2 hour shifts)
- Check-in at Dinner Dance Saturday Night (5:00 - 6:00 Saturday)

Rooms are blocked for our reunion for Thursday, October 24th, Friday October 25th and Saturday October 26th, at the rate of \$109.00. Per night plus taxes. FOR THIS RATE, ROOMS MUST BE RESERVED BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2024.

PARKING – Outdoor parking is available at the hotel at no charge

PARKING for dinner-Dance is available in the west parking lot at 600 S Tyler at no charge. The parking at FirstBank Southwest Parking Garage is available AFTER 5:00 PM at no charge.

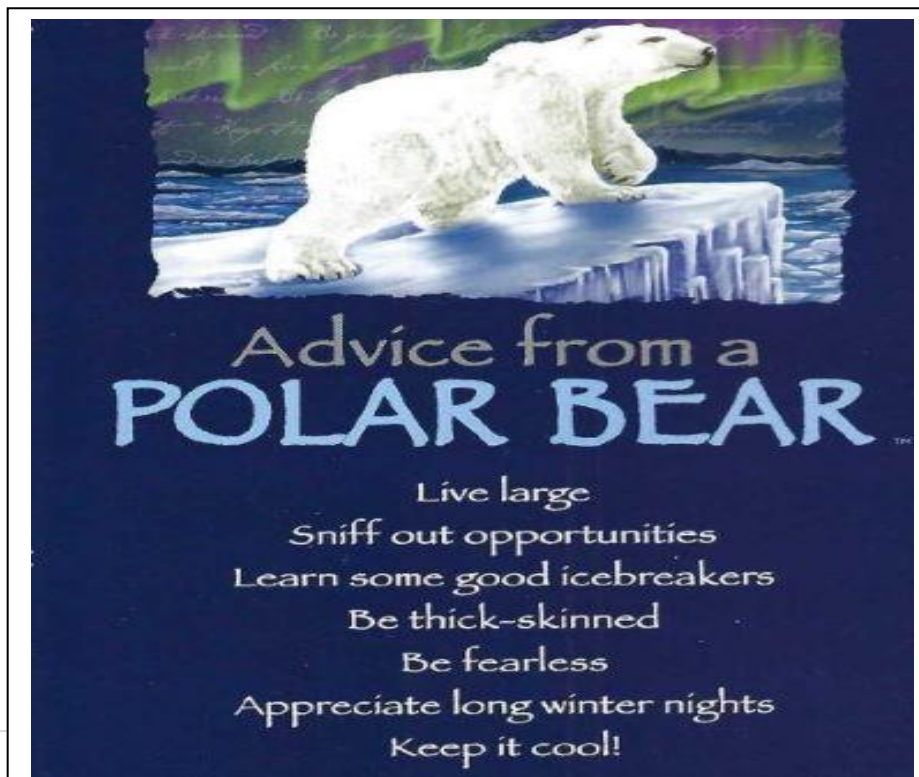
Food Service:

The AHS 50th Alumni Association will provide coffee, water and tea in the registration area on Friday and Saturday.

Breakfast is provided free daily for attendees STAYING at the hotel who present their room voucher obtained at Check-in.

(WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF YOU – REGISTER NOW)

THANKS TO NANCY HANNON MOORE '56, WICHITA, KS



AHS 50TH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION

DINNER/DANCE MENU

COST INCLUDED IN YOUR REGISTRATION!

AMARILLO CLUB 5:00 PM to 9:30 PM OCTOBER 26, 2024

CASH BAR OPEN 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM

DINNER SERVED 5:30 PM --DANCING UNTIL 9:30 PM

MENU

House Salad

Grilled Double Cut Pork Chop

Rosemary Fingerling Potatoes

Seasonal Vegetables

or

Santa Fe Chicken with Melted Jack Cheese & Chipotle Cream Sauce

Roasted Potatoes

Seasonal Vegetables

Desserts

Chocolate Pound Cake

Carrot Cake

Meal choice included on your reservation form

Please Indicate either Pork or Chicken for each attendee on Reservation Form

**ATTENDANCE AT THIS EVENT REQUIRES PAID
REUNION REGISTRATION**

NO EXCEPTIONS!!

Music Requests

Is there anything else you definitely want to hear? Favorite Artist?

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

Title_____ Artist_____

DJ will play 50's, 60's, & 70's Music, plus Special Requests received in advance. No Requests from the floor nor Line Dancing

2024 Reunion Polk St T-Shirt ORDER FORM

Ladies T-Shirts are all long sleeve and come in V-Neck, Mock Turtle Neck, or Crew Neck, Mens T-Shirts are short sleeve with Crew Neck. All Shirts are Pre-shrunk, 100% Cotton.

(See pictures next page)

LADIES V-NECK

Size
Small #shirts @ \$19.00 _____
Medium #shirts @ \$19.00 _____
Large #shirts @ \$19.00 _____
XL #shirts @ \$19.00 _____
XXL #shirts @ \$21.00 _____
XXXL #shirts @ \$22.00 _____

LADIES CREW-NECK

Size
Small #shirts @ \$17.00 _____
Medium #shirts @ \$17.00 _____
Large #shirts @ \$17.00 _____
XL #shirts @ \$17.00 _____
XXL #shirts @ \$19.00 _____
XXXL #shirts @ \$20.00 _____

LADIES MOCK TURTLE NECK

Size
Small #shirts @ \$28.00 _____
Medium #shirts @ \$28.00 _____
Large #shirts @ \$28.00 _____
XL #shirts @ \$28.00 _____
XXL #shirts @ \$30.00 _____
XXXL #shirts @ \$31.00 _____

MENS CREW NECK

Size
Small #shirts @ \$14.00 _____
Medium #shirts @ \$14.00 _____
Large #shirts @ \$14.00 _____
XL #shirts @ \$14.00 _____
XXL #shirts @ \$16.00 _____
XXXL # shirts @ \$17.00 _____

Total Number of T-shirts _____

TOTAL COST OF ALL THE T-SHIRTS \$ _____

AMOUNT ATTACHED \$ _____

(Or Enclosed in reservation check)

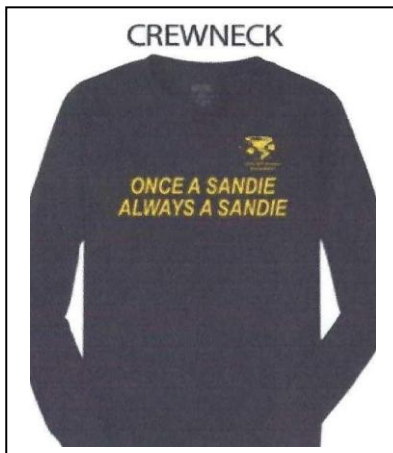
**FILL OUT THIS ORDER AND SEND IT IN WITH YOUR REUNION RESERVATION
OR**

MAIL IT, WITH CHECK ATTACHED, (By the Sept 15, 2024 deadline) TO:

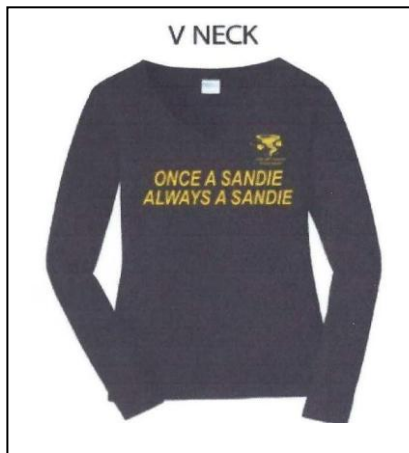
**50TH AHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 7146
AMARILLO, TX 79114**

LADIES T-SHIRT STYLES

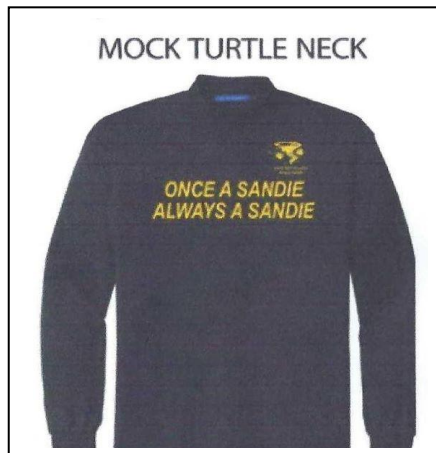
CREWNECK



V NECK



MOCK TURTLE NECK



MENS T-SHIRT STYLE

SHORT SLEEVE CREWNECK



BACK ON ALL SHIRTS

BACK



AHS 50th Alumni Assn. Reunion 2024

(October 25th & 26th, 2024)

Print this page, complete & mail with your check to: P.O. Box 7146, Amarillo, TX 79114

RESERVATION FORM – DEADLINE TO REGISTER SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE!!!

First Name Last Name in High School Married Name (Ladies) AHS Class

Spouse First Name Last Name at Amarillo High School Married Name (Ladies) AHS Class

Address City State Zip Home Phone

E-mail

Cell Phone

Total cost - \$65 each person if paid by 9-15-2024

**Basic Registration Fee – includes all registration expenses, name tags, folders, etc,
Buffet Dinner & Dance Saturday Night, Saturday Business Event and AHS Tour.**

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS _____ x \$65 = \$ _____ BY Sept. 15, 2024

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS _____ x \$70 = \$ _____ After Sept. 15, 2024

Menu Preference for each attendee:

Santa Fe Chicken # _____

or

Grilled Pork Chop # _____

T-SHIRT (Order Form Attached) \$ _____

DONATION TO HELP DEFRAY REUNION COST \$ _____

TOTAL CHECK ENCL. (Reservations + Donation) \$ _____

**CALL & RESERVE YOUR ROOM NOW! Holiday Inn West Medical Center, 8231 West
Amarillo Blvd, Amarillo, TX phone (806)322-4777**

Use Code: AHS50th Alumni Assoc-Amarillo

Through the years Toby has sent and continues to send wonderful remembrances and stories. We appreciate and enjoy all his writings, so in this issue of the *Sandie Spirit*, we have chosen to feature one of his stories.

TOBY DRUIN '53, WAXAHACHIE, TX

THROUGH THE YEARS WITH TOBY DRUIN

REMEMBRANCES OF A REPORTER AND WRITER

I worked for the Amarillo Daily News twice. Following a 30-day trial, I became a sports writer in January 1956 and worked for almost a year sitting across the desk from Putt Powell, who had encouraged me to come to the office for the 30-day trial.

I moved on to the Borger News-Herald in 1957 and spent a little more than five years there learning the newspaper business. After leaving Borger for a short stint as assistant city editor of the Wichita Falls Record-News, I returned to the Amarillo paper in June 1962 where I ran the night side desk until leaving for college the following February.

Putt Powell was a legend at the Amarillo paper. He covered mainly high school sports, particularly those at Amarillo High School, for 62 years. You might say he was only an employee of the Daily News and Globe-News, the afternoon paper, for 50 years because he worked the first 12 without any salary.

It was in 1942 when the other legend in Amarillo newspaper journalism, Gene Howe, put Putt on the payroll. A year later, Howe offered him the opportunity to write a column and along with it gave him some advice--the column could be liked by everyone and be absolutely dull and largely ignored or the column could be opinionated, liked by a few people and disliked by others and read by all of them.

Putt chose the latter, of course, and his column, "Puttin' Around with Putt Powell," became a must read for every sports fan in Amarillo and on the High Plains and for every other sports writer and editor in Texas and Oklahoma--or Arkansas when the Razorbacks were still in the Southwest Conference. Putt was particularly caustic in his remarks about Oklahoma football and coach Bud Wilkinson during Wilkinson's tenure at OU from 1947-63 during which he won three national championships and 24 conference titles.

Many, if not most, of Wilkinson's wins were captured with teams heavy laden with players from Texas, and Putt kept Wilkinson's Lone Star State recruiting tactics ever in the news and in his columns. It got his columns read by every football fan who loved or hated OU and Wilkinson, and he told me one day that it got a car sent to pick him up when his plane arrived at the airport in Oklahoma City and a reserved seat in the press box.

Putt could be rather caustic at times. One night as I was working at my desk in 1956, I overheard him answer his phone. During most of the phone call, he just sat listening to the caller, who I could tell was very upset. It was Chesty Walker, another legend, who was the football coach at Phillips High School. Walker was berating Putt for the coverage the paper had given his team's latest win on the previous Friday night. It was loud and long.

Finally, Putt interrupted Walker and asked, "Well, Chesty, have we ever written anything in the paper that you liked?" There was a pause, and then I could faintly hear a somewhat softer answer, to which Putt replied, "Well why didn't you call me then?" and hung up the phone.

Putt died on Christmas eve, 1992. I didn't get to attend his funeral, but I visited the funeral home to pay him my respects. It was no surprise to see he was wearing a shirt with an Amarillo High School logo, Always a Sandie.

Gene Howe, who was every bit as much an institution in Amarillo and at the paper as Putt, according to the Texas State Historical Association came to Amarillo and established the Amarillo Globe as an evening paper in 1924. He was the son of Ed Howe, a widely known journalist and founder of the Atchison (Kansas) Globe.

The next year, 1925, the younger Howe and his business partner, bought their morning competition, the Amarillo Daily News, and a year later merged them as the Amarillo Globe-News. The afternoon paper later became the Globe-Times.

Howe and his associates began a daily column in the afternoon paper they called "The Tactless Texan," written under the pseudonym Kernal E. Rasmus and signed "Old Tack." Though he at first shared authorship of the column with others, Howe soon took over exclusive production of the column.

Rather than a photo of Howe, the head for "The Tactless Texan" column bore a caricature of a cross-eyed person that resembled Ben Turpin, a comedian popular in that day. It also resembled the caricature known more recently on the cover of Mad Magazine.

Howe was said to abhor dullness, and his columns "were laced with humor, candidness, logic and common sense." He gained national attention with criticism of Charles Lindbergh and opera singer Mary Carden, but also was known for promoting "Mothers in Law Day" as a national holiday and for countless other endeavors.

Similar to the advice he would later give to Putt Powell about the popularity of Powell's column, Howe often said he would rather be known as a good reporter than a famous publisher, but he became even more famous as Old Tack and his columns were known far and wide. My parents took both the morning and afternoon editions of the paper, and while I often heard Daddy say, "Let's see what Putt has to say today," it was just as

common to hear either of them say, "Did you see what *Old Tack* (Gene Howe) said today?"

I met Howe on one occasion, probably around 1949 or 1950, when Miles Childers and I were hunting quail on the LX Ranch, north of Amarillo. Miles and I had been hunting for a couple of hours along Bonita Creek when we saw Miles's father, J.N., with two other men. He introduced them to us, but I only remember one of them as Gene Howe, who advised us to quit hunting when we got our limit. Sadly, faced with the prospect of declining health and other concerns, Howe died in 1952, a victim of suicide.

Years later in 1962, during my second stint with the Amarillo paper, I was attending a staff meeting of the paper in Wes Izzard's office one afternoon when I sat down at an old desk off to one side. We would meet each day to go over what news was in the works, what stories reporters were working on and other matters.

As I sat at the old desk, I noticed an old Royal typewriter sitting in front of me, and on the front of it, obviously attached by the ubiquitous old paste pots that adorned every newspaper office desk in those days, was the caricature of *Old Tack* that accompanied the "Tactless Texan" columns in Gene Howe's day. I realized I was sitting at Gene Howe's old desk, looking at his typewriter. Beneath the caricature was one line of type: "Always keep your audience in mind."

CLASSMATES COMMENTS...

CYNTHIA GLASGOW HUDSON '57, AMARILLO, TX.

I graduated in 1951. Married in 1951 to Allan Dwayne Hudson from Clarendon, TX. We lived in Amarillo all but 2 years. He was in the Navy and stationed in San Diego. We were married 68 years until his passing. I worked with computers for 20 years at 2 different jobs. He worked at Pantex 28 years. I am the only Glasgow child living at 91 years. I am in pretty good shape with some health issues. I have 3 sons, 8 grandchildren, and 11 great grandchildren. 3 of my great grandchildren graduated from AHS, and 2 grandsons. I stay busy by doing all my own housework and church activities. Toby, I enjoy your articles, as I remember you growing up in River Road. May everyone have a great year.

SHEILA STARKS PHILLIPS '52, SUGARLAND, TX.

I wish you all would add the historical pieces to the newsletter again. Great job and Thanks!

SUSAN WINEINGER RICHARDSON-JORDAN,'63, AMARILLO, TX.

I was born and raised in the country where my father was also raised. My grandparents owned a dairy on south Washington – then about 4 miles south of town – called Wineinger's Dairy. I did everything from milking cows (ha-H=ha), driving a pickup so daddy could pitch hay to the cattle, driving a tractor and hauling and putting shocks of wheat in the barn.

My days at AHS were wonderful....loved every day. I met and married Ron Boyd in 1964, and we had 2 wonderful kids – Scott and Shannon. (Shannon is married to Todd Hodnett from Morton, and lives in Canadian. Scott married Frances Ligon, and now lives in Bozeman, MT.). We were married 21 years. I

later married Raymond Richardson who was also an AHS graduate. We lived in California, and owned a mortgage company. We retired and returned to Amarillo in 2008 - back to the farm. He passed in 2015 at 70 years old. I married Larry Jordan, a preacher, in 2019. He is from Mississippi, but lived in Tennessee (long story how we met). We now live on THE FARM.

I have to say, I miss the stories in the Alumni Sandie Spirit. I love the “Old Amarillo “ stories – reminiscing about places we haunted. I know that I don't go anywhere in Amarillo that someone doesn't ask me about Country Pride and Daddy's recipes. Of course, I grew up eating potatoes, washed dishes &, waitressed, but I never watched him make his enchilada sauce. I wish I had it, but I DON'T have the recipe.

The old. Stories of Amarillo bring back great memories that I had forgotten about. We each had special memories, and I miss reading about others fond remembrances. Stanley's, dragging Polk Street, Paramount Theater, football at Dick Bivins stadium, etc. UMMMMMM!

RENEE ECKER WILSON '61, AMARILLO, TX.

Wanted to say how much we enjoy the paper every time we get it. I have been a Sandie since I moved here in 1951. Thank you for your faithful work and love of our school, and the people who have appreciated the Sandies. My husband, Hugh, was a substitute teacher there for 20 years until he passed away 4/30/22.

Our love and sincerity to you all.

JACKIE WATSON DUKES-STREY '58, LAKE WHITNEEY, TX.

I've been retired here in Lakeside Village for 29 years now & it never gets old. Love that we're still a "village" small enough to not have a post office, "City Hall" or any of the things that go with being in a town or city. The closest we come to any of those things is our Volunteer Fire Dept. & Ladies Auxiliary I've been Chairman of the Board of the "umbrella corporation" over the two service branches for over 20 years & Vice President of the Ladies Auxiliary even longer. Happy to say that this year we've had a wonderful influx of newly retired younger people who are ready to get involved so I'm passing the mantle & retiring from both positions and becoming just a regular member of the Ladies Auxiliary. With a fund raiser event every month I'll still stay plenty involved but freely admit I won't miss the work of being officer/director.

In May my son & daughter-in-law will be moving into my house & I'll be moving into the smaller guest house (was my late husband's "man cave" so it's always been called the Dog House). Be prepared if you come to visit 'cause you'll be staying in the dog house with me for sure!

We're actually renting it out for the coming eclipse 'cause we're smack in the middle of the charted path & every open hotel room or personal home's guest room for miles around has been co-coopted for rental. All kinds of big shows, bands, viewing parties, etc. planned in Hillsboro about 35 miles away.

Can't say I'm not struggling with the downsizing because I live all over my house! Getting rid of so much accumulated china, crystal, artwork & just "stuff" that grand kids don't want these days is really hard; but my friends have decided they'll send me away for a couple of days & team up to get rid of everything I don't have room for in the dog house! By the time I come home they tell me I'll be totally moved in & won't have to do a thing! OH DEAR the thought of it make me feel like I need to get busy & do this myself or they really will do it for me!! LOL Aren't good friends wonderful?

Hope all you Sandies are happy, healthy & enjoying another year. May God bless each of you & keep you 'till we all meet again.

TOBY DRUIN '53, WAXAHACHIE, TX.

Amarillo's Worst Tornado Took 7 Lives, Injured 82, 75 Years Ago This Spring

The worst tornado in Amarillo history, an F4 monster, slammed into the south side of the city the evening of May 15, 1949, killing seven people, injuring 82 and leaving 50-odd homes destroyed or damaged in its wake.

I still have vivid memories of that evening. It was a Sunday, and my friend Buddy Glasgow (AHS '52) and I were at 10th Avenue Methodist Church. We were there because Lloyd Dean Byars and her sister, Derema Byars, were there. All of us lived in River Road, and Buddy and I had ridden to church with the Byars sisters and their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Byars.

A stormy evening had been predicted, but nothing like what occurred shortly after dark. As we sat in church, it began to rain, one of those horizontal rains that defy the use of an umbrella. It was coming in sheets and contained some quarter-size hail that punched holes in the stained glass windows in the church's foyer.

And then it was gone. Several of us went outside to see if anything other than the church windows had been hurt, and very visible above us in the glow of the lights along 10th Street was a funnel cloud that had lifted and was losing itself in a swirling mass of other clouds.

I don't know how he got the word, but Mr. Byars heard there was severe damage in South Amarillo and the Byarses had relatives there. The area hardest hit, as I recall, was from about 36th on south between the Santa Fe tracks west to Ong or so. That area contained some of the oldest homes in Amarillo but also many two- and three-bedroom frame homes that went up in the home building surge following World War II. The Byars' relatives lived in the newer area.

I remember it was slow-going as we neared the storm-stricken area. The heavy rain still flooded the streets, and we were forced to leave the car and proceed on foot through almost knee-deep water. Finally, we reached the Byars' relatives' address, and it was awful. Luckily, they were not hurt, but their roof and all of the windows were gone and everything was soaked.

I am sorry that I can't remember his name, but the father of the family told us that as the storm struck, they had up-ended their couch and sought cover under it. He said one of the most terrifying things he had ever seen came when their front door was ripped off by the wind and from his place at the end of the couch he saw his neighbor's roof lift off and fly away in the storm.

My sister, Joann, lived at 52nd and Washington, near the edge of the hardest hit area. She said that as the storm approached, she and her husband and daughter jumped in their car, a 1947 Chevrolet, and began driving away. They hadn't gone a block, however, she said, when the wind whipped their car completely around. They went back to their home and rode out the storm with no serious damage.

At the risk of being flippant, let me say it really was a dark and stormy night.

GLEND A SCOTT COOK '53, AMARILLO, TX.

A big thank you to all the classmates who have kept the “Sandie Spirit” alive. I especially enjoy the articles about Amarillo historical, and current that Rita Bryant writes up.

After retirement, I have been very active in church, multiple community groups, and political work. I’ve helped family members run for office, as well as friends. I think everyone should be an informed voter.

My 3 kids have blessed me with 3 great grand kids, and another one is due in July right here in Amarillo.

I have good health still – but my joints are all wearing out. I miss Dwayne McMinn calling to check on me. Blessings to you all.

KATHRYN GOODWIN KING '52, AMARILLO, TX

I was married 48 years to William Dwayne “Chip” Grumke, '52. I had 2 children who are both deceased. My daughter was Melody Kay Hillman, and was a AHS Stepper in 1971. I have 4 Grandchildren (1 deceased), and 4 Great Grandchildren.

Dwayne passed away January, 2001. We had planned to attend our 50th AHS Reunion, so I did go by myself. I reconnected with a former boyfriend, Jerry G. G. King, AHS, '50. In 3 days he proposed. We were married for 15 + years. He passed away in 2018. After his demise, I moved to Spearman, TX. To be close to my sister, Sally Goodwin Desimone, '50.

After Sally’s husband, Danny Desimone passed away, Sally and I moved to Amarillo to live with her son, Rich Desimone. Sally passed away two months later. So now I live with Rich, his wife, Lori, and Rich’s sister, Denice. Here I am now back in Amarillo among nieces, nephews, and a double cousin, Patsy Goodwin Bainum, '54.

I’ll be 90 in July. I have Macular Degeneration so I do not drive, but am able to get around. I have books on tape from Texas Talking Books, and I also keep my hands busy crocheting yarn on wire hangers.

I plan on a trip soon to Arizona to see my only surviving sibling, my brother Glenn Goodwin.

BLOW SAND, BLOW!

MARJORIE ROYSE WALSH '56, AMARILLO, TX

We had fun on Kid Day in 1956 on the front lawn at Amarillo High School. Pictured left to right are Diana Knowles, Stanley Marsh, Marjorie Royse, and Johnny Oaks. All members of the Grand Ole Class of 1956.



TOBY DRUIN '53, WAXAHACHIE, TX.

The Night the Revival Tent Blew Away

Memories of the devastating tornado of the spring of 1949 were still too fresh in many minds in Amarillo on the evening of Sept. 11, 1950, when another twister-like storm flattened a revival tent on the north edge of the city, injuring 50 and burying thousands more under rain-soaked canvas.

The Oral Roberts Evangelistic Association had erected the tent on what would one day be the site of the Trail Drive-In Theater, and Roberts, widely known preacher and faith-healer had been drawing people to the tent by the thousands for a week.

Out of curiosity more than anything else, Charlene Benton (AHS '53), who lived across the street from me, and I attended one of the services at the tent early in the week. Curiosity or not, Roberts delivered a soul-searching, powerful sermon that night, and I made a profession of faith in Christ at the close of the service. I was baptized at River Road Baptist Church the following Sunday night by Pastor A. B. Moseley.

If you knew me during my high school days, you will recall that I stuttered--rather well. I have said jokingly over the years that had stuttering been an Olympic sport that I would have been a gold medalist.

As I have told the story about making a profession of faith at an Oral Roberts revival, I have often been asked why I didn't at that service get Roberts to heal me of my stuttering. My answer has always been the same: I got what I needed most at that tent that evening, and Oral Roberts didn't have anything to do with it.

In recent years the stuttering problem--or maybe opportunity--has left me. Well, for the most part. Thank you, Lord.

JOHN REGAL '66, TROY, VA.

Fifty-six years ago I commanded a Marine Corps infantry company in Vietnam during the 1968 Tet Offensive. It was my second tour in Vietnam. I had previously commanded an infantry company in 1966. The below email is to the members of my company and their relatives and friends. Later, after the Vietnam War, as a lieutenant colonel, I commanded the 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion at Camp Lejeune, NC. In 1981 I was selected to attend the Australian War College in Canberra, Australia but turned it down to retire and return to Texas. I taught Marine Corps Junior ROTC at Caprock High School in Amarillo for 16 years.

Thanks for all you do in keeping us informed.

EMAIL FROM JOHN REGAL: TO OUR KILO FAMILY

RE: KILO SITREP: 56TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF LAM XUAN (EAST), 2 FEBRUARY 1968

Once again we are reminded that our days are now very short, our shadows long, and our ranks are thinning every so quickly. As we grow older, we harken back to our memories of that nighttime battle on 2 February 1968... 56 years ago. We relive that night vividly because it is ingrained in our soul. We honor the great men who fought and died by our side.

We know...we absolutely know... that no man emerges from combat unchanged, whether it be this battle or any other... and there were many as the company fought all over the vast area of I Corps from 1966 to 1971. Names are still impressed in our being ... Chu Lai, Danang, the Dunes, the Island, the Riviera, Hill 10, the Horse shoe, Tu Cau, Thuong Duc, An Hoa, My Loc, Nhi Ha, Calu, Cua Viet, Tham Khe, Hill 512 and the many, many battalion operations... Double Eagle, Texas, Arizona, Utah, Badger Tooth, Badger Catch, Swift Saber, Mameluke Thrust, Shelbyville, Fortress Ridge, Lancaster... the list goes on and on and on. Wherever the fight, we were there. Those of us who survived, to a large extent, the experience shaped our lives, the good and the bad. Memories range from crystal clear to ALMOST non-existent, but it's there... deep, deep, deep down in our gut. Oh yes, it's there.

Between 27 December 1967 and 1 February 1968, Kilo Company had 9 Marines and 1 Corpsman killed in action along with another 42 wounded. We were far from full strength on 2 February. It was not unusual for PFCs and lance corporals to lead squads. Often our company was geographically separated from the other companies in the battalion. We were a click north of the Cua Viet River, adjacent to a small tributary known only as "Jones Creek." Just east of that creek was a small deserted hamlet shown as Lam Xuan (east) on our 1:50,000 scale map. And that's where we were, dug in, right in the center of that hamlet. The residents had long since gone.

With the aid of tanks, artillery, and air support, Lima and Kilo companies had secured this hamlet on 28 January. Both companies fought in and around that area for several days before Lima moved on to another fight and Kilo was ordered to stay in Lam Xuan and establish a position from which to patrol.

On 1 February, I was anxious to get the hell out of that hamlet. We had been there too long. The NVA had eyes on us. I was certain of that. I radioed back to the battalion operations officer and requested that we be allowed to move out of the village to a more defensible position... not far... just a short distance to the southeast. For some reason, without explanation, I was told to stay put. I had never disobeyed an order in my life but I moved the company later that evening when it got dark.

On the afternoon of 1 February, the platoon commanders, Lt Judd Kinne, Lt Chuck Clark and SSgt Haywood Riley (who had taken over the 2nd platoon on 25 January when Lt Bryan Lash was seriously wounded and evacuated to the hospital ship, USS Repose) accompanied me to an area just a couple of hundred meters SE of Lam Xuan. I instructed them where and how we would reestablish our positions. Later, just after dark, with radio silence, we moved quickly and quietly out of our old

positions and into the new ones... fairly easy and it didn't take long. Our guys were very good at moving in the dark. We had done that often.

In very short order, the company XO, Lt Bill Michel and the arty FO, Lt Ted Edwards, formulated a night defensive plan and we went about firing-in final protective fires and designating targets. Each platoon established a listening post (LP) forward of their respective positions.

Early the following morning, 2 Feb, at approximately 0100, two LPs reported movement. The LP from the 3rd platoon, Dennis Moriarty, John Gibbs, and Homer McNair, was closest to the movement. These fine Marines saved our butts by being alert and quickly reporting enemy movement. Just after pulling all LPs back inside our perimeter, a massive concentration of NVA artillery, mortars and rockets rained down on our previous positions in Lam Xuan.

Apparently believing that they had us surrounded, the NVA circled the village and prepared to attack. We started our surprise by firing artillery at an enemy we at the time could barely see. Shortly thereafter, the NVA got it figured out and began an assault on our new positions but it was too late. Not a single NVA soldier penetrated our lines. It was one hell of a fight that lasted until after daybreak and into the morning. Mike Company and a couple of Lt Bob Parrish's Charlie Company tanks moved up and helped push the surviving NVA to the north. As we moved out of our positions, 144 NVA soldiers lay dead between our lines and the edge of the village. I believe we killed over 200. We captured 7 NVA.

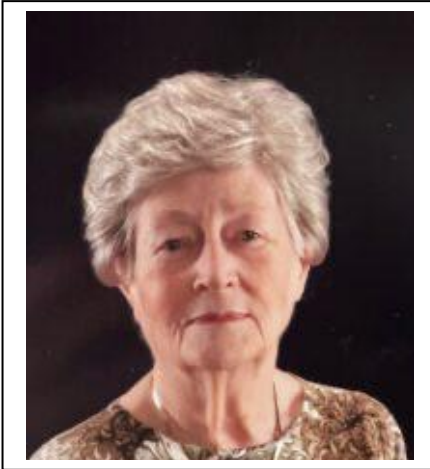
Victory is never without tragedy. We lost 6 of our Marines and 1 Navy Corpsman in this battle. My intention in writing about each year is not only to honor those we fought alongside who perished but also to recognize those who were fortunate enough to return home. Someone once said, *"Death is not final until you are forgotten."* We are committed to remember because we are SEMPER FIDELIS.

Tonight, stand with me ladies and gentlemen. We will toast our beloved Kilo Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, together. My prayers are with each of you and for those brothers we did not bring home. It was my great honor to serve as your commanding officer. My love for you and our beloved Corps does not fade with time. SEMPER FIDELIS

ONCE A SANDIE, ALWAYS A SANDIE!

OBITUARIES

CLASS OF 1942



Viola Bichsel Renegar died January 26, 2024, in Amarillo

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/viola-bichsel-renegar/>

CLASS OF 1947



Carol Jane McCartney Simpson died February 3, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/amarillo-tx/carol-simpson-11654148>

CLASS OF 1948



Ruby “Earlene” Kendrick Melton died February 14, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/ruby-earlene-melton/>

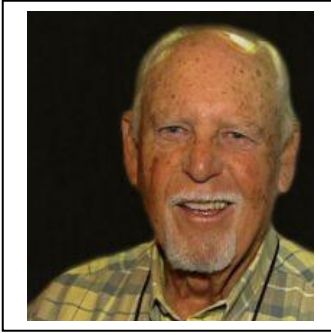


Donald Eugene McMahan died March 21, 2024, in Amarillo,

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/donald-eugene-mcmahan/>

ONCE A SANDIE, ALWAYS A SANDIE!

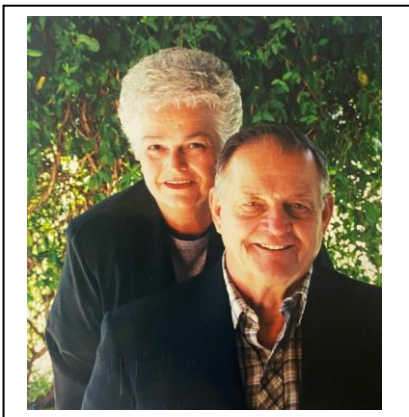
CLASS OF 1952



Bobby Joe Byrd died January 28, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.
<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/bobby-joe-byrd/>

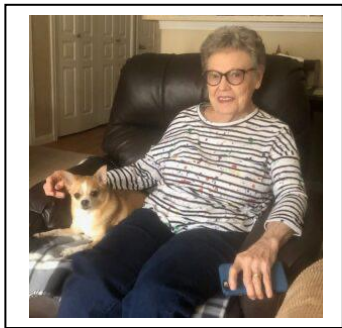


Lois Patricia Thompson Sims died March 6, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.
<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/lois-patricia-sims/>



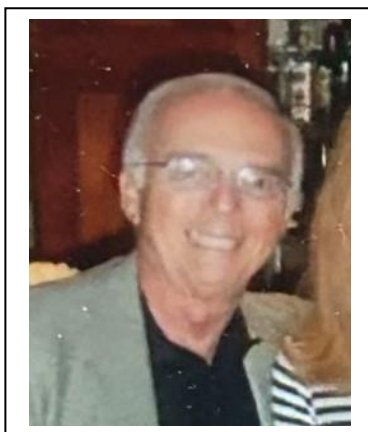
Margie "Charlene" Drake Ubben died March 7, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.
<https://www.schoolerfuneralhome.com/tributes/Margie-Ubben>

CLASS OF 1953



Betty Lou Graham died February 8, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/betty-lou-graham/>



Marty Alan Fenberg died March 12 2024, in Amarillo, TX

<https://www.schoolerfuneralhome.com/tributes/Marty-Fenberg>

BLOW SAND, BLOW!

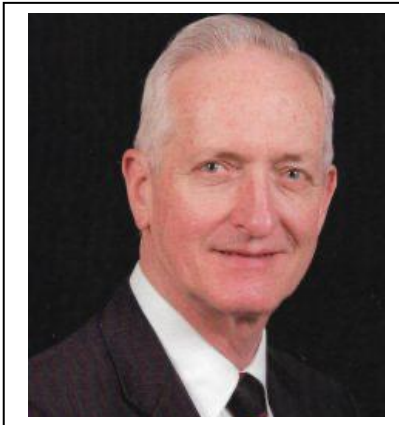
CLASS OF 1954



Leon “Dale” Bippus died March 17, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/leon-dale-bippus/>

Class of 1955



Curtis Harlan O’Rear died January 25, 2024, in League City, TX.

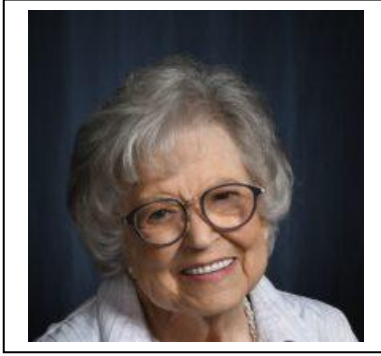
<https://www.crowderfuneralhome.com/obituaries/curtis-harlan-orear/>



Daine Bruce Lawler died February 23, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/amarillo-tx/bruce-lawler-11683181>

Class of 1955 (Cont)



Evelyn “La Paula” Hemphill died March 18, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/evelyn-la-paula-hemphill/>

CLASS OF 1956



Bryan Wheeler Scott died December 22, 2022 in Moulton, TX.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/houstonchronicle/name/bryan-scott-obituary?id=54009799>

CLASS OF 1957



Patricia Gail “Patty” Buckley died February 12, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.schoolerfuneralhome.com/tributes/PatriciaPatty-Buckley>

CLASSOF 1957 (Cont)



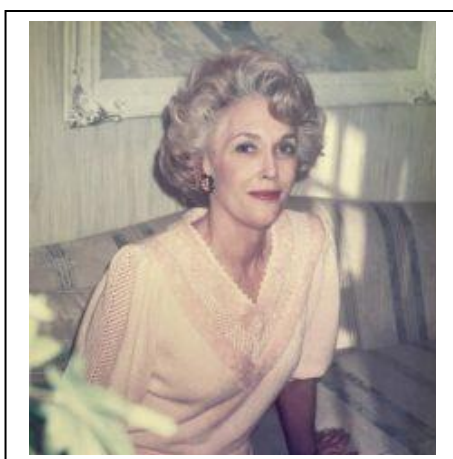
Virginia Ann Young Wasson died February 9, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.schoolerfuneralhome.com/tributes/Virginia-Wasson>



Nancy Hart Todd died February 24, 2024, in Plano, TX.

<https://www.affoplano.com/obituary/nancy-todd>



Donna Maureen Dolcater Burks died March 16, 2024 in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/donna-maureen-dolcater-burks/>

CLASS OF 1958



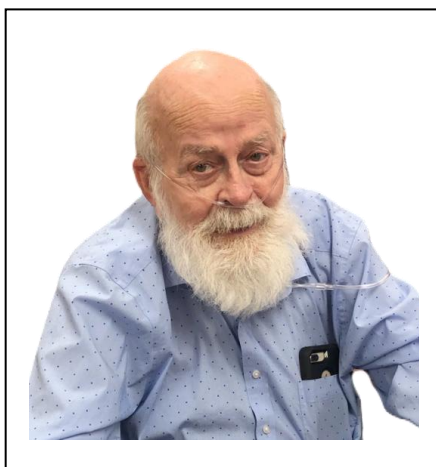
Michael McCaulley died January 11, 2024, in Dallas, TX.

No Obituary Available



John Walter Golightly, Jr. died February 16, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.schoolerfuneralhome.com/tributes/John-GolightlyJr>



Charles Ray Martin died January 24, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.lagroneblackburnshaw.com/tributes/Charles-Martin>

CLASS OF 1958 (Cont)



William “Quincy” Boyce II died March 23, 2024, in Littlefield, TX.

<https://www.hillcrestfuneralhomelittlefield.com/obituary/william-boyce-ii>

CLASS OF 1959



Mary Louise Summers Kempf died February 24, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/amarillo-tx/mary-kempf-11684139>



Constance “Connie” Marie Lawson Kelln died january 31, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/constance-connie-marie-kelln/>

CLASS OF 1960



Melba Ruth Burch House died February 24, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/melba-ruth-burch-house/>

CLASS OF 1962



Larry Don Bobbitt Staff Sgt. E6-US Army retired died March 15, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/larry-don-bobbitt/>

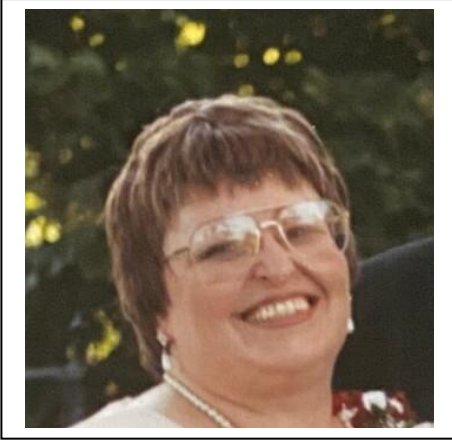
CLASS OF 1963



Lynda Kay Harris Moore died December 10, 2023, in Southlake, TX.

<https://neptunesociety.com/obituaries/north-richland-hills-tx/lynda-moore-11577461>

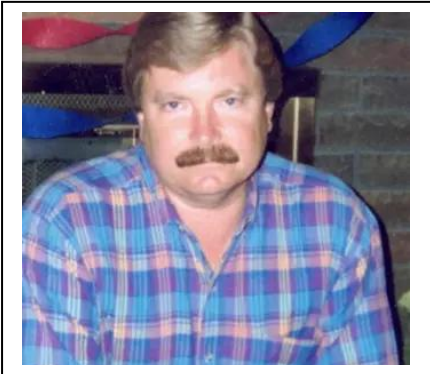
CLASS OF 1965



Anna “Samie” Roberts Grisham died February 24, 2024, in Amarillo, TX

<https://www.coxrowleyfuneralhome.com/obituary/Anna-Grisham>

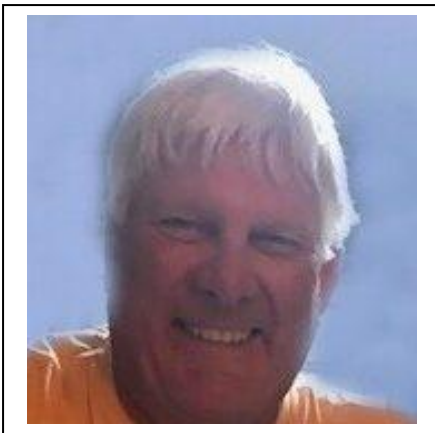
CLASS OF 1966



Michael Scott O’Neal died February 3, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.llanocemetery.org/obituaries/Michael-Scott-ONeal?obId=30676667>

CLASS OF 2005



William Roy “Bill” Dobbe died January 24, 2024, in Amarillo, TX.

<https://www.boxwellbrothers.com/obituary/william-bill-roy-dobbe/>

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

DONOR

Barbara Hines Garner
Cynthia Glasgow Hudson
Cynthia Glasgow Hudson
Cynthia Glasgow Hudson
Daryl & Kathryne Bayle
Trilla Nordyke Pando
Glennnda Scott Cook
Hugh Cox
Ronald Moore
Earl Clift
Earl Cliff

DONOR

Kay Nell Baldwin Harris

MEMORIALS

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Jack Glasgow
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Gary Biggers
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P.O. Box 7146, Amarillo, TX 79114
AHS50thalumiassociation@gmail.com

The AHS 50th Alumni Association is active in promoting fellowship among graduates of the finest school anywhere—Amarillo High School. People really do enjoy hearing from the old gang and our bi-monthly publication is the surest way to get regular updates. Please share membership info with fellow Sandies who are not members.

| | | | |
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| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| First Name | Last Name in High School | Married Name (Ladies) | Class |
| | | | |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Spouse Name | Last Name in High School (Only if AHS) (Only if AHS) | Married Name (Ladies) | Class |
| | | | |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Address | City | State | Zip |
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Annual Dues (due January 1, each year): Single Dues \$10.00 ____ Couple's Dues \$15.00 ____

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NOW, WHY DON'T YOU WRITE A NOTE TO THE EDITOR telling classmates where you have been and what you have been doing? You know how you enjoy hearing from your friends. They, too, would like some news—FROM YOU!! Mail your story to the address on the Membership Registration Page. (Room to write on next page)



Name (Please Include Maiden Name)_____

**Mail to :
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AHS 50th Alumni Association

P.O. Box 7146, Amarillo, TX 79114

AHS50thalumniassociation@gmail.com

MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM FORM

Your First Name Last Name in High School Married Name (Ladies) Class

Address City State Zip

In Memory _____ Honor _____ of _____ AHS Class _____

Please send an acknowledgement to:

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ONCE A SANDIE! ALWAYS A SANDIE!



**Amarillo High School 50th Alumni
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P.O. Box 7146
Amarillo, TX 79114**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR/SAVE THE DATE
OCTOBER 25th & 26th, 2024
AHS 50TH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION**