

CLASS OF 1966



School of Nursing

*30 Year
Class Reunion*

*Saturday
August 3, 1996*

Sharon Kay (Baliman) Abraham
Deceased

Cheryl (Myers) Anderson

Denver, CO

Janyce Marie (King) Aura

Seattle, WA

Current Employment

Position: Nurse Practitioner

Company/Facility: University of Washington

Years in Current Position: N.P. for five years - University of Washington for 1 1/2 years

Personal

Spouse: Bob

Spouse's Profession: Banker

Children/Ages: Tom/25; Erik/22

Comments:

Where have 30 years gone? DeAnne and I drove to Seattle in November, 1966 with all our belongings in her Pontiac Tempest. We both found nursing positions at the University of Washington. I went into the neonatal ICU. Bob and I met that summer, married at Christmas. I've worked continuously, primarily in outpatient settings, family practice, then OB/Gyn. - 25 hours per week while the kids were young, full time since 1988. In 1991 I went to Harbor-UCLA and became certified as a nurse practitioner in womens health care. Currently I'm back at the University of Washington doing research in very interesting studies: subacute/chronic PID, Herpes in pregnancy, Preterm Labor, Effects of hormonal contraceptives on vaginal physiology.

I'm sorry to say that I seldom travel to Nebraska as my family has all moved to Washington, and regret that I won't be at the reunion. I'll be thinking of you and please send me a note if you can.

Fondly,

Jan

DeAnne (Frazier) Baer

Tacoma, WA

Current Employment

Position: Director, Community Cancer Program

Company/Facility: Franciscan Health System Cancer Center

Years in Current Position: 7

Personal

Spouse: Larry

Spouse's Profession: Orthodontist

Children/Ages: Michael/26; Christina/21.

Hobbies/Interests: Hiking, reading, traveling

Comments: I spent the first three months after graduation working at Bryan on the medical floor. Then the travel bug hit and my room-mate, Janyce King (Aura), and I drove to Seattle to begin a new venture. For the next six years I worked at University Hospital (surgical I.C.U., special care float nurse, and house supervisor) and attended a B.S.N. program at the University of Washington. I graduated from the University of Washington with a B.S. in Nursing in 1970.

My first husband and I were married in 1968 and our children, Michael (age 27) and Christina (age 21) arrived over the next few years. Michael is currently a senior in dental school at the University of Washington and Christina is a senior at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon. Christina will spend this fall semester studying in Ecuador and plans to go into medicine.

My husband, son and I (Christina hadn't arrived yet) moved back to Beatrice for one year in 1972-1973 and then ended up moving to Tacoma which is where I have lived ever since. I have enjoyed living in the Northwest but do miss Nebraska. I do have the opportunity to be in Nebraska often to visit family. I have spent the past many years with hobbies such as down hill skiing, hiking, reading and volunteering. I was very active with the Junior League for many years and enjoyed being president of the organization.

My second husband and I married in 1982 and I acquired two stepchildren, Christopher (age 28) and Stephanie (age 24). They both live in Seattle. So far none of our children are married but we do have three significant others in the family so perhaps marriage and grandchildren will be in our near future.

I have been the Director of the Community Cancer Program at St. Joseph Medical Center for seven years. This involves doing outreach education in the field of cancer. I set up educational forums, screenings (prostate, skin and breast), do presentations in the community, oversee support groups and do marketing for the Cancer Center. We are now part of Franciscan Health System which is part of the nation-wide Catholic Health Initiative (CHI). Catholic Health Corporation, Omaha, is also part of the CHI system.

My husband, Larry, an orthodontist, and I have enjoyed traveling the past few years to places such as France (by river barge), Switzerland (by train), Mexico, Alberta, and in the states, New York, Santa Fe, Sedona/Phoenix, Toronto and Orlando. We also did a tour by bus through many countries in Europe which included the Passion Play in Germany. I spent nine days visiting my dad at Bryan this past May after he suffered a heart attack. I was impressed with the care he received and, of course, it was great fun spending time walking around the campus and trying to find the School of Nursing. The campus is very impressive with its dramatic growth over the past many years. This is my first time back for a reunion and I'm looking forward to seeing friends from years back.

Dianne (Wagner) Bartling

St. Louis, MO

Personal

Spouse: Ivan

Spouse's Profession: Commodity Broker

Children/Ages: Todd/26; Jodi/21; Amy/18; Erin/14

Hobbies/Interests: Bridge, Gin, Church volunteer, school volunteer, housekeeper, chauffeur, etc.

Comments: Not worked in nursing since 1973! A full-time Mom all those years and loved it (still at it!). We've been in St. Louis for 23 years - come visit us if in the area. (Still big Cornhusker fans!)

*Karin Kay (Clark) Betschart
(deceased)*

Linda (Lee) Busch

Omaha, NE

Bettie (Bauer) Butts

Lincoln, NE

Current Employment

Position: Scheduling Center RN

Company/Facility: Bryan Memorial Hospital

Years in Current Position: 6 months

Personal

Spouse: Tim

Spouse's Profession: Commercial Heating & Air Conditioning Service Tech.

Children/Ages: Brenda McLey/27

Hobbies/Interests: Family, golf, sewing

Comments:

Married Tim, who was in the Navy, and moved to Boston area for several years. Worked in surgery at the Melrose-Wakefield Hospital. After coming back to Lincoln, worked at Bryan on a medical floor, old 3 West, until daughter, Brenda, was born. After deciding being home all day wasn't for me, I went back to Bryan and have been there ever since Jan. 1970. I was in the Float Pool for about a year. Then a Staff Development Instructor for several years. The majority of my career, I was the Manager of Staff Development. Throughout the years I went to UNL for Bachelors and Masters Degrees in education. After my position in Staff Development ended, I took a position in Bryan's Scheduling Center. Nearly all my entire life has centered around Bryan. The knowledge and experiences afforded me has been rewarding.

Diane Marie (Krull) Carlson

Crete, IL

Current Employment

Position: Having relocated in January, I am still seeking employment.

Company/Facility:

Years in Current Position:

Personal

Spouse: Wayne

Spouse's Profession: Episcopal Priest

Children/Ages: Sarah/25; David/19.

Hobbies/Interests: Perennial gardening, wood painting, reading.

Comments:

We moved to Chicago in January after living in St. Louis for 18 years. I was Vice-president and Chief Nurse Executive of a hospital there for 13 years. I was also a faculty member at St. Louis University in the graduate and undergraduate programs.

Janis Case
Annandale, VA

Myra (Roebke) Denton
Beatrice, NE

Dianne (Damm) Gosin
Westminster, CA

Judith (Frahm) Hansen

St. Paul, MN

Victoria (Thomas) Hepperlen

Sioux City, IA

William Herman

Jacksonville, TX

Robert Hildebrand

Tulsa, OK

Current Employment

Position: Staff Anesthetist

Company/Facility: Associated Anesthesiologists

Years in Current Position: 26

Personal

Spouse: Dinah

Spouse's Profession: Nurse

Children/Ages: Phillip/28; Nancy/25

Hobbies/Interests: Scuba Diving, shooting and computers

Comments: Time flies.

Cheryl (Swanson) Hildenbrandt

La Vista, NE

Judith (Nelson) Ilg

Lakewood, CO

Evalene (Hock) Kellogg

Lakewood, CO

Sherlyn (Stewart) Lange

David City, NE

Loretta (Lucas) McKay

Sulphur Springs, TX

Mary Ann (Bowman) Meisner

Lincoln, NE

Current Employment

Position: Staff nurse - Emergency Department

Company/Facility: Bryan Memorial Hospital

Years in Current Position: 5 - Institution/24 years

Personal

Children/Ages: Joe/28; Bruce/27

Hobbies/Interests: Reading, gardening, silver jewelry creation and being a grandmother.

Bethene (Peterson) Melcher

Deceased

Edith (Marshall) Merryman

Iowa City, IA

Mary Helen (Bucknell) Moore

Aurora, CO

Current Employment

Position: Quality Management Specialist

Company/Facility: University Hospital, Denver

Years in Current Position: 10

Personal

Spouse: Rodney

Spouse's Profession: Clergyman

Children/Ages: James/25; Molly/18.

Hobbies/Interests: Music, quilting, reading, trying to get my work done and get organized.

Comments:

Since my husband is a clergyman, we've had the opportunity to live in several communities and enjoy a wealth of friends. We've been in Colorado 10 years and really enjoy the weather and scenery, but often miss the plains. It's very interesting and challenging to work in a large academic medical setting.

Gail (Russell) Nelson

Lincoln, NE

Current Employment

Position: RN - Staff - PSCU/PACU

Company/Facility: Bryan Memorial Hospital

Years in Current Position: 24

Personal

Spouse: Charles

Spouse's Profession: Architect

Children/Ages: Karen/14; Mark/12.

Hobbies/Interests: Reading, family, vacations.

Comments:

After graduation I worked in hospitals in Colorado, California, Wisconsin, and Nebraska.

Anita (Whitson) Ness

Hallsville, MO

Jane (Stolle) Nethers

Los Alamitos, CA

Current Employment

Position: R.N.

Company/Facility: Memorial Family Medicine - Long Beach, CA 90801

Years in Current Position:

Personal

Spouse: Richard

Children/Ages: 2 - ages 16 and 13

Kay Marie (Williamson) Oestmann

Johnson, NE

Loretta (Pohlman) Olson

Lincoln, NE

Current Employment

Position: Patient Education Coordinator

Company/Facility: Bryan Memorial Hospital

Years in Current Position: 18

Personal

Spouse: Stan

Spouse's Profession: Design Engineer/Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.

Children/Ages: Kim/25 - second year medical student, University of NE Medical College - Omaha; Lana/21 - Junior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Hobbies/Interests: Travel, gardening, reading fiction and nonfiction.

Comments: People may question my flexibility and resourcefulness when they discover that I stayed at Bryan all these years. I feel as though I've held about seven or eight different jobs. I began as a staff nurse in the Intensive/Coronary Care unit, taught nurse aide/orderly classes and finally found my niche in patient education.

As with most nurses we may have one title, but we do several other jobs. Over the years I've had some wonderful opportunities such as coordinating the *Lifeline* program, and emergency response system for elderly and disabled in the community via the telephone lines. When Bryan wanted to provide chronic wound care, I worked with the hospital's business manager researching programs, systems, locations and space utilization. In the early 90s our patient teaching department included 5.5 full-time nurses - an enterostomal therapy nurse, diabetes nurses, rheumatology nurse and maternal/child educator. When the enterostomal therapy nurse transferred to another position, I assumed ostomy and skin care responsibilities - the ET nurse at St. Elizabeth has been my mentor.

In June, 1995 the hospital opened a Community Resource Center - a dream of all patient education coordinators. As with so many things, if Bryan is going to do something, they do it right. Our Resource Center has over 3500 loanable health-related books, audiotapes and videotapes available to the patients, families, and the public at no charge for two week checkout. We have several CD-ROM programs to assist with health information searches. Center staff includes a manager, secretary and two Patient Education Coordinators. We average 190 health information searches a month and are growing. By the end of summer we will probably be on the Internet giving us access to health libraries across the country as well as special interest rooms. Quite a learning curve for someone they had to send to computer/mouse classes. We also offer programs to the public such as Domestic Violence, Parenting, Gender Communication issues, and many, many others.

Family activities are very important. We are thoroughly enjoying our adult daughters and their interests. To celebrate our anniversary Stan and I will tour Alaska the end of June. Other favorite destinations for the Olsons include Sarasota, Florida, Tucson, Arizona, and Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Someday, Stan and I hope to jump in the pickup, hook up the fifth wheel and hit the highways to all parts of USA and Canada, maybe even Mexico.

Gaytha (Waters) Patterson
Englewood, CO

Darlene F. (Carlson) Powell

Littleton, CO

Current Employment

Position: Counselor/Instructor

Company/Facility: Community College of Denver

Years in Current Position: 8

Personal

Spouse: Bill

Spouse's Profession: Welder

Children/Ages: Jeff/24; Teresa/19

Hobbies/Interests: Gardening, walking, reading, craft fairs and garage sales

Comments:

Survived breast cancer for 18 years now. Very active in counseling women who have breast cancer or had it.

Linda (Cook) Purcell

Palatine, IL

Judy (Curtiss) Rasmussen

Plainview, NE

Current Employment

Position:

Company/Facility:

Years in Current Position:

Personal

Spouse: Wayne

Spouse's Profession: Farmer

Children/Ages: Tammy Newland/26; Sheela Rasmussen/24; Tim Rasmussen/20; Dave Rasmussen/18. One granddaughter, Erin Newland, /16 months.

Hobbies/Interests: Aerobics, walking, Bible study, reading, cooking, Church activities.

Comments:

Wayne and I have lived on this farm and raised our 4 children nearly all our married life. Tammy is an elementary teacher and the wife of an Army man (Eric). They have been stationed in Velsech, Germany for 3 years and are finally coming stateside again in Sept!! (Fort Campbell, Kentucky, for Eric's last year). Sheela is an Occupational Therapist at St. Joseph's Hospital in Denver--likes her job and loves all the opportunities for recreation the Denver area offers. Tim will be a Junior at UNL and is majoring in Agriculture. Dave will be a freshman at UNL and plans to major in business and finance. As is in probably most of your families, Wayne and I are the shortest 2 in our family!

I seem to keep busy with the hobbies and interests I mentioned earlier plus caring for several older and/or handicapped loved ones. Wayne's mother requires 24 hr. nursing care, however, thanks to 2 wonderful ladies, is still able to be in her own home. I go there for at least an hour or so every day to check things out and visit with the caretakers, as it is very difficult for Wayne's mom to talk. She has Parkinson's, ocular degeneration of her eyes and severe arthritis in her knees which leads to a multitude of problems. I have used my "nurses training" all my life with family members and friends.

We are very busy on the farm--hogs, cattle, corn, soybeans, and alfalfa--but if and when we get a chance, Wayne and I enjoy traveling. Last summer we went to Europe for 2 weeks to visit Tammy and Eric, and especially get acquainted with our new granddaughter. Some day we'd like to go to the Holy Land.

Because our days off are very few and we must save them for super major things, I don't think I'll make it to the reunion! I do wish all of you the very best and have a wonderful time! If you ever get in the Plainview area, we are still 1 mile west and 1/2 mile south of Plainview. Stop in sometime!

Memories that bring a smile now:

1. My first day on the floor - watering the flowers in the room of a NE football player (admired even back then!) and later having him tell me it wouldn't do any good since they were artificial!
2. Giving my hemorrhoidectomy patient an enema only to get dizzy and faint 2/3 of the way through. Saved by an orderly who walked through the door!
3. Dr. Cherry yelling and throwing instruments in OR!
4. Those awful anatomy classes and cats!!
5. Being in obstetrics for 8 weeks and never getting to help with a delivery on "my shift", only to have my first experience in our small hospital be a premie who came in and delivered in 1 hour. All I could remember was our OB instructor saying "if you can see they're going to precip, put on sterile gloves and guide the head out". So I did and it worked--praise the Lord!!

Teresa Rennick

Chiloquin, OR

Rita (Nelson) Robinson

West Linn, OR

Starlynn (Wiese) Stubr

Waco, NE

Current Employment

Position: Staff Nurse

Company/Facility: York Geneva Hospital

Years in Current Position: 6

Personal

Spouse: Merlin

Spouse's Profession: Farmer

Children/Ages: Sherry/23; Chad/21

Hobbies/Interests: Sewing, landscaping, bird feeding.

Comments:

After graduating, I was fortunate to always find employment and am so thankful for the solid education provided by Bryan. Beginning in 1973 I took a "12 year leave of absence" to devote time to child rearing. The next 5 years found me employed as the school nurse at Centennial Public School, Utica, NE. For the past 6 years I have enjoyed working at York General Hospital, York, NE. Nursing has been a fullfilling occupation and I plan to continue working part-time. My special interest areas are Coronary Care and Emergency Room nursing. I also teach CPR and First-aid classes for the general public, and on a volunteer basis, I serve as EMT/AD for our local fire department. I send fond greetings to all BMH graduates. I will not be at the '96 reunion, as Aug. 3rd is our daughter's wedding day!

Constance (Anderson) Van Metre

Clackamos, OR

Jane (Packer) Wahlgren

Salina, KS

Judith Ann (Johnson) Zabel

Lincoln, NE

Marilyn (Knuth) Zieg

Meridan, KS