

CLASS OF 1961



School of Nursing

*35 Year
Class Reunion*

*Saturday
August 3, 1996*

Lois (Abts) Bishop
Deceased

Lorraine (Hueske) Bitting

Cheney, KS

Personal

Spouse: Kenneth (deceased)

Children/Ages: Joan Meyer/32; Meredith Ogden/27; Matthew/24.

Grandchildren: Cameron Meyer/4; Nicole/6; Roger Ogden, Jr./1 1/2.

Hobbies/Interests: Quilting, volunteering and scrapbooking.

Comments:

The move to my home in Cheney was my 21st move in my life time. Kenny made the U.S. Navy his career for nearly 22 years—hence all of the moves. We lived five years in Hawaii, 3 years in Guam, Pensacola, Fl, and Norfolk, VA. We had a baby in every port except Norfolk. Hastings and Fairbury, NE were our homes after Kenny retired from the Navy.

My spiritual growth has been the most exciting for me through all of these years. I completed Bethel Bible Series teacher training, Stephen Ministers Leadership Training, many workshops on evangelism, anti-abortion, etc. In 1994, I received certification in Minister of Health and Clinical Pastoral Education. I did my internship here in Cheney and I now volunteer in the community as well as in the medical records department at Hunter Health Clinic in Wichita, as I have time for.

I've grown to be content as a widow and a single person. I was recently diagnosed with fibromyalgia but have found a doctor in Wichita who has really helped me—no more anti-inflammatory drugs or pain pills.

Private duty nursing was taking up some of my time, but I have given that up for a new career (I was getting so I didn't even like to go to workshops anymore. Nursing has changed so much—what has happened to nursing care?) I am now a consultant for Creative Memories. I teach classes and workshops on preserving and organizing photos and I love it!!!

Geraldine (Elsasser) Bond

Aurora, CO

Current Employment

Position: RN

Company/Facility: I work for a couple different agencies

Years in Current Position: 10 years

Personal

Children/Ages: Laura/32

Hobbies/Interests: Painting, swimming and reading

Comments:

I guess this is as good a time as any to "Thank You All" as I'm sure it took a concentrated effort for most of you to get me through those 3 years. Would love to see you all but will be baby sitting at that time. Take care & God Bless.

Love, Geri

p.s. "Thanks Liz"

Virginia (Parishe) Bosse

Placerville, CO

Current Employment

Position: Retired from nursing - Working part time at local Public Library (no weekend, holidays, call backs, doubles, etc.!)
Years in Current Position: 2 1/2

Personal

Spouse: Jon Spouse's Profession: School teacher
Children/Ages: Julie/33; Jon/31; Mark/28

Hobbies/Interests: #1-5 grandchildren! Skiing, gardening, travel, knitting and history studies. I also operate a very small stained glass business.

Comments: I worked for 21 years at the only hospital in Montrose, CO primarily in med/surg spending some five years as head nurse on a combined surg/ortho/oncology floor and five years in surgery. In 1988 Jon and I built our own home with our own hands in the mountains near Telluride and moved there on a permanent basis three years ago. We have not really retired - we've started over and this time we're having grandchildren! Jon teaches Computer Science at Telluride High School/Middle School. He is also writing two books and doing articles related to family history. This summer we are traveling to Germany and Switzerland to pursue his genealogy research.

Phyllis Jean Brooks

Los Alamos, NM

Barbara (Luethje) Christie *Deceased*

Esther (Siebert) Fox

Fairfax, VA

Janice (Cross) Frost

Fort Collins, CO

Bonnie (Phelps) Huff

Lincoln, NE

Alice (Cox) Johnson

Slidell, LA

Current Employment

Position: Director of Nursing Service

Company/Facility: Northshore Living Center - Vencor

Years in Current Position: 4

Personal

Spouse: Charles

Spouse's Profession: Engineer - Retired Exxon

Children/Ages: Brian/33 (wife-Connie); Jim/31 (wife-Alison, Jennifer/5 1/2; Julie/3; Brandon/to be born in June);

Paul/26 (wife-Mara)

Hobbies/Interests: Music, reading, sewing and needle craft.

Comments: Married in April, 1962 - lived in California, Hawaii, Nebraska, Texas, Connecticut, Florida then South Louisiana for the past 27 years. Have worked med/surg, surgery, O.B. Home Health, Long-Term Care. 1976-86 ten year retirement from Nursing - completed degree in piano at local university. Past ten years in Long-term care - currently D.O.N. and certified in gerontology. Husband retired in 1994. I plan to work three more years. Life has been good, God has blessed - time has flown by! Family as noted above!

Lowene (Osten) Johnson

Des Moines, IA

Current Employment

Position: Adult Mental Health at Iowa Lutheran; Powell Chemical Dependency Center, Iowa Methodist

Company/Facility: Central Iowa Health System (IA Lutheran Hospital)

Years in Current Position: 17

Personal

Spouse: Kimber

Spouse's Profession: Self-employed

Children/Ages: Scot/30; Deanne/24.

Hobbies/Interests: Learning to speak Spanish. Recently joined a bilingual Toastmaster's Club.

Comments: Nursing experiences have been some office, and several areas in hospitals. Currently in hospital adult mental health for 12 years. Varied interests in community and church. Sang gospel music, and led an ensemble for 13 years. Kim and I like to take week-end trips. One "together" interest has been dancing. We have been blessed with a great daughter-in-law and son-in-law. We have one plus grandchildren! My next trip will be to Bogota, Columbia, South America, to see our daughter and family. There have been several opportunities for public speaking about mental health locally. I learned to ride horseback in my forties! Got a handsome black gelding with a good temperament and boarded him at a friend's acreage for 7 years. We return to Nebraska-to Columbus-regularly to see my parents.

Suzann (Merryman) Johnson

Shickley, NE

Current Employment

Position: Charge Nurse

Company/Facility: Fillmore County Hospital, Geneva, NE

Years in Current Position: 15

Personal

Spouse: Stanley

Spouse's Profession: Music Education/Farmer-Rancher

Children/Ages: Stacy Emmonds (RN)/33; Shannon Johnson/22 nursing student; Dr. Scott Johnson (MD)/30, Stephanie Johnson/20 2nd year college pre-radiography.

Hobbies/Interests: Flowers, decorating, crafts, music.

Cheryl (Miller) Kennan

Oshkosh, NE

Eunice (Welch) McMaster

Florissant, MO

Current Employment

Position: RN Home Health Nurse

Company/Facility: Deaconess Home Health

Years in Current Position: 4

Personal

Spouse: Marvin

Spouse's Profession: Computer Tech.

Children/Ages: Melissa/30; Chris/29

Comments: Much of my current activity centers with Chris who has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, diagnosed at age 4. Chris is wheel chair bound and ventilator dependent. His life has been improved with his use of the Mac computer and he now is finishing his college degree. I have been active in nursing positions most of the time from hospitals to nursing home director to my current home health field nursing.

My daughter didn't go into nursing but is a MSW for the State of Missouri family services in Kansas City, MO.

We have lived in Florissant now for 18 years and watched our children complete their education and continue their lives. Bryan seems a long time ago to me, I know I have my scrapbook somewhere! An endowment scholarship Class of 1961 seems an excellent way to thank our instructors and staff who got us through those three years 1958-1961.

I can't confirm the reunion weekend yet but would find it great to join you then.

Love. . .

Eunice McMaster

Dorothy (May) Miller

Gibbon, NE

Current Employment

Position: Staff Nurse - Pediatrics

Company/Facility: Good Samaritan Hospital

Years in Current Position: 15

Personal

Spouse: Donald

Spouse's Profession: Environmental Services

Children/Ages: Angela Gillming/31; Heather Brown/29; Regan Schuster/26; Joshua Miller/24

Hobbies/Interests: Bible study, reading, five grandsons, Missions

Comments: I moved home to Kearney following graduation. I met my husband when his father was my patient. We have lived in the same house, same farm since 1963. Don had bypass surgery in 1992 and farm sale in 1993. He is able to work full time at present. Our four children are married. Two live close by so we are able to enjoy the little boys often.

Rachel (Grummert) Niemeier

Fairbury, NE

Connie (Zitterkopf) Russel

Gering, NE

Current Employment

Position: Director of Staff Development

Company/Facility: Northfield Villa

Years in Current Position: 18

Personal

Spouse: E.J. (Gene)

Spouse's Profession: Self-employed business

Children/Ages: Jon Lockwood/32; Tracy Lockwood/26

Stepchildren: Lynn Russel; Gene Russel; Larry Russel; Mary Waitt; Gail Sculley

Hobbies/Interests: Travel, Bridge, reading, walking, bicycling and grandchildren

Comments: Son, Captain Jon Lockwood, Air Force pilot, married Jolene Flock, daughter of Phyllis Flock, a Bryan graduate. Have four year old son Taylor. Daughter Tracy Lockwood, speech pathologist in Kansas to be married September 21, 1996. Two stepchildren live in Connecticut, one in Albuquerque, New Mexico and two in Gering - total of ten grandchildren. Work part time. Enjoy attending Christian Women's Club meetings, playing Bridge, attending Republican Women's functions, church, grandchildren's sports, football, basketball games and especially local musical productions and Broadway musicals in Denver.

Ellen (Brown) Svoboda

Pender, NE

Marcia (Buske) Wilson

Ainsworth, IA

Current Employment

Position: Staff nurse

Company/Facility: Washington County Hospital

Years in Current Position: 23

Personal

Spouse: Jim

Spouse's Profession: Retired

Children/Ages: Maria Walker/32; Eric Newton/31

Hobbies/Interests: Working in garden, antique "tractoring" with husband and working with Hospice.

Comments: I was married to Don Newton shortly after graduation and we had two children, Maria and Eric. Don taught at Highland School in Riverside, Iowa and I was school nurse for ten years, working summers at Washington County Hospital. In 1988 I quit school nursing and worked at the hospital full-time. Don died in 1986 and I bought a house in Washington, Iowa the next year. That same year I took the position of evening house supervisor which I kept until August of 1995. At that time, I felt I needed a change; to get away from some of the stress of being a supervisor and to see if I could recapture some of the enthusiasm I had experienced as a young nurse. Our hospital opened a home health department and I was hired, first as a part-time home health nurse and in a short time, as the first full-time nurse in the department. And yes, I did recapture much of the excitement of being a nurse and making a difference to some of my patients!

I remarried in 1994, and my husband Jim and I remodeled Jim's home where we plan to live well into our retirement years. Our family has grown - we have six grandchildren which give us no end of enjoyment when they come to visit. We are active in the International Harvester Collectors Club on the state level, and have made many new friends which we see when we attend area antique tractor shows.

I plan to retire in about three years, and while I have enjoyed my working years as a nurse, I must say I do look forward to retirement.