

# AVON CLASS OF 1961

ALUMNI

35th CLASS REUNION BOOKLET

Class of 1961



## Betty (Thomas) Carrington

Betty lives in nearby Rockville and is the mother of four, Paul, Gail, Ryan and Adam. Betty says they are all taller than her! She is the grandmother of two, Kristy (12 yrs) and Jerica (2yrs). The picture is of Betty and Jerica. Betty's parents, Mildred and Herbert live in Rockville also. Brother Bobby is married, 2 children, lives outside of Philadelphia.



After high school Betty attended Indiana State University and is six hours from completion of her Master's Degree in Sociology. Betty's daughter, Gail is nearing her Ph.D. in neurophysiology.

Latin and history have been valuable because they are such a good basis for understanding many other languages and cultures. Mr. Haynes was a positive influence in that regard.

Betty has fond memories of the Senior Class play and the Senior Trip. A special memory was seeing *"Gone With the Wind"* at a posh New York theater in Times Square. She definitely remembered Eloise Walton and says she eventually ended up in Rockville. She also remembers our "better than usual" basketball team and the tournament our Senior year.

John remembers Betty as having one of the best "figures" in the class and I remember being envious of her wearing a hearing aid in grade school and trying to fail the hearing test so that I could have one too! (It didn't work!)

I also admired her beautiful olive complexion and the neat house(log home?) she lived in.

Betty says her most incredible event was witnessing the birth of her granddaughter Jerica.

Mary (Clark) Lotz

In doing research for this booklet, we were saddened to learn that Mary is deceased. Mary and Ida had remained good friends since high school and it was from Ida we learned this information.

Mary was first married to Howard Birnbaum and they had one son Leonard. Leonard owns a construction company in Indianapolis and builds houses.

Mary's second marriage was to Frank Lotz. They were both police officers and attended our 20 year reunion. In speaking with Frank, Ida learned Mary's heart simply quit beating early one morning two years ago. She is buried in a little cemetery in New Palestine, Indiana. Ida says she "remembers her with a great amount of love and admiration. She was a true friend."

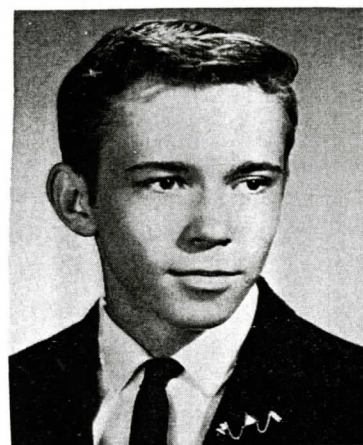


Ron Van Zant

At the time of this writing we still weren't able to contact Ron. I left a message on a machine from a number I had received from Ida. Supposedly, he lives in Poland, Indiana and operates a bakery and coffee shop. Ron was at our last reunion and was the father of several children, as I recall.

Ron was active in the military and was wounded in Viet Nam. Ron maintained a friendship with Ida and Mary long after high school.

I remember Ron as being the smallest guy in the class, having the cutest baby picture in the yearbook, being soft spoken with a very funny sense of humor and a deep thinker.



Christine Witte

We have been unable to find any information on Christine. Years ago, I know she was living in Arizona. Christine was a fun-loving girl in high school and I remember her being a very good dancer and roller skater. She had a funny part in the Junior Class Play and helped many boys at Avon "become of age."





## Don McCelland

Don may have been quiet and shy in high school, but does he ever have a good memory. Don worked 32 years at Conrail. He is now a business and real estate broker and is training to be an appraiser. He is also a substitute school bus driver for Avon. Busy Guy! Don has 3 children, Audra (22) a senior at I.S.U., Alicia (19) a sophomore at Purdue, and Luke (16) a Junior at Cascade High School. Don is very proud of his children. His parents, John and Ione are deceased and missed by his family and others I'm sure.

Special Interests are golf and Hobie Cat sailing. Don also enjoys traveling the gulf coast.

Don Remembers;

Morty Hamilton - black curly hair and funny

Peggy Hamilton - blonde, sophisticated

Trudy Mohl - the teacher's daughter

Margorie Stevens - red hair, nice figure

Vernon Spellman - glasses, dark hair, quiet

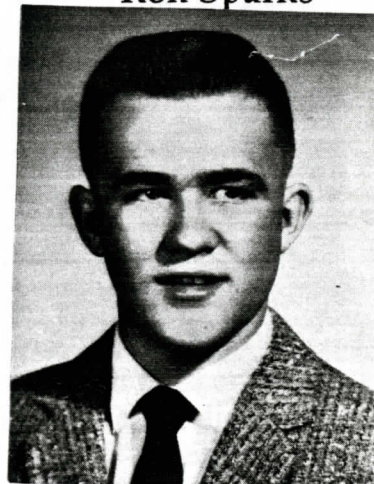


Don says he arrived at Avon in the 4th grade and the teacher was Miss Spencer who had red hair and the boys would bring papers up to her two and three at a time to ask her questions! Don, isn't she the one who wore the low-necked blouses??? He remembers playing basketball in Junior high and coach Hohnstreiter saying they were "pathetic"...Don had to look the word up!!! Don's most fun experience was playing basketball and beating Brownsburg our Senior year. He had a secret crush on cheerleader Grace Ann Kemp...didn't everyone?? On the Senior Trip he recalls going with others into a club and ordering a screwdriver. Don didn't say if they served him! Don values Mr. Haynes and Mr. Rogers for their strict, no nonsense style and Grace Veatch for her sense of humor and fortitude to contend with the students.

Does Don have a good memory or what??? Good Job Don!



Ron Sparks



Ron and Karen still live in the Avon area. Their three children, Scott, Greg, and Rhonda live in the Speedway area. They have 2 grandchildren and one due this month. Ron says "They're Great!!" Ron's mom Freda Briggs lives with her husband in Brownsburg. I'm sure we all remember Ron's dad, Chet passed away the night before graduation.

Ron and Karen enjoy traveling. Their most notable trip was to the Netherlands where they visited with Ron's relatives and traced his ancestral roots.

Ron has been very active in Masonic organizations since 1969, serving as master of his lodge. He is currently serving on the executive committee of the Scottish Rite in downtown Indy. John and I caught Ronnie acting in a play at the Scottish Rite a few years back. He was darn good!

In high school, Ron remembers playing basketball and winning the Wabash Valley Tourney at Brownsburg. His most valuable subject was Geometry, because it taught him to think and rationalize. He values Mr. Haynes because he could cause him to think by taking the opposite stance on a subject, i.e.; government.

#### Senior Trip Memories

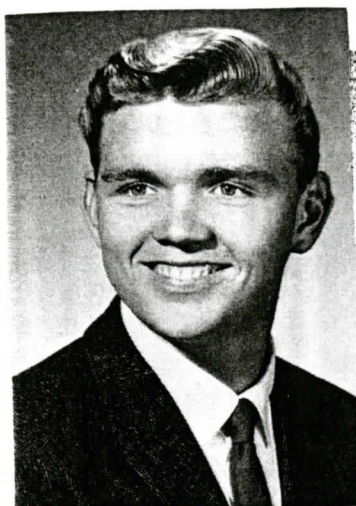
- "I did not get sent home!....but probably should have!"
- "The tour of Washington D.C., because I am a history enthusiast."
- "Little did I realize at the time, however, the Senior Trip was a time (probably the last one) where we would all be together. We learn to late to cherish those times in life."

In closing Ron says "I have many fond memories of A.H.S....the students, teachers, and activities. As stated before, the teacher I've grown to appreciate as I became older is Mr. Haynes. He was young when he came to Avon, and I think there was a "bond" or maturing between him and the class of '61". Other memories are of basketball, the plays, sock-hops, proms, paper drives, studying together and just being good friends. I think A.H.S. was a good school to prepare us for the future." Well said, Ron.



## John & Nancy (McClain) Munn

John and I feel we are the luckiest members of all, because we started making memories together in the 1st grade and are still making them. We have been married 31 years and have one daughter, Molly. After graduating from DePauw, Molly married her high school sweetheart Daryl Hensley. They built a beautiful home in the woods next door to my mom and dad, Ade and Mary McClain. We are still waiting to be grandparents. We are very proud of Molly and Daryl.



I have been a dental Hygienist for 31 years. I now work 3 days a week for a periodontist in Speedway. John is a bank consultant and training specialist for banks throughout Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois. He works out of our home as Bank Directions Incorporated.

My parents still live at the home place and winter in Florida. John's mother is deceased, his dad lives in Mesa, Arizona and is 86 years old. He and his wife visit us often.

John and I have been very active in Bartlett Chapel Church and many civic and charitable organizations over the years. John has served as president of two building corporation for Avon schools. We have traveled extensively over the years. Soviet Union, China, Ecuador, much of Europe, many Caribbean Islands and most recently Israel. The Lord has blest us and we are very grateful.

After all these years, John tells me he had a secret crush on Jean Menchhofer and Gloria Larkin. I had a secret crush on Mr. Haynes and Joe Hugill. We feel all subjects and teachers have been valuable throughout our life as well as all of you, our fellow classmates, because they have shaped "who we are."

We have shared many memories throughout this booklet. Other memories are drag racing in John's dad's 1959 Dodge stationwagon, cruising in John's '55 Blue and White Ford, having a birthday party for Miss Hopkins to get out of taking a test, Westlake dances, wearing steady shirts, decorating for the prom, and falling in love.

We both feel we grew up in the best era of all time. Being from a small town, a small school in the midwest in the 50's and 60's. We are thankful for our grass roots, the innocence of youth, the values of family and the blessings of God.





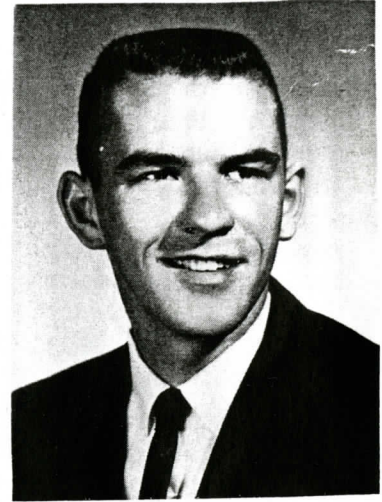
Joe Clossey

Joe didn't respond to our questionnaire, so here goes with what we think we know. Joe lives in Nitro, West Virginia. There is rumor he is moving back to this area. Joe owned and operated heavy equipment at our last reunion and I assume he still does.

Joe started 1st grade with us, then went to parochial grade school and returned to Avon for high school.

I don't know who Joe had a secret crush on but almost every girl had one on him. He was sooo.. good looking and nice too!

I remember Joe as a great basketball player, crashing our slumber parties, dating Jackie Noonan and Maxine Wallace (a Decatur Central girl), being notorious as a good kisser, and his voice having a nasal twang. I remember sneaking down to Joe's room with Flory on the Senior Trip to press his trousers. That was a hard one to explain to Johnny! I also remember all the ball players would put there hubcaps in Joe's trunk so they wouldn't get stolen at the ball games, and when Joe got stopped by the cops in Plainfield being afraid they would look in his trunk and think he stole them. Mostly I remember Joe as a nice guy who was kind and liked by everyone.



Steve Snyder

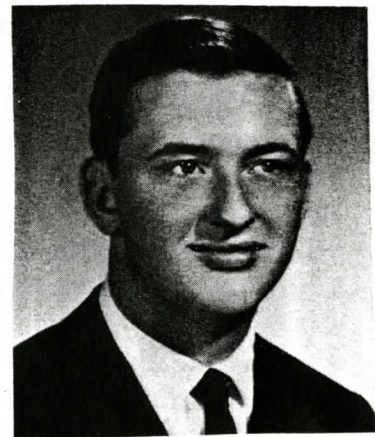
Steve and his wife Sue live in Frankfort, Kentucky, where Steve works and manages the Commonwealth of Kentucky Airport at Frankfort. Steve also farms and raises cattle.

Steve and Sue have 3 children. Their oldest, Rhodonna is married and has 2 children. Next is Laura, a Senior in high school. Then, Charlie, a Sophomore in high school.

Steve's father is deceased. His mother lives in a condo near Brownsburg. We all remember her as a perky 1st grade teacher for many years at Avon.

We remember Steve raising sheep for 4-H, loving anything to do with airplanes, having a "Hop-A-Long Cassidy" shirt in his school picture, and attending his birthday parties which were "the best." I remember Steve and John Havens were best buddies and Steve's quiet and dry humor.

How did I get this information? Not from Steve, but his very proud mother!





## Betty Lou (Acton) Cummings

After graduating from Avon, Betty married Jerry Cummings. Jerry and Betty live in Plainfield and are neighbors of John Havens. If you look in your yearbook, you will notice that Betty Lou and John were on the same page across from each other. What a coincidence.

Jerry and Betty have 2 daughters, Jenny and Lorie. Jenny is married and has 3 children. Jacob 14, Shannon 11, and Seth 2. Don't you just know Betty is "the best" grandma? Lori is single and is employed at American Trans Air as a supervisor over planning.

Betty's mother Mary, lives in Plainfield. From the looks of this picture of Betty and Jerry, I can assume they have a happy, fulfilling life. I know they are active in their church and an asset to the Plainfield community.



## Bob Hutchens

Although Bob didn't actually graduate with us, he was a real part of the class. Bob was married, had children and lived in Brownsburg. He worked for several years for Eli Lilly and farmed part time. He farmed John's parents little place for years until his health failed. At the time of our 25th class reunion, Bob was in a nursing home suffering from a brain tumor. He passed away shortly thereafter.

Bob was a fun-loving guy I dated my sophomore year. We double dated with Mark and Judy a lot. Remember the wiener roast/hayride Bob sponsored when we got caught out in the rainstorm and got soaking wet? Bob was a hard worker and his friendship is a pleasant memory.





### Darlene (Birch) Urban

Darlene and her husband Scott have been married 32 years and have 3 children. Her daughter Alicia is married and has 4 children. Bryce is married and has a 7 month old baby. Daniel is 15 years old and is active in indoor and outdoor soccer in which he referees.

Darlene has been dedicated to her nursing career, holding down 3 part-time jobs. She teaches child birth and pre natal classes at Morgan County Hospital, works two days a week at Heritage Home Health as a visiting nurse, and is a special counselor at the high school during the school year.

Darlene's mother still lives at the homeplace and her sister Vicki lives in Martinsville and has 3 sons.

I remember Darlene as a good student, clarinet player in the band, walking on egg shells at freshman initiation and having "beautiful blue eyes."



### Janice (Searles) Swarbrick

Janice and her husband live in the Silicon Valley in Sunnydale, California. Janice is married to a Brit and travels to England frequently. Janice's husband is retired. This is the only information I could retrieve about Janice.

Janice surprised us on our reunion 10 years ago. We are hoping she does it again this time!

I remember Janice as being a good artist and having an infectious "giggle". John remembers riding horses with Janice when they lived close to each other.



### Ann (Hilton) Bultinck

Ann and her husband Chuck, met at Purdue and are truly Purdue Fans. Out of all the seats in Mackey Arena, their season tickets are next to Johnny's brother Rick! What a coincidence! Ann and Chuck have 3 children. Julie is an I.U. grad, Chris a Purdue grad, will be married this fall, and Michael, a Junior at Purdue is one of 25 selected to Purdue's School of Landscaping Architecture. Poor Julie, surrounded by all those P.U. people!

Ann's father is deceased. Her mother, Vera lives in Speedway.

Ann is a very busy person. She designs her own counted cross-stitch, takes ceramic classes, enjoys gardening, reading, and attending P.U. football and basketball games. She still finds time to work for Gibson Greeting Inc.

Ann values U.S. History/Mr. Haynes. "In high school he made us think, question, and reason. I still love history, also following current events and love to visit historical places and homes."

Ann's most memorable experience at Avon was the Senior Trip. Highlights were visiting the White House and attending the Broadway play, "Sound of Music."

I always look forward to exchanging Christmas greetings with Ann...she still has the best penmanship in the class.



### Jim Barker

Jim and his wife Frankie live in Cobden, Illinois, where Jim is a carpenter. They have 3 children Richard (31), Charles (28), and Mike (24). Richard has one son and Mike has one daughter. Jim's parents live in Plainfield.

We remember Jim's funny laugh when he was really tickled, getting stopped by the police on Haunted Bridge Road with hedgeapples on the back floorboard, and being buddies with the Poole boys, Havens, Snyder, and Parsons.

I remember visiting with Jim and Frankie as young married couples. Our babies, Richard and Molly were the same age. Frankie brought us an apple pie when I had Molly! We had a lot in common. We lived in Avon, had babies and were broke! They were the happy days tho, huh, Jim and Frankie?





## Marilyn (Knarr) Green



Marilyn wrote a great letter in response to our questionnaire. Here are the responses and other interesting tid-bits.

**Family** - My husband, Vince Green, and I recently celebrated our 31st wedding anniversary. Unbelievable that he could put up with me that long! We have been living in San Antonio, Texas, for about 11 years. He works for NationsBank and I am a Speech Language Pathologist for one North East I.S.D. there in San Antonio. We have 3 children Christa, Brad, and Nick.

Christa just finished her Masters' degree in math, at Baylor University and has accepted a teaching position at Baylor for the upcoming year. Brad graduated from Indiana University a couple of years ago. He is working as a recording engineer/producer at a recording studio in San Antonio. Nick is still attending college at South West Texas State University: we hope that he will graduate sometime in our lifetime!

**Grandchildren** - I'm afraid not! We are just happy when our children date someone more than once! Maybe someday!

**Parents** - My dad, Herman Knarr died several years ago. My mother Geraldine Knarr, remarried and moved to Ohio for a couple of years. After her second husband died she returned to Indianapolis to live in the same place where she and my dad lived. She is still relatively healthy and active in her church. She continues to live on Walton Street in Indianapolis with my brother Jim. Other family members you might remember; Gerald currently lives in Kouts, IN and Vinton (Topper) lives in Bloomington, IL, and works with Ron Parsons.

**Hobbies, Travel, Civic Clubs, Special Interest** - Vince and I love to travel. We do come back to Indiana a couple of times a year. We have taken some cruises in the past 3 or 4 years. We loved the cruise to Alaska. It was gorgeous! We tried to take my mother on a Caribbean cruise this past spring, but she had some medical problems and could not go. I guess we'll have to reschedule that one!

I have become real interested in genealogy during the past few years. I have incorporated that with my computer knowledge, and have a lot of fun exploring both areas! Other hobbies include cross-stitching, sewing, and reading. I do a lot of walking, but wouldn't say that is a hobby.

We love entertaining people who want to vacation in San Antonio. Since our young ones moved out, we have lots of room. Y'all come.

**A Few Memories** - cruising the Park-N-Eat, seeing Ms. Hopkins lock herself in the closet in our Latin class, impromptu dances in the middle of Dan Jones Road in the headlights of two cars, listening to the World Series in our classes, snow birds, fruit boots, the stroll.



## Marilyn (Knarr) Green (continued)

### Class of '61 Quiz;

**Willabeth Anderson** - Was she in our class in about the 4th grade? As I remember she was thin, cute, and had blonde straight hair. We were pretty good friends. I should remember more.

**Morty Hamilton** - I remember him - cute and freckles. It seems like I connect his name with Mark Adamson; is that right?

**Garnet Pedigrew** - Yes, I remember, but not much more than a face.

**Trudy Mohl** - was one of our elementary teachers - tall, dark straight hair, then again I guess most of the teachers seemed tall to us! She had a daughter who was younger than we were. Was Ms. Mohl the one who had a forbidden area taped around her desk called "no mans land?"

**Margorie Stevens** - was in our 7th and 8th grade classes.

**Vernon Spellman** - lived on Six Points Road, I believe. Was he the one who had scarlet fever?

**Eloise Walton** - had a wonderful southern accent. I believe that she was from Arkansas or maybe it was Hattiesburg Mississippi.

**Bud Fungi** - sounds like a name no one could forget, but I don't know why!

**Other Memories-** How about these names, Francis Childers, Barbara Wright, Carol Foster, Grace Veatch, Bernadette Hopkins? Also do you remember a Sea Fantasy, Sayonara, Wonderland By Night, and Shangralai? How about Aaron Slick from Punkin Crick, and The Boarding House Reach? Or how about The freshman initiation when we had to recite: " I an insignificant, pusillanimous, contemptible, unimportant freshman, do bow down before you, most highly honorable and omnipotent senior, and do solemnly vow that we dig you cool cats the most!"



## Ron Parsons



Ron did such a great job of answering our questionnaire, we decided to reproduce his entire letter.

**Children** - We have two children - Jeff is 25 and living in Champaign, Illinois with his wife Marianne. He is working on his Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from U of Illinois. He has a B.S. & M.S. in Civil Engineering. His wife is a practicing Chemical Engineer. Our daughter, Kathy, is 23 and working in Chicago as a Consultant with Anderson. She has a B.S. from U. of Illinois in Finance. She is not married.

Both kids were honor students. Kathy was President of her high school class (of 500 students) and qualified for the state tournament in tennis for four years in high school. No grand kids yet!

**Parents** - Father was Ed Parsons. After retiring from the farm (he was a tenant farmer) in 1975, he built a home near Stilesville and lived there until his death in 1986 from pancreatic cancer. Mom is Mildred Parsons - she lives in an independent living retirement home in Clermont (it's called the Harrison), she is 81. Her mind and body are feeble.

**Siblings** - Danny is 51, lives in Lizton with his wife and 4 boys. Leland is 47, not married, and lives in Indy. Danny works at Ameritech, Leland at the State of Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Keith is 35 (mom missed our Baccalaureate because she was in the hospital, at age 46, having him). Keith gets married for the first time on August 10, 1996. He works at Lilly and lives in Indy.

**Wife** - Ruth has taught math at Illinois State University since raising our kids.

**Me** - I have worked at the corporate Headquarters of State Farm Insurance for 31 years. I am a middle level manager in Data Processing. I had a 4 year leave of absence during Viet Nam as a Communications Officer in the USAF. I was State Farm's first Data Base Administrator, have given speeches at national conventions on the subject of data management and lectured to graduate schools on the same topic.

**Memories** - For me the most memorable experience was the Senior Trip and the four years of preparation for it. There are too many individual incidents to mention.

Dorman Rogers (who died last year of cancer) was my most influential teacher because he kicked me in the ass when I needed it and helped me navigate Purdue when no one else in my family had a college education. I had a secret crush on Cathy Dykes (yes I liked younger women, (or girls?). I actually did date her after I went off to college.

The whole Senior Trip was memorable, but there is one thing I would like to clear up. It was widely believed that I got drunk on the trip. I did not!



### Ron Parsons (continued)

The fact was that I took my first sip of beer in Pittsburgh. Those who knew me before and since know that I have a sweet tooth. Beer was bitter. I never have drunk it since.

Ruth and I have traveled some. I went to Russia and we have been to Europe 4 times, Hawaii twice, and cruised the Caribbean several times. We have visited every state except Alaska.

I have met a lot of people in my work and have been active civily. I was a volunteer firemen and a trustee for a Fire Department. I was also a Cub Scout leader at the Troop district, and Council level. I have worked for United Way as a volunteer.

I remember all of the people Nancy listed. My most vivid memory is of Trudy Mohl, the daughter of our 5th grade teacher. What I remember is that the girls in our class became baby sitters (free) and didn't appreciate it one bit. There are some other names that I wonder what ever happened to: Scott Bridges, Barbara Wright.

I am looking forward to the reunion and sharing our memories.

### Judy (Snapp) Rich



Judy lives in Greenwood and has three children, Don, Tawnya, and Casey. She has one grandson David. Her mother Rose still lives in the same house, her father is deceased.

Judy says she doesn't remember much about Avon that she wants to share, but she does remember Morty Hamilton as having nice hair, Margorie Stevens had pretty lipstick and Mr. Rogers was the most handsome teacher.

Judy, here's what I remember about you...The fun times we had in Job's Daughters Bethel #105, double dating when we had the accident with "The Bird"!, you putting vaseline on your eyelashes to make them thick, the creepy bus driver flirting with you on the Senior Trip, me spending the night many times at your house and swooning over your older brothers, your dad greeting your 1st date with Mark on the front porch with a shotgun, you and Sharon wearing matching dresses to the senior prom, all us girls dancing together at the sock-hops because the boys wouldn't fast dance except for Fred and Charlie Clark, and going to the drive-in with you and Mark. You made high school lots of fun, we'll look forward to reminiscing at the reunion.



### Fred Lawson

Fred and wife Joyce are now living in Panama City, Florida. They share 6 children, Angla, Sonja, Sherri, Trent, Lori and Chuck. The youngest is 24 years old. They also have 6 grandchildren. Fred's father passed away in 1991. His mother Edith lives in Florida.

Fred has a lifelong career in law enforcement, living and working in Nashville, Tennessee and now in Florida. Fred sits on the Board of Directors of a worldwide organization since 1982. He has traveled throughout the eastern and southwest U.S. as an instructor and consultant for law enforcement.



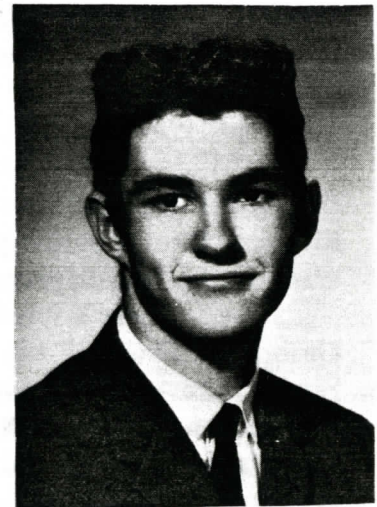
Fred values George Theofanis because of his coaching techniques and values. He had a secret crush on Myrna Roseboom (class of 1958). An older woman??? Really Fred! Fred remembers party times at Clossey's Pond. Does anyone else remember the Pond? The best parking place in the county! Fred, we remember you as a good basketball and baseball player and your love affair with cheerleader Loretta Burdge! Another older woman!!

John and I visited Fred and Joyce in Florida this spring and learned Fred is a skilled and avid fisherman. Joyce is a great hostess and fits right in with our class. I think she enjoys hearing and reliving our stories as much as Fred! We appreciate their enthusiasm at all our past reunions.

### Harley Sweet

Harley married Juliana Beliles (class of 1962) and they live in Lizton. They lived many years in Avon and have 3 children Jenny, Jeff and Joey. Juliana drove a school bus for Avon.

We remember Harley as shy with dark curly hair and dimples. He rode my school bus and we were both safety patrolman.



## John Havens

John and his wife Sue live in Plainfield and have one daughter Rebecca Suzanne age 13. John got a later start than most of us! He also has 2 stepsons, Jeff and Jon. John's father is deceased. His mother Eleanor lives in a condo in Brownsburg.

It sounds as if Rebecca keeps her daddy busy with sports activities. John has coached girls soccer, softball, and basketball. He managed and sponsored Girls AAU Basketball teams the last 3 years and made it to the finals finishing 8th in the state! John and his family are also active in the Plainfield Christian Church.



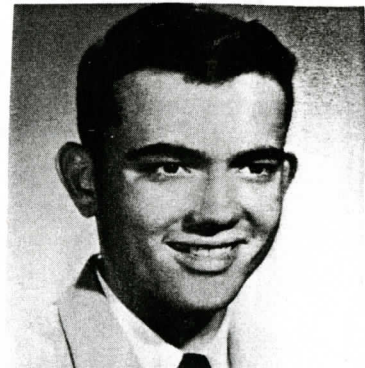
John didn't share his high school memories just like his buddies, Steve Snyder, Hollis Poole, and Jim Barker. They always were a rather quiet group, but you knew a lot of "good stuff" was happening with them. Perhaps we can drag some good stories out of them at the reunion.

John correctly remembered Trudy Mohl as our 5th grade teacher's daughter, Eloise Walton came from Mississippi, and Bud Fungi was a fictitious joke name. He also said that Vernon Spellman wore a bow tie and that Morty Hamilton lives in North Carolina.

John is one of the original class members who went all 12 years together. We look forward to seeing John at the reunion.

## Hollis Poole

Hollis is still living in the Avon/Plainfield area. He works for OKI with forklifts and heavy equipment in Indianapolis. Hollis is single at the present time. He has 3 children Jeffrey (28), Carolyn (27), and Cathy Jo (22). He also has three grandchildren. Two girls and a boy. Don't you just know Hollis is a super grandpa! I wonder if he'll teach that grandson to be as mischievous as he was?



We remember Hollis dating Ann Hilton and Mary Clark, having a white Chevy 409 after high school, popping corn at the ballgames, and being on the track team. Maybe Hollis will bring us up to date at the reunion.



## Sheila (Hopkins) Fedderke

Sheila and her husband live in Hacienda Heights, California. I enjoyed a nice long phone conversation with Sheila when she surprised me with a call. She brought me up-to-date on what's happening in her life.

Sheila was 1st married to Lawson Wright and they had a daughter Lael, who lives in Texas and her husband works for America Airlines. Sheila also has a son Jeff who lives in Indy.

Sheila's 2nd marriage was to John Roseboom (deceased) and they had Troy who lives at home in California and Kelly who lives in Indy. Kelly has 2 children and Lael has 2 children. I knew Sheila best when she lived in Avon and was an excellent beautician.

A "California guy" swept Sheila off her feet and became husband #3. He must be a charm, don't you think? They enjoy boating, racing dune buggies, racing Harleys, and now are interested in Corvettes.

Sheila was in a very serious auto accident a few years back and has had a long recuperation. She likes to knit and crochet, do crafts and makes stuffed animals. Her parents are still living and are in Florida.

It sounds like she would enjoy hearing from any of us with a note. She says she values Avon being a small school and loved her high school years.

PS I hope your telephone bill wasn't too high, Sheila! Loved talking to you!



## Dwight Poole

What a handsome family picture of Dwight and Brenda and their 3 children, Jay, Terry and Brian! But Dwight, what happened to all that black curly hair? Like John and I, Dwight and Brenda haven't been blest with grandchildren yet but we have hope.

Dwight and Hollis's parents, Charles Estle and Nellie, live in Plainfield. Nellie is in poor health, his dad's health is great!

Dwight feels that graduating was his most fun, memorable experience at Avon. Our first milestone, huh? Walter Ross/mathematics have been useful throughout life and Dwight says "his secret crush is still a secret-even to him!"

Interesting memories of the Senior Trip. He got "sick as a dog" eating shrimp and he ran up the Washington Monument. Is there a connection there, Dwight???

Although Dwight didn't mention it; I know he and Brenda are active in church life and I'm sure family is important also. The Poole boys (Dwight and Hollis) added lots of fun and laughs to the class of "61". Dwight, I still remember your green and white T-Bird with the porthole you had after graduating!





## Flora (Wilson) Phillips

Flory and Jim live in the Ben Davis area and have two sons, Mike (26) and Mark (25). Both sons work for the same company as Jim (the president). I guess they had pull or knew somebody. Mike lives in Chicago and will be married in October. Mark will be married in July of 1997. About grandchildren, Flory says, "none that we know of!"

I'm sure we all remember Flory's parents, Nellie and Kirby and what fun-loving people they were. Kirby passed away in 1991. Nellie still lives at the homeplace in the summer and Ft. Myers Florida in the winter. Nellie takes "Line Dancing" lessons....what a hoot!

Flory works with Excel Communications and as a travel agent allowing them to travel a bunch! Jim does marketing of R.V's and boat financing for banks. They are active in church and Speedway Kiwanis. Jim is a NASCAR and golf nut. Flory says she "sorta" plays golf and her heart beats faster when she gets near a Karaoke machine.

Flory has fond memories of the Senior Trip, especially "making out" with Joe Clossey. She had a secret crush on Chuck Kennedy and Norman Rogers?? the teacher most valued because "He taught me how to pop popcorn for the concession stand. Flory, it was Dorman Rogers...not Norman.

John and I have fond memories of you, Flory. John had a date with you on his 16th birthday, we were both in your wedding, your beautiful voice, being the first in the class to wear contacts, "Super-foamo-foo-foo juice", the slumber parties, drawing our Senior cords for us, and most of all your Christian witness.

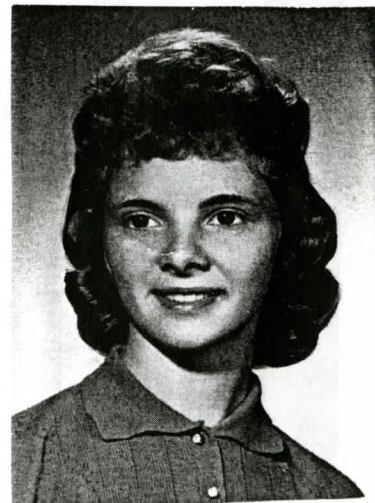
As a closing remark Flory stated "My Avon years were a very positive experience for me. When I think of our time together, I smile. What a wonderful time in my life."

Thank you Flory, for organizing our 35 year reunion!



## Carol Gilliam

Another lost soul. I remember her as a sweet quiet girl who came to Avon her Senior year. Looking back at our yearbook, I see she spent each year of high school at a different school. That must have been a hard adjustment. I'm sorry I didn't get to know her better.



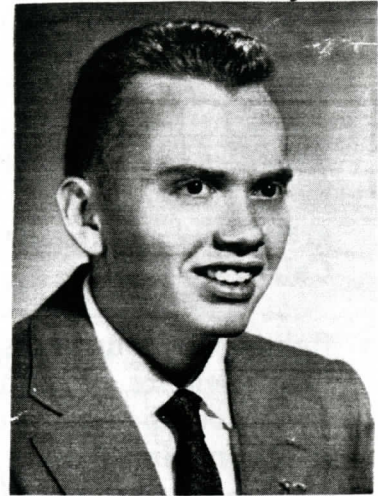
Jim Lowery

Retirement days have arrived for Jim and Judy. Jim retired from General Motors in 1992. and now works part-time in agriculture. Judy retired from Balkamp in 1993. They have 4 sons, Mike, Steve, Lowery and Darrel & Vic Gregory. Mike and Steve are both A&P aircraft mechanics for American Eagle and Northwest living in Nashville and Atlanta.

Vic is a route driver for Modern Vending in Indy and Darrel is a Power Cable technician in Texas. Jim and Judy have seven grandchildren, quite a productive family! Jim's parents are both deceased.

Jim loves to "Fish", hunt and travel. He deer hunts with muzzel-loader, shotgun and rifle and has been successful, but is still trying to bag one with a bow. He has traveled much of the U.S. by air and R.V.. Jim still loves to tinker with cars and is now restoring and modifying a 1967 CJ5 Jeep from ground up, hand building 85% of the body himself from sheet metal.

Jim has fond memories of the Senior Trip as a whole and isn't telling who he had a secret crush on! He remembers Drivers Ed. with Feeney Davis and cutting class in the Drivers Ed car. Also remembers Ida causing a hydrogen explosion in the sink drains in chemistry class? Thanks Jim, we were trying to remember who that guilty party was. Jim seems to remember that Bud Fungi turned in homework and tests; but nobody ever laid eyes on him! Thanks, Jim for the memories.



Pat Garry

No one seems to know what happened to Pat. I remember her as befriending me my Senior year and scaring off a group of Brownsburg girls who were going to "beat me up" at the sectional tournament for talking to their boyfriends. Thanks Pat, wherever you are!





## Joe Hugill

Joe lives in San Bernadino, California. He has two children...Joseph 22 and Lisa Marie 21. His son is in the military, stationed in Germany. His daughter Lisa is married and has a 3 year old red-headed son named Michael. She is expecting grandchild #2. Joe's mother Julia lives in California also.

Joe has achieved Knighthood (Sir Joseph) for fighting demons and slaying dragons. I assume this is in reference to "Dungeons and Dragons."

Joe did such a great job filling out the questionnaire. I never realized he had such a sense of humor. His most fun experience at Avon were the basketball games, but even more fun were the buses back from the games!

Not crediting any teacher, Joe said "with a head full of mush, most of life's lessons were learned by osmosis."

He wouldn't tell us who he had a secret crush on, but said it would "surprise us." Maybe we should work on that one!

Senior Trip- "Some of us were naughty and did some drinking. I will always remember saying good-bye to Randy Duffin when he had to go home early. Also, I found out that dropping water balloons from 20 stories can upset people on the street. Seriously, Valley Forge was my favorite tour."

### Sample of Joe's Humor

Willabeth Anderson - Came from England. Her mother was guillotined at Glasgow.

Garnet Pedigrew - Wore black and red long stockings, wanted to win Teen America Contest.

Trudy Mohl - Short, cute. People said that Trudy Mole would grow on you.

Margorie Stevens - Wanted to write books. Started a story titled "Candy"

Vernon Spellman - Liked fishing. Always said "Take the worm, put it in, take it out."

Eloise Walton- Can't remember Eloise. Is she the one that wore mini-skirts and crossed and uncrossed her legs a lot?

Bud Fungi - Bright, witty and funny. Nobody liked to be around him because when Bud was around there was a fungus among us.

The next page is a copy of Joe's letter (transcribed) to Flory which shows us really what kind of a guy he is.



Flory,

The questionnaire was fun and a lot of laughs. Since graduation I have only seen a few people. What a great time to grow up (1957-61), what a nice area and people.

I used to scuba dive in my younger years. My dive buddies and I dove the California coast from Ventura to Escondida Mexico. When we had enough \$ we would rent boats and go off the Channel Islands and dive. The Channel Islands are National Parks about 56 miles off California. The wildlife on the island and fish 3 miles around the island, are a protected reserve. "Can Look but no Catchy."

Now most of my time is spent coaching soccer. Right now I'm coaching an All Star team of 9 and 10 year olds. We're operating on a \$6,000 budget and travel the southern California area playing in tournaments. The tour lasts all weekend and can have as many as 130 teams attending in different age brackets. We done quite well finishing 2nd to Beverly Hills in our last tour. I really enjoy it and it keeps me busy.

When we're not going on tour we like to go to the beach or Vegas or Laughlin. Three places where you can kick back and forget everything.

Flory, I have a great family as I'm sure you do. "Wish I could be there." Why not have a reunion in Vegas?

Love you guys

Joe



## Ida (Jessup) Wehring

Ida and Bill live in Noblesville where Ida has taught English (H.S.) for 31 years. They have two daughters, Lisa and Tammy and one son Nick who passed away last year at the tender age of 15. They have a grandson, Aaron. Ida and Nick witnessed his birth.....a memory she will always treasure. Ida's parents George and Margaret still live at the homeplace and are in good health.



Ida's response to quiz:

Willabeth Anderson-I loved her name. She was a willowy person.

Morty Hamilton-Oh! how I loved him. He told me his mother was a gypsy.

Trudy Mohl - "Snot City"

Margorie Stevens-Was she the one whose mother was the burlesque dancer?-----No Ida, she wasn't!

Vernon Spellman-Reminded me of a fox--spooky eyes---Not Good!

Ida says she remembers the long summer nights when we'd load up cars and cruise the drive-ins. (her dad always wondered how she could put 50 miles on the odometer and just go to Avon.) She remembers going to "the theater" with Mary Clark and others and to "Sardies" afterwards on the Senior trip.

I have lots of fond memories of Ida. Her long braids in gradeschool. Going to Indiana State together where she taught me to smoke!!! Helping John compile his thesis for graduate school, and being a lifelong friend.

We are sorry Ida couldn't joint us today, but here is a quote from her letter.

"I would be with you if I could, but I can't. Nick was all the world to us, and this would have been his 16th summer. Seeing all of you, and remembering my "sweet sixteen" friends would be too painful. If you can remember and have the time, please write or call me.....I'd love to hear from you one at a time. Have a great reunion."

## Clark Everling

At every reunion we have had, everyone wants to know "Where is Clark Everling?" It was a real thrill to receive his response to our questionnaire.

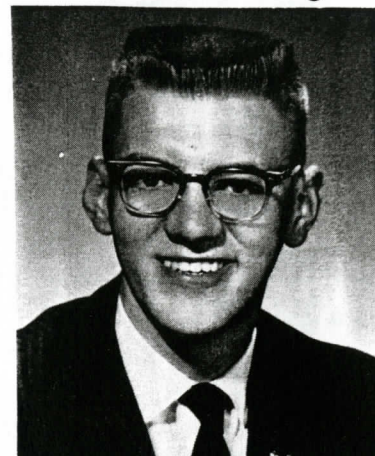
Clark lives in New York and is a Professor of Labor Studies at Empire State College, State University of New York. His wife Elana is an Associate Professor of Cultural Studies at Empire State as well.

Clark's father is deceased. His mother and sister Phoebe Jane live in Indy.

Clark says all the yearbook predictions proved true in his case. I guess we'll have to check those out! His most fun experiences were "getting out of class to set up the stage etc. with Snyder and Havens." Most valuable subject /teacher was Government with Arthur Davis.

Clark has written a book, *Social Economy ; The Logic of Capitalist Development*. (London and New York: Routledge, forthcoming 1997). You've come a long way since the Treasure Chest Clark!

The world has seen a lot of Clark. He has traveled to most of Europe; visited Russia, Ukraine, Azer Bajan, Middle East. Clark is in Greece the month of August, but sends us his greetings, love, and best wishes to all of us. Isn't this a great picture of Clark and his wife Elana? What a handsome pair!!





### Fay Ann (Ransdell) Hammond

I believe Fay Ann came to Avon in Jr. High or high school. She only knew Bonnie Blair and Bonnie told us all to be nice to her. Well, that wasn't a problem because she just fit right in and became a part of the class right away. Fay Ann lives, teaches and is a Realtor in Plainfield. Fay Ann is the proud mother of 3 sons Michael, Joseph, and Andrew and a daughter-in-law Julie. Michael is a graduate of I.S.U. and a police officer in Chicago.



Joe is a Taylor University graduate, married to Julie, and is a sales rep for Hertz heavy equipment. Andrew graduated from I.U.P.U.I and is a sales rep. Her father and step mother are both deceased.

Fay Ann occupies her time with golf, travel, reading and is a season ticket sports fan. She is a great homemaker (her condo was on the Plainfield home tour), I read it in the local paper! She credits Mr. Haynes (a lifelong friend), with instilling good standards and high goals. Her most fun experience at Avon was the Senior trip and going to see Peter Pan on Broadway.

Fay Ann says "God has blest me abundantly. My life is filled with sons/daughter-in-law, friends galore, and many adventures"

### Bonnie (Blair) Bledsoe

Bonnie also married her high school sweetheart, James (Red) Bledsoe. Bonnie and Red have lived most of their married years in Avon. Bonnie didn't fill out her questionnaire, so I guess I'll take the liberty of bragging about them!



Johnny and I call Bonnie and Red "the entrepreneurs of Avon." They have worked side by side for many years and contributed lots to the economic development of the area.

They built and own B&S Kennels-one of the largest and best dog and cat kennels in the area (Indy).

They owned a small motel east of Avon on US 36. They owned "Great Skates" roller skating rink in Avon for many years and provided a well-run facility for the children of the community. Recently they have converted the skating rink into "The Avon Antique Mall" which is getting great revues. Their hobbies and interests have included USAC Sprint Car racing (Red as a driver, Bonnie as a watcher), antiques, and old cars.

They own a 1949 Mercury (pink), a 1956 white T-Bird convertible and a 1963 T-Bird. Each year they host the B&S Kennels Charity Car Show for Hendricks County Animal Shelter (which takes place tomorrow)!

Thanks Bonnie and Red for making Avon a better community!!

## Violet (Spaid) Hoover

Reading Violet's questionnaire, I immediately picked up on the words and phrases that let me know she is a proud and caring mother and grandmother. Violet's first marriage to Gary Smith yielded 2 sons, Gary Jr. and Rick. Gary Jr. is married and has 3 children. He works as a parts buyer and she says he's a "great guy." (I know this is true because he's a friend of my daughter and son-in-law). Rick is married and has 1 child. He graduated from college and is a youth pastor. Violet is proud of both of her sons and says her grand-children are "precious."



Vi's parents are still living but in poor health. Vi says she is close to them and appreciates them now that she's a parent. Feelings many of us share, I'm sure.

She won't tell us who her secret crush was-I wonder why?? She values Mrs. Mitchell for recognizing potential in her, and Mr. Haynes for being a good teacher. She remembers Mr. Ross as being a gentle man who had scripture reading and prayer. She remembers staying awake into the wee hours listening to traffic on the Senior Trip and being too sleepy to enjoy the sights the next day.

Vi wants to know who all the mystery people were on the questionnaire???

Vi and her husband Gearld, spend most of their time working, vacationing, going to church, and working some more!

Violet remembers her classmates as kind and caring and a great bunch of kids. Her only regret is not getting to say good-bye to each one the night of graduation, realizing some she would never see again. I'm sure we can all relate to those regrets. On a brighter "note" she remembers Flora's beautiful singing!!

I remember that Vi was the first one to get married in our class because her boyfriend was going overseas; and not because she had to! We were all so envious of her and proud that she stayed and finished her Senior year.



## Sharon (Patterson) Perry

Can you believe our cheerleader Sharon is a grandma? She has one grand-child Katelyn 2 years old. Sharon says she produced 2 good kids - Jeff graduated from Notre Dame and spent a year in Germany as an exchange student. Jennifer will graduate from Marion College in 1977 with a degree in Nursing. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau an international nursing honorary. Sharon's mom is deceased and her dad is 87 and lives at the home place and still mows his yard!!!



Sharon credits Mrs. Huffman with teaching her some of the mechanics of the business world. Her secret crushes were too numerous to mention, and her most memorable experience was getting expelled for three days, her Junior year for chewing gum! She remembers putting the drunks on the elevator and sending them downstairs on the Senior Trip, and sending notes from one floor to the other thru the windows.

Other fond memories of high school are beer parties at Clossey's woods, circling the ParkEat and Pole and Westlake Drive-in.

Sharon and her husband vacation in Florida several times a year and enjoy fishing and boating on Lake Monroe. They are also big NASCAR fans and attend many races.

We remember you Sharon, as a great cheerleader with the "prettiest legs" who could burp louder and longer than the boys! Thanks Sharon, for bringing 12 years of fun to Avon!

Mark Adamson



Mark married his high school sweetheart Eleanor Behymer. They have 2 daughters, Robin and Deborah and seven grandchildren, Brandon, Anthony, Krisha, Nathian, Julie, Cody, and Elizabeth. Do you suppose the grandsons' are as mischievous as Mark was???

Mark didn't fill out much on his questionnaire, so Mark you're fair game. Here are some of the things we know about YOU!

Mark and Eleanor have always lived in the Avon community. Mark works for Allison's and Eleanor worked many years with the Avon Band at AHS. Their daughters are Avon Grads also.

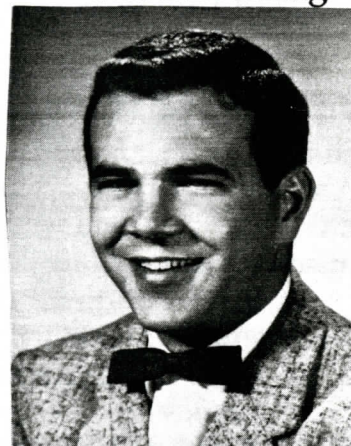
We remember your car in high school, Mark! I (Nancy) hid on your back floor when you were on a date with Judy Snapp and you didn't know I was there until the movie started at Westlake. Johnny and Nancy Allen doubled with you and when you turned the corner on the County Line road, the door flew open and John fell out onto the highway.

The back seat of your car was not the place to be! (or was it?)

If memory serves me right, you also had the lead in the Junior play, *The Boarding House Reach* as Wilbur. Your favorite line was "Shoot-A-Mile"! I'm sure through the years your sense of humor has made you a favorite.



## Thad Everling



Thad said he had no secret crush at Avon. His was at Plainfield, he married her! June and Thad have been married 34 years and have 2 daughters, Gail and Lorna. Gail is 28 and married to Richard Gregory and blessed Thad and June with a grandson Wade 1 year old. Lorna is 25 and single.

Both Thad and June work for Allison's and are looking forward to retirement. Thad has 30 years with G.M. They are active in church activities and enjoy being grandparents.

Thad says his most fun experiences at Avon were Chemistry class and Latin class. Now, what did I miss? He attributes Hubert Haynes with making him want to learn; and George Theofanis with making him work for grades.

An interesting hobby has been Thad's love of dogs. Thad and June have shared their Standard Apricot Poodles with the public through programs for schools, churches, and hospitals. Thad and his dogs have appeared on local TV with Duffy's World, Debbie Knox, Ruthann Gordon on "Indy's Own" and Cowboy Bob. All this has been volunteer work to educate the public on care and respect of animals. They also have helped establish the Pet Therapy Program at Veterans Hospital.

Quote from Thad. "Bud Fungi was always with us, but he was always in when we were out; we were in when he was out!"

Charles Randal Michael Duffin III  
"Randy"

"Duff" is still around the Indianapolis area and still the same Ol' Randy. He has been married and not married. He has 3 beautiful children, all adults, Kelly, Diana, and Charlie.

Randy has been a successful car salesman and dealership manager, designed 2 successful bar/restuarants, and is now in the construction business. He even built a pyramid one year! Right, Randy?

Randy was the tallest member of our class and I'm sure has owned and wrecked more cars than anyone else!

John and I remember double dating with Randy and Sharon Patterson, driving through Mr. Clossey's bean field, Randy and John fighting in Mom's flower bed and tearing it up, fighting in the hall in front of the principals office, and being one of our best buddies. John often receives a phone call on his birthday from Duffin which always "makes his day."

Just like high school, Randy didn't get his homework done, so we took the liberty of writing it for him. Weren't we kind?

OOPS!!!!

He just called under the deadline with some interesting information. His son Charlie is married, just bought a home in Fishers and works for Conseco. His dad Charlie is living in Northwest Georgia. "Duff" has no grandchildren.

As for a teacher he valued...well Hubbie's name came up again. Randy has a significant other. She is Loretta Miller, a Realtor with Prudential in Carmel. A wedding was mentioned...but he didn't know whether it would be in September or January. Loretta you better get that date nailed down!"

Randy and Loretta enjoy sailing and have a 22' O'Day boat on Eagle Creek at Rick's Boatyard. We will look forward to reminiscing with Randy at the reunion.





Where, O'Where, are you Chuck???? The last we heard of Chuck he was living in Las Vegas. He had worked as a painter and Taxi Driver.

In my opinion Chuck was the most handsome guy in the class. Please don't anyone tell Johnny! (Hey! I'm (Johnny) the one typing this)

His girlfriends were Judy Beecham and Jean Menchhoffer. We don't remember him dating much or having a car. He did play baseball and possibly some basketball for a while. Maybe some of you know more about Chuck to share.

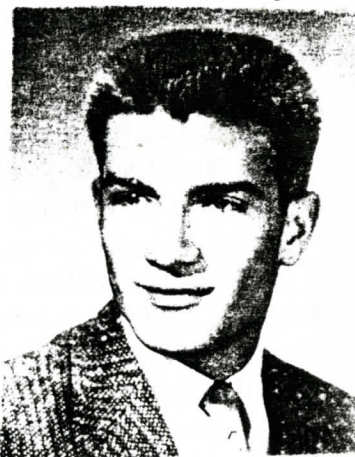
Chuck Kennedy



Not much information is known about Pat since graduation except he still lives in Maryland and has been unsuccessful in marriage. He was a cousin of Lana and Tracey Scott.

I remember him as a good-looking, polite guy who spent our Senior year with us.

Pat Mooney



Fred Manning

Fred came to us our Senior year after spending his first 3 years of high school at Howe. We nick-named him "Lanny-Poo." He roomed with John M. and Ron Sparks on the Senior Trip. The last information we had was that he was a career man in the Air Force in California.



## ANSWERS TO CLASS QUIZ:

- WILLABETH ANDERSON -Started 1st grade with us. Had strawberry blond hair and freckles.
- MORTY HAMILTON - Came to Avon about 4th grade, left in 6th grade. Black hair, very funny.
- GARNET PEDIGREW - 5th grade, cute, freckles, had odor problem.
- TRUDY MOHL - Daughter of 5th grade teacher Gertrude Mohl. She came to school with her mother and the girls in the class had to change her socks and help her brush her teeth before the baby-sitter picked her up. Not fun!
- MARJORIE STEVENS - Came to Avon in Junior High. Red hair, freckles, and had already developed a womanly figure-(nice Ta-Ta's) Drove the boys wild! She was a very nice girl.
- VERNON SPELLMAN - Came in 4th grade. Black horn rimmed thick glasses. Was much older. Mary Clark said she fell in love at first sight with him, but quickly fell out of love when she learned he couldn't read.
- ELOISE WALTON - Came to Avon her Sophomore year. Mr. Theofanis made her get up and introduce herself. She said "My name is Eloise Walton and I'm from Hattiesburg, Mississippi", in the biggest southern accent I had ever heard. The whole class laughed and we accepted her on the spot!
- BUD FUNGI - A Fictitious name we added to the roll call and Miss Hopkins called his name most of the year. Sometimes he would answer present but was usually absent. She never quite figured it out.

## REMARKS

Compiling this booklet turned out to be a very time consuming project, but John and I enjoyed doing it. It gave us time to reflect on each of you and recapture some precious memories. Somehow only fun and good times came to our mind, the bad times (if there were any) have all evaporated with time.

In receiving your responses, we noticed some similarities and some differences. For instance, the play we saw on our Senior Trip. I thought we all saw the same one but here's what you remembered! *Gone With The Wind*, *Peter Pan*, *The Sound of Music*, and a movie *Souther*. Perhaps Mr. Haynes can clear that one up for us!

Your responses began to weave a common thread as you mentioned pride in your children, joy in your grandchildren, spiritual influences, value of teachers and friendships and the rewards of growing up in Avon and being a part of the class of 1961.



