

1956
L.H.S.
REUNION

50

October 14, 2006

*What LHS did for me, Tis a question I've been asked: Let me see
now... At first...it seemed quite a task!*

*Thinking back... fifty years, I can see many a step:
That prepared me for life, Each step...being my 'prep'.*

*Having little self-esteem... Each step...was a giant one...to me;
To build confidence... was the issue...
Hard work and nothing's free.*

*Mr. Donnelly and Mr. Fenton, I'd have to say...were corner stones;
They gave me the tools I needed, Their encouragement and
praise...something I'd not known.*

*Miss DePouli helped me also, Although gym was not my 'thing';
A substitute teacher...yes, she was, But, great insight...to me...she
did bring.*

*LHS built my self-esteem. It showed me that I had worth; It pre-
pared me for the next step, In me... confidence was birthed!*

—by Lorraine Taylor Girouard

Dear Classmates,

Welcome to our 50th Class Reunion!

We thank each of you who played a part in creating this, our 50th Reunion celebration. Some were with the planning committee, others provided a spark of inspiration by phoning or writing their enthusiastic encouragement.

You who are attending provide the final touch of success.

All were valuable in putting this event together. So give yourselves a pat on the back for your efforts in making this weekend an enjoyable tri down memory lane with the Class of 1956.

— With Gratitude, The Planning Committee

Linda Dinsmore, Dorothea Dzenis, Giulio Greco,

Wayne Kendall, Heidi Keller Moon, Joan Mullaney.

Others who helped: Treasurer Barbara Aubuchon,

and Linda Pinder, Friday night display and program.

Schedule of Events:

Friday, October 13, 2006

Café

Informal Reception 7:30 – 11:00

Sheraton Four Points Hotel

Erdman Way, Leominster

LHS vs. Algonquin Football Game at the newly renovated Doyle Field

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2006

Class of 1956 50th Class Reunion Celebration

Cocktails 6:00 Ppm • Dinner 7:00 pm

Fay Club, 658 Main St., Fitchburg

Entertainment:

Neil Todd & Phil Temple, Emcees;

Guest DJs: Dave Guernsey and Cindy Riccitelli, Milford, CT.

Sunday, October 15, 2006

Memorial Remembrance Brunch

Sheraton Four Points Hotel

Classics Breakfast Room, 10:00 am - noon

In Memory of our Deceased Classmates

Deceased Classmates

**since 40th Reunion*

* Carl Agnew

* Andre Aubuchon

* Leon Bilodeau

* Mary Aucoin Boone

* Robert C. Brennan

William Buckley

* Barry Caisse

John Carter

* Jackie Sawyer Celli

Sheila Colletti

* Elizabeth Day

George Dinsmore

* Nancy Holmes Fontaine

* Jean Gaudreau Henault

* Theresa M. Cote Houde

Donald Hunter

* Donald F. Joseph

* Jeanne M. Allard Judkins

* Richard Lanza

Bette Lawrence

* Joseph Paul LeBlanc

Susan Tremblay Mankevetch

Paul McGuinness

* Marjorie Wittman Miles

John Mullaney

* Mary Macioci Norris

Joan Patalino

* Leah Lane Postel

* Ronald E. Poulson

* John Ridley

* Carol Breau Santucci

* William Sargent

David Scobie

Mary Bracani Summer

* Thomas Thomas

*Leominster
High School's
Class of
1956*

Barbara (Allain) Spinelli

182 Kings Highway, Hampton, NH 03842
603-929-5014

Barbara became a widow after 40 years of marriage. They have 6 children: Christina, Scott, Bonnie, Lisa, Anthony, Jr., and Andrea. She's blessed with 8 grandchildren: Cameron (youngest at 2 years of age), Chase, Brianna, Carlee, Gianna, Gabriel, Conner, and Joseph. Her accomplishments: "after college and teaching, I left my career to be a 'stay-at-home' Mom. As a mother of 6 children, I certainly learned soon that I had a new career. Together we had adventurous and rewarding experiences. Never was there a dull moment. At present I am employed by the State of New Hampshire. A new career? Perhaps." Memories: 1956 Favorite Song, "Smile"; the laughter, sports, plays, speeches, friendship, excellent (& poor) teachers. The "yesterdays" are gone, but the memories remain forever. Her message to us: "Thanks" for being my friend.....Love to all of you and your families."

Roseanne (Arpano) Martino

29 George Terrace Leominster, MA 01453
978-534-7260

(Thankfully, Roseanne & Sammy are coming to the reunion, but they wouldn't share any thoughts for the booklet. We'll forgive them!)

Allyn Ayotte

18582 Valley Drive Villa Park, CA 92861
714-685-9240

Allyn and Pat (Monroe) have celebrated 48 years of marriage together (*congratulations!*) and have 2 children: Bill (46) and Karen (43). And, from these 2 have come 4 granddaughters: Rebecca, Emily, Gabrielle, and Andrea. Their accomplishments of the last 50 years are "keeping the family together!" Fondest memories are: "In general, we feel blessed to have grown up in the mid-50's era - a time of relative innocence and good fun." Message to us: "You're only as old as you think!"

Fay (Bachand) Brooks

350 Water Street, Apt. 310 Fitchburg, MA 01420
978-343-7685

Fay and her husband, Bob, are divorced, but they have 5 special children: Robert Jr., David, Tom, Carol, and Andy. The 8 grandchildren are: Derek, Mathew, Courtney, Ashley, Amanda, Lauren, Larissa, and Drew. Her accomplishments include the following: "after graduating from L.H.S., I went to Art School for 2 years. Then I got married and raised my 5 wonderful children. After the children finished school, I went back to college, only this time I went to Newbury College to

get my degree in Culinary Arts. I soon became a Certified Chef. I worked in many food establishments until I started my own catering business called "International Catering by Fay". Now I am retired and do free lance painting and gourmet cooking for my family and friends. Most of all I am enjoying my 8 wonderful grandchildren." Fay's fondest H.S. memories are: belonging to the Art Club and the G.A.A., and getting to know some wonderful people. But most of all when I was a sophomore, I wanted to quit school and our great Principal Theodore Kucharski talked me out of it. Thank you, Sir." Her message to us is that "Never too old to start your dreams." Other info to share: she's looking forward to seeing "all you wonderful people. And, in my heart, I remember the people who have left us. May God bless you all."

Dorothea (Baldridge) Dzenis

P.O. Box 928 Bradford, VT 05033 • 802-222-5804
Dottie & Tal (short for his Latvian name, Talivaldis) were thrilled to celebrate their 25th anniversary last October (they had already celebrated, with a party, their 50th - his, hers, and their years of marriage!). Children - Keith Lawrence (45), Krista Jones (44), Deanne Lawrence(40), Kevin Lawrence (39); Grandchildren - Andrew Johnson(18), Olivia Jones(11), and Zachary Lawrence(3). Dottie feels her greatest accomplishments are really more like blessings: her loving husband of 26 years, special children and grandchildren; her challenging and rewarding career as Human Resources Director, in which she somehow reached her goals; currently happily retired; in good health; has a lovely home in VT (where they can look out at the White Mts. of NH; and many dear friends, without which, she couldn't have gotten through to today. None of the above would have been possible without God's help! Dottie enjoys her Church and community volunteer work. Her fondest memories of L.H.S. are again connected to having such special friends thru-out those years. Dottie enjoyed football games, slumber parties, Winter Carnival (again- of course, as special), class suppers, class play, field hockey games, ski trips (and still do). Message to classmates?- stay in touch, keep well and stay happy. Life's too short not to appreciate every day, and share that happiness! "By living for today, we inadvertently prepare for tomorrow. By living for tomorrow, we sometimes forget to live for today."

John (Jack) Bangrazi

8 Boutelle Street, Leominster, MA 01453-6302
978-537-8447

Jack has 2 children: Michael and Erica. He's also

blessed with 2 grandchildren: Scotty and Christian. His proudest accomplishments are: "On the road with a rock band for 6 years, '74 - 80; 2 albums (*what are they? can we get them on line?*); hole in one at Monoosnock County Club this year. Jack's fondest H.S. memories are playing for parties at No. 6 school house and Art Class. He tells us to "Hang in there!"

Arnold Baron

150 Pleasant Terrace Leominster, MA 01453
978-537-1459

Arnold and Janet have been married for 45 years! They have 2 sons; Michael (44 years old), and Rick, who (at the age of 30) was killed 11 years ago on September 2, 1995 on Mr. Katahdin, in Maine. (*Our deepest sympathies to all of you.*)

Joyce (Bartlett) Nestel

3118 Teesdale Street Philadelphia, PA 19152-4514
215-624-6984

Joyce and her husband, Bob, have been married almost as long as we've been out of high school - 50 years! (*Congratulations!*) They have been blessed with 4 children, 10 grand- children and 6 **great** grandchildren! Joyce states she feels very fortunate to have had good memories of support and friendships that she had during her high school years. For her accomplishments, she cannot contribute any accomplishments she has had over the last 50 years to herself alone. "There have been many people along my journey who have touched my life, helped me grow in my spiritual life, have been there for me in good times and difficult times, who have broadened my life and helped me accomplish many things I did not think were possible. I feel good about the last 50 years of my life and therein lies my best accomplish- ment." Her message to us: "The more you help others, the more you help yourself."

Francis Bartolomeo

900 Central Street Leominster, MA 01453
978-537-4205

Francis and his wife have 6 children and **13** grandchildren! (*Congratulations!*) Accomplishments: "Raising a good family!" His memory of high school days is that he learned to work!

Carol (Bergman Brooks) Carchidi

165 Hall Street Leominster, MA 01453 • 978-537-9484
Carol and Dominic have been married for 23 years! Her children are: Bonnie Brooks, Alan Brooks, Lisa Carchidi Thomann, and Donna Carchidi Courtemanche. These offspring have blessed them with 10 grandchildren and

6 **great** grandchildren. Her proud accomplishment is her career spanning over 40 years in a dental practice. Her fondest memories are the lifetime friendships that were formed. Carol's message to us is: "Good health and happiness in the so-called 'Golden' years"!!

Lionel Bernard

17 MacArthur Drive Millbury, MA 01527-3541
978-754-2097

(*taken from the 40th*) Lionel has 5 children: Darlene, Scott, David, Sherry, and Kim. His grandchildren are: Todd, Nicole, Danny, Nick, Tom and Amanda.

Shirley (Betts) Elson

3405 W. 32nd Ave., # 608 Denver, CO 80211
720-855-0761

Shirley and her husband, Bob, have been married 46 years and have 3 sons: Rob (44), Zach (35), and Ben (33). They also have been blessed with 3 grandsons: Brandon and Neil (23), *twins*, Micah (12), and a **great** grandson, Ethan (2)!

Bruce Billings *Unknown address - we miss you - where are you?*

Shirley (Blanchard) Kent

5901 W. Behrend Dr., Apt. 1093 Glendale, AZ 85308
623-374-3533 f Divorced. Shirley's sons are Thomas Kent (43) and Kevin Kent (38). Her grandchildren are: Domenic (24), Patrick (21), Michael (18), and Ryan (6). **Great** grandson: Joshua (1).

Donald E. Booth

58 Stagecoach Road Leominster, MA 01453
978-537-5352 Don, "as we know, never married and, as discussed earlier, there are no children, or grandchildren, planned, optional, or whatever the questionnaire says. There are no great accomplishments, but like everybody, there have been plenty of small ones and some disappointments, too. I chalk them up as learning experiences. Don't know where to start on high school memories. There are so many that I look forward to reliving them on the 13th and 14th and to be reminded of some that have slipped away in 'senior moments'. What about music that night? Will I be able to understand the words? With all that's been written here, about all that is worth publishing is name, address, etc. For anything else, refer classmates to our 40th reunion book. All bases covered there and not much has changed!" (*I fully recommend you take him up on his reference to 40th book - especially if you'd like a good chuckle.*)

Joan (Bouvier) Hall

10465 Fairhill Drive Spring Valley, CA 91977-5411
619-670-1955

Joan has been widowed since 1964. She has 4 children: Denise (46), Lauren (39), Brenda (37), and Kenneth (36). They've been prolific, for she has 12 grandchildren: Dustin (26), Shonda (24), Christopher (22), Stacie (21), Amanda (19), Jonathon (16), Arend (11), Michaela (10), Matthew (9), Ashton (9), Kelsey (6), and Andrew (4). And - she boasts 3 **great** grandchildren! Joan's proud of these accomplishments: "raising a family of 4 in California with my husband Bill; volunteering in my children's schools which gave me so much pleasure; being a "gym mom" to a competitive gymnast; seeing a daughter achieve her goal of graduating from college at the age of 35; baking multitudes of cookies for bake sales and "Operation Dear Abby"; volunteering at church, specifically working for the St. Vincent dePaul Society in our community; learning to play "rag time" piano for fun; hoping I did the best for my family even though things did not always go smoothly; and, finding peace." Her fondest LHS memories are: the football games; playing in the band and having fun on the bus to and from the away games; going to TAG on Saturday nights and being thrilled when Bill Buckley would ask me to dance; the Proms and getting all dressed up; the three "B's" - Bergman, Blanchard, and Bouvier; Mr. Sutcliff and Miss Driscoll. Joan's message her fellow classmates: "My apologies to Donald Booth for having to sit in front of me during home room throughout high School."

Alfred Brodeur

9 Lakeside Drive Johnston, RI 02919 401-949-3187
(Al didn't respond. We'll miss him.)

Winston E. Bryant

140 Overbrook Blvd. Belleair Bluffs, FL 33770-2181
727-581-1538

Win is divorced. His accomplishments are becoming a CPA and having his own tax and accounting practice (*congrats!*). His fondest memories were: co-starring in the senior play with Pat Toolin; his first exposure to politics by getting an "A" in History class while everyone else got a "B" or lower. Mr. Rogers never gave out "A" grades. His message to us: "enjoy these 'Golden Years' while you are still healthy!" Other thoughts: "Where is Bruce Billings *(we'd like to know that, also!)* and why didn't he attend any class reunions?" *(Unfortunately, Win's health prevents him from being with us. He says, "Have a great reunion. I envy those who are able to attend." We'll miss you, Win.)*

Mathew M. Camardella

8058 Broadwalk Way Las Vegas, NV 89123
702-361-1937

Mat and Pat have 4 children: Anthony (44), Michael (43), Carla (41), and Matthew (39). And, wow, they have **10** grandchildren: Kacie (17), Codie (17), Kayla (16), Keegan (14), Ross (14), Karlie (13), Dominic (11), Grayson (10), Alexa (6), and Libby (2).

Accomplishments: "Being happily married for 46 years (*congratulations*) and being able to attend my 50th class reunion!" (*Hurray!*) His fondest memories are of Undaw Iacoboni always coming to his house and eating pasta cold from the fridge! His message to us is that he's looking forward to a great class reunion and hope we all recognize each other.

Jane (Campbell) Whitney

1 Russell Ave., POB 868 Upton, MA 01568
508-529-9053

(sorry not to hear from you - you'll be missed)

Theresa (Campbell) DeBarge

14 Nooks Hill Drive Cromwell, CT 06416
860-635-4524

Widowed. Theresa's 4 children are: Dean, Cathy, Michael, and Ronald. She's blessed with 8 Grandchildren: James, Andrew, Matthew, Jacquelyn, Rachel, Julianna, and twins Erica and Daniel. Her accomplishments include being a Mother and Grandmother. Theresa is still working part-time at a facility for the elderly as a receptionist. Her fondest memories of L.H.S. are: taking part in the talent show with her best friend, Barbara (Allain) Spinelli; football games (she still attends some of the rival Thanksgiving Day games); & gymnastic participation. Well, the memories are many!! Her message is that she's hoping to see her best friends: Jackie (Sawyer) Celli, Barbara (Allain) Spinelli, Beverly (Girarden) Lanza. They were not at the last two reunions, which was very disappointing to her when she had come from out of state with hopes of seeing them as one of the rare opportunities she'd be able to see them. She hopes to see them at this very special reunion!

Cynthia (Carignan) Paquette

8425 Grand Messina Circle Boynton Beach, FL 33437
561-752-5369 Cindy and Gerry have 2 children: Wendy (47) and Jay (45). Their Grandson, Christopher Jaynes is 23. Cindy feels her accomplishment o'er last 50 years is "Surviving! (after overcoming the sense of wonder at what the future would hold!)." Her fondest memories are tied in with the grand friendships, good

times, and the sense of wonder at what the future would hold. Her message is that she's so happy to be here to say "Hi!" Her sharing - "Memories are a wonderful thing - it's where we are forever young and beautiful. I'll always think of you all that way."

Norman P. Caron

140 11th Street Leominster, MA 01453 978-537-8362
(sorry not hear from you - you'll be missed.)

Carol (Carter) Palmer

32 Chicopee Street Worcester, MA 01602
508-754-7072

Carol and her husband, Clayton have been married 48 years as of Aug. 2nd this year. Their children are: Michael, Linda, Denise, Donna, Stephen, Christine. Their grandchildren are: Kelly, Patrick, Sean, Jessica, David, Stefanie, Nicole, and Matthew. Her accomplishments are: "raising my 6 children; working with children as a Girl Scout leader for 8 years; a School Bus Driver for 23 years (wow, you deserve a medal); and retired in October 2001." Her fondest memories during H.S. was going to sport events.

John Carter *Deceased*

Elvira (Ciccone) DeVarney

46 Legate Hill Road Leominster, MA 01453
978-537-1604

Elvira is a widow. Her 2 children are William and Ann. They have brought her 3 grandchildren: Karen, Robert, and Elizabeth. Last 50 years' accomplishments: "Having children and grandchildren to continue blood line; to have community and church service with elderly; traveling to different places seeing amazing things." Fondest memories are her friendships with classmates that came into her life - some who are still around her, some have passed away, and "some I may never have the privilege of seeing again."

James D. Clark *Unknown Address*

George Corliss

55 Liberty Street Leominster, MA 01453 978-537-5910

Dennis Cormier

22 Woodridge Road Maynard, MA 978-897-4724

Francis J. Coty

195 Dawson Drive Camarillo, CA 93010

(We will miss all of you!)

Catherine (David) Smith

29 Goodwin Street Fitchburg, MA 01420
978-343-0533

Kay is divorced but boasts her 5 children who are: Patricia (46), Karen (44), David (43), Barbara (42), and James (38). Her grandchildren include: Steven (23), Robert (13), and Savahanna (11). And, Kay is the proud **Great**grandma for: Madison (4), Sean (3), and Ryan "any day now". During the last 50 years, her greatest accomplishment was taking a computer class at age 59 and getting a job using her newly learned skills. *(good for you!)* "Most" every day at LHS was memorable! Kay's message to us is "May every new day be better than your last and every tomorrow be your best yet!" Info to share with us: Kay found out at the end of our junior year, that her name is spelled with a "C" and not a "K", and she was born a day earlier than she was told she was (according to City Hall records). "Go Figure!"

Carol (Deitzel) Iacaboni

54 Martha Street Leominster, MA 01453
978-537-7146

"Deitz" and "Undaw" have 3 children: Ann, Michael, and Sandra. They have seven (7) grandsons, ages 3 to 13 *(their own basketball team, plus)*. As of this writing, a new baby is expected in August *(grand-child, we presume?)*.

Joan (Derby) Reed

935 Blemer Road Danville, CA 94526-1501
925-837-8534

(We're disappointed Joan couldn't make it - her husband, Bill, is recuperating from surgery.)

Louis A. D'Innocenzo 211 Lincoln Street

Leominster, MA 01453-1735 978-534-5008

(Sorry didn't hear from you. You'll be missed.)

Peter Drury

190 Townsend Street Fitchburg, MA 01420
978-497-8130

Peter is widowed, sadly, but he has a total of 6 children: Diann (46), Jayne (45), Steven (40), Derek (35), and his step-children - Kathy (43), and John (42). He enjoys a few grandchildren, also, that he's proud of: Erinn, Mike, Melissa, Steven, Kayla, and Emily. Peter stated that his accomplishments that he's most proud of in last 50 years are too many to list! His fondest memory is "beating Fitchburg 39-7"! Peter's message to us is: "Congratulations for having made it this far! Hope your health and lives are good."

Judy (Duncklee) Lanza

55 Overlook Drive Leominster, MA 01453 978-537-0293

(Regrettably, Judy lost Dick in 2003). However, they were blessed with 5 children: Anthony, Anne (Sowerbotts), John, Maria (Beaulieu), and Julia Lanza. Their grand- children are: Theresa (22), Nicole (18), Allison (15), Matthew (14), and Elizabeth (14). During the last 50 years, she's been proud mother of 5 children, taught children for over 25 years, and is enjoying her 5 grandchildren. Fondest LHS memories include getting together on Friday nights at Shirley (Betts) house, of course TAG, and the wonderful friendships. Judy's message to us: "Enjoy today as we never know what tomorrow will bring. Life is not all work - take time to enjoy each other." Other info to share with us: "Dick passed away Dec. 21, 2003. He had sugar. Classmates, take care of yourselves and enjoy life!"

Carole (Dupuis) DiNardo

187 Debbie Drive Leominster, MA 01453
978-537-5766

Carole and Pat boast 2 children and 8 grandchildren, who range in ages from 5 to 13 years old. They are her "precious gems". Two grandchildren live with their grandparents, keeping them "young"!! As Carole stated in the 40th reunion booklet, she would have liked to have continued her education. Mary Aucoin, Sheila Colletti, and Nancy Holmes were her best friends during our H.S. years "on the hill". A message then, and believe would be now, "Thank you for making our Scholarship Drive successful for our future generation to have an opportunity to continue their education for leadership in tomorrow's environment."

Sheila (Epstein) Hedges

604 Highcrest Dr. Condo #413, Granite Shoals, TX 78654 • roygrandsheila@nctv.com

Sheila didn't return her questionnaire, but sent this message: "Roy and I sold our home in San Angelo last year and semi-retired here in Texas Hill Country where we had bought condos on Lake LBJ several years ago. We along with another couple own the rental company for the condos. Visit our website to see what we are all about. We stay pretty busy so I am not the chubby girl that I used to be. Just short, blonde and thin!"

Rolph Erdmann

31 Viscoloid Avenue Leominster, MA 01453
978-534-5638

Rolph married Barbara Burdick, and they have 2 children: Danna (43) and Diane (41). Their grandchildren

are: Dana (19), Kristin (18), Taylor (8), and Sydney (8). The accomplishments Rolph is most proud of are that he survived 40 years with the same company, plus 3 years in Marine Corp. He is active in Racquetball, skiing, *(hope to see you on the slopes!)* and golf!

Philip Fallon

34 Ellis Street Fitchburg, MA 01420 978-345-3648

Unfortunately, Phil and his wife, Pat, are unable to attend this year's reunion. He sent a note stating that he hoped we have a "great reunion". I believe we will, but we'll miss him. Hopefully, the next one they can make!

Rosalie (Fiorentino) Lisciotti

78 Middle Street Leominster, MA 01453
978-537-2481

Rosalie and her husband have been married 46 years. Their daughter, Christine Kosakowski, is 36 years old. Her accomplishments include being married for 46 years and enjoying retirement years now as much as possible. She's most thankful for staying healthy after a few serious health problems. Her fondest memories of H.S. days haven't changed much since last reunion, which was, hanging out with her friends, and all of the football games, especially Nashua, NH and the Thanksgiving Day game with Fitchburg. She still loves football games, but now it's the Patriots! Also, she still likes hanging out with friends but now it's the senior friends at the Senior Center. Also, different activities and Casino trips occasionally. Her message to us: "Enjoy each and every day with whatever is to your liking. We are fortunate to still be around for our 50th, as so many of our classmates have passed on already. God bless all our classmates and keep them healthy and happy for our next reunion and, keep the faith!"

John Flaminio

3005 Pebble Creek Lane
Lambertville, MI 48144
734-854-7744

John and Patricia Valeri have 2 children: Susan (45) and Tony (42). Their 3 grandsons are: Anthony (23), Michael (22), and Nick (14). John states that the accomplishment he's most proud of is his perseverance thru all the academic hurdles that he has had to endure. His fondest H.S. memories are "just being with the guys". His message to classmates is: "Looking forward to seeing as many people as possible."

Frances (Fluet) Rifkin

8515 Egret Meadow Lane West Palm Beach, FL 33412-1559

(Fran is in process of moving to Denver, CO, and so have not received her questionnaire. However, she's planning on being at the reunion!)

James J. Fontaine

101 Courtland Circle Leominster, MA 01453 978-534-0885 *(We'll miss him, too.)*

Martha (Forrest) Holland

2204 Lester Drive NE #286 Albuquerque, NM 87112 505-292-5065

Martha and her husband have been married 48 years and have 2 sons, Michael (46) and Dwight (43). Their granddaughter, April, is 16 years old. Martha is proud that she is learning to always forgive. We should "love everyone as we would our Mother, Father, Sister or Brother." Her message to us is: "I wish everyone the best of everything. May you be blessed with happiness - love - and peace. May the angels watch over you and keep you safe!" Martha would like to hear from any classmate by email!

Marcia (Freeman) Dufault

21 Walnut Street Winchendon, MA 01475 978-297-2629 *(We'll miss you!)*

Kenneth B. Frye

374 Florence Street Leominster, MA 01453 978-537-6930 *(We'll miss him, too.)*

Richard J. Furmanick

164 Princeton Road, RFD Sterling, MA 01564 978-422-6121

Richard and his wife have 4 children: Richie, Roger, Randy, and Betty Lou Pekkola. They are blessed with 3 grand-children: Cache, Jessie, & Niki. He is justly proud to have built his own house, camp, and homes for others, as well as several remodeling jobs. Richard is proud to be debt free and in good herbal health! His fondest memories of Saxton Trade High School is that he's proud to say he attended there and had the best teachers: Mr. Jim Geary, Mr. Harold Mooney, and Mr. Mitchell for related H.S. subjects. He's thrilled to say he can work at carpentry at age 68 and obtain perfection in his final results! Also, he did Mechanical Maintenance for 30 years. He is hoping (so are we) that other Tradesmen from Saxton '56 will attend.

Fay (Gallagher) Margliano

109 Grove Avenue Leominster, MA 01453 978-840-3641

(No word from Fay. We miss her.)

Sherill (Geary) Duggin

8 Crowell Road Harwichport, MA 02646 508-432-9898

Sherill and her husband, Dennis, have 4 children: Kevin, Kathleen, Elizabeth, and Brian. Although she will not be joining us, she hopes we have a wonderful time at the reunion. *(We miss you!)*

Lawrence Gieselman *Unknown address***Beverly (Giradin) Lanza**

56 Cumberland Road Leominster, M 01453 978-537-0077

(from our 40th Reunion booklet, as did not hear from Bev - We'll miss her!) Bev and Joe have 4 children: Peter, Linda, Lois Ann, and Donna. As of 10 years ago, their grandchildren are: Steven, Jeffrey, Eric, Brenna, and Christopher. Bev is most proud of her marriage with Joe and their children and grandchildren.

Grace (Girouard) Perla

1 Berrington Road Leominster, MA 01453 978-534-0495

Grace was sorry not to be able to make the reunion, and sent best wishes to all!

Rosalyn (Goldberg) Furash

700 Lindell Blvd., #7-123 Delray Beach, FL 33444 561-272-5790

Roz is divorced, but she has 2 wonderful sons, Scott Jonathan (46) and Jay Harris (43). She has 1 granddaughter, Devon Elise (7). Her accomplishments over the last 50 years are being a single Mom and raising her 2 sons to be well-adjusted, accomplished men. For many years she was employed as a medical transcriptionist to the Medical Examiner (Coroner) of Palm Beach County, Florida doing Medico-Legal autopsy reports. Roz's fondest memories of H.S. are the carefree times with friends, song sessions - same kids from grade school thru high school - small class size - small student body. Message to us: "Live each day to the fullest; cut out the BS. Don't sweat the small stuff (it's all small stuff)!" Other thoughts/info to share: "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, and today is a gift: that's why they call it the present."

Guilio G. Greco

175 Washington Street Leominster, MA 01453 978-537-5346

"Greco" and Irene have 2 sons: Christopher and Craig (28). He is currently a Realtor with Century 21, DeNault Realty, Inc. in Leominster. (*Referring to the 40th's book.*) To quote him, "We were lucky to have our high school years during the best time of this century. To you all, stay healthy, and keep smiling." (*Thanks for all your help on the committee!!*)

Carl Grubb

P.O. Box 577 (mailing address) 178 Edgewood Circle (residence) Moody, Maine 04054 • 207-646-6832
Carl's proudest accomplishments are "meeting & marrying the woman who stood by me the last 44 years. Also, completing a successful 26 year military career." His fondest memories of H.S. are finally understanding - tho' dimly - algebra; Camera Club; Class play; TAG; many good friends. Message: "We are all at the age where we can attribute our longevity to our ability to breathe" Carl wishes all good health and happiness!

Sonja (Gunnarson) Martin *Unknown address***Barry Harris**

9300 Magnolia Estates Drive Cornelius, NC 28031 704-892-1885 Barry and his wife, Joyce, have been in NC since '94. Their son, Steve, graduated from St. Lawrence in 1998, went to U. of Colorado Grad. School & now lives in Denver. Their daughter, Alison, graduated from Bates in 2000 & went to Simmons Grad. School & lives in Boston. Barry retired from Rohm and Haas in 2001 & is "enjoying the good life". (*Unfortunately, Barry and Joyce had commitments in Oct. so could not make the reunion.*)

Robert D. Harris *Unknown address***William W. Harris**

20 Grandview Drive Leominster, MA 01453 *Sorry we did not hear from William. We'll miss him, too.)*

Henry Healy

68 Deacon Street, Boston, MA 02108 • 617-951-8271
Henry and his wife have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. His greatest accomplishments in last 50 years were serving as a MA Assistant Attorney General from 1967 - 69; and becoming a partner at Bingham, Dana & Gould in 1973. Henry's fondest memories of H.S. is finally getting his drivers license and the parties at Spec Pond. His message to us: "Hope to see you at the 60th and 70th!"

David F. Henault 28455 Del Lago Way Bonita Springs, FL 34135 239-495-5941 (*As we know, Dave lost his Jean a several years ago. However, he's been blessed to build a new life with a special mutual friend of theirs.*) David and Sandy were happily united in marriage just a few years ago. David's children are Debra (48) and Sandra (44). His 4 grandchildren are: David Dwyer (28), Aimee Stover (26), Sara Zeimet (21), Joe Zeimet (19). Dave is also the proud **Great** grandfather to: Kaitlyn Dwyer (7), Abby Dwyer (5), Layla Dwyer (2), & Haley Stover (2). Dave's most proud of his wonderful, loving, and caring family. His fondest LHS memories are his close friends, senior play, Saturday night "TAG", and the LHS Band. His message: "I have learned in this life (no matter what part of it) that 'Attitude' is not important, it is EVERYTHING! You see, everything one says or does follows whatever your 'ATTITUDE' is."

Donna (Hill) Waterman

556 Central Street Lot 24 Leominster, MA 01453 978-537-0114
Donna writes she she had 4 children. Sadly, "Chuckie" passed away at the age of 14 in 1979. Her other 2 sons are Dana (38), and Kevin (30). Her stepdaughter is Julie Patterson (47). Donna's grandchildren are: Shawna (32), John "J.C." (10), Alyssa (6), Cody (2), Noah (9 months), and **great** grandson, Travis, 2 yrs. old. Her accomplishments include being President of The Rebekah Assembly of Massachusetts (A Fraternal Organization), getting to college 20 years after High School (*congratulations!*). Her fondest memories are: the band and orchestra with "Sudsy"; time spent with best friends; and - her memory has to be jogged" for any other fond memories. "Hope you're surviving in retirement and keeping smiley faces everywhere" is her message to us.

Anthony Iacaboni

54 Martha Street Leominster, MA 01453 978-537-7146
"Deitz" and "Undaw" have 3 children: Ann, Michael, and Sandra. They have **seven (7)** grandsons, ages 3 to 13 (*their own basketball team, plus*). As of this writing, a new baby is expected in August (*trusting a new grandchild baby!*).

Carol (Jansson) Hay

50 Pine Street Lincroft, NJ 07738 • 732-747-4758
(*Unfortunately, talked with Carol & she planned to come, but have not heard since. Sorry. She'll be missed!*)

Alan A. Johnson

513 Grant Street Leominster, MA 01453

978-534-9229

(Well, another Leominsterite didn't hear anything from. He'll be missed, too.)

Carol (Johnson) Vacarelo

223 Sunnyhill Road Lunenburg, MA 01462

978-582-6693 (*Miss her.*)

Emile Johnson

1683 B Pleasant Street, Athol, MA 01331

978-249-5572

Emile and his wife have 3 children: Buddy, Debra, and Brendon. Their 3 grandchildren are: Nick, Perla, and Tiffany. Emile is most proud *(as he well should be, too)* of his teaching 38 years in Leominster system; elected to Fitchburg State Athletic Hall of Fame; elected to Mass. Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame.

(Congratulations on all 3 accounts!)

Marilyn (Johnson) Poulson

18803 N. Concho Circle Sun City, AZ 85373

623-875-4555

Marilyn is our Buzzie's widow, unfortunately. They have 2 children - Kris Ellen (41) and Ronald (39), and one grandson, Nicholas (5). Her proudest accomplishment of last 50 years is, as always when asked this question, their children. "Buzzy and I brought up two happy productive loving kids. All other accomplishments pale in comparison." Message?: "Come to the Valley of the Sun (Phoenix) for a winter vacation - moderate temperatures- No HUMIDITY, no bugs!!" *(We'll miss you!)*

Heidi (Keller) Moon

53 Conanicus Avenue #1-C Jamestown, RI 02835

401-423-3357

Heidi's 3 children are: Peter Moon, Elizabeth Moore, Christopher Longmoon. She's the proud Grandmother of 4 grandchildren ranging from 3 - 9 years old. Her proudest accomplishments have been raising her children well, teaching well, contributing to her community, and being a good friend. Her fondest memories include the lifelong friendships we were forming without even realizing it. Her message to us is "I treasure our shared history". Her other shared thoughts are "special thanks to those who made this reunion possible!" *(Thanks, Heidi! Thanks for your help with the reunion, too!)*

Lawrence (Larry) G. Kendall

7 Arrowhead Road Leominster, MA 01453

978-537-4353

Larry's wife died from cancer in 1994. He was blessed to marry again. He reports that "Life has been good. Always ups & downs. First wife was great, second wife the same. In good health. Hope you're the same. Sorry can't attend; other commitments." His 2 sons are Gary (42) and Scott (36). He has 3 stepchildren: Debbie (51), Ricky (49), and Jawc (48). Shaywa (4) and Olivia (3) are his 2 grand- daughters. After High School, Larry had 4 years with the U.S. Coast Guard, and then 26 years at Borden Chemical Lab Tech. The plant closed in 1985. He worked as Custodian Maintenance for 16 years in the Leominster schools, retiring in 2001. He has a nice family and is in good health. His message to us is: "Hope you all take care. God bless."

Rev. Wayne Kendall

P.O.B. 448 Westford, MA 01886 • 978-692-3001

Wayne was widowed from Dorothy. He is now happily married to Janice. His children include: Scott (43), Brian (42), Kimberly (18). His grandchildren are Vail Marie (15), Ryan (13), Patrick (10). His accomplishment most proud of is "a Pastoral Heart for Everyone"! His fondest memory of H.S. is the "strength to go on which came through a small group of friends." Message: "God Provides For What God Guides!" Other thoughts: "Let's go for 60 years!! See you again then!" *(Thanks, Wayne, for all your help with the reunion!)*

Constance (Kimball) Erickson

79 Meadow Pond Drive #31A Leominster, MA 01453

978-537-1971 *(Unfortunately, have not received*

Connie's info. Hope she will make the reunion!)

(From the 40th): Connie was divorced. She has 2

children: Keith and Kim. She also has 2 grandchildren: Brett and Brice. Her 2nd career at age 52 was after more schooling became a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant - her proudest achievement. Her fondest memories are the weekly TAG get-togethers with a very special group of friends, ice cream at Howard Johnsons, house parties, and outdoor ice skating. "Thanks for the memories, classmates."

Jane (LaClair) Johnson

477 Sharon Drive Cheshire, CT 06410 203-272-6841

Jane and Jim have a son, Brent (38), who has 2 boys, Ben (8) and Sam (5). She's most proud of her accomplishments as they pertain to her years as an elementary teacher in Massachusetts and Connecticut; being

considered a valuable member of the school staff at Highland School where she is still employed; finally finding Elaine Marshall after searching for 35 years; counseling, encouraging and supporting cancer patients; and 43 years of marriage. Her fondest memories are: pajama parties, dances at TAG, delivering funny 5 minute speech at an all-school assembly, and of course the friendships that were made then that have lasted through the years. Her message to classmates: "Life is a journey with challenges to be met, uncertainties and obstacles to overcome and adventures to anticipate. So, put a smile on your face, laughter in your heart, and enjoy this trip of YOUR lifetime." Other shared thoughts (*are you ready for this?*): "I recently came across this motto to live by: Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one hand, wine in the other, body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming ...Damn, What a ride!!"

Delores (LaPosta) MacFarlane

37 Dupont Circle Leominster, MA 01453 978-537-1736
(*Another Leominsterite who will be missed.*)

Ronald LeBlanc 20 Morningside Street Leominster, MA 01453 978-342-8925 Ron and his wife have 1 son, Bryan, age 29. He's most proud of his accomplishing his BA, MA, CAGS (Michigan State University) and that he survived 33 years of teaching! (*Hurray!*) His fondest H.S. memories are the sports and good friendships! His message to us is: "Be thankful for the past 50 years of love shared with your families and friends. May the Almighty keep you in good health. Remember our classmates who are no longer with us."

Raymond Lemieux *Unknown address*

Loretta (Leone) DiPietro

10 Acorn Avenue Fitchburg, MA 01420 978-345-1914 Loretta has her 3 sons: Michael, Stephen, and Robert. She has one grandson, Anthony Lucca, age 3. The accomplishments that Loretta is most proud of are her BS in History with minor in secondary education from Fitchburg State College, graduating Cum Laudi. She also earned her Masters Degree in Theological Studies at Regis College (*Congrats!*).

Carol (Leroy) Lowe

755 Main Street, Clinton, MA 0151 • 978-368-0977 MA 01545

Carol is unable to attend, but would love to have been

with us. She is remarried to Brian Lowe, and has three children; Judy, Linda Jean and Richard. Her four grandchildren are Sara, David, Matthew and Jonathan. Carol still keeps busy, working part time, as "she'd go nuts with nothing to do." She spoke of great times at LHS with pals Joan Putnam, Claire MacMillan, and Beverly Veryard, and wishes them, and all her classmates good health, and happy lives.

Robert F. Lima

24 Morgan Street Hubbardston, MA 01452 (*Unable to attend. Sorry! He'll be missed.*)

Joseph S. Lisciotti

172 Upper Muirfield Ct. N St. Charles, MO 63304-0415
636-441-4650 Cell ph. #: 636-485-5724 Work #: 800-216-6732, ext. 5507

"Yes, at sixty-nine I still work full time as Associate Director of Admissions at Missouri College in St. Louis. In addition, I continue to teach "art" at various venues, most recently, summer drawing classes to young adults at the Laumeier Sculpture Park. I also work part time enrolling students and want-to-be artists for the Art Instruction School of Minneapolis, MN (known from the famous "draw me" advertisements)." Joe never had any children of his own; however, 9 years ago he met and has lived with a "most fantastic lady and mother (Susan, my soul mate) and 'inherited' and proud to be a surrogate father to three of the most wonderful children any man could hope for or would be proud of. (*Congratulations, Joe!*) Susan, a most caring and consummate 'matriach', a Psychology major graduate and presently office manager in our public school system's 'Children's Pre-School' program whose 'exceptional mothering skills' have resulted in the following: Katie, soon to be 25, a beautiful, stately lady and top honors graduate of Missouri College and now a corporate manager at a Westfield Mall in Los Angeles, CA. Jordan, recently turned 23, as a 4.0 grade point average High School student and was voted Valedictorian for his 2002 class. He has since gone on to graduate Summa Cum Laude as a Pre-Med student at Missouri College (and again, all 4 years at a 4.0 grade point average) and will be on to medical school in 2006. Finally, Megan, another beautiful young lady, soon to be twenty-one, also an honors student in her junior year at Missouri College studying Textile & Apparel Management. All are exceptional young adults, well balanced and appreciative of their mother's continuing efforts on their behalf. (None are married, therefore, no grandchildren as yet.)" He's most proud of being a part of and having been accepted by such a wonderful fam-

ily since the loss of his own. (His 91 year old Mother, Tommasina, passed away on March 9, 2005.) He felt he was fortunate to have had her living with her "adopted" family for the previous 9 years. His fondest H.S. days are the many remembered classmates and teachers who will live on, permanently, in our LHS yearbook pictures and comments whether here or departed. The "two" messages to classmates are: "to wish everyone and their families continued healthy and happy years, and how sorry I am that I won't be there to celebrate this auspicious occasion...Though miles apart, I send love and friendship to all." (*likewise, to you from us*)

Rev. Nancy Lloyd

251 Cross Gates Road Rochester, NY 14601
585-247-2689

(Sorry, no response from Nancy. We'll miss her.)

Nancy (Lucier) Lanza *Unknown address*

Marcia (Lynch) Fallon

212 Spruce Hill Road Branford, CT 06405
203-483-6157

Marcia writes: "I am looking forward to seeing fellow classmates I haven't seen in fifty years!" (*Ditto*)

Clare (MacMillan) Poirier

120 Highland Street Lunenburg, MA 01462
978-582-4876

Clare and her husband have 2 children. No grandchildren as yet. Her proud accomplishment is making a cookbook full of recipes from all the family members, for her family. Her message to us is: "Live the rest of your life to the fullest. You never know when illness will strike."

Barbara (Mahan) Aubuchon

130 Chapman Place Leominster, MA 01453
978-537-6528

Barbara is, unfortunately, a widow also. Her daughter, Pam, has been happily married for 16 years. No grandchildren. Her accomplishments most proud of: "Looking back over the past 50 years, I am remembering my 32 year marriage to Norman and the happy times we shared, including watching our daughter grow up and become a loving and intelligent person in her own right. As we all know, life changes and after my husband's death in 1995, I concentrated on two areas of life long interest - education and travel. I was always interested in furthering my education and had graduated from U Mass - Dartmouth in 1985. I went on to earn an MBA from Fitchburg State in 2000. I have enjoyed a

very successful career in health care, working for Montachusett Home Care for the past 14 years. I love to travel and have had many friends to travel with. Elderhostel trips have been a great experience and chance to meet other 'over 55ers'. I hope to generate some interest in travel among our classmates." Her fondest H.S. memories are all part of growing up and enjoying the many new friendships, particularly Marilyn Johnson Poulson and all the George Street gang. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the "50th Bash"! Other thoughts: "In spite of life's ups and downs, I feel blessed and happy in my life, thankful for a good family, good health and great lifelong friends." Her message to classmates is: "The 40th Reunion was such fun! Let's make the 50th even better!!!!"

Linda (Mahan) Pinder

18 Josephine Street, Leominster, MA 01453
978-534-3628

Linda and Jack Pinder have 4 grown children, 3 grandchildren and 2 step-grands. She is a graphic designer, having started her business after the age of fifty, and still working full time. She says she'll keep working as long as her clients keep coming back. She volunteers at the Leominster Historical Society, and has just completed working with a great committee on a three-year project for the city; researching, writing, and designing "Combing Through Leominster's History." She looks back fondly on her 16 years as a ski patroller, and chairing the nationwide 50th Anniversary of the National Ski Patrol. Linda and her cousin Barbara have traveled to Ireland a number of times, in a semi-successful search for their Irish ancestors, music, and pubs! Linda's counts as her greatest blessing, her family: her husband, who has indulged her love of history, travel and Irish music, her children, who roll their eyes at her love of history and Irish music, and her grandchildren, who are still young and well-mannered enough to refrain from rolling their eyes. She counts herself lucky to wake up in the morning, though can't figure out who that old person is on the other side of the mirror. At her 40th reunion she said she was still learning something new every day. That hasn't changed. She values her memories of LHS as happy, carefree times — and is always delighted to run into classmates at the most unlikely places. Her message to classmates, near and far: "Embrace life, friendship, and memories, and keep a gleam in your eye. What a 50 years it's been!" Linda looks forward to seeing old friends at the reunion.

Charles J. Manca

155 Airport Road Gardner, MA 01440 978-632-6066

(Tried to convince Charles to come to the reunion. Most I could get was "maybe!")

Roger Marrama

37 Willard Street Leominster, MA 01453

978-537-0865

Roger and his wife have 2 sons: Anthony, age 39, and Joseph, age 36. The accomplishment he's most proud about in last 50 years is "staying alive"! His memories are with Tony Rodriquez, Nick Mascis, Franny Salvatore, Clem Bisceglia, Jack Freda, Fran Novak, and hanging out at B.C. after school and Concetta's at night. His important message (*which is important*) is: "Come to this reunion. It may be your last!" Other info to share: "Seeing Tony Rodriquez after 50 years."

Elaine Marshall

18081 SE Country Club Dr., #18 Tequesta, FL 33469

561-575-3813

Elaine's sons are Kevin (40) and Mark (41). Her grandchildren are Delaney (8) and Pierce (11). Her proudest accomplishments are her sons! Her memories are her friends and the laughter. Her message to us is "Life is short - enjoy the ride."

Samuel J. Martino, Jr.

29 George Terrace Leominster, MA 01453

978-534-7260

(Roseanne & Sammy will be at the reunion, but wouldn't share any thoughts for the booklet. As long as they're at the reunion!)

Nick Mascis

11930 Nugent Drive Granada Hills, CA 91344

818-831-1884

Nick relays that he's still married to the same lady for 46 years! They met while he was a 19 year old kid, Stationed in Germany. They have 2 daughters - Nicola and Sabrina. They also have 2 grandchildren: Nicholas (16), and Sydney (14). The accomplishments he's most proud of are that he's "Retired USAF - Chief Master Sergeant - (Highest enlisted rank) - BS Degree Hawaii Pacific - two adorable grandchildren - 1958 All American - Football - Air Force." His fondest H.S. memories are "many cherished football memories, Coach Broderick, many lifelong childhood friends - and all the memories from LHS and classmates." His message to his classmates: "I LOVE YOU ALL!!!!!! Probably the best year of my life. God bless Class of 1956." Other shared information: "Nick enlisted in the Air Force in 1956. He

went to Lakeland for basic & then on to Personnel School in Chanute, Ill. Then, on to Germany - first Assg. 604th ACWSq, Freising, Germany (outside Munich). Then in 1959, Rothwestern, 601st ACWSq-Hqtrs in Personnel- went on to AF Academy - played football and made All- American- had to leave before graduation, went back to Germany, married Brigitta some 42 years ago in Kassel, Germany - back to States in '60 - Otis; Hawaii, et al. Made CMS, retired & went into Fire & Casualty Insurance as District Mgr. for 28 years. He's now retired from "Corporate life", and enjoying his 2 gorgeous daughters and 2 special grandchildren. About all he's had contact with are John Flaminio and Frank Novak (altho'not as much since he left coaching, as he's not a computer man. "Let's get on an e-mail routing... OK!" His message: "ONE TEAM -ONE TASK- ONE FUTURE . **Take the time to live!! Life is too short - HUG SOMEONE"** .

Robert C. McHugh

PO Box 1427 337 Grand Ave. Paonia, CA 81428

970-527-5189

Bob is single. He's most proud of the following accomplishments: "I have designed more than 65 custom homes for families in western Colorado and published 1 book." His fondest memories of LHS days are: "ski trip to Stowe, VT; scrimmaging in the rain behind Gardner H.S. with Charlie Broderick; and the French class where I learned little." His message to us: "Please visit web sites: www.ROBERTCMCHUGH.COM and for more information." Other info: "I will do my best to get there."

Joan (Messer) Mullaney

407 Merriam Avenue Leominster, MA 01453

978-537-0237

Joan is Jack's widow, but she's blessed with 4 children: Michael Mullaney, Patricia Mullaney, Linda Adams, and Jill Archard. Her grandchildren include: Shawn Mullaney (23), Meghan Mullaney (19), Margaret Adams (8), Sara Adams (3), Emma Archard (10), Annie Archard (7), and Olivia (3). For accomplishments, she's proud she could work for 20 years to help children go to college. She is now enjoying taking care of her grandchildren. Fondest memories? - senior year dating Jack, senior play, and graduation! Message - would like to see all our classmates! *(Agree! Thanks for all your help on the committee!)*

Hester Ann (Honey) Meyer

305 Worcester Street Southbridge, MA 01550

978-764-3971

Honey states she is "happily unmarried, but not without an ever-growing dazzling garden of friends, of such variety that the United Nations seems pale by comparison." (Honey has sent a wonderful treatise, beautifully written, but I fear too long for this space. Copies of the full text writing are available at no extra cost for those who wish to read it). Her fondest memories of the 3 years spent at LHS have not changed. What has changed in the past 10 years? She no longer jokes about reading the obituaries in the newspaper before anything else so that if her name is there she doesn't have to get out of bed. All too often now a familiar name in the obits belongs to a classmate or friend. She recently experienced the pain of a 27 yr. old woman who took her own life, & this experience had a profound effect on Honey. "We do remember all the funny and not so funny moments that continue to dwell in our nostalgic memory banks. Here we are, aging cohorts, holding on physically and emotionally to one another, acutely aware of the non-verbalized glue that cements our relationships together. The pain of the most recent death in our Class of '56 hits each one of us at least as much as if the first passing. How do we survive with so many losses? 50 years out of H.S., and our world reels still from prejudice and bigotry, intolerance, ignorance, belligerence, anger, grudge-keeping, but our world is also filled still with love and good people and endearing friends. As we re-union in 2006, I suspect we will hold each other just a bit longer, with more & greater love for one another than even we knew ever existed, and that we will continue to 'stay in touch' and be more forgiving to those who have good intentions, but...! May Peace come within and without, and may we who have survived thus far continue our attempt to make a positive difference in others' lives. 'May all of life's blessings be yours today and always. Shalom & L'Chaim!' "

Patricia (Molloy) Ruberti

66 Elaine Road Hyannis, MA 02601 • 508-775-5940

Pat and her husband have 3 children, ages 45, 43, and 39. Their grandchildren are 8 in number, ranging from ages 3 - 21 years old. Accomplishments: "besides my children, it is the 2 years teaching in Nicaragua." What's brought to mind in answering "fondest memories" is a picture she just found of herself, Loretta, Carol, and Mary. Her shared thought is that "life has been good!". Unfortunately, Pat cannot make the reunion, so her message to us is "Enjoy the evening!" (*Thanks, Pat, but we'll miss you.*)

Pat (Monroe) Ayotte

18582 Valley Dr. Villa Park, CA 92861 • 714-685-9240

(If this looks familiar, it's because Allyn stated that "after 48 years, we think alike"!) Allyn and Pat (Monroe) have celebrated 48 years of marriage together (*Congratulations!*) and have 2 children: Bill (46) and Karen (43). And, from these 2 have come 4 granddaughters: Rebecca, Emily, Gabrielle, and Andrea. Their accomplishments of the last 50 years are "keeping the family together!" (*No small task today.*) Fondest memories are: "In general, we feel blessed to have grown up in the mid-50's era, a time of relative innocence and good fun." Message to us: "You're only as old as you think!"

John Montaquila

103 Hall Street Leominster, MA • 978-537-7281

(Sorry not to hear from you - you'll be missed)

Barry Morey 94 Duncan Road South Deerfield, MA

413-665-1567 *(Another who will be missed)*

Louise (Morgan) Cote

108 Knower Road Westminster, MA 01473

Louise reported that Philip Sanborn, class of 55, whom she married in 1957, passed away in 1990. She also writes that she "knew we would get 'older' but not this fast! Have a wonderful reunion." *(Sorry you won't be with us.)*

Richard Morrisette

208 Carter Trail Interlachen, FL 32148 • 386-684-6797

Richard reports his marital status as separated. *(We wish you the very best! Sorry you can't join us.)*

Lois (Murrman) Murphy

5 Hastings Avenue Greenfield, MA 01301

413-773-7414

Lois and Steve celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary this year! (*Congratulations!*) Their daughter, Sharon Jones, and son, Stephen have blessed their lives with 4 grandchildren: Collin and Chelsea Jones, Charlotte and Simon Murphy. "Of course, I am proudest of my children and grandchildren. They have given me boundless joys! Another area of satisfaction came with my teaching career. After struggling with reading in school myself, I was able to help others develop both reading skills and a love of reading. My students gave me more than I ever could give to them. I loved them all!" Fondest memories state: "If you remember, I played basketball, field hockey and softball. My best sport was softball, and I NEVER hit the ball. Well, I

guess that says it all! However, due to our wonderful coaches, Pat Pothier and Miss DePouli, I have no memories of sitting on the bench. I remember friendships, team spirit, riding on the bus, and, of course, my broken ankle in a field hockey game on my 16th birthday. It was all about being a member (not a star) of the team. I have related this experience to every class entering my room throughout my teaching career." Her message to her classmates is to be patient with oneself and live each day to the fullest!! Smile often!!!!

Edward Nadeau

362 Water Street Leominster, MA 01453 978-537-2574
Ed is "single". His accomplishment most proud of in last 50 years is "getting to be 69 years old. Ha! Ha!"
Ed's best memories are of all the friends had had at L.H.S. Message to classmates: "stay healthy.....hope I can come to see all my classmates after 50 years." (*We sure hope so, too!*)

Richard Newell

Elm Street Barre, MA 01005 978-355-2030 (*Sorry, but we didn't hear from Richard. Will miss him.*)

Roderick T. Norris

624 Illinois Avenue St. Cloud, FL 32769 407-957-6256
(*Unfortunately, Roderick couldn't join us. He'll be missed.*)

Francis L. Novak

76 King Circle Avenue Lake Orion, MI 48362
248-762-1744
Fran writes that he's single. His children are Frank, Kim, Tracy, Linda, and Jason! His grandchildren: Frankie, Nickey, Hannah, Abbey, Matthew, Anna Jane, Christopher, Michael, Megan, and Andrew. He's most proud to see his children grow to become responsible parents; also, proud of his coaching in the NFL for 16 years! (*That's super!*) His fondest H.S. memories are: playing 3 sports for LHS; his coaches and teammates; having TK as our principal; Saturday dances at TAG. Message to us - "live well, laugh often, love much!" His thoughts to share are an appreciation for the strong role models we had in Mr. Kucharski, Charlie Broderick, and Carmen Picucci. (*Thanks, Fran, for all your help and encouragement in the reunion preparations!*)

Henry C. Novak 10 Vista Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24503-1335
(*Another classmate with no response. He'll be missed.*)

Richard O'Donnell

134 Stevens Lane Glastonbury, CT 06033
860-633-3916

Dick writes that he's looking forward to seeing all of us. He and his wife, Jane, will be joining us at this reunion! Re. accomplishments that he's most proud of (*I have to quote this one - it's classic!*): "I just don't know where to start— so I won't." (*Dick, you never were a man of many words- and that's okay! Love it*). His fondest memories of LHS days were not getting caught cigarette smoking. His message to us is: "Good health & longer life to all of us. Hope to see you all for our 60th!"

Joan (Parnham) Eichinger *Unknown Address*

Richard Pelletier

131 Scenic Drive Leominster, MA 01453
(*Richard, unfortunately, is ill, but he's **hoping** to join us for at least part of the weekend! Fingers crossed!*)

Robert F. Peterson *Unknown Address*

Richard W. Pitts *Unknown Address, but said to be in Boston, MA*

Rabbi Marshal A. Press

105 Wentworth Drive South Windsor, CT 06074
860-648-1718
(*Marshal said he and his wife bought their first house recently. He would have liked to be with us at the reunion, but as a clergyman with a congregation that he's responsible to, weekends are his busiest time. He sends his best to all. We'll miss you, Marshal, but understand. Best wishes!*)

Joan (Putnam) Palermo

779 Merriam Avenue Leominster, MA 01453
978-535-5980
Joan and her husband have been married for 45 years. Their children are: Andrea, Valerie, Maria, and David (deceased). (*Our deepest sympathies.*) Their grandchildren include: Alyssa, Sean, Collin, Chase, Quinten, and Madison! Her accomplishments o'er the last 50 years are "our home, children, grandchildren, marriage, and I finally mastered my 'tee shot'!" (*congratulations!*). Her fondest memories of H.S. are "Pat, Carol, Claire, Bev, for friends during those days. Fun, mischief, how'd we ever have time for books! I'm still the same! Life is good no matter what!" Her message: "Cheers! Stay safe. See you next time (I hope)"

Carl F. Robinson

7 Greybirch Circle Belmont, MA 02478

617-48902241

Carl's & Annette's 4 children's names are: Cheryl, Jayne, Lynda, and Carl. Their grandchildren are: Max, Davis, Grant, Brian, Stephanie, and Elysia.

Accomplishments: "My wife of 47 years; our children and grandchildren; our health a real blessing; traveling - China, Italy, France, Tibet, Ireland, and through the U.S.A." (good for you!) His fondest memories include track meets, the competition, the Jr. & Sr. Proms, and his many friends. Message to us (taken from Prophecy) is: "Do not walk behind me, for I may not lead. Do not walk in front of me, for I may not follow. Just walk beside me, and be my friend." (*Thanks, Carl! That's beautiful!*) Carl reminds us also to "exercise, eat healthy, & give-back."

Anthony Rodriquez

18428 Tamarind Street Fountain Valley, CA 92709

714-968-4390

(Where's Tony?? Why aren't you here with us?)

Arthur St. Yves, Jr.

32 Penn Street Leominster, MA 01453 • 978-537-1488

Betsey (Salman) McPhee

77 King Avenue Leominster, MA 01453

978-348-1515

Betsey and her husband, Paul, have 5 children: Susan (42), Donna (39), Richard (38), and stepchildren: Amy (39) and Jason (29). They've brought them 5 grandchildren: Amanda (19), Joshus (15), William (9), David (6), Kayla (9), and their **GREAT** granddaughter, Kallie (6 months). Her accomplishments that she's most proud about are: "My wonderful husband, our children, our grandchildren and our one great grandchild.

(Congratulations!) As an Executive Secretary, I have worked for the Government for 26 years at Fort Devens, MA, Fort Meade, MD and Hanscom AFB, MA. Betsey's message: "Live each day for what it's worth and enjoy it." *(Good advice)*

Francis Salvatore

29A Meadow Pond Drive Leominster, MA

978-534-5235

Fran and Joanne have 2 sons, and Fran also has a daughter and a son, plus 4 grandchildren. When asked about his accomplishments, he responded that "life's been up and down, & he's had good and bad jobs". He remembers the H.S. football games ("football was my true love") and especially when he scored 2 TD's

against Fitchburg! He also remembers fondly our ice skating on Rockwell Pond and having to make a fire to keep warm. Message? Well, he's looking forward to our reunion - been a long time!

Ernest Sawin

4264 Calumet Drive Rochester, MI 48306

248-377-2969

Ernie has been married to Jane since December 1964. (*almost 46 years! Congratulations!*) They have 2 children, John and David, both of whom are married. John and his wife, Grace, have 2 children: Alexandra (7) and Kate (4 David and his wife, Heather, have a new baby, Ella, who will be 16 weeks old at the time of the reunion. "We will bring pictures"! Ernie's proudest accomplishments are: "I worked for DuPont for 35 years as a Chemical Engineer, Operations Superintendent, and Project Manager with a track record of achieving stretch goals by designing, using and improving processes in the USA, Europe, and Asia. Although there were many accomplishments and projects over the years that I remember with great pride & fondness, there are 3 that, to me, stand out above the rest. I received a DuPont Safety, Health and Environment Excellence Award for the innovative renewal of a 77 year old paint plant in Flint, Michigan. I did it by developing an innovative and unifying vision that there is business value in maximizing the recovery of assets via reuse, recycle, and renewal. I turned that old paint plant into 'Riverview Industrial Park'. I was able to do it with 'goal is zero' safety excellence.....no injuries, no exposure, no fires, no spills. And, I was able to avoid up to \$15 million in new investment by reusing equipment. I spent the day with 7 DuPont Vice Presidents on the day when I received this award! I was responsible for the scope, design, construction liaison, and startup of a 'grass roots' Butacite* facility in South Korea. I was in Korea for 4 years. We actually lived there for 3 years while I hired and trained the core team of Korean nationals who now operate the site. I enjoyed leading them to a successful completion and startup. Living the life of an 'expat' in South Korea was a great cultural and travel experience. One of my favorite accomplishments was the development of the 'Do Not Touch' safety program for DuPont. By inventing and implementing this program, I was instrumental in preventing untold numbers of work related injuries. That program is still being used in DuPont. I'm really proud that I was able to contribute that." Ernie's fondest memories of his high school days are: Being co-captain when the Football Team Beat Fitchburg our senior year!; Being awarded the Football Scholarship to

Columbia; When Dottie and I won King and Queen of the Winter Carnival (*ah, yes, I remember it well! - me, too*); Director of the Senior Class Play; Skiing trips to Bromley (*oh, happy days*); Day Trip outing to Mt. Washington! Message to classmates: "The time has certainly flown by! Where did it go so fast??? I'm so glad that we can get together and catch up a bit on each other's lives over these past 50 years. I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone!

Ellen (Seuss) Amadon

3 Wheeler Road West Townsend, MA 01474
978-597-2481

Ellen writes that she was widowed in 2001 after 42 years of marriage. (*Our sympathies*) They have 4 sons: Donald (46), Gary (44), Kenneth (42), and Edward (37). Her grand- children are Michael (17+) and Ryan (15+). Her proudest accomplishments are: Being a mother, grandmother, and a successful business woman. She also is proud (*deservedly*) of doing the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk (26.2 miles) in less than 8 hours for 3 consecutive years - '03, '04, '05 (*WOW*) - and expects to do it again in September 2006. Her fondest memories: hanging out with her friends, roller skating and going to the games. Message to classmates: "Hope these last 50 years brought all of them good health, success, and happiness and that it will continue in the future." (*We'll miss you!*)

Philip Sheldon *Unknown Address*

Elizabeth E. (Shepard) Johnson

429 Mayfield Circle Smyrna, TN 37167 615-223-0802
Betty is now divorced, but has 4 children: Roland Lemieux, Jr. (age 45), Marguerite Haines (44), Eileen Hughes (43), And Linda Cook (41). She's proud grandmother of 12 grandchildren (*wow*), and 4 great-grandchildren. Her accomplishments she's most proud of are her children and grandchildren. She also has worked as Administrative Secretary for the State of Tenn. Dept. of Corrections. Her memories of high school days are that she wasn't allowed to do any sports outside of school class, but she cherishes memories of all her classmates. She's only attended one reunion (the 10th), but she is "really looking forward to seeing as many classmates as possible." (*Ditto, Betty*)

Sandra M. Shunaman

54 Fairview Street Leominster, MA 01453
978-534-8800 Sandy is most proud that she completed 45 years with Rand-Whitney Packaging and retired in 2000. She owns her own home and is living a com-

fortable life. Her fondest memories? - "since school wasn't my favorite activity, I was most thankful to get through the years and graduate with grades that made my parents proud." Message - "I hope that you all are enjoying healthy and happy retirement years"

Joanne C. Skinner

14 Wheeler Place Leominster, MA 01453 (*Don't understand why haven't heard a word from Joanne. She told Fran she was coming?! We'll really miss her.*)

William Smith

163 Pleasant Terrace Leominster, MA 01453
978-537-9301

Richard Sobel 16 Edgewood Drive Queensbury, NY 12804 • 518-798-3303

(*Sorry we received not a word. He'll be missed.*)

Joanne (Sorette) Hume

118 Seventh Street Leominster, MA 01453
978-537-3979 (*another Leominsterite no word from. You'll be missed!*)

Gloria (Strickland) Magaw

76 Ferguson Road Shapleigh, Maine 04076
(*No word from Gloria either Sorry. Will miss her.*)

Carol (Tata) Skiest

7330 Eaton Ct. University Park, FL 34201
941-359-0223
Carol is married to Eugene Skiest. She has no children, but Has 2 stepchildren. Her Grandchildren are: Hannah (11), Benjamin (8), Zachary (4), and Olivia (2). She is not be able to attend the reunion.

Lorraine (Taylor) Girouard

#102-5400-204 Street Langley, B.C. Canada V3A-1Z2
604-534-8575
Lorraine and her husband, Joe, will have just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 1st. (*Congratulations!*) Their **9** children are: Rose (49), Joe, Jr. (48), Mike (47), Mary (45), Peter (44), David (43), Andrew (42), Lisa (40), and Matthew (would be 39 - lived 18 hours). 9 Grandchildren: Elizabeth (28), Matthew (26), Corey (25), Daniel (24), Kevin (22), Nathan (22), Nicole (19), Timothy (18), and Chris (14). And, 4 (soon to be 5) **great** grandchildren are: Ethan (4 1/2), Kaylee (4), Massen (3 1/2), Alice (2), and Kaylea May (3 months.) (*Wowee! A lot of children, etc. ! More power to you!*) Lorraine is most proud of her

husband, Joe, and their marriage, children, grandchildren, and **great** grand- children. "Finding myself as a unique person: having my 'testimony' in Billy Graham's 'Decision Magazine'; writing over 350 Christian poems, plus many other poems (online). Her fondest memories of her high school days are: *(please see the poem on the first page - thanks, Lorraine!)* Her message to us is: "I would so very much like to be with all of you, but it's not possible. Hope that you have a wonderful reunion (and somebody, please send some pictures to me!)" The web site for her poems is: <http://members.tripod.com/~aimeelo/home.html> (my Pen Name is Aimee Love). Title is: "Overflow". Auto-Biography is "Uniquely Me!". Other poems also listed are: "Seniors Only"; "Poems 4 Children"; "The Petey Series". Enjoy!

Philip B. Temple

32 Blood Street Pepperell, MA 01463 • 978-433-5751
Phil and his wife, Diane, have been married 43 years! *(Congrats!)* Their 2 sons are Mark (42) and Jonathan (40). They're blessed with 3 grandchildren: Tricia, Zac, Caitlin. Accomplishments include "having a good marriage; 'conquering' depression"; having 2 great sons; having had a very successful black & white photo show winter 2006 *(super!)*; having enduring friendships." His fondest memories of H.S. are a ski trip a bunch of the guys took to Stowe, Vermont senior year *(remember a bunch a gals took it, too, in another car?)*; TAG; playing golf with the guys; a lot of great friendships that have lasted. His message is basic: "See you in the fall!"

John E. Thomas

197 Pinebrook Drive Hyde Park, NY 12538
845-849-2562
"Jet" and Nancy have 2 children, Derik (40) and Kari (36), and 3 grandchildren: Charlie Latino (3), Tristan Latino (1), and Lucy Thomas (2 weeks - as of mid Aug.). His accomplishment that he's most proud about in last 50 years is the Boston Marathon qualifier and finisher!! *(Super!)* His Fondest memories of LHS days are Saturday nights at TAG and the class play. Jet's message to us is: "Yesterday is gone; today has many opportunities; tomorrow may never come."!! His other thoughts to share are he hopes to say "hello" to every person at the reunion.

Neal Todd

3 Muffin Place Old Saybrook, CT 06475 • 860-395-0223
Neal and Marianne have 3 children: Brent, Randall, and Erik. Brent has blessed them with 2 grandsons, Clark and Glen. Neal's proudest accomplishments are: "earn-

ing my Doctorate in Education, serving my country for 20 years as a member of the ARNG." His fondest H.S. memories are: Batstone's skating, Hunter's Fort Pond Camp, Cruising with Nick and Joe, Claude Munson, Gug, Tag, Norm and the first Nat'l Gang. Message to us?: "'Remember who you wanted to be?' Rock and Roll is here to stay." Other info to share: "Be prepared to win fabulous prizes in the '56 Leominster High Trivia Contest." *(hmmm, that sounds tantalizing. Thanks for your help in making Sat. evening of our reunion such fun!)*

Patricia Ann (Toolin) Greenwood 301 SW 12th Avenue Boynton Beach, FL 33435
561-732-9526

Pat and Bob have 2 sons: Robert and William. They enjoy 4 grandchildren: Daniel (12), Paige (12), Laura (8), and Jamie (7). Pat's accomplishments include the many years she taught school and the number of young people she was able to help grow and mature socially and intellectually into successful adults. Of course, her family - "my husband Bob who is always there, my son Bob who is in architecture, and my son Bill who is in landscaping." Pat felt that there were so many wonderful memories during her high school days - just to name a few: cheerleading, senior class play, TAG, dances, sports, and all the wonderful friends she had. Message: "may the years ahead be filled with happiness and good health for each of you."

Simone (Tourigny) Sell

6885 Idols Road, Apt. E Clemmons, NC 27012
336-766-9793
Simone is divorced, but has one daughter, Carrie Lee Sell Williams (43). Her grandson is Jay Bryson Williams (9). Her proud accomplishment over the last 50 years is her "continued friendship with Dottie Baldridge Dzenis." *(Honestly, I didn't bribe her to write that.)* Her fondest memories are times spent with friends. Her message: "am excited to reacquaint with each and every classmate, hopeful their names will come forward in my memory bank. May we all return to our next reunion." *{She's modest, for I happen to know that she had a very successful antique and home decorating business!}*

Barbara (Vachon) Shoop

5431 NE 35th St. Lot # 25 Silver Springs, FL 34488
352-236-3508
Barbara states that she's been married to the same "ole goat" *("Bill" is the name!)* for 40 years now. Their son, Bruce (39), is getting married on October 14th! -

Thus, they cannot be in 2 places at once. *(Told her we'd forgive her this time, but to be sure to come next one.)* Their son, Brick (38), is a very successful bachelor. Re. grandchildren: "2 grandcats - Zero and Saddle." Accomplishments: Barbara was an Outside Sales Manager for 30 years selling hydraulic hose & fasteners - the entire State of Florida. Her fondest H.S. memories are: "I loved my Art class. I'll never forget the day, the Art class was sent to the attic to get the scenery for a play. Julio Greco convinced me to go on the roof. Then someone locked us up there. We had to shout down, and guess who heard us - yep! The Principle. Barbara's message to us: "I'm sorry no one found me for other class reunions. I would have been there." She included a clipping from her newspaper (re. her hobby) *-(it will be at the reunion) -* or she suggests going to her Website: *(Since writing this, she and Bill learned he has lung cancer - will be finishing radiation by time of the wedding. Keep them in our prayers.)*

Beverly (Veryard) Nurmi

896 Consodine Road Brewster, MA 02631
508-896-4065
Married to Dick Nurmi.

Mirrless Underwood

56 Lake Shore Dr., Brewster, MA 02631
508-896-2841 • mujb@comcast.net
The accomplishments Mirrless are most proud of are: "I have earned a doctorate (in psychology); I have written a book; I have taught (and still do occasionally); I have had rewarding careers (social worker, therapist, private practice, administrator and ultimately dean of a community college); I have traveled extensively; I live comfortably on Cape Cod and in Florida, but I would place all these accomplishments a distant second to discovering the fact that the great joy in my life comes from family, friends, relationships, and living each day to its fullest. Contributing to this discovery are the many cancers I have lived through (skin x 5, bowel x 2, bladder x 7, uterine, and - the biggie - ovarian). I don't know why I was blessed (?) with so many opportunities to more fully understand the meaning of life - and I certainly don't wish the experience on others - but I now see my illnesses as gifts - gifts to help (force?) me to rearrange my priorities and live as well as all know we should live." *(Wow!)* Her message to us?: "Even though I moved away after eighth grade, I have always considered Leominster as my home town and all of you my classmates. I can name each of you in our first grade picture, and I certainly can't do the same with

the students I graduated with. I am delighted to have the chance to connect with many of you again."
(Likewise!)

Donald L. Viens *Unknown Address*

Carol (Wallace) Pananos

66 Dewey Avenue Leominster, MA 01453
Carol writes that she's "Sorry I am unable to attend - Wishing everyone the very best!" *(We'll miss you!)*

Terrence F. Walton

76 Sheridan Circle Winchester, MA 01890
(Another one not heard from - another to miss.)

Arthur White

HC77 Box 35 Ballard, West Virginia 24918-9616
304-753-4071

Douglas R. White

295 Wilder Road Bolton, MA 01740
978-779-9961
Doug and Nancy have 3 sons: Douglas, Jr. (46), Raymond (40) and David (37). They also are the proud grandparents of: Ashley (21) and Tyler (11)! *(See you at the reunion!)*

Linda E. (White) Dinsmore

25 Bayberry Drive Gardner, MA 01440 978-632-6446
(Linda is George's widow.) Their 3 children are: Dean (45), Debbie (44), and Colleen (41). Her grandchildren include: Cole (18), Jill (16), Brooke (14), Lauren (13), Madi (12), and Jade (11). Her fondest memories of high school days is having wonderful friends and happy days. *(Thank you for all your help with the reunion, Linda!)*

***Marjorie (Wittman) Miles** *Deceased*

Nancy (Wood) Keefe

2 Andover Street Leominster, MA 01453
Nancy writes that "It doesn't seem possible that it's been '50' years since we've been out of school. I would love to be able to attend our '50th class reunion, but unfortunately, I can't. I will be away that week and won't be back in time. Give everyone, for me, my fondest wishes and good health. Have a great time. I know I will miss a lot of fun." *(And, we'll miss you, too.)*

"THE CLASS REUNION"

Every ten years, as summertime nears, an announcement arrives in the mail,
A reunion is planned; it'll be really grand; Make plans to attend without fail.
I'll never forget the first time we met, we tried so hard to impress.
We drove fancy cars, smoked big cigars, and wore our most elegant dress.
It was quite an affair—the whole class was there—it was held at a fancy hotel.
We wined, and we dined, and we acted refined, and everyone thought it was swell.

The men all conversed about who had been first, to achieve great fortune and fame.
Meanwhile, their spouses described their fine houses, and how beautiful their children became.
The Homecoming Queen, who once had been lean, now weighed in at one-ninety-six.
The jocks who were there had all lost their hair, and the cheerleaders could no longer kick.
No one had heard about the class nerd. who'd guided a craft to the moon;
Or poor little Jane, who's always been plain; she married a shipping tycoon.
The boy we'd decreed "most apt to succeed" as serving ten years in the pen,
While the one voted "least" now was a priest; just shows you can be wrong now and then.
They awarded a prize to one of the guys who seemed to have aged the least.
Another was given to the grad who had driven the farthest to attend the feast.
They took a class picture, a curious mixture of beehives, crew cuts and wide ties.
Tall, short, or skinny, the style was the mini; you never saw so many thighs.

At our next thirtieth, no one cared whether they impressed their classmates or not.
The mood was informal, a whole lot more normal; by this time we'd all gone to pot.
It was held out-of-doors, at the Lake Shores, we ate hamburgers, coleslaw, and beans.
Then most of us lay around in the shade, in our comfortable T-shirts and jeans.

By the fortieth year, it was abundantly clear we were definitely over the hill.
Those who weren't dead had to crawl out of bed, and be home in time for their pill.
And now I can't wait, they've set the date — our fiftieth is coming, I'm told.
It should be a ball, they've rented a hall at the Shady Rest Home for the old.

Repairs have been made on my hearing aid—my pacemaker's been turned up on high.
My wheelchair is oiled, and my teeth have been boiled; I've bought a new wig and glass eye.
I'm feeling quite hearty, and ready to party— I'm gonna dance 'til dawn's early light.
It'll be lots of fun; but I just hope that there's one other person who can make it that night.

—*This must have been written **long** before the youthful Class of 56!*

A Prayer for Later Year

Lord, Thou knowest that I am growing older. Keep me from becoming too talkative, and particularly keep me from falling into the tiresome habit of expressing an opinion on every subject. Release me from the craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Give me grace, Dear Lord, to listen to others describe their aches and pains. Help me endure the boredom with patience, and keep my lips sealed, for my own aches and pains are increasing in number and intensity, and the pleasure of discussing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. Teach me the glorious lesson that, occasionally, I might be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not wish to be a saint (saints are so hard to live with), but a sour old person is the work of the devil. Make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, but not pushy; independent, yet able to accept with graciousness favors that others wish to bestow on me. Free me of the notion that simply because I have lived a long time, I am wiser than those who have not lived so long. If I do not approve of some of the changes that have taken place in recent years, give me the wisdom to keep my mouth shut. Lord knows that when the end comes, I would like to have a friend — or two — left.

