

(2008)

TORNADOES



CLEARWATER HIGH

By JOEY JOHNSTON

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Updated:

She is one of the highest-ranking women in the U.S. military. Barbara Faulkenberry, who grew up in Clearwater, doesn't dwell on that distinction during routine workdays. But early mornings? Quiet moments? Those can be different.

"Sometimes, when I glance at my uniform hanging up, it doesn't seem real," said Faulkenberry, 48, who was promoted to brigadier general in November during a traditional pinning-on ceremony at Scott Air Force Base near St. Louis. "It's beyond my imagination. I feel like I've been given this great honor, this great responsibility."

Next month, Faulkenberry will attend her 30-year reunion at Clearwater High School, where she's best remembered as class salutatorian, a national-level racquetball player and co-captain of the basketball team.

To friends, she's still Barb - funny, sincere, dependable, modest, kind to all.

But here's the new reality.

"She's an incredible role model in this nation, absolutely," said Jill Strumpf, Faulkenberry's former Clearwater basketball teammate.

Faulkenberry is among 23 female generals out of 282 in the Air Force. In the entire U.S. military force of 1.5 million, there are 896 generals. Only 44 are women.

"In this day and age, we need leaders and mentors who stand for something, and you sensed that she did, almost immediately," said Milt Barnwell, a retired master sergeant, who first encountered Faulkenberry at Robins Air Force Base in 1982.

Months earlier, she had been part of only the third Air Force Academy class with female graduates. Faulkenberry entered active duty as a second lieutenant navigator - she didn't meet eyesight standards for pilot - and flew all over the world with Barnwell's crew in a KC-135 refueling tanker.

Barnwell's wife once predicted that Faulkenberry would become a general. Faulkenberry laughed it off, saying it would never happen. Along the way, she worked at the Pentagon. She was deployed as a commander during operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. She was in charge of a base with a population that approached 3,000.

"I'm not sure I saw any of it happening - and certainly not making general officer," Faulkenberry said.

Midway through her initial six-year service commitment, Faulkenberry purchased a specially designed necklace - a bicycle pendant inscribed with "1988." That was the

year of her planned discharge. She would bike around the country, rewarding herself, letting loose, slowly plotting a course for her life.

The course changed.

Maybe it was the regular promotions. Maybe it was acquiring responsibilities that seemed unusual for her age. Maybe it was the encouragement she could give to young airmen. Maybe it was the adrenaline rush, which, in her mind, couldn't be replicated.

Maybe it just fit.

"In 29 years with the Air Force, I've seen good leaders and bad leaders," said Chief Master Sgt. Jim Morman of McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita, Kan. "Gen. Faulkenberry is the best leader I have ever seen. She has her finger on the pulse of her people. She was born to do this."

Faulkenberry's high school friends didn't understand her initial path. This was the United States in the post-Vietnam era, and even she sensed negativity toward the military. But now she believes the American public, more than ever, can respect the work of service members by separating the people from administrative policy.

"I think it's wonderful that we as a nation have the cookouts and the beach outings on this holiday," Faulkenberry said. "But it should also be a time to reflect. My hope for Memorial Day is that we all take time to attend a parade, talk to an older person, visit a nursing home and speak with a veteran.

"These are great Americans living among us. It's sobering to think of their sacrifices. This nation, when you boil it down, is still about the people."

A People Person

The people.

To friends and associates who know her best, Faulkenberry's most outstanding attribute is her attention to people.

"Barbara is just a wonderful human being, regardless of her talent, regardless of her rank," said longtime friend Celia Slater of Dunedin. At her father's funeral, Slater will never forget the sight of Faulkenberry, in full uniform, saluting the casket, then presenting a flag to her brothers.

Faulkenberry, stationed in Alabama, drove through the night to get there.

Airmen were once startled to see Faulkenberry arrive at the base on Christmas Eve. She was delivering home-baked cookies to those on duty.

As a wing commander at Scott, Faulkenberry was spotted stopping her car, helping an elderly woman who struggled pulling her garbage cans to the curb in the early morning.

Faulkenberry's pinning-on ceremony, normally a one-hour event, became eight separate events stretched over four days.

"People were calling it 'The Faulkenberry Production' because so many people from Barbara's life were there," said Faulkenberry's older sister, Teresa, an accountant in Tallahassee.

"When she became a general, I think it was the most moving ceremony I have ever witnessed," said retired Col. Ken Reinert, who once served under Faulkenberry. Rudyard "Kipling wrote about walking with kings but never losing the common touch. That's her."

To pin the stars on her uniform, Faulkenberry chose retired Lt. Col. Herschel Malvin, 86, who flew 50 European bombing missions during World War II. He gets around now with a walker.

She chose Staff Sgt. Israel Del Toro, who was burned in an explosion during combat in Afghanistan in 2005. Seventy percent of Del Toro's body, including his face, suffered third-degree burns. He received the Purple Heart.

And she chose her parents, Gene and Mary Faulkenberry, who moved from Clearwater in 1985 to live on an 80-acre farm in Longjack, Mo., that has been in the family nearly two centuries.

In her speech, Faulkenberry said she owed her stars to each of the airmen under her command.

"So what do these stars mean to me?" Faulkenberry said. "These stars amaze me ... these stars inspire me ... finally, they humble me."

"I will wear them with honor on behalf of airmen - those I've led who have performed so admirably, those who have mentored me, and those no longer in our midst."

Her words hit all the right notes.

No one was surprised by that.

Least of all, Faulkenberry's mother.

Built For Excellence

At Faulkenberry's middle school, the class officers gave speeches. One teenager read from prepared notes, never making eye contact. Another stammered.

Faulkenberry took the podium as if she belonged.

"Barbara didn't look at notes, and she didn't hesitate," Faulkenberry's mother said. "My eyes just popped open. 'This is my daughter?' It was like an awakening. I began to notice these special qualities in her."

Such as athletic ability.

Faulkenberry, self-taught, transformed herself into a racquetball player who was rarely beaten. Early in her career, the Air Force sent her to tournaments, happily showcasing her talent. She was the 12-time interservice racquetball champion.

Such as industriousness.

Never afraid of hard work, Faulkenberry built her own lawn-care business while in high school, using the money to finance her racquetball trips.

Such as doing the right thing.

Strumpf remembers Faulkenberry as part of a tight group of teenage girls who sometimes cruised around Clearwater. "We were good kids, but my gosh, nobody dared to even drop anything out the window," Strumpf said. "Barb would make you stop the car, then and there, to pick it up. She was pretty precise about things."

When told that story about the young Barbara Faulkenberry, her Air Force colleagues laughed knowingly.

"It was never about Barb - ever," Reinert said. "She uses her position not for her but to help others. She has no agenda. She's not a self-promoter. She should write a book about leadership. I mean that.

"She presided over my retirement, and she made me look like a guy who walks on water. My family and friends were there. I felt like a ballplayer getting a hit in his last at-bat, then walking out of the stadium to a cheering crowd. You think I'm not going to follow her? I'd follow her anywhere."

Next month, Faulkenberry will head home to her reunion, not to flaunt her stars but to enjoy old friends. If they ask, she'll say her ascension to general was due to preparation, good fortune, the right mix of high-profile assignments, but mostly the work of airmen under her command.

Any other explanation, as Faulkenberry says, doesn't seem real.

Many days, after awaking at 5:30 a.m., she rides her bicycle eight miles to the base. She attends Cardinals and Rams games. College football is a favorite.

"I have a high-profile position, but I do a lot of normal things, a lot of things that don't seem that special," Faulkenberry said.

Her friends know better.

"Barbara has great accomplishments, but she'll never brag on herself," Strumpf said.

"Well, I can. I can tell people about my friend, a woman, who is a general. Being around her, she never makes it like it's a big deal. But I think it's amazing."

Reporter Joey Johnston can be reached at (813) 259-7353 or jjohnston@tampatrib.com.

Barbara J. Faulkenberry

CHS activities – Basketball Team (basically just fed the ball to Jill Strumpf). Racquetball (FL State Champ) kept me off the streets and in the YMCA. Lawn mowing business (35 lawns/week) kept me in enough money to travel to tournaments.

College – went to the US Air Force Academy. Thought I'd serve through my initial commitment (1988), but I'm still in and really enjoying serving my country and leading Airmen.

In these 30 years after CHS, I've lived in 15 different places and seen lots of the world. Career highlights include: jumping out of airplanes; flying in the backseat of a F-16 (I'm a KC-135 air refueling tanker navigator by trade); serving on the US Central Command 4-star general's aircrew and traveling all over the Middle East in the mid-1980s (ie, before wars); long "business trips" to Vienna, Austria; supporting satellite launch missions in Australia having the trip overlap the Australian Open and Phantom of the Opera; having the privilege of commanding at the squadron, group, and wing level, and in deployed locations; flying in a Special Operations C-17 into Baghdad on day 7 of the war.

I still enjoy athletics, now mostly bicycling, golf, and hiking. Recent exploits have been bungy jumping in New Zealand; hiking up Mount Quandary (14,265') in Colorado; and bicycling around Vermont, Washington State, and the Katy Trail in Missouri.

I live outside St Louis now, but am expecting a move by fall. My e-mail addresses are Barbara.Faulkenberry@us.af.mil or BjFaulk82@aol.com.

Chris Cardin

Oh My. 30 years of herstory. I'll try not to bore you...

High School – All I remember is playing my drums and hanging out with Susie Olds and Laura Lyons, Cindy Keith and Leslie Riviere. Driving that endless loop to Clearwater Beach and back to McDonald's on Gulf to Bay. I remember every concert I saw (Pink Floyd) and didn't see (Led Zeppelin) at the Big Sombrero. And some of us, I won't mention names, were too stoned to stand at the Emerson, Lake and Palmer concert.

While attending the University of Florida about the only accomplishment that is noteworthy, aside from managing to graduate was I played in an all girl rock-and-roll band for two years. I had to audition for the job and replaced a male drummer. We toured all over the state during the summer and during the school year we played mostly at Dubs and fraternity houses during rush. I met Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers the year they traveled with Stevie Nicks. I met Frank Zappa and his sound man Mark Pense mixed sound for us one summer. I also recorded some original songs with the band and got a peek inside the Coconut Grove Recording Studio where Joe Walsh recorded "The Smoker you get the Player you Drink. Joe Walsh and Marty Gerrard of the Motels also sat in on some sets at Dubs. Yes, *Rocky Mountain Way* and *Only the Lonely* were included. Needless to say I had a blast, especially relaxing after a show in a hot tub with 10 of my closest friends, watching the sun come up.

All that fun came to an end upon graduation and I started my first job in Clearwater Florida for Sperry Corporation as a computer programmer. Yes, I majored in Computer Science, mostly because I didn't know what else to study.

I worked at GTE for 10 years. My claim to fame there is that in 1987 I was chosen to lead the group of engineers responsible for making your cellular phone work. And for eight years I made sure that cellular companies were protected from fraud, customers got billed and cell phones could roam. Remember roaming charges? I had a heck of a time trying to keep up with the demand—during that year volume went from 20K calls a month to over 750M. I used to carry one of those Motorola bricks.

I have worked for KPMG twice. (Now you know I'm nuts) I love consulting and help C-Level executives with strategic planning and IT governance. Basically, I help Fortune 100 companies with just about any problem, EXCEPT audit and accounting. YUK! No offense to you CPAs out there.

I have been married to my partner, Jan, for 16 years. She holds a doctorate in economics from Harvard. We love to travel and collect wine. We have a 1400 bottle wine cellar which you can sneak a peak at if you go to my website www.crcardin.com. Which brings me to my most recent adventure. I just published my first mystery novel, *Case Study*.--which you will find in your gift bag. I hope you enjoy! And if you like, I'd love to sign your copy. The second book in the series will be out in March of next year called, *Jacob's Ladder*.

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Here is my biography. Condensed version.

My name is Cynthia Brundage. You knew me in high school as Cy Hardick. My family moved to Clearwater in the summer of '76. So, I attended Clearwater High in my Junior and Senior years. I drove a yellow Volkswagen Beetle. I majored in business and was a part of the work program. I worked at Publix as a cashier until my business teacher got me a great job at Coastal Title Insurance Co. on Ft. Harrison Dr.

Thinking there was something better out there for me. I moved out to Santa Monica, CA in '80 and lived with my older brother and sister. There I worked for Westinghouse Security as a receptionist. That job was really fun. I got to meet a lot of very interesting people. Like Jerome Jackson, of the Jackson 5, his wife and 14 million kids. He owned Charlie Chaplin's house and collected old cars. His garage was bigger than the house. I also met, of all people, "O.J. Simpson". That was before he illegally killed his wife. When he took my hand to shake it all I could think of was WOW this man is BIG. He towered over me.

In the winter of '82 I came back to Clearwater and lived for a short time with my younger sister. That's when I met my first husband, at Ollie's in Clearwater. I also landed a job with U.S. Home Mortgage. My first husband and I married the following spring and two years later I had my son, Christopher. After he was born I started working for First American Title in New Port Richey. From there it was soccer and two other title companies.

1987 brought on a partnership with Alamo Title which ended in 1995 when I opened Clear Title of Hernando, Inc. Which is still going strong. With my younger sister working along side me.

I met my current husband, Ernie, who is a fishing charter captain in 1996 we just had our 10th anniversary. He has two children, a girl, Talia who is 24, and a son, Jud, who is 22. Our boys' birthdays are one month apart. Ernie and I did a lot with our children when they were growing up. My son played soccer thru out his school years and Ernie's children swam for the school team and raced go-carts. Ernie and I love to sail and scuba dive. Of course, he loves to fish. We have a camper and we take off whenever we can just to get away and get back to nature. We have been to Costa Rica and Dominican Republic, along with Cozumel and Cancun. We traveled to Hawaii, which is where Ernie's brother lives. And, this week we are getting ready to leave on vacation to explore the Great Smoky Mountains. I am an avid bowler and I love to sew. Ernie is also a painter and has work in several galleries. We have two dogs they are pugs and their names are Chief and Cleo, we also have two birds and we currently live in Homosassa.

My son is now 22, married and expecting his first child in July. So, yes I am going to be a grandmother and I can't wait.

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What I did at CHS: I won the grip award. Everyone ignored me until I had some modest athletic success. As Tom Martin said in our senior year, "I've never seen anyone go from pud to stud so quickly" (and undeservedly he surely thought). Gerald Mita was my coach. I was Parker Evans' and Alan Gooch's party accessory. Leslie Goodwin accommodated me as a date to senior prom as a charitable act. I started drinking . . . way too much. I wanted to be on the swim team, but my Speedo wasn't tight enough. I wanted to be on the football team but I hadn't reached adolescence. I wanted to play baseball but my Dad wasn't a booster. I wanted to play basketball but Jack's wife was my Mrs. Robinson. Phil Jester taught me the intricacies of cross dressing and being a Street Fightin' Man. I learned how to compete successfully in full contact origami working as the Sports Editor for the school paper. Amazingly, I am in the CHS Hall of Fame.

College: US Naval Academy (Freshman year), Pomona College '82. Inducted in 2002 into the Pomona College Athletic Hall of Fame (along with San Antonio Spurs GM Greg Popovich). Graduate school: UCLA MBA '85. In all my education there wasn't a single class that got me a tenth as pumped as the opportunity to go to a Clearwater keg party with a solid tan, a great buzz, a bunch of buds, the hottest chicks on the planet, a 17 year old body full of testosterone, and the Eagles playing Hotel California.

Work: Worked for an oil company in Denver for a summer. Worked in NY, SF, LA for investment and commercial banks. Worked for the Olympics in LA in 1984. Competed as a professional triathlete, and completed the Escape from Alcatraz race w/out getting eaten by a shark. Lived for 3 years on Sanibel Island w/my family. Founder of The Sanibel School Foundation. Worked as a partner growing a money management/advisory business to \$20 bn in assets before we sold it. Lived and worked in Hood River, OR for 4 years where I learned how to windsurf, kiteboard, snowboard, mountain bike, kayak, and tolerate really cold glacier melt in epic conditions. Now I am CEO/CIO for the Fortress Partners Fund in NYC. Now I get buzzed on 1 beer. Now my kids only talk to me when they need money. Now I play tennis. Running hurts.

Family: I married the one woman who could tolerate my bipolar disorder, ADD, and OCD conditions, Leslie. We just had our 20th anniversary. I have 3 daughters, Lexie (18) going to Columbia University in the fall; Tyler, 16; and Kendall, 13. I taught all my kids how to tie their shoes, swim, ride their bikes, read, and give great squeeze hugs.

I have been very lucky, and try to remind myself of my insignificance every day.

Alex Cook. acook@fortress.com

Dear Rich/Cathi,

What a nice idea. Though I won't be attending the reunion, I'd love to read about folks via internet (no need to sacrifice trees for this!)

My maiden name is Naomi Safirstein. I moved to Clearwater in our junior year from NJ, and felt like I'd arrived on another planet. From the clothes to the music kids listened to, it all felt different to me. The two years I spent at CHS were definitely a struggle for me. I was a Wrestlerette in 11th grade, and did the Executive Internship program in 12th. That was probably the highlight of CHS for me; going to Morton Plant every day and seeing amazing things (this was definitely before HIPAA regulations!)

After graduation I moved to Boulder, Co. where I attended CU. After graduating in 1982, I stayed as I'd fallen in love with the state. My major was biology, but I ended up in a sales job with an insurance company. The economy was terrible there, and I felt lucky to have landed that job.

I met my husband in 1984, and we married in 1987. We had our son in 1989, and I decided to pursue a Master's degree in counseling at that time. We had our daughter in December of 1990, and I slowly took classes at The University of Colorado, Denver while raising our kids. I got a job at The University of Denver's Center for Marital and Family Studies, where I learned a great deal.

We moved to Columbus, Oh in 1993 when my husband got a promotion. That was an idyllic time for us, and we enjoyed our six years there. I finished my degree at the University of Dayton, and began working as a therapist. I was asked to work with some high school kids as part of my job, and discovered that I truly loved working with adolescents. This became a specialty for me.

We moved to England in 1999 when my husband was offered another promotion. This was a thrilling adventure for all of us, and we took full advantage of it. We stayed for two years and traveled extensively. I took a job as a therapist for the high school students at a posh private American school.

From there we moved to Rye, NH in 2001, where we've lived since. My son just completed his freshman year of college at Clark University, and my daughter is winding up her junior year of high school. I work in a large group practice where I specialize in trauma and couples work in addition to adolescents and families.

I am still very happily married after 21 years, and enjoy living on the seacoast with my family.

I did not keep in touch with anyone from Clearwater, though my parents still live there. I think it'd be fun to hear what others have been up to, but I must say that as I was only there for two years and not very happy for most of that, I probably don't remember many people. But I hope you all have a wonderful reunion.

Cheers,
Naomi Rather

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After High School, I joined the Air Force and was an Emergency Medical Technician stationed at Eglin AFB in sunny Ft Walton Beach, FL. While on active duty, I met and married my wonderful wife Carol –also an Air Force Medic - and we recently celebrated our 25th anniversary. While in the Air Force, I worked in the Emergency Room at night and went to school during the day. After leaving the service, I finished my Electrical Engineering degree at USF.

After graduation, I spent 16 years with Procter & Gamble in engineering and manufacturing including 8 years in Asia designing production systems and building factories. I decided I liked the design and construction business so much, I came back to Florida to partner with my Brother in Bollenback Builders. We are a commercial construction firm with a broad range of experience in industrial, commercial, religious and automotive related projects.

Carol and I have 2 sons. Justin is 23 and working as a staff accountant while going to graduate school for his MBA. David graduated from High School this year and will go to FSU in the fall. Carol recently finished a degree in Women's Studies and volunteers in a variety of advocacy programs as well as delivering Meals on Wheels. In her spare time, she is an avid photographer.

We are delighted to be back home in the Tampa Bay Area among family and friends.

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After graduation I joined the ranks of the other "Drew U" attendees and worked full time at Gayfers Department store for eight (8) years and also at a bank (Citizens Federal) which tempted me to dip my toe into the "mortgage world" and basically I have not looked back since.

After SPJC I took classes at USF and remained steadfast in my banking and mortgage career path. I learned all aspects and facets of mortgage lending and somehow worked my way over to the "other side" in SALES. Although they pretty much took me dragging and screaming it was a blessing in disguise and has been the best move I have ever made.

Except for a six month hiatus in 1991 when I was "laid off" from a bank in Sarasota, and became a PADI certified scuba instructor, it has pretty much been the money business.

I was a confirmed single woman living in the 80's and 90's era of "independence" and freedom (okay now STOP that type of thinking....you know we ARE all from the same era!!!).

In 1992 I met my husband on a scuba diving trip I planned for a class and having FINALLY met someone with no interest in having kids (yippee for me), and a mutual interest in traveling the world before we became old and frail we married in a small ceremony at the Cathedral of St. Jude in St. Petersburg in 1994.

Unfortunately I had lost my mom in 1977 and then lost my dad in 1988 but am lucky to have both of my brothers here living in Pinellas County now! I also was very fortunate to inherit a new family when my father remarried in 1979 to his high school sweetheart from Michigan and now have a lovely step mother and two step brothers and their families. In fact my nieces from one of them are my husbands and my HUGE traveling companions! They are delightful at 19 and 21 and we have been close since they were born. Something special about a relationship of aunt/uncle and the spoiling allowed.

I have traveled all over the globe and am looking forward to many more interesting and fun trips over the coming years.

I have been blessed with good health so far which I consider to be my most fortunate asset.

My passion and interests include writing (which will be my next career....after mortgages!), languages (which so far I have not mastered ANY completely...). I guess I really need to think about retiring soon so I can really focus on those life challenges from my home in Italy....she says longingly.

At any rate I am sadly going to miss the 30th due to a previous engagement in Los Angeles (although I am shooting for a quick stop by on Friday night before I leave). I am sure it will be an event of the century filled with loads of pictures and stories that I will no doubt look forward to with great enthusiasm.

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What Jennie Lane has done for the past 30 years:

- 1978 Graduated from Clearwater High School
- 1982 Graduated from Florida Southern College, BS in Biology
- 1985 Completed two years of Peace Corps service in science education at a teachers college in Thailand (before Peace Corps worked at a veterinary hospital in North Carolina for 6 months)
- 1988 Completed Master's degree in secondary science education at Columbia Teachers College while teaching full time at a public middle school in Harlem (before graduate school worked at a winery in Virginia for 6 months)
- 1990 Completed teaching two years of biology at a high school in Lewiston Maine
- 1993 Completed Master's degree in Natural Resources Management (environmental education emphasis) at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
- 1995 Co-wrote national water education curriculum in Bozeman, Montana: *Project WET* (Water Education for Teachers)
- 2006 Completed PhD in Curriculum and Instruction at UW Madison
- 1995 – Present
 - Directing the Wisconsin K-12 Energy Education Program, a teacher outreach program designed to improve and increase energy education in Wisconsin K-12 schools (www.uwsp.edu/keep)
 - Board of Directors: Midwest Renewable Energy Association (www.the-mrea.org)

Other tidbits: I live in a solar-powered home with my boyfriend who recently retired after 29 years of service with the city fire department

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Here is what I've been doing for the last 30 years

Back at CHS, my byline was Mary Ruth Hagler. Now I go by M.R. Street. Nobody is allowed to know what "M.R." stands for, so don't tell anybody!!!

Bachelors in English (Concentration in Creative Writing) from Florida State University

Masters of Public Health from University of South Florida

Married Phil Street in 1996 (happily!)

Went to Paris on our honeymoon

Children Allison (1997) and Derek (2002) are the BEST!

We also have a Golden retriever named Annie whom we adopted from Emerald Coast Golden Retriever Rescue (www.ecgrr.com)

I took Allison to London and Paris in 2005

We have enjoyed Mother's Day weekend beach trip to Seacrest Beach (near Seaside on Florida's Emerald Coast) every year since 1990

I have worked for the State of Florida since 1984

I now work part-time for Dept. of Health and I'm a Realtor

I bought a horse in 2006 – one of my sister's Quarterhorses. She's getting trained this Summer and I can't wait to ride her!

I enjoy lots of cultural activities in Tallahassee, including season ticket holder to FSU Theatre (Jane & I have given this to each other for our birthday present since 1989)

Of course the best season of all is FOOTBALL SEASON!!!! Season ticket holder to FSU Football since about 1990

Member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (www.scbwi.org; www.scbwiflorida.com) since 2003 and published in FACES magazine in 2006

Self-published middle grade novel BLUE ROCK RESCUE in 2008 (go to my website, www.bluerockrescue.com, or go to www.amazon.com)

We enjoy taking our family out on the 17-foot yacht (aka Carolina Skiff), mostly off the St. Marks or Aucilla River (saltwater), but recently we have discovered freshwater. (A large-mouth bass is just a freshwater version of a redfish.)

Recently bought a sweet little place near Lake Seminole in Georgia for weekend vacations. Depending on whom you ask, it is either the "Cottage on the Cove," the "Trailer on the Slough," or the "Condo at the Lake." I call it "Turtle Cove" or the "Cove House." We are real close to Seminole State Park, which I highly recommend for camping, staying in a cabin, or just swimming or launching your boat! There is also a great little café/marina called Trails End Café if you are ever up that-a-way.

All the best to everyone,

M.R. Street :-)

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Basics

Me: Rich Brasher

Her: DeEllen Brasher (BFFL since August 1984!)

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I'm sorry to miss the Reunion, but business travel and prior family commitments prevent me from being there.

Have a wonderful time, enjoy each other, and appreciate your time together!

*Best Regards,
Rich Brasher*



70s hair and aviator glasses with photo-grey lenses!

Bio

DeEllen and I have lived in San Diego County for 22 years. I'm an Urban Planning consultant in land development and have seen and been a part of many changes that have occurred here. My BS degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas ('82) was a technical detour on my more creative career path. Planners say engineers have no concept of good design, while engineers say planners have no concept of reality. I'm a registered engineer and a certified planner, so I bridge that gap between the concepts and perceptions that originate from each side of the brain. Sounds messy, but fun.



On the beach in La Jolla with George, the dachshund (June 2001)

DeEllen is the Regional Environmental Coordination Officer for the Navy and has Arizona, Nevada, Hawai'i, and Guam as her territory. She's been with the military for 15 years as a civilian employee, loves the travel she gets to do, and enjoys the big-picture look at issues affecting the military's mission.

We met at a New Year's Eve party in Oklahoma City. I know it was destiny, as many things happened that could have easily prevented us from connecting. DeEllen's a University of Oklahoma grad in Petroleum Geology, but she now uses her expertise for sustainable energy with her involvement in wind power plants and their siting related to military training.

San Diego has been great. We love the weather the best! Nothing compares to Clearwater beach, but it's great being on the beach in June and still needing a sweatshirt. It can be 65 at the house near the coast and 15 degrees warmer at my office 10 miles inland. In Florida, the land is flat and the water is calm and warm. The extensive coastline of beaches, fingers, and islands intermingle with the Gulf, bays, and estuaries. In California, the interface is abrupt, with the chilly ocean abutting the land at the base of sandstone bluffs shaped by heavy surf. Very beautiful and very different.

DeEllen and I do not have children, but we are close to our families. Hers are in Oklahoma City. I have my parents (in Cummings, GA), my brother Chris (a Superior Court Judge in Atlanta) and his family, my brother Russ (his software company is in Charlotte) and his family. My best friends are still Doug Williams in Acton, Mass. and Alice Harra in River Forest, Illinois. I am honored to be godfather to Doug's daughter Caroline and Alice's son Gabriel. We see each other as much as we can and enjoy being involved in each others lives.

I love being involved in my community on boards and committees. I will be teaching a course in planning at UCSD Extension in the Fall. It's great to give back!



Lunch at The French Laundry in Napa Valley with brother Chris and family (March 2008)

Hal Reddick

OK, let's try and do a quick summary of the past 30 years. Immediately following CHS, I spent 6 fun filled years at the University of Florida, where I was a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. While at UF, I met my wife of 20 years, Michelle (who was my boss at a part time job). Believe it or not, I have held only one "real job" since college. I have made advertising sales a career and have been with duPont Registry for 22 of 23 years we have been publishing! I deal primarily with high end exotic and collectible car dealers. I have had the pleasure of owning and driving some really cool cars over the years. I've been to some neat places and have partied at the Playboy Mansion with Hef and friends. Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, numerous auto races & auctions, courtside and the visitors locker room at the old Boston Garden. When I was 31, I was re-introduced to baseball through the LA Dodgers Fantasy Camp which is a week of playing side by side with Dodger greats. Since then, I have continued to play hardball in a MSBL in Clearwater. Currently play in the "Over 38" league. Several years ago, while in NYC watching a Dodgers vs. Mets series with Dodger friends, I ran into "HoJo" (Howard Johnson, CHS '78) in the tunnel with Bud Harrelson on their way to getting introduced as members of "Fan's All Met Team". Baseball has also taken me to Havana Cuba (2000) for a week of playing against Cuban teams. Awesome!

We have lived in NE St. Pete for 18 years. Spare time is enjoyed by boating and fishing (catching is a bonus), coaching girl's fastpitch softball and assorted kid stuff. Both daughters, Haleigh (14) and Cayla (13), are very competitive ball players and total joys! And yes, Michelle is still the boss.

Almost forgot. GO GATORS!

hreddick@dupontregistry.com

Alan Gooch
President/General Manager
Orlando Predators
AFL
MEDIA BIO

Alan Gooch began his coaching career in 1983 and spent 21 years as a member of the football coaching staff at the University of Central Florida. During that time he served in a number of capacities until completing his collegiate coaching career in 2003 as the interim head coach. His ties to the University run beyond his coaching years as he is a former football player for the Knights and a two-time graduate having earned both his bachelors and masters degrees at UCF.

In his tenure at UCF Coach Gooch also served, seven years as the assistant head coach and eight years as the recruiting coordinator during UCF's moves from Division II, I-AA and I-A.

In 1997 he and former UCF tailback Dwight Collins who is deaf gained national attention for their work together. Consequently, Dwight received ESPN's National Spirit Award given each year to College Football's Most Courageous Player at the Home Depot College Football Awards Ceremony.

At a White House ceremony in April 1998, Coach Gooch and Dwight Collins were recognized by President Clinton and the National Consortium for Academics and Sports. Later that same year, Alan Gooch along with Dean Smith of the University of North Carolina and Eddie Robinson of Grambling University were selected as finalists for the 1998 National Student-Athlete Day GIANT STEPS Award in the category of Male Collegiate Coach. Coach Gooch finished as runner up behind Coach Eddie Robinson of Grambling University who won the award.

Coach Gooch was also honored in January 1998 when the American Football Coaches Association honored him as the Inaugural NCAA Division I-A Assistant Coach of the Year. January of 2004 Mr. Gooch accepted the position as Executive Director of the UCF Athletics Golden Knights Club. August of 2005, Mr. Gooch resigned his position with the GKC and left UCF after 25 years of service to enter into private business and opened his own commercial real estate firm, Tizon Commercial, LLC. In October of 2006 Alan Gooch was inducted into the UCF Athletics Hall of Fame. In November of 2007 Coach Gooch was named Educator of the decade by UCF College of Education.

In a press conference on July 30th 2007 at the Amway Arena the Orlando Predators of the Arena Football League announced that Alan Gooch had accepted the position of President and General Manager of the team.

Alan Gooch is married to Linda Gooch, UCF's longtime Cheerleading coach, who has won two national championships '2003 and 2007. Alan and Linda have two sons, Zachary (10) and Noah (7)

Hello,

Looking back, it is hard to remember what I did the three years we lived in Clearwater during High School. I played 43rd string on the football team and made some friends. It wasn't until after I went to college that I made my strongest CHS ties over the too few summer breaks that came and went before we all moved on to the adult parts of our lives. My whole family came to the 20th reunion but we're not going to make it this time with kids in college and other previous plans.

I went to Georgia Tech for 3 years. Then I transferred to University of Florida where I met my future wife, Myra, and received Computer Engineering and Electrical Engineering degrees. We moved to North Carolina where we got married and had our three children, Rebekah, Melinda and Kenneth. My job involved a lot of travel while we were there. We used to joke that the 8 years spent in North Carolina was really only about 3 years of "real time" marriage. We moved to Maryland outside of DC so that I could quit traveling and because of the quality of the public schools. Of course that meant I was always "trying to help" which probably wasn't that much help ☺ We got that worked out only because my wife has a ton of patience and was used to dealing with children no matter what the age ;-) I starting doing freelance software engineering work and have been doing that for the last 10 years.

Our oldest daughter is into writing, horse back riding, USPC mounted games, and now attends Virginia tech and will be looking for a career in professional writing. Contact me if you can help a former classmate so that he doesn't have to support the child forever ☺ Our younger daughter is attending the Engineering program at NC State. Our youngest child will be entering High School this year. He spent the last year playing lacrosse and riding on a mounted games team.

Myra and I have been together for 26 years and married for 22. I have no idea where the time has gone or how it is possible that we reached an age that we considered "older than dirt" when we were in High School. I don't feel any older though my kids tell me that I'll never actually any good at snowboarding. They're implying its my age but my high school friends know that I was never very coordinated and the graying hair is just convenient excuse ☺

I wish everyone the best and hope that everyone has enjoyed the last 30 years.

Joe Freeman
Class of 78
joe@freemansoft.com

Richard A. Dunn

CHS 1978

CHS Clearwater High Swim Team, Diver, made varsity in 9th grade. In gym always did more pull-ups than anyone else in our class per coach. Also more dips in our class but not more than the entire grade. Always involved with art & drawing classes. Loved to water ski or scuba dive, learned how to barefoot at 12. Always on the beach or in our boat, lived on Island Estates with 9 brothers & sisters.

1978 CHS Graduate, worked at local restaurants and Publix. Started school at St. Pete Jr College, Clearwater campus, Biology & Artitecture interests still lived at home.

1979 Bitten by young pigmy rattle snake on the hand (minor damage).

1980 St. Pete Jr College, Clearwater campus, Biology & Artitecture interests still lived at home worked at local restaurants and Publix. Also moved to Tampa/USF w/Danny Wilkinson CHS 1978.

1981 Bitten by eastern diamond back rattle snake in Tampa on left leg, spent 9 days in the hospital (almost lost my leg).

1981? Danny dropped out of college and I moved in with my sister Penny Dunn and James Bronkhorst. Trained in martial arts.

1982? James Bronkhorst finished college and I moved in with Jamie Hunter CHS 1978 also going to USF the exact date unknown.

1984 USF minor in biology and majored in Geology/Hydrology, also took physiology classes, BS. Also was on the USF ski team for less than 6 months (members sucked).

January 1985 Jammal & Associates, Tampa Geologist, geotechnical drilling, sinkhole (subsidence) investigations and environmental studies.

Sept 1986 Ryan A. Dunn born (son) in Tampa.

Oct 1987 Married in Tampa.

December 1987 Jammal & Associates and Professional Service Industries, Inc. merged as one company, office in Clearwater lived in Tampa. Radiological Safety and Gauge Use, PSI, 1987.

April 1988 Jasmine N. Dunn born (daughter) in Tampa.

1989 OSHA 40-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Training, PSI, Inc.

1990 Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments, PSI, Inc.
(continued)

1991 separated from wife and started divorce process. OSHA Certified Field Trainer, PSI, Inc.

July 1992 Registered Professional Geologist, Florida.

June 1994 Katlyn Dunn born (long story but this is why I went through a divorce along with a thousand other issues).

July 1995 changed company, Westinghouse Remediation Services, Inc. (WRS), Tampa, specialized in environmental technical support and ran a few contracts (Brownfields and FDOT) all environmental issues. OSHA 8-hour Asbestos Transite Course, Asbestos Consulting and Training Systems, PSI, Inc. Phase II Preliminary Contamination Assessments, Sampling and Analytical Procedures, PSI, Inc.

July 1996 Father passed, Jack M. Dunn

April 1997 Registered Professional Geologist, Alabama (No. PG000310).

November 1997 divorce completed and I have all 3 children (Katlyn not my biological child). Note: No I did not slow down since 1991, long process.

December 1997 Registered Professional Geologist, Georgia (No. PG001402).

1998 Projects Management Concepts and Training Program, WRS/Applied Remediation Management, Inc.

April 2000 moved to Tallahassee w/my 3 kids to help run a state contract (FDEP Preapproval Program) for WRS as Senior Geologist (Senior Technical Review of state documents). Involves petroleum environmental cleanup work in the state of Florida.

2001 Hands-On Field School for Petroleum Contamination Cleanup, University of Florida, Treeo Center.

Dec 2001 mom passed on Christmas day, Connie Dunn

April 2002 Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Field Sampling Training Coarse for Groundwater/Soil, FDEP, April 2002.

Feb 2003 Motorcycle Accident in Tallahassee, 26 broken bones.

Feb 2004 David Dunn my brother & friend passed on the operating table after hip surgery.

November 2005 bought a 20' Boat from my friend in Clearwater (Steve Eiseman) who owns Sport Utility Performance at 1902 Drew Street, Clearwater FL 33765. Have been doing tons of fishing along the panhandle of Florida.

Current 2008 Ryan is 21 finishing up his 2 year degree at TCC and my daughter Jasmine is 20 finishing up Culinary Art school and Katlyn is 14 on 6/14/08, happy birthday today.

rdunn@wrscompass.com

GAthens@tampabay.rr.com

Bio- George Athanasiou*

***Most people call me George Athens now.**

I became a Florida Real Estate broker in 1986, I am currently the owner/ broker of Diamond Key Realty & Development PLC, our office is in Palm Harbor. Commercial and luxury residential.

I own part of a promotional item design and sell internet company called PinOutlet. It of course can be found at Pinoutlet.com

**Currently hosting a podcast on a new comedic news network, show is called RiotLine. Co hosted a regional radio show called "Legal Waves" for 3 years. TanTalk 1340 AM Pinellas, Pasco, and Hillsborough counties, FL (episodes available on Itunes)
Did some small parts, and extra roles in films and TV throughout the years.**

1997 opened the Deli News Cafe – Dunedin, Florida Where we won "Best Cuban Sandwich in Tampa Bay" 5 years in a row. Won competition in Ybor City as well. Sold it in '03

1992 opened Jammin'z Dance Shack and Beachside Grill – Clearwater Beach, FL Converted from the original Pelican restaurant. Fun beach nightclub and restaurant.

**1988 opened Moonbeams, Teen Club and Concert Venue – Clearwater, FL
Nationally recognized non alcoholic club. Hosted over 20 national touring acts including New Kids on the Block, Taylor Dayne, Two Live Crew, Paula Abdul, Tone Loc, Cover Girls, Sir Mix a lot, and many others.**

CORPORATE JOBS

**McFaddin Ventures Inc. –Sacramento, CA, and Houston, Texas
1984 REGIONAL MANAGER, OCEAN CLUB, & CONFETTI Nightclub concepts**

Initially Recruited out of law school to manage company flagship unit, a 32,000 square foot nightclub in exclusive Post Oak, Houston. Highest distilled spirit sales (single retail unit) in the United States.

**1981 Associated Hosts- Jacksonville, FL.
General manager first conversion from Smugglers Inn to Bombay Bicycle club.**

SCHOOLS

**McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, CA.
Completed one year and left for job w/ Mcfaddin.**

**Florida State University – Tallahassee, FL.
B.S., Hotel & Restaurant Administration ▪ Minor: Multinational Marketing (Grad- June 1981)**

**Stetson University, Deland, FL.
Attended one year, thought I was going into the seminary, ran to Tallahassee!**

**Licensed Florida Real Estate Broker ▪ Florida Realtor
Bert Rodgers – Tampa, FL (1986)**

**MCSE (Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer)
Data Management Systems – Clearwater, FL. (1999)**

**CCNA (Cisco Certified Network Associate)
Data Management Systems – Clearwater, FL. (1999)**

**Radio Talk Show Host ▪ Legal Waves ▪ TanTalk 1340 AM (3 years)
Pinellas, Pasco, and Hillsborough counties, FL**

Extensive travel throughout U.S., Europe, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean.

Hi Richard,

What a great idea! Thanks for volunteering to put the email responses together for everyone. Since I am not able to attend this time, could you forward responses?

I was in the band and Honor Society. Played flute and piccolo. Abby Lipscomb was one of my best friends, and she ended up marrying my cousin. I also hung out with Martina Taylor, Ted Reid, Mark Miller, Terrie Tooley, Kim Pearson and other band kids. We spent lots of money on french fries and Coke at Sambo's across from Crest Lake Park. Now it think it is a politically correct Denny's. Also spent lots of time at Woody Reilly's Warehouse. They stamped our hands so we couldn't drink, but we had a great time there. By the way, I DID have Mr. Werk for accounting.

After graduation, I continued to work at Chief Charley's while I attended SPJC. After finishing 1 year, I left school to work full time at JCPenney at Sunshine Mall. Wow, both of those places are gone now! One of my co-workers invited me to a picnic at MacDill, where her husband was stationed. At that picnic, I met Tom, also stationed at MacDill. We dated for a couple of years, then I moved to Tampa when Tom got out of the Air Force. I transferred to the JCPenney Distribution Center in Tampa. Tom and I married in December 1982.

A friend invited me to a Mary Kay party, and after deciding that I really liked the products, I joined the sales force and eventually quit my job at Penneys. I became a Sales Director and won the use of a Grand Am.

1988 brought a job change for Tom, and we moved to St. Charles, Missouri (near St. Louis). In 1990 we added Jake to our family. I then became a stay-at-home mom. When Jake started preschool at our church, I started teaching Music for all the classes. Eventually, I took other part time jobs at the church office until I was working there full time.

In 2004, it was my turn for a job change. I answered an ad from a public accounting firm that needed a part time receptionist, and part time accountant who could teach people how to use QuickBooks. Now I am a Staff Accountant who still teaches clients how to use various accounting software, and I also do some tax work.

In 2007, Tom and I celebrated our 25th anniversary by taking a train from St. Louis to Chicago. We had a blast visiting tourist traps and enjoying the wonderful food Chicago has to offer.

So saddened by the news of Chic Berger a few years back. Always lit up the room with his smile.

Current hobbies include making cards and other crafts with rubber stamps. I belong to a club that meets monthly to make various projects with stamps. Still in Mary Kay, but that is more of a hobby than a job now.

Jake is singing with his high school choir at a Cardinal's game the same weekend as the reunion. So we will not be able to attend the reunion. I miss not being in FL, but maybe next time! Anyone who wants to keep in touch, please email me!

JTGRAY1982@SBCGLOBAL.NET Also signed up at Facebook, great idea, Ken!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Jane (Tilley) Grayson

Hello Class of '78

It's hard to believe it's been 30 years. I'm sure we've all experienced the good, the bad and the ugly sometime since graduation. However, these are the things that have gotten us where we are today. Here's a short version of what I've gone through to get where I am now. So that I won't bore you with the details of the past several years, let's just fast forward to now.

Let's start with the best part of my life, and that is my kids. I have two boys that are both going to be in college this year. Billy is 22 (we successfully completed turning 21) and Keith is 19 (just graduated from high school). Their dad is a college football coach at Northwest Oklahoma State University in Alva, Oklahoma and they will both be attending college this fall and playing football for their dad. Watch for Billy this year as he is being looked at by the CFL.

They say life begins at 40 and I believe it! I've lived in Springfield, Missouri the past 25 years. I've had to settle for hanging at the lake and not the beach. However, Springfield has been a great place to live. For the past four years I've worked in Branson, Missouri for Wyndham Resorts. Yes, I sell vacation ownership and I have for the past four years and I absolutely love what I do! I would have never believed I would be doing what I'm doing, but I have the best career in the world! It's paid off in so many ways and the best part is I can actually afford myself since working here! We have Wyndham's all over the U.S., so, if any of you ever come to Branson, please look me up!!

After being divorced for 13 years, I met a wonderful man and happy to say we got married in February, 2008. Actually, we met at work and we work together. Now, that might not work for some, but it does for us. He's wonderful, takes care of me and loves to travel. So, in our off-season, we go anywhere and everywhere we can. He also has an 8 month old grandson.....I am not totally convinced I'm a grandma!

Wish I was there celebrating with all of you this weekend! However, this is our busiest season at the resort and it just doesn't work out for me to be there. I'll be thinking of everyone! Bruce and Patti...I know you'll be making or buying everyone mud slides. Have one for me! Mimi, if you're there, keep me posted. And, Patti Gentry, Patti Wheeley and Steve Montgomery's wife (sorry, I can't remember your name) I found your purses with the "Lip Prints" when I moved. You must have them! Email me your addresses!

Whether you come to Branson or not, keep in touch! I'd love to hear from all of you!!

Carrie (Molnar) (Barefield) Simerson
417/880-7465 (cell)
carrie.barefield@yahoo.com

The Last 30 Years

Barbara Hoopes



College

After graduating from CHS, I attended Davidson College (of recent NCAA fame!) and got a B.S. in Math. After a couple of jobs in the “military industrial complex” in New England doing logistics analysis work, I began work on a Masters degree in Operations Research/Systems Engineering in the evenings, and eventually took a leave of absence from my job with the intent of completing the degree at UNC-Chapel Hill. Once at UNC, however, I was offered a doctoral fellowship, so decided to stay for my Ph.D. I was awarded the Ph.D. in Operations Research in 1994. (That covers the first 16 years!)

Career

I joined the faculty of the business school at Virginia Tech in the fall of 1994, got tenure a few years later, and that is where I still am today, after 14 years! I am located at the Northern Virginia Center in Falls Church, VA, just outside of Washington, DC (not at the main campus in Blacksburg). I teach courses in the MBA and Executive MBA Programs in the areas of Operations Management, Quantitative Methods, Global Supply Chain Management and Project Management.

One of my favorite parts of being a professor is taking students overseas. I designed a study abroad course for part-time MBA students, and have taken groups of students traveling since 2003. My primary area of interest is Scandinavia, so the students and I typically visit businesses in Finland, Sweden and Denmark. I have also taken a group of students to the Czech Republic and Ireland, and hope to expand to more countries in the future. My family often accompanies me when I travel, which makes it even more fun. In addition, I have taught “continuing education” courses internationally in countries such as England, Luxembourg, Spain, Germany, Denmark and Finland.

Family

While I was in graduate school, I was introduced to Steve Mutter of Durham, NC, and we were married (in Clearwater!) in 1995. Steve works in the telecommunications industry, and is a casual musician (guitar, bass, string bass, etc.). In 1998, our first daughter, Stefanie, was born, and our second daughter, Anna, was born in 2000. We also have a big dog, Jazz, and we live in Sterling, VA. The girls are 10 and 7 now, and just completing 4th and 1st grade, respectively. Anna has Down syndrome, which is not the big tragedy that popular culture would have you believe – she is doing very well in school and brings much joy to our family and to the world around her. This year, for the first time, we have hosted a foreign exchange student from Germany. Anneke is a junior in HS, and it has been a real joy having her live with us – she will now be a part of our family forever.

(Continued)

In my spare time I enjoy running, reading and occasionally riding horses, my lifelong passion. In recent years I have trained for and completed a marathon (Spring 2007), a half marathon (Spring 2008) and several shorter races. Our family is also very involved in the United Methodist church – I attend a long-term women’s Bible study and direct the 3-4 year old choir!

The Next 30 Years

I look forward to watching my children grow up into beautiful, capable young women. I look forward to more overseas travel with my job and my family. I hope to continue running – my goal is a marathon a year as long as my knees will allow it!

Contact Info:

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James (Jim) Hughes

I was not involved with any extra-curricular activities while at Clearwater High School. I mostly worked at various restaurants in the area and attended classes. I don’t remember many of my teachers or classes too well with the possible exception of Ms Ransom (AP History) or Ms Ewert/Fogle? (Spanish). After graduating, I started at the University of Florida, but wound up at St Pete JC finishing my AA degree there. I then went to Florida State University graduating with a BS in Accounting in 1983. I was recruited by a Fortune 500 Conglomerate, National Service Industries (ZEP Chemical, Lithonia Lighting, National Linen Service, etc) headquartered in Atlanta and accepted a job with them as an internal auditor. While in Atlanta, I met my future wife, Penny Duerksen. We were married in 1986. National Service Industries went through a “re-organization”, and my job was eliminated. I found another job, but became convinced I needed to improve my professional credentials so I studied and passed the CPA exam in Georgia in 1987. I then went on to other jobs including a stint as a partner in a small CPA firm and CFO/Controller of National Business Group, a computer network integrator. During this same time our first child, Joseph, was born in June 1991. I also attended Georgia State University in the evenings eventually graduating with a Masters in Taxation in 1995. Our second child, Lorelei was born shortly thereafter in July 1996. In June 2000, my wife received a job offer from Loma Linda University in Southern California (about 60 miles east of Los Angeles) to teach at the Medical School. I have been with Loma Linda University Health Care, an out-patient practice group, since then as their assistant controller. I also pursued another Masters in a night school program through LaSierra University receiving my MBA in 2005. We live roughly 8 miles from our jobs on the campus of Loma Linda University. Our children attend a school adjacent to the campus. I am also an avid runner and occasional Scuba diver. We have recently traveled internationally to Europe and China. Though I have faced many challenges since CHS I feel very blessed. Life is good!!

jwhughes@llu.edu

Hello Cathi,

According to my watch, I've missed the bio deadline, but perhaps you can slip it in. Hope you all have fun at the reunion. I'm still trying to remember if it was Rob Bollenback I had a crush on way back when. The name is so familiar....Here's my letter/bio.

I'm not sure if I need to be chatting about the last 30 years or 5 years since our 25th when I think I might have sent a letter about the last 25 years. At this point, I can barely remember the last 25 days. Believe it or not, and it IS pretty hard to believe, we had a second child just last year. Most of you all are sending your kids to college and I'm back changing diapers. Go figure. Our son Anton is six now and Lily was born in November, 2007. Honest to God, we weren't even trying, but in the middle of teaching at a college and opening a bookstore & bistro in California, I got pregnant. The store opened in October and the baby came soon after. And if that wasn't enough excitement for the year, we moved back to New Mexico and now live in Albuquerque. Fortunately, I am in charge of the bookstore side of things and with the help of technology can take care of book buying, marketing, and bookkeeping remotely. It's a great set-up: we live in NM but I need to travel to the Bay Area for work every now and again.

Anton just finished kindergarten and we're in the middle of summer fun: swimming, hiking, tennis, biking, and loads of soccer with friends. He's learning to read which is painful and exciting. Hop on Pop can only keep a girl thrilled for so long... This fall, I may return to teach at the University of New Mexico where I got my Ph.D. in Spanish. Mostly, I teach culture, film and/or literature, but I'm up for any challenge as long as it involves being in front of a crowd (especially a group of folks who want to get A's and B's). The best part of living out here (besides the green chile, gorgeous mountains, and lack of crowds) is that my sister, Amy, lives down the street. We love getting together but also relish dumping our respective kids on each other. I hope you all enjoy our 30th (did someone play a practical joke and move up the clock?). A toast to you all and I'll see what I can do to make it to number 35.

Stephanie Becker

This is Marti Baker Crenshaw,

I got married to Mark Crenshaw in 1981 we moved to Alpharetta Ga. and lived there for 16 years and had two kids a daughter that just turned 22 and a son that is 18 and he just graduated last night from Countryside High School. We have been married for 28 years and we dated in High School so we were High School sweet hearts. I have been a Dental assistant for 30 years. My Husband Mark is in Sales. we live in Countryside. So we are unable to attend.

Marti Baker Crenshaw

Sanfield A. "Sandy" Forseth
CHS 1978

Upon graduation, I enrolled into St. Petersburg Junior college and worked as a waiter at the Red Lobster on US19 in Clearwater. After two years, I transferred to the Florida State University in Tallahassee. I majored in criminology and received my bachelors degree in 1983. While in Tallahassee, I played in the Marching Chiefs and worked as a security guard at the Governors Square Mall. I was also a member of the music service fraternity Kappa Kappa Psi. During the summers, I stayed in Clearwater and worked at Airco Golf Course. In June 1983, I was accepted into the Pinellas Police Academy (at PVTI) and in August, I was hired by the Pinellas Park Police department as a police officer. In 1986, I transferred to a Special Operations, VICE and Surveillance unit, and in 1987, I Transferred to K9. I worked with a dog for 5 years, then transferred back to patrol as a Field Training Officer. I returned to college in 1991 (night classes) and received my masters degree in Criminology from the University of South Florida in 1994. In 1995, I was promoted to Sergeant, assigned to patrol. In 1999, I was transferred to the Records Division and assumed duties as the department spokesperson. In 2001, I was assigned as an acting Lieutenant over the patrol division, and in October of 2001 was promoted to Captain of Administrative Services, where I remain as of today. From 1992 to 2002, I was also a member of SWAT, the last 5 years as a sniper/sharpshooter. In 2004, I started a mounted patrol unit and as of today, it remains the only mounted patrol unit in Pinellas County. Most recently, I graduated from the FBI National Academy, a 10-week leadership course, in Quantico, Virginia.

I am married, 17 years, my wife's name is Cathy. We have an 11 yoa son named Austin. We live in Pinellas Park, where we maintain a small horse farm. We have lots of animals including two Australian Shepherds, three quarter horses and a pony. We are currently building another horse farm in Kentucky, just south of Lexington where we will move to when I retire in the next couple years.

RLarkFan@aol.com

Terri (Gerondale) Tausinger - After I graduated from Clearwater High I went on to College. After College I worked for Pioneer Western/Western Reserve Life for 5 years. I met my husband Rob in 1983 and we were married in 1985. We live in Clearwater. We had our first daughter Brittani in 1987 and our youngest daughter Haley in 1997. Rob works for Suncoast Chrysler and has been there for 20 years. I have been very lucky to be an at home mom for the past 21 years. I keep myself busy with my daughter's school, her soccer and our rental units. Haley plays Club Soccer for Clearwater Chargers. She has been with the Chargers for 4 years now. She loves school and it shows on her report card. Brittani graduated from Clearwater High in 2005 and just received her AA in Education and not quite sure if she wants to continue that degree in the fall. She works for the original Frenchy's on Clearwater Beach. We all love to travel. Life has been good to us.

ttausinger@tampabay.rr.com



Cathi Culbertson
From 1978 to Now

After graduating high school I went to St. Pete JC and worked at the St. Petersburg Times. I also did a little modeling locally and enjoyed going to the beach.

In 1985, looking for something new to challenge me, I decided to move to New York and pursue an acting/singing career. Little did I know that show business was not waiting to discover me. I quickly realized that a life pursuing the arts was not for me and almost by chance or fate began my career in corporate events. I worked for Chemical Bank, Christie's Auction House and Hotel Maxim. After gaining some experience I was recommended for the position I have at Forbes Magazine. I have been working at Forbes Inc. for going on seventeen years as the Director of Protocol and Corporate Entertainment. I oversee and coordinate events for both the corporate and advertising clients of Forbes Magazine and for the Forbes family on their properties around the world. I have been lucky to meet such dignitaries as President Ronald Reagan, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Henry Kissinger as well as Paul McCartney, Chris Noth, writer Frank McCourt and the Soprano's cast among others at Forbes events. Some outside events I have been involved with include the annual Joe Torre Foundation benefit where I had to help wrangle such celebrities as Derek Jeter, John Mellencamp, Michael Bolton and Bob Costas.

The same year I started at Forbes I met my husband, Chris Dolman...1991 was a great year for me! My husband is an actor, director and professor. We have been married more than 13 years and live in a brownstone in New York City. Besides an occasional trip, in our spare time we continue to discover and explore the wondrous city we call home.

CCulbertson@forbes.com

Hi! I'm not planning on attending the reunion, but wrote the bio anyway. Have a great time!

While in high school, my biggest claim to fame was probably that my mother was considered the English teacher at Clearwater High that rarely gave A's. I have to admit that it wasn't always easy being a student at the same school where my mother taught. After graduation, I went to Emory University in Atlanta and graduated with a degree in Psychology. I married my college sweetheart and moved to Detroit, Michigan where he was in medical school. I nearly froze to death but survived my two years there!! After that, we moved to Lexington, Kentucky for 6 years and had two beautiful daughters: Jackie who is now 20 years old and Kelly who is 18 years old. I chose to be a stay-at-home mom and finally went back to school at Stetson University and got my Masters degree in Marriage and Family Therapy the year I turned 40. Now that my children are leaving home, I am opening a private practice in Ormond Beach, FL where I have lived since 1991. So if any of you are in the area and suffering from a mid-life crisis, give me a call!! I have many openings!!!!

Dawn Sutton Parr
dparr@cfl.rr.com

Short Bio:

Scott Nicolas
Alicia MacNutt Nicolas

Scott and Alicia graduated from the University of Miami 1982, and married in 1981. Scott was drafted by the Cleveland Browns. We moved to Ohio in '82. Our daughter, Brittaney, was born in 1984 and our son, Bren, in 1986. Scott played for the Browns until 1987 and then played for the Dolphins in '88 and '89. After a second torn rotators cuff which meant the end of football, we decided to settle in Fort Lauderdale. Our youngest, Chelsea, was born in 1990. Scott now is a partner with Mullinax Ford in West Palm Beach, Fl. Alicia is a real estate appraiser. Our oldest has graduated from Northwestern University and is working for JPMorgan Chase as a financial analysis in their Beverly Hills Office and is living in Hermosa Beach. Our son just graduated from the University of Florida and has also taken a job with JPMorgan Chase as an asset analyst for their Chicago office. He is moving to Cleveland in June to start training there in July. Our youngest just graduated from high school and is off to Florida State in June. God has been very active in our lives and we thank him often!!

Anicolas@aol.com

Bio for Steve Mokate:

*Graduated with BA in Criminal Corrections from Simpson College, in Indianola, IA in Dec 1982. Three-year starter at defensive tackle for Simpson football team. I thought about giving pro football a shot but there was no demand for any 220lb tackles with marginal athletic abilities.

*After college, I worked as a counselor at the Iowa State Prison for Women (sorry, no late night Cinemax-like stories to tell... none I can talk about anyway.)

*Moved to Dallas, Texas in 1984 and been there since.

*Have held various consumer sales positions since arriving in Dallas. Currently, I am the western sales director for San-J International, a Japanese food company.

*I have six kids: two boys and a girl from previous marriage and step-dad to three daughters (mention the Brady Bunch and I will be forced to slap you)

*Married to Jan, our 7th anniversary is June 30 (cash gifts are being accepted through the weekend)

SMokate100@aol.com

From: kelley drain [mailto:kmdrain@gmail.com]

I was Kelley McHugh in 1978 and attended school in Clearwater for the entire 12 years, Kings Highway Elem., Palmetto Elem., JFK Middle School and CHS. I moved to Texas at the beginning of our senior year, so didn't walk with our class. I wasn't involved in much outside of regular classes during high school and wasn't very sociable. I remember a couple of times hanging out at the beach with Jim King and maybe... Dale Peterson(?) and attending a party at Carlouel that Leigh Tanney hosted. I drove a bright orange VW station wagon, if that jogs any memory. With the perspective that 30 years brings, I value my childhood school experience much more now, than I did then.

I attended Bauder Fashion College in Atlanta, and remember running into our classmate, Dawn Sutton (who was attending Emory Univ.) while I was bagging groceries at

a Kroger! I ended up back in Clearwater and married Jim Drain (CHS class of 1968) a guy that grew up in my neighborhood, in 1980. We had two sons, who are now 26 and 22, Joe and Grant. They are the joy of my life. I so, enjoyed being a mother and raising my sons. In order to stay at home and do that, I started a business, sewing for interior designers in 1989, called Quality Sewing, which I still operate today.

My marriage ended in 2003. After several years of apartment living and trying to figure out how life works as a single forty something after kids are grown (yikes!) I bought a house in Palm Harbor in February and finally feel settled and happy again. I live there with my partner, Linda, and our three cats.

I'm looking forward to our reunion and hopefully renewing old acquaintances

OK so I am late and understand if this doesn't get into the "program".

Dawn DeVane Christensen

The last 30 years have been good to me. I attended SPJC, UF and then finished up at Medical College of Georgia with a degree in Physical Therapy. As I said I would never marry a doctor, I did just that and moved to Seattle in 1985 for him to do his residency. I worked at the VA and we did lots of hiking and exploring in the Puget Sound, Olympics and Cascades.

After 3 years, we took a wonderful year off to explore Alaska, New Zealand, and SE Asia. Many cool adventures were had. We came back and purchased a home in Seattle and stayed there until 1994. During that time we had a son, Kyle, and a daughter, Lauren. Needless to say that changed things a bit.

In 1994 we moved to Boise, Idaho. Now growing up in FL I can say I wasn't sure where ID really was-- Iowa or Idaho? It has been a great place to live and raise a family. Rivers, fishing, mountain biking, hiking, arts, theater, etc. abound. Richard and I have stayed married all these years! The kids are about to finish high school and then what. I imagine we will find plenty to do. Lauren and I are getting SCUBA certified and hope to explore the warm water sea life as much as possible.

I love PT and have been able to work part time as much and as little as I want. It is a great profession!

We generally get back to Clearwater a couple times a year, but other obligations are keeping us here this summer. Have a great time at the reunion.

dawnchris@cablone.net

here is a short blurb...

Name: Peggy Tench Davidson
CHS Activities: Swim Team, Interact Club, partied :-)
College: University of Florida
Degree 1983 - Bachelor's of Science Computer Engineering

Short Synopsis of where I have been:

Started out in Clearwater, Florida with Sperry. Moved to Warner Robins, Ga in 1991, then to Atlanta, Ga in 1994. Summary of the various careers.

- 2003 – Present Senior Software Developer Manheim Auctions
- July 2003 – March 2004 Consultant at Cristoline
- November 2002 – June 2003 Consultant-Developer at Ace Insurance
- January 2002 – January 2003 Consultant-System Analyst at Lossruns Inc.
- March 2001 – March 2002 Consultant-Project Analyst at Cingular Wireless - Sandy Springs, Ga
- August 2000 – December 2000 Consultant-Lead Developer at CyberCapital - Atlanta, Ga
- June 1998 – May 2000 System Analyst at ProAct Technologies Alpharetta, Ga
- September 1995 – June 1998 Senior System Analyst at Choicepoint Inc. Alpharetta, Ga
- January 1995 – September 1995 Lead System Analyst at RaceTrac Petroleum Inc. Smyrna, Ga
- November 1983 – December 1994 Senior Staff Engineer at Sperry - Clearwater, FL & Warner Robins Ga

On a More Personal Level:

No children unfortunately and living the wonderful world of Single life and having fun while I am there :-)

Activities that I enjoy: Travel, Outdoor Sports, Gardening, Wine Tastings, enjoying my home, watching sports on TV.

- Peggy "Tench" Davidson

Dear Richard:

I'd love to have a copy of the bio. I tried to attend the 25th anniversary, but I'm confined to a wheelchair now and when I went to Sand Key the event was literally on the beach. So I'll keep the bio short. Car accident in my late 20's left me a quad.

After CHS I went to UF, majored in economics and went to law school. I now am a partner in the law firm of Harris & Riviere where I practice personal injury, workers compensation, social security law in Tampa. Contact info is Leslie Riviere 304 S. Fielding Ave Tampa, FL 33606 (813) 229-2667

lriviere@tampabay.rr.com

Bio for Denise Jordan

After High school I got married, should have known better he was a Packer and a Yankee!

1984 got divorced and joined the US Navy

Served in

Antigua, West Indies 85-87

Washington DC 87-90

Gtmo, Cuba 90-91 Where I met my Husband Pic

Naples, Italy 91-93

Manama, Bahrain 93-95 Where I had my Son Joshua

Mayport , Fl 95-99

Lisbon, Portugal 2000-2004

Retired from the US Navy in 2005

My husband joined the Foreign Service in 2003 while I was still in the Service.

We have been in Ft Lauderdale, Fl and Johannesburg, South Africa

We are transferring this summer from SA to go to Athens Greece.

Wish I could be there for the 30th but I have other commitments, hope everyone has a good time!

tasha2760@yahoo.com

Biography for Joan Denise Steel (aka Jodi)

After graduation, I continued to work at Morton Plant Hospital, where I was a nurse's aide (thanks to the CHO program @ CHS). I attended SPJC and received my AA degree and transferred to the USF College of Nursing where I obtained my BS in Nursing. I worked in the Coronary Care Unit at Morton Plant for many years except for one year when I moved to Calgary, Canada with my husband (who worked for Paradyne). After the birth of my daughter and end of my marriage, I took a job with Clearwater Cardiovascular and Interventional Consultants in 1992 and I have been there since. I work in the Clearwater office located in the Heart and Vascular Building down the street from Morton Plant. I work for two of the physicians (we have twenty in the practice) and recently was put in charge of the nursing staff. My lovely daughter just graduated from Largo High's 21st Century magnet program (did I mention we live a few blocks from CHS?) and she will be starting on her AA at SPC and wants to pursue a career in journalism. As my friends know, I'm looking forward to the reunion and can't wait to see everyone! PS The Lasik didn't work as well as I'd hoped, so don't wave from across the room...I'll never see you ☺

jsteel1@tampabay.rr.com

Since High School,

Graduated from UF with a degree in Environmental Engineering

Graduated from UCF with Masters Degree in Env Engineering. 1986

Member of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity at UF and a member of the UF Water Ski Team. For two summers while attending college (83 & 84), I worked in a water ski show (similar to Cypress Gardens) in Frankfurt Germany.

Work:

After graduation, I worked in Orlando with PBSJ (large Civil - environmental private consulting firm) from 1986 to 1995. Transferred to the Miami Office in 1995.

Changed companies to URS Corporation (largest US engineering) firm in 2001 and continue to serve as the Water Resources Director for the Miami Office.

My main focus has been water, wastewater and stormwater planning for cities and counties. Currently working on the Collier County (Naples) Watershed Study which is a small version of the everglades restoration plan.

Family:

Married Jeane Galvin or Winter Park in August of 1986. We met at UF in 1983. Jeane is currently a professor of English at Broward County Community College.

We have two kids, Zachary 16 and Olivia 13.

And 4 dogs (Maltese)

Tom Christ, P.E.

305 514 2479 Office

786 295 4592 Cell

Tom_Christ@URSCorp.com

After graduating CHS. I attended SPC for two years. I married my high school sweetheart Norris Smith (class of 77) and we have been married for 26 years. We have two children, well not quite children anymore. Lindsey 22 who is in her 2nd year of Grad school @ Nova Southeastern in Ft. Lauderdale getting her masters in occupational therapy and our son Taylor who is going to be a senior at Countryside High who has dreams of being a rock star or a movie producer.

I am a loan officer @ Sun trust Mortgage and have been in the mortgage business for 25 years. I must say that every time I've said 30th reunion in the last several months, I can't believe how fast time has flown by.

I guess if I have learned anything in the last 30 years is that my family is the most important thing in my life and to say "I love you" to them everyday and that life can be very short and to live life to the fullest everyday.

Sharon Battista Smith

Sharonfl60@aol.com

What has Jim "Buzzsaw" King being doing for the last 30yrs??

Well at CHS I played golf on the team, bugged everybody as much as possible and was crowned Class Clown in 78 much to my mothers shurgrin.

I went on to a stellar college carrier at Troy State Univy in Troy AL. I was involved in a fraternity, Pi Kappa Phi all four yrs and knocked a few Miller Lites down & did graduate in 1982.

I moved to Chicago and began a twenty year carrier as an insurance adjuster for homeowners. I worked for Amica Mutual Ins, State Farm and was an independent for the last eights years. From Chicago I moved to Los Angeles & was married for three years when my first wife walked out on me. (Red hair & blue eyes). Oh well, then I was called by a young lady that I used to date at Gayfers (the Mall that is no more) & got married to her & still am today??????

I moved to Memphis, TN where I hunt, fish, attempt to play golf & I have been in Memphis In May BBQ Cooking Contest for 14 yrs. This is the World Championship of BBQ where first prize is aprox \$15,000.00. Not bad for cooking some pork. I have been on three teams, Rib Runners, Bad Boys & my current on, Pork Illustrated. I cook in the beef category and do a Beef Tenderloin with béarnaise sauce & have come in third place twice & second once. So far no one has died after eating my food. PLEASE keep your fingers crossed.

Oh by the way, I am cooking Saturday night's dinner!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I have one daughter, Rebecca who is seven and by the time she is ten she should be smarter then me....No kidding.

Right now I am the Claims Manager for Intermodal Cartage Co. which is a trucking co here in Memphis that has aprox 800 employees and about 500 trucks. Not a bad job but I still am waiting to win the Lottery. Who isn't...I have won \$28K in IL and \$30K in the CA lottery but waiting for the BIG one.

I am very much looking forward to this reunion & can't wait to catch up with all of the class of 78.

GO TORNADOES.....and LSU TIGERS.....JK.

jking@iilogistics.com

Well, What can I say, time flies when you're having fun! Here's my story. I was married for fourteen years, have been divorced for ten. I have a 20 year old senior in college at ucf. My son just graduated from Dunedin High school. I am blessed with two wonderful children. I went back to nursing about four years ago, then had to stop because of my health. As most of you know, I am living with stage 4 breast cancer and in the bones. I'm a fighter and I'm going to keep fighting. I will be happy to see all of you again!

Lisa Dohmen Ponticello

HEY CATHY

DAVE MULDER HERE/ MY WIFE/ELAINE AND 2 KIDS LIVE IN CRYSTAL BEACH FLORIDA
BEEN MARRIED NOW 26 YEARS
SON CHASE 16// DAUGHTER BROOKE 19

STILL LIVE IN PINELLAS /ON THE WATER STILL LOTS OF FISHING AND BOATING
//REMEMBER I HAD THE CHARTER BOAT BUSINESS IN CLEARWATER // AT CLW MARINE
RIGHT AFTER HIGH SCHOOL/WORKED FOR JIM WALTER CORP 7 YEARS THEN GOT
INTO

THE AUTO BUSSINESS STILL WORK IN AUTO INDUSTRY
NOW FOR BERT SMITH BMW/PORSCHE/VW FINANCE DIRECTOR IN ST PETE FL ////
ALSO WE OWN A RESTURANT IN DUNEDIN FLORIDA // CALLED BENEDICTS RESTURANT
THE PLACE HAS BEEN IN BUSINESS FOR APPROX 19 YEARS WE HAVE OWNED IT FOR 3
YEARS BREAKFAST// LUNCH PLACE
ANY WAY THATS ABOUT ALL SEE YOU AT THE CLASS 78 REUNION

RAISING 2 TEENS IS A FULL TIME JOB
TRUST ME I HAVE BEEN VERY BUSY OVER THE YEARS

SEE YOU AT THE PARTY

DAVE
2canfish@tampabay.rr.com

Hi,

Sorry we can't make the reunion this weekend.

I Graduated form the University of Florida in 1982 with a BSBA degree in Finance. I was an officer in Alpha Kappa Psi. In 1985 I was hired by a large independent insurance agency, Wallace Welch & Willingham. I was promoted to President in 2004. We recently purchased the Sun Trust building and moved the offices to downtown St. Petersburg where we have nearly 100 employees in five departments. I have enjoyed my 23 year career with this reputable firm.

In 1990 I married Cathleen Kinney from Chicago and we live in Northeast St. Petersburg with our two sons Keith (14) and Grant (12). Cathleen was an Internal Auditor for a local insurance company and decided to be a stay at home Mom when we had kids. She does a great job of taking care of all three of us. Among other sports, my son's race Jr. Dragsters at Sunshine Drag Strip on Friday nights. Stop by and see us if you have a chance.

Keith Gramling

Home: 727-895-1521

1177 42nd Ave NE

St. Petersburg, Fl 33703

kgramling@wwwinsagency.com

Richard,

This is Jay Hammack. Since I will not be in attendance, would you be able to email me what you hand out at the reunion? I'd like to see what everybody has been up to.

Here is a brief synopsis of what I have been doing since graduation:

I still live in Davie, Florida (25 years) and I am still married to Bonnie (also 25 years). Three children: Chris (32), Kayleigh (22) and CeJay (20). Two grandchildren: Victoria (4) and Violet (2) and twins on the way. Retired from the US Navy in 2000 (21 years: 4 active and 17 reserve). Received a BS in Electrical Engineering and have worked for Motorola for 20 years. My family and I have returned to Clearwater every summer to spend our vacations on the best beach in the world!!! Ya gotta love the Palm Pavilion, what memories!!!

Thanks for pulling all of this together,

Jay

Jay.Hammack@motorola.com

Cathi I lost Richard's e-mail due to computer problems, didn't really know what to say but I am a Realtor in the Pinellas area and its beaches. I work for Sand Key Realty on Clearwater Beach and Belleair. I never left the area and am have been living in Belleair. I do alot of traveling and my biggest trip was last year, we went on a cruise around the world. We were on the ship for 31/2 months. It was quite an experience, saw things that I thought I would never see in a lifetime. We are planning doing it again next January and this one will be for over four months. I was very ill for the last year but I am backk to myself. I never married but have had partner in my life quite awhile and no kids. I am more into having 4 legged furry things, which gives us our freedom to see the world. Happy with life. I don't know what you can use from this. Also football, boating and racing our also our other hobbies. I hope this helps and I guess we will all see each other in another week.

Thanks

Tammy Boone

Hi Richard:

I am known for squeaking in under deadline (ask Vanessa Orlando, my Clearlight editor,...)....

Those who remember me from CHS days may remember that I spent many hours in the Clearlight room and a groupie of Cloudburst. I still love writing, design, and publishing and I still live in the publishing world (and am still a fan of Cloudburst). I left Clearwater and the beach behind in 1978 (some days I wonder why) and went to school in Atlanta at Agnes Scott College (on the advice of our beloved Clearlight advisor, Shirely, I studied history so I could build up a portfolio of writing). I joined Prentice Hall Publishing (Higher Ed Division) the day after I graduated, hoping to become a book editor someday. After many twists and turns, including a marriage, an expatriate life in Singapore and Malaysia, three sons, living on Miami Beach, and an assortment of major life-changes, I am now an editor with McGraw-Hill Publishing in Chicago. 25 years after I started in this business, I finally made it. I'm sitting in my office writing this and thinking about CHS, my friends, the beach...and looking forward to seeing my next-door neighbor (Cathi Culbertson), catching up with my fellow Clearlight staffers, dancing to Cloudburst, hanging out with my favorite ski-buddies (Rich, Doug, Joe, Jim... well, not you, Joe...), reminiscing with friends from Trinity Presby youth group, being with Kris and Leigh and the girls, catching some rays, and getting my toes in the sand.

alice_harra@mcgraw-hill.com

What I have been doing in the last 30 years....

After graduating from CHS, I attended the University of Florida, earning a BS in Business Administration (Management). I started working for the State of Florida Department of Revenue part-time while at UF, then moved to Tallahassee for a full-time position. Having discovered an interest in computers at UF, I entered the IT field with the Florida Department of Highway Safety in 1986, and have stayed in IT ever since. I am now an Oracle database administrator with the Florida Department of Agriculture in Tallahassee. I bred and showed Akita dogs for several years, and I now raise American Quarter Horses (www.rockincjranch.com). Along the way I managed to have a couple of great two-legged kids: daughter Kendra just graduated from Lincoln High School, will be attending Tallahassee Community College in the fall, loves sign language and playing guitar; son Cody will be in 8th grade, and enjoys playing soccer and riding in his go-kart. In my spare time, I still love to read and do arts and crafts. My twin sister M.R. (Ruth) is still my best friend, and we get together often for "art days", family times, or just "doing lunch". I would love to hear from CHS alum's. My email is JessiG@aol.com.

Thanks,
Jane Hagler Essig

I'm not a writer by any means but here it goes. While at CHS my name was Tracy Allen. For the last 28 years it has been Tracy Ozack. I married my husband John pretty much right after graduation. We have 2 wonderful children John (28) and Amanda (21). And as hard as it is to believe myself...we are grandparents to 2 boys JD (6) and Blake (1), thanks to our son. I never moved away...I remain in Clearwater and work on Clearwater Beach where I grew up. How things have changed around here...and in my opinion not for the better. John and I have a few acres in North FL that we escape to every chance we get, which lately isn't often enough. We can't wait to retire and sit on the porch in rocking chairs. Well thats about it. Nothing exciting, but I don't think I can handle exciting. Hope everyone is well!

tlo9696@yahoo.com

LaRon Bacon Roberts
Clearwater Class of 78'

Well, after high school, I attended St Pete JC for 2 years. In June of 1979 started working for Florida Power Corporation in their Customer Service Dept. August of 79' I married Jim Roberts (he attended Dunedin High – graduate 1977), he is a Firefighter/Paramedic in Pinellas County. We have a daughter Ashlei who was born in Sept 1980 and she also is a Clearwater High Graduate of 1999. Now here we are, I'm still with the power company after 29 years, as a Power Quality Specialist. Jim and I are still married, in August it will be 29 years. (where does the time go) Our daughter is local and was married last year (No grandbabies yet!) I guess our three dogs will be our babies for a while. There is Chico our Chihuahua and Katie our Welch Corgi, the two of them got together and now we have Scooter which I call our Corgihuahua. We live in Clearwater, across from the high school and still love the area. We have a retirement home between Ocala & Gainesville, which we love to go and hang out during the year. Probably, like the rest of you, seems all we do is work.
It's really been great to see everyone!

Bob Lewis

After graduating from CHS, I received my accounting and law degrees from the University of Florida. I then practiced corporate and securities law with the law firm of Shackelford, Farrow, Stallings & Evans. P.A. in Tampa, Florida from 1985 to 1994. In 1994 I became Vice President, General Counsel of the Eckerd drug store chain. When Eckerd was sold in 2004 I became the Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Gerdau Ameristeel Corporation. Gerdau Ameristeel is the fourth largest steel manufacturing company in North America and is based in Tampa. My wife Kathy and I have three boys, Bobby-15, George-12, and Lawson-10.

RLewis@GerdauAmeriSteel.com

William H. Hood III (Bill Hood)

1984, he founded Special Data Processing, a direct marketing company located in Clearwater. He sold the company in 1999, but remained as CEO until 2006. After 23 years, Bill retired from the direct marketing industry and currently is involved in private investing. He has been married to wife, Andrea, for 17 years and they have 2 children, Billy age 13 and Amanda age 11. Bill's hobbies include golfing, reading, traveling, boating, and spending time with his family.

snaret@tampabay.rr.com

John DeVita

Right after High School, I went to Monmouth College. After the first year I ran out of money to pay tuition, room and board. So, I applied for an Army ROTC Scholarship and got a three-year ride, free of charge and a paying job right after graduation in 1982. I knew I had an obligation of four years with the Army, but decided to stay on for 21 years. I retired from the Army in 2003. My wife Diane, who I met at Monmouth College, just retired May 31, 2008 as

a Lieutenant Colonel too. We both served stateside, overseas, been separated during many different operations etc. I deployed in Desert Storm 1991, and Diane deployed Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003. After

my Army career I was able to work with Boeing as a Logistics Manager. Another super job! Working with engineers was interesting and rewarding. Unfortunately, Boeing lost the contract that I was working, so I secured a position as a Force Design Analyst with the Department of Defense. So in a way I

am back in the saddle again supporting soldiers and Warfighter's - Priceless! As an MD, Diane easily moved into the same department of emergency medicine

that she retired from in the Army. We started a little late on having children, Sydney is 8 years old and John Andrew is 7 years old. These two little people bring a lot of joy to Diane and I. They keep us young or at least we think so. We currently live in Dupont WA. Peace.

Just covering the last 10 years, if you want more... hopefully I see you at the reunion or you can email to julielynnolson@yahoo.com. I'm still in the San Francisco Bay Area, wonderful place. Bill and I decided to "get a life" in 2000 and bought a sailboat (blew that college fund for those kids we mercifully never had). I love the return to my childhood habits of being on the boat (almost) every weekend.

Commercial photography business changed a lot after the dot-com bomb (and 9/11); Bill still runs the studio. I have branched out to non-profit administration and meeting planning for our local pro photo association and recently started working for a foundation that funds brain cancer research (second one I've worked for)! We really spend more time thinking about sailing than working, taking longer trips of 2-3 weeks at a time and maybe off to Mexico in 2009... Where DID those 30 years go, but it's been fun all the way!

Well I regret to say I won't be making it to the party. work has been real slow the last 4,5 months. Anyway since I only went to CHS half my junior, and the first half of my senior year I made a few friends. I also was looking forward to seeing the friends I meet working at Chef Charleys. I live up in Holiday florida. I moved here 2 years ago to be closer to my son. I lived in Clearwater for 20 years before that. I've been painting houses for the last 4 years. Before that I ran Mugs n Jugs for the last 10, of and on, (dam A.D.D.). My hobbie is recreating furniture, and selling it. It's been helping to keep my head above water. I have some items in a store in Largo (The Strip) next to the largo feed store. If anyone wants to say hi, you can e-mail me at (mikecoluzzi@hotmail.com). Take care. Mike Coluzzi

Wow! I am the lucky one who got to read all of your letters ahead of time. I am finding all of the letters so fascinating. I started writing my letter a month ago, but as I am reading the letters as they come in it keeps triggering me to want to add more to my letter.

I decided to lead off this compilation with Barb Faulkenberry's; make that General Barbara Faulkenberry. I think, whether you are for or against the War, everyone respects and appreciates those that serve in the military. After her brief Bio I put in the article that was in the newspaper just a few weeks ago. I understand that most of us have probably read it, but I feel that many of us will hold on to this small collection of letters and put it away, back in the attic, with the old yearbook and other memorabilia. Ten or 20 years from now when you are showing your Grandchildren your old yearbook; you'll happen onto this booklet and be able to proudly tell your grandkids that you went to high school with General Faulkenberry. She has represented our Class and our Country well.

I went to Dixie Hollins High School in St. Pete for 9th & 10th grade. We lived in Seminole and were bussed in. After the riots closed the school down for 3 days my parents moved to Clearwater for my upper class years. I was not too involved in extra curricular activities at CHS. My two most memorable teachers were Mr. Werk for Accounting and Mrs. Ransom for Aeronautics. After graduating CHS in 1978 I went to SPJC for a year and a half before I thought I could do better working full-time. I was quickly promoted through various department manager positions at Winn-Dixie before I left in 1986 after being Assistant Store Manager for several years. I worked for Phar-Mor as a Co-manager for a few years where I enjoyed more managerial decision making freedom. A friend pointed me to the wholesale side of retail and I landed a job in Ft. Lauderdale. Not knowing if this job would work out and having a mortgage in Clearwater to pay and needing a place to live I went to Roommate Finders and found a lady who had a 2 bedroom condo in Pompano Beach. She had a new car payment and needed a roommate to help defray expenses. We were married a couple of years later in April 1991! Been married now for 17 years.

Meanwhile, the job was doing fine and we rented out the Clearwater Condo. In 1992 my wife, Kathleen, and I decided to buy a house in Boynton Beach. The condo market wasn't good and we couldn't sell the Pompano Beach condo so we rented it out. Right after we closed on our house in July 1992, Hurricane Andrew came roaring through. We were so grateful that we escaped the damage. Later that year in the fall my co-workers and I headed to Orlando for the annual Christmas Sales presentation of products that we would be selling to Albertson's stores. Instead they announced that we would be let go as Albertson's had bought a General Merchandise Distribution warehouse in Oklahoma and wouldn't need the company I was working for, which was Paradies Distributors. So I hooked up with a wholesale Specialty Grocer Distributor, Fine Distributing, calling on 22 stores in the northern part of Palm Beach County. After a couple of years Fine was bought out by Gourmet Award and many sales people were let go. I was lucky. I knew one of the Gourmet Award sales reps and in the buy out he was promoted to a Supervisor and he selected me and gave me a great route of 4 stores right around the corner from my house. Less drive time and more money. In 1993 we found a couple of apartment complex's that were going condo and were able to buy 4 more rental units with only \$500 out of pocket for each one.

On September 1, 1994 the obstetrician induced labor so that our daughter, Kaitlyn, would not come on Labor Day. In 1996 my wife's bank that she worked at was bought out by Nation's Bank and she was offered the choice of a job in North Carolina or a severance package. We decided to stay in Florida. Most all of her family was in Palm Beach County. Kathleen was

born in West Palm Beach and graduated from Boca Raton High School in 1978. She has 3 sisters, Karen, Kris, & Kim. We did everything with Karen & Gary and kids. Gary got laid off from FP&L and moved the family to Gainesville. Kris was already in Gainesville. Since I had no family in South Florida I suggested that she send out resumes in Gainesville. Kathleen is a CPA and landed a high level job at Waste Management Spring 1997. My transfer request took a while and Kaitlyn stayed with me in South Florida and we spent the summer flying and driving back and forth most weekends. In the fall we were reunited and stayed in a 1 bedroom apartment. After our house sold we bought a house in Gainesville the Spring of 1998. Sister, Kim then followed as well as their Dad and other relatives. In July 1998 our son Kevin was born and after Kathleen went back to work I decided to stay home. The money in North Florida was half of what S. FL was and I was driving all over the place. Kathleen was working lots of hours trying to get a grip on the Waste Management job; they kept piling on more responsibilities. Meanwhile I was struggling with a 4 year old and an infant. It was fine with just one at a time, but hard with both of them in the evenings and on weekends. Turned out the 80-100 hour weeks weren't good enough for Waste Management and they let Kathleen go. She wanted, and needed time with the kids anyway so it was time for me to get a job again. Needing to get a job that paid more and not having a college degree made it tough. I decided to become a Mortgage Broker and after working for someone for 6 months opened up my own shop, Alligator Mortgage, in the fall of 2000. It was tough for a while, months with no income, but over time the business has done fine and I really love my job. But since it was a struggle at the beginning Kathleen was forced to go back to work in 2001 and landed a great job at the University of Florida. We added to our modest Real Estate portfolio in Gainesville by picking up a quad plex so we now have a total of 10 rental units in the state. Good thing too as being self-employed I will have no retirement income, certainly can't count on SSI, and our stock portfolio took a huge dive at 911 and still hasn't fully recovered. Smartest move we made was being diversified between stocks and Real Estate. Kevin has just finished 4th grade and he has been in Cub Scouts for 4 years and I have been his Assistant Den Leader. Kevin has also played Flag Football, Basketball, Baseball, and Soccer and I have helped coach most of those throughout the years. Kaitlyn has been accepted into the Cambridge Program at Gainesville High School and will be in 9th grade in the fall. Kaitlyn used to ride horses, but is now into photography, MySpace and IM ing her friends. A good part of Kathleen's family came to Gainesville at the same time as we did, including her other sisters and families, and her Dad and more. We have enough family that the adults are on a Mixed League Softball Team that is comprised solely of our family. Our time is also spent cheering on the Gators as we have many family activities and parties, especially during Football Season. Go Gators! And yes Jim King go LSU Tigers – especially when they are playing Ohio State or some other out of conference team. We have had 9 Nieces & Nephews graduate High School the last 3 years, 8 of them here in Gainesville. Every year at July 4th we have a family reunion at Ginnie Springs so I am glad this CHS reunion is not over the same weekend.

I thank everyone for submitting their Biography. I tried not to edit anything at all. I hope I did not miss any; I apologize if any were missed.

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