

## Times Are Changing

As we approach the end of another summer, and after experiencing 86 +/- summers, our class is showing its age. Our records show that we know where 178 of our surviving graduating class are located. However, there are 219 of our class who are deceased. That leaves 93 of our class who are missing and/or their status is unknown.

In these times, many of us are moving to be near family members or into retirement facilities. Sometimes, we receive a US Post Office notice of a forwarding address that is actually forwarding to a survivor of a deceased classmate. It can take several months for us to be notified by the survivor about our classmate. 😞

Regrettably, this newsletter is changing into a summary of obituaries. There is little other class news beyond our quarterly luncheons.

## July 2022 at PJ's Restaurant

The regulars attended the summer luncheon gathering at PJ's Restaurant on St. Pete Beach. Those who made the effort to attend were rewarded with camaraderie and friend updates.



This photo captures the whole group. It was taken by Nancy Litten's son, Rick. Clockwise, Left to Right, Nancy Litten, Gloria Slater Carnegie's head, Shirley Beaupre Michaud, Sherry Nichols Rasmussen (SPHS Class of 1955), Maggie Maier, Mary Fricke Walton (SPHS class of 1956), Karl Maier, Bob Walton, Ron Rasmussen, and Harriette Bey Urbahn.





Left to Right: Mary Fricke Walton (SPHS Class of 1956) and Bob Walton



Left to Right: Sherry Nichols Rasmussen and Shirley Beaupre Michoud.



Left to Right: Nancy Olsen Litten's son, Rick; Nancy; Gloria Slater Carnegie and Maggie Maier.

## Future Communications

This issue of the SPHS Class of 1954 News is the last one that will be mailed out by US Postal Service. All future issues will be sent out digitally. Most of our classmates currently receive the digital, full color edition by email. The previous issue we mailed last June cost \$1.21 per classmate for printing and postage. Each printed issue requires special handling, including the merging with a mail list, taking it to the printer, folding and tabbing each letter, affixing a postage stamp, and posting it. We have never asked for subscriptions to the newsletter because of the bookkeeping involved in sending out bills and accounting for subscriptions. Helpful and caring classmates have donated generously over the years to cover this expense.

Costs have never been an issue in mailing out the newsletter. However, the ease of email and the extra effort for snail mail brings us to this point. The Class of 1955, as well as other classes, eliminated snail mail long ago.

Of the fifty, or so, newsletters we mail, fewer than a handful of recipients ever have responded to the newsletter. Consequently, we know that most of the addressees are either not receiving them or have no interest in receiving them. Thus, discontinued mailing of the newsletter will not appear to be missed by many.

We will continue to have regular issues of the newsletter, but digitally on the Internet, via email and posted on our website. For those without an Internet account, here are some ways to access the newsletter:

1. Send us the email address of a spouse, friend, child, grandchild, care home, neighbor, etc. We can email the newsletter to that address, and they can notify you when it arrives each time. Our contact information, by which to tell us your preferred email, is given later in this document.
2. If you have no way to borrow an email address from someone, you can go to your public library and freely use their Internet browser to find our website. The librarians are happy to show you how to do this. The

online newsletter is located at this Internet address: [SPHS Class of 1954 \(sphs1954.org\)](http://SPHS Class of 1954 (sphs1954.org)) Once you are there, links are shown on the first page that guide you to the newsletter of interest. The newest one and an archive of past issues are all on one page.

## Classmate Notes & Updates

**Barbara Strong DiCarlo** writes “We moved from Utah [to Louisiana] a few years ago to be closer to children and grandchildren. I should have let you know sooner, but you found us, thank you. I really enjoy seeing "old" faces and hearing about classmates. I was so sorry to hear of Boyd's passing, and hope all is well with you. My phone number is my cell, Utah number, but I've had it since the early 90's and I'm too old to change. Thanks for keeping me in the loop. Stay well and safe.”


**Gloria Fernald Flad** wrote: “I will not be able to attend the next luncheon. [June 14, 2022] I am getting married on that date to Francis Teti who I met at our community dart league.” Our congratulations to Gloria!

**Marlene Elissa Matouk Haugland** shared a photo taken on the occasion of her 86<sup>th</sup> birthday. We should all look so good!



Marlene lives in Oregon, so she is remote from our reunion luncheons. She has provided us with her photo because she cannot attend our luncheons regularly.

Those classmates who live far from St. Pete could also send a recent photo to share with the class. This will help to keep us survivors connected. Email your photos to [r.rasmussen@ieee.org](mailto:r.rasmussen@ieee.org).

**Dr. John McLane** reports: “Doing Well at 86 1/2 yrs. old. Praise the Lord! .

 John lives in Bartow, FL and has sent us his email address in order to continue receiving the newsletter.


**Jean Swivel Schuh** sent this nice note: “Thank you, as always for the informative newsletter. Our class is fortunate to have you keeping us up to date.”

“Hello everyone, I’m still heartbroken over **Boyd’s** passing, as he was a great friend to me all the way back to high school years.

I would have loved to also have seen **Ed Parrotte** [who attended the April luncheon] though he might have forgotten our fun times in art classes.

I will be in Chautauqua New York when the class meets as, [husband] John plays in the symphony there. And he will play each summer as long as he can. Wish I was home to see everyone, meanwhile hello to all my friends. Stay healthy. Stay blessed and love to my friends, **Judi Hirshberg-Seifried-Allen-Marcellus**.

(Yes, I’ve been blessed to have three wonderful husbands in my life ... 4 children by DICK SEIFRIED my first husband of 32 years, 10 with GENE ALLEN, my 007 handsome husband who worked on the 1969 moon shot and landing then. JOHN Marcellus, Eastman school of music prof... for 37 years. Yes, I’ve been blessed, also with 4 great children, Scott, Robin, Sharon, and Laura (who back in 1976 I had her while still in high school.) I have eight grandchildren, and 15 great grandchildren., Hope all are healthy and blessed – many of you I have never met, Yours, **Judi Marcellus**)”

Judi wrote this note in June after receiving the June newsletter. She and John have joined us several times for our luncheons. Judi has written a book about her early life and how she was turned around. 

**Class Contacts:**

Class of 1954 web site, where you can find email, phone numbers and mail addresses about all classmates: <http://sphs1954.org/>.

Help us keep your data current!

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Lillian Olsen Classen, at [jclassen4@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jclassen4@tampabay.rr.com) or [4085 Overture Cir Bradenton, FL 34209](mailto:4085 Overture Cir Bradenton, FL 34209) (727) 743-1462. **No donations are needed until further notice.**

**Classmate updates, photos, news-to-share, etc.,** should be sent to Ron Rasmussen, Editor, 10212 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Pinellas Park, FL 33782-2632, or [r.rasmussen@iecc.org](mailto:r.rasmussen@iecc.org)

**Next reunion luncheon is  
Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022**

Location is PJ's Oyster Bar. Gathering time is **12:15 p.m.** If you plan to attend, please let Lil Olsen Classen know by **Thur., Oct. 6.** Lil's phone is (727) 743-1462. or [jclassen4@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jclassen4@tampabay.rr.com)



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