

# High Point High School Class of 1966



## The Memory Book, 50th anniversary edition

On the weekend of September 16-18, 2016, the High Point High School Class of 1966 held its 50th class reunion at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda hotel. Friday night we had a pizza party. Saturday morning we had breakfast with a sound system set up so that brave classmates could give talks. Saturday evening was the “big event”, the dinner/dance, held in the main hotel ballroom. And Sunday morning there was an informal picnic at a nearby city park.

163 people bought tickets to one or more of those events. About 150 people made it to the dinner/dance, and 125 of them were willing to pose for formal portraits, which we’ve included in this Memory Book.

There are about 230 photographs here. Almost all of them are pictures of us and the people we brought with us to the reunion. We’ve tried hard to identify everyone, but here and there we’ve failed. If you see a mistake or an omission please tell us about it: [reunion@highpoint66.org](mailto:reunion@highpoint66.org).

The class website <http://highpoint66.org> remains. You can find there a link to an online (PDF) version of this Memory Book.



## **The Class of 1966 and the Fiftieth Reunion**

Our era at High Point was singular. The school was built 9 years before we got there. Mr Chotiner was its first principal. It was our local school, so we went there. We met each other, formed relationships, graduated and moved on.

By a decade after we were gone, the demographics of High Point's territory had changed tremendously. As the neighborhood evolved, other people attended, and they did the same thing that we did. We formed an identity, "The Class of 1966." Each following class formed its identity, but no two were the same, and none was quite like ours.

Our class at High Point has always seemed singular. It has been described with many superlatives. We had a strong combination of good students, good teachers, a good administration and support staff, a good and safe neighborhood, and it was the USA in the Sixties.

Our class has had reunions every 5 years since 1971. Some were well attended; some were nearly empty. The friendships that we made at High Point were resilient; strong enough that there was good interest in and attendance at the 50th.

There will be a 55th, and more, until we no longer have the strength to keep gathering. But there will never be another 50th.

This Memory Book is mostly pictures taken at the reunion. We've tried to identify everybody in every picture, but time and memory are imperfect.

The Reunion Organizing Committee thanks you for your interest, your attendance, and your support.

## The pizza party

Friday night, September 16th, we had a pizza party in some subterranean room of the Hyatt. The disruption and chaos of the renovation work was confined to above-ground floors; the lower levels were tranquil and unaffected by the demolition and construction work of the building renovation.

We tried to get pizza from Ledo, but it was too expensive even though Ledo is now a chain with more than 100 branches. We ended up getting pizza made right there in the Hyatt kitchen, and it was not terrible.

We were all so excited to be there, so excited to see one another after all these years, that absolutely everyone forgot to take pictures. Maybe nobody wanted to touch their cameras with greasy fingers. Who knows. There were no pictures, so we just have to imagine.

More than 50 people attended, so you'd think that at least one of us might have taken pictures. Nope. Our pizza party has therefore become like the Loch Ness monster, the Abominable Snowman, and Bigfoot — widely seen, but never photographed.

As best we can remember, the pizzas were rectangular. No one can prove otherwise.

The picture on page 43 that shows the 1966 varsity basketball team was taken with an iPhone right outside the door of the pizza party. That door to Rick Mest's left is an entrance to the room where the pizza was served. You'll just have to imagine what's behind the black door.

## **The Dinner Dance**

At our reunion, the “Main Event” was the Dinner Dance on Saturday night, September 17. Most of our previous reunions had only a dinner dance event, with perhaps a semi-organized picnic on Sunday afternoon. The Planning Committee felt that a lot of people were going to make a considerable effort to get to the reunion, and might never attempt it again, so we ought to have several different events. The big one, by any measurement, was the Dinner Dance.

It had the highest attendance, the highest price, the fanciest clothes, the tastiest food, and the most pictures taken.

In following sections, we offer photographs taken with the “table cameras”, photographs taken by people roaming around with cameras, photographs of the chaos that was the in-progress renovation work, and formal portraits of those people who were willing to pose (not everybody was willing).

## Pictures from the table cameras

At the dinner dance, every table had at least one Kodak “Fun Saver” camera that used actual film. Remember film? It was all the rage in 1966. The first usable digital cameras didn’t show up in stores until 1995 or so, nearly 30 years later.

In 2016 it wasn’t easy to find a processing laboratory that could develop film, but they do exist.

The idea was that people at the table would use those cameras, perhaps passing them around, to take pictures for this Memory Book. Some did; some didn’t. Every table also had a pad of paper on which we hoped people would write down names. Some did and some didn’t. Some of the notepads got wine spilled on them.

On the next 14 pages are pretty much all of the usable, in-focus pictures from the table cameras. Not always the most flattering poses, but it’s what we got. We like them, and we’re sure that all of our classmates are as grateful as we are to those of you who picked up the table cameras and helped record the event.

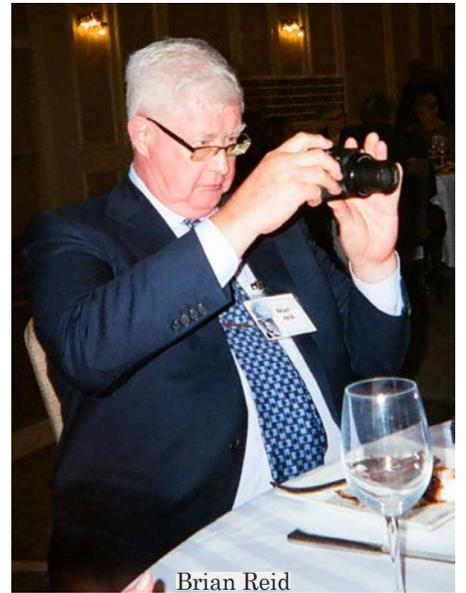




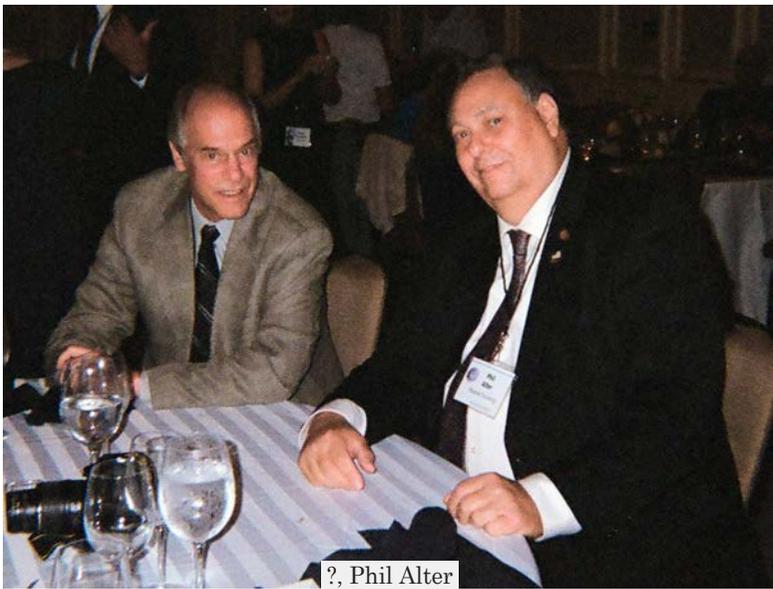
Diane Danser, Mark Weinberg



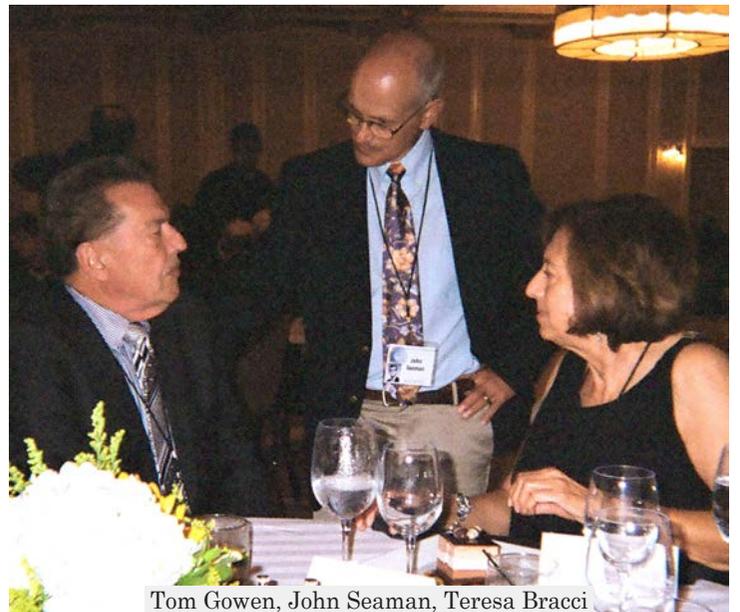
Natalie Orenberg, Tom Gowen



Brian Reid



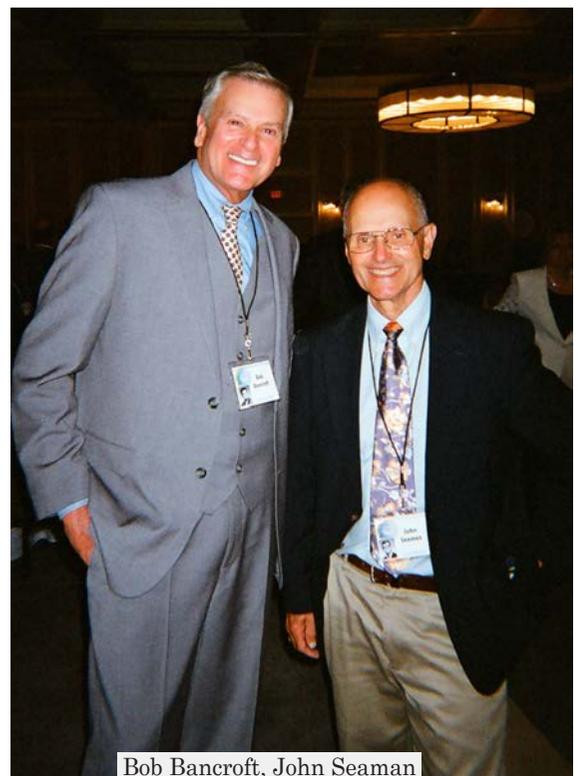
?, Phil Alter



Tom Gowen, John Seaman, Teresa Bracci



Diane Danser, Charlene Brown, Natalie Orenberg



Bob Bancroft, John Seaman



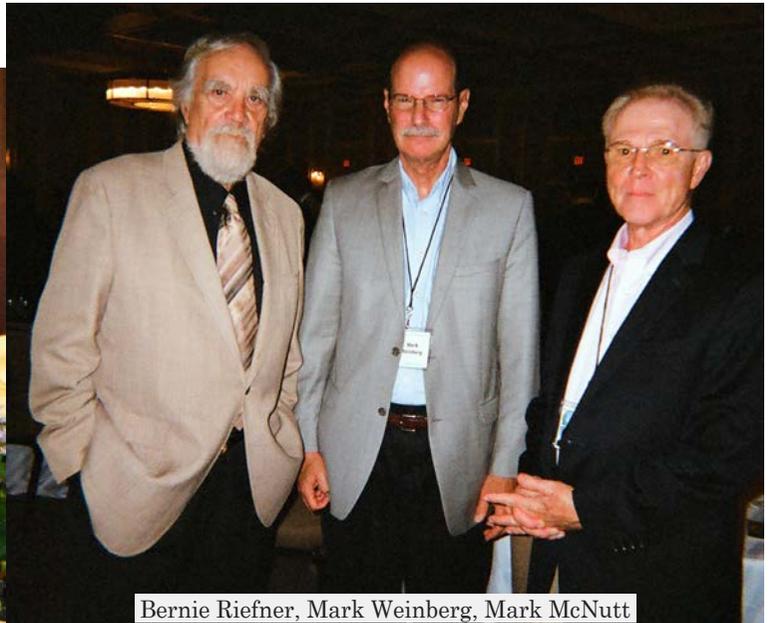
Marian DiFiglia, Neil Aronin, Vivian Seaman, Barbara Bowman



George Braley, Mike Damberg, Rick Mest



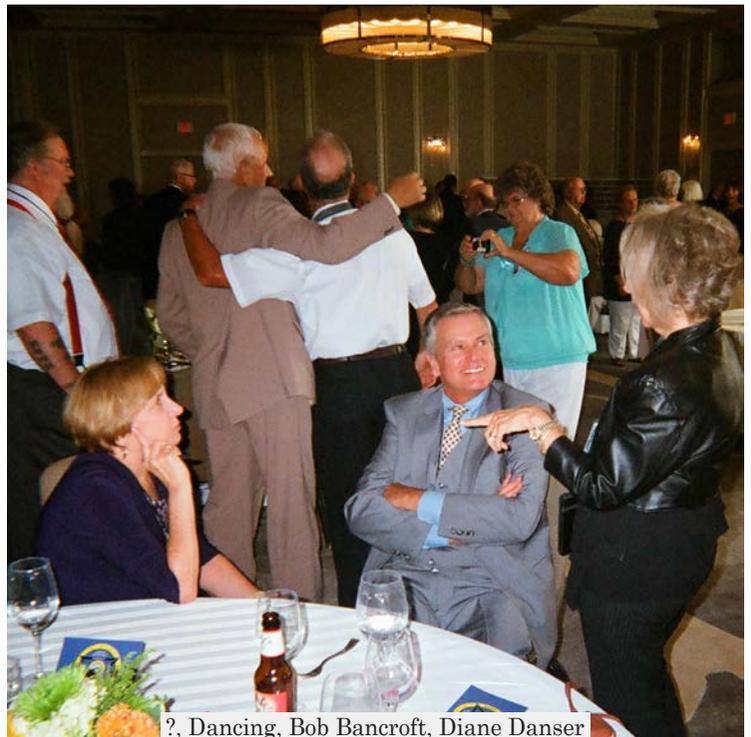
Vivian Seaman, ?, Pauline Bassett



Bernie Riefner, Mark Weinberg, Mark McNutt



Mark Weinberg, George Braley



?, Dancing, Bob Bancroft, Diane Danser



Kay Black



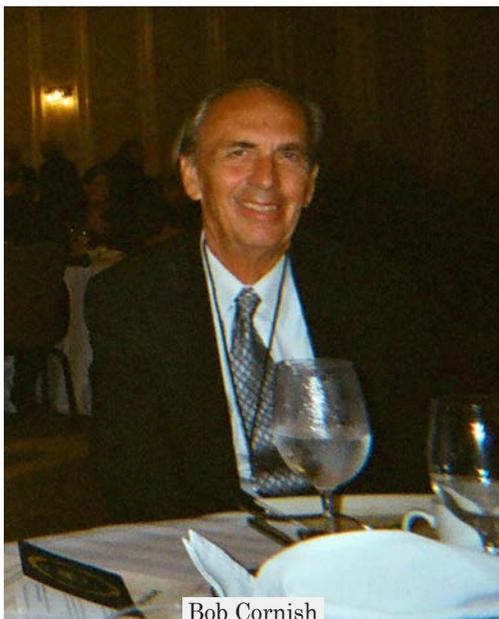
Bruce Clark, Caren Gentile



Kathy Kirk, Peggy Beach



Jeanie Rupard



Bob Cornish



Brian Reid  
12



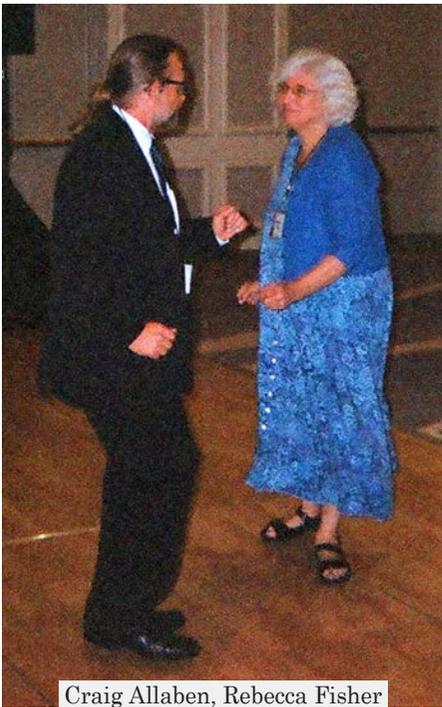
Kathy Gilcrest



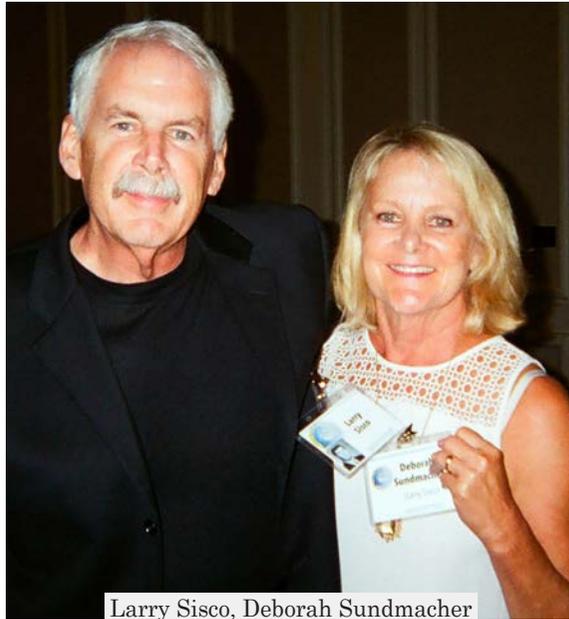
Neil Aronin, Victoria Reid



Barbara Bowman, Sherry Lichtenberg



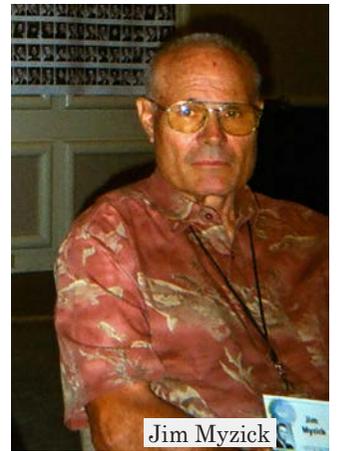
Craig Allaben, Rebecca Fisher



Larry Sisco, Deborah Sundmacher



Sherry Olds, Sherry Lichtenberg



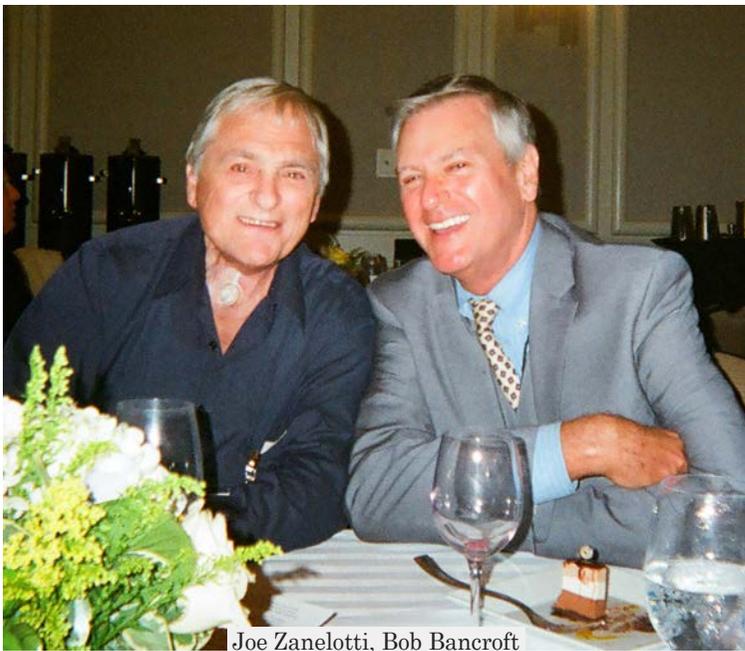
Jim Myzick



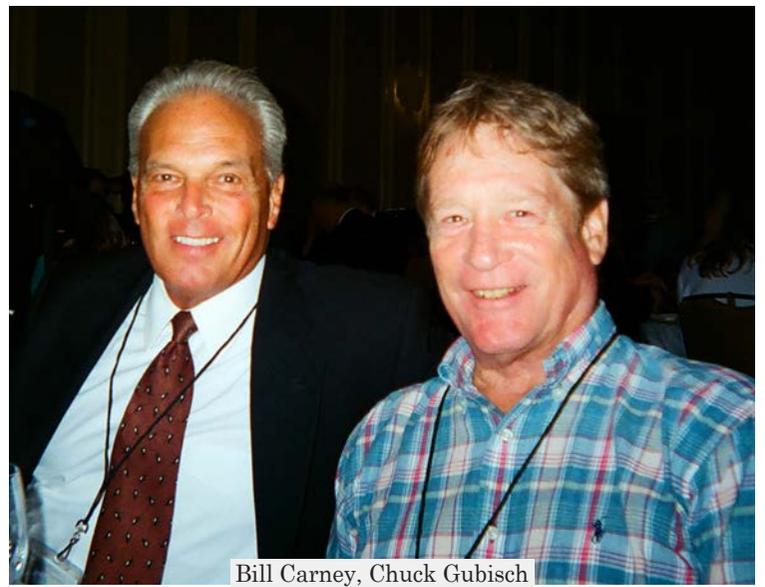
Pauline Bassett, David Jefferson



Bob Cornish, Linda Starr



Joe Zanelotti, Bob Bancroft



Bill Carney, Chuck Gubisch



Joe Zanelotti



Joe Zanelotti, Steve Barsky



Maggie Amberg, Sherry Lichtenberg, Barbara Skolnick



Richard Winz, Maggie Amberg, Barbara Skolnick





Richard Winz, Maggie Amberg



Terry Walker, Eva Garin



Bonnie Reid Hontz, Barbara Raderman



Stephanie Schaffer, Frank Mauck



Chuck Figlia, Barbara Raderman, Rick Mest



Joe Iacangelo



Barbara Raderman



Bob Mogel



Ginny Crawford, William Johnston



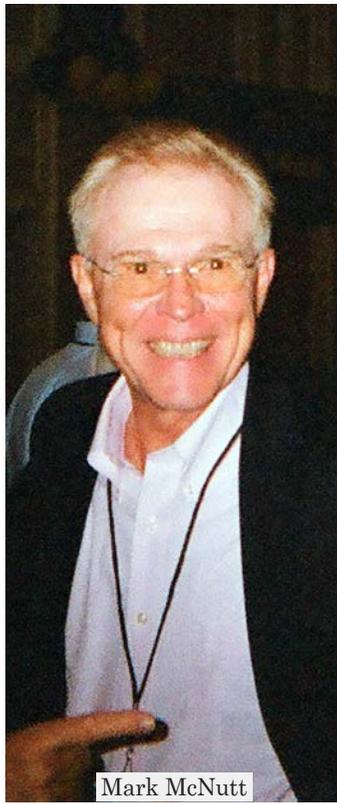
Bill Morris, Mercedes Morris



Bill Morris, Mercedes Morris, Gerry Benedick, Caroline Benedick



Bruce Rankin



Mark McNutt



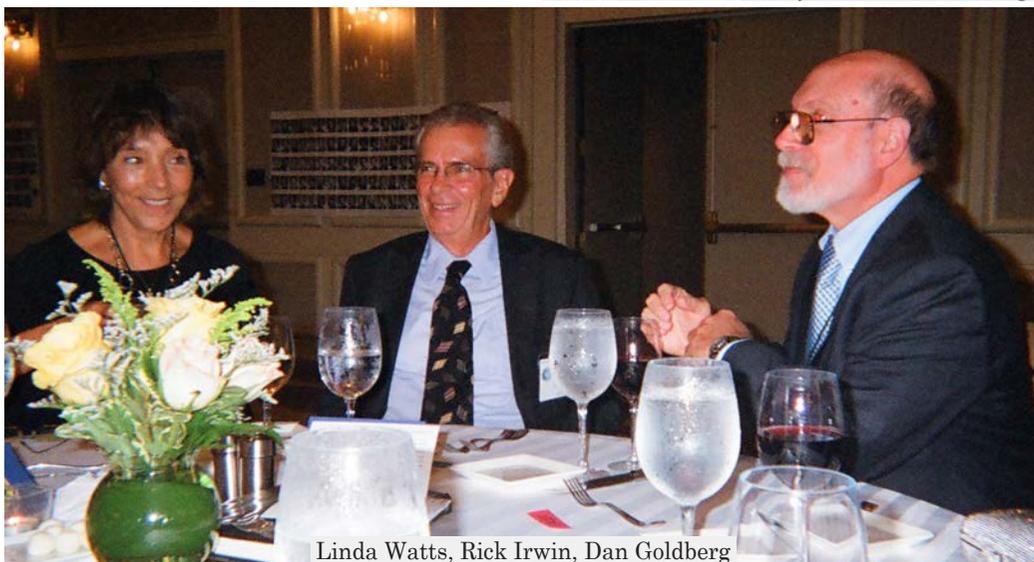
Joe Iacangelo



Christine Church, Stephen Poole



Cathy Anzelone, John Mogavero



Linda Watts, Rick Irwin, Dan Goldberg



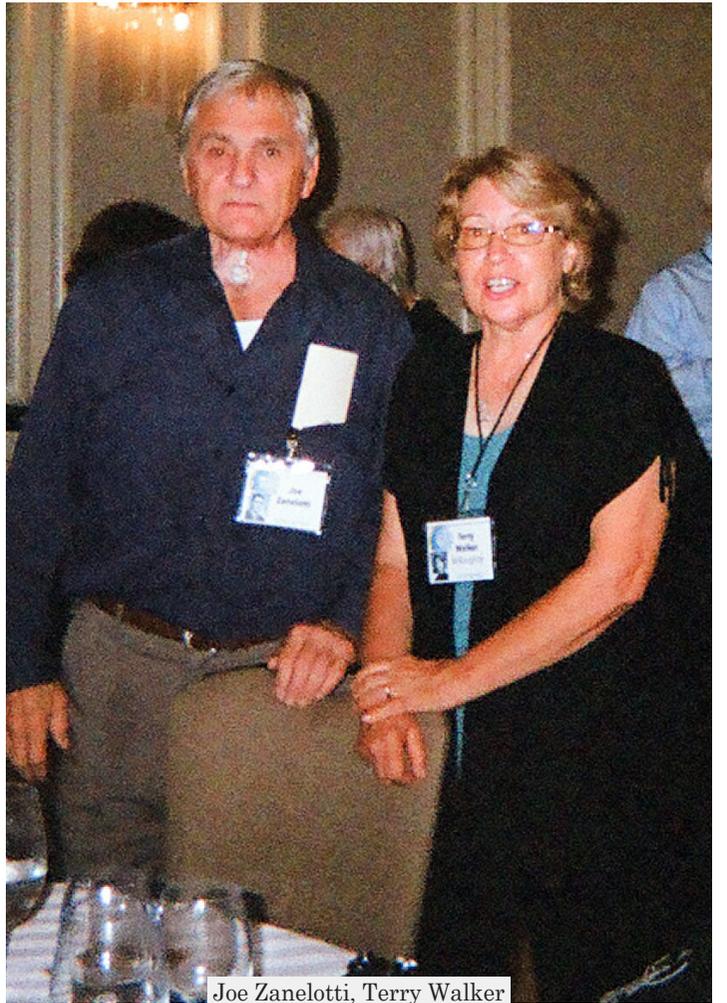
Carrie Lawn, Jim Lawn



Carolyn Gross, Tom Swartz



Linda Watts, Marianne Peach, Sherry Olds



Joe Zanelotti, Terry Walker



Pat Bartolillo, Sherry Olds



Pat Bartolillo, Gary Fennel



Maggie Liden, Jan Cruit



Jim Burcham, Sherry Olds



Jim Rodriguez



Christine Messick, Lenny Messick, Jimmy Down



Lenny Messick, Christine Messick



Craig Allaben, Rebecca Fisher



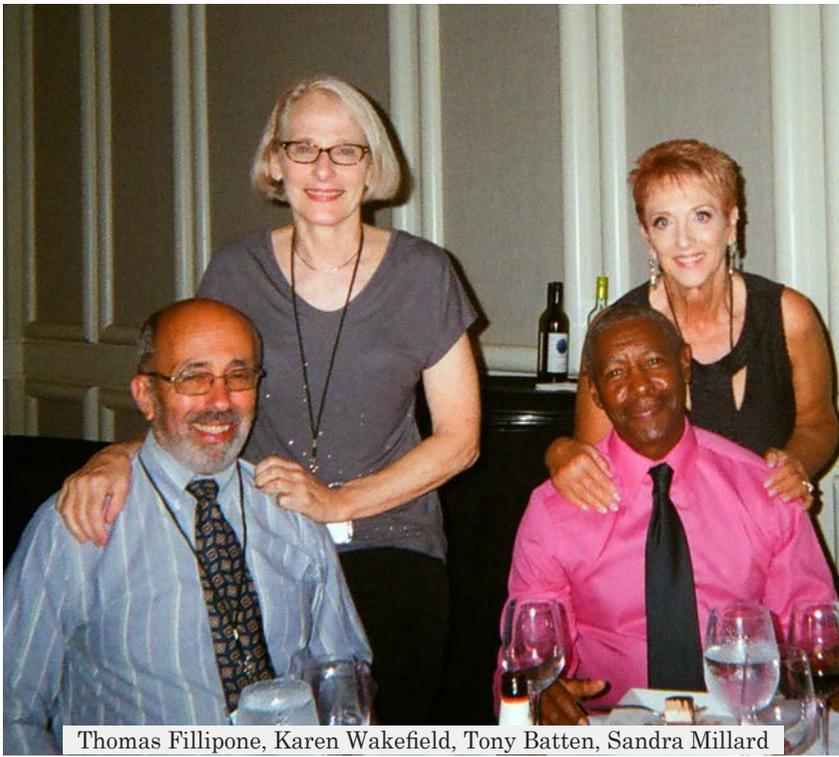
Marc Leavey, Marcia Leavey



Cecile Johnston, Bill Solomon



Neil Moffat, Bob Colbert



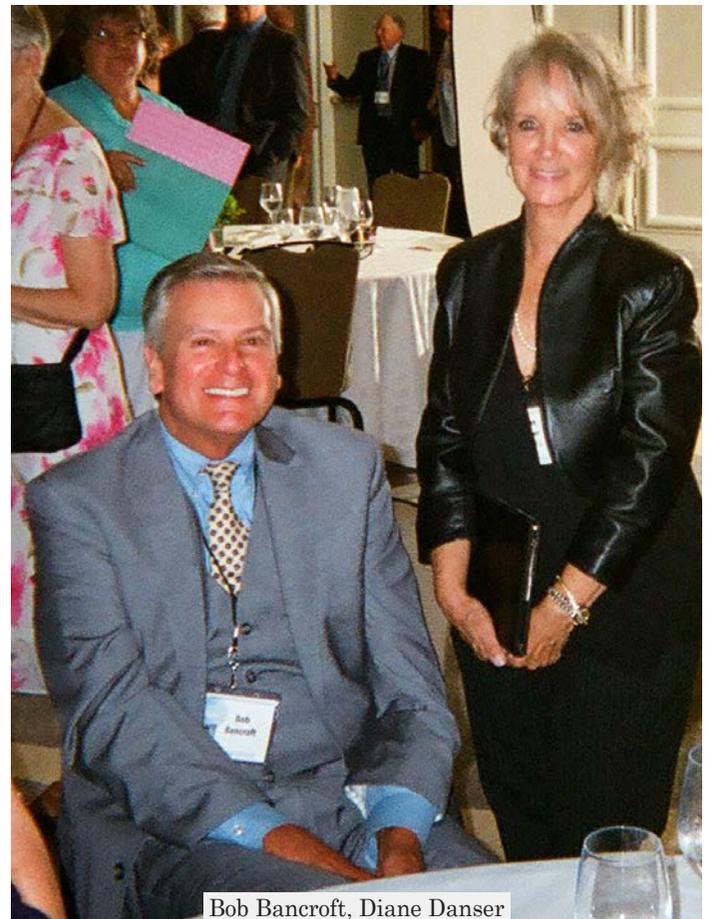
Thomas Fillipone, Karen Wakefield, Tony Batten, Sandra Millard



Debra Bowen, Mike Ziecheck



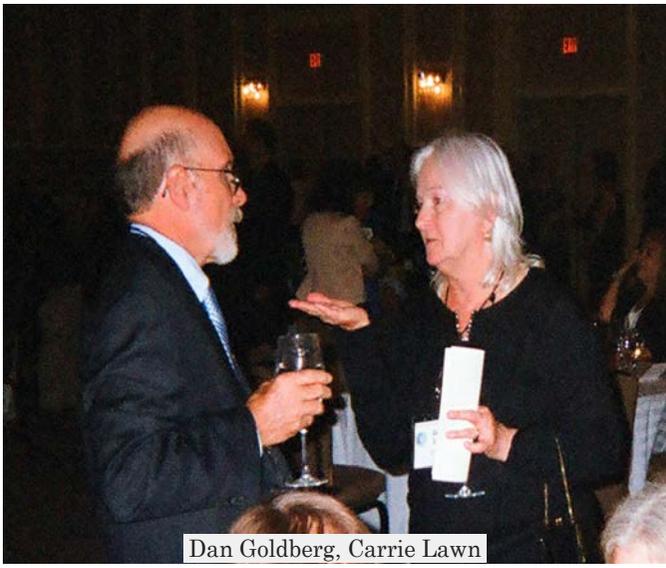
Karen Wakefield, Bill Solomon, Sandie Millard



Bob Bancroft, Diane Danser



Mike Ziecheck, Debra Bowen



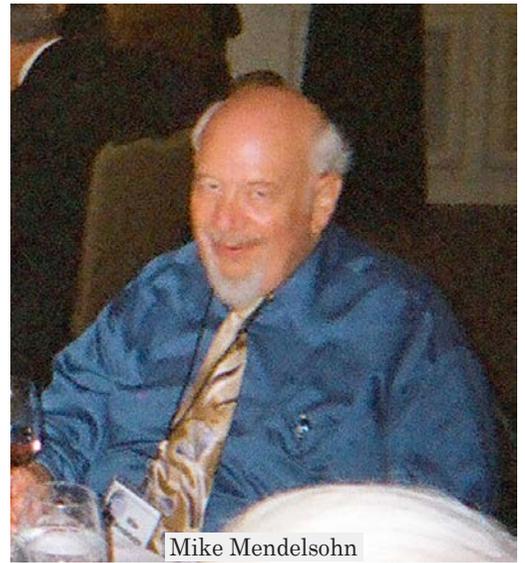
Dan Goldberg, Carrie Lawn



Rix Perkins, Laura Butera



Sharon Gurtz, Marty Gurtz



Mike Mendelsohn



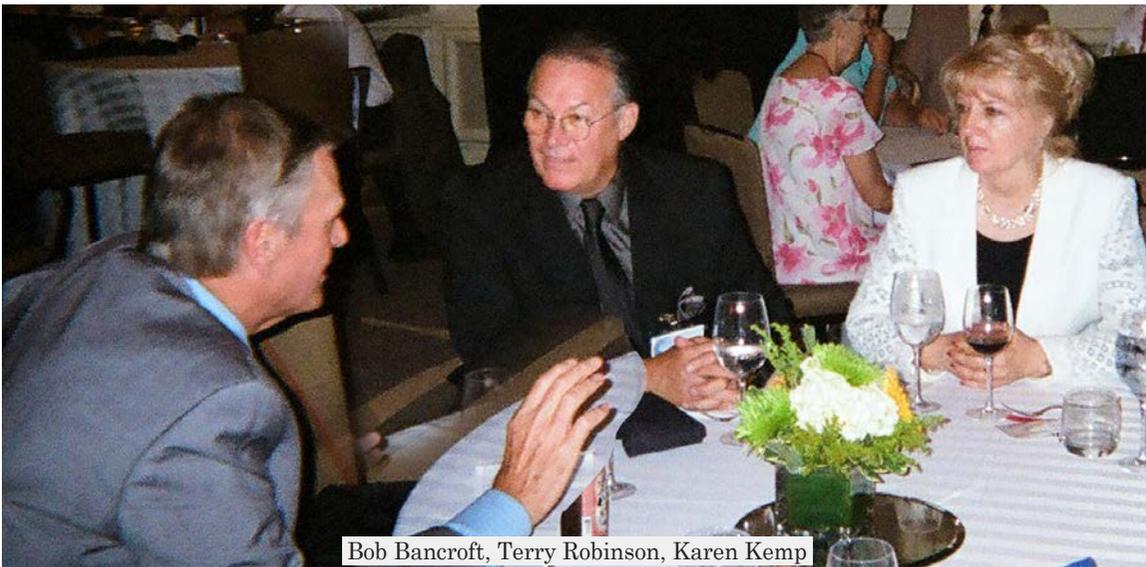
Mike Mendelsohn, Steve Barsky, Alan Oresky, Gary Fennel, Brant Hoover



Brant Hoover



Bob Bancroft, Mike Damberg, Bonnie Down



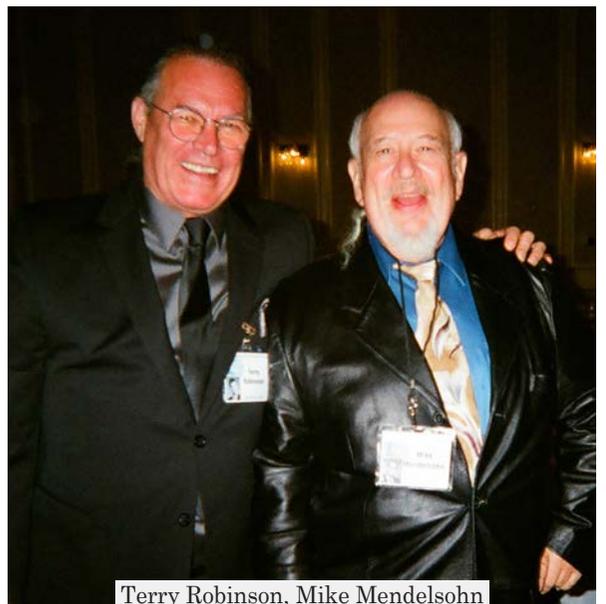
Bob Bancroft, Terry Robinson, Karen Kemp



Alan Oresky



Bob Bancroft, Betty Bancroft



Terry Robinson, Mike Mendelsohn

## More Pictures of the Dinner Dance.

The pictures in this section were taken at the Dinner Dance by some means other than the table cameras. Most people were too busy dining and dancing and talking to old friends to take many pictures. This is what we've got.









Ginny Crawford, William Johnston, Bob Mogel



Mercedes Morris, Bill Morris, Gerry Benedick



Bill Morris, Gerry Benedick, Carolyn Benedick, Joe Iacangelo



Kathy Seidel, Mark James



Sue Goldberg, Carolyn Gross, Tom Swartz



Maggie Liden, Jan Cruit, Ed Garland, Anne Dichtel, Pat Bartolillo



Linda Starr, Bruce Clark, Caren Gentile, Kathy Kirk, Peggy Beach



Peggy Beach, Kay Black, Jeanie Rupard, Bob Cornish



Marian DiFiglia, Marty Gurtz, Neil Aronin



Mark McNutt, ?, Vivian Seaman, ?



Debra Bowen, Laura Butera, Rix Perkins, Sharon Gurtz

## Breakfast with Presentations

Saturday morning we had what we called “Breakfast with Presentations”. The Reunion Planning Committee was somewhat divided as to whether this event would attract interest, and not everyone was entirely sure what it would be.

It was riveting. A dozen or so of our classmates stood up amidst the clutter of orange juice, scrambled eggs, decent coffee, and breakfast meats and talked about their lives, often with a tie-in to how attending High Point had affected their trajectory.

This was, of course, our 50th anniversary celebration. At the 10th and 20th, many people explained (to whomever would listen to them) the details of what they were gearing up to do with their lives. By the 30th reunion there was no more boasting about “what I am going to do,” but a quieter “what I am doing.” With some mention of grandchildren.

At this, our 50th, it was all about “what I did,” and this breakfast gave us a chance to listen to some stories.

John Fleetwood provided and tended a world-class sound system so that everyone could actually hear what was being said. The rest of us provided a spellbound audience.

The next 4 pages show the pictures that we managed to snap during it all. If the presentations had been less fascinating, there would be more pictures.





Rebecca Fisher presents



Peggy Beach presents



Jim Rodriguez presents



John Seaman presents



Linda Starr presents



Eva Garin presents



George Braley presents



Marty Gurtz and John Fleetwood listen



Stephanie Schaffer presents



Dan Goldberg, MC



George Braley presents



## More Pictures.

There is a certain temptation to try to make this Memory Book be something like our Yearbook. Not that there's any chance this little Memory Book could approach the artistic excellence of our 1966 Eyry. We plagiarized its cover, but its insides are just too nicely done to be a realistic benchmark. Our one advantage is that 50 years later, color printing is affordable.

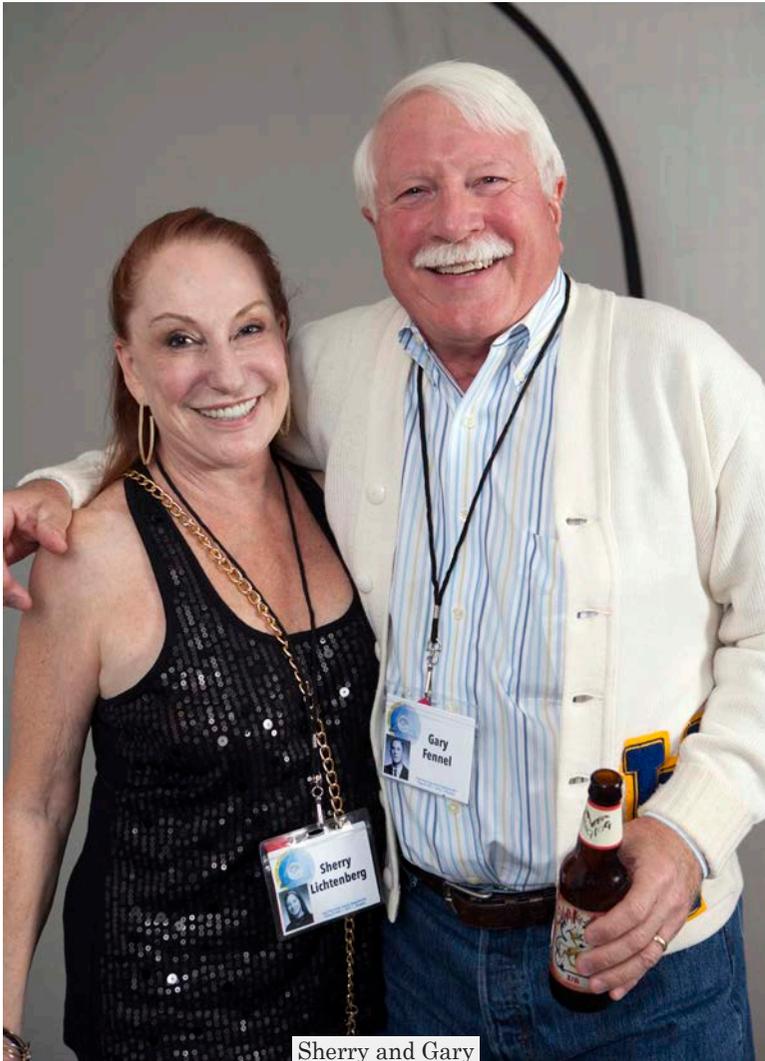
The Eyry was very organized. It had sections for everything. Faculty, administration, activities, teams, places, events, classes. Pictures of the Chess Team are next to pictures of the Debate Team.

So the next several pages are just pictures. We haven't tried to categorize or sequence them, because that's too much work and also we figure most people will want to look at all of them. About half of these pictures were contributed by classmates; the other half were taken by the Memory Book editor. Some were taken with phones (try THAT trick in 1966!).

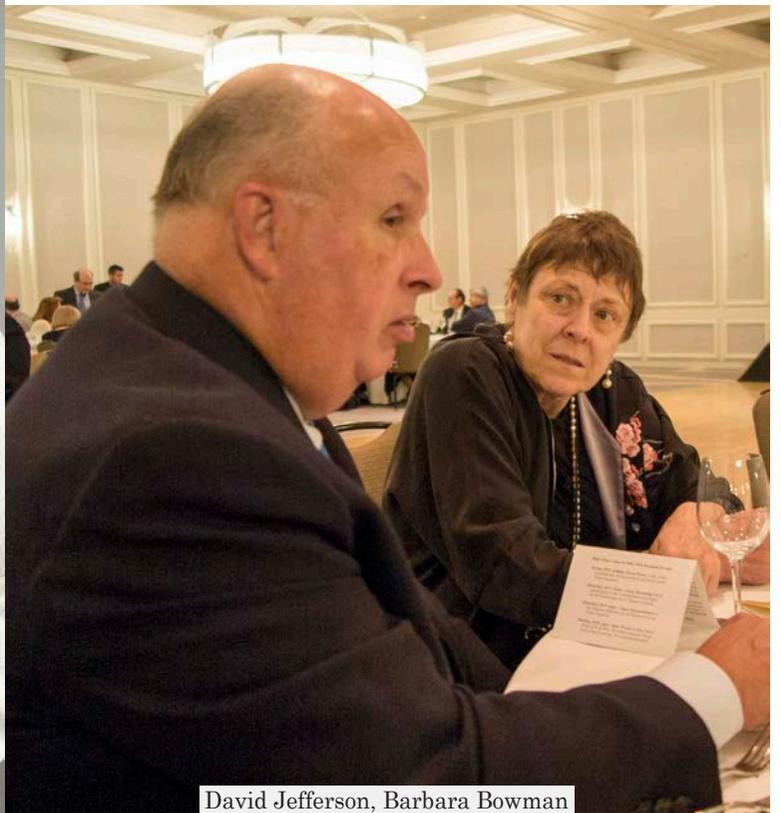
We saw a number of people carrying big honking SLR cameras at the dinner dance. We didn't manage to get our hands on any of the pictures they might have taken, alas.



The Greenbelt gang



Sherry and Gary



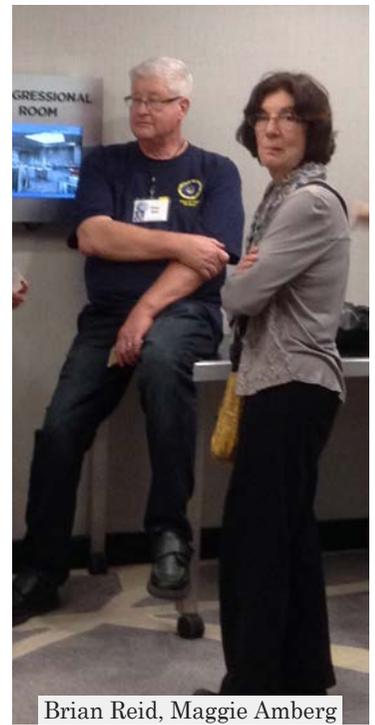
David Jefferson, Barbara Bowman



?, Phil Zalesak



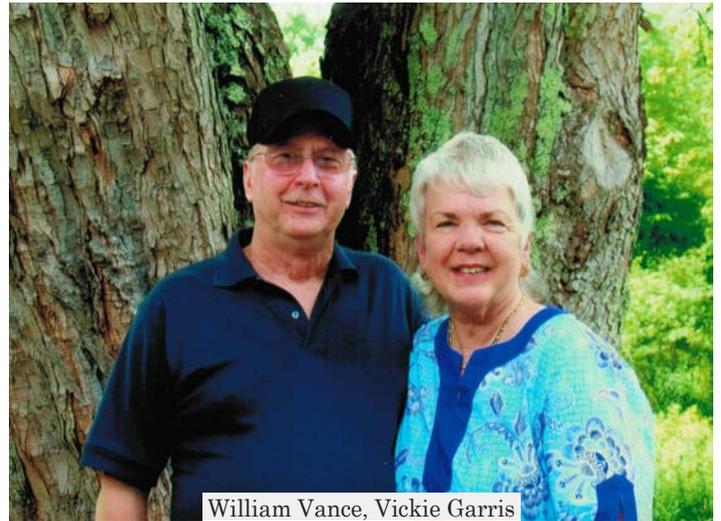
Eva Garin, Rick Shinberg,  
Norma Sigler, Rick Mest



Brian Reid, Maggie Amberg



Kay Black, Sherry Lichtenberg, Kathy Seidel



William Vance, Vickie Garris



Sue Goldberg, Dan Goldberg, Neil Aronin



Bill Carney, Mary Wells, Pauline Bassett



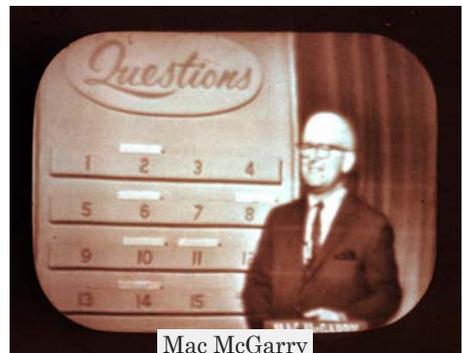
John Fleetwood



Chuck Figlia, Phil Zalesak, Rich Lichvar



Brian Reid, Sherry Lichtenberg, Neil Aronin

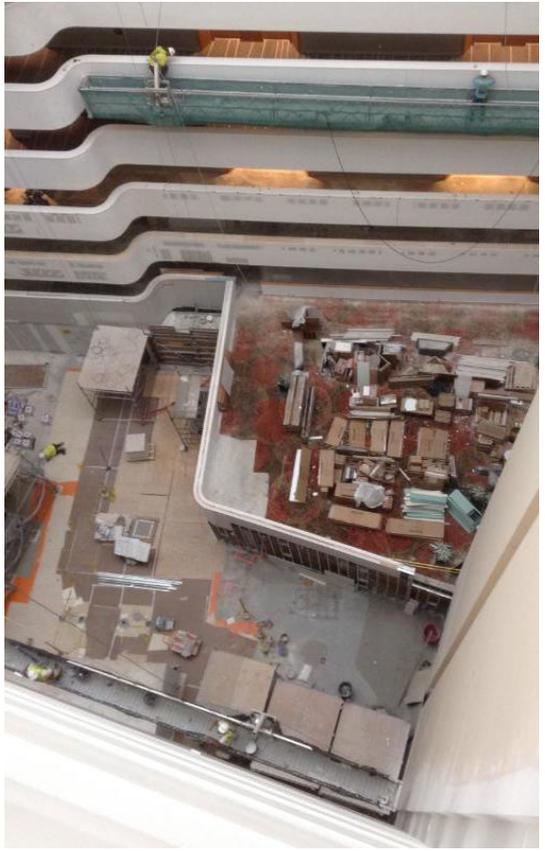


Mac McGarry



Dave Driscoll, Chuck Figlia, Chuck Gubisch, Bill Carney, Bobby Klem, Rick Mest





Aleppo



Imagery ©2017 Google, Map data ©2017 Google 100 ft

## **Formal posed portraits.**

Each year in school we all posed for the yearbook photographer. Most of us got packets of those black-and-white pictures; they also went into the published yearbook.

At the 50th Reunion Dinner/Dance, there were enlarged reprints of all of the yearbook portraits on the wall. We've all seen the yearbook, of course, but that was a long time ago and the pictures in it were small and grainy. This wall of enlargements was really something!

If you attended the reunion, you know that we set up a portable portrait "studio" and tried to get posed pictures of everyone. About 125 people took the time to pose for us, and the resulting pictures are gathered on the next 14 pages.

To duplicate the effect of our 1965 senior pictures, there should have been a "hair light", 10 feet overhead, to accent and add glamor to the hair. But these lights were carried as airline baggage from California, and there just wasn't room for a hair light. And if you are photographing men who don't have any hair left, you need to turn it off. Extra work.

All in all, we are pleased with the results of the portrait sessions and are happy to share them with you. If you want a high-resolution JPEG of one, send email to [photos@high-point66.org](mailto:photos@high-point66.org) and we'll see what we can do.

These pictures are almost in alphabetical order by the 1966 name of the classmate. A picture or two has been moved to make everything fit better. They were taken with a Canon EOS-1DS camera bought in 2002.



Maggie Amberg, Richard Winz



Cathy Anzelone



Neil Aronin, Marian DiFiglia



Linda Arret



Judy Bailey



Bob Bancroft, Betty Bancroft



Steve Banigan



Pat Bartolillo



Pauline Bassett



Peggy Beach



Gerry Benedick, Caroline Benedick



Kay Black



Barbara Bowman



Teresa Bracci



George Braley



Charlene Brown



Bill Carney



Christine Church



Bruce Clark, Caren Gentile



Ginny Crawford



Jan Cruit



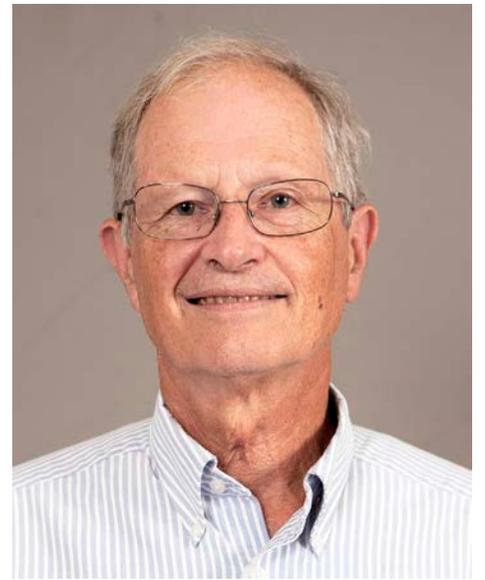
Diane Danser



Anne Dichtel



Bonnie Down



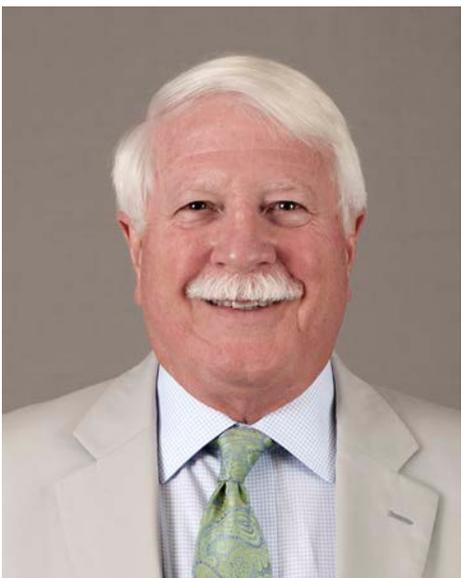
Charlie Durbin



Patrick Duck, Pamela Meyer



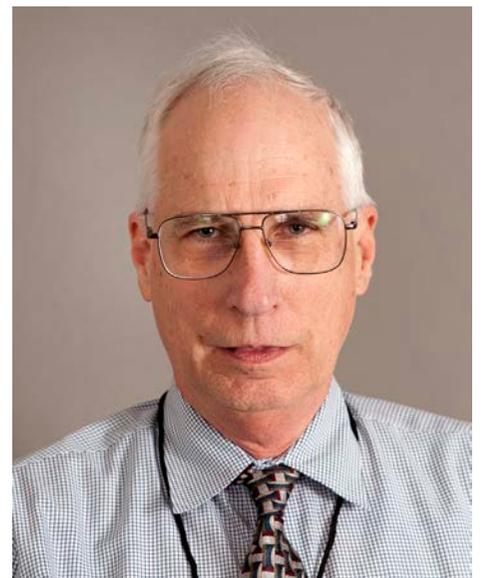
Susan Ellerin



Gary Fennel



Rebecca Fisher



John Fleetwood



Eva Garin



Mike Gielen, Marsha Moore



Dan Goldberg, Sue Goldberg



Tom Gowen



Carolyn Gross



Chuck Gubisch



Tom Hontz



Marty Gurtz, Sharon Gurtz



Brant Hoover



Joe Iacangelo



David Jefferson, Kathy Gilcrest



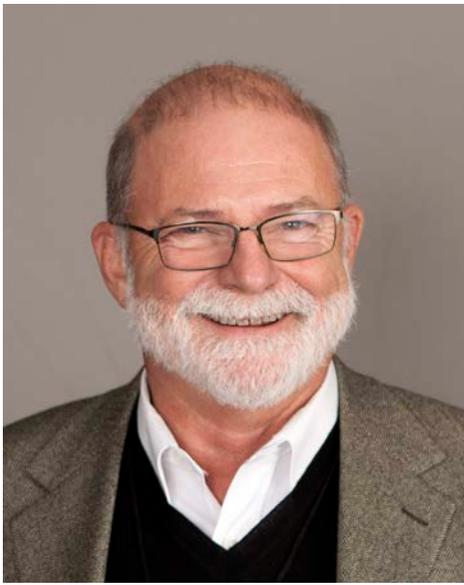
Jane Kendall



Janice Kirby



Kathy Kirk



Jim Lawn



Marc Leavey, Marcia Leavey



Sherry Lichtenberg



Richard Lichvar, Cathy Lichvar



Maggie Liden



Steve Logan



Mike Mendelsohn



Lenny Messick, Christine Messick



Rick Mest



Sandie Millard, Tony Batton



Nell Moffat, Bob Colbert



Bob Mogel



Dennis Moler



Bill Morris, Mercedes Morris



Jim Myzick, Virginia Myzick



Speed Munsterteiger, Mo Holmes



Sherry Olds



Natalie Orenberg



Alan Oresky



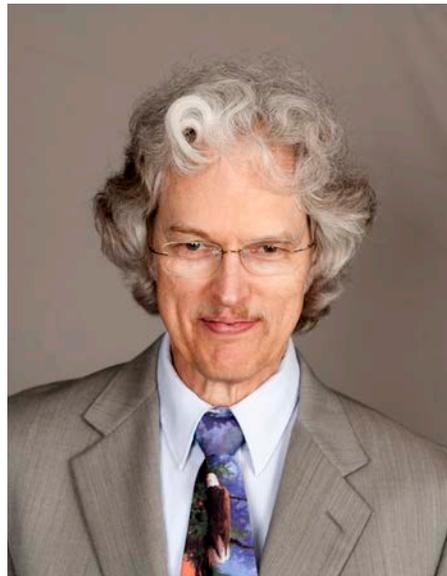
Barbara Raderman



Marianne Pearch, Norm Scholer



Bruce Rankin



Rix Perkins, Laura Butera



Brian Reid, Victoria Reid



Jim Rodriguez



Jo Anne Swann, Les Richardson



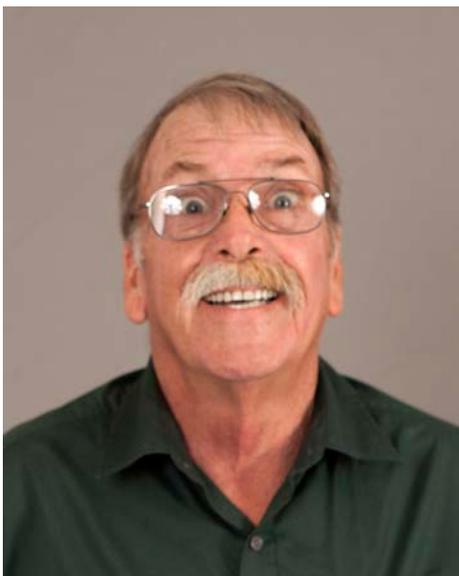
Terry Robinson, Karen Kemp



Jeanie Rupard



Stephanie Schaffer, Frank Mauck



Fred Schumaker



John Seaman



Barbara Skolnick



Kathy Seidel, Mark James



Bill Solomon



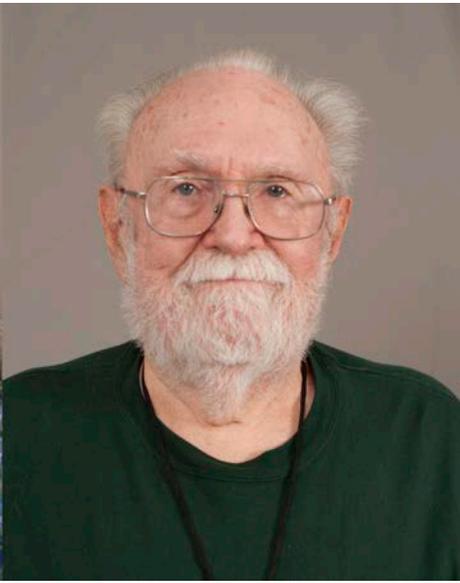
Norma Sigler, Randle Parks



Linda Starr, Bob Cornish



Thom Sturgill



Maren Stewart, Bill Mayhew

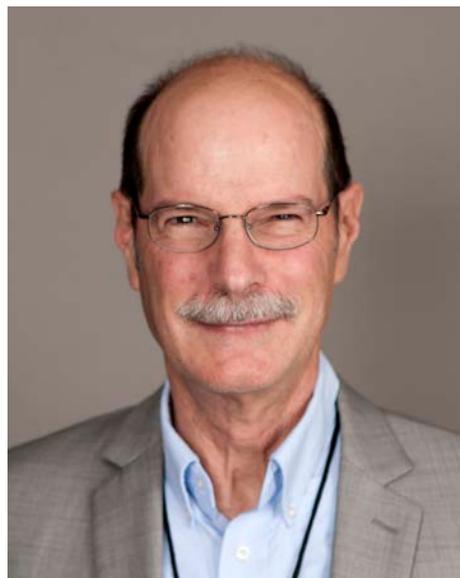
Tom Swartz



Nancy Thomas

Karen Wakefield

Terry Walker



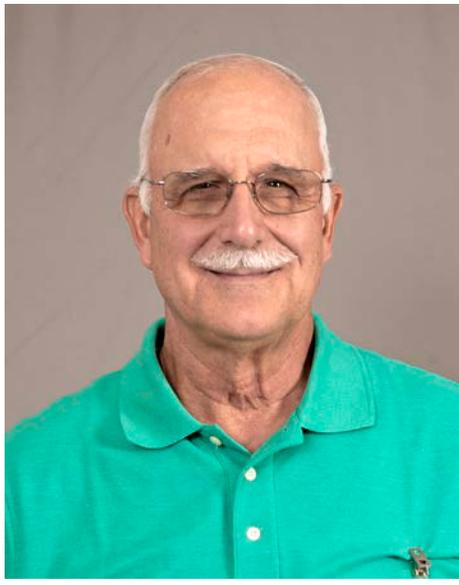
Linda Watts

Mark Weinberg

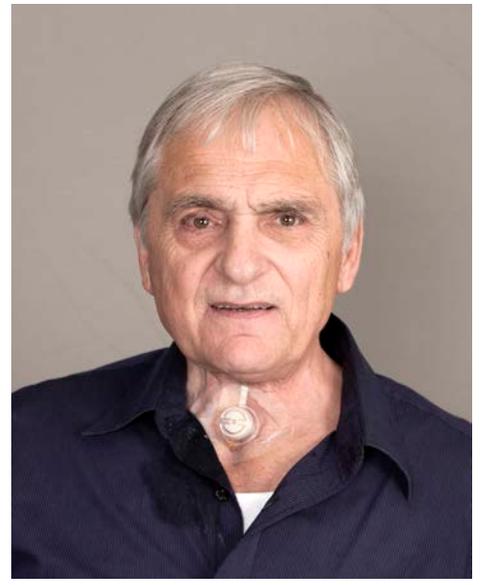
Darlene Weisenberger



Mary Wells



Phil Zalesak



Joe Zanelotti



Mike Ziecheck, Debra Bowen

## And then we went home

We are all in our late sixties. Though we met and formed our relationships in Beltsville, Maryland, we have become a bit of a diaspora. People went home to Alaska, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, And, of course, Maryland, DC, and Virginia. A number of our classmates went home to Beltsville or Greenbelt or College Park, which when we were younger were all walking distance from High Point.

Our memories of High Point had faded somewhat. Seeing one another at the reunion helped brighten them again, Perhaps this Memory Book can help keep the identity of the Class of 1966 going until we're all gone.

At the time of the reunion, 83 of us had passed on. There were only 32 living members of our class that we weren't able to find and contact. We are delighted that 153 of us were able to attend the event. We know that many more would like to have attended but couldn't make it. We hope that they are able to get and enjoy a copy of this book.

