

# OWL NEWS

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1978: Principal: Mr. John Butler

Class Treasurer: Karen Gouge

Most Likely to Succeed: Lisa Smith and Ron Schwenk

Mr. and Mrs. GHS: Tommy Reed and Laurie Frantz

## Upcoming Reunions

**1969 (55th):** April 13, **Tommy Lasater** (tlasater14@gmail.com)

**1965 (55th):** April 3-4, **2020**,  
**Steve Rhodes**  
(ghs65reunion@yahoo.com)

Got a reunion scheduled? Be sure and let us know by dropping a line to:

garlandalumni@yahoo.com

## Groups of Owls Getting Together

Many times groups of owls (guess we should say parliaments of owls to be grammatically correct) get together for breakfasts, lunches and dinners. In this newsletter we'll talk about those regular gatherings, but we will start with an amazing tale of 160 Owls and friends going together to Europe.

The picture on the right is the first day of a 10 day trip 160 of us took together this past July (2018).







## *160 GHS Classmates, Spouses and Friends Cruise the Danube Together*

### **The President's Corner**

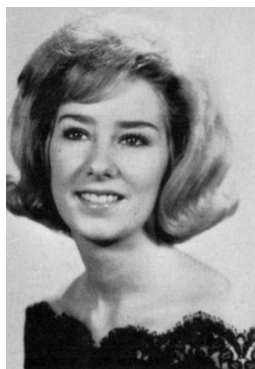
I am sure many times groups of Garlandites have gone together on trips overseas. But I want to tell you an amazing story of what I'm guessing is by far the largest group of Garland High School alumni that ever took a European trip together. This past July, 160 GHS grads, spouses and some friends had 86 of the 95 cabins on a Viking River Cruise on the Danube from Nuremberg to Budapest. 89 of us even flew on the same planes together.

Whoa! What fun we had!

I want to tell you about our 10 day adventure together, but, first I want to relate to you the quite surprising story of how this whole big vacation happened in the first place.

### **Sandra Issues "a Challenge"**

My wife Sally and I were at a Christmas party in 2016 when Sandra Vibrock Mayes tells me, "I have challenge for you!"



Right, I'm thinking. It's going to be something silly, like she is going to challenge me to eat a bug or something.

"Here is my challenge for you," she said. "I know you and Sally like to go on all these Viking

cruises, so I want you to pick one for 2018 and

tell other classmates about it. Wherever it is, Gene and I will go."

I still didn't take her seriously. But, when she said it again, I knew she meant it, and I was ready to answer the challenge. I immediately thought of the scene in Romeo and Juliet:

*Mercutio: A challenge, on my life.*

*Benvolio: Romeo will answer it.*



Steve Rhodes, Gene Mayes, Mike Cook

I spent the month of January answering her challenge, picking just the right trip and preparing an eight page letter with all of the details thoroughly covered. Since we had known them just about forever – Sandra lived next door to Sally growing up, and I played football with Gene on the 63 and 64 teams – I was excited about traveling with them for the first time.



### **Signups Unlike Anything Expected**

Sally and I figured a few couples – five at the very most – would want to join us. Boy oh boy, were we wrong! We announced the trip in late January, and in the first week alone, 66 people booked. By two months later, we had sold out the ship.

We even "broke" Viking's software. They link all of the group bookings together, but the programmer who designed the software assumed that more than 100 people would never travel together. We had to wait for a software patch before we would continue the linking of the bookings.

When we filled the ship with bookings, it was still almost 1.5 years until we left. I used that time to put out 22 newsletters, so everyone knew everything about the trip before they left. Sally and I also hosted two parties at our home for people to meet each other in advance and ask questions. Over 100 came to each party, so the fun started way before the trip began.



### **Classes of 1955 to 1979 Went**

We had a wide range of classes that cruised with us. The second youngest person to go was Lisa Schillerstrom Locke '79. Lisa was joined by her husband Mike.



The oldest was Don Freeman '55, whom many in our group knew as Dr. Don, since he used to be their physician. Don traveled with the youngest member of our group, Sydni Freeman, his granddaughter who was in her late 20s.

What really helped was that everyone wore the nametags I made them. Even the crew told me how much they appreciated that.

### **Lots of Relatives Went Too**

We had 15 married couples who were both GHS. We had 4 sets who went who were parent and child. And we had 7 sets of siblings who joined us, many of whom were both GHS.

Although most came from Texas, people also came from states as far apart as Washington and Florida.

### **The Other 18 People**

There were 18 people on board not in our group. Most of these had booked before us. The program director, who let us do anything we wanted, let me specially address the other 18 at our first ship get-together. I told them we would very much like to adopt them and make them honorary Garland Owls, but, if they wanted instead to be left alone, we do that as well.

The 18 all wanted to join us, so I made them nametags. They told me at the end of the cruise that they were glad they had joined us, since it was the most fun that they had ever had on a cruise.





*It was a non-stop party! Did we have fun or what!?*



**Our Program Director**

Our Program Director Oliver Groszer was a wild and crazy guy who had circus experience. He could and did get out of a straightjacket and juggle balls as well as sing and dance and generally keep us in stitches the whole time.

But most all he was a gracious and hard-working host who turned the ship over to us. Among many fond memories was the time a bunch of the crew got together and went to the ship's public address system and said in unison, "Howdy Y'all!" and then giggled like crazy.

We kept having so much fun talking to each other that it was hard for poor Oliver to keep us quiet during the daily briefing. I told Oliver one evening to give me the microphone. I yelled "Owls, SHUT UP!" This worked so well that Oliver had me do it every evening.



**Best Times When Things Go South**

The first rule of traveling is to roll with the punches and just laugh when hiccups occur.

While stuck on the tarmac waiting for lightning to pass before we could pull into the gate on the way over, the airline crew let us get up so we got together in various groups and swapped stories. At one point, I led the plane in the alma mater. But, truth be told, my singing is so bad that I am not sure how many of the 89 of us on board recognized what I was singing and were singing along with me.





*Cheryl Hickman Fulton '71 and her mother Darlene Hickman*

**Karen Carter Young '68**

Since it was the 4th of July, Karen Carter Young '68, who sings divinely, stood up and sang the national anthem on the plane. How many times have you ever seen that happen?



Karen also led the entire ship, including the other 18 people and the crew, twice in singing our alma mater. She carefully taught it first to those who didn't know it.

Karen is laughing in the picture because, while eating outside at a restaurant in Prague, we were hit by a sudden downpour. 80% of us were in covered spots, but Karen's food wasn't.

Laughing with every bite, she ate the food as the rain fell on it. "It's just like a picnic when we were kids," she said. I took a fun slow-motion video of the raindrops bouncing in and out of her food. It was really comical.



*Our ship docked right by this picturesque church in Vienna*

**Seeing All of the Pictures**

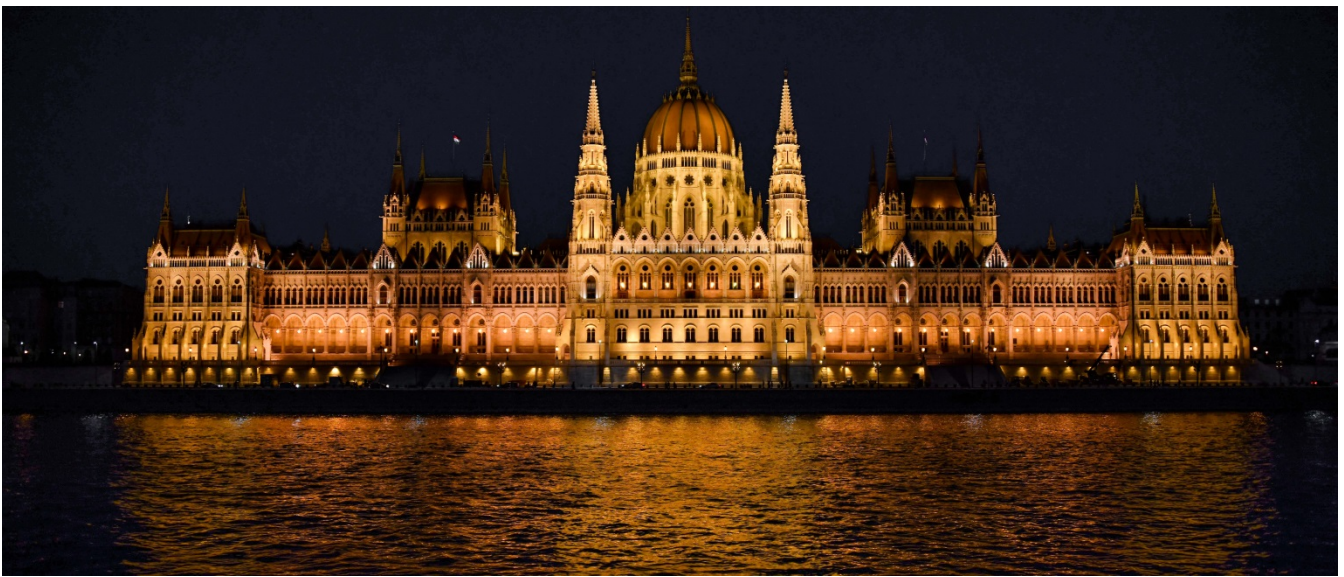
The pictures from the trip are one big smilefest. If you'd like to see more of them, they are on my photography website:

[www.RhodesVacations.com](http://www.RhodesVacations.com)



*Trivia Contest Winners: June Townsend '69, Jerry and Vicki Towler Foreman '69, Janice Townsend '77 and Jan Pierce '69*





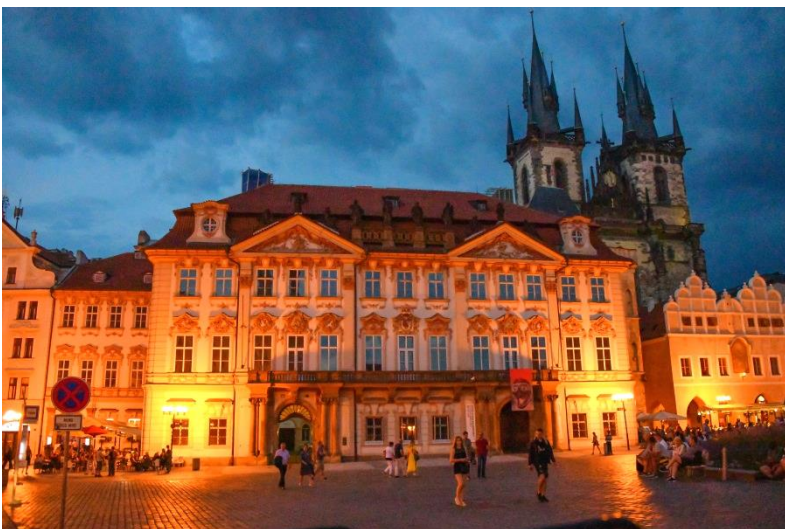
### **Beauty Was Everywhere**

We saw so many beautiful things and had so many great tours, it's hard to pick favorites, but, for most of us, the two hour cruise the captain took us on to see the lights of Budapest at night (see above) was probably the best of all, and we saw them on our last night.

laughed about that for days.

One more funny Prague story involved my lack of math skills when jetlagged. As we were waiting at the baggage turnstile, I decided to use the ATM there to get about \$80 in Czech currency. After I got it, I realized I was off on my calculation and had just gotten \$800. Yikes! But – no problem – I walked over to my friends and asked who needed money exchanged. Five minutes later the problem was solved, but I almost sold it all by mistake. Oops.

Sally and I tried to eat with different people at every meal, but, even though the tables held 6-10 people each, it was almost mathematically impossible to dine with everyone. What was true was that the conversations at the meals were even better than the excellent food.



In a trip full of magical moments, there were pretty pictures to be taken around just about every corner. The picture above was taken at night in the Old Town area of Prague.

### **Dining**

Just over a hundred of us started with 3 days in Prague. Our guide arranged for a local restaurant to close for the evening to accommodate all of us. The food was great as was the conversation, but the best part was the aforementioned hilarious sudden rainstorm. We



*Jim and Judy Pruitt Sharples '65, Jo Beth and Johnny Klas '65 and Steve and Sally Sellers Rhodes '65/'65*





*Karen Gouge Jordan '78, Brenda Harper, Shelley (Shugart) Bridges '72, Becky Cook and Shelly Kelso Maddox '76 having a blast on the cruise*

### **Party Time!**

Most nights after diner there were games to be played, dancing to be done or entertainment to be watched. Most of all, the trip, from morning to night, was constant merriment. So many old friendships were rekindled and new ones made.



### **And Now for the Rest of the Story...**

So how did Sandra and Gene Mayes enjoy the trip, you might ask, since it was Sandra's idea in the first place.

*Well, they didn't, since they couldn't go!*

Gene was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in August of 2017. But now there is wonderfully surprising good news.

I'll let Sandra finish the story...



*Janice (Butt) and Don Paschal '65/'65 celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary during the cruise*

### **Sandra Vibrock Mayes '65**

On a miraculous note, in June 2018, Gene was declared in "clinical remission." He is feeling great, and we are enjoying every moment this status brings us.

Many answered prayers!!!!

So much so, that Gene and I are booked on both of the big Viking Ocean cruises (Alaska and the Mediterranean) that Steve has planned for 2020!

### **Friendships**

The great thing about the friendships made at Garland High School is that they last forever. Our cruise together sure proved this. But, even if we had never met in school, we had similar memories of our times growing in Garland and of going to GHS, so getting to know each other was easy and fun.

The cruises above and the dining out groups we are about to discuss do not have and they do not need any Alumni Association sponsorship.

*All it takes is for some classmates to say to other classmates, we are doing \_\_\_\_, why don't you join us!*



### *Dos Banderas Breakfast Group*

#### Alumni Groups Galore

There are more examples of these long lasting friendships. There are, for example, many different groups – sometimes one class and sometime multiple classes – that get together on a regular basis for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Here are just a few that I know about.

#### Gary Osborn '63

Just a little background about our breakfast group pictured above. I started this group in July of 2010 to greet my friend Mike Carrillo who was coming in from California. We had so much fun that we continued for 3 years at Hubbard's. In the early years we were small – 7 or 8 weekly – and it was predominately class of 1963. Over time we grew too big for Hubbard's to accommodate, so we moved down to Dos Banderas in January of 2013 and had no problem with parking or table space. We have one long row of tables, and, as more arrive, we just add more tables to the row.



We are not just 1963 class any longer. On a regular basis we have Larry and Judy Jones Grisham '60/'58, Carl Peavy '60, Don Brown '61, James Thomas '61 and Phillip Burke '64.

We also have 3 adopted non-GHS friends. These are guys I made friends with 5 or 6 years ago at another weekly breakfast in Carrollton with my brother. We now average around 25 per week and really enjoy the visiting.

#### Bill Evans '58

I started a dinner gathering of men from my class of '58 in 1988 and called it Boy's Night



Out. There were 22 of us, and we met at different restaurants over the years. We did this for 25 years until my heart bypass. My good friend, the late Morris Johnson picked up the reins and started a day-time lunch that he titled Men's Lunch. I'm afraid

we did not do photos as Suzy does. Funny, since I was a professional photographer in the early years.



#### Suzy Prim Evans '58

Our first Tuesday dinner group pictured above started 7 years ago. Homer Johnson '45 usually joins us. He always comes in our private room at Main Street and says hello and we all take pictures with him. One day about 10



Garland Police officers were sitting at a table in the front part of the restaurant, and we all got up and went over and gathered around them and said "thank you for your service", not knowing that Athie Denny, one of our girls, used to work with several of them. And of course that was a Kodak Moment!



Our Facebook Girls monthly lunch group started about 6 years ago. (Picture above is of our annual Hat Day.) We were corresponding on FB, but decided to meet one day for lunch. It all began at Main Street Cafe in downtown Garland, usually the 3rd Friday of the month.

We always come dressed for the occasion of the month, Easter, July 4th, Halloween, etc. At Christmas we always go to Judy Jones Grisham's home for lunch and ornament exchange. Our group is mostly Class of 1958, but we have 2-3 from a couple classes behind us. It is always so much fun!

Most of us have been friends since grade school and the laughter and fun we have is priceless and good for the soul!

### Suzy Evans's Sage Advice

*I encourage everyone to get a group together, whether it be for breakfast, lunch or dinner and make it once a month or every 3 months. You will be surprised at the joy it will bring you!! For some reason, it always takes one person to get it started, so why not let that "one" be you? Happy "gathering" everyone!*



### Connie Hargis Ortega '68

The Owl Gals pictured above are my class of 68 who get together for lunch about every three months and we always have a Christmas luncheon. Any of our members can ask friends from other classes to our events, but it is usually just class of 1968. I started the group about 10 years ago. We always have a great time.



### Sally Sellers Rhodes '65

When the all-class reunions started in 2005, we had a Ladies Luncheon the Thursday before it. This became a tradition. Over a decade ago, Rose Ann Mitchell '65 started having it every month. When Steve and I moved back to Texas in 2012, I became the main organizer. We get 12-18 people every month (as you can see above), mainly from the class of 65, but we have a few others sometimes too.



## 2018 Donors to the Garland High Alumni Association

Class of 1952 (Memorial donation in memory of Carol Goodson Shugart)  
Cheryl Cohen Adams '66  
Gary Alexander '71  
Joan James Alexander '65  
W. R. Allen '54  
Carolie Baity Allgood '60  
Edwin & Ernestine Long Anderson '54/'56  
Joy McClung Anderson '63  
Paul Archer '65  
Judy Brown Armstrong '54  
Diane DeWitt Bailey '53  
Jeanne Ragland Baker '45  
Paul Baker '56  
Charles & Cathy Bankhead '71  
Dom & Nancy Beaver '65 (In memory of my brother Jim Beaver '69)  
Don Beeson '65  
Linda Killion Beller '63  
David Belote '55  
Jimmy Bickley '64  
Judy Meazle Bishop '61  
Janet Andrews Black '56  
Gordon & Mary Childress Block '64/'67  
David Bolton '63  
Dulu Paul Boyd '66  
Mike & Carrie Jenkins Boyd '65/'76  
Wanda Watkins Boyd '56  
Malloy Bridges '57  
Phillip & Barbara Wren Broughton '52/'55  
Leslie & Suzanne Broyles '59  
Bob Bryant '54  
Debbie Burns '66  
Linda Haden Cade '69  
Brooklyn Murray Calloway '97  
Phillip & Judy Purcell Calvert '65/'66  
Ila Faye Poovey Carr '57  
Thomas & Barbara Smith Chambers '57/'59  
Marilyn Jones Chapman '49  
Darlene Wolfe Clark '65 (In memory of Larry Clayton Wolfe and Dennis Michael Wolfe)  
Cathy & Rick Range Clopton '72/'72  
Mike Cloud '63  
F.A. Coleman '62  
Raymond & Sue Anderson Cooper '50/'50  
Diane Copeland '60  
Dana Heller Corley '56  
Wini Wood Council '65  
Wesley Cox '68  
Martha Winter Czerwinski '68  
Carolyn Mood Darby '53  
Charlotte Sellers Darrah '59  
Sarah Cleland Davis '62  
Bob Day '65  
Carol & Mark Smith Dickens '62/'73  
Becky Jung Dillon '67  
Janis Liles Dorris '54  
Maxine Harris Dulany '55  
Kathleen Kelley Duval '60  
Mary McGrath Earp '59  
Jim Edmonson '63  
Gary & Linda McGuire Engleman '65/'61  
Bill & Suzanne Prim Evans '58/'58  
Glyndle Feagin '67  
Joyce Herring Feagin '54  
Joseph & Nancy Sterner Fojtasek '58/'59  
Jeanne Lanham Foos '46  
Charlotte Foulkes '65  
Don French '57  
Paul Funk '59  
Thomas & Sonja Hegna Galbraith '63/'64 (In memory of Mary Steven-  
Coomer '63)  
Evelyn Eggleston Gardner '51  
Dale & Judith Stuart Garrett '59/'59  
Greg Gifford '67  
Shannon Cook Gillespie '58  
Jim Glynn '64  
Richard Goode '65  
Les Gray '60  
Karen Cabaniss Greer '64  
Margaret Talley Grimm '44  
Larry & Judy Jones Grisham '63/'58  
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Tim Henson '68  
Ruth Anne McKool Hicks '58 (Me-  
morial for Patti Ryan Toutz '58)  
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Arnold Holloway '65  
Eddie & Carole Rocholl Horstman '62/'62  
Jim Houston '65  
Linda Burgett Hoyle '65  
Tiny Huffaker '47  
John Hufstедler '69  
Glenda Scott Hughes '61  
Larry Hutson '63  
Marilyn & William Wyrick Ingram '68/'68  
Charles Jackson '68  
Kevin James '81  
Stacy Zachary Jeanes '85  
Bobbie Bennett Johnson '58  
Sharon Anderson Johnson '76  
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Frank Jones '59  
Martha Ann Crumpton Jones '62  
Tony & Donna King Jones '65/'66  
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Martha Glynn Kasper '59  
Jim & Gay Twyman Kennedy '54/'56  
Lee Kennemer '65  
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Leon & Betty Smith Kirby '48/'51  
Billy Don Kirk '49  
Judy Presley Kissinger '64  
Karen Brummett Kohl '68  
Nell Henderson Kolterman '57  
Cathy Stricklin Krendl '63  
Gail Hawkins Kumpel '61  
Connie Lee Lacy '65  
Kaye Crow Landrum '65  
Bo Leonard '59  
Vickie Robinson Litton '68  
Sharon Simmons Lively '65  
Lisa Schillerstrom Locke '79  
Judith Windsor Luther '56  
Shelly Kelso Maddox '76  
Deana Snell Martin '70  
Jack May '66  
Gene & Sandra Vibrock Mayes '65/'65  
Barbara Carmene Hay Maynard '55  
Ann Griffin Mayo '65  
Mary Dunaway McClung '47/'46  
Charles & Shirley Loftis McKinney '58/'60  
Colleen Halbert Meitzen '70  
Richie Anderson Merck '68  
Becky & Wayne Dean Meuir '62/'64  
Donald Miller '65  
Jamie & Kathy Alston Miller '76/'76  
Joe Miller '59  
E. J. & Patsy Foote Morris '55/'60  
Al Murdock '53  
Cari Cloud Murray '74  
Alice & Thomas Allen Myers '56/'58  
Joyce Evans Myers '58  
Scott Myers '82  
Melba Sharp Naylor '54  
Pete & Joann Cranford Nelson '47/'49  
Buddy & Judy Hayes Nicholson '62/'63  
Richard Oglesby '65  
Connie Hargis Ortega '68  
Barbara Hennig Osborn '67  
Gary & Judy Coldwell Osborn '63/'63  
Ron Osborn '60  
Jesse Collier Page '52/'51  
Ken Patterson '60  
Lydon & Sandra Aven Paul '60/'60  
Lee & Janice Clark Penland, Jr. '60/'61  
Pat Thompson Penrod '57  
Hazel Moss Perry '54  
Gayle Harmon Philbeck '75  
Delores & Paul Riker Phillips '58/'60  
Sherrie Martin Porter '63  
Tim Powell '62  
Linda Price (In memory of Robert "Bob" Price)  
Ronny & Connie Mitchell Raines '71/'72  
Melinda Harvison Reagan '72  
Lula Mae Cantrell Redd '49  
David Rhodes '63/'85  
Bob Richardson '56  
Reggie & Dorothy Chennault Riddle '59/'60  
Ben Roberge '54  
Barbara Cohlmi Roberts '65  
Gary & Linda Wyrick Robinson '65/'66  
Patsy Bowling Rogers '56  
Michael & Linda Wright Russell '62/'63  
Ann Cecil Sanders '54  
Robert Sarver '53  
Kay Evans Seward '60  
Betty Lance Sharp '65  
Gene Shaw '49  
Don Shipley '65  
Everett & Sandra Browning Shipley '53/'55  
Bob Shults '66  
Sonny Sims '57  
James & Bethena Bateman Smith '68/'69  
Mary Helen Sterner Smith '54  
Rex Smith '65  
Shirley Wilson Smith '57  
Richard Smoot '68  
Allan Stafford '66  
Betsey & Billy Hammerle Starns '68/'68  
Florence Long Stone '51  
Alice Fleming Stultz '40  
Roberta McCord Svien '56  
Rick Tauzin '61  
Duncan Thomas '66  
Cheryl Allen Threlkeld '56  
Ann Daugherty Ticknor '53  
Lloyd Treadwell '59  
Pascual Valle '51  
Mary Hyde Vanderslice '58  
Richard Vaughan '55  
Charles & Mary Ann Peterson Vessel '66/'66  
Julie Neugin Vogt '78  
Diana Wakefield '71  
David Walker '65  
Jean Kerby Walker '65  
Terry Deane Wardynski '45  
Don Watson '68  
Bobby Weaver '65  
Durene Inman White '61  
Pat Pearcey White '59  
Karen & Jack Nickens Whiteside '65/'64  
Ron Whitson '71  
Don & Sue Williamson Williams '57/'58  
Martha King Williams '50  
Ann Gordon Wilson '65  
Larry Wilson '67  
Ronnie Wilson '72  
Ray Windt '65  
Randy Wisener '67  
Don Wooldridge '59  
Amelia Serbanich Wright '60  
Betty Davis Wright '61  
Bob Yeatts '66  
James Willeford '49



**In Memory of**

Don Raines '48

Alice Chambers Nicholson '51

Ann Agnew Morgan '51

Judy Brown Armstrong '54

Pattie Nell Watkins Garrison '55

Sarah Willadean DeWoody '56

Jim Shugart '56

Ilay Faye Poovey Carr '57

Murray Daniel '58

Esters Crump '58

Durwood Lewis '58

Pat Fitzgerald Brownlee '60

Tommy Gleaves '60

David Hickman '60

Haskell Luck '60

Rodney Dale Anderson '61

Mike Finley '62

Jim Holley '65

Martha Harris Fullwood '67

Danny Michael Robison '68

Don Butler '71

Ruby Eads '71

Bobby Jack Howell '72

Warren Lee Harris '72

Gilda Stiffler Roberts '73

David Blair '75

John Wesley Bonham '80

Todd Davis '84

Bryan Price '89

Michelle Melancon Dunkins '92

Zachary Shrock '06



**Membership and Renewal Form**

*If your contact info hasn't changed, **NO FORM** is necessary. Just send in a check.*

**MAIL TO:** GHS Alumni Association, 4001 Bachman Blvd, Garland, TX 75043

**Email:** GarlandAlumni@yahoo.com, **Phone:** Kay Crossman Turner (214-497-3877)

I want to support the GHS Alumni Association. *(Please make check out to GHS Alumni Association).*

Per household yearly dues are \$10 per year. I would like to pay:

\$\_\_\_\_\_ in Dues (can pay several years)    \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Scholarship Fund    \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Operating Fund

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Maiden) (Last)

Is spouse a GHS graduate? Yes: \_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_

If yes, what is spouse's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Or Just Pay Dues and Donations On-line at**

**garlandalumni.com**

**Want to Nominate Someone for the Distinguished Alumni Award?**

You can find the form to print off and mail in here:

**garlandalumni.com/distinguishedalumni**



**GHS Football Games Together**

The classes of 64-66 have had season tickets together for the Garland Owl football games for decades. We are no fair-weather fans. We still have 24 season tickets. Over the years we've also had tailgate parties like the one below from 2007.

If you have regular class(es) get-togethers, please send us pictures of them to:

[garlandaluni@yahoo.com](mailto:garlandaluni@yahoo.com)

**Are My Dues Due?**

If your name has an 18 after it on the label, your \$10 dues are due. Please send them to the GHS Alumni Association, 4001 Bachman Blvd, Garland, TX 75043.

Or just pay them on-line at

[www.GarlandAlumni.com](http://www.GarlandAlumni.com)

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